

# Logic School Curriculum

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## *Summary by Subject*

**Theology/Bible** - The courses begin with the presentation of Christ at the center of the Old Testament so that they confirm the meta-story of scripture. Then the student's logical skills are engaged to establish a framework for systematic thinking about theology. A clear understanding of theology will lead to a better understanding of church history, making the student more capable of leadership in the future. The student will be trained in how to interpret and study the Bible, using sound hermeneutical principles. These principles will guide them in understanding the great works of theology within the church, including those that have caused controversy. Once grounded in these skills, it is necessary to train the student to defend and articulate sound theology and doctrine so that they can fulfill the great commission and take every thought captive.

**Literature** - Apart from studying the Word, the study of words, their meaning, structure and syntax and the use of them in proclaiming the Gospel is the greatest work of mankind. Unless we equip our students to be accomplished and effective in reading and writing, they will become reactionary and defensive when they have, in fact, been called to be leaders and directors who think offensively, seeking to take every thought captive. For this reason, the students are taught to read with mastery using a strong phonics foundation. Once able to read, they are immersed in classic works of literature that are appropriate for their reading level, learning to read for meaning and write to be understood. A classic is a work that stands the test of time, speaking to the needs of man in every age. These classics provide many examples of sin and misery and the need for redemption. Each work is held to the standard of God's word and each is taught within the framework of a Christian worldview. The goal of the literature program at Covenant is not to expose the student to every classic available, but to give them the tools to continue a lifelong pursuit of reading and discovery.

**History** - The study of the story of man, his ethics, politics, philosophy and his religions (both true and untrue) provide the framework for students to apply a Christian worldview using the tools of logic and rhetoric. The focus on historical studies in the final phases of the Trivium employ that use of primary sources as starting points for debates, discussion, exordiums and refutations. Unless a student understands history, he will be destined to repeat it. With this in mind, our students will be given a thorough understanding, not just of the facts (grammar) of history, but the truth (logic), and the wisdom (rhetoric) as well.

**Reasoning and Persuasion** – The end of education is not merely smarter students and higher tests scores. If we are to send our children out to contend with the world in the city gates, we must equip them with skills in reasoning and persuasion. Students at Covenant receive three years of logic training in both informal and formal logic and three years of specific rhetoric training, honing their logical skills



to meld with the five canons of rhetoric as taught by Aristotle. Students in grades 11 and 12 will write, defend and present a thesis as a culmination of their Trivium training.

**Mathematics** – Mathematics is far more than a set of algorithms and strategies, calculations and figures. Mathematics is the language that scientists use to describe and discover the world that God has made. Rather than viewing the study mathematics as a drudgery and necessary chore required by incumbent college requirements and improved standardized test scores, Covenant students will be given skills to speak the language of math intelligently and articulately, recognizing the scientific, historical, logical, rhetorical and theological implications of the reflection of God’s glory, order and design in numbers, expressions, predictions, theories and proofs. Covenant students will have the opportunity to pursue mathematics with a general or specific emphasis as their own levels of giftedness become more apparent. Students with above average ability may pursue advanced courses in preparation for further studies.

**Science** – The order and design of the universe, the complexity and diversity of life, the application of knowledge and the study of epistemology (how we know what we know) are foundational to the study of the world that God has created. Understanding that the Creator is the Author of all life and that all of true science speaks to and not against His intelligence and authorship, Covenant students will embrace their scientific studies with rigor, and with confidence, knowing that there can be no real inconsistency with trust and the study of truth. Covenant students will have the opportunity to pursue science with a general or specific emphasis as their own levels of giftedness become more apparent. Students with above average ability may pursue advanced courses in preparation for further studies.

**Languages-** The study of foreign languages provides an opportunity for students to improve upon their understanding of their own language as well as the languages of others. Covenant students will study three years of Latin at the Socratic/logic level, with an emphasis on translation and reading classic works in their original languages. In addition, they will have the option of studying an additional language in the rhetoric program. Colleges may accept the three courses/credits of Latin studies in the Socratic level as a fulfillment of a high school foreign language requirement.

**Electives** – Elective courses provide a rich opportunity for students to grow in areas of specialized skills and talents. Students will have the opportunity to pursue athletics, visual arts, performing arts and media/journalism as an enrichment and fulfillment to their core studies.

A fundamental difference between the grammar and logic schools is the increasing independence of our students and the increase of Socratic discussions. Socratic discussions provide students with increased accountability and stimulate their critical thinking. Discussions fall flat in the absence of facts and skills, so teachers must prepare the students with assignments and lectures that will allow them to bring their thoughts to the table. Students are graded for their participation and for the way they interact with their peers. The excellent discussion is one that will integrate many subjects and themes, providing synthesis

and application of a Christian worldview. The excellent discussion is one which starts in the classroom, continues in the halls, and is carried to the kitchen table later that day.

Course of Study	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
<b>Theology</b>	Christocentricity of the Old Testament	Systematic Theology	Church History
<b>Language Arts</b>	Progymnasmata and Great Books	Progymnasmata and Great Books	Progymnasmata and Great Books
<b>History</b>	U.S. History I (through the Civil War)	U.S. History II (post-Civil War)	Ancient Civilizations
<b>Reasoning and Persuasion</b>	Logic I: Informal Logic	Logic II: Formal Logic	Logic III: Logical Argumentation
<b>Mathematics</b>	<u>Track 1</u> -Accelerated Math/Pre-Algebra <u>Track 2</u> -7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	<u>Track 1</u> -Algebra I <u>Track 2</u> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	<u>Track 1</u> -Geometry <u>Track 2</u> -Algebra 1
<b>Science</b>	Earth/Life Science	Physical Science	Biology
<b>Languages</b>	Latin I	Latin II	Latin III
<b>Electives</b> <i>Students must develop skills in several areas. They will not be permitted to take the same elective more than twice without special permission with the exception of team sports.</i>	Drama Debate Art Concert Choir Journalism Yearbook Physical Training Team Sport	Drama Debate Art Concert Choir Journalism Yearbook Physical Training Team Sport	Drama Debate Art Concert Choir Journalism Yearbook Physical Training Team Sport

**Note:** Grade 9 course work is reflected on the high school transcript. Students are still completing their logic course of study while at the same time being introduced to the high school Great Books program. Grade 9 at Covenant is a transition grade from logic to rhetoric. Students receive high school credit as they continue to develop requisite logic and rhetoric skills.