

Junior High Curriculum Catalog 2026



Learning & Living for the Glory of God

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Completion Requirements:

To matriculate into Zion Christian High School, students must have earned a minimum of twelve course credits in grades seven and eight combined (students transferring to Zion Christian School in grade eight must have earned five and one half credits in grade eight). Courses meeting five days per week earn 0.5 credits per semester, while courses meeting fewer days per week are adjusted according to the number of meeting days. For example, courses meeting three days per week earn 0.3 credits per semester, while courses meeting 2 days per week earn 0.2 credits per semester (exceptions may be made from time to time due to the level of work required outside the classroom). Based upon these credit values, a junior high student will typically attempt a total of 13.4 course credits in their seventh and eighth grade years.

Required Courses -- 7th Grade

Bible:	Old Testament	2 semesters
English:	7 English Language Arts	2 semesters
Math:	Course 2 or Course 3	2 semesters
Science:	Life Science	2 semesters
Social Studies:	7 Social Studies	2 semesters
The Arts:	Junior High Choir	2 semesters (2 days per week)
Physical Education:	Junior High PE	2 semesters (2 days per week)
Business:	Computers A	1 semester (3 days per week)

Required Courses -- 8th Grade

Bible:	New Testament	2 semesters
English:	8 English Language Arts	2 semesters
Math:	Course 3 or Algebra I*	2 semesters
Science:	Earth Science	2 semesters
Social Studies:	8 Social Studies	2 semesters
The Arts:	Junior High Choir	2 semesters (2 days per week)
Physical Education:	Junior High PE	2 semesters (2 days per week)
Business:	Computers A or B	1 semester (3 days per week)

* Students receive high school credit for Algebra I.

Junior High Electives

English:	Composition	2 semesters (3 days per week)
The Arts:	Junior High Band	2 semesters (3 days per week)
The Arts:	Junior High Industrial Arts	2 semesters (3 days per week)
The Arts:	Junior High Art	2 semesters (3 days per week)

Bible Courses

New Testament (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
8	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This New Testament course seeks to provide an overview of the basic information concerning the geographical, historical and literary background of the New Testament scriptures in order to equip the student to rightly use, interpret, and defend these scriptures for their doctrine and life. With a specific emphasis on the life and ministry of Christ and the apostles, students will learn why Jesus lived, died, and rose and how He intends His Church to function as seen in the early church.

Old Testament (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This Old Testament course seeks to provide an overview of the basic information concerning the geographical, historical, and literary background of the Old Testament scriptures. In order to defend the importance of the Old Testament, students will be shown how the entire Bible is connected and fulfilled in Christ. Students will be better equipped to rightly use, interpret, and defend these scriptures for their doctrine and life.

Business Courses

Computers A (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 (occasionally 8)	0.3	1 semester (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This computer course seeks to provide an introduction to word processing and presentation software using Google docs and Google slides. Students will learn generally how to edit and format as well as specifically layout outlines and personal letters and develop presentations. Students will practice keyboarding skills especially focusing on the letter keys.

Computers B (required)

Prerequisite:	Computers A	
Grade Level	Credit	Length
8	0.3	1 semester (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This computer course seeks to develop the students' use of application software, specifically using word processing and spreadsheet software. Students will learn how to format reports with endnotes and table of contents, create newsletters, and generate simple spreadsheets with formulas and functions. Students will practice keyboarding skills especially focusing on the number and symbol keys.

English Language Arts Courses

7th Grade English Language Arts (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This language arts course seeks to introduce various genres of literature, as well as the literary elements of fiction. It will enable students to utilize their language arts skills in an integrated fashion. Students will practice grammar concepts and apply them to their own writing. Students will utilize writing techniques as taught through our writing curriculum (IEW) and will be encouraged to write thoughtfully and creatively through that framework. The analysis and discernment of language is actively undertaken through assignments and classroom discussion.

8th Grade English Language Arts (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
8	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This language arts course seeks to build on students' knowledge of various genres of literature and the literary elements of fiction. It will enable students to utilize their language arts skills in an integrated fashion. Students will practice grammar concepts and apply them to their own writing. Students will begin to identify literary elements in prose and poetry. Students will utilize writing techniques as taught through our writing curriculum (IEW) and will be encouraged to write thoughtfully and creatively through that framework. The analysis and discernment of language is actively undertaken through assignments and classroom discussion.

Creative Writing (elective)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	0.3	1 semester (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This course seeks to build students' creative writing skills in several fiction genres. For each writing assignment, the student will be guided through the writing process to best use their writing gifts successfully. The current writing curriculum (IEW) helps create the framework for the students to write well and successfully. Students will also learn to comply with the guidelines of the Modern Language Association (MLA) in all the writing they produce.

Report Writing (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
8	0.3	1 semester (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This course seeks to build students' skills in planning, researching and writing various types of nonfiction. For each writing assignment, the student will be guided through the writing process to best use their writing gifts successfully. The current writing curriculum (IEW) helps create the framework for the students to write well and successfully. Students will also learn to comply with the guidelines of the Modern Language Association (MLA) in all the writing they produce.

Mathematics Courses

Course 2 (required: subject to math placement)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
6 & 7	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This course seeks to prepare students for high school level algebra and geometry by exploring how numbers work and relate, what variables are, and equations.

Course 3 / Pre-algebra (required: subject to math placement)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This course seeks to prepare students for algebra and geometry as well as reviewing important mathematical concepts used in daily life such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, measurement, patterns, and statistics.

Science Courses

Earth Science (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
8	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This earth science course introduces concepts of astronomy, meteorology and geology with applications in cosmology and ecology. Students will learn about the fingerprint of God in all He has made from the center of our Earth to the farthest reaches of the known universe. Students will develop an appreciation for God's order and beauty in Creation and gain a better understanding of the composition of the universe and the Earth.

Life Science (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This life science course explores all the wonders of the living world created by our magnificent God. Students will study the basic types of plants and animals with emphasis on structure. Students develop a better appreciation for God as our Creator as well as gaining a better understanding of the nature of science and the scientific method.

Social Studies Courses

7th Grade Social Studies (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This social studies course is the study of people and their relationship to God from the settling of the American colonies through the Civil War. By the end of this course, students should develop an awareness of God's providential hand in the establishment of this country and throughout the course of its history. They should also be able to analyze how Americans have historically adhered to or failed to observe American core democratic values. Students will also be able to interpret common tools of historians such as timelines, graphs, charts, and historical maps, and they will evaluate social, economic, and political systems or philosophies from any era using the Bible.

8th Grade Social Studies (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
8	1	2 semesters

Course Description:

This social studies course is the study of people and their relationship to God from Reconstruction through the administration of the 43rd President of the United States. By the end of this course, students should develop an awareness of God's providential hand in the establishment of this country and throughout the course of its history. They should also be able to analyze how Americans have historically adhered to or failed to observe American core democratic values. Students will also be able to interpret common tools of historians such as timelines, graphs, charts, and historical maps, and they will evaluate social, economic, and political systems or philosophies from any era using the Bible.

The Arts: Fine Arts Courses

Junior High Art (elective)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	0.6	2 semesters (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This visual arts course focuses on students gaining and developing foundation skills while exploring a variety of artistic media. Experience with drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, fibers, sculpture, and clay will help prepare students for high school art. All students are encouraged to develop their God-given talent and express their creative voice.

Junior High Band (elective)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	0.6	2 semesters (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This junior high band course seeks to challenge students to use their musical gifts and talents to glorify God. Students will work together to improve their instrumental skills and to create a classroom attitude of encouragement and edification.

Junior High Choir (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	0.4	2 semesters (2 days per week)

Course Description:

This junior high choir course seeks to challenge students to use their musical gifts and talents to glorify God. Students will work together to improve their choral skills and create a classroom attitude of encouragement and edification.

The Arts: Applied Arts Courses

Junior High Industrial Arts A (elective)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	0.3	1 semesters (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This class is a beginner course that explores the use of basic tools and machines related to woodworking. Students will learn safety. They will practice measuring and project planning as they work on activities and build wood items.

Junior High Industrial Arts B (elective)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	0.3	1 semesters (3 days per week)

Course Description:

This industrial arts course explores the use of basic and advanced tools, machines, and a variety of materials (wood, concrete, plastic). Students will learn safety and be given opportunities to work with different materials to create finished products.

Physical Education

Junior High PE (required)

Grade Level	Credit	Length
7 & 8	0.5	2 semesters (2 days per week)

Course Description:

This physical education seeks to develop multiple aspects of the individual: spiritual, emotional, moral, creative, physical, and social for personal and family life, work life, and in the community. As stated in 1 Corinthians 3:16, we are God's temples and that the Holy Spirit dwells within us. We are all called to honor our heavenly Father by taking care of our physical bodies. Students will be motivated to live a life of independent well-being. Students are encouraged to find a sport or activity that they will want to participate in the rest of their lives. They will gain an understanding about the sports Zion is involved with, in terms of both skill and knowledge. They will also learn teamwork and improve their ability to work with others.