

# TDA High School Class Descriptions

## DANIEL CLASSES

*These are classes that are unique to The Daniel Academy. We believe these classes are part of what will equip and train the students to become modern day Daniels in the world. These classes will help teach them to bring God's heart and ways to all areas of society. We will look at the Word, and the world, and get God's perspectives. We will train them and give them language for current issues. We will use these classes to give them confidence to stand upon the Word and to become leaders wherever they go.*

**9th and 10th grade Daniel Track 1 - Biblical Understanding and Application:** 9th-10th grade students will have 2 alternating years. They learn to look for Jesus as they read the Scriptures. They search the Word to understand the foundation of their faith. They practice meditating/journaling, making a habit of spending time with the Lord, writing out prayer cards for each other, and sharing with each other their meditations weekly. The students are strengthened and encouraged when they hear how the Word has impacted their peers. This yearlong course counts as a TDA required elective worth 2 credits per year, combined with morning assemblies, weekly prayer room hours, Daniel Groups, and quarterly service hours.

**11th and 12th grade Daniel Track 2 - Biblical Understanding and Application:** 11th-12th grade students take time to read through the New Testament and the Old Testament to get an overview of God's heart. They not only ask for God's heart, they also practice meditation and application of the Word in order for their lives to be transformed. They develop habits and skills to take with them as they graduate and are launched out into the world. These tools will help them engage in the Word while in the world, not conforming to the patterns of the world, but instead bringing reformation with the Word. Their leadership training is learning to receive authority from the Word of God, learning to recognize the voice of God, His heart and His ways, so that they may influence the people and the spheres of society where they are sent. They sharpen each other by regularly sharing their findings in the Word with each other. They practice praying and prophesying to one another so that they will confidently pray and prophesy to others outside the safe walls of TDA. They are equipped to walk with confidence in the Word of God.

This course counts as a required elective worth 2 credits, combined with morning assemblies, weekly prayer room hours per week, and quarterly service hours.

**Senior Foundations:** Our Foundations class is created to prepare our students to be confident in the unique ways God has created them so that they will bring their gifts into the world and become influencers in society when they leave high school. Some topics and assignments covered are recognizing their giftedness set (natural abilities, acquired skills, and spiritual gifts); discovering, packaging, and preaching their life messages; dream and gifting assessments; goal setting, college applications, college and job fairs; portfolio creation of their major discoveries and work done throughout high school. Our students solidify their identity before the Lord, solidify the knowledge of how He has created them, and solidify confidence in the gifts He has put in them. This is our capstone class where we prepare the students to be launched out into the world well - as shining and burning lights!

This course counts as a required TDA Senior elective worth 2 credits, combined with Senior Internships.

**Seniors Internships:** Our seniors will have a tailor-made internship during their senior year. They receive hands-on experience in a field of their interest. They will learn skills, and at the same time, have an opportunity to practice bringing God's heart and ways into society while they are still at TDA.

If Seniors are attending STA regularly, that will be their internship. STA will include all of the internship factors that we want our students to have.

This course counts as a required TDA Senior elective worth 2 credits, combined with Senior Foundations.

**Biblical Worldview and Daniel Groups:** This course takes a look at topics in our culture and views it from a Biblical perspective. The students will learn the history of these topics and view it through the Word. Some topics covered are Christianity and Culture, The Arts and Entertainment, Marriage, Religious Freedom and Persecution, Justice, and Technology. They will also discuss topics such as depression, suicide, and abortion. Students will break up into groups to look into Scripture and to discuss these topics and also how to walk out a Daniel Lifestyle regarding these issues. The students will be better equipped to face challenges as they have already studied and processed these in their classes and small groups. The class will usually meet as a large group for a teaching, then split up into age/gender appropriate groups for discussion. This class will give our students practical theology.

This course counts as .5 credit towards a TDA required elective. It is included with Daniel Tracks 1 and 2.

**Body Talks:** This is a weekly class in which we explore God's heart and passion for love, marriage and life filled relationships. This conversation is an integral part of what we believe it means to be 'Daniels' in a 'Babylon' culture that knows nothing of the divine gift of life-giving sexuality but instead is wandering aimlessly in the dark. In these 9 weeks, we unpack the various ways in which God has created us for love, how this love, stamped into our very biology, reflects His love for us, and how to walk out this love with strength and integrity. Rather than discussing the do's and don'ts of dating, We focus on the beauty and dignity inherent in every person and invite our students to explore what it means to be a good gift to another. We talk about love vs. lust, what it means to be without shame but not shameless, and what our physical biology says about God's passion for his people. We will also talk about God's heart for marriage, how to make good choices to keep our relationships healthy and God's power to redeem and restore our dignity if or when it is compromised. As you can see, these are some weighty topics and we are excited to see our students deepen their faith and hope through this series.

## **SCIENCE PHILOSOPHY**

*Our science program is based on providing students with a solid overview of each branch of science taken. Missouri requires 3 science credits to graduate and 1 of those must include a lab (which all of our sciences include). TDA requires 4 sciences as many colleges look for that. Our materials are chosen to prepare students for the SAT and ACT exams. We seek to foster an*

*appreciation and wonder of God's profound creation while developing the analytical and reasoning skills required to engage our rapidly changing world.*

**AP Physics:** This college-prep science course is designed to give the student a detailed introduction to the methods and concepts of general physics, heavily emphasizing vector analysis and provides the student with a strong background in one-dimensional and two-dimensional motion, Newton's laws and their application, gravity, work and energy, momentum, period motion, waves, optics, electrostatics, electrodynamics, electrical circuits and magnetism. Students will be prepped to take the AP Physics 1 exam at the end of the year, and an extra point will be added to their final grade. An additional fee will be added to tuition for this AP class.

Prerequisites: Algebra, Geometry and Algebra II

Grade level recommendation: 11th - 12th grades

**Chemistry (with an AP option):** This course will give students a foundation in chemistry including concepts as: significant figures, classification, the mole concept, thermodynamics, acids and bases, solutions, atomic structuring, molecular geometry, the gas laws, equilibrium, units, recent chemistry-related research and developments, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, relevant dominion science problems with stimulating discussion starters, and modern materials. To take this class as an AP class, there is an extra fee added to the tuition.

Grade level recommendation: 10th -12th grades

Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and concurrent with Algebra II

**Biology (with an AP option):** This course provides students with a detailed introduction to the methods and concepts of general biology including cellular biology, genetics, biotechnology, taxonomy, origins, microbiology, botany, zoology, and human anatomy. Students study a variety of life processes and learn how different organisms meet the challenges of living in their environment. Students also learn to use laboratory equipment and materials to collect data and then use a variety of data analysis skills to interpret the data. This class will be offered with an AP option, which will give students an extra point for their final grade. An additional fee will be added to tuition if a student chooses to take the AP option.

Prerequisites: none

Grade level recommendation: 9th grade, although higher level students may also take this class.

**Anatomy and Physiology:** This course explores biology, microbiology, anatomy, and physiology. Students will discover the intricate design of the human body, explore medical history, and unlock the code of life. Through intriguing texts, mini-biographies, historical perspective, worksheets, illustrations, and more, students will explore the human body from genetics to bones to surgeries as they discover a powerful array of sciences and medical advances (masterbooks).

Prerequisites: Biology

Grade level recommendation: 10th - 12th grades

**Environmental Science (with AP option):** The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific skills required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze environmental challenges, and evaluate and examine various solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science incorporates concepts from various fields including geology, biology, environmental studies,

environmental science, chemistry, and geography. Students have the option of taking this class at the AP Level for a nominal fee. The AP level requires roughly additional 4 hours of work per week. (Various sources)

Prerequisites: Biology, for AP level Algebra 1 and Chemistry are also required  
Grade Level recommendations: 10th or 11th

**Computer Science:** Intro to Computing is a basic introduction to the concepts of computing and technology, and has a strong emphasis on hands-on projects. In this course students will explore technology, learn basic programming skills using html, python and linux, and install and complete a simple web server. This one semester course is required for 9th and 10th graders and is open to all High School students.

Prerequisites: None.

## **ENGLISH PHILOSOPHY**

*Our English program is centered on the belief that cultivating a love for good literature will not only teach our students the power of story and expose them to culture-impacting works, but it will also make them better writers. Beginning in Grade 9 and progressing through Grade 12, students will study time-enduring works by American, British and World authors, including: Hemingway, Conrad, Hawthorne, Twain, Shakespeare and many others. Students will learn how to analyze different types of literary works, and contrast the sometimes perplexing content with God's perspective in Scripture. Discussions and meaningful writing assignments make our English program challenging and stimulating. We are encouraging critical thinking and creative expression, while teaching the fundamentals of grammar and composition. The State of Missouri requires 4 credits of English to graduate.*

**AP Language and Composition:** The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and the decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text—from a range of disciplines and historical periods. Students will receive an extra point added to their final grade. An additional fee applies for the AP class. The 2 AP English classes will rotate on a 2 year cycle.

Prerequisites: English 2, and at the invitation of the English teacher

Grade level recommendations: 11th - 12th grades

**AP Literature and Composition:** The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. This AP English course will also prepare the students to take and pass the AP exam in Spring. Students will receive an extra point added to their final grade. An additional fee for the AP class is added to the tuition.

The 2 AP English classes will rotate on a 2 year cycle.

Prerequisites: English 2, and at the invitation of the English teacher

Grade level recommendations: 11th - 12th grades

**English 3/English 4:** With an honors option. This course will be offered in a 2 year cycle.

Becoming proficient in established and seminal works of literature enables students to communicate at the highest levels in society. Students will learn not only the lessons of our best authors of times past, they also glean from them different writing styles and techniques that will inform their own writing for the rest of their lives. The students will grow in reading speed, comprehension and assimilation of what they read, all invaluable skills in life. They will continue to study pieces of literature, as well as other forms of writing including poetry and short stories. Various kinds and styles of writing are highlighted in this class, with the goal of college preparation in mind. There is an honors option.

Prerequisites: English 2

Grade level recommendations: 11th - 12th grades

**English 2:** With an honors option. This course will build upon English 1 in terms of understanding the themes and plots in literary classics (both American and British), along with vocabulary, discussion, and grammar.

Prerequisites: English 1

Grade level recommendations: 10th grade

**English 1:** With an honors option. This is a year-long course geared for high school students who need foundational instruction to prepare them for more advanced requirements later in their high school studies. Students will strengthen their grammar and writing skills, explore various literature genres and master narrative and essay writing. Prerequisites: none

Grade level recommendations: 9th grade-12th grade

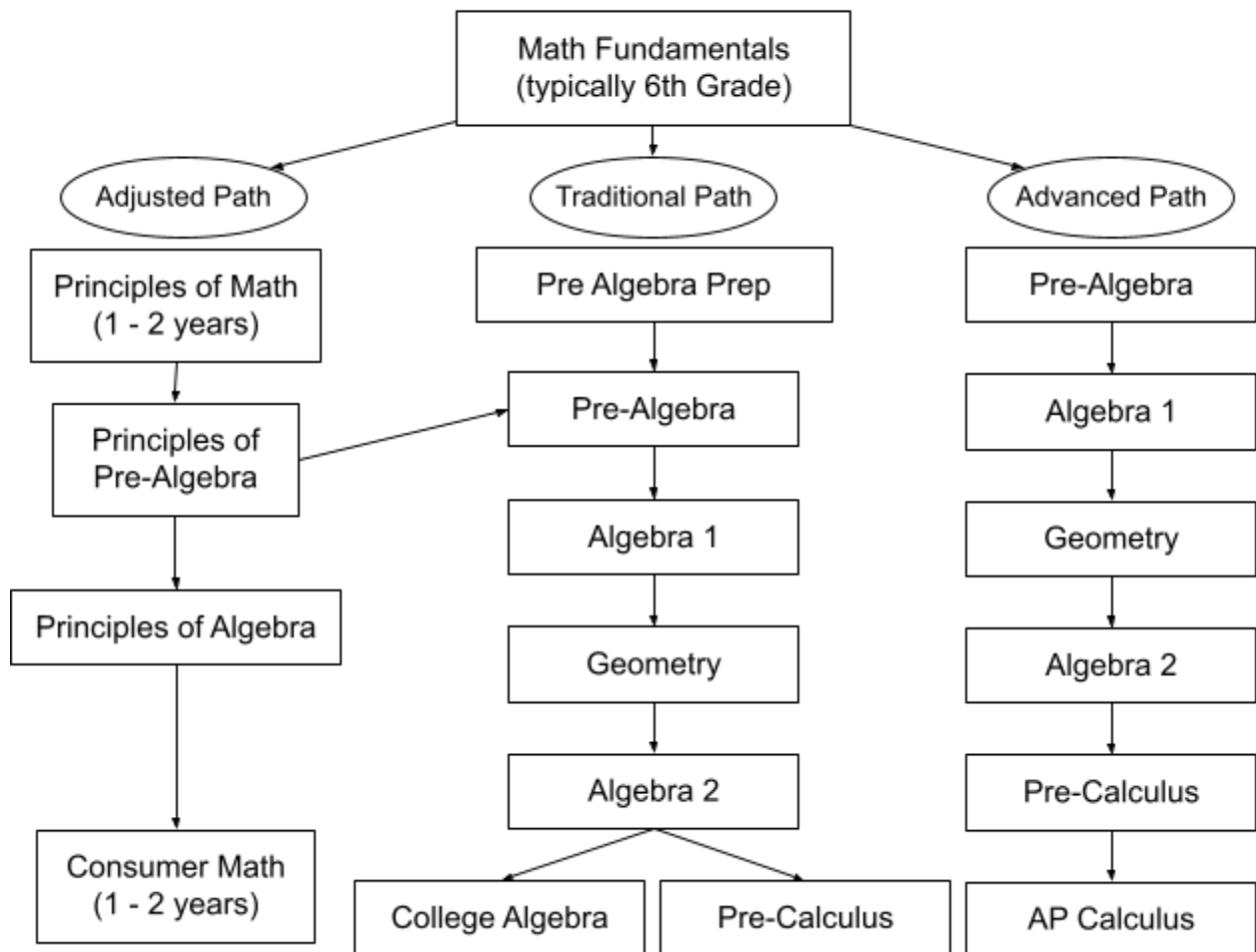
**English B:** In this class, students will gain practice in narrative, expository, and poetry writing as well as formal academic composition. They also will investigate the elements of literature as they enjoy great literature as well as excerpts of short stories. The class will follow a reading schedule to complete several novels and one biography. All literature can be found in audiobook format, but should be followed in a print book as well. This class coursework will be individualized for the student, but is rigorously academic.

**English C:** In this class, students will gain practice in narrative, expository, poetry writing as well as formal academic composition. They also will investigate the elements of literature, and learn to write a literary analysis. The class will follow a reading schedule to complete several novels and one biography as well as selections of short stories and poems. Students who have already read the Narnia series, will be assigned an alternate reading list. Additionally, one high school level research report will be required midyear following MLA style report standards, but the process will be broken into small steps for easy navigation. This class will require high-school-level composition assignments but will provide more definition and support for the academic expectations.

## **MATHEMATICS PHILOSOPHY**

Our math program is designed to ground students solidly in math concepts and applications while building essential problem solving skills. The State of Missouri requires 3 years of math credits to graduate, though TDA requires 4 years of math study as most colleges are looking for this. Typically, the first Missouri High School math credit is Algebra 1, which can be taken in 8th grade and count towards the Missouri graduation requirements. Following Algebra 1, students take Geometry followed by Algebra 2. Following these classes, students can either take Pre-Calculus or College Algebra (Seniors only). Juniors who complete Pre-Calculus will take AP Calculus their senior year. The Daniel Academy also supports an adjusted math pathway for students who are atypical learners, who may need more time and a specialized environment to complete their mathematics coursework. The adjusted pathway also seeks to meet the needs whose math education was disrupted by Covid or other life events. Typically these courses are offered after thorough assessment and taking into account extenuating circumstances. Occasionally, with the recommendation of the teacher, students may shift pathways through summer coursework and tutoring.

### **Math Department Coursework for Junior High and High School**



**AP Calculus:** AP Calculus AB is an introductory college-level calculus course which cultivates an understanding of differential and integral calculus graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. We will cover concepts including change, limits, and the analysis of functions. This class will cover the first semester of college level calculus. As an AP course this class will prepare students to take and pass the AP Calculus AB test in Spring. The AP Calculus class is a rigorous course. If students choose to take this class as an AP class, they must be prepared to tackle challenging concepts and spend extra hours on homework. There is an additional fee added to the tuition for the AP option. There will also be an extra point added to the final grade. (Open Stax Calculus)  
Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus (for AP level students must earn an A in Precalculus)

**Precalculus:** This class will cover pre-calculus skills in preparation for college level calculus, emphasizing functions, graphing, and trigonometry throughout and will introduce differential calculus. (Larson Precalculus with Limits)  
Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Geometry; student must purchase graphing calculator

**College Algebra (with preparation for the CLEP test):** This class will build on concepts developed in Algebra 2 including functions and graphs with an emphasis on real world applications. Our study of functions will include inverses, compositions, and transformations of functions. Using real world situations, we will continue to build skills in solving equations, systems of equations, and inequalities. We will graph and analyze linear, quadratic, polynomial, and rational, exponential and logarithmic functions and applications. The second semester will introduce matrix theory and linear programming. The final quarter of the year will focus on applied statistics. This year, we will be requiring students to take the CLEP test at the end of the semester, as a part of their class. If your student passes the test, they will receive college credit for this class. (Blitzer College Algebra: An Early Functions Approach)  
Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Geometry

**Consumer Math:** This very practical series will help students to understand mathematics as it relates to their everyday lives. Clear explanations are followed by ample practice. This highly relevant series explores a wide range of topics, such as: calculating wages, filing income tax returns, budgeting household expenses, renting and obtaining a mortgage, investing in stocks, bonds, and savings accounts, and buying insurance. This class is open only to students on an alternative path to graduation. (Streck-Vaughn Consumer Math)

**Algebra 2:** This class focuses on developing thinking and reasoning skills through the discussions of algebra concepts such as quadratic equations, polynomials, complex numbers, and trigonometry. Graphing calculator required. (Holt McDougal: Larson Algebra 2)  
Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Geometry,

**Geometry:** A foundation for geometry is laid through the introduction of undefined terms, definitions, and incidence theorems. Logic is introduced as the basis for proofs which focus on congruence, triangles, and quadrilaterals, transformations, symmetry, and similarity. Geometry may be after Algebra 2 by special arrangement. (Holt McDougal: Larson Geometry)  
Prerequisites: Algebra 1

**Algebra 1:** This class will cover real-world algebra concepts, including functions and graphing, linear and quadratic relations and solving equations. Statistics and probability will also be covered. Students must purchase a graphing calculator before the second semester of this course. (Holt McDougal: Larson Algebra 1)  
Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra

**Principles of Algebra (adjusted path):** This course covers the basic concepts of Algebra at an adjusted pace. The class is taught concurrently with Algebra 1, but does not go as deep into each concept. Instead more time is spent on review and reinforcement of concepts. This class is only available to students who have been evaluated for neuroatypical learning challenges.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES PHILOSOPHY**

*Our Social Studies program offers the 3 basic credits: Government and Economics, American History, and World History. Missouri requires 3 credits for graduation. We also include the Missouri requirement for a Missouri State History unit. We require that World History and American History be taken before Government/ Economics, as the latter has more difficult subject material.*

**Government (with AP option):** This class takes a historical approach to American government exploring the original design of the Constitution and changes that have happened as the nation developed. Included in this class will be discussions of significant Supreme Court cases, political parties, elections, and a Christian's role in political discourse and participation. This class will be taught with a college level textbook, preparing students to take and pass the AP exam in the Spring. There is an extra fee added to the tuition in order to take this class as an AP class. There will also be an extra point added to the student's final grade. For those students who are NOT taking this course as an AP class, we will require them to take the CLEP test at the end of the semester, as a part of their class. If your student passes, they will receive college credit for this class.

Prerequisites: American History and World History  
Grade Level Recommendations: 11th - 12th grades

**Economics:** Overview of various economic systems with special emphasis on the free market system from both a macro and micro economic perspective.

Prerequisites: American History and World History  
Grade Level Recommendations: 11th - 12th grades

**American History:** This class will trace the history of America from the time of the European discovery to the present. Students will see the influence of physical geography and the development of the free enterprise system, as well as the structure of the U.S. government as it relates to various facets of culture and historical periods. This class can be taken before or after World History.

Prerequisites: none  
Grade Level Recommendations: 9th - 11th grades

**World History:** This class will survey modern history from the time of the American and French



Revolutions to current times with an emphasis on discovering the links between current events and historical events. Geography and Church history will be integrated to ensure students have a solid historical overview. This class may be taken before or after American History.

Prerequisites: none

Grade Level Recommendations: 9th -11th grades

## **FOREIGN LANGUAGE PHILOSOPHY**

*While Missouri does not require a foreign language credit to graduate, TDA DOES require at least 2 consecutive years of a foreign language (in the same language). Many colleges require at least 2 consecutive years and some require more. We suggest you start researching colleges that your student may be interested in applying for to know their admission requirements. TDA currently offers Spanish, French, Chinese, and American Sign Language through our Foreign Language Labs. Each student will go to the lab daily, and complete their assignments online. On Mondays, the first year students will have a live teacher. On Tuesdays, the 2nd year students will have a live teacher. On Thursdays, the teacher will combine all levels and have a conversational class. We also have options for students to take independent studies for years 3 and 4. Talk to Emily Lee regarding these options.*

## **ELECTIVES**

**Art :** Students will use different mediums and outlets for art and creativity, including drawing, painting, and sculpting. They will gain a deeper experience of technique, as well as the ability to create a portfolio.

Prerequisites: none, recommended for 9th - 12th grades

Credit: This class counts .5 credit towards the Fine Arts requirement

**Choir/Musical Theater:** Musical Theater will cover the basics of performance technique and the fundamentals for reading music. In class we will work on creating disciplines that will go far beyond the stage and create a healthy work ethic in all areas of life.

Credit: This class counts .5 credit each semester towards Fine Arts.

**College/ACT/SAT Prep:** Students will do a variety of preparation for college or certificate programs, including ACT preparation and practice tests, grant and scholarship applications, resume writing, college applications, etc.

Prerequisites: recommended for 10th - 12th grades

Credit: This class counts .25 credit toward electives.

**Communication Skills:** This course is a practical introduction to speech communication. It explains the basic communication skills necessary to improve in numerous contexts including interpersonal, small group, intercultural, public speaking, and technology-based communication. Students will practice the skills and be inspired to use them in ways that will enlarge and improve their own lives and the lives of others.

Prerequisites: This class is only for seniors.

**Engineering Practicum:** Students will be working on real life challenges and developing problem solving skills while being introduced to the various fields of engineering. Students develop solutions to specific engineering challenges. This year the students will also be developing some programming and design skills. The class has a cost of \$30 to cover materials.

Prerequisites: student needs to get approval in order to join the class

Credit: This class will count as .25 Practical Art requirement

**Home Improvement Skills:** Students will learn hands-on “Do It Yourself” home improvement skills, for example: building planters, painting, drywall repair, sealing a crack, snaking a drain, gardening, and other basic handyman skills.

Credit: This class will count .25 credit/semester towards the Practical Arts requirement.

**Health:** This class will help students understand the basic needs of the human body and the importance of good nutrition, rest, and exercise. Students will learn how to promote physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual health. This is a MO graduation requirement.

Prerequisites: none

Credit: This class counts .5 credit to fulfill the Health requirement.

**Permaculture:** Permaculture is a creatively designed system that focuses on developing a harmonious and mutually beneficial relationship between people, plants, animals, and soil. This class will offer teaching and hands-on experience in gardening, food education, food sustainability, farming, and basic practices that can make an impact in everyday life. We will be testing different methods of small-scale gardening and energy conservation. Students will walk away with awe and respect for God’s beautiful design of how all things are created to work together in beneficial relationships.

Credit: This class will count .25 credit/semester towards the Practical Arts requirement.

**Personal Finance:** This class will help students gain competency in areas of income, money management, spending and credit, and saving and investing and is a Missouri graduation requirement.

Prerequisites: 10th - 12th grades

Credit: This class counts .5 credit to fulfill the Personal Finance credit.

**Philosophy:** In this class, students will ask (and begin to answer) some of life’s biggest questions: How do we know what we know? What is right? Who am I? Who is God? As our seniors get ready to face the world beyond high school, we hope that this class will help to prepare them for both their own questions and the questions of others. In our study of “The love of wisdom,” we are pursuing the things of God, who tells us, “Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you: love her, and she will watch over you. Wisdom is supreme:

therefore get wisdom. Though it cost all you have, get understanding.” Proverbs 4:6-7

Prerequisite: This class is only for seniors.

**Physical Education:** This class will be offered at TDA and will give students the opportunity to learn skills for different sports and also work on fitness.

Credit: This class counts .25 credit each semester towards the 1 credit PE requirement.

**Worship Team Skills:** Students will learn all aspects of working together to prepare and play sets during morning worship. Students can participate by playing an instrument, singing, or being part of the sound team.

Prerequisites: none

Credit: This class counts .25 credit each semester to the Fine Arts requirement. (extra cost of \$200/semester)

**Yearbook:** This class encompasses many aspects of producing our school yearbook including photography, design, plan, layout, printing and selling ads. Lots of fun and a great learning experience too!

Prerequisites: Must be in Student Council

Credit: This class counts .5 credit towards the Practical Arts requirement.