

TDA Junior High School Class Descriptions

DANIEL CLASSES:

JH Boys and JH Girls Bible Class: The Junior High Bible Classes are aimed to help the students begin the ownership of their own relationship with God. The students study the Gospels over and over to truly have a grasp of the stories of Jesus. They learn to read through the Gospels, learn to meditate on the Word, and find application to their own lives. They respond in a personal prayer so that the Word applies to their individual lives. We desire for them to see that the Bible is a Living Word, able to speak into and transform their lives. God is active in their lives when they read His Word.

SCIENCE:

8th Grade Science: Physical Science is the study of matter, energy and how they change. Students will be introduced to general topics in Physics and Chemistry while developing an understanding of the scientific method. Topics studied will include matter and measurements, scientific laws, thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, sound, light and optics, the periodic table and chemical reactions and more. (Holt Science and Technology Physical Science)
Prerequisites: 7th Grade Science

6th & 7th Grade Science Two Year Cycle:

Life Science (2021-22): Students will learn the incredible intricacies of cells and organisms, matter and energy, astronomy, heredity, the nervous system, and the immune system. (Purposeful Design)
Prerequisites: none

Earth & Space Science (2023-23): Students will learn about earth and space, examining topics such as tectonic processes, landforms and earth materials, fossils, oceans and oceanography, weather, climate and environmentalism, the solar system, the universe and cosmology. (Purposeful Design)
Prerequisites: none

ENGLISH:

8th Grade English: This course provides students with a strong overall English study using literary works as the basis for reading, writing, discussion, and vocabulary. Special attention will be given to grammar and sentence structure in preparation for high school. (Exercises in English, Institute for Excellence in Writing and IXL)
Prerequisites: 7th Grade English

7th Grade English: This course will focus on language structure and writing skills. Students will read literature, study vocabulary and continue with grammar. (Exercises in English, Institute for Excellence in Writing and IXL , along with selected literature books)
Prerequisites: 6th Grade English

6th Grade English: This course emphasizes traditional grammar as well as practice with essential

reference skills. The writing process includes a step-by-step process through 8 different types of writing, including personal narratives, newspaper editorials, historical fiction, and limericks. (Exercises in English, Institute for Excellence in Writing and IXL)

Prerequisites: None

English A: This course will practice narrative, expository, poetry writing as well as formal academic composition. Students also will have weekly or bi-weekly spelling lists. This class is intended for Junior High or High school students who need a more interactive and thorough approach to composition. Additionally, English A includes solid grammar instruction in preparation for high school writing expectations. This is an excellent refresher for those students who struggle to retain grammar concepts and for those who encountered barriers to learning. Using the Shurley Grammar method of study, we will quickly dissect sentence structure, using audio and verbal tools. Then we will learn diagramming techniques in order to reach the tactile learner. As a catchup class, it is intended to prepare students for success in high school English classes.

Prerequisites: None

MATH

Algebra: This class will cover real-world algebra problems, including functions and graphing. Algebraic concepts, statistics and probability will be covered. This class will count as 1 of the 3 required math credits for high school graduation. (Holt-McDougal Larson Algebra 1)

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra or recommendation from teacher and corresponding test score

Pre-Algebra: This course will introduce high school students to the beginning concepts of algebra and algebraic expressions. (Bob Jones Pre-Algebra)

Prerequisites: Math Fundamentals or equivalent placement test

Math Fundamentals: Traditionally this is a two year course in which students will master math fundamentals to prepare them to move into algebra and the higher math courses. This class includes fractions, decimals, proportions, percents, prime factoring, algebraic equations, measurement, basic geometry, and beginning banking. In addition the students will develop problem solving skills through applied math problems and projects. Mastery of these concepts are essential to success in Pre-Algebra and beyond. (Bob Jones Math Fundamentals)

Prerequisites: none

Principles of Math: This class covers a significant review of long multiplication and division as well as tracking the memorization of math and multiplication facts. It will cover the concept of fractions and decimals in an intuitive way with visual representation. It is the perfect class for students who need to review concepts of earlier math while working rigorously toward grade-level math.

Prerequisites: none

Pre Algebra Prep: This class will review fractions, exponents and scientific notation as well as providing a foundational review of multiplication and division facts. It will focus on skills needed for Pre Algebra such as prime factoring, advanced decimal and fraction operations, and place value from trillions through the millionths place. Using research-based methods for the statistically most

successful means of teaching struggling math students, this class is a rigorous academic class for students who are working to fill in educational gaps.

Prerequisites: none

HISTORY:

6th Grade Medieval History: An engaging, historically accurate Christ-centered approach to the early church and the Middle Ages. Journeying from A.D. 33 to 1456, students will explore the lives and legacies of New Testament figures, church leaders, kings, queens, Vikings, samurai, scientists, and more via The Mystery of History Volume 2 curriculum.

7th Grade Renaissance and Reformation History: Christ-centered overview of the major cultural and historical events of the Renaissance, Reformation, and growth of nations covering the rich and provocative era dating from 1455 to 1707 using The Mystery of History Volume 3 curriculum.

8th Grade Civics/Missouri Studies: Students examine the roles citizens play in the political, governmental, and economic systems in the United States and the state of Missouri.

ELECTIVES:

8th Grade Church History (one semester): Students will learn an overview of Church history with an emphasis on revivals and the formation of the modern evangelical and charismatic movements along with biographies of significant historical church figures. They will take a closer look at the history of revivals in the world, beginning with the First Great Awakening and ending with the more recent outpourings of the Holy Spirit. This class will also complete a survey of the 100 most important events in the history of the church from a Christian perspective. Readings will include both short and long biographies of ordinary people who obeyed the call of God to serve Him in extraordinary ways.

8th Grade Public Speaking (one semester): This class will help students practice public speaking in a safe environment. Students will prepare a variety of speeches and grow in this valuable life skill.

7th Grade Logics Class (one semester): This class is a deep but clear study of classical syllogism. This approach is based on a Christian understanding of knowledge. Students will learn four kinds of logical statements, the four methods of opposing propositions, the three ways which they can be equivalent, and the seven rules for the validity of syllogisms. The class will also have some fun with uncovering fallacies.

6th Grade Life Study and Social Skills (one semester): This class is a practical help for incoming junior high students. Topics will include organization, learning styles, logic/reasoning, keys for success in school, basic computer skills (including google pages and sheets), etiquette skills, and more.

Art: Students will use different mediums and outlets for art and creativity. They will gain a solid, working knowledge of art theory.

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.

Junior High Stem (one semester): This class develops problem solving skills, creative thinking and teamwork by introducing various disciplines in engineering, and designing solutions to real world problems. An introduction to robotics is also included in the class.

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.

Physical Education: This class will enjoy getting in shape, playing games and diving into the Lord’s heart in fresh ways as we glorify God with our bodies.

Intro to American Sign Language: This class introduces students to the language and culture of Deaf people in the United States. The course will focus on specific language and cultural behaviors, as well as introduce students to the grammar of ASL.

Intro to Spanish: This class is designed to increase the love of language for our junior high students. They will be introduced to the language, vocabulary, and simple grammar. This class will allow them to start practicing conversational Spanish and begin to recognize and use certain phrases in society.

Worship Team Skills: Worship team is a unique opportunity for students to learn music performance, excellence and teamwork in our morning assemblies. Students can participate by playing an instrument, singing, or being part of the sound team.