

Junior High Course Descriptions 2018-19



A Message from our Principals:

OUR MISSION...To challenge students, through Christ-centered education, to know Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord in order to pursue a life of godly character, personal and academic excellence and service to others.

Welcome to another year at Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary School. Being a student at a Christian school is a privilege but it carries with it some responsibilities. The following phrases from our mission statement are reminders of what it means to be a student in a Christian school.

Christ-centered Education: We teach the Alberta curriculum from the Biblical worldview with the understanding that Jesus Christ is the creator and sustainer of all things. Our desire is that each of our students would develop the ability to think and live Biblically and to apply the Christian worldview to all areas of their lives.

Knowing Jesus Christ: We understand that we are created to know and to love God by entering into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Each student will have an opportunity to make that all important decision if they have not already done so.

Godly Character: Our programs and staff are selected carefully so that each student will be instructed in godliness and have opportunities to form strong Christian character.

Excellence in Academics: A goal of our school is to challenge students to excel in their academics as a means of glorifying God and of preparing for their future.

Service to others: We provide programs whereby students may serve: at our school, in churches, in the community, and on school mission trips. We also encourage students to pursue summer missions and ministry.

Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary School strives to meet the needs of individual students by enabling each student to pursue excellence, to experience success, and to realize his/her potential in each course and school activity. Every effort is made to organize the curriculum to enable each student to achieve his/her educational goals and to develop interests, skills and abilities in a variety of curricular and extra-curricular areas.

Besides offering a strong academic program, our school offers Bible instruction, fine arts, second languages, leadership training and career and technology courses. These courses are available to all students and include special opportunities in art, drama, music, French, computer studies, fashion studies, communication technology, Bible, leadership training and athletics. Each year opportunities for Christian service and missions are part of our programming.

At Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary School we are committed to the fulfillment of all aspects of our mission statement in the lives of each of our students. Our greatest desire is to see our students seek after God in greater depth, desiring the "heart of God".

Jon Elzinga, Principal

Wes Merta, Assistant Principal

Matthew Spronk, Assistant Principal

Junior High Registration Course Offerings:

Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9
Christian Studies and Living	Christian Studies and Living	Christian Studies and Living
Language Arts	Language Arts	Language Arts
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
Science	Science	Science
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
Physical Education	Physical Education	Physical Education
Computer Studies	Computer Studies	Computer Studies
Band	Band	Band
French	French	French
Drama	Drama	Drama
Art	Art	Art
Recreation/Fitness	Recreation/Fitness	Athletic Leadership
Construction	Construction	Construction
Foods & Fashion	Foods & Fashion	Foods & Fashion
	Video Game Design	Tech Apps Saavy
	Film Studies	Film Studies
		Leadership

Most option courses are assessed fees. Course offerings are based on student enrolment, staffing availability, and timetabling.

Grade 7 Course Descriptions:

CHRISTIAN STUDIES & LIVING 7

This course takes the students on a survey of the Old Testament. It begins with the creation of the world and shows the heart and plan of God in dealing with man's problem - sin. The selection, protection, and direction of the Israelites, God's chosen people, is traced, showing His purpose for them and for all mankind. Lessons for living focus on principles essential for our physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual well-being. Required Bible memory includes the books of the Old Testament as well as key passages and verses. Class Christian service projects provide opportunities for students to live out their faith.

LANGUAGE ARTS 7

The Language Arts program is comprised of seven strands: speaking, listening, viewing, writing, reading, representing and metacognition. These will be experienced within the areas of Written Language and Literature Appreciation (Short story, novel, poem). Grammar, sentence patterns, sources of information, summarizing, paragraph construction, report writing, and composition writing will be studied. Students will also participate in public speaking, oral reading, and other enrichment activities.

MATH 7

This course is based on the Western Canadian Protocol/Alberta Program of Studies, June 1996. It covers the four major strands and sub strands which include: Number Concepts, Number Operations, Patterns, Variables, Equations, Measurement, 3-D Objects 2-D Shapes, Transformations, Statistics, Probability, Data Analysis, Chance and Uncertainty. The processes of learning that will be utilized are: oral & written communication, connections, estimation, mental mathematics, problem solving, reasoning, technology and visualization.

SCIENCE 7

The grade 7 science program emphasizes 4 major areas: science, technology and society (STS), knowledge, skills and attitudes. From these perspectives students examine, Ecosystems, Food and Fibre, Heat and Temperature, Structures and Forces and Planet Earth. "Included in this course is a unit on the origins of life."

SOCIAL STUDIES 7

The grade 7 social studies program will explore the origins, histories and movement of the people who forged the foundations of Canadian Confederation. They will examine how the political, demographic, economic and social changes that have occurred since Confederation have influenced ways in which contemporary Canada has evolved.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7

The aim of physical education is to develop an individual in the realms of physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual growth. Through participating in a variety of activities, the individual student will gain a knowledge and understanding of the importance of physical activity and fitness, and develop an interest in physical activity as an essential component of an active, healthy lifestyle. This is achieved through a medium of carefully selected physical activities: fitness, team games, individual activities, gymnastics, track and field and student options. Leadership skills are taught and developed. (PE Attire if not previously purchased is required.)

COMPUTER STUDIES 7

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) curriculum covers the nature of technology, how to use and apply a variety of technologies, and the impact of ICT on the individual and society. The units covered are Computer Operations, Alphabetic Keyboarding, Word Processing, Power Point, Hyperstudio, The Internet, and Societal Issues.

BAND 7

This course introduces the students to the world of instrumental music. Students may begin the year on flute, clarinet, alto/tenor saxophone, trumpet, French horn, euphonium trombone, or tuba, with auditions for oboe, bass clarinet, baritone saxophone, and percussion occurring in late December. Students will learn to play their instruments, read musical notation and develop their aural skills. Different styles of music will be explored and performances in a variety of band settings will be available. Participation in all band performances, concerts and festivals is a regular and compulsory part of this course. All pertinent dates will be supplied in the band handbook in September. Students are responsible for renting or purchasing the appropriate instrument and cleaning supplies from a recognized music store.

FRENCH 7

This course concentrates on a basic understanding of the French language. Students learn basic grammar as well as specific vocabulary themes throughout the year. Listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing are stressed as well.

DRAMA 7

This class encompasses many of the facets of dramatic art: movement, voice, improvisation and so on. The overall goal of drama is to foster an awareness of your self – physically, emotionally, socially, creatively, and spiritually. This course, while fun in some aspects, is most importantly intended to be personally demanding. The fuel of this challenge is called risk. The student who stretches themselves and shows a willingness to push beyond boundaries of personal comfort will be highly successful.

ART 7

The goal for this course is to make you a better artist. Whether you are an advanced student or a complete beginner, every artist can learn something new. The course will consist of 3 units, each of which will have several assignments and 1 or 2 projects. The assignments are essentially practice pieces that give you the confidence and show me that you are ready to move on to the project. If I do not feel you have completed the assignment to my satisfaction, you will not be allowed to move on to the next project.

FITNESS 7

The aim of Recreation Fitness is to provide students more time to work on their personal fitness and skill with regards to different sports. Both team and individual games will be played as well as working on their fitness through a variety of different workouts. Students who enjoy Physical Education will love Recreation Fitness.

CONSTRUCTION 7

This course focuses on the woodworking shop. It begins with a strong safety emphasis and with a tool recognition unit. The students will learn how to use hand tools and four of the power tools (scroll saw, band saw, drill press and sander).

FOODS AND FASHION 7

Foods: This course is designed to develop each student's confidence in cooking skills, organizational skills, and time management based on meal planning. Food presentation and meal planning are included. Kitchen safety and food-handling safety are reviewed at this level.
Clothing: This section covers operation and care of all sewing equipment. Students will participate in buying a pattern, preparing and cutting fabric, and constructing a garment.

Grade 8 Course Offerings:

CHRISTIAN STUDIES & LIVING 8

This course is a survey of the New Testament with a focus on the Gospel of John and the Acts of the Apostles. The historical setting of this era is considered along with the place and message of various letters of Paul and other New Testament writers. Lessons for living focus on principles essential for our physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual well-being. Each student will do Bible memory and a service project.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This course provides integrated instruction in the language arts skills: reading, writing, viewing, listening, speaking, and representing. The lessons are grouped into themes (communication, relationships, success) and genres (novel, plays, poetry), and are integrated with skills being taught (eg. Research, writing and communication). Viewing and listening components (films, videos, audio cassettes) are integrated where possible. Christian values, issues and points provide a general context for all aspects of the course.

MATH 8

This course covers the four major strands and sub strands that include: Number Concepts, Number Operations, Patterns, Data, Variables, Equations, Measurement, 3-D Objects, 2-D Shapes, Transformations, Statistics, Probability and Analysis. The learning processes that will be utilized are: oral and written communication, connections, estimation, mental mathematics, problem solving, reasoning, technology and visualization.

SCIENCE 8

The grade eight science program consists of three major areas: nature of science, science and technology, and society and its environment. Specific concepts, skills and attitudes are developed within each of these major areas. The course consists of the following units: Mix and Flow of Matter, Cells & Systems, Light and Optical Systems, Mechanical Systems, Freshwater & Saltwater Systems, and Scientific Processes. Each unit in the program focuses on specific learner objectives, skills to be developed and achieved, and attitudes to be encouraged.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8

Grade 8 students will examine issues related to contact between societies with differing worldviews. They will explore elements of worldviews and how these views are expressed by people living in different times and in different places. Through this inquiry, students will reflect on their own worldviews and assess the influence that the past has on the present. In addition to these topics there will be a heavy emphasis on current affairs and skill building.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8

The aim of physical education is to develop an individual in the realms of physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual growth. Through participating in a variety of activities, the individual student will gain a knowledge and understanding of the importance of physical activity and fitness, and develop an interest in physical activity as an essential component of an active, healthy lifestyle. This is achieved through a medium of carefully selected physical activities: fitness, team games, individual activities, gymnastics, track and field and student options. Leadership skills are taught and developed. (PE Attire if not previously purchased is required.) Badminton Racket required.

COMPUTER STUDIES 8

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) curriculum covers the nature of technology, how to use and apply a variety of technologies, and the impact of ICT on the individual and society. Course content will include Touch Keyboarding, Word Processing, Introduction to Excel, Power Point, The Internet, and Societal Issues.

BAND 8

Prerequisite - Band 7 or by consent of the Band Department

This course is a continuation of Band 7, with students further developing their musical skills and knowledge. Available instruments of study include: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, bass clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba and percussion. Students are required to continue with the same instrument on which they finished Band 7. Further performance opportunities in Junior Jazz Band, small ensembles and solo settings will be available and encouraged. Tour dates and fees will be released as they become available. Students are responsible for renting or purchasing the appropriate instrument and cleaning supplies from a recognized music store.

JUNIOR JAZZ BAND

(offered when the demand exists and when a teacher can schedule the course)

Pre-requisite Band 7 and audition (exceptional Band 7 students may be granted admission)

Co-requisite – Band 7, 8 or 9

This ensemble meets before school. Students will be introduced to the study of music performance through the jazz idiom and its various styles, as well as the basics of jazz improvisation in a large jazz ensemble setting.

FRENCH 8

This course builds on grammar vocabulary (speaking and listening comprehension, reading, writing) from grade 7. Students will learn the future tense and review the present tense conjugation.

DRAMA 8

This class encompasses many of the facets of dramatic art: movement, voice, improvisation and so on. The overall goal of drama is to foster an awareness of your self – physically, emotionally, socially, creatively, and spiritually. This course, while fun in some aspects, is most importantly intended to be personally demanding. The fuel of this challenge is called risk. The student who stretches themselves and shows a willingness to push beyond boundaries of personal comfort will be highly successful.

ART 8

In this course, students will gain a basic understanding of the elements of art (line, colour, texture, shape, form, space, and value) and the principles of design (rhythm & movement, balance, proportion, variety, and harmony & unity). Students will learn basic drawing skills and methods by studying classic illustrations. The majority of this course is spent on drawing, but students will also have an opportunity to work with paint and with clay. Students will be given a list of supplies (some mandatory, some optional) that they will need to purchase. The course fees cover supplies that will be provided, such as clay.

FITNESS 8

A course designed to help students make wise choices about physical activity. With knowledge and experiences, their choices could improve their health, avoid preventable diseases, and allow them to enjoy life to the fullest. The rationale for the program is to get kids active and out of the sedentary lifestyle that modern conveniences have provided us. This is an activity based course.

CONSTRUCTION 8

This course focuses on the woodworking shop. It begins with a strong safety emphasis and with a tool recognition unit. The students will learn how to use hand tools and four of the power tools (scroll saw, band saw, drill press and sander). Their projects will include CO2 cars, a serving tray, a shelf and a gumball machine.

FOODS AND FASHION 8

Foods: This course is designed to develop each student's confidence in cooking skills, organizational skills, and time management based on meal planning. Food presentation and meal planning are included. Kitchen safety and food-handling safety are reviewed at this level.
Clothing: This section covers operation and care of all sewing equipment. Students will participate in buying a pattern, preparing and cutting fabric, and constructing a garment.

VIDEO GAME DESIGN 8

Game development is a course where students will learn all about what goes into making a great video game. They will learn basic coding, game theory, level design, character design, storytelling and what different roles and careers there are in the game development industry. The final project of this course involves each student creating their very own video games and testing their classmates' games.

FILM STUDIES 8

Film studies provides a general introduction to the art and history of the cinema. The course will include the viewing of approximately 15-20 films, viewing will also include selections from a wide range of classics, foreign films, and the mainstream. There will be several written assignments ranging from personal response to critiques, as well as a major project involving the creation of a short film. As students progress through the course the objective is to foster development of the student as a creator, performer, historian, critic, and patron.

Grade 9 Course Offerings:

CHRISTIAN STUDIES & LIVING 9

Central to this course's content will be "applied Christianity" beginning with Christ's life as an example and then challenging students to apply His example to their lives. The students will learn practical Christian lifeskills and Biblical principles designed to assist them in understanding themselves, relationships, life choices and moral issues. In addition students will explore career choices and prepare their resume. Also included will be Bible memory and a Christian service requirement.

LANGUAGE ARTS 9

This course provides integrated instruction in the language arts skills: reading, writing, viewing, listening, speaking and representing. Literary genres (short stories, poetry, novels, non fiction, and drama), and skills (writing, communication, speaking), some etymology, grammar, structure, and review of language conventions (pronunciations, spelling) are provided, as well as instruction in research skills and essay writing. ICT outcomes (Information Communication Technology) are integrated where possible. Christian values, issues, and viewpoints provide a general context for all aspects of the course. All students are required to write the Alberta Language Arts Achievement Exam in June.

MATH 9

This course is based on the Western Canadian Protocol/Alberta Program of Studies, June 1996. It covers the four major strands and sub strands which include: Number Concepts, Number Operations, Relations, Patterns, Variables, Equations, Shape and Space, Trigonometry, Measurement, Transformations, Statistics, Probability and Data Analysis. There is a much heavier emphasis on Algebra than there was in earlier grades. The learning processes that will be utilized include: oral & written communication, connections, estimation, mental mathematics, problem solving, reasoning, technology (computer and calculator) and visualization.

SCIENCE 9

The program consists of the following five units:

1. Unit A - Biological Diversity
2. Unit B - Matter and Chemical Change
3. Unit C - Environmental Chemistry
4. Unit D - Electrical Principles and Technologies
5. Unit E - Space Exploration

SOCIAL STUDIES 9

The first part of the course examines the industrialization of Britain and the American colonies, including an explanation of a market economy and technological growth in the United States of America. The second part of the course deals with Russia (as a centrally planned economy), its past, present, and future through its examination of the history, the government, and the people. The final part of the course examines the impact of technology on the development of Canadian industry, how industrialization has affected this country in the past and how it affects it today. There are term exams, a selected number of chapter assignments, group projects, a discussion component, and the Government Achievement Exam in June.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9

The aim of physical education is to develop an individual in the realms of physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual growth. Through participating in a variety of activities, the individual student will gain a knowledge and understanding of the importance of physical activity and fitness, and develop an interest in physical activity as an essential component of an active, healthy lifestyle. This is achieved through a medium of carefully selected physical activities: fitness, team games, individual activities, gymnastics, track and field and student options. Leadership skills are taught and developed. Students are required to assist with the physical education program by officiating, organizing intramurals and assisting the teacher in class (10 hours). (PE Attire if not previously purchased is required).

COMPUTERS 9

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) curriculum covers the nature of technology, how to use and apply a variety of technologies, and the impact of ICT on the individual and society. This course covers extended Keyboarding, Word Processing, Excel, and Internet as well as Societal Issues.

BAND 9

Prerequisite - Band 8 or by consent of the Band Department.

This course is a continuation of Band 8, with students further developing their musical skills and knowledge. Students are required to continue with the same instrument on which they finished Band 8. Performance opportunities in Junior or Senior Jazz Band, small ensembles and solo settings will be available and encouraged. See Band 8 description for a list of available instruments. Participation in all band performances, concerts and festivals is a regular and compulsory part of this course. All pertinent dates will be supplied in the band handbook in September. Students are responsible for renting or purchasing the appropriate instrument and cleaning supplies from a recognized music store.

FRENCH 9

This course builds on vocabulary grammar (speaking and listening comprehension, reading, writing) from French 8. Students learn the past tense and review the future and present tense.

DRAMA 9

This class encompasses many of the facets of dramatic art: movement, voice, improvisation and so on. The overall goal of drama is to foster an awareness of your self – physically, emotionally, socially, creatively, and spiritually. This course, while fun in some aspects, is most importantly intended to be personally demanding. The fuel of this challenge is called risk. The student who stretches themselves and shows a willingness to push beyond boundaries of personal comfort will be highly successful.

ART 9

This course is a continuation of art 8 where students build on the basic understanding of the elements of art (line, colour, texture, shape, form, space, and value) and the principles of design (rhythm & movement, balance, proportion, variety, and harmony & unity). The majority of this course is spent on drawing, but students will also have an opportunity to work with paint and with clay. Students will be given a list of supplies (some mandatory, some optional) that they will need to purchase. The course fees cover supplies that will be provided, such as clay.

ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP 9

The purpose is to give students the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to excel at their sport. Students will learn about resistance and fitness training programs, sports nutrition, goal setting and examine what it means to be a Christ like athlete. The goal is to develop students to be Total Athletes, who are strong mentally, physically and spiritually when it comes to their participation in sports. Class activities are split between the classroom and the Eagles Wellness Centre.

CONSTRUCTION 9

Shop 9 is designed to meet the needs of both students who have taken Shop 8 as well as those for whom this will be their first woodworking experience. Students are introduced to the whole culture of safety, both in the correct use of hand and power tools as well as the use of a variety of personal protective equipment. The first project is a small hall table followed by a mantle clock. Should time allow, a third project will be made available which may include some time on the wood lathe.

FOODS AND FASHION 9

Foods: This course is designed to develop each student's confidence in cooking skills, organizational skills, and time management based on meal planning. Food presentation and meal planning are included. Kitchen safety and food-handling safety are reviewed at this level.
Clothing: This section covers operation and care of all sewing equipment. Students will participate in buying a pattern, preparing and cutting fabric, and constructing a garment.

TECH APPS SAAVY 9:

Using creativity to demonstrate the use of design and digital media techniques, students will learn a variety of applications to increase their understanding of, and ability with technology. From 3D modelling, to special effects and app development, students will develop their critical thinking and proficiency in navigating through a digital world.

FILM STUDIES 9

Film Studies 9 continues where FS8 left off: last year was a broad introduction to film as a whole; this year, we will bring our focus in a bit tighter, looking at film as an ever-evolving continuum which encompasses history, technology, art and business. A greater emphasis will also be placed on roles within the industry, with specific time given to discovering and identifying preferences for potential careers within the filmmaking community. As always, students can expect lectures, film labs, written assignments, projects, discussions, and guest speakers.

LEADERSHIP 9

This class prepares and develops students into leaders by taking on tasks such as Student Council, fundraising, Chapels, and Peer Support. Student will be involved in public speaking activities, class discussions, prayer groups, dramas, school spirit, and service in the community.