

Jr. High Curriculum

Core Subjects

7th Grade Bible

Our course of study is an overview/survey of the Old Testament. The following topics are covered: the Creation through the Tower of Babel, the call of God for a people (Abraham), the Patriarch Period, periods of captivity, the call of God for a nation (Moses and Joshua), the Judges Period, the Kings Period, the Prophets, the Inter-testament period, identification of Jesus the Christ, and God's plan of salvation.

8th Grade Bible

Teaches the students the following: the life of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark, Bible study hints through the book of Philippians, the end times, and homiletics. Methods include group projects, art projects, oral reports, written homework and video projects.

7th Grade Math

Students experience incremental development through math concepts and skills including the areas of arithmetic, graphing, equations, probability, percents, unit conversions, and word problems. Area, volume, and perimeter of geometric figures are also components of the math program. Instruction includes group participation in lessons, written practice at school and home, and daily assessments.

8th Grade Algebra

Students are given incremental development through math concepts and skills. Lessons are designed to encourage higher level critical thinking skills and application (transfer) of basic mathematical knowledge to other disciplines by way of word problems. Students continue their study of basic geometry along with introduction to trigonometry.

7th & 8th Grade Pre-Algebra

Students experience incremental development through math concepts and skills. Lessons include review/overview of topics learned in elementary school. This course provides a springboard from which to organize the basic thoughts and concepts of mathematics for use in developing the higher level thinking required in advanced mathematics course work. Students will solve and simplify equations and inequalities, translate word problems into equations and equalities, and apply algebraic conceptions to solving basic geometric and economic problems.

7th Grade Science

Students will enjoy working through four areas of Life Science beginning with a study of the animal kingdom and followed by an in-depth study of the plant kingdom in preparation for science fair. Many "hands-on" experiences are provided. During the second semester, our young scientists will enrich their knowledge of environmental science and have a brief exploration of human biology and health. Captivating projects, dissecting, and our annual adventure to Catalina are among the highlights.

8th Grade Science

The eighth graders will obtain an understanding of the Physical Sciences. We will focus on Chemistry and Physics. Students will learn of the properties of matter, the physical and chemical changes of matters, and the arrangement of the periodical table. They will also be introduced to motion, power, forces and machines.

7th Grade Social Studies

Seventh Grade World Geography covers the physical and cultural geography of the Eastern Hemisphere. An overview of the physical, historical, and culture of major countries is included as parts of the following units: The Industrialized Countries of Western Europe; The Republics of the Former Soviet Union and Countries of Eastern Europe; The Middle East; Japan, China, and the Newly Industrialized Countries of the Pacific Rim and Southeast Asia; The Indian Subcontinent; and Africa South of the Sahara Desert.

8th Grade Social Studies

The eighth grade curriculum covers the history of the United States with a special unit on the US Constitution. Historical units include: The Colonial Period and the Revolutionary War; The Growth of the New Nation and the Westward Movement; The United States Becomes an Urban Industrialized Nation; and Major Wars of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, with emphasis on the Civil War, World War One and World War Two.

7th Grade English

Seventh grade English is developed in such a way that students will become writers and readers. Through the use of reading and writing workshops students build upon prior knowledge to write, read and evaluate different forms of literature. Workshop activities allow students to become actively engaged readers and writers. Students are given opportunities for individualized writing instruction. Spelling, grammar, vocabulary and other appropriate skills are incorporated in such a way as to allow each student to grow and capture his or her ideas, thereby channeling their feelings and enthusiasms into the learning process.

8th Grade English

The standards for the 8th grade provide preparation of students for the secondary level. The course content consists of strands from the domains of reading, writing, written and oral English language conventions, listening and speaking. The strands to be emphasized will include vocabulary development, reading comprehension, literary response and analysis, writing strategies and applications (genres and their characteristics), language conventions, listening and speaking strategies. The curriculum follows a logical growth pattern which builds on information students have processed in previous grades. A solid understanding of basic grammar and writing skills is stressed. As preparation for high school, students read literature and novels that will stretch their understanding. Performance standards are high. The course is taught with the objective of building a Biblical world view. Students are taught to evaluate literature in the light of God's word. In the development of writing ability, emphasis is placed on the skills necessary to effectively communicate the message of God's truth.

Physical Education

It is the desire of San Gabriel Christian School to prepare the students for participation in high school physical education and sports programs, and to instill a desire to maintain life-long fitness through exercise and sports.

Enrichments

French

The students learn the basic communicative skills in the French language. They are given the tools necessary for expressing themselves and communicating in basic conversational contexts, such as, greeting, introductions, classroom activities, fashion, families, people, physical and emotional states, etc. The methods and materials are designed to move students toward proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing and also in aspects of culture.

Spanish

The students learn some of the basic communicative skills in the Spanish language. They are given the tools necessary for engaging in basic conversations, such as, greeting, introductions, classroom activities, fashion, families, people, physical and emotional states, etc. The methods and materials are designed to move students toward proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing and also in aspects of culture.

General Music

This course supports the belief that music is an important part of the lives of all people and cultures. The class presents many musical instruments, all using the same elements, but using them in different ways. Students will learn the elements of music and compare and contrast styles shaped by history and culture.

Instrumental Music

Senior Orchestra - Here is the apex of your child's instrumental musical development at SGCS. This is the advanced ensemble that works hard in rehearsals so we can have fun during performances. If your child has come this far in the music program, then you can be proud that they have learned how to blend and cooperate with others to create a true musical experience.

Performances include Christmas; Red, White, and Blue Chapel; ACSI Solo and Ensemble; Open House; ACSI Band and Orchestra Festival as well as a scheduled trip to Disneyland with the Choir for performance and fun.

Jazz Ensemble - For those who are interested in a more contemporary sound in music, Jazz Ensemble will fill your need. The goal of this class is to develop musicians to be in future worship bands that use guitars, electric bass, piano, and horns. This class is a small group that is entered by audition only. We have fun, but students must have an intermediate to advanced level of playing to be considered for this ensemble.

Senior Choir - 7th & 8th Grades

The Senior Choir provides growth and development of each student's musical abilities and gifts vocally at a more advanced level. Repertoire is carefully chosen to motivate and enhance the student's musical range. The Senior Choir participates in all festivals as well as regular chapels. Students completing this course enter high school fully prepared to participate in any choral ensemble at the freshman level.

Art and Computer Graphics

In the art program, the students participate in various projects which are developmentally appropriate. These projects teach and encourage the students to do many things, including work cooperatively and independently, exercise creativity, follow directions, and work with a variety of media. Junior High, 7th and 8th grade projects consist of printing techniques, wire sculptures and Pop Art collages. Second through eighth grade levels all work with clay. In addition, Computer Graphics is offered to the Junior High level which involves basic design layout such as CD covers, posters, and packaging. The art program provides the students at all grade levels a variety of experiences.

Other Enrichment Offerings

Quarterly Drama, Public Speaking, Consumer Education and Keyboarding classes are also offered to Junior High students at various times in the year.

Thank you for your interest in San Gabriel Christian School. We look forward to working with you and your child.