



CORNERSTONE

EDUCATION WITH A FIRM FOUNDATION

2021-2022 Course Descriptions

The descriptions here give an overview of each course. Please note that some courses in the high school level have prerequisites or specific skills that must be mastered. Certain courses have separate lab or supply fees that will be used by the instructor to cover materials and expenses for the class.

Please also note that classes have a minimum and maximum number of students due to space and cost considerations. All classes are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. On occasion, classes may need to be canceled before they begin, due either to lack of adequate enrollment or teacher fulfillment. If this should occur, you will be notified immediately by e-mail and/or phone call, and money you have paid toward the class will be refunded. For other financial questions and information, please refer to our Financial Policies.

Parents of children in Elementary classes:

Please be aware that even in 1st - 6th grade it is Cornerstone's expectation that participation in these classes carry the same level of completion and diligence as in the Middle and High school classes. To that end please understand that assignments will be given on Monday by teachers. It is your responsibility to sit and work with your child on Tuesday through Friday to complete and correct the assignments as the teacher has directed. These assignments will be returned to the teacher on the next Monday for grading/review. Your child's teacher will have more instruction for each student as to organization and specific expectations. We expect that each family makes the most of each class to prepare them for future success in learning!

In addition, we conduct a brief reading assessment for all new elementary students, to ensure that the class reading content will be achievable for all students within those classes. This may also apply to current elementary students by teacher recommendation.

Elementary Classes

1st-2nd Grade Classes

The 1st and 2nd grade classes will run from 8:45-12:00 and be divided into two segments with a snack break and outdoor play in between. **The in-class instruction alone does not meet the requirements for the state of Maryland, and parents are expected to work with their child to complete all the homework assignments.**

1/2 Language Arts, Literature and Art

Segment 1 will focus on language activities and Art. The weekly classroom lessons for the first graders will introduce new skills in phonics, spelling, handwriting, and writing. The weekly classroom lessons for the second graders will introduce new skills in phonics, spelling, grammar and literature studies. At home assignments will be provided to further practice and develop their understanding. Students will also explore new art concepts in class on a weekly basis.

Instructors: Cath Howard and Michelle Morrison

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Materials:

NOTEBOOK FEE: \$40

First Graders: Sing, Spell, Read, and Write Level 1 **Audio CD only**

Cornerstone will provide the level 1 kit on a loan basis as well as a binder with all home assignments.

Second Graders: *Easy Grammar Daily Guided Teaching and Review Grade 2*

Ox Cart Man, by Donald Hall

The Long Way to a New Land, by Joan Sandin

The Long Way Westward, by Joan Sandin

The Josefina Story Quilt, by Eleanor Coerr

Wagon Wheels, by Barbara Brenner

Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie, by Alice Dalgliesh

(These books are very economical on www.rainbowresource.com)

Cornerstone will provide a binder with all home assignments.

1/2 History and Science

Using *American Pioneers and Patriots*, by Caroline D. Emerson, history will be taught over a period of 16 weeks alternating with the planned science units. This text presents fictional but realistic adventure stories of seventeenth-to-nineteenth century pioneer children in America. The text is divided into twelve units each of which begins with a short synopsis of the period being studied. The history of that period is then told over several chapters in first-person narratives from the perspective of children who were living during that time. The text will be read aloud to the students. Each unit concludes with an interesting fact on how things were done in the past (such as "how the pioneers made cloth," or "how the blacksmith worked"), unit review questions, and suggested projects.

Science will include a variety of 16 earth science topics. Bi-weekly classroom lessons include hands on, appealing activities and science experiments. At-home assignments will range from worksheets and writing activities, to interactive online activities. Expect at-home assignments to take students up to an average of one to two hours per week. Throughout the course, parental support is provided in the form of suggestions for supplemental literature, web-links, and additional fun activities.

Instructors: Amy Jewell and Angela Caswell

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Materials:

NOTEBOOK FEE: \$40

American Pioneers and Patriots, by Caroline D. Emerson (second edition)

American Pioneers and Patriots, Answer Key

All science materials will be provided by Cornerstone

3rd-4th Grade Classes

3/4 English This course will include literature, basic writing skills, and grammar. Students will read four novels that coordinate with the 3/4 History course *Our Star-Spangled History, Part 2*, and the writing lessons will be coordinated with these books. Writing activities will include an array of essays, story writing, and more. In addition, a grammar assignment will be given each week. Parents will be required to correct the grammar and literature homework weekly. In addition, parents will be editing writing activities as the teacher directs.

Instructor: Jen Lehman

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

IEW, *Student Resource Package* (Packet and Binder)

Mountain Born by Elizabeth Yates

Emily's Runaway Imagination by Beverly Cleary

The Year of Miss Agnes by Kirkpatrick Hill

Katy by Mary Evelyn Notgrass

Easy Grammar 4 Student Text (if purchased this last year, do not need a new copy)

Easy Grammar 4 Teacher's Edition

As of 4/2021

3/4 History During the first semester, students will learn about life in America from before the Europeans came through the late 1800s. We will be using *Our Star-Spangled Story*, Part 2 (Notgrass History). This gorgeously illustrated program presents history to students with real-life experiences from different points of view. This allows for opportunity to discuss many concepts to deepen a student's Christian worldview. The lessons incorporate literature, music, creative writing, geography, and art. In addition to lively hands-on classroom activities each week, at-home assignments will include reading, and a selection of activities that could range from map-work, music or poems, review questions, timeline, workbook pages, or fun hands-on history activities.

During second semester, students will focus on a study of the state of Maryland. Expect at-home assignments to take students up to an average of three hours per week.

Instructor: Christy Reinig

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

Our Star-Spangled Story, Part 2

Star-Spangled Rhythms and Rhymes (book and MP3 CD)

A Star-Spangled Timeline

My Star-Spangled Student Workbook

Our Star-Spangled Story Answer Key and Literature Guide

3/4 Science Using *Exploring Creation with Earth Science* by Apologia, your young explorer will begin with an overview of our cosmic address in the observable universe and then grow in knowledge of what, in the entire universe, makes Earth special and capable of sustaining life. An awareness of the world will develop as students interact with the Earth's geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere. By digging deeper into the many different layers of the Earth and the cycles that renew the face of the Earth, your student will acquire not only wisdom that will endure for a lifetime but also an appreciation for our Creator through conversational lessons written directly to students. This Charlotte-Mason inspired guide to earth science will keep kids interested and engaged for each lesson!

In the fourth quarter, students will take some time to study the scientific method in greater depth, and have a science fair. They will choose and complete a project to be displayed at our end of the year showcase.

We will also be using the regular Notebooking Journal, which Cornerstone will be purchasing and putting into a loose-leaf notebook for ease of turning assignments in each week.

Instructor: Deb Wilhide

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

NOTEBOOK FEE:\$35

Exploring Creation with Earth Science, textbook only

As of 4/2021

3/4 MINI SESSIONS:

3/4 Art (Semester 1) Whether taking this class in third or fourth grade, this beginning level class will introduce and familiarize students to mediums and techniques. Along the way, we'll cover a few famous artists, old and new. Material covered will change each year. We'll discuss a touch of history, and the methods behind the art. In the process of creating our own masterpieces, students will delve into acrylics, pencil, pastels, watercolor, paper, clay and marker. No experience is necessary, just a desire to have fun and go crazy with art.

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$50

***3/4 TBD (Semester 2)**

Instructor:

CLASS FEE: \$

5th-6th Grade Classes

5/6 English This course will include literature, basic writing skills, and grammar. Students will read several novels that coordinate with the 5/6 History course ***Uncle Sam and You***, and the writing lessons will be coordinated with these books. Writing activities will include an array of essays, story writing, and more. In addition, a grammar assignment will be given each week. Parents will be required to correct the grammar and literature homework weekly. In addition, parents will be editing writing activities as the teacher directs.

Instructor: TBD

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

IEW Text TBD

Potential Literature Selections:

Lincoln: A Photobiography by Russell Freedman

A Letter to Mrs. Roosevelt by C. Coco De Young

Brightly of the Grand Canyon by Marguerite Henry

Basher Five-Two by Scott O'Grady

Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry

The Long Winter by Laura Ingalls Wilder

The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane by Russell Freedman

Lost on a Mountain in Maine by Donn Fendler

Easy Grammar 5 Student Text

Easy Grammar 5 Teacher's Edition

As of 4/2021

5/6 History *Uncle Sam and You* is a one-year course on American civics and government for students in grades five through eight. The lessons focus on America's founding documents, branches of government, patriotic symbols, voting, the election process, Washington, D.C., the presidency, how Congress works, American holidays, and aspects of federal, state, and local government.

Instructor: Candice Walker

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

Uncle Sam and You, by Charlene Notgrass, Curriculum Package

Uncle Sam and You, Student Workbook

Uncle Sam and You, Lesson Review

5/6 Science Using *Exploring Creation with Earth Science* by Apologia, your young explorer will begin with an overview of our cosmic address in the observable universe and then grow in knowledge of what, in the entire universe, makes Earth special and capable of sustaining life. An awareness of the world will develop as students interact with the Earth's geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere. By digging deeper into the many different layers of the Earth and the cycles that renew the face of the Earth, your student will acquire not only wisdom that will endure for a lifetime but also an appreciation for our Creator through conversational lessons written directly to students. This Charlotte-Mason inspired guide to earth science will keep kids interested and engaged for each lesson!

In the fourth quarter, students will take some time to study the scientific method in greater depth, and have a science fair. They will choose and complete a project to be displayed at our end of the year showcase.

We will also be using the regular Notebooking Journal, which Cornerstone will be purchasing and putting into a loose-leaf notebook for ease of turning assignments in each week.

Instructor: Deb Wilhide

CLASS FEE: \$50

Required Texts:

NOTEBOOK FEE:\$35

Exploring Creation with Earth Science, textbook only

5/6 MINI SESSIONS:

***5/6 TBD (Semester 1)**

As of 4/2021

5/6 Art (Semester 2) Moving along from the 3/4 class, the 5/6 class will consistently introduce students to various artists and their techniques. Both contemporary and masters will be explored, and related homework with challenges will be assigned. Students will become versed with design elements, still lifes, painting techniques, portraiture and mixed media. While the material covered will change every year, all will be consistently framed in the context of learning the elements of art and the principles of design. No previous art knowledge needed.

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$50

1st-6th Grade Class

Elementary Choir for Grades 1st-6th (Semester 2) This Elementary Choir is for anyone in grades 1-6 who wants to have fun singing together in a group. We will learn the basics of singing, reading music, and preparing to perform in front of an audience. Students do not need to have any prior singing experience and do not need to know how to read music in order to sign up. Our goal will be to perform a few songs at the choir concert/spring showcase next spring. Please join us for this fun new adventure as we make a joyful noise unto the Lord together!

Instructor: Maria Wolf

CLASS FEE: \$10

Middle School Classes

7/8 English This course is designed to help students become more thoughtful and critical readers, as well as more deliberate and skillful writers. It is designed to coordinate with the 7/8 history course "***A History of Us***". The course is literature-based and writing-intensive. The literature will include historical fiction, short stories, poems, speeches, and some historical primary sources. Writing assignments will connect to the literature selections and include a variety of styles and formats. We will also work on specific writing skills, such as varying sentence structure, composing unified paragraphs, and organizing the structure of our writing to effectively fit the purpose. In addition, students will receive weekly grammar assignments, which parents will be required to check on a regular basis.

Instructor: Karan Cobb

Required Texts:

Johnny Tremain by Esther Forbes

Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt

Sign of the Beaver by Elizabeth George Speare

Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare

Carry On Mr. Bowditch by Jean Lee Latham

Easy Grammar Plus (students who purchased this last year do not need a new copy)

Easy Grammar Plus Teacher's Edition

CLASS FEE: \$125
STUDY GUIDE FEE: \$10

7/8 American History This history course will cover the timeframe of 1735-1865, beginning with the American Colonies and ending with the Reconstructing America. While *A History of US* is a great study tool of American history, it is not necessarily written from a Christian perspective. Therefore, the instructor will also use the Sonlight teacher guide to help incorporate a Christian world view in our class instruction.

Through weekly reading & assignments, class discussion, map work, timelines, tests, and quarterly written/oral projects we will explore our American history together. You will compile your work together to create an American History Journal. We will also focus on critical thinking and study skills: such as reading for details, following directions thoroughly, etc.

Instructor: Jennifer Ryndak

Required Text: *A History of Us*, books 3-6, and part of 7

CLASS FEE: \$125
BOOK DEPOSIT \$10

Please note, Cornerstone has copies of these textbooks to loan out to students. To receive the first textbook of the set, a \$10 book deposit will be required. Once a volume is completed it will be traded in for the next. If all books are returned in good condition, the book deposit will be returned to the student at the end of the school year.

As of 4/2021

7/8 Life Science This Life Science course is a comprehensive Middle School course that will cover the following topics: Life, microorganisms, plants, animals, the human body, genetics, heredity, and ecology. Class time will include lab work, lectures, exams and other activities. The lab portion of the class is designed to increase the understanding of the text and will include an introduction to basic lab techniques and tools to include microscopy. Activities and lectures will attempt to engage the student in an exploration of the world around them.

Instructor: Sue Grimm

CLASS FEE: \$125

Required Texts:

LAB FEE:\$25

Life Science, 2nd edition, TEXTBOOK ONLY

Published by Christian Schools International, written by Timothy Elmer, Barbara Ferrier and Cheryl Hoodewind

7/8 Middle School Art (Semester 1) This class will continue to broaden the understanding of the Elements and Principles of Design. Students will explore many mediums – some traditional, some not. History and relevant artists will be discussed. From grid drawings and three dimensional work, to perspective illusions, symbolic collages and textured name designs, there's something in this class for every artist. The goal: to grow those art skills and comprehension, to utilize those artistic skills in all aspects of life. Homework will be weekly and mandatory. This class will receive a grade.

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$100

MATERIALS FEE: \$50

MS/HS Choir (Semester 2) Our choral ensemble is for anyone in middle or high school who has a desire to sing together. While learning fun, new music, students will be taught basic technique on how to properly sing, how to blend their voices in unity, how to sing in harmony (different melody lines being sung simultaneously), and how to work together with others. Singing in choir builds focus, self-awareness, self-confidence, teamwork, memorization, and responsibility. The class includes preparation for a choir concert at the end of the semester. Practice MP3s will be provided for reinforcement at home. No previous singing experience is required. While we aim to sing well, the greater emphasis of this class is to enjoy the wonderful gift of music that God has given us.

Qualifies for 1/2 high school credit

Instructor: Casey Golden

CLASS FEE: \$100

High School Classes

HS American Literature The literature read in this course includes novels, short stories, devotional literature, plays, theological essays, biographies, memoirs, poetry, and hymns. This course is designed to coordinate with the High School history course “Exploring America”. Emphasis is placed on how the literature reflects the historical settings in which the works are set.

Instructor: Karan Cobb

CLASS FEE: \$200

Required Texts:

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
The Giver by Lois Lowry
American Voices from Notgrass

HS Just Writing This course is designed to give high school students lots of practice and guidance in all nonfiction writing modes: persuasion, exposition, description, and narration. The goal is to equip them with tools and skills that every writer needs for high school, college, and professional writing. All levels of writers are welcome; however, all students are expected to turn in typed work as opposed to handwritten.

Instructor: Marie Smith

CLASS FEE: \$200

Required Text:

The Power in Your Hands: Writing Nonfiction in High School by Sharon Watson, 2nd edition

As of 4/2021

HS Spanish I This course is an introduction to the Spanish language, including basic grammatical concepts, basic pronunciation, and conversation. Students will: learn greetings and leavings; ask and answer simple questions; use numbers in everyday contexts; give and follow directions; make purchases; narrate and describe events in present, past, and future tenses; express simple opinions; tell the gospel message; and learn and correctly use grammatical structures such as nouns, pronouns, adjectives, subject-verb agreement, gender and number agreement, regular and irregular verbs in the present and preterite tenses, the near future, reflexive verbs, direct and indirect object pronouns, and command forms.

Instructor: Karen Moser

CLASS FEE: \$200

Required Text:

MATERIALS FEE: \$25

Avencemos I, Houghton-Mifflin, 2013. Student textbook and workbook.

HS Spanish II This course continues the study of Spanish including grammar, vocabulary, and other core concepts, verb conjugations, and speaking. The preterite/imperfect tenses, and the subjunctive mood are emphasized in second level grammar. Reading and translating become more complex and writing skills are honed.

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

Instructor: Karen Moser

CLASS FEE: \$200

Required Text:

MATERIALS FEE: \$25

Avencemos II, Houghton-Mifflin, 2013. Student textbook and workbook.

As of 4/2021

HS Physical Science This is the required prerequisite class for further high school science; it should be taken in 9th grade. Text includes introductory chemistry, introductory physics, and the metric system in preparation for upper-level laboratory courses. There will also be lab activities. A prerequisite for this course is a working knowledge of basic algebraic principles or pre-algebra. Students may take Algebra 1 concurrently with this course.

Instructor: Marissa Cote

CLASS FEE: \$200

Required Text:

LAB FEE: \$50

Apologia Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd edition, Textbook

Apologia Exploring Creation with Physical Science, 2nd edition, Solutions and Test Book

HS Biology This course will begin to further the student's understanding of science and life as we cover a wide range of topics to include cell life, genetics, creation science, evolution, ecology, insects, plants, reptiles, mammals, and more. Class time will include alternating labs and lectures. Labs will include extensive microscopy and several dissections, as well as many other activities. Labs will be completed in class. Students will be encouraged to develop logical defenses for their faith as well as to identify practical applications of the material covered.

Prerequisite: Students must have *completed* Physical Science or equivalent and Algebra I.

Instructor: Sue Grimm

CLASS FEE: \$200

Required Texts:

LAB FEE: \$50

Apologia Exploring Creation with Biology 2nd edition, Textbook

Apologia Exploring Creation with Biology 2nd edition, Solutions and Test Book.

HS Physics This college-prep physics course is designed for the student who has completed algebra and has had an introduction to the definitions of sine, cosine, and tangent. It provides a detailed introduction to the methods and concepts of general physics. Heavily emphasizing vector analysis; this text is ideal preparation for a university-level physics course. It provides the student with a strong background in one-dimensional and two-dimensional motion, Newton's laws and their application, gravity, work and energy, momentum, periodic motion, waves, optics, electrostatics, electrodynamics, electrical circuits, and magnetism.

Prerequisite: Students must have completed Physical Science or equivalent and Algebra 1 (see description above)

Instructor: Glenn Cote

FEE: \$200; LAB FEE: \$50

Required Text: *Apologia Exploring Creation with Physics, 2nd edition*, Textbook

As of 4/2021

HS Exploring America This is a one-year survey of American history for students in grades nine through twelve. The student will study American history from the time of the native peoples and first European explorers to the 21st century. The course discusses events, issues, and policies on the national level, especially involving the federal government, as well as developments in American culture. To complement the lessons, students will examine a variety of primary documents including speeches, maps, letters, journals, and historical documents.

Instructor: Marissa Cote

CLASS FEE: \$200

Required Texts:

Exploring America, parts 1 and 2 by Ry Notgrass, 2019 edition

American Voices: Original Documents, Speeches, Poems, Stories, and Hymns from American History

These books are bundled on the Notgrass website along with the guide for parents as the “*Exploring America Curriculum Package*”

HS Government (Semester 1) This is a one-semester course on American government for students in grades nine through twelve. The student will study Biblical teachings about government and leadership, definitions and historical examples of different forms of government, and the background to the American constitutional system. The course provides a thorough study of the U.S. Constitution and the workings of the federal government today. The student will also study state and local government, the revenue and budgeting process, international relations, specific issues that government faces today, and ways that the individual citizen can be involved in government. The student will read a significant number of original source documents and essays about government while studying the narrative of lessons.

Qualifies for 1/2 high school credit

Instructor: Trent Shook

CLASS FEE: \$100

Required Text: *Exploring Government* by Ray Notgrass and *We Hold These Truths* edited by Ray Notgrass and John Notgrass.

As of 4/2021

HS Creation/Evolution (Semester 1) This informal class will delve into assorted topics concerning the science of creationism and evolutionary theory, studying topics including 24-hour-days, Noah's flood, the archeological record, fossil formation, irreducible complexity, and other issues as well as the logical outcomes of various world views. The class will be conversation and research based and while student participation is required it is ungraded. The primary focus will be developing a deeper understanding of creationism in order to deepen a student's faith rather than apologetics.

Qualifies for 1/2 high school credit with a pass/fail grade.

Instructor: Sue Grimm

CLASS FEE: \$100

Required Text: None, but internet use will be required.

HS Health (Semester 2) This high school health and nutrition curriculum explores the physical, social, mental, and spiritual concepts that are needed for a healthy lifestyle. With detailed illustrations and photos, clear explanations, and enhanced readability, *Exploring Creation with Health and Nutrition* covers what maturing students need to know to help them make the best choices they can for themselves as they become young adults. Health is about stewardship: managing what you have as well as you can. **(Parental agreement form must be signed for any student who registers for this class. See website registration matrix for details.)**

Qualifies for 1/2 high school credit

Instructor: Johanna Shook

CLASS FEE: \$100

Required Text:

Apologia Exploring Creation with Health and Nutrition, student textbook
Apologia Exploring Creation with Health and Nutrition, student workbook

HS Public Speaking (Semester 2) This course will last one semester and will cover the basics of public speaking as well as give students ample practice to hone their skills in front of an audience. Students will learn and practice the concepts of effective oral communication by giving presentations, participating in discussions, and receiving feedback from their instructor and peers. Students will set goals for their communication skills and track their progress in those areas by watching videos of their own presentations.

Qualifies for 1/2 high school credit

Instructor: Marissa Cote

CLASS FEE: \$100

Required Text: None

As of 4/2021

HS Art: Watercolor (Semester 1) Watercolor artist Cath Howard invites you to move to new levels of achievement in a relaxed atmosphere of enjoyable sessions. Delve into watercolor painting while exploring artistic abilities and learning new painting techniques. Learn the basics of painting and new techniques. Explore this rewarding activity and gain satisfaction from personal works of art. Beginning students are welcome and returning students will discover all-new content and instruction.

Qualifies for 1/2 high school fine arts credit

Instructor: Cath Howard

CLASS FEE: \$100
SUPPLY FEE: \$75

HS Art Mixed Media (Semester 2) This high school level class will delve into some unusual mediums. It will aim for more complex conceptualization, analyzing target audiences and evaluating the statements and applicability of art around us today. Students will be expected to really think through their designs and execution. Aside from the classic mediums of paint, and pencils, we will also try using plaster, doing dirty pours, sculpting in wire, and exploring tape as an art form. No previous art experience is needed, however students are expected to have the listed supplies at home. A successful art student is one who enjoys thinking, learning, trying and creating a bit outside of the box. Art should be fun. Some of the rules are made to be broken. But doing so should have purpose, and should be amazing. Art brings color and dimension to our lives, and that is exactly how God intended it.

Qualifies for 1/2 high school fine arts credit

Instructor: Heather Woodburn

CLASS FEE: \$100
SUPPLY FEE: \$65

MS/HS Choir (Semester 2) Our choral ensemble is for anyone in middle or high school who has a desire to sing together. While learning fun, new music, students will be taught basic technique on how to properly sing, how to blend their voices in unity, how to sing in harmony (different melody lines being sung simultaneously), and how to work together with others. Singing in choir builds focus, self-awareness, self-confidence, teamwork, memorization, and responsibility. The class includes preparation for a choir concert at the end of the semester. Practice MP3s will be provided for reinforcement at home. No previous singing experience is required. While we aim to sing well, the greater emphasis of this class is to enjoy the wonderful gift of music that God has given us.

Qualifies for 1/2 high school fine arts credit

Instructor: Casey Golden

CLASS FEE: \$100

As of 4/2021