

Rhetoric School Course Catalog



At Calvary Christian Academy Rhetoric School we desire to cultivate students who discern, defend, and declare the Truth effectively and with grace. It is our goal to nurture men and women of conviction; men and women with the wisdom, knowledge, and ability to influence others for the advancement of God’s kingdom; men and women of character who stand firmly on and for the Truth, for the glory of God.

“The influence a child receives in one year of school is equal to twenty years from the pulpit.” – Pastor Tim LaHaye

Tuition & Course Fees

Full-Time Tuition & Fees	
Tuition (Grades nine through twelve)	\$8,500
Enrollment Fee	\$500
Enrollment Fee for New Students	\$600
Application Fee	\$100
Assessment Fee	\$100
Tutorial Fee (optional, Mondays and/or Wednesdays)	\$1,000/weekday
Science/Tech Lab Fee (for students enrolled in a science class)	\$50
Art Class Fee (for students enrolled in this elective)	\$150

Part-Time Tuition & Fees	
Individual Class Fee - <i>Core Classes: English, History, Math, Science, and Languages</i>	\$1,600
Individual Class Fee - <i>Friday Courses</i>	\$1,000
Sports Participation Fee/Sport	\$225
Tutorial Fee (optional, Mondays and/or Wednesdays)	\$1,000/weekday
Application Fee	\$100
Assessment Fee (multiple core classes)	\$100
Assessment Fee (single class only)	\$50
Part-Time Enrollment Fee	\$100/class (up to \$500)
Science/Tech Lab Fee (for students enrolled in a science class)	\$50
Art Class Fee (for students enrolled in this elective)	\$150
PSP Fee (for students using our PSP program)	\$600

Course Schedules

This section contains the high school course selections for by grade. Courses in bold will be offered during the 2026-2027 year.

		9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
1	Classical	Logic	Rhetoric Apologetics		Senior Thesis
2	English	American Literature Ancient World Literature	Medieval Literature British and Early Modern Literature		
3	History	American History Ancient World History	History of the Middle Ages Government & Economics		
4	Mathematics	Placement determined by assessment and/or prerequisite courses. Courses Available for Selection - Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Consumer Math, [Dual Credit Math Courses]			
5	Science	Biology Physical Science OR Chemistry	Chemistry OR Physics Anatomy & Physiology [Dual Credit Science Courses]		
6	Foreign Language	Latin	Latin	[Latin]	[Latin]
7	Fine Art	Art		[Art]	
		Music		[Music]	
8	Physical Education	Sports	Sports	[Sports]	[Sports]

Course Descriptions

American Literature

In this course, students read the great works which define American literature. Authors include Bradstreet, Wigglesworth, Taylor, Bunyan, Wheatley, Longfellow, Hawthorne, Poe, Emerson, Frost, Dickinson, Douglass, Webb, Fitzgerald, and Orwell. This survey provides a sampling of the literature which has shaped the American landscape, allowing students to recognize the ways in which the backdrop of the new world both underscored recurrent themes of the western canon and transformed them.

Students continue to develop vocabulary with which to analyze and discuss texts well, working through a list of literary and poetic descriptors and increasingly incorporating them into their own speech and writing. They also learn to construct arguable, nuanced thesis statements and develop properly formatted written responses. Students regularly participate in class discussion and are assessed through quizzes, written responses, essays, presentations, and examinations.

Ancient World Literature

This course, beginning with *The Iliad* and moving through *The Odyssey*, *The Aeneid*, and *The Metamorphoses*, sheds light on the foundations of literary development which have shaped the trajectory of western thought. The students read these works in entirety; they serve as an in-depth examination of the beginnings of The Great Conversation, and students will continually reference these texts throughout their high school career.

While it is true that these texts may initially seem remote, students quickly learn that they remain relevant and full of wisdom. As Plato notes, “an unexamined life is not worth living.” In light of that, the students insert themselves into this conversation, asking “how ought we to live?” Moreover, as we situate these works within their historical contexts, we reflect upon the dynamic relationship between literature and reality; we examine the ways that ideas shape history which, in turn, shapes the next generation of ideas.

Students learn to develop language with which to describe and analyze epic poetry. They also increasingly develop their own opinions, constructing arguable, nuanced thesis statements which foresee and acknowledge potential counter-arguments.

Medieval Literature

Beginning with *Beowulf* and *The Divine Comedy* and moving into works by Shakespeare and Milton, students continue their study and discussion of some of the most significant texts of Western culture. These texts allow the students to build upon their knowledge from grade ten, as they continue through the western canon. Consequently, they will regularly identify the manifold allusions which exist in these texts to the classical epics;

our classroom discussions will regularly reflect the ways in which these medieval writers contribute to and transform previously studied themes.

In addition, students build upon the rhetorical skills which they are continually developing. They work to construct well-considered arguments and to express them through persuasive writing, which incorporates detailed language and specific analysis. Students regularly participate in class discussion and are assessed through timed writing, written responses, major essays, presentations, and examinations.

British and Early Modern Literature

Continuing with their study of the Great Conversation, students will read texts which have been transformative throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Beginning a survey of Romanticism, and continuing with works by Shelley, Austen, Bronte, Dickens, Wilde, Remarque, and Eliot, the students will perceive firsthand the thread which runs throughout all of Western literature, beginning with Homer and still enduring.

Assessments in this course reflect the high quality rhetorical work of which these students are now capable. They regularly produce analytical arguments in which they not only analyze text, but also insert their own opinions. Assuredly, at the end of their high school career, the students will have an assiduous understanding of Whitman's sentiment: "that the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse."

American History

Students come into contact with the New World and discover the people, events, and documents that shaped the United States of America. Along with our guiding textbooks, which provide historical and geographical context, students will study biographies and primary documents in the form of speeches, articles, essays, and legal documents that have shaped our country. Authors include Christopher Columbus, John Winthrop, George Washington, James Madison, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, Dr. Benjamin Rush, George Whitfield, Charles Finny, Abraham Lincoln, Calvin Coolidge, Robert Kennedy, Theodore Roosevelt, Ronald Regan, and more. These texts, in combination with the literature covered in English 9, allow the students to immerse themselves into the ideas and principles on which America was founded. Special focus is given to the biblical framework of American liberty and to the responsibility we have to uphold the ideals which formed the foundation of our nation. Overall, students will become familiar with the special status that America has had upon the world, and the sacrifices that many endured to not only secure our liberty, but to preserve it. These discussions will consistently be framed through a lens of considering what is needed to once again secure our freedoms.

This class consists of reading and analyzing various texts through discussion and writing. The students will also learn to construct thesis statements and develop properly formatted essays. Students are assessed through quizzes, timed writing, written responses, major essays, presentations, and examinations.

Ancient World History

In this course, the students examine the ancient world, beginning with Genesis and moving through the writings and culture of the Augustan Age. Amid this study, weighty questions arise and, indeed, linger throughout the entire course; in particular: “How do we define justice?” and “What constitutes a noble society?” To inform this discussion, students read excerpts of Herodotus, Plato, Aristotle, Cicero, Livy, and Vergil. In addition, three texts published by *Memoria Press* provide context to this trajectory.

History of the Middle Ages

History 11 continues on the trajectory of grade ten history, moving into the medieval world. Along with a text which provides historical and geographical context for the Middle Ages, students will study Middle Ages, Renaissance, and Reformation through the great works which define the Medieval World. Authors include Augustine, Athanasius, Bede, Benedict, Aquinas, Machiavelli, Luther and more. These texts, in combination with the literature covered in English 11, allow the students to immerse themselves into the ideals of the Medieval, Renaissance, and Reformation periods, providing an understanding of the ideas and events that shaped our western civilization throughout the Middle Ages.

This class consists of reading and analyzing various texts through discussion and writing. They also learn to construct arguable, nuanced thesis statements and develop properly formatted essays. Students are assessed through quizzes, timed writing, written responses, major essays, presentations, and examinations.

History 12: Government & Economics

Students will learn about essential features of American government, from its historical and scriptural foundations to detailed analysis of its inner workings. The course provides an overview of changes and developments in our government with an emphasis on the U.S. Constitution and current events. Students will learn to biblically and critically examine governmental issues.

The economics course introduces and explores key principles of economics from a conservative approach. The course will cover topics such as economic models, the stock market, banking, fiscal policy, and economic theorists from a biblical perspective. Students will gain a foundational understanding of economics as a science as well as the economics of countries, businesses, the financial markets, and the government.

Biology

In this Biology course, students will see God's power and glory in creation as they learn about cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany, zoology, and human anatomy. When studying topics such as evolution, human cloning, abortion, and stem

cell research, students refer to Scripture as the ultimate authority, and teachers model a biblical perspective for the students.

In addition, students will conduct dissections and write lab reports as they learn to use the tools of scientific inquiry to investigate various forms of life.

Anatomy & Physiology

In this Anatomy and Physiology course, students explore God's most fascinating creation, the human body. This class focuses on the structures and functions of human tissues, organs and organ systems, all necessary to sustain life. We will also explore many of the disease processes and pathology related to each organ system. This class will integrate a holistic view of health throughout the year, and discover that God designed our bodies to heal. We will finish the year studying the miracle of how we are formed in the womb, fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of God.

Physical Science

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Physical Science will provide students with the foundation for further study in the fields of chemistry and physics.

Students will focus on Chemistry for the first half of the year learning about matter and what it is made of to how matter interacts in chemical reactions, nuclear changes, solutions, and acids and bases. In the second half of the year physics will be introduced and students will learn about how matter and energy move and why they move as well as the different forms of energy. Students will think like scientists and view physical science from a biblical perspective. In addition to classwork, a series of laboratory experiences will be included.

This course is algebra-based and will not include trigonometry or calculus.

Chemistry

Prerequisite: Algebra 2.

In this course, students will discover the fundamentals of modern chemistry from a Biblical perspective. History, mathematical problem-solving, technical communication, and practical applications are integrated into the narrative. By exploring the microscopic aspects of matter, students will explore the elegant, purposeful order of God's Creation, and learn scientific methods and models to understand and use chemistry for Godly purposes.

Physics

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus, concurrently.

In this Physics course, students will discover the real-world importance of physics in exercising biblical dominion in the physical world. They will interact with raw data from actual physical phenomena and historical experiments as they create and evaluate scientific models—just like real physicists, present and past.

The Physics text presents the traditional physics topics of classical mechanics, as well as energy, matter, thermodynamics, electromagnetics, optics, and modern physics, all within a vibrant Christian worldview. Students will put their math skills to use in a derivative and logical problem-solving approach.

Algebra 1

This course will shape the worldview of each student by emphasizing the way that mathematics helps Christians serve others and glorify God. Each lesson contains a thorough development of key concepts and detailed examples to promote student comprehension. Practical applications are integrated throughout. Algebra 2 covers concepts such as linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical, and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and probability and statistics. Complex numbers are also covered throughout the text.

Geometry

Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

Geometry is a branch of mathematics that deals with measurement, properties and relationships of points, lines, angles, surfaces and solids. The content of the course includes: historical and philosophical foundations of geometry, the nature of reasoning and deductive proof, properties of lines and angles, congruence and inequality relationships in triangles, characteristics of quadrilaterals, regular polygons, circles, similarity, geometric solids, and calculations of area and volume.

Beyond specific topics, geometry equips students to think logically and reason effectively. Through this course students are introduced to the concept of mathematical proof, how it proceeds, and how it compares and contrasts with the concept of proof in other disciplines.

Algebra 2

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry

Course Description: In this course, each lesson contains a thorough development of key concepts and detailed examples to promote student comprehension. Practical applications are integrated throughout. Algebra 2 covers concepts such as linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical, and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and probability and statistics. Complex numbers are also covered throughout the text.

Consumer Math

Prerequisite: Algebra 1.

Using math as a consumer is inescapable. From buying food and clothing to taking out loans for cars and houses, Consumer Math prepares students for making real-world financial decisions. This course teaches students how to be good stewards of the resources God has given them through basic math, principles for handling money, and an understanding of scriptural teaching about money.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Algebra 2.

In this course, problem solving and mathematical modeling are introduced early and reinforced throughout, providing students with a solid foundation in the principles of mathematical thinking. Comprehensive and evenly paced, the book provides complete coverage of the function concept and integrates a significant amount of graphing material to help students develop insight into mathematical ideas.

Calculus

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus.

The primary objective of this course is to introduce the beauty of calculus and the far-reaching practical and theoretical implications of its principles. Calculus provides an analytical means by which the infinitely large and the infinitesimally small can be evaluated. With calculus, we can model physical processes from the motions of galaxies to the behavior of subatomic particles—that is possible because God has imbued the world with mathematical characteristics.

The course develops the three primary ideas of calculus—limits, derivatives, integrals—from both theoretical and practical standpoints. Students learn broad applications of calculus to a variety of fields, with liberal use of real-world applications for most concepts and techniques.

Latin I

In this Latin course, students will work through an in-depth examination of Latin grammar. They will also study the context of that grammar through rich primary source materials. These ensure that students do not merely learn about the Latin language, but that they study the language in the context of its culture. This helps to exemplify that Latin grammar arose as a function of use; systemization occurred afterwards, so studying systemic rules before encountering the language seems counterintuitive. To that end, we will work through Hans Ørberg's *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata*, which presents Latin via the "Natural Method:" we will immediately begin reading excerpts of

text, and we will view these texts as opportunities to think in the Latin language, rather than to translate into English.

Latin II

This Latin course moves through the second half of Ørberg's *Lingua Latina per se Illustrata*, concluding the study of Latin grammar begun either during the middle school years or in Latin I. The latter half of this text seamlessly integrates primary materials into the text itself, increasingly encouraging the students to approach "real Latin" via the "Natural Method." The students read excerpts of Catullus, Martial, and Ovid, and there are some particularly riveting chapters about gladiatorial combat. Remarkably, the students will also read excerpts from the Vulgate in this course. This vivid, immersive text allows students to experience the richness of Roman language and culture while simultaneously encountering the enduring ways in which the Latin language has irreversibly affected the western landscape.

Latin III, IV, & V (Advanced Latin)

In this course, students encounter some of the most celebrated writers of Roman antiquity, such as Vergil, Livy, Aulus Gellius, Ovid, Nepos, Sallust, and Horace. At this stage of Latin study, students will approach the Latin as literature, implementing analytical discussion both in class and in written form. Each year, students will encounter both poetry and prose, and the completion of all three years will serve as a thorough survey of Latin literature.

Logic

Logic class will focus on how we think, discern, make decisions, and lead. Students will practice recognizing and responding to fallacies and discover the correlation between experience, ideas, and point of view. The course focuses on developing proficiency in levels of logical thinking and decision making through collaborative thinking and discussion. Through practice, students will develop critical thinking, logic, and discernment.

Rhetoric

In this course, students will learn the art of rhetoric, good men speaking well. Students will learn how to use ethos, pathos, and logos effectively in their writing and speaking. Students will be prepared to defend a controversial topic, either current or historic, and defend it from a biblical worldview, with integrity, intelligence, confidence, and grace.

Senior Thesis

The Senior Thesis is the capstone of our Classical Christian education at CCA. Through the Thesis process, students practice analytical and syntopical reading, and all of their rhetorical skills (discernment, composition, presentation, and defense). CCA seniors are

expected to display excellence in a wide variety of academic skills in their Senior Thesis, which must be researched, coded, written, promulgated, and successfully defended, before the student is permitted to graduate from CCA. The written presentation and speech are presented in May. **Note that this course is reserved for full time students only.*

Apologetics

This class is an introduction to the related fields of theology and apologetics. Students will study Christian doctrine and learn to provide a reasoned defense of the faith. Along the way, students will improve their understanding of, and ability to articulate, the essential doctrines of Christianity, especially the gospel. In addition, students will increase their ability to speak winsomely, respectfully, and persuasively to people holding different beliefs and world views, and will learn to answer common objections to the Christian faith.

Art

Art will introduce students to the Elements of Art, composition, and color theory through drawing and painting. This course will provide opportunities to develop observational skills, build a visual vocabulary, and learn drawing and painting techniques. Art history is an important part of this course as students will evaluate works from the Renaissance period to modern and contemporary artists. In the first semester, students will focus on developing basic drawing skills with graphite, ink, and charcoal. In the second semester, students will learn color theory and painting techniques with watercolor. Students will also explore mixed media drawing and painting techniques.

Musicianship

Introductory/Intermediate Level

This is an introductory/intermediate course designed to equip students with a basic facility on three instruments, an intro to vocal training, and an understanding of leading worship in the context of smaller and larger ensembles. The course will be broken up into 2 main sections (Fall & Spring) with each section focusing on key points. Students will also be expected to occasionally lead music for H.S. Chapel, and may lead music for TKO or Sunday Morning Worship.