

LINCOLN ACADEMY

8th Grade Course Descriptions

Abbreviations following credit hours indicate High School Graduation Requirement categories.

REQUIRED COURSES

ENGLISH

English 8:

1 credit (E)

This course develops language skills in 4 areas: reading, writing, speaking, and presentation skills. Students will read both fiction and non-fiction and write in a variety of genres. *Students will be expected to purchase their own copy of the novels that will be studied in this class. More information will follow.*

MATH

Applied Math:

1 credit (EL)

Prerequisite: Teacher Signature Required

This course builds on arithmetic calculation, measurements, basic geometry and other foundational concepts and skills. It also includes extensive pre-algebra exercises, preparing the student for upper-level mathematics.

Pre-Algebra:

1 credit (EL)

Prerequisite: Teacher Signature Required

With Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$, students can deepen their understanding of pre-algebraic topics. Algebra $\frac{1}{2}$ includes instruction and enrichment on such topics as compressions, approximating roots, polynomials, advanced graphing, basic trigonometry, and more. *This class does not give CORE math credit for 9th graders.*

Algebra I:

1 credit (EM)

Prerequisite: Teacher Signature Required

This course extends students' problem-solving strategies and their abilities to model problems algebraically, numerically, and graphically. Students study the properties of the real number system and use these properties to solve linear equations and inequalities. Students also learn many fundamental principles of geometric figures. Students gain facility with manipulating algebraic expression and equations. As a result of this facility they gain a better conceptual understanding of algebra as a means of representation and as a problem-solving tool.

Geometry:

1 credit (EM/AM)

Prerequisite: Teacher Signature Required

Students completing the Saxon Algebra II text will have studied the equivalent of one year of Geometry. Ample time is spent developing geometric concepts.

Algebra II:

1 credit (EM/AM)

Prerequisite: Teacher Signature Required

Algebra 2 covers all topics that are traditionally covered in second-year algebra as well as a considerable amount of geometry.

Advanced Mathematics:

1 credit (EM/AM) Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Teacher Signature Required

Advanced Mathematics fully integrates topics from algebra, geometry, trigonometry, discrete mathematics, and mathematical analysis. Word problems are developed throughout the problem sets and become progressively more elaborate. With regular practice, students will be able to solve challenging problems such as rate problems and problems involving abstract quantities. Conceptually oriented problems help prepare students for college entrance exams (ACT and SAT).

SCIENCE

Integrated Science 8:

1 credit

This course focuses on the theme of "change". Topics from physical, earth, and life science are integrated to illustrate the concept of change in nature. Students will study chemical and physical changes: changes in force, motion, and energy; and changes in the earth's crust and climate. Hands-on, inquiry-based instruction is used to help students value science as a process for obtaining knowledge based on observable evidence.

SOCIAL STUDIES

United States History:

1 credit

This course will cover historic events from the age of exploration to reconstruction and the western movements. Topics will include, but are not limited to, the age of exploration, colonization, Revolutionary War, national period, constitutional issues, Civil War, reconstruction, and the western movement. The emphasis of this course is on the 18th and 19th centuries.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. Intermediate Fitness 8th:

.5 credit

This course is a sequence of experiences in activities which challenge all ability levels. It focuses on social interaction and cognitive learning as well as skill development.

***P.E. uniform required (cost approximately \$15).*

OTHER CLASSES

Keyboarding:

.5 credit (EL)

8th grade requirement

In this course, the student will master touch operation of a computer keyboard so they won't have to "hunt and peck." Correct techniques including fingering, keystrokes, posture, and the development of reasonable speed and accuracy will be stressed. The student will learn to format simple reports, personal and business letters, and tables. The acquisition of business communication skills will be integrated throughout the course.

Keyboarding is no longer taught at the local high schools. It is a prerequisite, however, for Computer Technology (a requirement for high school graduation), and must be taken in Junior High.