

# NORTHWOOD TEMPLE ACADEMY



2023-2024

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES

NTAEAGLES.ORG 910.822.7711

### 6th Grade Band

**BASIC SKILLS:** Students can begin instruction on a band instrument of their choice. Instruction begins in grade 6 and continues for 1 year. Students will demonstrate proper care of the instrument and will be familiar with the technology of the instrument. They will demonstrate basic positions, tone production, and fingerings, and will count, read, and perform the beginning level of music being studied.

**PERFORMANCE & PRODUCTION:** The student will demonstrate proper posture, embouchure, hand position, and playing position using method book for guidance. The student will produce tones that are clear, free of tension, sustained, and unwavering in pitch. The student will adjust intonation while playing an instrument. The student will demonstrate a steady tempo while performing materials being studied. The student will use contrasting articulation. The student will perform one-octave major scales, ascending and descending with instrument-specific range accommodations. The student will use dynamic contrast as a means of expression.

### Middle School Band 7th & 8th

Students in Middle School Band will participate regularly in a band setting. Technical and expressive skills will increase in difficulty as the student demonstrates a variety of articulations, alternate fingerings, and vibrato while playing the required scales, arpeggios, and rudiments in more complex rhythmic patterns. Percussion students will become more proficient in the use of mallet instruments, timpani, and auxiliary instruments.

**PERFORMANCE & PRODUCTION:** The student will demonstrate proper posture, embouchure, hand position, and playing position. The student will produce characteristic tone that is clear, free of tension, sustained, and unwavering in pitch. The student will adjust intonation and match pitches independently. The student will incorporate tempo changes and a variety of rhythms and meters in materials being studied. The student will demonstrate a variety of articulations. The student will perform all major scales in one-octave, with one-octave tonic arpeggios, ascending and descending. The student will perform a chromatic scale, ascending and descending, in sixteenth notes throughout the practical range of the instrument. The student will use dynamic contrast and technical skills as a means of expression. The student will demonstrate ensemble skills. The student will demonstrate increased learning through a variety of music activities. The student will participate in activities such as concerts, performances, and state competitions. The student will demonstrate concert etiquette as a performer and listener.



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### **Computer Literacy 6th**

This course introduces basic computer operations and utilizes electronic office. Topics in this course will include the history behind computers, developing an organized structure of a typical computer, troubleshooting basic components and operations, keyboarding skills, uses of a computer, reviewing operating systems, working with Microsoft Office Suite, and basic emailing functions.

### **Intro to Computer Science 7th & 8th**

This course will expand the functions of Windows Operating system, organizing techniques, folder creation and managing system environment, working with Microsoft Office Suite in an intermediate level, and problems in an office environment and system solutions will be studied.

### **Chorus 6th, 7th, & 8th**

Basic music reading skills will be reinforced with emphasis on the ability to hear harmonies and sing three-part music. The student will become acquainted with and be able to recognize different styles of music, such as acappela, spirituals and classical. Proper vocal health and usage will be demonstrated.

### **Health 7th & 8th**

This one-semester health course appropriate for middle school students focuses on the early years of adolescence and integrates personal testimonies and Scripture that together help students understand the value of opening up to parents and facing their own unique challenges.

### **Physical Education 6th, 7th & 8th**

Physical Education is an activity-based course that provides students with instruction and opportunities to develop skills in various sports and activities that promote physical fitness. Students receive instruction and opportunities to play various sports including, but not limited to basketball, volleyball, soccer, and softball. Students participate in games and tournaments to teach sportsmanship, teamwork, and sport appreciation.



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### **Introduction to Spanish 7th**

Introduction to Spanish provides an excellent presentation of Spanish grammar and conversation skills. These skills include easy-to-follow explanations, exercises that are designed to promote meaningful use of the Spanish language in the classroom, along with pronunciation, sentence formation, grammar, vocabulary, and Bible verse memorization as a witnessing tool. The students will learn about the Hispanic culture and Spanish speaking countries along with their locations. Through these courses the students will learn the importance of loving and embracing other cultures.

### **Spanish 1 8th**

Spanish 1 is designed to give students a basic understanding of the foundational concepts of the Spanish language. Its practical and systematic approach provides students with the tools to succeed in learning a new language. The goal of the Spanish 1 text is (1) to encourage students to appreciate God's gift of language, (2) to give students a strong foundation in the basics of language, and (3) to expand the students' sphere of influence for Jesus Christ.

### **Broadcast & Film 7th & 8th**

This class combines journalism with Public Speaking and film design. In this course students will brainstorm, develop, write, film, and edit a NTA News Program. Students will learn skills in public speaking, news writing and film recording. The NTA News Program will have a YouTube channel where the news will be viewed everyday by parents and their peers.

### **Lego Robotics & Building 7th & 8th**

In this class students will design, build, program and problem-solve using Lego robots. This elective has two parts: using visual software to learn the architecture of programming and building and programming Lego Robots to accomplish specific tasks. Each class begins with directed instruction; however, most of the class time is spent working on building and programming projects in small groups. Students will develop essential 21st Century Skills such as; critical thinking, communication skills, creativity, problem solving, perseverance. Collaboration, information literacy, technology skills and digital literacy.



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## 6TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### Language Arts 6th

#### • Literature

- Oral Reading
- Reading Comprehension
- Dictionary. Skills
- Vocabulary Building

**Perspectives in Literature** offers a variety of selections and reading strategies to encourage and guide students reading both literary and informational texts. Writing opportunities encourage students to think critically and apply worldview shaping to the selections they read.

#### • Spelling

- Weekly word lists by prefixes, suffixes, and root words
- Vocabulary study from the word lists
- Reinforcement activities
- Dictionary skills

#### • Writing & Grammar

- Parts of Speech
- Sentence Structure
- Writing Skills & Support
- Writing Projects
- Study & Reference Skills
- Listening & Speaking Skills

**English 6** emphasizes traditional grammar as well as practice with essential reference skills. The elementary English educational materials provides a step-by-step introduction to the Writing Process for eight different types of writing assignments, such as personal narratives, newspaper editorials, historical fiction, and limericks.

### History 6th

#### • Heritage Studies & Ancient Civilizations

- Geography (Map skills; Climate, Natural Resources, Topography, Comparisons of ancient civilizations with the modern regions.
- World History (Historical events, Conflicts between nations, Archaeological findings
- Government (Empires and kingdoms, Rulers, Development of cities
- Economics (Trade, Currency, Job Specialization)
- Culture ( Religions and philosophies, Ancient customs and traditions, Language, Arts, Music and Clothing)
- Social Studies & Skills (Cause & Effect, Timeline, Costs & Benefits, Primary Resources

**Heritage Studies & Ancient Civilizations Ancient History (Creation-Middle Ages)** emphasis on primary source evaluations of justice, power, citizenship and environment; prepares the students for World Studies 7.



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## 6TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### Science 6th

- Earth Science (emphasis on earthquakes, volcanoes, weathering, soil, erosion, and natural resources)
- Space Technology (stars and solar system)
- Life Science (cells and classification, animal classification, plant classification, reproduction (plant and animal) and genetics)
- Human Body (Nervous System and immune system)
- Physical Science (Motion and Machines)
- Energy (Study of electricity)
- Matter (Study of chemistry)

**Science 6** explores the basics of earth science, life science, physical science, and the human body to form a foundation for more specific studies.

### Bible 6th

- Creation and the Fall
- Covenants
- Monotheism
- Omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience
- Revelation, theism, truth, and worldview

**The Christian Worldview (6th grade)** covers answers to the “big questions” about God, the universe, human beings, truth, and morality.

### Math 6th

- Ratios and Rates
- Fractions, Decimals and Percents
- Compute with Multi-Digit. Numbers and Fractions
- Integers, Rational Numbers and the Coordinate Plane
- Numerical and Algebraic Expressions
- Equations and Inequalities
- Relationships Between Two Variables
- Area
- Volume and Surface Area
- Statistical Measures and Displays

**Connect (6th Grade)** covers the three components of rigor — conceptual understanding, application, and procedural fluency — are embedded in resources, lessons, and practice assessments.



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## 7TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### Literature & Grammar 7th

**Explorations of Literature** presents a compilation of stories, poems, and essays from a variety of authors and genres grouped by theme to develop critical thinking skills. Vocabulary glosses explain unfamiliar words within the literature sections. "Thinking Zone" pages throughout the book ask questions to encourage the student to think about literature in at least four ways: comprehension, interpretation, analysis, and appreciation. In addition to teaching literary terms, these questions also develop the students' abilities to respond biblically to literature.

**Cultures represented:** American, English, French, New Zealand, Japanese, Norwegian, Cuban, Chinese, Irish, Czech, Greek, Burmese, South African, German, Dutch, Yiddish, Polish

**Grammar:** Students become creators as they learn how to apply grammar skills to their writing. Students learn through a systematic teaching of grammar concepts. Writing chapters teach students narrative, informative, and argumentative writing by leading them through the five steps of the writing process: planning, drafting, revising, proofreading, and publishing. Students will evaluate mentor texts and practice their writing and grammar skills with regular *Writing Workshops*.

### Literature & Composition Honors 7th

**Exploring Themes in Literature** prepares students for the rigors of reading and critical thinking at the high school level. This course broadens their literacy and sharpens their sensitivity to aesthetics within the God-given gifts of language and storytelling. Most importantly, it challenges them to understand the problems of the human condition on a more personal level and recognize where man's solutions and biblical solutions to that condition diverge. Students learn how to analyze and evaluate literature for artistic merit and to apply their critical thinking skills.

**Cultures represented:** Caucasian American, Hispanic American, African American, Native American, Chinese, British, Russian, and Vietnamese.

**Grammar:** Students become creators as they learn how to apply grammar skills to their writing. Students learn through a systematic teaching of grammar concepts. Writing chapters teach students narrative, informative, and argumentative writing by leading them through the five steps of the writing process: planning, drafting, revising, proofreading, and publishing. Students will evaluate mentor texts and practice their writing and grammar skills with regular *Writing Workshops*.

\*Accelerated vocabulary words, additional writing and projects are required in the honors program.



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## 7TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### Introduction to Pre-Algebra 7th

Students review foundational math concepts from elementary math and dive into middle school math concepts. Students will review whole numbers, decimals, integers, fractions, measurements, and geometry. They will extend their knowledge of square roots, exponents, algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities, percentages, functions, probability, surface area and volume, and statistics.

### Pre-Algebra Honors 7th

Pre-Algebra Honors explores the properties and concepts that are necessary for Algebra 1. This course will help better prepare students in Geometry, Probability, and Statistics. Topics include evaluating expressions, integers, decimals, fractions, solving equations and inequalities, graphing on a coordinate plane, exponents, ratios, proportions, percents, perimeter, area, volume, circumference, and data analysis and probability. Polynomials, right triangles trigonometry and transformations are among additional topics not discussed in standard level pre-algebra.

### Life Science 7th

A survey of the structures and functions of living things such as plants, animals, and human beings. All these concepts are unfolded as a quest to understand life that God has created. Case studies, WebQuests, lab activities, ethics boxes, and questions help students think like scientists and see life science from a biblical perspective. This course introduces students to life science by following a series of scaffold worldview themes. Throughout the course, they will consider (1) the role of worldview in life science; (2) the history of life; (3) the role of modeling in life science; (4) the appearance of design in life; (5) ethical issues in life science; (6) gender identity and human sexuality.

### World Studies 7th

World Studies provides a chronological narrative of world history that should reveal the hand of God at work in the nations, beginning with the birth of the Church, the rise of Islam, and a survey of nations around the world from 1,000 A.D. to the present. Carefully chosen photos, maps, art, and margin boxes enhance the student's learning experience and spark interest for further study. This course progresses in a chronological journey around the world studying the ebb and flow of empires, cultures, Christianity, and world religions, concluding with an examination of the trends of the emerging 21st century.

### Bible 7th

***Walking in Truth (7th) Competing Worldviews*** compares and contrasts the key tenets of Christianity to Islam, naturalism, and a new spirituality. ***Competing Worldviews*** trains students to defend their faith and respond to counterfeit worldviews.



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## 8TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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### Literature & Grammar 8th

**Excursions in Literature** contains introductory essays that acquaints the student with the unit themes. Selections within each of the units require reading with discernment, a goal toward which all literature teachers hope to direct their students. The "Thinking Zone" introduces students to terms and concepts used in literary analysis. Questions progress from literal to interpretative to critical to appreciative and guide the students in evaluating the literature and applying the associated concepts.

**Cultures represented:** American, English, French, New Zealand, Japanese, Norwegian, Cuban, Chinese, Irish, Czech, Greek, Burmese, South African, German, Dutch, Yiddish, Polish

**Grammar:** Students will review the six traits of writing, proofreading symbols, writing different types of paragraphs (definition, process, descriptive, compare and contrast, argumentative), writing with an anecdote, visual representation, writing poetry, writing a business letter, expanding and combining (with parallel structures, with adjectives, with adverbs, with prepositional phrases, with participial phrases, with infinitive phrases).

### Literature & Composition Honors 8th

**Excursions in Literature** contains introductory essays that acquaints the student with the unit themes. Selections within each of the units require reading with discernment, a goal toward which all literature teachers hope to direct their students. The "Thinking Zone" introduces students to terms and concepts used in literary analysis. Questions progress from literal to interpretative to critical to appreciative and guide the students in evaluating the literature and applying the associated concepts. \*Honors students are required to read both in class and out of class.

**Cultures represented:** American, English, French, New Zealand, Japanese, Norwegian, Cuban, Chinese, Irish, Czech, Greek, Burmese, South African, German, Dutch, Yiddish, Polish

\*In addition, students will complete formal writing assignments reflecting on selected pieces of literature. Significant grammar and composition units are studied; creative writing is developed through modeling themes and techniques from literature. Students will develop in mastery of thesis, support, and argumentation in composition.





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### Pre-Algebra 8th

Pre-Algebra explores the properties and concepts that are necessary for Algebra 1. This course will help better prepare students in Geometry, Probability, and Statistics. Topics include evaluating expressions, integers, decimals, fractions, solving equations and inequalities, graphing on a coordinate plane, exponents, ratios, proportions, percents, perimeter, area, volume, circumference, data analysis, and probability. Polynomials, right triangles trigonometry and transformations are among additional topics not discussed in standard level pre-algebra.

### Algebra 1 Honors 8th

Algebra 1 focuses on the integration of algebraic concepts in technology and real life applications. Students explore the simplification, solving, graphing, interpretation of linear, exponential, radical, quadratic, and rational functions both manually and with technology.

**Operations:** Review of the real number system, number lines, absolute value, arithmetic operations of integers and rational numbers, exponents, and order of operations

**Variables & equations:** Using variables, algebraic expressions, and formulas; Writing and solving linear equations

**Using algebra:** Solving literal equations and proportions; Applying equations to applications involving similar figures, percentages, money, motion, and mixtures

**Solving Inequalities:** Linear inequalities, including conjunctions, disjunctions; Absolute value equations and inequalities

**Relations & functions:** Representing relationships between data, using graphs, equations, and tables; Direct and inverse variations; Graphing absolute value functions

**Linear functions:** Graphs, slopes, and intercepts of linear equations; Determining the equation of a line; Parallel and perpendicular lines; Correlation and lines of fit: Graphing linear inequalities

**Systems of equations & inequalities:** Solving systems graphically, by substitution, and by elimination; Applications of systems

**Exponents:** Products, quotients, and powers of exponential expressions: Scientific notation; Graphing exponential functions; Exponential growth and decay

**Polynomials:** Classification, evaluation, operations, and special patterns

**Factoring:** Common monomials, trinomials, and special patterns

**Radicals:** Simplification and operations with radicals; Pythagorean theorem; Distance and midpoint formulas; Solving radical equations and graphing radical functions; Applications

**Quadratic equations:** Solving by factoring, taking roots, completing the square, and the quadratic formula; Graphing parabolas and finding zeros; Applications

**Rational expressions & equations:** Simplification and operations with rational expressions; Solving rational equations; Applications



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### **North Carolina: People, Places, & Things 8th**

The text examines the lives of people who have lived in North Carolina. Questions challenge the student to think about the lives and vocations of the people who live in North Carolina. Subject matter includes geography, economics, Native populations, as well as English and Spanish exploration and early European settlements. These populations are traced up through the American Revolution and Civil War eras, through the Industrial Revolution and into modern times. The text examines political and social issues, and how North Carolinians have adapted and grown throughout each stage of history.

### **Earth Science 8th**

The student moves from the lithosphere of the earth itself to the hydrosphere in and on the earth to the atmosphere surrounding the earth and finally out into space visiting the solar system and the rest of the universe. All of this is a quest to understand God's created world. Case studies and other activities encourage students to think like scientists as they develop a biblical perspective of earth and space.

***Student Lab Manual*** gets students exploring God's world both in the lab and in the great outdoors. This lab manual helps students learn about life, not just through dissections, but also through observing, recording, and analyzing samples and data from the living world to make models, predictions, and graphs. It also introduces students to inquiry-based labs and STEM activities.

### **Bible 8th**

***Walking in Truth (8th) Competing Worldviews*** compares and contrasts the key tenets of Christianity to Islam, naturalism, and a new spirituality. ***Competing Worldviews*** trains students to defend their faith and respond to counterfeit worldviews.