

Covenant Learning Co-op
2024/2025
CLC Course Descriptions

Course Description	Grade Level	Instructor	Student Limit	Time
Early Classes				
Hour 1				
7/6/5 Science—Astronomy/Botany (p. 15)	5 th -7 th	Johnson	15	12:30–1:40
General Science (p. 3)	7 th -9 th	TBD	15	12:30--1:40
Biology (p. 4)	9 th -12 th	Osburn	10	12:30–1:40
Advanced Biology* (p. 5)	11 th -12 th	Sybesma	10	12:30–1:40
Hour 2				
7/6/5 Wellness & Movement (p.16)	5 th -7 th	Fairchild	15	1:45–2:40
Fit for Service (p.6)	7 th -12 th	TBD	10	1:45–2:40
Core Writing (p. 7)	8 th -9 th	Oldenburg	7	1:45–2:40
Competency Writing* (p. 8)	9 th -10 th	Ascolese	10	1:45–2:40
Essay & Research* (p. 9, 10)	11 th -12 th	Dobson	15	1:45--2:40
Hour 3				
7/6/5 Writing Fundamentals (p. 17)	5 th -7 th	Bryant	15	2:45--3:40
Yearbook, 2nd Semester (p. 11)	7 th -12 th	Bontrager	10	2:45–3:40
Spanish 1 (p.12)	8 th -12 th	Fuentes/Nash	12	2:45–3:40
Geography (p. 13)	9 th -12 th	Keres	15	2:45–3:40
Worldviews* (p. 14)	11 th -12 th	Adam	10	2:45–3:40

Prerequisites: Courses designated with an asterisk (*) have a required or recommended prerequisite. Students must qualify to enroll.

Study Hall: A study hall for 7th through 12th grade students may be offered each hour depending upon need and availability of adults to staff the rooms. Please note any study hall requests on the application for enrollment.

Semester Courses: Though it is an option for a family to enroll in a one semester course, every family must commit to a full-year of CLC involvement.

Commitment: Every family must commit to registering for at least two hours of CLC classes each week.

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Regarding textbooks: Families are responsible for securing their own required textbooks for each course. It is feasible to share some textbooks between students in the same family, but workbooks generally may not be shared due to their consumable nature, and that is noted next to each consumable text.

New texts – While there are numerous options for purchasing new textbooks, a recommended source, generally based on the lowest price CLC found for the text, has been shown for each course. The estimated price for a new text is shown behind each ISBN. If a more cost-effective source is found, CLC encourages the sharing of that information through the CLC website.

For some new textbook purchases, there is a distinct savings by ordering as a group. The teacher or other enrolled family may be willing to take orders and make the bulk purchase for that particular course.

Used texts –In many cases purchasing used textbooks is an economical way to acquire the needed resources. Some used textbooks can be purchased through resources such as amazon.com, half.com, ebay.com, or other internet sites. When purchasing used texts, be attentive to the condition of the books and editions you intend to purchase. Additionally, CLC families often are willing to sell textbooks that they have finished using and may post their items for sale on the CLC website. On occasion a CLC family will lend a textbook that they are not using for a particular school year.

The International Standard Book Numbers (ISBNs) have been provided for most textbooks that are required for CLC courses. Always use the ISBN when searching for books (used or new) in order to find the correct edition.

Enrichment Classes:

The following schedule is the expected 2024/2025 class layout for enrichment age students whose ages are nursery to grade 6 and not enrolled in CLC courses. It is always possible that certain unforeseen circumstances may cause the schedule to change.

	Grades 7/6/5	Grades 4/3	Grades 2/1/K	Under 3 years
Hour 1 12:30-1:40	7/6/5 Botany/Astronomy	4/3 PE	FIAR	Nursery
Hour 2 1:45-2:40	7/6/5 Wellness & Movement	4/3 Botany/Astronomy	Science	Nursery
Hour 3 2:45-3:40	7/6/5 Writing Fundamentals	4/3 Geography/Art	PE	Nursery

See pages 15-17 for important Enrichment Classes.

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General Science

Time: Hour 1 (12:40-1:40)

Level: 7th– 9th

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: TBD

Required costs: Course fee \$10

Lab fee \$15 (includes \$5 durable equipment fee)

Required Texts: *Exploring Creation with General Science, 3rd Ed.* ISBN 9781946506573 \$69.60 and
Solutions Manual 3rd Ed. (Tests, Answer key for Tests & Study Guides) ISBN 9781946506283 \$20.80

Class size limit: 15

Suggested credit: 1 year science

Additional supplies required: TBD

Intending to create an easier transition from the *Apologia Young Explorers* series for elementary students to the upper-level Apologia courses, this course focuses on teaching students to learn independently. Topically, the new edition covers the history of science, scientific inquiry and method, documenting and interpreting experimental results, scientific analysis and history, and science and creation. The three branches of science—physical, earth, and life—are covered thoughtfully. Within these branches, students will study astronomy, geology, paleontology, meteorology, oceanography, marine science, life science, and environmental science along with a basic overview of chemistry, physics, and biology.

With 14 modules and up to 76 hands-on experiments to cover, we will learn well. Class time will include topic review/discussion, carefully selected videos relating to the class material, questions and answers, and experiments. Homework will include reading the text material before class, answering study guide questions, and completing lab write-ups.

Having the solutions manual in the home proves helpful for parents as they work with their students to understand concepts—the solutions manual may fill in a knowledge gap for the parent as he/she works with the student.

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Biology

Time: Hour 1 (12:30-1:40)

Level: 9th – 12th

Prerequisite or concurrent requirement: None

Instructor: Tho Osburn

Required costs: Course fee \$15

Lab fee \$25 (includes \$5 durable equipment fee)

Required Texts: *Exploring Creation with Biology, 3rd Ed.* ISBN-13: 9781946506450 \$69.90 and solutions manual ISBN-13:9781946506467 \$20.80. Available from Christian Book Distributor. For both textbook and solutions manual \$87.20 at Rainbow Resource Center.

Additional supplies required: 3-ring binder with paper; colored pencils

Class size limit: 10

Suggested credit: 1 year science

Using Apologia Educational Ministry, Inc.'s text, *Exploring Creation with Biology, 3rd Edition*, this course will cover high school-level biology in 16 modules over 32 sessions. The Apologia curriculum is designed to prepare students with a reasoned defense of the Christian faith in part through a strong scientific education. The text modules cover background in areas such as chemistry, cells, cellular reproduction, genetics, ecosystems, the major kingdoms and creation versus evolution theory. The text and labs for each session must be read in preparation for each class. Students will be required to write lab reports. Students will be assigned various projects and tests to be completed at home and returned to the instructor to be graded. These projects include, but may not be limited to, an ecology speech, a paper on a career relating to science, and a research paper comparing creation and the evolution "theory."

Approximately four times during the school year the student will be required to attend an extended class time to complete some dissections and microscope work. On those occasions, the course will usually meet during early class time that starts at 11:55 am.

It is required for each family to have a solutions manual at their home. There are occasions when the teacher is not able to copy the bi-weekly tests, and it becomes necessary for the parent to provide the test included with the manual. The book also proves helpful for some parents when they work with their students to understand concepts—the solutions manual may fill in a knowledge gap for the parent as she works with her child.

Tho and Jon Osburn have seven children and have been homeschooling since 2003. Tho earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Michigan in 1995. She enjoys staying at home and teaching her children as well as reading and cooking. Tho has taught biology and chemistry, watched little ones in the nursery, and taught third and fourth-grade chemistry/physics.

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Advanced Biology – Human Anatomy & Physiology

Time: Hour 1 (12:40-1:40) 3 classes will start promptly at 11:50.

Level: 11th – 12th

Prerequisite or concurrent requirement: high school biology, high school chemistry helpful but not required

Instructor: Holly Sybesma

Required costs: Lab fee \$55 (includes \$5 durable equipment fee)
Course fee \$10

Required Texts:

The Human Body: Advanced Biology in Creation, Second Edition ISBN13: 978-1-935495-72-7 (**\$64.98**)

Solutions and Tests for *The Human Body* ISBN13: 978-1-935-495-97-0 (**\$18.55**) (optional for parents only)

Kaplan Anatomy Coloring Book Ninth Edition ISBN-13: 978-1506281216 (**not optional**) (**\$17.70**)

Additional supplies required: colored pencils, note-taking supplies

Class size limit: 10

Suggested credit: 1 year Biology

Using Apologia Educational Ministry, Inc.'s text *The Human Body: Advance Biology in Creation*, this course will cover high school-level human anatomy in 16 modules over 32 sessions. The Apologia curriculum is designed to prepare students with a reasoned defense of the Christian faith in part through a strong scientific education. The text modules cover human anatomy from a cellular and sometimes chemical level to a gross anatomy perspective in order to obtain a complete understanding of the human body. There will be 3 dissections done in class. The text and labs for each session must be read in preparation for each class. Students will be assigned various projects and tests to be completed at home and returned to the instructor to be graded. The coloring book is an exceptional tool to help memorize and localize body parts and functions. It will also be part of their grade.

At times during the school year the student will be required to attend an extended class time to complete some dissections. On those occasions, the class will meet during the early hour at 11:55 am. The dissections include a cow eye, a sheep heart, and a fetal pig. The dissections are pertinent to learning about the functions of the human body and are not optional. Each student will have his own organ and will be guided on how to dissect it properly. A proper lab write-up will be completed and graded. A proper lab will be discussed in class for a better understanding of what is required. All the prior science labs have prepared them for this!

Though not required, the solution manual also proves helpful for some parents when they work with their students to understand concepts—the solutions manual may fill in a knowledge gap for the parent as they work with their child.

The Sybesmas have 8 children, 4 dogs, 2 geckos, a turtle and many fish. They began homeschooling in 2012. Holly received an associate degree in applied science with a certificate in surgical technology from Baker College in Flint, Michigan. After completing her degree, she worked 3rd shift at Hurley Medical Center, a level one trauma center in Flint, as a certified surgical technologist. That's where she met her husband, Justin, who is an orthopedic trauma surgeon or as he likes to say, he "puts Humpty Dumpty back together again." After having their first 2 children, Holly focused on raising a family and took interest in teaching her children at home while taking continuing education classes at Phoenix University for a teaching certificate. Their hobbies include going to the beach, fishing, hunting, boating and flying. They love the great outdoors!

Recommended sources for texts: Amazon, CBD, Rainbow Resource.

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Fit for Service (Fitness/Health)

Time: Hour 2 (1:45-2:40) May be taken one semester or full-year

Level: 7th – 12th

Prerequisite or concurrent requirement: None

Instructor: TBD

Required costs: Course fee \$15 per semester

Class size limit: 15

Suggested credit: 1 semester/year Physical Education, possibly 1 semester Health

Additional supplies required: stability ball/yoga ball (purchase the correct size for the students: 55cm for 5'4" & under, 65cm for 5'5" to 6' or 75cm for 6' and taller); yoga mat; hand weights (5 lb. or smaller depending on what you think is appropriate for your student); loose fitting dark colored sweatpants and a loose-fitting t-shirt.

The course will focus on health and fitness for everyday service. The course will spend 75% of the time experimenting with different exercise modalities. The goal is to expose students to various exercises that they can adopt into their own home workouts. We will use some weights in class but will also focus a lot on body weight exercises, which require no equipment other than your own body. Isn't that convenient?! Workouts may also include cardio kickboxing (non-contact) and various other styles of aerobic activity. There is a strong focus on circuit training and HIIT (High Intensity Interval Training). Team activities such as volleyball, soccer, and basketball will be included in class time as well as work with a stability ball. The remaining 25% of class time will focus on lifetime fitness, proper nutrition, outdoor survival skills, and health maintenance. Fit for Service is designed to expose students to different types of exercise and equipment in order to encourage lifelong personal fitness habits. Personal fitness goals will be discussed and designed by each student. Your students will be amazed at the difference in their own endurance and performance once they compare themselves from the start of the year to the end of the year. Academic work and tests are kept to a minimum to stress physical activity, but students will be required to keep a fitness journal that will be checked weekly. Four aerobic exercise workouts per week (aside from class time) for a minimum of 30 minutes each will be required. Please note that household chores (mowing, snow shoveling) and organized sports practices may not be counted as part of the weekly workout requirements.

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Core Writing

Time: Hour 2 (1:45-2:40)

Level: 8th – 9th

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Sara Oldenburg

Required costs: Course fee \$15

Required Texts: *Following Narnia Volume 1: The Lion’s Song, Third Edition* ISBN 978-1-62341-238-8 **\$35** (available from IEW and Rainbow Resource); *The Magician’s Nephew*; *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; and *The Horse and His Boy* by C.S. Lewis (available from Barnes & Noble and Rainbow Resource)

Class size limit: 7

Suggested credit: 8th - 9th Grade Composition

Additional supplies required: Students will need a 3-ring binder for class notes and handouts, lined paper, 5 tab dividers, thesaurus, dictionary; highlighter, paper clips, access to a computer with internet availability and a word processing program (preferably Google Docs, which is free) and printer

Good writing is essential. When used effectively, it conveys facts, it persuades, it inspires and much more. Following lesson plans from *Following Narnia Volume 1: The Lion’s Song by Institute for Excellence in Writing*, the student will practice descriptive and informative paragraph writing as well as regular grammar and vocabulary exercises. Students will learn to communicate their thoughts intelligently and creatively, starting with the use of key word outlines to begin the writing process. Over the year they will learn five techniques for “dressing up” their essays and six “sentence openers” to improve a composition’s readability. Students will need to spend up to one hour daily on assignments depending on the type of writing being explored. Most assignments will need to be computer-processed. It will be **required** for a parent to review and verify the student’s compliance with teacher-supplied objective measurements for each assignment. The student should possess *a good grasp of grammar* as well as have *a solid understanding* of the following parts of speech: nouns, verbs, pronouns, adverbs, adjectives, and prepositions. Successful completion of Core Writing satisfies one of the prerequisites for enrollment into the Competency Writing course.

In 2001, Sara graduated from Western Michigan University with a bachelor’s degree in elementary education. She was briefly employed as a substitute teacher but became a proud stay-at-home mom after her first child was born. When her oldest child entered the second grade, she and her husband decided to homeschool their children. Since joining CLC in 2016, she has been a helper in a variety of classes, such as grammar and 7/6/5 Writing, and taught Core Writing.

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Competency Writing

Time: Hour 2 (1:45-2:40)

Level: 9th – 10th

Prerequisite: successful completion of Core Writing

Instructor: Jennifer Ascolese

Required costs: Course fee \$15

Required Texts: *Writing with Skill Level 2* ISBN 9781933339610 \$22.50
Grammar for the Well-Trained Mind (red book)

Additional supplies required: Access to a computer with word processing program and printer
E-mail access highly recommended

Class size limit: 10

Suggested credit: one year high school English composition

Learning how to write with confidence is essential for all high school students. The goal of Competency Writing is to be a bridge between Core Writing and College and Career Writing. This course will cover various aspects of the writing process utilizing *Writing with Skill Level 2* and *Grammar for the Well-Trained Mind* (red book). We will review basic grammar and writing elements and will be learning how to write various types of papers, including but not limited to outlines, summaries, comparisons, literary analyses, creative writing, essay writing, and research. All students will also be challenged to expand their vocabulary and incorporate those stronger words into their compositions. Students will need to spend up to one hour daily on assignments depending on the type of writing explored. Most assignments will need to be typed. It will be essential for a parent to review and verify the student's compliance with the teacher-supplied rubric for each assignment. The student should be very familiar with the use of the following parts of speech: nouns, verbs, pronouns, adverbs, adjectives, and prepositions. The goal is that by the end of this course, students will have had an introduction to and practice with many types and styles of writing.

Born and raised in Berrien County, Jennifer Ascolese has always been passionate about teaching. In 2003, she married her husband Matt, and the Ascolese family now has three children and a Maltipoo. Matt and Jennifer have been homeschooling for five years. Prior to being at home with her children, Jennifer was an upper-grade elementary school teacher for eleven years. She graduated from Western Michigan University with an elementary education degree and a master's in elementary language arts. Jennifer and her family have attended CLC for the past four years and are looking forward to many more. She is eagerly anticipating working with your children more closely next year.

Recommended source for texts: www.rainbowresource.com or <https://welltrainedmind.com>

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Essay Writing

Time: Hour 2 (1:45-2:40) Semester 1 only

Level: 11th – 12th

Prerequisite: None, but the core and competency classes would be beneficial; students must have a basic understanding of a word processing program

Instructor: Kristen Dobson

Required costs: Course fee \$10

Required Texts: *Handouts will be supplied in class*

Additional supplies required: 3-ring binder and at least 3 divider tabs; access to a computer with word processing program (preferably Microsoft Word or Google Docs) and printer; e-mail access highly recommended

Class size limit: 15

Suggested credit: 1 semester English

This course covers various aspects of the writing process with a particular emphasis on writing for the SAT and ACT. The purposes of this course include cultivating the student's ability to communicate meaning effectively through writing, supplying the student with necessary information concerning the writing of timed essays, improving the student's ability to think and write clearly in a timed period, and increasing the student's writing vocabulary. By the end of the semester, the student will have written five or more timed essays, as well as three or more college-level essays, will have been introduced to APA documentation, and will have increased his vocabulary by at least thirty words.

This course is a precursor to the research writing course, which will be offered in the spring; but this course will not be a prerequisite for that class, although it is highly recommended.

After graduating from Northland International University in 1995 with a Bachelor of Arts in English education and speech, Kristen entered the homeschool scene by offering high school-level courses. When her husband returned to NIU for his master's, she taught English 101, creative writing, and novel at the university. In 1998, Kristen returned to the homeschooling scene where she again taught grammar, writing, literature, and speech to local homeschooled high-schoolers. When their oldest entered kindergarten and homeschooling began in earnest, Kristen quickly realized why she had NOT become an elementary teacher! However, God has taught her much over the years, particularly regarding patience. She has survived and even enjoyed kindergarten seven times! Offering classes in her fields of study to various groups of homeschoolers throughout the past twenty plus years has helped maintain her sanity.

A family must commit to *full-year* CLC involvement even if a student enrolls in only a one-semester course.

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Research Writing

Time: Hour 2 (1:45-2:45) Semester 2 only

Level: 11th – 12th

Prerequisite: Core and Competency highly recommended, but not required

Instructor: Kristen Dobson

Required costs: Course fee \$10

Required Texts: *Handouts will be supplied in class*

Class size limit: 15

Suggested credit: 1 semester English

Additional supplies required: 3-ring binder and at least 3 divider tabs; access to a computer with word processing program (preferably Microsoft Word or Google Docs) and printer; e-mail access highly recommended

This course centers on the writing of a properly organized, well-documented argumentative or persuasive research paper. The students will review the research process, will be acquainted with a variety of research tools, will be equipped to write college-level papers, and will have the opportunity to conduct a detailed study of topics they find interesting. By the end of the semester, each student should be able to identify appropriate topics for research, narrow a topic to fit the scope of the assigned paper, compile a bibliography on his chosen topic with appropriate MLA documentation, define and recognize plagiarism, paraphrase source materials without plagiarizing, take accurate notes, construct a parallel sentence outline, develop an abstract, write an 8-12-page paper, and defend his research before the class.

After graduating from Northland International University in 1995 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English education and speech, Kristen entered the homeschool scene by offering high school-level courses. When her husband returned to NIU for his master's, she taught English 101, creative writing, and novel at the university. In 1998, Kristen returned to the homeschooling scene where she again taught grammar, writing, literature, and speech to local homeschooled high-schoolers. When their oldest entered kindergarten and homeschooling began in earnest, Kristen quickly realized why she had NOT become an elementary teacher! However, God has taught her much, particularly regarding patience, over the years. She has survived and even enjoyed kindergarten seven times! Offering classes in her fields of study to various groups of homeschoolers throughout the past twenty plus years has helped maintain her sanity.

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Yearbook

Time: Hour 3 (2:45-3:40) / 2nd Semester

Level: 7th - 12th

Instructor: Erika Bontrager

Required Costs: Course fee \$20

Class size limit: 10

Suggested credit: 1 semester graphic design

Additional supplies required: access to internet, camera, laptop

With student-chosen biblical theme and the cover designed by a student, yearbooks are a treasured keepsake of each year. This one-semester class is offered in the spring.

Portraits, a senior photo shoot and class photos will be taken fall semester and uploaded to Entourage so students can focus on designing their assigned pages during spring semester. Families will email their summer, fall, family, Christmas, and extracurricular photos by various deadlines in the fall and spring semesters.

Mrs. Seaton takes the portrait photos and class photos, with students ushering and assisting. Students do the senior photo shoot and design their own assigned pages within the visual and biblical theme.

The website for Entourage Yearbooks is <https://www.entourageyearbooks.com>. Student members will receive their account and login information. Students will then be able to begin uploading their photos and creating their pages, which will be assigned in the syllabus. Students will need to reserve 1-2 hours per week in designing pages.

Cover Contest: The cover design submissions need to have all the info correctly entered into the design to qualify for the Cover Contest. Yearbook students are eligible to compete.

Erika Bontrager studied graphic design as part of her art & design minor at Calder Art Center at GVSU. She has dabbled in photography, both nature and portraits. She has made several photo books, and a few yearbooks for homeschool co-ops.

Christy Seaton is an active professional local photographer, available for family, senior, wedding and other photo sessions.

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Spanish 1

Time: Hour 3 (2:45-3:40)

Level: 8th – 12th

Prerequisite or concurrent requirement: None

Instructor: Anne Fuentes and Katie Nash

Required costs: Course fee \$20

Required Texts:

Avancemos 1 Student 2018 ed. ISBN: 978-544-86121-3; (only buy used, search online)

Free Printable Workbook online - must have weekly access to internet and printer Any Spanish-English dictionary (Instructors have some free ones)

If desired: *501 Spanish Verbs* ISBN: 9780764197970

Class size limit: 12

Suggested credit: 1 year Foreign Language

Additional requirements: 3-ring binder with paper and tabs, weekly printing, weekly internet access (up to 3 hours) (Quizlet and Senor Jordan videos)

We desire to make Spanish 1 practical and accessible to each student. We will engage in learning about the culture, people, and geography surrounding the Spanish language. This course does require outside instruction in the form of online videos that need to be watched most weeks. This resource is a great benefit to the students as our one hour instruction a week is not sufficient to get comfortable with a language. Internet access is essential for this class. By the end of the year, students will be able to pray in Spanish, be familiar with holiday practices, artists, and music styles of the Spanish speaking people, know the geography of Central and South America (each student doing a country presentation), and begin to feel more comfortable with everyday Spanish speaking situations.

Students' grades are based on class participation, homework assignments, tests, and special projects with lots of extra credit given for finding and using Spanish outside of class.

!Hola! Me llamo Anne Fuentes. I am excited to have this opportunity to teach Spanish. My husband, Victor, and fourteen year old daughter, Cecilia and I live in Coloma, Michigan at what we like to refer to as Fuentes Farms. I took four years of high school Spanish, traveled to Spain for a few weeks my junior year and lived with a host family in Alicante, Spain. It was a humbling experience being immersed in a culture where everyone spoke too fast and feeling like I needed more time to formulate the words that just wouldn't come many times. Yet the determination to keep up with the Spanish remained. In college I took two more years and continued here and there at local language schools in my thirties. Conversing in a foreign language involves letting down walls and speaking it, often incorrectly or funny sounding, because that is how we learn! Exercising that "muscle" of speaking it out is key to becoming comfortable with language. We've included Spanish as part of our homeschool studies and meet up with a small conversation group once a week, which I'd add, is the most challenging part of our studies, no surprise.

Katie Nash still remembers sitting in Spanish 1 at Bethany Academy in 9th grade, having absolutely no clue what was going on and literally guessing when called on. From that lowly beginning, she went on to take 8 more years of Spanish. She was blessed to participate in several short term mission trips to northern Mexico during high school and college. She graduated from Cottey College with an Associate of Arts degree and the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish. During that time she was able to spend a semester living with a host family in Merida, Venezuela. As she reviews Spanish herself, she hopes to help teach what to do and why we do it, though most of the learning relies on the students' efforts outside of class. She has been married to Rob Nash for 22 years and has 6 children. They started the homeschool journey in 2014.

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Geography

Time: Hour 3 (12:40-1:40)

Level: 9th – 12th

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Kaylin Keres

Required costs: Course fee \$30

Required Texts:

BJU Press *Cultural Geography Student Text, 4th Edition* ISBN-13: 9781606824993 **\$77.22**

BJU Press *Geography Grade 9 Student Activity Manual (4th Edition)* ISBN-13: 9781606826171 **\$42.22**

Class size limit: 15

Suggested credit: 1 credit geography

Additional supplies required: 3-ring binder and colored pencils

The *Cultural Geography* text teaches geography by combining the systemic and regional approach. We will look at physical geography, climate, economics, and society, and how we can apply these principles to learn about any country in the world. Then we will begin to study each region/country separately, gaining an understanding of its climate, vegetation, economy, government, and culture. Map study/work will be incorporated quite a bit in order to develop a mental map of the countries of the world. Class projects will reinforce material, provide an opportunity for further exploration, provide a chance to work on some hands-on activities, and, hopefully, inject some fun into the class:)

The *Student Activities Manual* is designed to be used with the student textbook. It expounds upon the text lessons with colorful map and chart activities, chapter review questions, reading passages with comprehension questions, internet research activities, and more. These activities provide reinforcement for the lessons given in the student text and help with preparation for chapter tests.

Kaylin and Steve Keres both grew up in the Chicago suburbs but moved to Southwest Michigan in 2010. Despite living less than 50 miles from Lake Michigan our whole lives prior, neither one of us knew how much “geography” we had missed out on while living in Illinois! We very much prefer the Michigan side of Lake Michigan and still pinch ourselves now and then to make sure it’s not just a dream. We’ve been homeschooling our 5 kids since 2014. I’ve never formally taught Geography before, but I’m excited to teach it and learn alongside the class.

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Worldviews

Time: Hour 3 (2:45-3:40)

Level: 11th – 12th

Prerequisite: Lightbearers or Logic recommended, but not required

Instructor: Amanda Adam

Required costs: Course fee \$15

Required Texts:

Understanding the Times 5th edition Student Manual ISBN 9780936163215 \$22.50 (summit.org)

Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews ISBN: 9781434709585 \$29.50 (summit.org)

Class size limit: 10

Suggested credit: 1 year social studies

Additional supplies required: 2" 3-ring binder with paper; Bible

Using the most recent curriculum update, *Understanding the Times* by David Noebel, this course will explore worldviews and learn how non-Christian worldviews have influenced the culture. Islam, secular humanism, Marxism-Leninism, cosmic humanism, and postmodernism compete for our belief; and each chapter of the text addresses those worldviews and focuses on understanding how the biblically-based Christian worldview can stand strong in the face of any argument, including arguments in the areas of theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, psychology, sociology, law, politics, economics and history. Teacher lectures and occasional videos by notable Summit Ministries' lecturers will round out the students' text reading. Class discussions and attention to current events will be an integral part of learning the material of this course.

Students will be evaluated through class discussion, written assignments from the student manual, Bible studies related to worldview topics, and unit tests.

Amanda Adam and her husband Derek have 3 children. After praying for the Lord's direction, much to their surprise, the Lord led them to homeschool. They have been homeschooling for 12 years. In recent years Amanda has developed a burden for young people and their need to learn apologetics. What is more important than our children's faith? Mark 8:36 "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Trusting that your kids have already received the Lord as their Savior and that their soul is secured, Amanda desires to encourage them in the faith that they already have. Colossians 2:6 "As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." She aspires to grow those roots, to assist in building up, to aid in "stablishing" them in their faith by teaching apologetics and preparing them to have a stronger biblical worldview.

Recommended sources for textbooks: www.summit.org, www.christianbook.com, www.thriftbooks.com

Enrichment Plus Classes

Botany & Astronomy grades 3-7

Time: Hour 1 & 2 (12:45-1:40) (1:45-2:40)

Level: 3rd - 7th

Instructor: Judi Johnson

Required costs: Course fee \$20

Required Text: *Exploring Creation with Astronomy 2nd Edition* by Jeannie Fulbright

ISBN 078-1-940110-58-5 \$39.20

Many co-op members may have this to buy or borrow. Only one book is needed per family.

Class size limit: 15

Additional Supplies Required: 3-ring binder, 1.5"

Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. ~1 Corinthians 8:6

This year we are going to explore two different areas of God's amazing creation: the world of plants and the solar system!

First semester the enrichment students will be giving glory to God as they saturate themselves in the field of botany. Together we will learn the differences between angiosperms and gymnosperms, vascular and nonvascular plants, seeds and spores, pollination and seed dispersal, and many more plant-related bits of information. No textbook will be required, but a printing fee for materials will be included in your class fee. We are going to have fun learning through reading, hands-on activities, videos and experiments.

For the second semester, the enrichment students will explore outer space and God's detailed and perfect design in the creation and placement of the planets. The sun, moon, planets, space rocks, Kuiper Belt, galaxies, stars, and space travel will all be introduced with Apologia's *Exploring Creation with Astronomy* textbook. Students will have weekly reading and questions to complete (for grades 5-7), along with discussion and hands-on activities in class on Thursdays. Older students will also have take-home tests every two weeks; parents can determine how they are taken. This helps with the transition to higher level science courses.

Judi and Chris have six children, five of whom have graduated from CLC. This co-op has been a beautiful blessing to them for over 17 years! Judi has had the privilege to teach science classes to the preschoolers through the seventh graders over the years. It has been a joyous journey and provided great opportunities to be amazed and awed by God's intricate details and perfect planning in all of life.

Covenant Learning Co-op
2024/2025
CLC Course Descriptions

Wellness and Movement

Time: Hour 2 (1:45-2:40)

Level: 5th - 7th

Instructor: Anna Fairchild

Required costs: Course fee \$10

Class size limit: 15

Psalm 139:14 says, "I will give thanks to You (God), for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works. And my soul knows it very well."

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 – "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body."

Course Goals:

- For each student to grow in appreciation for their physical body and the incredible design God has placed in each individual.
- With the privilege of the physical bodies God has given us comes the responsibility to take care of our bodies in order to be able to serve the Lord fully and carry out His plan for our lives. Students will be encouraged to take care of their physical bodies in order to bring glory to God and serve Him with a healthy body.
- As a part of caring for ourselves and others, we will also endeavor to build teamwork skills and social skills. It is important to learn to work together and encourage one another to do the very best we can. It is important to build community and friendships in order to maintain mental and emotional wellness. (1Cor. 12:14-26) (Heb. 10:24)
- Weekly class time will consist of small and basic nutritional (reading food labels, drinking water, etc.) and character building (teamwork, integrity, etc) lessons, physical fitness and games, and fun and fellowship.

A mother of four, Anna Fairchild has been homeschooling for 15 years. She grew up in Traverse City but moved to SW Michigan after she got married. In her spare time, she loves being with family and doing anything animal-related. She has a dog breeding business that keeps her very busy as well as a small hobby farm with horses, goats, chickens, and a pig.

Covenant Learning Co-op
2024/2025
CLC Course Descriptions

7/6/5 Writing Fundamentals: IEW Fables, Myths, and Fairy Tales

Time: Hour 3 (2:45-3:40)

Level: 5th-7th

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Jeannie Bryant

Required costs: Course fee \$15

Required Texts: *Fables, Myths, and Fairy Tales Writing Lessons* ISBN 9781623413095 **\$35**

Supplies: 1-inch binder and dividers, composition book for journal

Class size limit: 15

In order to establish a cohesive and robust writing program at CLC, we will be offering Writing Fundamentals again for our 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students. We will be using the *Fables, Myths, and Fairy Tales Writing Lessons* from IEW as the backbone of our studies. The goals of this class are to introduce (or further practice for those already familiar) the core concepts of structure and style from IEW and prepare them for the rigors of our upper-level writing courses. Students should expect to have fun and grow in their writing skills!

This class will also have a weekly focus on various grammar topics with a short grammar assignment to complete. Doing so will ensure everyone knows what grammar concepts are expected to be focused on. We will also add in some other fun, inventive writing units to break up the year and add a little fun and creativity.

Special Note: -EDITORS- In this class parents are going to be expected to edit rough drafts often for spelling and simple grammar errors. It is not possible to move along at an acceptable rate and cover enough topics if the teacher has to do all the grading of rough and final drafts. Therefore, each student will be "hiring" an editor (most likely mom or dad) to help with assignments weekly.

The Bryants have four girls and have been homeschooling since 2003. Jeannie graduated from the University of Georgia in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in music education, majoring in flute and minoring in voice. She taught elementary general music in the public school until her first child was born and has since been actively involved in teaching children's music in her church and community, including leading children's choirs, preschool music, and VBS musicals, as well as serving as a clinician in various District Honor Choruses. Though most of her professional training is in music, Jeannie enjoys teaching a variety of subjects and is excited to teach writing next year!