

PROVIDENCE ACADEMY
ACADEMIC PROGRAM GUIDE

MIDDLE SCHOOL



2025
2026

NAME: _____

Academic Program Guide 2025-2026 Middle School

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Providence Academy welcomes students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of our educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school- administered programs.

-August 2009

The administration of Providence Academy reserves the right to interpret the contents of this guide, and to edit, add, or subtract from them.

MISSION STATEMENT

Providence Academy is a Roman Catholic college-preparatory school with a comprehensive, core-knowledge curriculum that promotes superior academic achievement, mastery of skills and content, character development and citizenship within a faith-filled, Christian environment.

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

From the heart of our motto, “Faith, Knowledge, Virtue,” Providence Academy develops habits of spirit, mind and action to prepare students for future leadership in vocations and civic life. The faith and morals taught by the Catholic Church provide the foundation for time-honored training in the liberal arts and sciences. An emphasis on the intellectual and cultural heritage of Western civilization highlights principles of freedom and justice necessary for American self-government. The curriculum’s rigor instills customs of discipline and assures breadth and depth in students’ mastery of educational basics. Extracurricular activities and events incorporate the diverse God-given talents and interests of young people, in accord with our mission. Providence Academy aims to graduate citizens who are good believers, good thinkers, good citizens, good people—in a word, good Christians, prepared to meet the challenges and complexities of American life in the 21st century.

PROVIDENCE ACADEMY’S CODE

Providence Academy accepts the governance of moral and civil law. We are a community of individuals who respect the good in each of God’s children, in our thoughts, our words, and our actions. We recognize rightful authority. We speak truthfully. We are honest in our work and in our dealings with others. We are compassionate, gracious, and courteous to all. We aspire to be citizens who honor God, country and neighbor.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contact numbers	1	Department of Religion	11
Equal opportunity statement	1	Department of History	12
Mission, Philosophy, Code	2	Department of English	13
Table of Contents	3	Department of Mathematics	14
Registration Procedure	4	Department of Science	16
How to request courses	4	Department of World Languages	18
Bell Schedule for Grades 6-8	5	Department of Fine Arts	20
Course Programs by Grade Level	6	Department of Physical Education	23
Placement for Middle School Math	9	Electives from All Departments	24
Semester Exams	9		
Grade Scale	9		
GPA Calculation Example	10		
Grade Reporting	10		
Report Cards & Honors Listings	10		

Registration Procedure

The registration process begins with re-enrollment, continues with course requests, and concludes shortly after students receive their schedules at the start of the school year. Here is the cycle from first request to final schedule:

1. After enrollment renewal in mid-February, students are pre-enrolled in required core courses
2. Students request math, fine arts, elective, and language (for grade 8) courses between late February and mid-March of each year
3. Families receive in email, after Spring Break, those courses that will be planned for scheduling
4. Students may re-apply for honors classes, based on their performance in second semester, right after Memorial Day and prior to the end of the school year
5. Creation of the master schedule begins in the summer after Semester II grades are complete and typically concludes prior to July 4th
6. Students receive their yearlong schedules during orientation in August
7. Students have 2-3 days to request course changes following August orientation

How to request courses in Infinite Campus

In-class requests begin in Infinite Campus the week of March 3-7. Instructions given to students will be as follows:

1. Within the Infinite Campus portal, go to “More” and then select “Course Registration”
2. Select the 2025-2026 school year
3. Courses that PA has added, or will add, display as **Required**. Changes to these requests cannot be made.
4. Courses you request display as **Requests**. Find each course by typing in its title. You can modify these requests prior to 4:00 PM on Friday, March 7th
 1. Request your math course (for grades 7-8)
 2. Request your full-year fine art course(s)
 3. Request your first semester white-period elective
 4. Request your second semester white-period elective
 5. Request your world language course (for 8th-grade only)

For complete information about academic policies, such as attendance, eligibility, course change requests, homework, credit recovery, and many others, please see the Parent-Student Handbook.

**BELL SCHEDULE FOR
 GRADES 6-8**

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	8:30-9:20	RED PERIOD				
2	9:25-10:15	ORANGE PERIOD				
3	10:20-11:10	YELLOW PERIOD				
LUNCH 11:10-11:35						
4	11:40-12:30	GREEN PERIOD				
5	12:35-1:25	DARK BLUE PERIOD				
6	1:30-2:20	PURPLE PERIOD				
7	2:25-3:15	PINK PERIOD	WHITE PERIOD	Mass	WHITE PERIOD	

The Middle-School schedule, shown above, consists of a 7-period day, five days per week, for the entire school year, with lunch always taking place from 11:10 – 11:35 am. Except for lunch, each period is 50 minutes long with five-minutes of passing time in between.

Instead of referring to periods of the day in terms of “first,” “second,” “third,” and so on, we say “red,” “orange,” “yellow” (and the rest above, including “white period”). This is because each color represents one academic subject in a student’s schedule. For example, “red” period for one student may be religion. If so, then that student has religion Monday-Thursday with Friday off. If this student’s “orange period” class is mathematics, then math happens Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday, with Thursday off. And so on. Each subject, therefore, meets just four days per week, and the eight total colors meet our offering of eight subjects (Religion, History, English, Math, Language, Science, required rotation courses--such as PE, art, health, study skills, public speaking, etc--and one elective).

Mass for the Middle School happens each Wednesday during white period (2:25-3:15 pm). White period on Tuesdays and Thursdays has become dedicated to study hall and enrichment electives such as athletics and woodshop.

Course Programs by Grade Level

Students in the Middle School have a rich and varied set of courses. Here is an overview for each grade:

Grade 6: All students take a full year of Religion, English, History, Science, and Math. In addition to these four, several other one-quarter and one-semester courses are required. For example, all students take Launch in the first quarter, followed by MS Writing in second quarter, Art 06 in the 3rd or 4th quarter, and Industrial Arts in the remaining quarter. These four subjects all take place in the same “color” period over the course of the year. Another color period is used for two additional required courses, and these arise in whatever order scheduling requires: “Latin Lives!” for two quarters, along with two quarters of PE. All courses mentioned so far occupy seven of a student’s eight total subjects. Next, students choose one elective from a set of four (below) to complete eight subjects. Finally, in white period (every Tuesday and Thursday), students have the option to take a study hall or elective offerings (see below) given on a pass/fail basis.

GRADE 6

FULL-YEAR COURSES (required) RELIGION 6, HISTORY 6, ENGLISH 6, SCIENCE 6, MATHEMATICS* *math options include Investigations I, Investigations II, Investigations II H			
1ST QTR CORE (required) Launch Latin Lives!*	2ND QTR CORE (required) MS Writing Latin Lives!*	3RD QTR CORE (required) Art 6 PE*	4TH QTR CORE (required) Ind. Arts PE*

*A one-quarter course that may happen in any of the four quarters and not necessarily the one shown here

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES (Grade 6-8 combined. It meets 4x per week for the full year. All students will need to select one.) 1) Concert Band, 2) Chorus & Speech & Drama, 3) String Ensemble-Harmonium, 4) Music Appreciation & 2D Art	
ONE-SEMESTER ELECTIVES Grades 6-8 combined. These meet during white period Tuesday & Thursday. All students select one for each semester. If the student wishes to repeat the course in the second semester, this may be possible—especially study hall—but students are encouraged to explore as many options as they can. Structured Study Hall and Boost will override these electives if a student is assigned to one or more of these.	
1ST - 2ND QTR Study Hall, Athletics, FACS, Film Studies*	3RD - 4TH QTR Study Hall, Athletics, FACS, Film Studies*

*Each of these choices is a one-semester elective that may happen in either of the two semesters as determined by scheduling

Grade 7: All students take a full year of Religion, English, History, Science, Math, and Latin. Each subject takes place in its own “color” period for the year. Another color period is used for three additional required courses, and these may arise in whatever order scheduling requires: Health and Art, each one-quarter in length, along with two quarters of PE. All courses mentioned so far occupy seven of a student’s eight total subjects. Next, students must choose one elective from a set of four (below) to complete eight subjects. Finally, in white period (every Tuesday and Thursday), students have the option to take a study hall or elective offerings (see below) given on a pass/fail basis.

GRADE 7

FULL-YEAR COURSES (required)			
RELIGION 7, HISTORY 7, ENGLISH 7, SCIENCE 7, MATHEMATICS*, LATIN I *math options include Investigations in Math II, Pre-Algebra, Pre-Algebra H			
1ST QTR CORE (required) Health*	2ND QTR CORE (required) Art*	3RD QTR CORE (required) PE*	4TH QTR CORE (required) PE*

*A one-quarter course that may happen in any of the four quarters and not necessarily the one shown here

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES (Grade 6-8 combined. It meets 4x per week for the full year. All students will need to select one.) 1) Concert Band, 2) Chorus & Speech & Drama, 3) String Ensemble-Harmonium, 4) Music Appreciation & 2D Art	
ONE-SEMESTER ELECTIVES Grades 6-8 combined. These meet during white period Tuesday & Thursday. All students select one for each semester. If the student wishes to repeat the course in the second semester, this may be possible—especially study hall—but students are encouraged to explore as many options as they can. Structured Study Hall and Boost will override these electives if a student is assigned to one or more of these.	
1ST - 2ND QTR Study Hall, Athletics, FACS, Film Studies, Woodshop*	3RD - 4TH QTR Study Hall, Athletics, FACS, Film Studies, Woodshop*

*Each of these choices is a one-semester elective that may happen in either of the two semesters as determined by scheduling

Grade 8: All students take a full year of Religion, English, History, Math, Science, and World Language. Each subject takes place in its own “color” period for the year. Another color period is used for three additional required courses, and these may arise in whatever order scheduling requires: Public Speaking and Art, each one-quarter in length, along with two quarters of PE. All courses mentioned so far occupy seven of a student’s eight total subjects. Next, students choose one elective from a set of four (below) to complete eight subjects. Finally, in white period (every Tuesday and Thursday), students have the option to take a study hall or elective offerings (see below) given on a pass/fail basis.

GRADE 8

FULL-YEAR COURSES (required)			
RELIGION 8, HISTORY 8, ENGLISH 8, SCIENCE 8, MATHEMATICS*, WORLD LANGUAGE**			
*math options include Pre-Algebra, Pre-Algebra H, Algebra I, Algebra I H			
**world language options include French I, Latin I, Latin II, Spanish I, or a language waiver			
1ST QTR CORE (required) Public Speaking*	2ND QTR CORE (required) Art*	3RD QTR CORE (required) PE*	4TH QTR CORE (required) PE*

*A one-quarter course that may happen in any of the four quarters and not necessarily the one shown here

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES	
(Grade 6-8 combined. It meets 4x per week for the full year. All students will need to select one.)	
1) Concert Band, 2) Chorus & Speech & Drama, 3) String Ensemble-Harmonium, 4) Music Appreciation & 2D Art	
ONE-SEMESTER ELECTIVES	
Grades 6-8 combined. These meet during white period Tuesday & Thursday. All students select one for each semester. If the student wishes to repeat the course in the second semester, this may be possible—especially study hall—but students are encouraged to explore as many options as they can. Structured Study Hall and Boost will override these electives if a student is assigned to one or more of these.	
1ST - 2ND QTR Study Hall, Athletics, FACS, Film Studies, Woodshop*	3RD - 4TH QTR Study Hall, Athletics, FACS, Film Studies, Woodshop*

*Each of these choices is a one-semester elective that may happen in either of the two semesters as determined by scheduling

**ACADEMIC PRACTICES, POLICIES,
 PROCEDURES**

PLACEMENT FOR MIDDLE-SCHOOL MATH

Students entering 6th Grade are placed in their math class by the math department, in consultation with 5th-grade teachers, in late spring of their fifth-grade year. Those who seek an honors course must take a placement exam. Students entering grades 7-8 are also placed in a non-honors math class based on their progress in the sequence below. If the student seeks an honors course, he/she must request it, in which case the department will review and approve/deny the request. Showing proficiency in preceding math courses and meeting prerequisites to continue through the math sequence is essential. If a student has not demonstrated evidence of proficiency to meet course prerequisites (70%), academic counselors and the math department devise a plan to continue in the math sequence. Placement in Honors courses requires a higher prerequisite percentage.

Accelerating the math sequence via summer program or online coursework is not approved by PA and the math placement for returning students for the following year is made final on June 15.

SEMESTER EXAMS

Semester exams may be given in some MS courses (Latin II, some MS-US mathematics courses). These are comprehensive exams that count for 20 percent of a semester's grade. Attendance on Semester Exam days is mandatory. Exceptions will be granted primarily in the case of family emergency, injury, severe illness, and mandatory attendance at events sponsored by PA. In the event of illness or injury, a doctor's note, indicating necessity for absence, may be required.

GRADE SCALE

	Numeric Value	Grade Point Value	
A	93-100	4.00	Superior achievement
A-	90-92	3.67	
B+	87-89	3.33	
B	83-86	3.00	
B-	80-82	2.67	
C+	77-79	2.33	
C	73-76	2.00	Satisfactory work
C-	70-72	1.67	
D+	67-69	1.33	
D	63-66	1.00	Passing, unsatisfactory
D-	60-62	0.67	
F	59 and below	0.00	Failure
I			Incomplete*

All courses use this grade scale for assessments, quarter grades, and semester grades.

**Incompletes are used only in cases involving extended absence or unusual circumstances*

Students' ongoing quarter grades and report cards are available online in Infinite Campus.

GPA CALCULATION EXAMPLE

(Sum of Mark) * Weight/Sum of Weights:

	Course	Mark	Weight	M*W
A	Religion (4x wk, full sem)	4.00	1.0	= 4.00
A-	History (4x wk, full sem)	3.67	1.0	= 3.67
B+	Math (4x wk, full sem)	3.33	1.0	= 3.33
B	English (4x wk, full sem)	3.00	1.0	= 3.00
B-	Science (4x wk, full sem)	2.67	1.0	= 2.67
C+	Health (4x wk, 1qtr)	2.33	0.5	= 1.17
C	Art (4x wk, 1 qtr)	2.00	0.5	= 1.00
C	PE (4x wk, 1 qtr)	2.00	1.0	= 2.00
C-	Elective	1.67	1.0	= 1.67

Total 8 22.51
 22.51 / 8 = 2.81 CUM
 GPA

Pass-fail courses are not calculated in a student's GPA. Middle School GPAs are not cumulative year-to-year, but rather are calculated each semester.

GRADE REPORTING

Providence Academy has two types of grading schedules in the Middle School: the quarter and the semester. Quarters one and two happen within semester one; quarters three and four happen within semester two. Grades for quarter-long courses, such as Art, Study Skills, and the others, are recorded on each of the report cards for first and second semester. Grades for semester-long courses are determined one way for courses that give semester exams and another way for those that do not: 1) Courses with no semester exam draw 100% of the grade from assessments such as tests, projects, quizzes, etc. 2) Courses with semester exams assign 20% of the grade to the exam and the remainder from assessments such as tests, projects, quizzes, etc.

REPORT CARDS:

Semester I: Report Cards for Semester I are posted in Infinite Campus after grades are collected.

In Semester II: Report Cards for both Semester I and II are printed and mailed home.

MS report cards are NOT sent to colleges and universities.

A MS student's cumulative GPA is calculated at the

end of each semester and includes both single-quarter and full-semester courses.

HONORS LISTINGS

Three honors listings are awarded in the Middle School: The "Honor Roll" recognizes students who achieve a semester GPA of 3.00 to 3.32. The "Director's List" identifies those students who achieve a semester GPA of 3.33-3.66. The "Headmaster's List" is composed of students who achieve a semester GPA of 3.67 or above.

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

The foundation on which the department is built and its animating principle is the Word of God expressed in Scripture and Tradition and infallibly taught by the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church. Faith — understood both as the revealed truth to be believed and as the infused virtue by which this truth lives in persons — is the heart of the Religion program. With the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the Church Fathers and Doctors as its principal sources, the department combines theology with catechesis in an attempt to engage and evangelize students.

-Departmental Mission Statement

Students are automatically enrolled in the course shown below.

REQUIRED COURSES		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Religion 6	Religion 7	Religion 8

“It is necessary...that religious instruction in schools appear as a scholastic discipline with the same systematic demands and the same rigor as other disciplines. It must present the Christian message and the Christian event with the same seriousness and the same depth with which other disciplines present their knowledge. It should not be an accessory alongside of these disciplines, but rather it should engage in a necessary inter-disciplinary dialogue.” (*General Directory on Catechesis*, n.73§5)

Religion 6: Saints & the Creed

In sixth grade Religion, students engage in a thorough study of the doctrines of our faith by studying the tenets of the Nicene Creed. Students develop an understanding of both the foundational teachings of the Church, along with the reasons why the Church believes them.

Prayer and the lives of the saints are also incorporated into the class, and help to connect the teachings of the faith, to personal living of the faith.

Religion 7: Sacraments & Morality

In the seventh grade Religion course, students engage in catechetical study, study the seven sacraments in depth, read and meditate upon the Scriptures, through *Lectio Divina*, and study the lives of saints. They practice Catholic devotional prayers, come to understand and more fully

participate in the Liturgical seasons, and learn about moral decision-making and chastity.

Religion 8: Scripture & Tradition

The 8th Grade Religion course will systematically examine how God reveals Himself to man. This course will examine natural revelation - what can be known about God by contemplating creation itself - and then moving to the two modes of Divine Revelation: Sacred Tradition and Sacred Scripture. Most of the course will focus on an examination of Divine Revelation as found in Sacred Scripture, showing how the Bible can be seen as one story in which the New Testament is hidden in the Old, and the Old Testament is revealed in the New. The central figure of Divine Revelation is Jesus Christ.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

The Department of History regards as its highest objective student understanding of the major economic, political, social and cultural movements that have shaped Western Civilization from the Neolithic Revolution to our current age. In pursuit of this objective, students will acquire the necessary skills to flourish at the highest collegiate levels and to become more knowledgeable about the civilization of which they are the beneficiaries. Requisite skills include critical reasoning, concise and cogent writing, analysis of cause and effect, as well as the moral framework through which to filter and thereby assess the choices made by men and women in the past, and to weigh the consequences of those choices. Imparted content will include appreciation for the Christian values that ennoble the best of our western heritage. Mastered competence in both the content and skills utilized by historians will result in culturally literate citizens who are equipped to meet the challenges of an evermore complex world marked by dynamic and perplexing change.

-Departmental Mission Statement

Students are automatically enrolled in the required course(s) shown below.

REQUIRED COURSES		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
History 6	History 7	History 8

History 6: Survey of the West

In this course, students will examine the great civilizations and milestones of Western civilization. Throughout the year we will learn about Mesopotamia, Ancient Greece and Rome. We will continue to explore history through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance and finally to the revolutions of America and France. In addition to the important content, there will be a special emphasis on historical thinking skills. These include writing, map, and critical reasoning skills while analyzing secondary and primary sources. McGraw-Hill's "Discovering Our Past - A History of the World" is the selected textbook.

History 8: American Civics

Eighth grade history is a survey of American civics. The textbook used is McGraw Hill's Building "Citizenship: Civics and Economics," in addition to primary sources Emphasizing primary documentation and current events, the course focuses on the role of citizenship and its historical and contemporary interaction with the three branches of government. The course also introduces students to the fundamentals of economics, and the role of the government in a market economy.

History 7: US History 7: The 20th Century

This course introduces students to the many events that have shaped the U.S. into the society that it is today. Events studied include the Spanish-American War, both World Wars, Korea and Vietnam, the Great Depression, FDR's Presidency, the Civil Rights Movement and the Cold War. There is also a focus on current events and understanding America's role in the world today. Students use McGraw Hill's "Discovering Our Past - A History of the United States" as they encounter this survey of U.S. history.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

The Department of English at Providence Academy teaches great works of Western literature to help students pursue truth and thus improve as human beings. These texts reveal that knowledge of enduring truth is a beneficial thing attainable by human minds and that virtuous actions make greater individuals and build better societies. We require students to discuss these works, grapple with perennial ideas, and engage in the conversation of mankind. We require that students learn the skills of proper grammar, written, and oral expression necessary for them to succeed in this conversation.

-Departmental Mission Statement

Students are automatically enrolled in the required course shown below.

REQUIRED COURSES		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
English 6	English 7	English 8

English 6

The purpose of the course is to expose students to works of traditional literature and teach them how to express their ideas in paragraph form. Students read various myths, legends, fairy tales and fables as well as common sayings and proverbs. Students are required to apply themselves to building their writing skills, discussing material, and organizing their thoughts in a clear manner with correct grammar. The year includes study in grammar with emphasis on the basic parts of speech and punctuation rules, as well as a strategic augmentation of their vocabulary.

English 7

The purpose of the course is to expose students to works of traditional literature and teach them how to express their ideas through writing. Students read various works of fiction, drama, short stories, and poetry as well as common sayings and proverbs from such authors as J.R.R. Tolkien, London, and C.S. Lewis. Students are required to apply themselves to develop an understanding of essay structure, commit to memory the literary concepts such as theme, conflict and characterization, and use the literature to develop their writing skills. They are required to discuss material, and organize their thoughts in a clear manner using correct grammar. The year includes study in grammar with a concentration on sentence structure, as well as a strategic augmentation of their vocabulary. The course texts are: Exercises in English (Grammar Study), Word Voyages (online Vocab Study), Realms of

Gold II (a poetry and short story compendium), Lewis' The Magician's Nephew, Rostand's Cyrano de Bergerac, Tolkien's The Hobbit, and London's The Call of the Wild.

English 8

The purpose of the course is to expose students to a variety of traditional literature pieces and to teach students how to express their own ideas through various forms of writing. Students read various works of fiction, drama, short stories, personal narratives, poetry, speeches, common sayings and proverbs. Students are required to apply themselves to develop an understanding of the forms of writing presented, to commit to memory the literary concepts offered, and to use the concepts to develop their writing skills. In their writing, students are required to: respond to literature through different writing exercises, organize their thoughts in a clear manner using correct grammar; and participate in activities such as class discussions, constructing unique literary projects, and critiquing cinema versions. Special preparation for high school includes a rigorous review of grammar, usage, punctuation and vocabulary studies including common Greek and Latin roots. The course texts are: Exercises in English (Grammar Study), Word Voyages (online Vocab Study), Realms of Gold III (a poetry and short story compendium), Babbitt's Tuck Everlasting, Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, Orwell's Animal Farm, Dickens' A Christmas Carol, and Steinbeck's The Pearl.

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Mathematics establishes a dynamic intellectual foundation for all forms of organized knowledge modeling physical reality and providing logical patterns for inquiry. Realizing this, the mathematics department of Providence Academy requires mastery of skills using a combination of drill and practice methods and innovative activities that emphasize conceptual understanding, problem solving, and analytical thinking skills. Precise and meaningful mathematical communication, both oral and written is vital in all of our courses. The program's college-preparatory curriculum is rigorous and intellectually challenging for students. It consists of separate courses in algebra, geometry/trigonometry, pre-calculus, calculus, and statistics.

-Departmental Mission Statement

Math 06

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: Math placement test

This comprehensive course is designed to further studies of whole number operations and problem solving. This course will lay the foundation for the studies of algebra, geometry, and statistics. Students will learn number patterns, graphing, operations with fractions, integers, and decimals, solving one-step equations, introducing two-step equations, using visualization, spatial reasoning, simple probability, and geometric modeling to solve problems. Students will represent and analyze mathematical situations and structures using algebraic symbols. Course text: Big Ideas Math: Modeling Real Life.

- Successful completion of this course will prepare all students for Pre-Algebra
- Guideline for placement in Pre-Algebra Honors: 93% average

Math 06 H

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisites: Math placement test

This comprehensive course is designed to further studies of whole number operations and problem solving. This course will lay the foundation for the studies of algebra, geometry, and statistics. Students will learn number patterns, graphing, operations with fractions, integers, and decimals, solving one-step equations, introducing two-step equations, using visualization, spatial reasoning, simple probability, and geometric modeling to solve problems. Students will represent and analyze mathematical situations and structures using algebraic symbols. Concepts are covered in more depth and at a more accelerated pace than in the 6th grade math course. Course text: Big Ideas Math: Modeling Real Life.

- Successful completion of this course will prepare all students for Pre-Algebra

- Guideline for placement in Pre-Algebra Honors: 93% average

Pre-Algebra

Grade Level: 7

Prerequisite: Math placement test or 70% or above in Math 06

In this course, students explore principles of algebra, algebraic expressions, solving basic equations and systems of equations, operations with rational numbers, ratio, proportion and percent, multi-step equations, inequalities, linear equations and graphing, applying algebra to geometry, right triangles, geometry of two- and three-dimensional figures, and statistics and probability. Course Text: Big Ideas Math Modeling Real Life.

- Successful completion of this course will prepare all students for Algebra I
- Guideline for placement in Algebra I Honors: 93% average

Pre-Algebra Honors

Grade Level: 6,7

Prerequisites: A in Math 6 or a B in Math 6 H; approved request

In this course, students explore principles of algebra, algebraic expressions, solving basic equations and systems of equations, operations with rational numbers, ratio, proportion and percent, multi-step equations, inequalities, linear equations and graphing, applying algebra to geometry, right triangles, geometry of two- and three-dimensional figures, and statistics and probability. This course is designed for students that have demonstrated a high level of achievement in 6th grade math. Concepts are covered in more depth and at an accelerated pace than in the Pre-Algebra course. Course Text: Big Ideas Math Modeling Real Life.

- Successful completion of this course will prepare all students for Algebra I

- Guideline for placement in Algebra I
Honors: 83% average

Algebra I

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisite: Math placement test or 70% or above in Pre-Algebra

Algebra I emphasizes algebraic language, structure, concepts, and skills. Major topics include algebraic properties and the real number system, linear equations and inequalities, linear functions and their graphs, systems of linear equations, polynomials, factoring, theoretical probability, simplifying square roots, operations with square roots, solving quadratic equations, and real world applications. Course text: Big Ideas Algebra 1.

*NCAA approved course

- Successful completion of this course will prepare all students for Geometry and Algebra II
- Guideline for placement in Geometry and Trigonometry Honors: A average
- Performance in both Algebra I and Geometry will be considered in Algebra II placement

Algebra I Honors

Grade Level: 7, 8

Prerequisites: 93% in Pre-Algebra or a 83% in Pre-Algebra Honors; approved request

In this course, students study the properties of real numbers with an emphasis on precision and facility with mathematical language, both verbal and symbolic. Other topics studied include linear equations and inequalities, absolute value equations and inequalities, linear functions and their graphs, systems of linear equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, simplifying square roots, operations with square roots, solving quadratic equations with factoring especially with a leading coefficient, quadratic formula, probability, statistics, and rational equations. Students will also apply these skills to real world situations. This course is designed for students that have demonstrated a high level of achievement in Pre-Algebra. Concepts are covered in more depth and at an accelerated pace than in the Algebra I course. Course text: Big Ideas Algebra 1.

*NCAA approved course

- Successful completion of this course will prepare all students for Geometry and Algebra II
- Guideline for placement in Geometry and Trigonometry Honors: 83% average
- Performance in both Algebra I Honors and Geometry will be considered for placement in Algebra II Honors

Geometry

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisite: Math placement test or 70% or above in Algebra I

This course is a study of Euclidean geometry. Topics include mathematical reasoning and proofs, properties of plane figures and polygons, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent and similar triangles, geometric inequalities, the Pythagorean Theorem, right triangle trigonometry, area, volume, circles, compass and straightedge constructions, coordinate geometry and transformations. Algebraic skills will be reinforced throughout the course in preparation for Algebra II, the next course in the sequence. Textbook: Big Ideas Geometry.

*NCAA approved course

- Successful completion of this course will prepare all students for Algebra II, and is required for Physics placement
- The Math Department recommends a minimum average grade of 93% in Geometry to be considered for placement in Algebra II Honors
- Performance in both Algebra I (College-prep or Honors) and Geometry will be considered in Algebra II placement

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE

The Department of Science at Providence Academy is dedicated to providing students a comprehensive understanding of science and technology, and their general progress, in order to appreciate the beauty of God’s created world, make sound moral decisions and succeed in post-secondary education. Students follow the Core Knowledge Curriculum through eighth grade, then take three required years of science that must include chemistry and biology. Students are encouraged to take four years of science by choosing from elective science courses such as Introductory Earth Science, Earth and Space Science, Physics, and Advanced Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Students will use the scientific process, applying math, writing, laboratory, and presentation skills, as well as participate in discussions of current moral issues. These activities will help students to become aware of the interrelatedness of God, science, and the world around them.

-Departmental Mission Statement

Students are automatically enrolled in the required course(s) shown below. Students in grades 7-8 may, however, request Woodshop (one of the one-semester electives) online.

REQUIRED Full-Year COURSE		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Science 6	Science 7	Science 8

REQUIRED ONE-QUARTER COURSE		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Industrial Art		

ONE SEMESTER ELECTIVE		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
FACS	Wood Shop FACS	Wood Shop FACS

Science 6

Grade Level: 6

Students begin the year studying the circulatory, lymphatic and immune systems of the body. This is followed by an in depth study of astronomy, including our solar system, galaxy, and the universe. In the spring, students will examine our own planet in detail, including plate tectonics, volcanoes, earthquakes and the oceans. Tests, projects, and labs are used for assessment. The Prentice-Hall “Science Explorer” series supplies the texts for each content area.

Science 7

Grade Level: 7

Students will explore the components of life from the atom to single cells and living organisms. The basics of chemistry, cell biology, genetics, and evolution are studied along with laboratory skills and use of the scientific method. Many units are integrated with the study of human biology, including the digestive, respiratory and excretory systems. Tests, projects, and labs are used as assessments. The Prentice-Hall “Science Explorer” series supplies the texts for each content area.

Science 8

Grade Level: 8

Students will explore energy in all its forms: motion, work, heat, light, sound, electricity and magnetism. Students will also investigate how our bones, muscles, and nervous system work. Mathematics in the form of formulas and calculations will be very important. Hands-on activities and labs are used to illustrate the physical laws of the universe. Tests, projects, and labs are used for assessments. Textbooks from the Prentice-Hall "Science Explorer" series cover each content area.

Family & Consumer Science (FACS)

Grade level: 6, 7, 8

This hands-on course introduces students to the fundamentals of sewing & design and foods & nutrition among other life skills. Students will learn basic to intermediate hand embroidery and sewing machine techniques as well as button sewing and other such crafts. Students will also learn the basics of cooking and baking as well as the science and nutrition behind it. This course has a \$55 materials fee. Students with any food

allergies need permission from the instructor to register. (One semester; 2 days per week during white period; pass/fail)

Industrial Art

Grade Level: 6

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of working in a woodshop. Students will be introduced to shop safety, technical drawing, and carpentry. Upon successful completion of mandatory safety tests, students will complete multiple projects. This course has a \$55 materials fee. (4 days per week, one quarter)

Wood Shop

Grade Level: 7, 8

This course introduces students to fundamental woodworking skills. Students will be introduced to wood shop tools with a strong emphasis placed on safety. Upon successful completion of mandatory safety tests, students will choose several wood projects to complete. This course has a \$55 materials fee. (2 days per week during white period, one semester, pass-fail)

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES

The Department of World Languages at Providence Academy invites students to explore, appreciate, and communicate purposefully in French, Latin, and Spanish. Our program promotes listening, understanding, reading, writing, and speaking. We teach linguistic, cultural, historical, and geographic aspects of these languages, challenging students to grow in their faith, sense of global community, and service to others. Students explore Spanish from pre-kindergarten through grade two and French from grades three through five; grades six and seven study Latin to build grammar and vocabulary; eighth graders through seniors may seek proficiency via five years of development in their chosen language.

-Departmental Mission Statement

Students entering grades 6 or 7 are automatically enrolled in the required course(s) shown below. Students entering grade 8, however, may request a language course in Infinite Campus in accordance with the options shown below.

REQUIRED COURSES		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Latin 6	Latin 7	French I Latin I, Latin II Spanish I 1-yr deferral

Latin 6: The Roman Family

Grade Level: 6

Course Type: required

Prerequisites: none

Fee: none

Students are introduced to basic grammar concepts and vocabulary, ancient Roman geography and family culture through Latin readings. *Lingua Latina* (Hackett Publishing Company, 2003) is used as the primary text. Students will finish the course with a capstone project detailing the daily life of a child in ancient Rome. (No prerequisites; 1 semester only; required course for 6th grade)

Latin I

Grade Level: 7, 8

Course Type: required

Prerequisites: none

Fee: none

Students gain experience and insight into *how* to study a foreign language. They will learn about the parts of speech in Latin, study vocabulary and their English derivatives, and learn about ancient Roman culture, as they read adapted primary source passages from Roman literature. This course covers the first half of Latin for the New

Millennium Vol. 1 textbook. (No prerequisites; required course for middle school)

Latin II

Grade Level: 8

Course Type: core elective

Prerequisites: C- or above in Latin I.

Fee: none

Students complete Latin for the New Millennium Vol. 1 textbook. They continue to learn about the parts of speech in Latin, study vocabulary and their English derivatives, and learn about ancient Roman culture, as they read adapted primary source passages from Roman literature. This course covers the second half of Latin for the New Millennium Vol. 1 textbook.

French I

Grade Level: 8

Course Type: core elective

Prerequisites: none

Fee: Workbook (at cost approx \$15-20)

French I is an introductory level course that begins the three to five year sequence of Upper School French and focuses on the four language learning skills of: listening, speaking, reading and writing. The emphasis is on building confidence in

listening and speaking through oral work in class. Materials include the Discovering French Level One program consisting of carefully integrated texts, a video and audio program as well as a supporting workbook program. Students learn to communicate in the present tense, the recent past and the immediate future tense. The course explores life and culture in France and introduces the Francophone world.

Spanish I

Grade Level: 8

Course Type: core elective

Spanish I is an introductory level course that begins the three to five year sequence of Upper School Spanish and focuses on listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in tandem with the Avancemos I curriculum. Methods include interactive classroom activities, a video program and an audio program complemented with a workbook. Students learn to communicate in regular and irregular present tense. The course explores geography, dialect and culture of various Spanish-speaking countries.

1-Year Language Deferral

Providence Academy expects students entering the eighth grade to take a world language. Doing this helps them to maintain a strong academic course of study and take full advantage of PA's world language programs in the Upper School. Taking a language in eighth grade is consistent with best practices in college-preparatory schools.

A family may determine, however, that a student is not prepared to pursue the full program of study Providence offers to the eighth grade and should take, instead of a world language, a study hall in order to focus on other courses. This deferral will prevent the student from taking an additional study hall during white period and will require an elective instead. All students are required to take a world language in ninth grade.

In the Upper School, students are required to take 2 years of language, minimum, in French, Latin, and/or Spanish to meet graduation requirements. This requires completion of a level 3 language and one other in the US, or two level-2 languages completed in the US. If a student fulfills the language requirement at the end of sophomore year, other language options become available. Since most students taking level one are in the eighth grade, language level I and II courses are often on the 9-10 lunch schedule. A junior or senior taking a level I or II language course may, therefore, not have an 11-12 lunch on one or three days each week. Because college acceptance requirements vary, Providence Academy recommends that students take 4 credits of language during their four years in Upper School (preferably in the same language).

DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

Providence Academy's Department of Fine Arts believes that the arts are integral to the formation of a complete person. Therefore, students learn the fundamental skills of each discipline in order to produce artistic creations and gain an understanding and appreciation of the world. The arts add beauty, joy, and life to the student experience.

Studio Art emphasizes sound drawing techniques in order to develop ideas in all areas of the visual arts. Students apply the principles of art to a variety of projects in an environment where tradition enlightens creativity.

Theater and production courses analyze the history and theory of performance while developing basic skills in design and technical aspects of theater. Students present their knowledge and skill through various theatrical presentations.

Music courses teach historical, theoretical, and emotional analysis through performances. Through these modes, students are encouraged to become comprehensive musicians.

*-Departmental Mission Statement
 September, 2008/2015*

Students are automatically enrolled in the required courses shown below. All MS students will need to request one of the following 4 electives: 1) Concert Band, 2) String Ensemble-Harmonium, 3) MS Chorus & Speech & Drama, 4) Music Appreciation & 2D Art. Finally, students may request the partial-year elective shown below.

REQUIRED COURSES		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Art 6	Art 7	Art 8 Public Speaking

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES <i>(all students in grades 6-8 must select one of the 4 options below)</i>		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
MS Concert Band* MS String Ensemble-Harmonium* MS Chorus & Speech & Drama* Music Appreciation & 2D Art*	MS Concert Band* MS String Ensemble-Harmonium* MS Chorus & Speech & Drama* Music Appreciation & 2D Art*	MS Concert Band* MS String Ensemble-Harmonium* MS Chorus & Speech & Drama* Music Appreciation & 2D Art*

**Periodically, especially when assessments tend to increase in number, such as toward the end of a marking period, teachers of full-year electives will provide study time during class.*

PARTIAL-YEAR ELECTIVE (OFFERED DURING WHITE PERIOD)		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Film Studies	Film Studies	Film Studies

Art 6: Classical Art Periods*

Grade Level: 6

Sixth grade art class begins with the classical art and architecture of ancient Greece and Rome. The influence of "classical" art is then compared and contrasted during the study of other major periods of Western art that followed. These include the

Gothic period, the Renaissance and the Baroque period. The last unit of this class reviews the varied styles of the four brief but influential periods that followed the Baroque era: Rococo, Neoclassical, Romanticism and 19th Century Realism.

Art 7: 19th & 20th-Century Art Movements*

Grade Level: 7

Seventh grade visits the major art movements of late 19th and early 20th Century Europe, including Impressionism, Art Nouveau, Cubism and Surrealism. In addition to developing a recognition of the unique styles of these movements and the artists involved, students undertake multiple in-class projects and sketchbook assignments involving foundational drawing and compositional skills, such as: Positive and Negative Space, Chiaroscuro, Linear Perspective, and Cross-Hatching. A variety of media is also explored, including pen, watercolors, collage, oil pastel, acrylic paint and low-fire clay.

Art 8: Modern Art & Architecture*

Grade Level: 8

The 20th Century is the primary focus of eighth grade art. This class begins with the study of architecture from the Industrial Revolution to the modern International Style that defined the post-WWII years. The second unit focuses on the major artists and works of 20th Century sculpture.

This is followed by an examination of mid-century modern painting beginning with Abstract Expressionism. Finally, this class concludes with a brief history of photography and its use as an art form.

*Throughout all of the middle school Art classes a variety of drawing assignments and art projects are executed. All assignments are focused on the basic principles and elements of art and very often relate directly to the current unit of study.

Public Speaking

Grade Level: 8

Students develop confidence in such fundamental elements of public speaking as poise, eye contact, body language, projection, speed, articulation, emphasis, and non-verbal expression. Uses of language and visual aids are important additions. Each student presents a minimum of three formal speeches during the semester: introductory (about a historical figure or role model), informative (about a topic), and persuasive (about an issue). (1 quarter)

MS Concert Band

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

Students in Concert Band learn and demonstrate the technical, theoretical, historical, intellectual, and emotional elements of intermediate instrumental

music literature. Students also exercise teamwork and leadership in an ensemble setting that meets 4 times per week. The students perform in mandatory concerts throughout the school year and each student will receive an individual/paired weekly band lesson. It is preferred that the students have previous instrumental training, but admittance on an individual basis for those who have never played before is possible with director consent. (Fees will apply)

String Ensemble-Harmonium

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

Harmonium is a Middle School Strings ensemble for students with at least one year of experience on a string instrument. Admittance for those without prior experience is possible with director consent. Every student is expected to master the music for the concerts through personal practice at home and class practice, along with written work that explores other aspects of music and performance. Students perform in concerts throughout the year and each student also attends a 10-minute private or semi-private lesson each week. (Fees will apply)

MS Chorus

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Middle School Chorus will give students an introduction to singing and proper vocal techniques. Students will be introduced to concepts in basic music theory, and they will also explore different styles and periods of music. Middle School Chorus performs in two major concerts each semester with potential for 2 additional performing opportunities. Performances are a required part of the grade for this class. (1 semester, the other semester will be Speech and Drama, each one quarter in length)

Speech

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

Students explore various types of speaking through three separate quarter-long courses. One of the courses focuses on the events in a Speech Forensics tournament. Units include: Interpretation and Extemporaneous Speaking. Another course focuses on using speech in everyday communication. Units include: Intrapersonal and Interpersonal Communication, Group Communication, and Public Speaking. The third course focuses on persuasive speaking with an emphasis on learning how to debate according to the rules of Lincoln/Douglas. (1 quarter; opposite quarter will be dedicated to Drama; the other

semester will be MS Chorus)

Theater

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

Students will work through multiple aspects of theater, including Theater History, Script Analysis, Technical Theater, and Acting. Upon completion of these drama classes, students will have a basic understanding of theater. Classes will include characterization, basic theater terminology, costuming, lighting, scenic design, and theater history. (1 quarter; opposite quarter will be dedicated to Speech; the other semester will be MS Chorus)

Music Appreciation

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

Students will explore one of these three subject areas, which are rotated every three years.

1. The Beginning of Music to 1800

Students study the importance of music from prehistoric times through the classical era. Composers and their music from each era are studied including: Palestrina, Monteverdi, Vivaldi, J.S. Bach, G.F. Handel, F.J. Haydn, and W.A. Mozart. The course includes many projects and opportunities for cooperative learning.

2. Music of the Romantic Era & Jazz, 1800 -1920

The musical timeline continues with the study of the Romantic Era. Students will study the composers and their music, traditional performance practices, and how music reflects social change in the 1800's. In addition, students will learn the traditions of American music, including the history and form of the Blues and Jazz. The course includes many projects and opportunities for cooperative learning.

3. Music from 1900 to Present-day Music

Students study the "isms" of the 20th century, opera, American musical theater and world music. Composers include Bela Bartok, Jean Sibelius, Igor Stravinsky, Leonard Bernstein and others. The course includes many projects and opportunities for cooperative learning.

(1 semester; the other semester will be 2D Art)

2D ART

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8 The semester-long 2d Art class is mostly about improving your drawing abilities. We will do that through daily drawing

practice via dozens of skill-based drawing assignments. Art history lessons and quizzes will provide the necessary background to many of those assignments. Students will be required to keep and use a sketchbook for which weekly assignments (done as homework) will be given. Providence will provide the sketchbooks, but students are required to bring their own pencils, erasers, and a folder to class each day. Over the course of the semester various materials may be used in addition to pencil. These can include pastel and watercolor. (1 semester; the other semester will be Music Appreciation)

Film Studies

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

Students will learn to analyze films from a critical and historical perspective in order to gain not only a deeper appreciation of the art of film and the history and progression of it, but also to enrich their understanding of films they see in everyday life. Students will practice analyzing, explaining, and discussing films while paying attention to elements such as narrative, cinematography, composition, sound, editing, and mise-en-scène. Films will be presented as snapshots in time that captures not only the spirit of the age but also the chronological progression of the art. (1 semester)

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education is an integral part of the educational experience for all students at Providence Academy. The PK-12th grade program promotes lifetime activity and fitness through the development of skills in a variety of physical activities. Students also learn foundational values such as teamwork, sportsmanship, honesty, and integrity that they can carry with them for a lifetime of enjoyment in recreational and competitive sports.

-Departmental Mission Statement

Students are automatically enrolled in the required course(s) shown below. Students may, however, request Athletics (one of the one-semester electives) online in Infinite Campus.

REQUIRED COURSES		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Physical Education 6	Physical Education 7 Health	Physical Education 8

One-Semester ELECTIVES		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
Athletics	Athletics	Athletics

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

The Middle School physical education program builds on the basic skills learned in lower school. The main emphasis of the program is an introduction of the basic rules and concepts of the actual game in the areas of both team and individual sports. Students will be tested on their understanding of those basic rules and concepts, as well as on their ability to perform certain skills associated with those activities.

Continuing the school plan of testing physical fitness every other year, 7th graders will go through a battery of tests to help track students' development in this area. Students will take one semester (four days per week) of physical education at each grade level.

Health

Grade Level: 7

Students will study concepts that promote maintaining and improving their overall level of

health & wellness. Concepts that will be covered include: making responsible choices, benefits of exercise, food and nutrition, managing stress, effects of tobacco and alcohol, the body's reproductive systems (male and female), and providing CPR and First Aid in emergencies. Decision-making strategies and conflict resolution skills will also be emphasized throughout the course. (1 quarter)

Athletics

Grade Levels: 6, 7, 8

This elective, which meets twice a week, is an activity class. Students will spend their time actively doing many different activities that will help their overall fitness level. Students will be graded as pass/fail for this class based on their participation. (1 semester; pass/fail)

ELECTIVES FROM ALL DEPARTMENTS

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES		
These courses meet four times per week <i>(all students in grades 6-8 must select one of the 4 options below)</i>		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
MS Concert Band MS String Ensemble-Harmonium MS Chorus & Speech & Drama Music Appreciation & 2D Art	MS Concert Band MS String Ensemble-Harmonium MS Chorus & Speech & Drama Music Appreciation & 2D Art	MS Concert Band MS String Ensemble-Harmonium MS Chorus & Speech & Drama Music Appreciation & 2D Art

ONE-SEMESTER ELECTIVES		
These courses meet twice per week (Tuesday and Thursday)		
GRADE 6	GRADE 7	GRADE 8
FACS Film Studies Athletics Study Hall	FACS Film Studies Woodshop Athletics Study Hall	FACS Film Studies Woodshop Athletics Study Hall



PROVIDENCE ACADEMY

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