



2025-26 Academic Course Catalog

Graduation Requirements/Planner

All students who attend Gem State Adventist Academy will receive a College Prep Diploma. To earn this diploma, a student must:

- Earn a minimum of 255 credits
- Meet all subject requirements
- Make up credit for any failed semester of a required course
- Follow the Graduation Planner

To earn an Advanced College Prep Diploma (ACPD), a student must have all of the above plus:

- Four years of Math and Science
- Two years of Modern Language

Engaging in Service ~ Training for Leadership ~ Preparing for Eternity

Graduation Requirements	Freshman Courses	Sophomore Courses	Junior Courses	Senior Courses
255 total credits required				
Bible 40 credits	Bible I (required) Worship Leadership - Music (elective) Worship Leadership - Speaking (elective)	Bible II (required) Worship Leadership - Music (elective) Worship Leadership - Speaking (elective)	Bible III (required) Worship Leadership - Music (elective) Worship Leadership - Speaking (elective)	Bible IIII (required) Worship Leadership - Music (elective) Worship Leadership - Speaking (elective)
English 40 credits	English I (required)	English II (required)	English III (required)	English IIII (required)
Mathematics 30 credits ACPD 40 credits	Algebra I (Required)	Geometry (required)	Algebra II (required) Pre-Calculus	Algebra II (required) Pre-Calculus Calculus Physics
Science 30 credits ACPD 40 credits	Earth Science (required)	Biology I (required)	Chemistry (required) Anatomy & Physiology	Anatomy & Physiology Physics
PE & Health 15 credits PE 5 credits Health	PE (required) Health (required)	PE (required)		
Social Studies 30 credits		World History (required)	US History (required)	Government (required) Economics (required)
Modern Language 10 credits ACPD 20 credits			Spanish I (required)	Spanish II
Practical Arts & Technology 10 credits	Computer & Life Literacy (required)		STEM (elective only)	STEM (elective only)
Fine Arts 20 credits	Choir Chorale Band Ripples Soundwave Art I	Choir Chorale Band Ripples Soundwave Art I Art II	Choir Chorale Band Ripples Soundwave Art I Art II AR109 Drawing I (college credit)	Choir Chorale Band Ripples Soundwave Art I Art II AR109 Drawing I (college credit)

Religion Courses

Graduation Requirement - 5 credits for each semester,
while attending an Adventist school

BIBLE I

9th Grade, 10 credits

The first part of this course examines God's relationship with His people as found in the book of Genesis in the Old Testament. Both the historical and theological themes will be studied including: Creation, the antediluvian world, the flood, the call of Abraham, the stories of the patriarchs, and the migration of the Israelites to Egypt. The second part of this course examines the life and teachings of Jesus as found in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in the New Testament. The course consists of lectures, discussion, group activities and assignments. Bibles are required.

BIBLE II

10th grade, 10 credits

Bible 10 examines the history of God's people from the time of Moses until the present day. Special emphasis is put on grace and how one can see it revealed especially in the events of the Old Testament, through the persecution of the early church, and through the time of the dark ages. One will see God's leading in the development of the Adventist church from small beginnings to the world wide movement of today. Bibles are required.

BIBLE III

11th grade, 10 credits

This class examines the Biblical basis of Seventh-day Adventist doctrine so each student may give an answer for their hope in Christ, as directed by 1 Peter 3:15. During the first semester we study the prophetic books of Daniel and Revelation, giving a clearer understanding of several unique Seventh-day Adventist beliefs including the Heavenly Sanctuary, the investigative judgment, God's remnant church and their mission, and the second coming of Christ. During the second semester we continue our study by examining the rest of the 28 fundamental beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist church. We also use this time to study the contrasting beliefs of other denominations, specifically Roman Catholic and Latter-day Saints. The purpose of the class is to give students the information they need to become strong and active members of the Seventh-day Adventist church. Bibles are required.

BIBLE IIII

12th Grade, 10 credits

This course provides the opportunity for seniors to develop a philosophy for practical, adult Christian living as taught in the Word of God. Subjects include: A study of world religions, college and career investigation, personal finances, marriage and family and life philosophy, and moral choices. Class activities include lecture, discussion, research, hands-on projects and simulations. Bibles are required.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP - MUSIC

9TH - 12th Grade, 10 credits

In this Worship Leadership class, music is the main focus. Students spend the first part of the year learning techniques and tools for music leadership in the context of church. The second part of the year is a practicum for what was learned at the beginning.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP - SPEAKING

9TH - 12th Grade, 10 credits

This Worship Leadership class is designed to help young leaders develop their skills for Sabbath School and vespers leadership. Students also learn to preach in this class.

English Courses

ENGLISH I

9th Grade, 10 credits

A language arts course where students primarily read and write about short stories, plays, and poetry to develop a sense of historical context and to acquire knowledge of applications in their own lives. Assignments include investigations of literary styles and devices, creative modeling, and written, auditory, oral, and visual analysis of material. Responsibility, beliefs, values, self-identity, and relationships are major themes of the course.

ENGLISH II

10th Grade, 10 credits

A language arts course designed to help students improve their reading and writing abilities. Strong emphasis is placed on writing skills, including academic, creative, and poetry. Required reading focuses on world literature. Students learn to connect their reading and writing.

ENGLISH III

11th Grade, 10 credits

A language arts course where students study American Literature to obtain a greater understanding of the American character, identify recurring themes, and apply them to their own lives. Writing instruction will include expository and argumentative analysis, research, narrative, and descriptive modes of discourse, focusing on effective communication and language skills.

ENGLISH IIII

12th Grade, 10 credits

A language arts course presented in a primarily chronological format, using various genres of world literature and focusing on language and literature as reflective of the human experience through the ages. Students will explore the historical and cultural currents and events that have influenced cultural development on a worldwide scale. Writing, research, and composition instruction is an ongoing aspect of the coursework, integrated with the instruction units presented. Students will expand writing abilities in all major forms of discourse.

SPEECH

12th Grade, 5 credits

1 Semester - Required

Speech is a practical and general course designed for students to improve communication skills, speech proficiency, poise, and self-confidence in public speaking situations. The course is designed to develop better interpersonal communication skills and lead students step-by-step from simple to relatively complex original speaking presentations.

SENIOR PROJECT

12th Grade, 5 credits

1 Semester - Required

The Senior Project is designed to help students develop or improve a skill or performance; design or create a product, service, system, or event; and investigate a career or a passionate interest to better prepare them for service to others, further studies, and/or employment after high school. The final project must demonstrate a student's ability to research, write, and interview, work with a mentor, present findings to an audience, and reflect on the experience. Seniors are expected to demonstrate self-directed learning by selecting a topic of genuine interest and managing their time well.

Mathematics Courses

ALGEBRA I

9th Grade, 10 credits

This course is to serve as a bridge between elementary mathematics and Algebra. This course will build a foundation of algebraic concepts through the use of technology, manipulatives, and problem-solving. Students will learn to utilize the calculator in solving math problems.

ALGEBRA II

10-11th Grade, 10 credits

This is the final course in beginning Algebra. In addition to further study of Algebra I topics, the student will study such topics as matrices, complex numbers, and trigonometry. Upon completion of this course, the student will be fully prepared for a Pre-Calculus course.

GEOMETRY

10-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course is a comprehensive study of Euclidean Geometry. Topics include proofs, constructions, logic, trigonometry, triangles, circles, and polyhedra. The goal is to help the student develop an appreciation for the inherent beauty of geometry in our world.

PRE-CALCULUS

11-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course extends the topics learned in Algebra II. It includes in-depth coverage of such topics as polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric functions and equations, conic sections, series, polar coordinates, and introductory calculus. Graphing calculators are required and used extensively throughout this course. The emphasis is on problem-solving and preparation for Calculus.

CALCULUS

12th Grade, 10 credits

Advanced Placement Calculus AB is a high school course that teaches the topics of the first semester of college Calculus. Students will study a variety of topics, including elementary functions, trigonometry, derivatives and their applications, and an introduction to integrals. A College Board-certified AP Examination will be given at the appointed time in May. Most colleges give credit for successful scores on the exam. Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be prepared for the second semester of college Calculus.

PHYSICS

12th Grade, 10 credits, credits may count for a math or a science, but not both

Physics is an introductory course designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts that govern our physical world and beyond. The emphasis of the course will be on the application of physical principles, mathematical problem solving, critical thinking, and laboratory work. The topics covered will include motion, forces, energy and work, waves, sound, light, optics, and electricity.

Science Courses

EARTH SCIENCE

9th Grade, 10 credits

This course is a broad study of earth and the universe. The instruction emphasizes everyday applications of earth science to man's existence. Major topics include:

geology, which is earth's materials, its sculpting forces, and its history; oceanography; meteorology (weather); and astronomy, the study of space and its celestial bodies. This class includes: fun experiments, hands-on activities, and field trips.

BIOLOGY I

10th Grade, 10 credits

This course is a study of life and its basic principles and structures from the molecular level to the organism. Major topics include: chemistry, cells, cellular processes, genetics, ecology, creation/evolution, classification, and human biology. Labs range from experiments to field work to creating models.

BIOLOGY II

11th Grade, 10 credits

This course is a study of life and its organisms. The various forms of life that will be studied include unicellular organisms through complex organisms. Major topics include: plants, viruses, bacteria, protozoans, fungi, and invertebrate animals, as well as their reproduction & development. Labs cover most of the major topics. Labs range from experiments to field work to creating models. A journal of biological examples will be kept by each student. This class is an elective course. Several field trips are included in this class.

CHEMISTRY

11th Grade, 10 credits

This course is a study of elementary chemistry. Major topics of this course include: Matter, energy, atomic structure, ionic compounds, covalent compounds, chemical equations, changes in matter, gas laws, solutions, chemical equilibrium, acids and bases, reaction rates, and nuclear chemistry. In addition, students will get a strong understanding of the periodic table and how to use it. Labs are used to enhance concepts in Chemistry.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

11-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course involves the study of the human body, the eleven body systems, and how they function. The course will begin with an introduction to cell biology and will then take a detailed investigation of the body systems. The dissection of animals is expected

of all students. A detailed examination of these structures adequately prepares the student for further studies in the field of health, nursing, and medicine. Labs include animal dissection, hands-on materials, and tissue observations. This class is elective, and only juniors/seniors with a high proficiency in science may take this course. Teacher's permission is required to take this class.

Social Studies Courses

WORLD HISTORY

10th Grade, 10 credits

This course examines World History from Early Civilization to the modern era. It explores connections made between people and how these connections have driven the course of history. Likewise, it examines key players in history, but also evaluates minority groups and how their lives were affected. It provides general knowledge on the development of nations in all areas, political, economic, social, and cultural.

US HISTORY

11th Grade, 10 credits

This course examines U.S. History from Early American history through the late 20th Century. It explores connections made between people and how these connections have driven the course of U.S. history. Likewise, it examines key players in American history, but also evaluates minority groups and how their lives were affected. It provides general knowledge on the United States in all areas – political, economic, social, and cultural.

GOVERNMENT

12th Grade, 10 credits

This course examines U.S. History from Early American history through the late 20th Century. It explores connections made between people and how these connections have driven the course of U.S. history. Likewise, it examines key players in American history, but also evaluates minority groups and how their lives were affected. It provides general knowledge on the United States in all areas – political, economic, social, and cultural.

ECONOMICS

12th Grade, 5 credits, 1 semester

This course examines World History from Early Civilization to the modern era. It explores connections made between people and how these connections have driven the course of history. Likewise, it examines key players in history, but also evaluates minority groups and how their lives were affected. It provides general knowledge on the development of nations in all areas, political, economic, social, and cultural.

Physical Education Courses

PHYSICAL EDUCATION I

9th Grade, 5 credits, 1 semester

The basic physical education classes are designed to introduce the students to a variety of abilities that can be used throughout their lives. These abilities include physical fitness, team sport skills, and social skills. The students will be able to design and execute their own personalized fitness programs by the completion of class. The students will be introduced to the fundamental skills, rules, and team strategies for (but not limited to) the following sports: flag football, volleyball, basketball, hockey, soccer, and softball. The students will also be introduced to the importance of social skills, including sportsmanship, with application to sports. The importance of being actively involved with some form of physical activity as a lifestyle is strongly emphasized.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION II

10th Grade, 10 credits

A continuation of physical fitness, team sport skills, and social skills.

HEALTH

9th Grade, 5 credits, 1 semester

Health instruction is approached through the concept of wellness. This class is designed to give students an awareness of all aspects of healthful living (mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual), and to enable them to integrate this awareness into their everyday life. The curriculum is designed to demonstrate that students are responsible for their own health. Emphasis is placed to some degree on five dimensions of wellness: stress management, nutritional awareness, physical fitness, personal health and safety, and self-image. Current health issues are discussed regularly.

Modern Language Courses

SPANISH I

11th Grade, 10 credits

This course provides an opportunity to begin to develop proficiency in the four basic skills: Listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Cultural activities are also included in the course content.

SPANISH II

12th Grade, 10 credits

This course is offered as a supervised online class. Students will complete the course through an online program, with a required supervised period on campus to complete the work.

Practical Arts & Technology Courses

COMPUTER AND LIFE LITERACY

9th Grade, 10 credits

This course introduces computer literacy and various life skills. In addition to learning the essentials and fundamentals of Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, & PowerPoint) and G Suite applications (Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, Drive, & Gmail), we will explore best practices in academic success. We will also practice typing skills, learn about household management, and how to live a healthy, balanced lifestyle using biblical principles.

PUBLICATIONS

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

The primary focus of this class is the production of the school yearbook (Syringa). Students will learn skills necessary in the production process including: theme creation, layout, design, computer graphics, journalism, and photography.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)

11-12th Grade, 10 credits

This is a class that is dedicated to learning content in these areas not taught in core classes, but in an integrated, project-based manner, emphasizing teacher-guided, self-directed learning. The class topics include the history of computers, logic gates, Boolean Algebra, circuits, Ohm's Law, soldering, Arduino Codong (modified C# language), Robotics, and more.

Fine Arts Courses

ART I

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

Art I gives students a broad scope of exposure to media and techniques, exploring the visual arts and artists. Emphasis is placed on learning the elements and basics of design and color through drawing and painting creative studio projects. The primary goals are to expand aesthetic awareness, assess and reflect on their own work and others', and develop skills, knowledge, and an appreciation of art as a means of communication and expression.

ART II

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

This course continues to explore the visual arts through personal practice and art history. Creative studio projects emphasize the elements and principles of design with students using a variety of media and techniques. The primary goals are to build an even higher aesthetic awareness and reflect on personal work and the work of others with a trained eye. Students use art to express themselves, communicate, and see their world from literally a new perspective.

AR109 Drawing I (College Credit)

11-12th Grade, 10 credits

This is a beginning drawing course. This course explores basic drawing skills, including exercises in line, shape, space, value/chiaroscuro, and texture. Students will enhance their perception and sighting techniques that lead to more accurate angles and proportions in drawings. Students will be instructed in a variety of drawing media and subject matter. Analytical skills will be strengthened through discussions of composition, creative intent, and critical thinking in the presentation of numerous drawing projects.

CHOIR

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

Choir is a group of mixed voices open to all students committed to studying and performing choral music. Both sacred and secular music suited to the abilities of the members are performed around the Northwest as opportunities arise. Performances include Christmas and Spring Concerts, as well as area church concerts.

CHORALE

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

Chorale is the select choir, a group chosen by audition. Both sacred and secular music that challenges the abilities of the members are performed during the year at a Fall, Christmas, and Spring Concert, as well as area church worship services and music tours within the Northwest and beyond. Students in this group are expected to work hard and prepare their music to a high standard. Chorale has sung for things such as the opening of the Nampa SDA Church's Community Center and the Idaho Steelheads National Anthem.

RIPPLES

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

Ripples is a handbell group open to all students. One does not need to be familiar with music in order to join. One does need to be committed and dedicated to the goals and purpose of this group. The Ripples Choir performs locally and occasionally on a tour.

SOUNDWAVE

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

Soundwave is a select group open by audition only. Advanced sacred and secular music is performed on a 5-octave set of Malmark English Handbells and three octaves of Malmark Handchimes. Each ringer must be dedicated to continuing the excellent reputation of this group as it performs in area churches, civic groups, and on tours throughout the Northwest and beyond.

BAND

9-12th Grade, 10 credits

Band is an instrumental group open to intermediate and advanced students by audition. This group consists of woodwinds, brass, and percussion. Both sacred and secular music suited to the abilities of the members are performed around the Northwest as opportunities arise. Performances include the Christmas and Spring concerts, and area church concerts.