

TRIAD BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Embrace - Transform - Excel



Course Catalog

CURRICULUM GUIDE
& COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Middle School
Grades 6-8

TRIAD BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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INTRODUCTION

Triad Baptist Christian Academy has a strong academic program that meets the needs of our students academically, socially, and spiritually. We take great care and have carefully chosen our curriculum to magnify each learning experience. We are committed to helping each student choose Christ as their personal Savior, increase academic knowledge with a Christian worldview, and develop talents according to his or her God-given potential. We give our students the opportunity to grow in areas that interest them and to be supported in areas where they excel.

To Students:

As you continue your educational journey, middle school is a time of exploration and a time to sharpen academic skills. The classes you take are an opportunity to try out new experiences and take time to grow in areas of interest. It is our desire to help you to discover your spiritual gifts and to help you grow toward meeting your spiritual goals. In this course guide, you can see the courses that will be offered during your time at TBCA.

TBCA takes seriously our role in partnering with parents in laying the foundation for their children. As it is the parents' responsibility to educate their children, it is TBCA's responsibility to provide opportunities that allow students to keep up with the latest trends in the workforce and to prepare students for the challenges that they will face.

We are in this together! Let's make the Titan experience a time to develop a love for learning.

Go, Titans!

TBCA is currently accredited by ACSI (Association of Christian Schools International) and COGNIA. TBCA is a member of NCCSA (the North Carolina Christian School Association). TBCA is dedicated to setting and meeting the highest of standards to promote a high standard of education and is committed to the accreditation and improvement process.

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ACADEMIC INFORMATION

ACADEMIC SOCIETIES

TBCA was granted a charter for the Junior National Honor Society in 2019. Students in grades 7-8 are eligible for consideration. To be considered for the Junior National Honor Society a student must have at least 90 percent. Candidates shall be evaluated based on service, leadership, character, and citizenship. The final decision of who is selected for membership is at the sole discretion of the Faculty Council with final approval by the Headmaster.

DUKE PRE-COLLEGE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

TBCA nominates students in grades 4-8 to take part in the Duke Pre-College Middle School Program based on their grades and test scores. The Duke Pre-College Middle School Program provides advanced academic and career exploration opportunities to high-performing students currently in grades 6-8. Our courses are designed to give students exposure to subjects and courses beyond the average school curriculum while connecting them with like minded peers from around the world. In addition to accessing university facilities and labs, our students interact and learn from renowned faculty and researchers. More information can be found at <https://learnmore.duke.edu/about/duke-pre-college-middle-school-program>.

DROPPING AND ADDING OF CLASSES

Employee schedules and staffing are subject to the course demand. Once student schedules are finalized, there is no drop/add period. Thoughtful consideration should be given toward selecting classes for the upcoming school term. Students may only withdraw from a class in the event of significant extenuating circumstances and with the approval of the instructor, the parent, and the administration. Withdrawals of this nature are written to the permanent student transcript to reflect the grade at the time of withdrawal (“WP” -withdrawn passing or “WF”-withdrawn failing). Withdrawn courses are not used in the calculation of the student’s cumulative grade point average.

ATHLETICS

Academics are students first and foremost priority. Students participating in athletics should anticipate the demands on their time and plan accordingly. All TBCA athletes will be required to have an overall average of C with no more than one F to participate in sports. To enforce this, there are eight checkpoints during the school year, at the midpoint (4 ½ weeks into the quarter) and at the end of the nine weeks.

Playing in a fall sport will be determined by the 4th report card from the previous school year. Students who transfer into the Academy must meet the same guidelines as current students of the Academy. Please see the Athletic Handbook for details.

GRADING POLICY

Teachers grade all work in a timely manner. Tests, projects, papers, and graded homework are normally recorded within 5 workdays of the due date unless the teacher has notified parents that grading may take longer due to the length of the assignment. No academic credit (test, quiz, homework, projects, or bonus points) will be given to attend fine art or athletic events. No graded assignment (homework, quiz, or test) may exceed a score of 100. No extra credit will be given with a value of 5 points or more. All students in a class must have the opportunity to receive extra credit.

GRADING SCALE FOR STUDENTS

Letter Grade	Numeric
Equivalence	Points
A+	98-100
A	93-97
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	59 and below

*WP Withdrawn Passing (can only withdraw during the first 4 weeks of a class)

*WF Withdrawn Failing (can only withdraw during the first 4 weeks of a class)

*I Incomplete (due to unfinished classwork because of an excused absence)

*only under extenuating circumstances; administration should be notified

A letter grade will be shown on report cards in grades 6-8.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT

Students at TBCA are held to biblical standards in all that they do. Proverbs 20:15 states: *To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice*. Based on this biblical mandate, all actions by TBCA students should reflect personal integrity, should respect other students' dignity, right, and property, and should help create and maintain an environment in which all students can succeed through their own efforts.

Dishonesty will not be tolerated which includes cheating, plagiarizing, and facilitating acts of academic dishonesty by other students. Acts of academic dishonesty will be viewed as an academic infraction and an infraction of the Christian beliefs held by all stakeholders of TBCA. These infractions may include but are not limited to:

- using another person's words or ideas without giving credit to that person.
- presenting as new and original an idea or product derived from another source.
- preparing a written assignment and allowing it to be copied and submitted by another student as his/her original work.
- accessing or altering a teacher's record of student grades.

For students who are found to be in violation of this policy, consequences are as follows:

- First offense—a zero on the assignment, one hour of detention with the appropriate administrator, and parent notification.
- Second offense—in-school suspension, a personal conference with student, parent(s), and administrator, and one year's academic probation.
- Third offense—same as second offense with possible dismissal from TBCA.

TRIAD BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Bible

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
6th Bible	6	All year

This course is an overview of the entire Bible, emphasizing the big story of Scripture with all of its references and allusions to the work of Christ on our behalf. The overall purpose is to help students see the unified story of the Bible, not just a collection of isolated stories. It will include classroom discussions, personal Bible study, Scripture memory, and instruction in using the Bible as a reference tool for life.

7th Bible	7	All year
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The primary goal of this course is to teach the students that through their study of the Scriptures, their questions of rules and ideals can be answered. From the study of Proverbs, the students can gain insight into the Word of God and into the worth and purpose of their own lives. Students will make significant connections between biblical wisdom and everyday life. Each student should have a basic knowledge of where each book of the Bible is located by the time they are in middle school. Throughout the course of the year, we will be going over the books of the Bible with a test over the order of the 66 books at the end of the year.

8th Bible	8	All year
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This course seeks to acquaint each student personally with Jesus, the Messiah of God. Focus is given to Jesus Christ as He is the unique Son of God who came to Earth, both fully God and fully human. The study will begin with the incarnate Christ of eternity to the prophecies of the Old Testament, then to His birth, life, ministry, death, resurrection, and ascension.

English

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
6th English	6	All year

This course will focus on improving vocabulary by understanding new words and concepts, as well as strengthening independent vocabulary acquisition skills. Attention will be given to the writing process, effective sentences and word choice, sentence variety and structure, effective paragraphs, grammar, usage, and mechanics. Academic papers will be assessed for using precise language and appropriate vocabulary to convey our purpose to our audience. Provide clear explanations, models, and abundant practice in various contexts and formats.

7th English	7	All year
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Focus will be given to improving vocabulary by understanding new words and concepts, as well as strengthening independent vocabulary acquisition skills. Attention will be given to writing personal narratives, character sketches, compare-contrast essays, persuasive essays, business letters, literary analysis, poems, cause-conflict essays, timed essays, and research reports. autobiographical writing, speech, story writing, descriptive paragraphs, parts of a sentence, a business letter, and a research report. Papers will be written using precise language and appropriate vocabulary to convey our purpose to our audience.

8th English**8****All year**

This course will focus on helping students to become better communicators. Attention will be given to composition and grammar. The student will be challenged to improve their writing by writing arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives. Attention will be given to production and distribution of writing as well as researching and presenting knowledge. Students will be challenged to improve their grammar through writing.

Literature

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
6th Literature	6	All year

Literature addresses various forms of literature centered around various cultures that are commonly marginalized. The specific cultures that will be addressed are as follows: African American and Asian American. The students will learn about the various cultures through novels, short stories, poems, and more. The language portion of this class will be centered around Spanish, but other languages will be introduced.

7th Literature**7****All year**

World Cultures and Languages addresses various forms of literature centered around different cultures. The specific cultures that will be addressed are as follows: Native American, Hispanic American, and European American. The students will learn about the various cultures through novels, short stories, poems, and more. The language portion of this class will be centered around Spanish, but other languages will be introduced.

8th Literature**8****All year**

World Cultures and Languages 8 addresses various forms of literature centered around various cultures that are commonly marginalized. The specific cultures that will be addressed are as follows: African American, Asian American, Native American, Hispanic American, and European American. The students will learn about the various cultures through novels, short stories, poems, and more. The language portion of this class will be centered around Spanish, but other languages will be introduced.

*Other languages may be studied in each class.

Math

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Math 6	6	All year

This course will focus on Algebra 1 skills, geometry, measurement, and data analysis. Attention will be given to numbers and operations, patterns relations, functionals, variables, functions, equations, basic terms, properties, relationships with lines and angles, customary and metric measurement, area, volume, scale factor, and probability graphs collecting and analyzing data.

Math 7**7****All year**

This course will focus on developing number sense for real numbers, problem-solving, measurement, geometric properties, graphs, data analysis, linear relations, and functions. Attention will be given to developing number sense for the real numbers, flexibility in problem-solving, area, perimeter, two or three-dimensional figures, data, etc.

Pre-Algebra**7-8****All year**

This course will focus on understanding computing with real numbers, understanding and using measurement concepts, understanding and using properties and relationships in geometry, graphs and data analysis, and linear equations. Attention will be given to irrational numbers, compare and order, irrational numbers, perimeter, area, or volume, using geometric models, coordinate planes, problem-solving, scatter plot, statistical data, and linear equations and functions.

Course Title	Grade Level	Graduation Credit	Weight
Algebra 1	8-9	1 unit	4.0
Prerequisite: 8th graders are allowed to take this course if they have a high score on standardized testing and teacher recommendation. This course will provide high school credit.			
Algebra 1 is designed to give students the required skills needed as a foundation for all future mathematics courses. Students will explore writing and solving linear equations, powers and exponents, quadratic equations, polynomials and factoring, graphing, and solving linear inequalities, functions, and radical equations.			
Algebra 1 Honors	8-9	1 unit	4.5
Prerequisite: 8th graders are allowed to take this course if they have a high score on standardized testing and teacher recommendation. This course will provide high school credit.			
Honors Algebra 1 includes concepts and topics from the standard Algebra 1 course as well as additional topics in graphing, quadratics, exponential function, and different forms of data.			

Science

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Science 6	6	All year
This course will focus on a general overview of the world and the interactions of living things through a biblical worldview, covering the topics of life, physical, and earth science.		
Science 7	7	All year
This course focuses solely on life science, including all basic living organisms big and small. We explore how God purposefully and intricately designed all living beings and how we have been able to organize his creation and learn their functions.		
Science 8	8	All year
This course is focused on Earth science and how each branch relates to one another as well as the interaction of humans. We learn how the components of the biosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and lithosphere intertwine in our world and the interactions that humans and other organisms have with their environment.		

Social Studies

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Social Studies 6		
Ancient Civilizations	6	All year
This course will focus on using historical thinking to understand the emergence, expansion, and decline of the ancient civilizations of the world.		
Social Studies 7		
World Geography	7	All year
This course will use the tools of geographers to understand our world. Attention will be given to the world's climate, political boundaries, and human geography. The class will look at the world's main regions: the Americas, Europe and Russia, Southwest and Central Asia, and Africa.		

Social Studies 8

U.S. History

8

All year

This course In U.S History will consider the major ideas and beliefs behind the creation of our government, and we will end the course at the Civil War and Reconstruction. Attention will be given to the major beliefs such as the creator-endowed inalienable rights, the structure of the government, separation of powers with checks and balances, frequent and free elections in a representative government, Rule of law, equal justice under the law, private property rights, Federalism, due process, individual rights as set forth in the bill of rights, and individual responsibility.

Fine/ Performance Arts

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Beginner Piano	6-8	Fall/Spring
Beginner piano is a class for students who have a desire to learn how to play the piano. Class size will be 5-6 students and students will use beginner keyboards to learn.		
Chorus	6-8	Fall/Spring
Chorus is a class for students who have a desire to learn how to sing and perform music as a group. This course will focus on performing a variety of choral music. They will perform various styles of music to work on close harmonies and be able to sing different parts independently. This chorus will perform at various school events during the year. All students are expected to attend all required performances.		
Drama/Speech	6-8	Fall/Spring
This course will be an introduction to speech and drama.		
Music Appreciation	6-8	Fall/Spring
This course is for students who have a desire to learn about different pieces of music. Students will be exploring different genres as well as learning foundational musical concepts such as notation, rhythm, pitch and form. They learn about the history of different composers and some of their better-known music pieces as well as watching some silent films and old musicals and think about the impact that music has in our everyday lives.		
Principles of Art (A)	6-8	Fall/Spring
This course is designed for students to explore and experience creative expression, critical evaluation, and a greater appreciation for the Visual Arts. While learning about the elements and principles of design, students will develop their drawing, painting, sculpting, and printmaking skills.		
Beginner Studio Art Painting	6-8	Fall/Spring
With an emphasis on studio arts, students explore a wide range of 2D and 3D media, skills, and techniques, as related to contemporary and historical art perspectives. Projects may include but not be limited to drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, pottery, and sculpture. This course will paint using acrylic, oil-based, watercolors, India ink, and landscape painting.		
Advanced Studio Art Painting	6-8	Fall/Spring
With an emphasis on studio arts, students explore a wide range of 2D and 3D media, skills, and techniques, as related to contemporary and historical art perspectives. Projects may include but not be limited to drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, pottery, and sculpture. This course will paint using acrylic, oil-based, watercolors, India ink, and landscape painting.		
Sculpting	6-8	Fall/Spring
This half-year course will be an exploration of new materials and techniques with an appreciation of sculptural three-dimensional forms. Some of the materials we use may include clay, plaster, cardboard, and carvings. Consideration will be given to the works of sculptors. Historical and contemporary concepts ranging from representational figures to abstract forms are investigated.		

Digital Arts

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Digital Arts (A)	6-8	Fall/Spring

This course is designed to introduce students to the field of digital arts. The student will be introduced to robotics, coding, keyboarding, adobe creative, game animation, Microsoft Suite Tools, Google Suite.

Digital Arts (B)	6-8	Fall/Spring
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This course will build upon applications learned in Digital Arts I. Focus will be given to producing items, using the 3D projector, animation, programming, and cartoon illustration.

Engineering and Technology	6-8	Fall/Spring
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Engineering examines and applies the basic engineering design process. This course is designed for interactive and experiential learning. Students will be encouraged to identify a problem, brainstorm/research, design, build – test – evaluate and redesign, and finally share the solution to specific problems that require higher order thinking skills. The types of engineering explored for this course are mechanical, computer science, hydraulic, aeronautic and electrical.

Graphic Design	6-8	Fall/Spring
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A comprehensive Graphic Design course in digital media. Teaching materials include presentations, lesson plans, video tutorials, student examples, self-evaluations and rubrics. In this course students will learn Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere Pro and Adobe Animate.

Robotics	6-8	Fall/Spring
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This course focuses on learning how to program the LEGO MINDSTORMS EV3 robot using the new Scratch-based EV3 Classroom software. The course also covers how to use robotics applying computer Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematic concepts. The students build the core model robot along with attachments to complete each mission. The curriculum used for this course is EV3 Education using the EV3 app for coding robots..

Physical Education

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Physical Education (Boys and Girls Separate)	6-8	All year

Physical Education highlights the importance of putting God first, then others, and finally yourself. Students will acquire the skills needed for individual and team sports. Students should be proficient in the knowledge of a game to teach others. Health's main goal is to show how fearfully and wonderfully we are made in God's image. Various health units include nutrition, diseases, first aid, and how to maintain fitness. This year long course will involve strength and conditioning, life sports, and basketball 101.

Special Emphasis Courses

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Life Skills	6-8	Fall/Spring

This course will focus on topics such as intrapersonal skills, interpersonal skills, career exploration, healthy lifestyles, finances, household tools, and cooking.