



**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**  
**Jr. High School On-Campus**  
**2025-2026**

**JOC**

*Courses are designed to provide junior high school students instruction in both core and elective subjects while also preparing them to succeed in their upcoming high school courses. Classes will stress attendance, time management, organization, following instructions, test-taking, oral presentation, and general classroom skills.*

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## COURSE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ROTATIONS

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### Science Course Recommendation

Academically prepared Jr. High students are encouraged to take General Science in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade followed by Physical Science in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. This path allows students to complete their high school science requirements in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, freeing them to take an additional science course or pursue other academic interests in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

### English Course Rotation

Each English course consists of three components: grammar, writing, and literature. To accommodate different levels of writing ability, two grammar/writing courses are offered: Level 1 (WriteShop I) and Level 2 (WriteShop II). Both courses are on the same literature rotation (Unit A or Unit B) and therefore, use the same reading list.

***Note: Each student will only be enrolled in one JOC English course per academic year regardless of Level or Unit. Grammar, writing, and literature are all part of the same course.***

The following grammar/writing components are offered each year, subject to availability, and must be taken in order unless approved by the JOC Coordinator and Course Instructor.

- Intro to Literature and Composition: Level 1 (WriteShop I)
- Intro to Literature and Composition: Level 2 (WriteShop II)

The following literature components are offered yearly on a rotating basis and may be taken in any order.

- Intro to Literature and Composition: Unit A (2025-2026)
- Intro to Literature and Composition: Unit B (2026-2027)

### Social Science Course Rotation

The following courses are offered on a rotating basis, subject to availability, and may be taken in any order.

- World Geography (2025-2026)
- Civics w/Alabama History Unit (2026-2027)

***Note: Jr. High (JOC) World Geography is not a substitute for High School (HOC) Geography. Eligible students may take both courses but not during the same academic year.***

## SCIENCE

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### General Science

**Grades:** 7-8

**Cost:** \$380

**Lab Fee:** \$40

**Placement Test:** No

**Prerequisite:** None

**Instructor:** Marie Tennant

**Semester:** Fall and Spring

**Schedule:** Tuesday, 10:15 AM – 12:15 PM

This course is designed to introduce Jr. High students to post-elementary science studies while giving them an excellent opportunity to learn the organization and process of this series before reaching the high school-level courses. Introducing scientific concepts in the context of history, students will follow the work of the scientists who lived during the mid-1900s period known as "The Atomic Age." Students will be "introduced" to a variety of topics, including the scientific method, experimentation, atoms, the periodic table, compounds, and DNA. These topics are all discussed in the context of history, explaining how specific scientific advances led to today's scientific explanations. This allows students to learn not only the current scientific understanding of these topics, but also how scientists reached that understanding. In addition, they will discuss systems of the human body, as well as the living world, including ecosystems and biomes. Throughout the course, God's design in nature is highlighted, and topics in the creation/evolution debate are discussed.

The course will consist of in-class lectures and discussions plus out-of-class reading and assignments. Students will participate in weekly experiments, most of which will be done during class.

#### Required Resources:

- *Science in the Atomic Age*  
Author: Dr. Jay Wile, 2020 (ISBN: 9780996278409)

#### Optional Resources:

- *Answer Key & Tests for Science in the Atomic Age*  
Author: Dr. Jay Wile, 2020 (ISBN: 9780996278416)
- Note: The Solutions and Tests Manual should be kept by the parent until the instructor gives permission to use it.

## ENGLISH

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### Intro to Literature and Composition: 1A (WriteShop I)

**Grades:** 7-8

**Cost:** \$380

**Lab Fee:** \$0

**Placement Test:** No

**Prerequisite:** None

**Instructor:** Nikki Adams

**Semester:** Fall and Spring

**Schedule:** Monday, 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

This course is designed for first year students. Students will learn the steps of the writing process through lessons in descriptive, informative, and narrative writing using the WriteShop I curriculum. They also read and explore quality literature through in-class discussion, including answering comprehension questions and examining literary techniques.

Important: Level 1 (WriteShop I) and Level 2 (WriteShop II) have different writing class times but a shared literature class time. Please note the overlap in schedule for these courses.

#### Required Resources:

- *WriteShop I Student Workbook, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*  
Authors: Kim Kautzer and Deborah Older, 2020 (ISBN: 9781935027492 – 5<sup>th</sup> Edition)
- *The Phantom Tollbooth*  
Author: Norton Juster
- *Amos Fortune, Free Man*  
Author: Elizabeth Yates
- *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*  
Author: Avi
- *Number the Stars*  
Author: Lois Lowry
- *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*  
Author: Anne Frank
- *The Bronze Bow*  
Author: Elizabeth George Speare

#### Notes:

- Any edition of the literature selections is acceptable.
- Students who use audio books must also have a print version of the text.

## ENGLISH

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### Intro to Literature and Composition: 2A (WriteShop II)

**Grades:** 7-8

**Cost:** \$380

**Lab Fee:** \$0

**Placement Test:** No

**Prerequisite:** WriteShop I or Equivalent

**Instructor:** Nikki Adams

**Semester:** Fall and Spring

**Schedule:** Monday, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

This course is designed for second year students. Students expand their writing abilities as compositions shift focus to descriptive narration, narrative voice, point of view, use of tense, persuasive writing, and the basic 5-paragraph essay model. Students write multiple kinds of essays, learning to express an opinion and develop and support it with facts, details, and examples. They also read and explore quality literature through in-class discussion, including answering comprehension questions and examining literary techniques.

Important: Introduction to Literature and Composition Level 1 (WriteShop I) and Level 2 (WriteShop II) have different writing class times but a shared literature class time. Please note the overlap in schedule for these courses.

#### Required Resources:

- *WriteShop I Student Workbook, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition*  
Authors: Kim Kautzer and Deborah Older, 2020 (ISBN: 9781935027492 – 5<sup>th</sup> Edition)
- *The Phantom Tollbooth*  
Author: Norton Juster
- *Amos Fortune, Free Man*  
Author: Elizabeth Yates
- *Crispin: The Cross of Lead*  
Author: Avi
- *Number the Stars*  
Author: Lois Lowry
- *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl*  
Author: Anne Frank
- *The Bronze Bow*  
Author: Elizabeth George Speare

#### Notes:

- Any edition of the literature selections is acceptable.
- Students who use audio books must also have a print version of the text.

# MATH

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## Pre-Algebra

**Grades:** 7-8

**Cost:** \$380

**Lab Fee:** \$0

**Placement Test:** Yes

**Prerequisite:** No

**Instructor:** Scott Killingsworth

**Semester:** Fall and Spring

**Schedule:** Thursday, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

This course is designed to prepare your student for Algebra 1. Building on a Biblical worldview, your student will learn how the consistencies we see in mathematical concepts proclaim the consistencies of a faithful God. Students will learn the essential principles of algebra, coordinate graphing, probability, statistics, functions, and other important areas of mathematics. Students should be proficient in their math facts for addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division before enrolling.

### Required Resources:

- *Principles of Mathematics Book 2*  
Author: Katherine Loop, 2016 (ISBN: 9780890519066)
- Protractor
- Graph Paper

## SOCIAL SCIENCE

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### World Geography

**Grades:** 7-8

**Cost:** \$380

**Lab Fee:** \$0

**Placement Test:** No

**Prerequisite:** No

**Instructor:** Becky Robertson

**Semester:** Fall and Spring

**Schedule:** Tuesday, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

World Geography explores the countries of the Middle East, Europe, North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas. Each region is explored in its historical context as well as in the present. Students learn countries and capitals of today and relate them to the ancient lands of the Greeks and Romans, deepening their understanding of past and present as they study ancient and modern countries. While focusing primarily on physical features, this course also briefly covers each country's history and culture, making it a useful lead-in to HOC Cultural Geography.

#### Required Resources:

- *Geography I: The Middle East, North Africa, & Europe, Student Text*  
Author: Brett Vaden, 2011 (ISBN: 9781615381241)
- *Geography I: The Middle East, North Africa, & Europe, Student Workbook*  
Author: Laura Bateman, 2011 (ISBN: 9781615381265)
- *Geography II: Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Oceania, & the Americas, Student Text*  
Authors: D. Grant & M. Simpson, 2012 (ISBN: 9781615382156)
- *Geography II: Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Oceania, & the Americas, Student Workbook*  
Author: Laura Bateman, 2012 (ISBN: 9781615381159)
- *Window on the World: An Operation World Prayer Resource*  
Author: Molly Wall, 2018 (ISBN: 9780830857838)
- Note: This course is not a substitute for High School (HOC) Cultural Geography. Eligible students may take both courses but not during the same academic year.

## ELECTIVES

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### Life Skills/Logic

**Grades:** 7-8

**Cost:** \$380

**Lab Fee:** \$0

**Placement Test:** No

**Prerequisite:** No

**Instructor:** Maureen Wilcox

**Semester:** Fall and Spring

**Schedule:** Tuesday, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

This course is designed to introduce Jr High students to Logic and how to begin to prepare for Life after High School. We will embark on the Introduction to Logic from a Biblical perspective, using the Master Book's curriculum by Jason Lisle. We will study the principals of correct reasoning and begin to think Biblically, learning to filter conclusions from God's perspective. Our journey will include exploring how God created each one of us uniquely. The students will take a personality test by Dr Gary Smalley. We will explore individual learning styles and skills to help understand how to make it easier to study and learn. We will embark on practical skills of budgeting, basic nutrition, and time management. We will learn how to Interview for a job and how to deal with co-workers and supervisors. Effective communication will be practiced and improved. Basic sewing skills will be taught and skills like meal planning will be incorporated, along with various other practical skills that we as adults often take for granted.

The course will consist of in-class lectures and in-depth discussion with manageable light homework and short reading lessons.

#### **Required Resources:**

- *Introduction to Logic*  
Author: Jason Lisle, 2018 (ISBN: 9781683441489)