

# Portland Christian High School

**ACADEMIC**

**CATALOG**

**2009-2010**



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PORTLAND CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

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EST. 1947



## RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE of MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

<b>Standard Diploma [Minimum of 29.75 credits, including .05 credit of Career Education]</b>			
<i>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	<i>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	<i>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	<i>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>
Bible – 9	Bible – 10	Bible – 11	Bible – 12
English – 9	English – 10	English – 11	English - 12
World History	Contemporary Culture	U. S. History	Government/Economics
Biology	Science	Science	Senior Thesis
Pre-Alg. or Alg. 1	Alg. 1 or Geometry	Alg. 2 or Geometry	Alg. 2
Health	Foreign Language - 1	Foreign Language – 2	
Physical Education			
Keyboard/Computer (if not completed in Junior High)			

**Two credits of Creative/Fine/Applied Arts must also be taken along with 4 credits of general electives.**

<b>Scholars Diploma [Minimum of 30.75 credits, including .05 credit of Career Education]</b>			
<i>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	<i>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	<i>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>	<i>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</i>
Bible – 9	Bible – 10	Bible – 11	Bible – 12
English – 9 or Honors	English -- 10 or Honors	English – 11 or Honors	English – 12 or AP English
World History	Contemporary Culture	U.S. History or AP History	Gov't/Econ (or AP Gov't.)
Biology	Science	Science	Science (or AP History)
Alg. 1 or Geometry	Alg. 2 or Geometry	Alg. 2 or Pre-Calculus	Pre-Calculus or Calculus
Health	Foreign Language – 1	Foreign Language – 2	Foreign Language – 3
Physical Education			Senior Thesis

**Three credits of Creative/Fine/Applied Arts must also be taken along with 2 credits of general electives.**

NOTE: AP courses are available to all students, regardless of Diploma Track.

## **SCHEDULING NOTES**

- 1. Minimum number of Blocks students may be enrolled:** Students are required to enroll in 8 credits each year.  
**Exception:** Seniors are required to carry a minimum of **6 classes**. Upon approval of the administrator and parent/guardians, seniors may have Late Arrival or Early Release if in good standing and on track for graduation.
- 2. Change of Schedule:** A student in grades 9 – 12 may change his/her schedule during the first two weeks of a semester. Any change of schedule after two weeks must first be approved by the Principal or Counselor. Upon approval, the student must then secure the approval/signature of parents/guardians and the teachers involved before the change can be made.  
**NOTE:** Any class dropped after the first two weeks will be treated as a “withdrawal” (see below).
- 3. Withdrawal from a class:** Dropping a class after the first two weeks of a semester will result in a grade of “F” unless the change is approved/requested by the teacher. In this case, the grade will be either “WP” (withdrew, passing at the time) or “WF” (withdrew, failing at the time). Please note that these “W” grades will appear on the student transcript but will NOT affect the GPA.
- 4. Daily Participation Grade:** Classroom experience, (lecture, discussion, interaction) is important to the learning process. Therefore, students will receive a daily participation grade in each class.
- 5. Scholars Diploma:** To receive the Scholars Diploma, students must take all courses required for the program and achieve a GPA of 3.25 or higher by the end of the senior year. Students may begin their program in the Standard Diploma track and switch to the Scholar’s track later.

## **General College Admission Requirements**

- English (4 credits)
- Mathematics (3 credits)  
“College prep” math, beginning with Algebra 1.
- Science (2 credits)  
Should be college preparatory, laboratory courses; Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, Conceptual Physics, Physics, and AP Biology meet this requirement.
- Social Studies (3 credits)
- Foreign Language – same language (2 credits minimum)

Portland Christian students who have taken 4 credits of English, 3 credits of Social Studies, 3 credits of Math, 2 credits of Science (i.e. Biology and Chemistry), and 2 credits of the same Foreign Language will have met the course requirements for admission as Freshman to Oregon Schools of Higher Education.

### **Please note:**

Some colleges may require more than these requirements – some less. It is recommended that students check the admission requirements for the specific college(s) they are considering.

### **NCAA Eligibility Center**

Student athletes wishing to compete at the Division 1 and Division 2 college level need to be cleared by the NCAA Eligibility Center before being eligible to compete. It is the student’s responsibility to make sure that they meet the NCAA eligibility requirements. These requirements and procedures can be found at the following link: <https://www.ncaa.org/eligibilitycenter>

# COURSE OFFERINGS

Not all of the courses listed in this catalog are offered every year.

## Advance Placement (AP) Courses

It is recommended that students attempt at least one Advanced Placement course in high school. Some of these courses may be taken in lieu of required courses (AP English for English 12) while others are truly electives (AP Calculus and AP Spanish)

### **Advanced Placement English**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Honors English 9 - 11, Qualifying GPA, Recommendation by English Faculty*

AP English is designed to offer students a college-level English course during their senior year. Through the study of literature works normally studied at the college level, the course will emphasize the development of independent thought, practical literary analysis, and mature habits of critical thinking. Summer reading, class discussion, outside reading, and frequent writing assignments provide the basis of the curriculum. In the spring, students **MUST** take the AP Examination in Literature and Composition. This test gives each student an opportunity to earn college credit. **NOTE: Summer reading is required**

### **Advanced Placement Calculus AB**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Pre-Calculus or teacher approval*

Calculus, a unique reflector of the power and infinity of the Creator, is a college - level, Advanced Placement course. Students who have earned grades of A or B in Pre - Calculus are invited to participate. At the conclusion of the class, students may elect to take the national AP Calculus exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit. **AP Calculus BC** may be taken following this course, allowing the student to further study the intricacies of Calculus.

### **Advanced Placement Biology**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Biology (A- or better) and Chemistry (B- or Better) or teacher approval*

AP Biology is a course designed to give students an opportunity to earn college credit while still attending high school. The class consists of studies in each of the major fields of biology that are taught in a college first year biology course. At the conclusion of the class, students will take the national AP Biology exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit. Regardless of the exam results, students who complete the course will be well prepared for college courses in biology. **NOTE: Summer reading is required.**

### **Advanced Placement Physics**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** Teacher Approval

AP Physics is a course designed to give students an opportunity to earn college credit while still attending high school. The class consists of studies in each of the major fields of physics that are taught in a college first year physics course. At the conclusion of the class, students will take the national AP Physics exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit. Regardless of the exam results, students who complete the course will be well prepared for college courses in physics.

### **APEX Advanced Placement Spanish**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Level 3; teacher approval*

AP Spanish is offered as an internet-based interactive program that is designed to prepare students in advanced oral and written skills in preparation for the national Advanced Placement (AP) test in May. This is primarily an independent-study course, under the supervision of a foreign language instructor. Students may earn college credit and/or advanced college placement upon receiving satisfactory scores on the AP test (subject to individual university policy).

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**Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics****Credit: 1.0****Prerequisite:** *World & U.S. History, teacher approval*

AP Government and Politics is open to 12th grade students in place of the required senior class U.S. Government/Economics. The class is designed to provide students with the factual knowledge and analytic skills necessary to understand how American government is organized and how it works. It also prepares them to be a committed and involved citizen with complete knowledge of the American form of government. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those of a full-year introductory college course. At the conclusion of the class students will take the national AP Government exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit.

**NOTE: Summer reading is required.****Advanced Placement U.S. History****Credit: 1.0****Prerequisite:** *World History, teacher approval*

AP U.S. History may be taken in lieu of regular U.S. History, typically during the junior year. The class is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in American history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon the student that are equivalent to those of a full-year introductory college course. At the conclusion of the class students will take the national AP exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit. **NOTE: Summer reading is required.**

## **Bible Department**

At Portland Christian, we believe that "the Bible is the greatest of all books, to study it is the noblest of all pursuits, to understand it, the highest of all goals." As Christians, we must base everything that we think and do upon the Word of God. We must start with the inerrant Word of Creator God and compare all other thoughts to it. "For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen" (Romans 11:36). We are committed to teaching fundamental truths that are clearly Bible-based and set forth in Scripture and integrating them into all areas of life, thus enabling students to develop a proper biblical world and life view.

**Bible – 9****Credit: 1.0**

This course includes an apologetics unit centered around Paul Little's book, Know Why You Believe, followed by a study of the doctrinal foundation and importance of Genesis 1 - 11 taken from The Genesis Solution by Ken Ham.

**Bible – 10****Credit: 1.0**

Students are led through a systemic study of the uniqueness of the Bible, canonicity reliability, Bible study methods, cults and their refutation, Old Testament prophets, and the wisdom books.

**Bible – 11****Credit: 1.0**

Curriculum focuses on New Testament concepts and basic Bible doctrines. Starting with the Intertestament Period, students are led through the Gospels, Acts, Pauline and General Epistles, ending their course in a study of the Book of Revelation.

**Bible – 12****Credit: 1.0**

Curriculum includes studies in worldviews, cultural values versus biblical absolutes and decision making. Students are taught to make biblically-based decisions in light of the prevailing attitudes and beliefs of the day. This class will examine difficult cultural issues from a Christian perspective in the attempt to learn how to apply God's Word to everyday life.

**Apologetics – Questions of the Faith****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Grades 10 - 12*

Apologetics will delve into some of the difficult questions that challenge our faith: Is your salvation secure? Why does a loving God allow suffering? Who chooses, you or God, in relation to saving grace? And many more! Students will search the Scriptures to find some surprising answers. The course will consist primarily of discussion and in-class research.

**Comparative Christian Traditions****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Open to grades 10 - 12*

The Bible says that there is one Lord, one faith, one body. But there are so many different groups who go by the name *Christian*. Have you ever wondered how it is that there can be so many different expressions of the one body of Christ? It can be so difficult to sort it all out. In this course, we will study the Bible's teaching about the church. And then we will survey several different church traditions, looking for genuine expressions of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, we will see how the last century of Christianity in America has brought us to where we are now.

## **Fine Arts Department**

**Art 1****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *None*

This course is an elective which may be taken by any student, grades 9 -12. In this class the student is exposed to various art forms using both the tools and materials of the artist. Knowing that art closely reflects an artist's worldview, students will gain foundational art skills and knowledge in order to become more visually discerning. The Fall Semester class will participate in the annual art show. Repeating this course for credit must be approved by the instructor.

**Multi-Media Art****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Art 1 or Junior High Art 2*

This class will focus on experimenting with the mixing of mediums and trying things that are not used in Art 1. This class is perfect for those who have taken Art 1 but do not feel comfortable with an Advanced Art class right away, or for those who have taken all other art classes and are looking to expand their art repertoire.

**Advanced Art — Drawing and Painting****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Art 1***Meets Fall Semester only**

The second year art student should be reasonably comfortable with basic art techniques and tools. Students should become more visually aware and increasingly capable of meeting standards of quality in their own work. Students will be expected to execute more complicated forms in two-dimensional media. In general they should be able to build on basic drawing and painting skills to develop and communicate individual themes and ideas. Advanced art students in fall classes will design the annual art show. All advanced classes will host a mini-gallery as their mid-term and create a portfolio as their final.

**Advanced Art — Ceramics and Sculpture****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Art 1***Meets Spring Semester only**

The second year art student should be reasonably comfortable with basic art techniques and tools. Students should become more visually aware and increasingly capable of standards of quality in their own work. In general students will be asked to build on basic ceramic skills to create more complicated forms with a greater degree of craftsmanship and the integration of personal themes. Other three dimensional media will be explored as an extension of the understanding of form and space. All advanced classes will host a mini-gallery as their mid-term and create a portfolio as the final.

**Independent Advanced Art****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Both Advanced Art classes; teacher and administrative approval*

Students must create their own syllabus for this class. Their work must be focused and meet advanced art standards. Mid-term will include a larger project of the student's choice; the final will consist of a portfolio of the work created in this class.

**Digital Photography****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Students must have their own digital camera*

Learn how to take awesome and powerful pictures. Students will start with the basics of the camera and move into more advanced techniques such as lighting, exposure and portraiture. The class will discuss how to invest emotional impact and conceptual ideas into photographic images so those viewing them will be powerfully affected. The photographer will put these things into practice in the field, from sporting events, senior shoots and other exciting experiences. Post process (digital editing) and some graphics will be learned along the way.

**High School Drama****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *None*

The objective of this course is to expose students to all aspects of the Theatre. Throughout the year the class will explore theatre history, stage orientation, acting styles, improvisation, theatre terminology and the technical development of the stage throughout the production process. Students will participate in daily exercises to strengthen the actor both mentally and physically.

**Advanced Drama****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** Drama 1

The objective of this course is to further expose students to all aspects of the Theatre. Throughout the year the class will extensively explore theatre history, stage orientation, acting styles, improvisation and movement, theatre terminology and the technical development of the stage through the production process. Students will gain knowledge in theatrical makeup, costuming, and set design. The class will participate in daily exercises to strengthen the actor both mentally and physically.

**Home Management — Cooking****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *None*

This course is designed for students who have had some cooking experience at home or in the Junior High Home Management class. The student will learn skills to aid them in menu planning, shopping, food preparation, cooking and cleaning. A deeper knowledge of nutrition will also be a major focal point. The student is expected to do a home meal project as well as work in a simulated restaurant in which students learn group cooking for large numbers.

**Home Management – Sewing & Quilting****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *None*

Students will be introduced to the tools and craft of sewing and/or quilt-making. Students will produce at least one complete sewing project for themselves or others during the course of this class. The “Baby Think It Over” Program is given as an option for the first month of class.

**Wood Shop****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *None*

This first course in woodworking is designed to give a general understanding of woodworking tools and processes. The correct and safe operation of hand and power tools will be stressed. Students will apply learned skills in the construction and completion of projects.

**Yearbook****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *Approval of Yearbook Advisor*

In partnership with Jostens Publishing Company, students will learn the basics of journalism, and incorporate desktop publishing and photography to design, create and publish the Portland Christian High School yearbook, Sceptre.

**Chess Strategies****Credit: 0.5****Prerequisite:** *None*

King of Games and Game of Kings! This course offers tools, skills, principles, and practice opportunities to improve the student’s chess game. Enjoy chess more by learning to win more games. Learn to appreciate the art and strategy of chess. Yes, this course fulfills the Creative/Fine/Applied Arts Requirement!

### **Advanced Chess: Creating a Team**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Teacher approval only*

The advanced student is given the opportunity to join the Portland Christian Chess Team and is trained to participate in local and national tournaments.

## **Music**

### **Guitar Level 1**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisites:** *No prior experience required.*

**Meets Fall Semester only**

**Fee:** purchase of SMARTMUSIC

The student must have a six-string acoustic guitar (preferred). Student will purchase a workbook, Jerry Snyder's Guitar School book 1. High school and middle school students are welcome. Guitar Level 1 is offered **FALL SEMESTER ONLY**. Guitar Level 1 is designed for students with little or no experience playing the guitar or reading guitar music. Students learn the fundamentals of guitar playing, including common chords, some playing styles, and the reading of three types of music notation. Guitar Level 1 performs publicly at least once. Participation in the performance is one of the graded activities.

### **Guitar Level 2**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisites:** *Pass Guitar Level 1 or Teacher approval required*

**Meets Spring Semester only**

**Fee:** for purchase of SMARTMUSIC

The student must have a six-string acoustic guitar (preferred). Student will purchase a workbook, Jerry Snyder's Guitar School book 1 & 2. Guitar Level 2 is offered **SPRING SEMESTER ONLY**. Guitar Level 2 offers students who have developed some chord playing skills and some skill reading guitar music an opportunity read more challenging music and play more difficult guitar literature. Students also learn some music theory related to building and voicing chords. Guitar Level 2 performs publicly at least once. Participation in the performance is one of the graded activities.

### **Concert Band**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisites:** *Audition or Teacher approval required. The student must have a band instrument and a Band Method book. **Concert Band students are expected to participate for the entire year. Participation in fundraising activities is expected.***

**Fee:** Workbook, music, SMARTMUSIC, concert attire.

Students in Concert Band continue to develop technical skills and ability to read more difficult music beyond the middle-school level. Concert band students play a varied repertoire of literature and perform in public regularly. Concert Band students are expected to participate in pep band, competitions, and band tour. Each year Concert Band students are expected to demonstrate improvement in technique and understanding of the music concepts emphasized through the year.

### **Concert Choir**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Audition. **Students are expected to participate both Fall and Spring semesters.***

Concert Choir is available to students in grades 9 – 12 by audition only. Members of the Concert Choir will have the opportunity to review the fundamentals of singing and progress to an advanced level of singing in a choir. Several opportunities for performance throughout the year enable each student to demonstrate their acquired knowledge and share in the privilege of presenting their gifts of praise to the Lord. Auditions are held through the summer and into the first week of school in September. Over the last three decades Portland Christian High School has consistently produced award-winning choirs.

### **Ensemble**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Chosen from Concert Choir members. **Students are expected to participate both Fall and Spring semesters.***

The Portland Christian High School Ensemble is typically composed of eight men and eight women chosen from the Concert Choir. The expectations for this singing group are the most rigorous of all performing groups at Portland Christian. While participating in the regular performing season of the Concert Choir, the Ensemble is generally scheduled to perform at additional concerts throughout the year.

# English Department

The English program is designed to improve students' awareness of the important role language and literature plays in their lives. Students are challenged to recognize that all truth is of God and that language itself is a gift from God and is a powerful means of exploring, discerning, and communicating truth. Students are also encouraged to recognize literature as the reflection of the values and beliefs of their own and other cultures, to realign their assumptions and thoughts with the mind of Christ, to understand the destructive qualities of sin, and to increase their sensitivity, concern and compassion for humankind.

## **English and Communications 9**

**Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: None

English 9 focuses on the basic elements of communication. Students will learn to consider purpose, structure, and audience when interpreting and composing speech, media, and writing. Their study of literature will include selections from the nonfiction, poetry, mythology, and drama genres. Students will also further their understanding and application of correct grammar and basic composition skills.

## **Honors English 9/English 10**

**Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Recommendation by English Faculty

Honors 9 students will join the sophomores in their study of the basic and advanced literary techniques found in poetry, short stories, drama, and novels. The class will emphasize the importance of assessing the values and worldviews presented in literature. Students will also further their understanding and application of correct grammar, mature their basic composition skills, and incorporate clarity, form, and organization in various types of writing.

## **English 10**

**Credit: 1.0**

Students will identify and understand the advanced elements of literary analysis through reading poetry, short stories, drama, and novels. English 10 will highlight the importance of assessing the values and worldviews presented in literature. Students will also further their understanding and application of correct grammar, mature their basic composition skills, and incorporate clarity, form, and organization in various types of writing.

## **Honors English 10**

**Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Honors English 9, Recommendation by English Faculty

Honors 10 students will continue their study of advanced elements of literary analysis with a wide variety of literature. Honors English 10 will stress not only the development of independent literary analysis and critical thinking skills, but also the importance of testing an author's values against God's truth. Students will also continue to mature their composition skills.

## **English 11**

**Credit: 1.0**

In Junior English, students will take a historical approach to their study of American literature by correlating their English studies with their American History course. Students will examine each piece of literature as a reflection of the cultural background and value system of the author. Through the use of integrated curriculum and assignments, students are challenged to discover the unity inherent in knowledge.

## **Honors English 11**

**Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Honors English 9 - 10, Qualifying GPA, Recommendation by English Faculty

As in Junior English, students in Honors English 11 will take a historical approach to their study of American literature examining each piece of literature as a reflection of the cultural background and value system of the author. Because Honors 11 English is designed to prepare students to excel in Advanced Placement English during their senior year, students will experience a larger variety of American literature with greater depth of analysis. Students must participate in a summer reading program.

**English 12****Credit: 1.0**

Students will examine English literature, and its historical background as a reflection of English society and its values. This survey will be the focus for developing the students' abilities to read independently and write effectively. Students will also gain experience in writing effective college-style essays.

**Advanced Placement English****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Honors English 9 - 11, Qualifying GPA, Recommendation by English Faculty

AP English is designed to offer students a college-level English course during their senior year. Through the study of literature works normally studied at the college level, the course will emphasize the development of independent thought, practical literary analysis, and mature habits of critical thinking. Summer reading, class discussion, outside reading, and frequent writing assignments provide the basis of the curriculum. In the spring, students MUST take the Advanced Placement Examination in Literature and Composition. This test has a fee and gives each student an opportunity to earn college credit.

**Film and Literature****Credit: 0.5**

Prerequisite: *None*

Students enrolled in the course study film both as an art form and a form of communication. They are taught to "read" a film, analyzing its literary, artistic and technical elements. Students will be challenged to evaluate film media in light of a Biblical worldview. Grades: 10-12 (administrative and parent approval required for any movies rated R). Class requirements: In-class viewing, outside reading, web-based discussion, written analysis.

**Foreign Languages**

Portland Christian High School offers French and Spanish as foreign languages (two years of a second language are required for graduation). The Foreign Language Program is designed to give the student an awareness of the importance of the nature, significance, and purpose of language. The goal, in each of the languages, is to bring students to proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing, and to understand various cultural aspects related to the language. Though students are required to complete Level 2 for graduation, they are encouraged to take more as electives. *REMINDER:* Level 3 is required to be completed for the Scholars Diploma. Also, three or more years of the same language are now required or preferred by many colleges for entrance.

**Spanish, Level I****Credit: 1.0**

This course, open to students, grades 9-12, provide a first year introduction to understanding, reading, writing, and speaking in a modern foreign language. Basic language skills, along with cultural awareness, will be emphasized through various classroom activities.

**Spanish, Level II****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Level 1

This course of study will continue to build upon the foundation established in the first level of the course. Students are encouraged to begin speaking only that language in the classroom.

**Spanish, Level III****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Level I & II

This course of study will continue to build upon the previous levels. Students speak only that language in the classroom.

**French, Level I****Credit: 1.0**

This course, open to students, grades 9-12, provide a first year introduction to understanding, reading, writing, and speaking in a modern foreign language. Basic language skills, along with cultural awareness, will be emphasized through various classroom activities.

**French, Level II****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Level 1

This course of study will continue to build upon the foundation established in the first level of the course. Students are encouraged to begin speaking only that language in the classroom.

**French, Level III****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Level I &amp; II

This course of study will continue to build upon the previous levels. Students speak only that language in the classroom.

**APEX Advanced Placement Spanish****Credit: 1.0****Prerequisite:** *Level 3; Teacher recommendation*

This is an internet-based interactive program that is designed to prepare students in advanced oral and written skills in preparation for the national Advanced Placement (AP) test in May. Students may earn college credit and/or advanced college placement upon receiving satisfactory scores on the AP test (subject to individual university policy). This is primarily an independent-study course, under the supervision of a foreign language instructor.

**APEX Advanced Placement French****Credit: 1.0****Prerequisite:** *APEX French 1 & 2; Teacher recommendation*

This is an internet-based interactive program that is designed to prepare students in advanced oral and written skills in preparation for the national Advanced Placement (AP) test in May. Students may earn college credit and/or advanced college placement upon receiving satisfactory scores on the AP test (subject to individual university policy). This is primarily an independent-study course, under the supervision of a foreign language instructor.

## **The Excel Program**

Portland Christian Jr/Sr High School offers a unique program appropriate for students who:

- Are bright with at least average IQ scores
- Are free of primary emotional or behavioral issues
- Have difficulty processing language at the same rate and in the same way as their peers
- Have well-developed thinking, problem-solving and comprehension skills
- Have difficulty in simple decoding, spelling and writing
- Have mild learning disabilities

Students must be motivated and committed to the learning process. Portland Christian has a structured approach to teaching where these students are able to master the strategies and skills necessary to learn and finally experience success in the classroom. Unfortunately, we are NOT equipped to meet the needs of students who have more pervasive learning disabilities.

The Excel program provides rigorous language remediation for students experiencing difficulty with written and oral expression. Curriculum emphasizes students improving their reading, spelling, writing, and comprehension, speaking and listening skills. Classes of six to eight students are based on teaching skills needed to succeed in the mainstream classroom. The Program has a secondary curriculum emphasizing organizational and study skills development in a traditional classroom setting.

Students will receive special accommodations in their regular classes when joining the program. A bi-weekly progress report is sent home electronically and by mail for parent/student and teacher communication.

## **International Student Academic Program**

The purpose of the International Student Academic Program is to provide strong academics and biblical teaching in a Christian atmosphere. International students are encouraged to study for a high school diploma. However, they are also welcome to study for a one-year American experience. The English as a Second Language (ESL) courses are offered to assist international students with their English language skills needed to fully transition into mainstream American classes.

The academic goal is to guide international students, beginning in level one ESL classes, to graduate with primarily mainstream American classes. International students who are interested in being competitive for selective American colleges should know that by their senior year, they should have earned a 200 on the CBT and be enrolled in the standard college entrance tests in the United States. If they are unable to meet these options, their college options may be limited.

### **ESL English 1-2**

**Credit: 1.0**

This is an introduction to the English language. Students learn to express themselves in the present, past, and future tense. The basic skills of communication, reading, and writing are emphasized in this course.

### **ESL English 3-4**

**Credit: 1.0**

This class continues to develop speaking and listening skills. Students will establish a grammatical background needed for reading and writing. Other emphases will include short stories, essay writing, and poetry.

### **ESL English 5-6**

**Credit: 1.0**

English 5-6 will identify genre, define and identify worldviews and explore literature such as The Pearl by John Steinbeck, A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickenson, and Hamlet by William Shakespeare.

### **ESL Bible 1**

**Credit: 1.0**

Bible 1 is a survey of the Old Testament of the Bible. Students will learn the character and nature of God.

### **ESL Bible 2**

**Credit: 1.0**

Bible 2 is a survey of the New Testament of the Bible. Students will learn the character of Jesus Christ and how to have a relationship with Him.

### **ESL US History**

**Credit: 1.0**

US History is an introduction to the history of the United States. Students will explore geography and key points that make our country what it is today. English language is limited to teaching at English level 1-2.

### **ESL World History**

**Credit: 1.0**

ESL World History is designed to show the evidence of God's plan throughout the history of man's progress. Students will identify key turning points in history that have determined where we are today.

### **ESL Government-Economics**

**Credit: 1.0**

This is an introduction of the American government system. Areas of emphasis are the structures of our government and the process by which it runs. Economic teachings will explore the United States free enterprise systems. Students will explore the possibilities of starting and owning a business.

### **ESL TOEFL Prep/Study Skills**

**Credit: 0.5**

The TOEFL Prep/Study Skills class will prepare students for TOEFL tests. Expanding the English vocabulary with idioms and clichés will be emphasized. Practice TOEFL tests covering listening and reading will give the students skills needed to improve their scores.

## Math Department

(1) **GRADUATION REQUIREMENT:** Standard diploma – 3 years through Algebra 2  
Scholars diploma - 3 years through Pre-Calculus

(2) **MATH COURSE PROGRESSION:**

- \* Algebra 1
- \* Geometry
- \* Algebra II
- \* Pre-Calculus
- \* AP Calculus AB
- \* AP Calculus BC

(3) Algebra 1 taken in 8<sup>th</sup> grade **WILL COUNT** as a High School math credit.

(4) Though not required for graduation, it is highly recommend that students take math each year of High School.

At Portland Christian High School we assume that mathematics is an entity, which always exists in the mind of God. For us, it is the universal expression of His creative and sustaining Word of power.

If mathematics is God's thought, then the beauty, order, infinitude and power mathematics exhibits are reflections of God's "power and Godhead". (Rom. 1:20) The student, beholding the glory of the Creator, is changed into Christ's likeness (2 Cor. 3:18), thus fulfilling his destiny as a Christian (Rom. 8:29, 1 John 3:2). These are theoretical, abstract, and structural aspects of mathematics.

We show students that they need mathematics to obey God's command to subdue and replenish the earth and take dominion over it (Gen. 1:28). This is the vocational, scientific, and applied aspect of mathematics.

### **Pre-Algebra: 7th and 8th graders**

**Credit: 1.0**

This course is open to any student in grades 9-11 whose ability in math is average or below. The course provides a full year of practice in the fundamentals of arithmetic, while basic abstractions of Algebra are introduced and practiced.

### **Algebra 1: 8th and 9th graders**

**Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or teacher approval

Three levels of ability are represented. (1) We aim to nurture the slower students through another year of math; (2) We aim to strike a few sparks in preparing them for geometry; and (3) We aim to provide opportunity for the math gifted to stretch their thinking and gain the confidence to plunge into new ideas.

### **Geometry**

**Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This course is for any student who has completed Algebra 1 with a grade of C or above. It will cover concepts of geometry integrated with algebra and trig. It will include analyzing and evaluating geometric problems constructing proofs and deductive and inductive reasoning.

### **Algebra 2**

**Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry or teacher approval

In Algebra 2 students are introduced to trigonometric and vector formulas and functions, logarithms, and set algebra, including absolute value inequalities.

**Pre-Calculus****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 or teacher approval

In this course, students will study coordinate geometry, review exponential, logarithmic and trigonometry functions, and complex root and factoring. Students will also study matrices and determinants, law of sines and cosines, binomial expansion, trigonometry identities and equations, including the graphing of trigonometry equations. Probability (sequences and series) is taught followed by a unit on solid geometry, circle geometry, rational root theorem, and matrix algebra.

**AP Calculus****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus or teacher approval

Calculus, a unique reflector of the power and infinity of the Creator, is a college-level, Advanced Placement course. Students who have earned grades of A or B in Pre - Calculus are invited to participate. College credit is available.

**PE/Health****NOTE: No more than one (1.0) credit of P.E. elective allowed per school year.****Weight Training****Credit: 0.5**Prerequisite: *None*

This course is open to all students, grades 9 – 12, but is designed primarily for athletes. Each student is taught the principles of elementary weight lifting. They are instructed how to correctly perform a minimum of 12 lifts to build strength as well as to develop character. This is designed to be a year-long course, though students may elect to take it for one semester. *Note:* Freshmen will not be allowed to be in Weight Training on the same A/B day as Freshman P.E.

**Recreation & Fitness****Credit: 0.5**Prerequisite: *None*

This course is designed to develop physical skills while improving overall fitness. It will acquaint the students with the basic skills and rules of many team, individual, and life-time sports, as well as present a Christian perspective on sportsmanship and physical education. *Note:* Freshman will not be allowed to be in this class on the same A/B day as Freshman P.E.

**Competitive Team Sports****Credit: 0.5**Prerequisite: *None*

This course is designed for the competitive student. *Competitive Team Sports* will engage students in rigorous athletic activities and competitions. Students will be expected to compete in seasonal team sports that may include flag football, soccer, ultimate Frisbee, basketball, lacrosse, and softball. Students must be familiar with rules of each game and they should have mastered fundamental skills and strategies of those identified sports. Students will also participate in a general fitness, strength training, and stretching regiment.

## Science Department

- (1) **GRADUATION REQUIREMENT:** Standard Diploma - 3 credits  
Scholars Diploma - 4 credits
- (2) Biology is taken in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The other biological sciences are Anatomy and AP Biology. Physical Science choices are Chemistry, Conceptual Physics, and Physics.
- (3) Physical Science taken in 8<sup>th</sup> grade **WILL COUNT** as a High School science credit (2010 only).
- (4) Though not required for graduation, it is highly recommend that students take science each year of High School.

**NOTE:** Biology is the only science course required of all students. To complete the graduation requirement of 3 science classes, students may choose from the following classes. **Students are also required to choose classes from at least 2 different branches of science (biological, chemical and/or physical).**

### **Anatomy**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Biology (Grade C or better)*

This non-math based course will introduce students to the study of the human body while focusing on the structures and functions of tissues, organs, and systems. Engaging topics will be explored such as: DNA fingerprinting, stem cell research, tattoos, anabolic steroids and obesity. Rigorous laboratory activities and dissections of mammalian organisms will be a required component of this course.

### **Chemistry**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *B- or better in Alg 2 or demonstrated mathematical ability*

Chemistry is central to all of the sciences. The course requires a great deal of memorization and an excellent grasp of mathematics, especially the manipulation of algebraic equations and the interpretation of word problems. Chemistry is the science that tries to understand the properties of substances and the changes that substances undergo. It addresses appropriate use of the scientific method to gather data and legitimate use and interpretation of the resulting statistics.

### **Conceptual Physics**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Biology*

The course will guide students in making connections between the concepts of physics and the real world. Topics that will be studied are: Mechanics, properties of matter, heat, sound and light, electricity and magnetism, and atomic and nuclear physics. "Conceptual" refers to "concepts before computation," and so gives all students the opportunity to explore physics without the rigors of math.

### **Physics**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra 2 or teacher approval*

Physics is the study of the relationship between matter and energy. Energy drives all systems in the universe from a simple bouncing ball to the complex dynamics in the structure of an atom. The study of the laws of physics is not only a conceptual pursuit, but also intensely mathematical because the language of physics is mathematics. God has revealed part of His nature to us in the orderly, complex, and beautiful universe He created. We can enjoy all He has made, and study it with wonder and humility.

### **Advanced Placement Biology**

**Credit: 1.0**

**Prerequisite:** *Biology (A- or better) and Chemistry (B- or better) or teacher approval. Summer work*

AP Biology is a course designed to give students an opportunity to earn college credit while still attending high school. The class consists of studies in each of the major fields of biology that are taught in a college first year biology course. At the conclusion of the class students take an exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit. Regardless of the exam results, students who complete the course will be well prepared for college courses in biology

## Keyboarding/Computer Sciences

### **Computer Graphics & Animation**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Computer Science*

This course will allow the student to create projects with various computer graphic programs. The course offers an abundance of tips and techniques for programmers of all levels who want to learn how Flash technology, Maya, alice.org and Claymation can be used. Students will be introduced to key elements of the software. In addition, students will work on some film projects.

### **Advanced Computer Graphics & Animation**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Computer Graphics & Animation*

Students will continue to explore animation in Maya, Claymation, and other programs. Projects will be made and presented at the annual art show.

### **Advanced Computers**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Computer Science*

This course will guide the students into a deeper understanding of Microsoft Office. Programs to be explored and mastered will be Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint. Each student will understand that the computer is a tool to be used responsibly and to the glory of God. Colossians 3:23

### **Advanced Office Applications**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Computer Science*

Students will become proficient in office applications including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, and Publisher with a goal of achieving Microsoft Certification. This is a very beneficial class in preparing for college and future employment.

## Social Studies Department

The department of social studies encompasses a broad range of course work. In the history classes the student is exposed to the revelation of God in time, space and human events. History is the realm of unrepeatable phenomena, with certain consequences for human knowledge and understanding. In history dwells the unveiling of the personal God - His character, His attributes, and His nature. Through the study of the past and God's clarification of that past, we also come to grips with humankind.

### **Modern World History 9**

**Credit: 1.0**

The 9th grade Modern History class is designed to show God's hand in all of history. The students experience history from the beginning of Democracy to the 20th century. They will explore how humankind's worldviews often had a great impact on the world, and how those worldviews have helped shape the world we live in.

### **Contemporary Culture**

**Credit: 1.0**

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade**

The course will provide students with the skills and intellectual tools to think critically about contemporary culture by providing them an understanding of American culture and empower them to critically assess the world in which they live from a rational Christian perspective. Microeconomics is also included in this course. The purpose of Microeconomics is to provide a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

**U.S. History 11****Credit: 1.0**

In US History, 11th grade students will examine the reasons for the exploration and the settlement of North America, and study the culture and civilization of the American Indian prior to the arrival of the Europeans. Students will study the American Revolution and its causes and effects as they relate to the American's view of authority. Students will examine church and state and its current ramifications. Students will understand the conflict between federalism and states' rights and complete the course with post World War II contemporary history and the development of the Civil Rights Movement.

**U.S. Government and Economics 12****Credit: 1.0**

In this 12th grade course the students will learn how to understand the Constitution and the form of government it produces with the goal of the student becoming an informed and participating citizen. Along with this focus on government the students will learn the basics of personal economics in order to prepare them for life on their own.

**AP Government and Politics 12****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: World History, U.S. History or teacher approval

AP Government and Politics is open to 12th grade students in place of the required senior class U.S. Government/Economics. It is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to understand how American government is laid out and how it works. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those of a full-year introductory college course. It also prepares them to be a committed and involved citizen with complete knowledge of the American form of government. At the conclusion of the class, students will take an exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit.

**Adv. Placement U.S. History/11th or 12th grade****Credit: 1.0**

Prerequisite: World History, U.S. History or teacher approval

AP U.S. History is open to 12th grade students. It is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in American history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon the equivalent to those of a full-year introductory college course. At the conclusion of the class, students may take an exam to determine their qualification to receive college credit.

**Introduction to Philosophy****Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Open to 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades*

This course is an introduction to the foundational ideas and philosophers of Western Civilization. Beginning with ancient Greek thought and continuing through the modern era, students will explore important thinkers and their ideas. There will be a heavy emphasis on critical thought and analysis.

**Psychology****Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Open to grades 10 - 12*

This class will increase a student's knowledge of how the brain works. It will give the student an understanding of both behavioral and abnormal psychology.

## Career Education

### **Career Education**

**Credit: 0.5**

Career Education is a requirement for graduation from Portland Christian High School. Students are required to complete a number of activities and assignments designed to encourage career exploration and to prepare them for college entrance. These activities and assignments are spread throughout the 4 years of high school in lieu of a separate class. Students receive credit and a grade at the end of their senior year.

Most of the required Career Education activities are completed at school. These include exercises addressing such areas as goal setting, getting a job, and career exploration. Students are also required to take a variety of academic and career-related tests, such as the PLAN, Statewide Assessment, and the PSAT.

In addition, each student is required to complete 10 hours of Community Service each year. Community service is defined as any volunteer activity, which would benefit the community. For example, students may volunteer at a hospital, their church, the Red Cross, a nursing home, at school, helping a faculty member, shut-in neighbor, or any non-profit organization.

## Other Electives

### **Teacher Assistance/Office Aide**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, teacher approval*  
*10<sup>th</sup> grade by administrative approval only*

Students work with teachers or in an office setting assisting with daily operations.

### **Student Mentoring**

**Credit: 0.5**

**Prerequisite:** *Senior (interested in the field of education)*

The Student Mentoring program is designed to give students who are considering teaching as a profession the opportunity to explore the field before attending college. By actually working in the classroom at the Market Street elementary campus (or other campuses by administrative approval only), these students learn the demands placed upon the teacher and discover whether or not they have the necessary personal qualifications for teaching. Transportation to and from the campus is up to the student and their parents.

# **ELECTIVE CHOICES**

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

AP Biology (1.0 credit)  
AP Calculus AB (1.0)  
AP Calculus BC (1.0)  
AP English (1.0)  
AP Spanish Language (1.0)  
AP U.S. Government and Politics (1.0)  
AP U.S. History (1.0)

## **BIBLE**

Apologetics – Questions of the Faith (0.5 credit)  
Comparative Christian Traditions (0.5)

## **\*\*COMPUTER and BUSINESS**

Computer Graphics & Animation (0.5)  
Advance Computer Graphics & Animation (0.5)  
Advanced Office Applications (0.5)

## **\*\*CREATIVE and APPLIES ARTS**

Art 1 (0.5 credit)  
Multi-Media Art (0.5)  
Advanced Art – Drawing and Painting (0.5)  
Advanced Art – Ceramics and Sculpture (0.5)  
Digital Photography (0.5)  
High School Drama/Advanced Drama (0.5)  
Home Management – Cooking (0.5)  
Home Management – Sewing & Quilting (0.5)  
Wood Shop (0.5)  
Yearbook (0.5)  
Chess Strategies (0.5 – 1.0)  
Advanced Chess (0.5 – 1.0)

## **\*\*MUSIC**

Guitar Level 1 and 2 (0.5 credit)  
Concert Band (1.0)  
Concert Choir (1.0)  
Ensemble (vocal) (1.0)

## **ENGLISH**

Film and Literature (0.5 credit)

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Competitive Team Sports (0.5 – 1.0 credit)  
Recreation & Fitness (0.5 – 1.0)  
Weight Training (0.5 – 1.0)

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

Introduction of Philosophy (0.5 credit)  
Psychology (0.5)

## **OTHER OFFERINGS**

Teacher/Office Aide (0.5 – 1.0 credit)  
Student Mentoring (0.5 – 1.0)

**\*\* NOTE: Electives in these departments meet the “Creative/Fine/Applied Art” graduation requirement**

## CREDIT CHECK

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Scholar</b>	<b>Standard</b>		<b>9th</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12th</b>	<b>Complete (x)</b>
<b>4 credits</b>	<b>4 credits</b>	<b>Bible</b>	Bible 9	Bible 10	Bible 11	Bible 12	
<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>English</b>	English 9	English 10	English 11	English 12 or AP	
<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Social Studies: World History Contemp. Culture U. S. History Gov't/Econ</b>	World History	Cont. Culture	U.S. History (Reg. or AP)	Gov't/Econ or AP Gov	
<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Math – through Alg. 2</b>					
<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Science</b>	Biology				
<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Foreign Language</b>					
<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Creative/Fine/Applied Arts</b>					
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Keyboarding/ Computer</b>					
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Health</b>	Health				
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Physical Education</b>	P.E.				
<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>Career Education</b>					
<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>Senior Thesis</b>				Thesis	
<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Electives</b>					
<b>TOTAL 30.75</b>	<b>TOTAL 29.75</b>						