



International Christian School - Pyeongtaek  
**2023-2024 Middle School**  
**Course Catalog**

NOTE: The ICSP administration reserves the right to alter or update this document as is necessary throughout the school year.

**Updated: June 9, 2023**

## 6th Grade:

**6th Grade Bible** (R. Bauer) -- In 6th grade Bible, we will focus on Jesus discovering more about His divinity, His life, and His ministry through the four Gospels in the New Testament (mainly focusing on John). We will begin with an overview of the four gospels, we will then transition to the birth and then ministry of Jesus. Special attention is paid to the teachings of Jesus including the parables, as well as the many miracles and wonders performed by Jesus starting with the water being turned to wine. The influence of key figures such as John the Baptist, the Disciples, and the Pharisees is considered, as the students examine how the Israelite people viewed Jesus. Additionally, students will examine Jesus' teachings about life and death. Following the events of the last week in Jerusalem, the students will study the arrest, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus. Particular focus will be on the prophecies Jesus fulfilled with His death that originated back in Genesis and continued through the Old Testament, along with the salvation for our sin that is freely given by God. The students will finish with the command (Great Commission) to make disciples Jesus stated before his Ascension and the hope we have in His second coming.

**6th Grade Language Arts** () -- Sixth grade Language Arts will continue students' growth in the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, discussion, and reflection. Reading strategies, critical thinking skills, vocabulary building, and making connections to the text will be developed through reading class novels throughout the year. The focus for writing instruction will be narrative, informational, and argumentative writing with requirements based on Common Core standards. Students will demonstrate their understanding of these concepts in a variety of formats throughout the year. The overall goal of the class is to develop a habit of reading for enjoyment, as well as increase the literacy and writing ability of students.

**6th Grade Mathematics** (J. Edwards) – In the 6th Grade Math Class students are starting to learn some of the foundations of algebra along with relationships between some angles and shapes for geometry. The workbooks for the class come from iReady Classroom and are called Mathematics Grade 6 Volume 1 & Mathematics Grade 6 Volume 2. The class units are under the following categories: Expressions and Equations, Decimals and Fractions, Ratio Reasoning Part 1: Ratio and Concept reasoning, Ratio Reasoning Part 2: Ratio Concepts and Equivalent Ratios, Ratio Reasoning Part 3: Unit Rates and Percents, Algebraic Thinking: Equivalent Expressions and Equations with Variables, Positive and Negative Numbers: Absolute Value, Inequalities and the Coordinate Plane, and finally Statistical Thinking: Data Distributions and Measures of Center and Variability. These units are mapped out in the Unit Calendar. Students will be graded on formative and summative assessments. We will be using models and origami in class to supplement the geometry skills.

**6th Grade Science** (J. Edwards) -- Sixth Grade Science is a world of discovery and excitement about Life Sciences. Students will be learning about the three categories of Life Science. This class uses the NGSS standards with some modifications. Of the three categories the Life Sciences will be the focus during the 6th grade year. Students will use

exploratory learning, discussion, hands-on activities, and labs to discover how life in our world has been put together. The main text for the class is Discovery Education's virtual "techbook" for the foundation of this class, but there will be various other resources used to supplement this foundational resource. The login website is <https://app.discoveryeducation...>. This resource is provided by ICSP. The students will have a foundational understanding of the following major topics in Life Science. First we will be going through Organisms and the structures of them. The major standards we will be covering this year are as follows: Unit 1: From Molecules to Organisms, Unit 2: Ecosystems, Unit 3: Heredity, and Unit 4: Biological Evolution.

**6th Grade Social Studies** (R. Bauer) -- Sixth-grade students will study the beginning of early civilizations through the Hellenistic Era of Greece. Students will study the geographical, social, economic, and political foundations for early civilizations progressing through to Ancient Greece. They will analyze the origins of agricultural societies. Students will study the development of civilizations, including the areas of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Ancient Israel, and Greece. The study of these civilizations will include the impact of geography, early history, cultural development, and economic change. The geographic focus will include the study of physical and political features, economic development and resources, and migration patterns. The sixth grade will conclude with the decline of Greece. This course will be the first concentrated study of world history and geography and will utilize appropriate informational texts and primary sources.

## 7th Grade:

**7th Grade Bible** (J. Edwards) -- In 7th grade Bible, we will hone in on the Old Testament especially the foundations of the World and the Israelite people as we cover from Genesis to Lamentations. Special attention will be paid to the development of the Israelites from God's covenant with Abraham to the exodus from slavery, journey to the Promise Land, rule of the judges and kings, and eventual division of the nation. The overarching themes for the year are Israel's struggle with obedience and disobedience, and the need for salvation, for a way to fix the wedge between man and God created by sin. After covering the splitting of the nation of Israel and later partial restoration following the exile, we will end the class with a study of the poetry books from Psalms to Lamentations focusing on the themes and prophecies presented in the books.

**7th Grade Language Arts** () -- Seventh grade Language Arts will focus on the students' development in applying their learning to real world purposes. Reading strategies, critical thinking skills, vocabulary building, and making connections to the text will be developed through reading class novels throughout the year. The focus for writing instruction will be narrative, informational, and argumentative writing with requirements based on Common Core standards. Students will demonstrate their mastery of these concepts in a variety of formats throughout the year. The overall goal of the class is to develop a habit of reading for enjoyment, as well as increase the literacy and writing ability of students.

**Pre-Algebra** (G. Dutcher) -- The students will master the foundations for a solid mathematical understanding which will prepare them for a successful experience in high school mathematics. Algebraic and geometric concepts will be integrated into every unit and meaningful connections will be made to real-world problem solving. This class will review the basic operations of arithmetic on whole numbers, fractions and decimals. These operations will be used in dealing with ratio, proportions, percent, simple geometry and algebra. As students master these basic concepts, they will move into basic algebra. Students will be expected to understand basic operations with integers, rational numbers, irrational, and real numbers; the use of variables; properties of numbers and of equality; solving equations and inequalities; problem solving; relations and functions; and polynomials.

**7th Grade Science** (J. Edwards) -- During the 7th Grade Science students will be learning about the three main categories of science: Earth Science, Life Science, & Physical Science. They will be using different tools to research and discover different ways that the world works. They will also be using projects, models, demonstrations, presentations, labs and scientific inquiry to understand concepts along each. This year they will be focusing on the parts of Earth Science while adding in Life and Physical Sciences when we can. Students will be using the online resource Discovery Education "Techbook" will be used as the main resource for the students. The login website is <https://app.discoveryeducation...>. The focus for this school year is about the Earth. We will be discussing key things that make the Earth able to sustain life, different cycles that happen on the earth, periodic table, nonorganic material, space, and resources the Earth has for us to use.

**7th Grade Social Studies** (R. Bauer) -- Seventh grade students will explore the social, cultural, geographical, political and technological changes that occurred during Ancient Rome (From Republic to Byzantine Empire) and in Medieval Europe. Students will also study the periods of history from other cultures and civilizations around the world including the origins and growth of the Islamic world, developments in Medieval China, and Medieval Japan/Korea/SE Asia. Students will compare and contrast the history and geography of civilizations that were developing concurrently throughout these continents during medieval times. They will examine the growth in economic interactions among civilizations as well as the exchange of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities. Students will analyze geography's influence on the development of these civilizations as they continue their study of world history and geography. Appropriate informational texts and primary sources will be used in order to deepen the understanding of how these civilizations influence the modern world.

## 8th Grade:

**8th Grade Bible (Survey of Prophets and Gospels)** (A. Gu) -- Students, having previously studied the law, historical, and poetic books of the Old Testament, will continue their Old Testament studies in the prophets — the final group of books in the biblical Old Testament. By connecting the prophetic warnings and predictions with actual historical events, students will see how God works in history to accomplish His purposes. After the prophets fell silent for 400 years, John the Baptist announced the arrival of Jesus, the prophesied Messiah and

One destined to save mankind from sin and death. This survey class will look at the life of Jesus and gain an understanding of how He fulfilled Scripture and saves humanity.

**8th Grade Language Arts** () -- Eighth grade Language Arts will provide a more rigorous approach in the development and application of students' language skills. Reading strategies, critical thinking skills, vocabulary building, and making connections to the text will be developed through reading class novels throughout the year. The focus for writing instruction will be narrative, informational, and argumentative writing with requirements based on Common Core standards. Students will demonstrate their mastery of these concepts through a variety of projects throughout the year. The overall goal of the class is to develop a habit of reading for enjoyment, as well as increase the literacy and writing ability of students.

**Algebra 1** () -- In this class students learn and build their basic knowledge of functions. Students will solve, factor and graph a variety of linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, and systems of equations. By using a verbal model and writing equations, students will model and solve real-life problems. Algebra 1 is a foundational course for all other math classes and aids the development of problem-solving strategies.

**8th Grade Science** (J. Edwards) -- During this year students will learn different types of applications and more in-depth information about Physical Sciences. They will be exposed to basic level physics, chemistry, and biology. The focus in these units will be to give them a base knowledge of Biology (mostly human biology), Chemistry, & Physics. We are using Discovery Education for the main text/resource. This is an online resource that is provided by the school to use. The login website is <https://app.discoveryeducation...>. Students will also see how physics plays a part in all things that we do because of gravity. Students will be learning about Atoms, Chemistry, Forces, and Gravity. The titles of the Units we will be covering are Matter, Types of Energy, Energy and Waves, Force and Motion, Electricity and Magnetism, Technology and Design, and Human Systems.

**8th Grade Social Studies** (R. Bauer) -- Eighth-grade students will finish the study of World History that began in 6th grade, by transitioning from Ancient to Modern World History. The year will begin with the vital changes of the Renaissance and Reformation. Then will follow the progression of the New World Explorations, to the Enlightenment, and finally Revolutions including the American, French, Industrial, and Social Revolutions of the late 18th century into the 20th century. From there the focus will shift to the wide spread of Imperialism, the development of the two World Wars, and the resulting Cold War before ending with the contemporary history of the 1980s to early 2000s. Students will compare and contrast the history and geography of Europe with that of the areas conquered and colonized by European countries. They will examine the growth in science, and technology along with the exchange of ideas, beliefs, and commodities that began during the Enlightenment and ends with the creation of the atomic bomb and computers. Students will analyze geography's influence on the changing world map following wars and conquests as they continue their study of world history and geography. Appropriate informational texts and primary sources will be used in order to deepen the understanding of how people felt and thought as well creating a deeper understanding of complex global events like the World Wars.

*Two asterisks (\*\*) denote classes that are offered on a rotating basis (rather than every year) and are not offered in the current (21-22) school year.*

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVE COURSES:

**\*\*STEM Challenge** (J. Edwards) -- Middle School students will learn about how Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics all apply to different types of situations. Students will have to problem solve, think creatively, and think critically for the different challenges they will have in front of them. This course uses lots of hands-on learning and emphasizes the Engineering Process. Students will have many restrictions to each of the different challenges they will encounter, which will help their problem solving skills as well as ability to use creative solutions.

**Middle School Music Ensemble/Band** (D. Brown) -- MS Ensemble/Band is an introductory course into the wind instruments (Brass, Woodwind, and Percussion). Students will learn proper care for their instrument, playing techniques, proper breath support and posture, and other rudimentary aspects of instrument playing. Students are expected to play in concerts and small outside of class performances. In Music Ensemble/Band it is the goal to instill the value of hard work, dedication, and teamwork through the avenue of music in each band member.

**Life Skills** (R. Bauer) --

Home Economics course is designed with the growth of the whole person in mind. Students will work through the topics of managing money, hospitality, food, nutrition, and cooking. Students in the course will also examine basic life skills which will prepare them to become contributing citizens of the community

**MS TEDEd Student Talks** (M. Timblin) -- TEDEd Student Talks gives students a chance to focus more deeply on two applications of the English language: public speaking/communication (in live and digital formats) and video animation with voiceover. The course is a project based course, meaning that in each semester, students will develop a project that requires higher level thinking skills and real-world application of knowledge. In the first semester, students will focus on TEDEd/YouTube style animated shorts, learning how to use stop-motion technology to create educational, animated videos. Students will learn how to choose and develop "ideas worth sharing"; plan, storyboard, and write the scripts for their animated videos; organize and shoot the videos; edit the videos in post-production; and share their videos at a school event (with the option to publish on the TEDEd website). In the second semester, students will focus on public speaking and communication, diving deeply into all aspects of the planning and performing of live "professional" presentations. At the end of the second semester, students will present their ideas on stage at a school event (with the option to publish the recorded version of their talks on the TEDEd website).

## MIDDLE SCHOOL SPECIALS COURSES:

**Physical Education** (J. Lantz) -- The goal of Middle School PE is to help students develop a positive attitude toward **physical activity** that leads them to adopt a lifelong healthy, active lifestyle. Students will develop personal fitness, coordination, and complex motor skills through a variety of learning activities. Play, sports, and cooperative and competitive games will be used to teach students important life skills about teamwork, competition, and ethical behavior. Students will also learn about the importance of good nutrition and injury prevention.

**General Music** (D. Brown) -- The goal of MS General Music is to help students develop an appreciation and love of music. In MS General Music it is the goal to instill the value of hard work, dedication, and teamwork through the avenue of music in each student. We will sing, perform alone and with others in many different venues, compose, read and notate music, listen, analyze and evaluate music performances and understand relationships between music and other disciplines, history and culture. Students are expected to perform in additional musical opportunities out of the classroom (such as the Christmas Concert).

**Art** (G. van der Sandt) -- In this course students will learn the fundamentals of drawing, painting, 3-dimensional construction techniques, as well as a variety of other media and techniques through studying the works of various art masters and their artistic styles. Over the three year course, 6th to 8th grade, students will practice these skills to prepare them for the High School phase where they will have the option to choose art as an elective course.

## OTHER:

**Middle School English Language Development** (T. Lee) -- ELD is a course to support in developing basic English skills as well as developing academic language.