

# WHAT TO EXPECT IN Seventh Grade

## LATIN

Seventh grade students advance to *Cambridge Latin Course Unit 1*. In this course, students have extensive practice in reading Latin texts.

Skills learned in this course include:

- Develop a vocabulary of 400+ words and phrases
- Translate and comprehend stories written in Latin
- Understand the content, style and values of Roman Civilization during the first century AD

## MATH

In seventh grade, our students continue in the Prentice Hall middle school math series with *Mathematics Course 3*. This is a Pre-Algebra course, preparing students for the rigor of Algebra.

**Topics include:**

- Rational numbers and algebraic expressions
- Real numbers and the coordinate plane
- Applications of proportions and percents
- Solving algebraic equations and inequalities
- Geometry and measurement
- Using graphs to analyze data
- Probability
- Algebraic functions
- Polynomials and properties of exponents

**Goals include:**

- Increase confidence in solving multi-step non-formulaic word problems.
- Write and solve multi-step algebraic equations and begin to communicate what they represent.
- Confidently speak the language of math as students develop problem-solving skills.

## LOGIC

In accordance with the dialectic stage of the trivium, students begin their study of logic with the text, *Introductory Logic, The Fundamentals of Thinking Well*. Students are introduced to the basic terms and definitions used in logic, statements and their relationships, syllogisms and their validity, and arguments in normal English.

## MEMORY WORK

Each year of middle school, our sixth through eighth grade students memorize a different book of the Bible. This three year rotation is Philippians, Colossians, and 1st Peter.

## SCIENCE

In our study of Physical Science, students use the text *Novare Physical Science: 3rd Edition*. Topics predominantly include types of matter, energy, order and design in creation, forces and fields, measurement, motion, sound and light, electricity and magnetism, and the nature of scientific knowledge. The text also mentions theories, facts, truth, and hypotheses.

## ENRICHMENT / SPECIALS

- Daily convocation
- Weekly art, music, physical education, and chorale classes
- Twice per month students participate in a Scholé class. With the aim of a restful learning environment, this class focuses on appreciating the cohesiveness of different disciplines.
- Students have many opportunities to grow spiritually and academically through service projects, our mentoring program, a class trip and a Macbeth performance.



# HUMANITIES I

HCA's Humanities curriculum is a robust, cross-curricular course covering history, literature, and composition, that enters our Logic and Rhetoric students into the Great Conversation. Here students listen as the greatest minds in Western history detail and debate the nature of God, man, meaning, and salvation. From these arise politics, education, virtue, pastime, culture, and everything else. Spanning from creation to Christ, students engage firsthand with primary sources (as well as numerous secondary texts) from ancient Hebraic, Greek, and Roman traditions.

By providing a cumulative, chronological narrative of Western civilization, students are filled with a scope that allows for perspective. What is worthwhile? What is true, good, and beautiful? Since Christ is the Author, Sustainer, and Purpose of all things, history is the Christian's playground. Students travel from text to text, daily delighting in the Lord through this robust and exciting curriculum.

# HUMANITIES I: ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Students, with full minds and full hearts, begin to explore the five canons of classical rhetoric: invention, arrangement, style, memory, and delivery. Our students learn to think and express clearly by analysis of difficult texts and subsequent creation of concise, coherent, and powerful essays. Students are exposed to varied influential speeches, and through analysis and mimesis, learn to produce and deliver their own. All composition is to be rooted in the Word of God and for the Word Who is God. Below is a list of Bible texts that students work through. These set the stage for our composition, for what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart.

- Genesis
- Exodus
- First and Second Samuel
- First and Second Kings
- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Minor Prophets
- Luke
- Acts

# HUMANITIES I: LITERATURE

In seventh grade, students study a vast array of classic texts covering poets to prophets, heroes to historians, fantasy to philosophy, the words of tyrants to the Word of God- our literature course truly covers it all. They are exposed to great books, great minds, and great ideas, and learn to process them all through Christ, the source and standard of all things.

Texts Include:

- *Gilgamesh*
- *Odyssey* by Homer
- *Oresteia* by Aeschylus
- *Theban Trilogy* by Sophocles
- *The Last Days of Socrates* by Plato
- *Aeneid* by Virgil
- *Julius Caesar* by Shakespeare
- *The Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis
- *Til We Have Faces* by C.S. Lewis

# HUMANITIES I: HISTORY

Livy prefaces his history of Rome with the following words: "The study of history is the best medicine for a sick mind; for in history you have a record of the infinite variety of human experience plainly set out for all to see; and in that record you can find for yourself and your country both examples and warnings; fine things to take as models, base things, rotten through and through, to avoid." Our history curriculum is built on this very proposition. Our students enter into the broad and intriguing history of the Hebrews, Greeks, and Romans, always looking to Christ, the Sense-Maker of history. All that is true, good, and beautiful points to Christ, and all that is false, wicked, and ugly to our need for Him.

- *Hammurabi's Code*
- *Histories* by Herodotus
- *Plutarch's Lives*
- *The Early History of Rome* by Livy
- *The Twelve Caesars* by Suetonius

