



DOMINION

Christian Schools

High School Course Descriptions 2017-2018

The year in which courses are typically taken is listed after many of the courses. This may vary, depending on the individual student. Asterisked courses have an honors level available.

Bible

All students must take Bible each semester while enrolled at DCS.

Old Testament Survey (freshmen) A study of the basic content of the Old Testament.

New Testament Survey (sophomores) A study of the basic content of the New Testament.

Apologetics (junior) Enabling students to defend the central figure of our faith, the historical Jesus. The course will support that there was a historical Jesus, the Gospels and the rest of the New Testament are valid sources of evidence for His existence and claims.

Comparative Religions (juniors) A study of key Christian denominations and other religions. Major themes and significant distinctions among the faiths are examined.

Creation Apologetics (seniors; one semester) A study of biblical and scientific data concerning creation and the origins of the universe, along with an examination of various non-Christian views and training in how to defend the Biblical position.

Spiritual Warfare (seniors; one semester) A study from Ephesians to equip students to stand firm in their faith in a culture with increasing emphasis on secularism, New Age, and occult-belief systems.

ELL Bible (first year international students) An introduction to the major themes of the Bible and the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

English

Four years of English are required for graduation.

Introduction to Grammar and Literature* (freshmen) Course is an introduction to the composition skills, including grammar and vocabulary development, which will be used throughout most of the courses taught at Dominion. It also includes an introduction to literary study and analysis.

World Literature* (sophomores) A survey of significant literature throughout the world from various historical periods. (Honors available)

American Literature (juniors; prerequisite: World Literature) A study of significant American Literature, including an introduction to critical literary theories.

AP English Language & Composition (juniors) A college-level course preparing students to write in a variety of college-level discourses. This course prepares students to take the AP English Language & Composition exam. It may be taken instead of American Literature.

British Literature (seniors; prerequisite: American Literature) A study of significant British Literature, including further development of critical literary theories.

DE English 101 Composition (seniors; by instructor approval only) A college course focusing on essays in the various patterns of exposition and including some grammar and usage review. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS English)

DE English 102 Composition and Literature (seniors; by instructor approval only; prerequisite: DE English 101) An introduction to the analysis, interpretation and vocabulary of literature - fiction, poetry and drama - that continues students' study of writing through expository essays, responses to essay test questions, and research papers. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS English)

History

Four years of history are required for graduation, including at least world studies (geography, history), US history and/or AP US history, and economics/government.

Ancient World History (freshmen) Students examine ancient civilizations through the Greeks to the Roman Empire. Then they survey India, Asia, and Africa on their way to the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Reformation.

Modern World History (sophomores) Course includes the study of Western civilization, from the Reformation until modern times.

DE History 101 World History I (sophomores; by instructor approval only) A survey of the history of humankind from the pre-literate period to the Protestant and Catholic Reformations. Included are the rise of civilizations and empires: special attention is directed to the civilizations of the Middle East, Southern and Eastern Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. Emphasis is placed on the chronological development of social, political, and economic institutions, as well as the cumulative contributions to our culture (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS History)

DE History 102 World History II (sophomores; by instructor approval only; prerequisite DE History 101) A survey of the history of humankind from the late 1600's to the present. Included are the development of civilizations and empires: special attention is directed to the civilizations of the Middle East, Southern and Eastern Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. Emphasis is placed on the chronological development of social, political, and economic institutions, as well as the cumulative contributions to our culture. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS History)

US History (juniors) A survey of the history of the United States, from its founding and colonization until the modern day.

DE History 201 American History I (juniors; by instructor approval only) A survey of the development of the American nation from the Age of Discovery to 1877. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS History)

DE History 202 American History II (juniors; by instructor approval only; prerequisite DE History 201) A survey of the expansion and maturation of the American nation from the end of Reconstruction to the present. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS History)

American Government/Economics (seniors) The first semester is a study of American government and political theory. The second semester is a study of Biblical economics.

Mathematics

Four years of math are required for graduation, including at least Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2.

Algebra 1 Introduces algebraic concepts; emphasizes the theory and application of variables, graphing, linear equations and inequalities, radical expressions, and quadratics; solving problems using quadratic equations, calculators, and computers.

Geometry (Prerequisite: Algebra I) Provides a visual approach to conceptualizing. Uses informal and formal logical reasoning processes including deductive and inductive reasoning, synthetic, coordinate, and transformational approaches to study congruence, similarity, parallelism, symmetry, and perpendicularity. The integration of algebraic skills and concepts to solve geometric problems is stressed.

Algebra 2 (Prerequisite: Algebra 1) Extends Algebra I skills. Uses calculators and computers to assist problem solving. Emphasizes polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions and the extension of number to irrational and complex numbers.

Algebra 3 (Prerequisite: Algebra 2) Designed for students who are not planning on further math or science oriented studies in high school or college. A study of algebra including absolute values, equations and inequalities, complex numbers, systems of equations, relations, functions, and the transformations of their graphs.

Advanced Mathematics (Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2) This course is designed for students who plan on further studies in math and/or science in high school or college, and includes trigonometry and pre-calculus material.

DE Math 116 Pre-Calculus (seniors, by instructor approval only; prerequisite: Advanced Mathematics) Preparation for calculus, including an intensive study of algebraic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and their graphs. Applications include simple maximum/minimum problems, exponential growth, decay, surveying problems, and trigonometric proofs.

DE Math 220 Calculus w/Analytical Geometry (seniors, by instructor approval only; prerequisite: DE Math 116 Pre-Calculus)

Introductory differential calculus and its applications. Topics include limits, continuity, differentiability, derivatives of polynomial, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions, with applications and antiderivatives.

Physical Education

To fulfill the Physical Education requirement, students must take Health and Physical Education. All Physical Education courses are one-semester.

Team Sports (may be repeated for credit) Course is designed for the student to become proficient in a variety of team and individual racket sports, group games, and fitness activities. Students will learn the skills of sports, rules, and game strategies.

Health (freshmen; may not be repeated for credit) Course emphasizes personal responsibility wise choices concerning health. Students understand behaviors that reduce health risks and promote personal health. Topics covered include introduction to all body systems, fitness and exercise, nutrition, effects/dangers of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and the marketing and advertising techniques used in the health industry.

Weight Training (males only; may be repeated for credit) Introduces weight training; emphasizes strength development training and proper lifting techniques.

Self Defense (females only; may be repeated for credit) Introduces basic self-defense with practical application to everyday life.

Personal Fitness (females only; may be repeated for credit) Course focuses on activities that encourage and promote aerobic/anaerobic fitness, muscle strength, flexibility and endurance. Emphasis is placed maintaining personal fitness levels through a wide variety of equipment and exercises.

Science

Four years of science are required for graduation, including one year of a physical science and one year of a life science.

Physical Science* (freshmen) Designed as a survey course of basic chemistry and physics. This course includes the more abstract concepts such as the conceptualization of the structure of atoms, motion and forces, and the conservation of energy and matter, the action/reaction principle, and wave behavior.

Chemistry* (sophomores or juniors) An introductory laboratory course in theories and concepts of modern chemistry. The course emphasizes the atomic and molecular structure, chemical bonding, stoichiometry, properties of gases, solutions, reaction rates and equilibrium, acid-base reactions, and chemical thermodynamics.

Biology* (sophomores or juniors) This laboratory course covers the important aspects of biology related to plants and animals and shows their relationship to humanity. The course will conclude with the study of human anatomy and the various systems, including how humanity affects the environment.

Environmental Science (sophomores, juniors, or seniors) Course focuses on the links between living things, their surroundings and the total environment. The scientific principles and the related technology will assist the student in understanding the relationships between local, national, and global environmental issues.

Forensics (seniors only; fall semester only) The application of a broad spectrum of sciences to answer questions of interest to a legal system in relation to crime or civil action.

Marine Biology & Oceanography (seniors only; spring semester only) An introduction to the chemical, physical, geological and biological processes governing the formation of the world's oceans and the distribution and ecology of its inhabitants.

Human Anatomy/Physiology (seniors; prerequisite: Biology). Course focus is on the eleven body systems and their function/purpose in the human body, systems' interdependency, and the common diseases that affect each system.

AP Chemistry (prerequisite: Chemistry and Algebra 2) A college level course in which students should attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. This course prepares students to take the AP Chemistry exam in the spring.

Foreign Languages

Three years of a foreign language are required for graduation. Two of these years must be of the same language.

Spanish 1 Introduces the Spanish language; emphasizes all skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in an integrated way.

Spanish 2 Enhances Level One skills in Spanish and provides opportunities to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in an integrated way.

Spanish 3 Enhances Level Two skills in Spanish and provides further opportunities to increase listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in an integrated way. Provides continued practice in previous topics and introduces new topics; offers further opportunities to increase understanding of Spanish-speaking cultures.

DE Spanish 101 Introductory Spanish I (seniors; by instructor approval only) An introduction to the fundamentals of the Spanish language. The course includes the study of grammar, reading, writing and conversational Spanish. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS Foreign Language)

DE Spanish 102 Introductory Spanish II (seniors; by instructor approval only; prerequisite DE Spanish 101) An expansion of the fundamentals of the Spanish language emphasizing the structure and usage of the language and including a rapid review of Spanish grammar, irregular verbs and idioms. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS Foreign Language)

General Electives

Additional credits beyond the requirements listed above may come from general electives or additional courses within each subject area. All electives are one-semester courses unless indicated otherwise.

SAT Preparation (sophomores, juniors, seniors; pre-requisite: completed or currently enrolled in Algebra 2) Course is designed to help students prepare for the rigors of taking the national SAT battery of tests. The primary goal is to identify and implement test-taking strategies using prerequisite knowledge to increase student performance.

Psychology (sophomores, juniors, and seniors only; offered 1st semester only). An introduction to human psychology, from a Biblical perspective.

DE Psychology 210 General Psychology (juniors or seniors; by instructor approval only; prerequisite Psychology) An introduction to the principles, methods, and areas of research within the scientific discipline of psychology. Topics covered are research methods, learning, memory, perception, physiology and mental disorders. Emphasis is on the fundamental principles and theoretical bases underlying psychology. (3 credit hours through Truett McConnell University & 1 credit of HS elective)

Teacher Assistant (receives ¼ credit each semester; by invitation of the teacher only)

Office Assistant (receives ¼ credit each semester; by invitation of the office only)

Computer

Students must take a 2-1 combination of computer and fine arts (1.5 credits). All computer and fine art courses are one-semester courses unless indicated otherwise.

Photo Digital Editing Students learn basic techniques in editing photos using a standard digital software package.

Digital Photography (requirement: simple digital camera) A study of basic photographic techniques using digital cameras, including both camera work and computer use of processing and enhancing.

Web Design (semester or full year) An introduction to the design, creation, and maintenance of web pages and websites. Students learn how to critically evaluate website quality, learn how to create and maintain quality web pages, learn about web design standards and why they are important, and learn to create and manipulate images.

Yearbook (yearlong; by application only; may be repeated for credit; may also count as a computer elective) Production of the school yearbook, along with the use of publishing software.

Fine Arts

See note above under "Computer"

Choir (may be repeated for credit) Emphasis on proper choral techniques and fundamentals of music. The chorus will perform two major concerts during the year, as well as singing in occasional chapel and other programs.

Band A performance-oriented class, with two major concerts during the year, along with exposure to various styles of music and instruction in proper instrumental ensemble techniques.

Chapel Team (yearlong; by audition only) The chapel team will learn & sing music pieces and lead the music part of the worship during Chapel.

Intro to Art & Techniques A study of the principles and techniques of art.

Digital Photography (requirement: simple digital camera) A study of basic photographic techniques using digital cameras, including both camera work and computer use of processing and enhancing.

Ceramics (requirement: \$75 fee) Students will explore a broad range of techniques and approaches to art through hand built and wheel thrown clay.

Studio Art (juniors; yearlong; by instructor approval only; requirement: \$50 fee) This course will focus on the development of breadth in the student's portfolio and will be preparation for the AP Art class.

AP Art (yearlong; prerequisite: Studio Art; instructor approval only; requirement: \$50 fee) This class will produce a concentration portfolio for the AP Exam.

Theater (May be repeated for credit.) Students perform one major play each semester, along with other opportunities in drama.

Yearbook (yearlong; by application only; may be repeated for credit; may also count as a computer elective) Production of the school yearbook, along with the use of publishing software.