



GENEVA SCHOOL OF BOERNE  
RHETORIC SCHOOL

**COURSE CATALOG 2024 – 2025**

This catalog is intended to aid Geneva Rhetoric School students in their course selections for the 2024-2025 academic year.

**Read the Instructions:** Carefully read the Course Catalog and the registration form before completing the form. Incomplete or incorrectly filled-in forms can delay your registration.

**Don't Panic:** Take your preference selection seriously and then trust God. You may get every first preference, or you may not, so make sure your preferences accurately reflect your desires. No matter what, you will benefit from any elective class you are in.

**Plan Well and Work Hard:** Take advantage of the fact that you are here and don't miss out on opportunities to learn and grow. Get the most out of Geneva while you are here and avoid laziness.

**Class Placement:** Class placement priority is assigned on the following two criteria (listed in the order of importance): 1) merit (based on transcripts, past work, and qualifications) and 2) upper classmen over lower. [Order of submission is not a criterion.] However, some electives necessitate more stringent placement criteria like an application or interview or audition or a combination of these. These are noted in the course description and on the registration form. In any case, all applications for such courses are available in the LR admin and should be **submitted with the registration form**. Do not give the applications to the teachers. They must be submitted to the office along with your registration form. Auditions and interviews will be scheduled after the registration deadline.

COURSE - PREFERENCE REGISTRATION DOES NOT GUARANTEE PLACEMENT IN  
A COURSE OR EVEN THAT A COURSE OFFERING WILL MAKE.

All students and their parents are *welcome* to discuss course offerings and possible tracks with Mrs. Ward, our Academic Advisor, or with Mr. Donnowitz.

This guide is divided into the following sections:

- I. Core Courses
- II. Fine Arts Offerings
- III. Language Offerings
- IV. Science Offering for Grades 11-12
- V. Electives
  - A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Period Elective Block
  - B. 6<sup>th</sup> Period Elective Block
  - C. 7<sup>th</sup> Period Elective Block

## I. CORE COURSES

### 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE CORE COURSES

All students are automatically registered in core classes as listed on the registration forms. All core courses are honors level courses and are listed as such on the student's transcript.

Credit Requirements for 9th Grade: Freshmen must have an 8.0 credit course load minimum. Therefore, students must register for .5 credits (at least one elective) worth of coursework beyond the 7.5 credits of mandatory coursework. Freshmen must choose a minimum of one elective but may take two. Core courses in which freshmen are automatically registered are listed below.

#### Humanities I

**History: Ancient and Classical:** This course is a study and analysis of history from the earliest civilization through the Roman Empire. (1 credit)

**Literature: Ancient and Classical:** In this course students read, discuss, and analyze classic works of ancient literature. Anticipated works for this course include Homer's *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, Sophocles' *Theban Trilogy*, and Virgil's *Aeneid*. (1 credit)

**Geometry:** Students in this course will learn to apply geometric concepts, to develop the skills of logical thinking, deductive proofs, and reasoning through the examination and use of geometric postulates and theorems, and to use algebraic methods to determine missing measurements and quantities for constructed and real-world applications. (1 credit)

**Biology:** Emphasis is placed on analytical reading, writing, and modeling biological processes. Students conduct laboratory investigations while using scientific practices to make informed decisions. Students use critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students also study a variety of topics that include structures and functions of cells, cellular energy, cellular division, genetics, homeostasis, ecosystems, and energy transfer in living organisms. This course also reviews and investigates issues of creation and biological evolution. (1 credit)

**Classical Writing I:** In helping to develop the logical and rhetorical structures of the mind, this course marks the continuation of the *progymnasmata* writing program of Logic School (the "before exercises" of rhetoric). In addition to practicing the Final Draft phase of the writing process, students will work on developing memory and delivery skills with oral presentations and Variation Exercises. (.5 credit)

**Bible Interpretation:** This course is the first required course in the theology sequence of the Rhetoric School curriculum. This course continues students' biblical and theological development by training students to properly interpret and apply the truth of Scripture to a modern context. (.5 credit)

**Foreign Language:** -- See the specific language requirements listed in Section III. (1 credit)

**Fine Arts:** All students in ninth grade must take a fine arts class (fine arts class descriptions are provided in Section II). (1 credit)

## 10<sup>th</sup> GRADE CORE COURSES

All students are automatically registered in core classes as listed on the registration forms. All core courses are honors level courses and are listed as such on the student's transcript.

**Credit Requirements for 10th Grade:** Sophomores must have an 8.0 credit course load minimum. Therefore, students must register for 1 credit worth of coursework beyond the 7.0 credits of mandatory coursework. Core courses in which sophomores are automatically registered are listed below.

### Humanities II

**History: Medieval to Early Renaissance:** The purpose of this course is to examine the foundation of Medieval Europe between the end of classical antiquity and the year 1500 and also to explore the beginnings of the Renaissance. (1 credit)

**Literature: Medieval to Early Renaissance:** Students in this course read works of literature from Medieval Europe through the Renaissance. Anticipated works to be studied include Boethius' *Consolation of Philosophy*, *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain & the Green Knight*, Dante's *Inferno*, and Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. (1 credit)

**Algebra II:** Algebra II is the cornerstone for higher level mathematics. In this course, graphing of various functions including linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and polynomial is emphasized. (1 credit)

**Chemistry:** This course includes the study of the basic principles of inorganic chemistry. It will explore the make-up of God's world by recognizing the amazing composition, organization and function of atoms, molecules and chemical compounds surrounding us, and understanding how these interactions, plus the energy involved, drive His universe. (1 credit)

**Classical Writing II:** In the final stages of the *progymnasmata* (the "before exercises" of rhetoric), students will further develop skills that are necessary to communicate effectively through written and oral composition. It directly prepares them for Rhetoric. (.5 credit).

**Pauline Ethics:** This course will read the Pauline epistles (especially Galatians) in order to understand Paul in his time and cultural context. This foundation will then lead to discussions concerning practical applications for our current cultural context and prevailing cultural norms. (.5 credit)

**Foreign Language:** -- See the specific language requirements listed in Section III. (1 credit)

**Fine Arts:** All students in tenth grade must take a fine arts class (fine arts class descriptions are provided in Section II). (1 credit)

## 11<sup>th</sup> GRADE CORE COURSES

All students are automatically registered in core classes as listed on the registration forms. All core courses are honors level courses and are listed as such on the student's transcript.

**Credit Requirements for 11th Grade:** Juniors are required to take three courses beyond their mandatory course load. Students taking Foreign Language are only required to take two additional courses. Since credit values differ depending on the course, Juniors who complete their core courses along with three additional courses meet the minimum credits required for Junior year. Core courses in which juniors are automatically registered are listed below.

### Humanities III

**History: Renaissance to Early Modern:** Students in this course will learn to evaluate and critically respond to the art, science, philosophy, and politics of the western world from the time of the reformation to the aftermath of World War I. (1 credit)

**Literature: Renaissance to Early Modern:** This course focuses on the great works of English literature from the Renaissance to the Modern period. Students in this course will read, mark, and discuss Milton's *Paradise Lost*, Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Shelly's *Frankenstein*, Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, as well as selected poetry. (1 credit)

**Pre-Calculus:** Pre-Calculus is intended to provide the mathematical background necessary for calculus. Concepts are explored from an algebraic, graphical, and numerical perspective. (1 credit)

**Science:** Students in 11th grade must take at least one science course. 11th grade science options are described later in this guide in Section II.

**Classical Rhetoric:** With the preliminary exercises of rhetoric (*progymnasmata*) having been completed, this course is an in-depth study of classical rhetoric itself: the art of persuasive writing and public speaking. Students will learn to analyze sources critically, formulate sound arguments in defense of their claims, and persuasively articulate their arguments in written and spoken word. The course serves as a bridge to Senior Thesis. (.5 credit)

**World Religions and Christian Theology:** Students will be introduced to the core beliefs and practices of major religious traditions across the world, followed by a detailed discussion of how they compare to Christian belief and practice. The objective of this course is to foster students' understanding of and engagement with the Church's mission in the world. (.5 credit)

## 12<sup>th</sup> GRADE CORE COURSES

All students are automatically registered in core classes as listed on the registration forms. All core courses are honors level courses and are listed as such on the student's transcript.

**Credit Requirements for 12th Grade:** Seniors must have a 5.5 credit course load minimum. Therefore, students must choose, at a minimum, 2.0 credits worth of coursework beyond the 3.5 credits of mandatory coursework. Core courses in which seniors are automatically registered are listed below.

### Humanities IV

**History: United States:** This course will invite students to engage and examine the story of America. In doing so we hope to inform and deepen students' sense of the land we live in, and to equip students for the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. Students will discuss themes such technological advancement, imperialism, warfare, human rights, etc. as we study the American Story. (1 credit)

**Literature: United States:** Students in this course will study various works of American literature including but not limited to Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter*, Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*. Students will be engaged in what these works teach us about living as followers of Jesus Christ in a diverse and changing world. (1 credit)

**Senior Thesis:** Senior Thesis at Geneva is the culminating work of a student's progression through Grammar, Logic and Rhetoric. This class is a year-round effort that develops and applies the skills of thinking critically, writing thoughtfully, and presenting winsomely to result in an excellent persuasive argument on the topic of the student's choosing. Students will start with a focus on scholarly research and argument development, progress to writing a composed paper, and finish with intensive memorization. By the end of the school year, each student will walk away having written a 15 page academic thesis, having presented and defended a 20 minute rhetorical argument, and having accomplished something truly worthwhile. (1 credit)

**Christian Apologetics:** Students will be introduced to issues that have historically presented challenges to Christian faith and discipleship. They will learn how to respond to these issues with truth, love, and humility. (.5 credit)

## II. FINE ARTS OFFERINGS

All 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Graders must participate in a Fine Art. All students are encouraged to continue in the same Fine Art throughout all four years of Rhetoric School. All 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Graders will be automatically placed in the same Fine Art as last year. Students new to Geneva or those interested in requesting a change to their Fine Arts should contact our Fine Arts Director, Mrs. Evans. Changes are limited based on availability, and lessons will be required if transitioning to a new instrument.

**For each off-campus competition or event, a travel fee will be collected at the time the event is announced. This fee will cover travel and lodging for the individual competition or event.**

All Fine Arts earn 1 fine arts credit.

**Art:** The goal of our art classes is to create works of beauty that reflect the Creator. Drawing skills are a major focus and accurate “seeing” and drawing from life and copying Master drawings are taught. In addition to working with a variety of drawing media, students will also study painting using watercolor and acrylic. All students are required to purchase and maintain a weekly sketchbook journal. Introductory students create a variety of projects, learning specific content and techniques with a variety of media. All students must successfully complete Introductory Art before they qualify for Advanced Art which is an independent studies class where students create individual projects.

**Band:** The purpose of band is to glorify God by playing skillfully and to support our school. Students will be assessed based on their performance and will be required to perform at football games and other designated sporting events, and play in several concerts (Christmas, Benefit, etc.). Rhetoric students will participate in TAPPS Instrumental Competitions. Some instruments are available to rent from school, otherwise students provide and maintain their own instruments.

**Classical Guitar:** The classical guitar class at Geneva is three-pronged: we emphasize the ability to read music, develop advanced playing technique, and develop advanced artistic thought processes. These goals are achieved through learned musical pieces, performances, and music theory. Some time is devoted to special projects designed to allow the students to express their artistic thoughts. Students will participate in the Christmas Program, TAPPS competition, and the Benefit. The student should be aware this class is music-reading intensive. Prerequisite: some previous guitar instruction/experience. Students should have a classical guitar and footstool.

**Orchestra:** Orchestra’s focus is on glorifying God through performance and study. This class is for intermediate to advanced students. Students must maintain their own instruments. Students will play a variety of musical styles and participate in several concerts as well as prepare for competition in TAPPS. Students will study music history and music theory as it pertains to their craft.

**Vocal Music:** Vocal music class offers students the opportunity to study music through singing. The main objective for the student is to grow in his or her musical appreciation and ability. The student will gain a better understanding of the repertoire, of his or her own vocal range, of music theory, of sight singing, and of performance techniques. Preparation for TAPPS Competition is also part of the class.

### III. LANGUAGE OFFERINGS

All graduates must complete at least one year of high school level Latin. Students who complete 8th grade Latin at Geneva have earned the required 1 credit of Latin, equivalent to high school level Latin 1.

Additionally, all graduates must also complete at least three years of high school level instruction in any one foreign language (Latin 1, 2, and 3 or Spanish 1, 2, and 3). Optional AP course offerings are available for both Latin and Spanish after the completion of Level 3. These advanced AP courses also carry a GPA enhancement.

Students who transfer to Geneva without a Latin 1 credit must take Latin 1 through an approved online course. See the Academic Advisor for approved programs.

All languages earn 1 language credit.

Freshmen must choose between the following:

**Latin 2:** Pre-requisite of passing grade in Latin 1

**Spanish 1:** Beginning Spanish with no pre-requisite

Sophomores must choose between the following:

**Latin 3:** Pre-requisite of passing grade in Latin 2

**Spanish 2:** Pre-requisite of passing grade in Spanish 1

Juniors can choose between the following:

**Spanish 3:** Pre-requisite of passing grade in Spanish 2.

**AP Latin:** Pre-requisite of a recommendation from your Latin 3 instructor. This is a rigorous curriculum equivalent to a year-long intermediate college Latin course, ending with the AP Latin exam. (1 language credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

Seniors can choose between the following:

**AP Latin:** Pre-requisite of a recommendation from your Latin 3 instructor. This is a rigorous curriculum equivalent to a year-long intermediate college Latin course, ending with the AP Latin exam. (1 language credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**AP Spanish Language and Culture:** Pre-requisite of a recommendation from the Spanish 3 instructor. This is a rigorous curriculum equivalent to a year-long intermediate college Spanish course, ending with the AP Spanish exam. (1 language credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

#### IV. 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> SCIENCE OFFERINGS

Students must have 4 credits of science in order to graduate, two of which are Biology and Chemistry. 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who took 8<sup>th</sup> grade science at GSB have a Conceptual Physics credit in addition to Biology (9<sup>th</sup> grade) and Chemistry (10<sup>th</sup> grade). Depending on future pursuits, students are encouraged to earn science credits beyond the minimum. 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders may take “Dual Science” by choosing a science from more than one block.

**Anatomy I and II** will be offered on a rotating basis. Anatomy is an excellent class for novice scientists and those pursuing additional training in a health-related field. Anatomy I and II can be taken as independent courses or together in either order.

**Anatomy and Physiology I** (offered for 2024-25): Essential principles of human anatomy and physiology are presented with a focus on the structure and function of the human body and mechanisms for maintaining homeostasis within it. Included in this course will be the study of body orientation, cells and tissues, and an overview of the integumentary, digestive, urinary, cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous, and reproductive systems. Students taking this course will also complete a unit on fetal development. This is a lab-based course that includes dissection of a fetal pig. This class will contain case studies to highlight the selected systems. (1 science credit)

**Anatomy and Physiology II** (offered for 2025-26): Essential principles of human anatomy and physiology are presented with a focus on the structure and function of the human body and mechanisms for maintaining homeostasis. The course will begin with an introduction to the study of muscle, bone, and cells, and body’s response to trauma to include heat/cold exposure, dehydration, and inflammation. Systems of study will include musculoskeletal, endocrine, blood and lymph, and immune. Anatomy II will also include the study of communicable diseases and nutrition. This is a lab-based course that includes the construction of a mannequin that displays major muscles, and case studies to highlight the selected systems. (1 science credit)

**Note.** Anatomy can be selected as a science credit from the corresponding Elective Block.

**AP Biology:** AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. This course follows the College Board Advanced Placement guidelines in preparation for the AP exam through which students may receive college credit. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. Topics include biological molecules, cells, heredity, evolution, organisms, plants, and populations. Laboratory and field experience are vital components of this course. Pre-requisites: Biology and Chemistry. (1 science credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**AP Chemistry:** AP Chemistry is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. This course follows the College Board Advanced Placement guidelines in preparation for the AP exam through which students may receive college credit. The importance of the basic aspects of chemistry has brought about a need for an increasing emphasis on concepts beyond the content of the general chemistry course. In AP Chemistry, topics such as the structure of matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics, and the concepts of thermodynamics are presented in considerable depth. Challenging laboratory experiments are an



integral and exciting part of this course offering. Pre-requisites: Algebra 2 and Chemistry. (1 science credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**AP Physics 1:** This is an algebra-based introductory college-level physics course. The course explores Newtonian physics (kinematics, forces, dynamics, energy, momentum, rotation, simple harmonic motion, and mechanical waves) along with an introduction to electrostatics and circuitry. The course stresses inquiry-based learning to develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. To be prepared for such classes, reading, and listening to various lectures and demonstrations is required. Pre-requisite: Pre-Calculus; however, juniors with strong Algebra skills can succeed while taking Pre-Cal. (1 science credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**Physics:** This physics course is offered for those intrigued by the physical world. The course begins with a general introduction to physics and scientific processes. Mechanics is a large part of physics which includes motion and Newton's laws. After mechanics, the students will move through thermodynamics, waves, and sound, and light and optics. Electricity and magnetism and nuclear physics complete the course. This course is algebra-based and consists of demos and labs. (1 science credit)

**Note.** Physics can be selected as a science credit from the corresponding Elective Block.

## V. ELECTIVES

### A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Period Elective Block (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> only)

**Band:** The purpose of band is to glorify God by playing skillfully and to support our school. Students will be assessed based on their performance and will be required to perform at football games and designated basketball games, and play in several concerts (Christmas, Benefit, etc.). Rhetoric students will participate in TAPPS Instrumental Competitions. Some instruments are available to rent from school, otherwise students provide and maintain their own instruments.

**Classical Guitar:** The focal point of the classical guitar class at Geneva is three-pronged: we seek to emphasize the ability to read music, develop advanced playing techniques, and develop advanced artistic thought processes. These goals are achieved through learned musical pieces, performances, and music theory. Some time is devoted to special projects designed to allow the students to express their artistic thoughts. Students will participate in the Christmas Program, TAPPS competition, and the Benefit. The student should be aware this class is music-reading intensive. Prerequisite: some previous guitar instruction/experience. Students should have a classical guitar and footstool.

**Orchestra:** Orchestra's focus is on glorifying God through performance and study. This class is for intermediate to advanced students. Students must maintain their own instruments. Students will play a variety of musical styles and participate in several concerts as well as prepare for competition in TAPPS. Students will study music history and music theory as it pertains to their craft.

**Vocal Music:** Vocal music class offers students the opportunity to study music through singing. The main objective for the student is to grow in his or her musical appreciation and ability. The student will gain a better understanding of the repertoire, of his or her own vocal range, of music theory, of sight singing, and of performance techniques. Preparation for TAPPS Competition is also part of the class.

**AP United States Government and Politics:** This curriculum covers all of the material outlined by the College Board as necessary to prepare students to pass the AP U.S. Government and Politics exam. Students learn what the government does, why it does it, and what they can do to change it. Students analyze primary texts dating from the United States' founding to today and read a contemporary Political Science textbook. This course focuses on the modern structure of government and does not study the history of American politics or wade into modern political controversies. (.5 elective credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**B. 6<sup>th</sup> Period Elective Block** (See course registration for grade level eligibility.)

**Advanced Art:** The goal of our art classes is to create works of beauty that reflect the Creator. Drawing skills are a major focus and accurate “seeing” and drawing from life and copying Master drawings are taught. In addition to working with a variety of drawing media, students will also study painting using watercolor and acrylic. Advanced students will also be introduced to oil painting. At least one piece of 3D art will also be created. All Advanced Art students are required to purchase and maintain a weekly sketchbook journal and are expected to enter work in TAPPS competition. All students must successfully complete Introductory Art before they qualify for Advanced Art which is an independent studies class where students create individual projects. Prerequisite: Beginning Art (1 Fine Art Credit)

**AP Computer Science A:** The AP Computer Science A course teaches students the fundamentals of computer science and programming, focusing on topics such as data structures, algorithms, and object-oriented programming using the Java language. Through hands-on projects, students learn problem-solving and critical thinking skills, and prepare for the AP Computer Science A exam. This course is a great way to gain skills and knowledge for future careers and college majors in computer science. (1 elective credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**AP United States Government and Politics:** This curriculum covers all of the material outlined by the College Board as necessary to prepare students to pass the AP U.S. Government and Politics exam. Students learn what the government does, why it does it, and what they can do to change it. Students analyze primary texts dating from the United States’ founding to today and read a contemporary Political Science textbook. This course focuses on the modern structure of government and does not study the history of American politics or wade into modern political controversies. (.5 elective credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**Audio Engineering:** This class teaches a basic understanding of electricity and acoustical physics. The student should expect to work ‘labs’ in which classroom study is put into use at various events throughout the school year. Examples of these events are Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric assemblies, Fine Arts Concerts, Theater Performances (plays and musicals), Eaglefest, Christmas Programs, Benefit, etc. Your performance at these events will be graded. Space is limited due to the nature of the class. For this limited-availability class, selection is determined based on a written application (available in the admin) and possible interview. (.5 elective credit)

**Dual Credit English:** See details in Senior Electives section of this guide. (1 science credit)

**Intro to Creative Writing: Tell It Slant:** American poet Emily Dickinson once wrote, “Tell all the truth but tell it slant.” In this course, we will take a survey of the most common types of creative writing, including poetry, song writing, devotional, short story, and more. We will read and discuss examples of each genre and then try our hand at writing our own works. As a community of writers, we will have opportunities to share our work and encourage each other as we explore the beauty and power of words. (.5 elective credit)

**Intro to Koine Greek:** This course is designed to give students an introduction to biblical Greek so that they can pursue New Testament translation. Though a language, this course does not count as a language credit because it is for personal enrichment in New Testament studies and does not require the same level of rigor needed in required language courses. (.5 elective credit)

**Intro to Philosophy: Escaping the Cave:** In this course we will read and discuss the works of some of the greatest philosophers from ancient to modern times and engage them in addressing some of the biggest question that every age has wrestled with. We will explore topics like the nature of God and man, government, ethics, and others. We will also look at how these ideas connect to our current culture by studying contemporary literature, film, art, and media to discover how our own age is asking and answering these timeless, yet timely questions today.

**Magazine:** Students will be a part of creating a unique piece of Geneva history, all for the glory of God and to honor our school. Students will produce a four issues of the *Geneva Quarterly*, one issue of *The Calliope*, and assist in creating *The Eaglet's Quill*. Each student will be required to write for each issue and will also find themselves in a specific role including design/layout (using InDesign), editorial, and photography. There will be deadlines set in place to ensure proper production of the four issues of GQ. We welcome 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, but space is limited. Class meets three times per week and editors will meet during a bonus period on Mondays. Outside work will be necessary to ensure completion of each issue in a timely manner. *Geneva Quarterly* members will attend summer camp from June 21-24 in Dallas, Texas. Selection based on a written application and in-person interview. Recommendations from prior teachers may be requested. (1 elective credit with .5 AP course GPA enhancement for upperclassmen appointed as editors)

**Musicology:** Musicology is defined as the study of music. Geneva's musicology course will give students the opportunity to study music history and styles of music, music theory and music composition. Music theory, one of the seven liberal arts of the Middle Ages, is the study of the relationships between musical harmonies. The main objective for the student is not just to interpret music--that is the task of the performer—but to communicate musically: to develop a modicum of fluency in the language of music. (.5 elective credit)

**Personal Finance:** A biblical and practical look at God's provision of financial resources and management and planning in personal financial decisions. This course utilizes the Next Gen Personal Finance (NGPF) materials and students participate in a Budget Challenge 10-week simulation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. The five personal finance areas center around how we: live (behavioral economics, works, banking, expenses, budgeting, insurance, career, college planning) give (stewardship and philanthropy), owe (managing debt and taxes), and grow (savings and investment). Students will also read and discuss a short book on building financial planning habits surrounding their first job post college/high school. (.5 elective credit)

**Physics:** See details in the Science Offerings section of this guide. (1 science credit)

**Tolkien & Lewis: Christian Mythmakers:** Students will explore the lives and writings of J. R. R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis, two of the most influential Christian writers of the 20th century. Study, discussion, and creative participation will each play an important part as we search out the influences of Tolkien and Lewis, and delve deeply into their beliefs about God, art, heaven, and a good cup of tea. Students may take this course twice in successive years. (.5 elective credit)

**Worldview Forum: Christ and Culture:** Students taking this course will be introduced to both historic and contemporary literature as they consider the big questions of life. Primarily through an environment of open and purposeful discussion, students will be encouraged and challenged to think about what it means to be strong leaders for Christ in an ever-changing culture. (.5 elective credit)

**C. 7<sup>th</sup> Period Elective Block** (See course registration for grade level eligibility.)

**Advanced Art:** See details in the Elective Block 2 section of this guide. Prerequisite: Beginning Art (1 Fine Art Credit)

**Anatomy and Physiology I:** See details in the Science Offerings section of this guide. (1 science credit)

**AP Music Theory:** Students interested in AP Music Theory may read the “Music Theory” entry (above) for a general introduction to the nature of this course. However, being an AP course, the level of commitment and involvement is ramped up considerably in order to meet the College Board Advanced Placement guidelines. This course also serves as preparation for the AP exam through which students may receive college credit. (1 elective credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**Chamber Orchestra:** This class will explore challenging repertoire, chamber music and will have performance opportunities which include being a member of the pit for the musical. Students who plan on auditioning for region orchestra are encouraged to sign up for this class. An interview with Mrs. Gachupin is required. This class is in addition to, not a substitute for, required fine arts credits for grades 9 and 10. (.5 elective credit)

**Experiencing the Christian Traditions:** Students will learn more about the major traditions/expressions of modern Christianity including Catholicism, Orthodoxy, and Protestantism in conversation with the book of Acts. This course will explore issues such as church structure, Sacraments, and spiritual disciplines (both corporate and individual), and global demographics and mission in relation to these modern Christian traditions. This course is highly experiential and will encourage an openness to experiencing and discussing the spiritual disciplines practiced by the world’s Christians such as iconography, practicing the presence of God, and much more!

**Cinema Arts:** Students will study the power of story, analyzing its principles and its form and how God uses us to tell His story. Students will study the history of cinema and the cinema great as well as how to analyze film, write and develop screenplays, and build basic skills in filmmaking. One of the primary functions is to produce films for the TAPPS short film competition and carry out special projects for the greater Geneva community. This class will require time outside of the classroom and the occasional Saturday and/or night shoot. Because of the competitive and time-consuming nature of this limited availability class, selection is determined based on a written application (available in the admin) and an interview. (1 elective credit with .5 AP course GPA enhancement for upperclassmen appointed to executive roles)

**Debate:** All debate classes meet together but differ in their level of required commitment.

**Introduction to Debate:** This elective is open to students who have not taken a competitive debate class before and is designed to introduce novice debaters to competitive argument. Students in this course will be competing in a minimum of 2 weekend tournaments in the San Antonio area (tournament fees apply). Students will work with their coach and debate partner to schedule those events. Attendance at the Geneva Novice Debate Camp in early August is

required (these are coordinated with athletics schedules). Prospective students may be required to interview with one of the debate coaches. (.5 elective credit)

**Competitive Debate:** This full credit elective is open to students in 10th grade and above who wish to make a serious commitment to the Geneva Debate Team. Competitive Debate students are required to compete at a minimum of 4 weekend tournaments. Students who qualify for the Texas State Tournament will earn Advanced classification, letter in debate and are required to attend the state tournament (tournament fees apply). Qualifying for the state tournament generally requires participation in at least 6 tournaments. Permission from one of the Geneva debate coaches and a possible interview are required for this class. This class is easily coordinated with spring sports and can be coordinated with either fall or winter sports but not both. Team members are required to help host the Novie Debate Camp for incoming students. (1 elective credit with .5 AP course GPA enhancement for students earning Advanced classification)

**Introduction to Computer Science:** This course introduces students to the foundations of computing, computer science and programming. The course focuses on topics such as the Internet, computer hardware, problem-solving, algorithms, data analysis, and the impact of technology on society. Students will develop their own programs and projects using a variety of programming languages and tools and will also engage in critical thinking and creative problem-solving activities. The course is designed to be accessible to students of all backgrounds and experience levels, with no prior computer science experience required. (.5 elective credit)

**Jazz Ensemble:** This class is for those students interested in Jazz Ensemble. All registrations must be approved by the band director and may involve an audition. This class is in addition to, not a substitute for, required fine arts credits for grades 9 and 10. (.5 elective credit)

**Personal Finance and Economics:** See details in the Elective Block 2 section of this guide. (.5 Credit)

**Yearbook:** Students will be a part of creating a unique piece of Geneva history, all for the glory of God and to honor our school. Students will have specific roles including design (using InDesign), photography, copy writing, sales, and social media and will be required to meet strict deadlines with excellence. The goal will be to produce another award-winning yearbook, showcasing our beloved K-Prep-12<sup>th</sup> grade yearbook. We welcome 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, but space is limited. Class meets three times per week and editors will meet during a bonus period on Mondays. Outside work is **imperative** for completion of this book. We are also requesting all *Boardwalk* members to attend summer camp from June 21-24 in Dallas, Texas. Selection for this class will be based on a written application plus an in-person interview. Recommendations from prior teachers may be requested. (1 elective credit with .5 AP course GPA enhancement for upperclassmen appointed as editors)

## D. SENIOR ELECTIVES

**AP Calculus AB:** This curriculum covers all of the material outlined by the College Board as necessary to prepare students to pass the AP Calculus AB exam. This course is divided into two semesters and is designed to acquaint students with calculus principles such as derivatives, integrals, limits, approximation, and applications and modeling. During this course students will gain experience in the use of calculus methods and learn how calculus methods may be applied to practical applications. Pre-requisite: Pre-Calculus and an interview. (1 math credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**Note:** Registering for both AP Calculus and AP Statistics may be possible for some seniors, though not all schedules can accommodate the load.

**AP Latin:** See details in the Language Offerings section of this guide. (1 foreign language credit)

**AP Spanish Language and Culture:** See details in Language Offerings section of this guide. (1 foreign language credit)

**AP Statistics:** This curriculum covers all of the material outlined by the College Board as necessary to prepare students to pass the AP Statistics exam. Statistics is the science of learning from data (numbers with a context). As the textbook indicates, “A solid understanding of statistics will enable you to make sound, data-based decisions in your career and everyday life.” Pre-requisite: Algebra II. (1 math credit with AP course GPA enhancement)

**UTSA Dual Credit English:** Students in 12th grade can earn 6 hours of college credit (2 courses equivalent to Freshman Composition 1 and 2) that fulfills most colleges’ freshman English requirements. These courses are standard across most college curricula and are thus usually accepted as transfer credits if the student’s grade is not deficient. Called the “Geneva Scholars Program,” this requires admission to UTSA and paying tuition to UTSA above the Geneva tuition. In addition to registering with Geneva, interested students must meet with Mrs. Ward to discuss UTSA admission details. These classes (Comp 1 Fall semester; Comp 2 Spring semester) are heavy in written rhetoric and will meet on the Geneva campus. Pre-requisite: admission to the program via admission to UTSA. Note: This is an elective offering and does not replace the Geneva 12th grade humanities requirement. (1 GSB language arts credit with AP course GPA enhancement and 6 hours of college credits)