

7TH GRADE CURRICULUM
TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL
824 WISCONSIN AVENUE
SHEBOYGAN, WI. 53081

RELIGION

Text: *Voyages – CPH*, c. 2001.

Course Description: Old Testament History - God's plan of salvation, God's faithfulness toward His people, and the power of the Holy Spirit working through God's Word.

Projects: Plays, interviews, and small group studies.

Expectations: Answer all questions in complete sentences. Learn all Bible passages associated with the lessons. Memory work will be tested each week.

CONFIRMATION INSTRUCTION

Course Description: A study of Luther's Small Catechism as it relates to students who are members of God's family, fully and completely, through Baptism. The six chief parts of Christian doctrine, as well as witnessing and worship, are studied.

READING

Text: *The McMillan/McGraw-Hill Literature Series*

Course Description: This text introduces many examples of literature that are appealing to Junior High level students. The selections will be read to the students and assignments will be made on the selection. Every student will be graded on a daily journal of activities in reading and writing. 6 +1 trait writing is incorporated into writing assignments. Students will set student, parent, and teacher approved goals for outside reading pages along with AR books.

Projects: Read library books. Upon completion of a book, the book is discussed with the instructor and/ or quizzed in the AR library.

Expectations: There are frequent writing assignments that encourage students to mimic selections as well as to become adept at communicating feelings or describing their reactions to their experiences or observations. These writing assignments are evaluated by peers as well as by the teacher. The student will have a library book in class everyday to read during SSR time.

MATHEMATICS

Text: *8/7 Mathematics/Pre-Algebra*, Saxon, c. 2004

Course Description: This course is for those students who last year had sixth grade math and are ready for a more advanced math text as seventh grade students. Previously learned skills are reinforced and built upon as the student applies arithmetic concepts and is introduced to algebra and upper level geometry, both of which are put into a palatable format for seventh grade students. Upon successfully completing this course, the student will be able to take algebra as an eighth grade student. Calculators will be used extensively.

Projects: Daily assignments, most of which are kept in the student's notebook; the student's notebook is an on-going record of progress on daily work (assignments are collected regularly by the teacher); quizzes throughout a chapter; and chapter tests.

Expectations: Students will complete assignments in their notebooks or on their worksheets in advance of the class period for which they are due. Unless, the student has been absent. Questions from the students are encouraged when the students find something is difficult to understand.

SCIENCE/HEALTH

Text: *Prentice Hall Life Science* – Pearson/Prentice Hall, c. 2005

Course Description: Seventh grade science is devoted to the study of life science. Topics include cell theory and processes, heredity and evolution, the five kingdoms of living things, the human body and its systems, drug education, and ecological issues. While evolution is presented in the text as a scientific fact, the students will be instructed as to the fallacies and presuppositions inherent in this theory and presented with the Christians response to evolution. These topics are all presented from a Christian viewpoint.

Projects: Students will learn to organize, classify, observe, record, graph, compare and contrast, and demonstrate other scientific skills as they use microscopes, micro-viewers, and other lab equipment to discover the beauty and wonder of God's creation. Science Fair allows students to design and implement an original science fair experiment so that they can develop skills using the scientific method.

Expectations: Students will read the text as well as other science literature. They will be responsible for daily assignments and quizzes as well as unit tests. Students will come to understand the scientific method and be able to demonstrate their understanding in their projects.

LANGUAGE/GRAMMAR

Text: *Elements of Language; First Course* – Holt, c. 2003

Course Description: Areas emphasized are sentence structure, grammar, usage, mechanics, composition, and 6 Trait Writing.

Projects: Stories, reports, short compositions, various creative writing, speeches, dramatics, and research paper.

Expectations: Daily assignments are usually started together in class with the students expected to finish the rest of the assignment independently. Oral exercises take place during class time; therefore, class discussion is encouraged. Written tests will be administered at the end of each chapter.

SPELLING

Text: *Spelling Connections* - Zaner-Bolser, c. 2007.

Course Description: Connection to thinking, vocabulary, reading, writing, strategy words, and content words. Children will be learning how to use dictionaries and thesauruses.

Expectations: Students should keep up with the assigned work and have it done on the due date unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. The unit is assigned on Monday of one week (before the unit test), with question/answer time on Monday. The units are collected on Fridays. A pre-test warm-up is conducted each Monday, in preparation for Friday's test. Tests will at times consist of words only, while at other times they will consist of a combination of sentences and words. The format of the test will be announced no later than the Wednesday preceding the test.

HISTORY

Text: *World History: Medieval and Early Modern Times* – McDougal Littell, c.2006.

Course Description: Students will gain a deeper awareness of the world in which they live by a study of geography and the culture of several areas of the world. Studies will be of climate, population, maps, etc.

Projects: Special map drawings, written reports on various aspects of geography and culture, and oral reports.

Expectations: Participation in class is important in this class. Students will be expected to do various reading assignments from the textbook, and sometimes reading assignments will be from outside sources such as encyclopedias. Sections of the chapter are assigned, questions are answered either orally or in written form, and vocabulary is discussed. Workbook assignments will correlate with the lesson being studied. Occasional quizzes will also be a part of each chapter. The tests emphasize vocabulary and goals from each unit. Maps and charts are often part of each test.

COMPUTERS

Software and Microsoft Works

Course Description: To develop proficiency in keyboarding skills. Activities include internet searching, UltraKey to review keyboarding skills, Power Point, Inspiration, Word, and Movie.

Expectations: Ethical use of technology

ART

Text: *Art In Action* – Hubbard, c. 1987.

Course Description: Exposure and experimentation in multiple art media. Art appreciation is presented monthly under the leadership of Mrs. Kelm.

Projects: Paper-mache, weaving, art in nature, painting, theater back-drops

Expectations: Participation in and completion of individual art projects.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Course Description: The physical education program is designed to enhance the student's individual skill and knowledge of both individual and team sports. Enthusiastic participation and enjoyment of competition is greatly encouraged. Lifetime fitness is emphasized.

Expectations: Physical Fitness Testing is done in early fall and also in the spring to check the development of the students. Skills tests are periodically given so students may show competency in required areas.

MUSIC

Students receive 45 minutes of general music instruction each week. Instruction includes practice in sight-singing, further practice in reading and notating music, study of Lutheran liturgy and hymnody, and comparisons of music styles from different historical periods of music history. Grades are based on oral and written reports, worksheets, and other homework assignments.

CHOIR

Students in grades 6 through 8 may be members of the Trinity Singers Choir. This choir meets twice a week to learn anthems and parts of the liturgy to lead the congregation in song for Divine Services at Trinity Lutheran Church. Students are expected to sing using proper posture, breath support, and vocal techniques. The choir is usually scheduled to sing once per month for Sunday services. Grades are based on attitude and effort during rehearsals and attendance at scheduled services. Those students not in choir will attend Music Appreciation classes during the choir time.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

Rules are in place and shared with students at the beginning and throughout the school year. The expectations involve each child behaving in a Christian manner towards all people at school and in all situations. If there is an infraction to any rule, the teacher will determine how best to help the child see the error and improve in his/her behavior. If more severe or repeated offenses occur, parents will be contacted, consequences will be given to help change negative behavior, and the principal may be involved in any and all situations. Specific aspects of proper student behavior and the school's expectations and consequences as related to behavior can be found in the Student/Parent Handbook.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

1. Outdoor Education - The students join other seventh graders from the area in experiencing learning in an outdoor setting. This takes place in September for three days.
2. Science Fair - Students following the scientific process, do an experiment of their own interest area.
3. Track & Field Day - Students join other 5th-8th grade students from all the area Lutheran schools in a variety of track and field events.
4. Geography and Spelling 'Bees' are yearly events.

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