

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 allow our students 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 your academic skills. The classes you take are an opportunity to try out new experiences and take time to grow in areas of interest. We desire to help you 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 parent's 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 standards to promote a high standard of education and is committed to the accreditation and improvement process.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Academic Information

Academic Societies	5
Dropping and Adding of Courses	5
Athletics	5
Grading Policy	5
Grading Scale for Students	6
Academic Integrity Statement	7

Course Descriptions

Bible	8
English	8
Literature	9
Math	9
Science	10
Social Studies	10
Fine/Performance Arts	11
Digital Arts	12
Physical Education	12
Special Emphasis Courses	12
Foreign Language	12
Leadership	13

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.

DROPPING AND ADDING 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 to 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

Athletes are students first and foremost. 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 and no Fs 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, rights, 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 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.
- submitting an assignment produced by an AI content generation tool as one's own work without referencing or stating the use of AI material to the teacher.
- accessing or altering a teacher's record of student grades.

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

First offense—a zero on the assignment, after school detention with the appropriate administrator, and parent notification.

Second offense—in-school suspension, a personal conference with the student, parent(s), and administrator, and one year's academic probation.

Third offense—same as second offense, with possible dismissal from TBCA.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STATEMENT

Use of AI is considered a tool now available to students in the same way technological resources are available (i.e., YouTube tutorials, Khan Academy, Wikipedia, etc.). The heart of the issue of AI-generated content is one of academic honesty. The goal is to use AI as a tool to enhance learning rather than to replace the genuine teaching and learning process. Students are permitted to use AI-assisted resources, unless otherwise directed by the teacher, in the same way a student might appropriately use other technological resources such as Google, Wikipedia, tutoring services, or even a calculator.

Students must cite AI-generated content by submitting AI conversations alongside the student work if AI was used at any point in the creation process. AI should not be used to engage in plagiarism, cheating, or any form of dishonesty in academic work. AI work must not be submitted in place of student work. Submitting AI work as original student work is prohibited. Copying and pasting any amount of text from AI-generated content, unless otherwise directed by the teacher, is considered plagiarism.

Suspicion of uncited AI-generated content or the application of AI against teacher direction will disqualify the assignment. Confirmation of AI-generated content, whether through an online AI Detector or other means, will result in standard plagiarism consequences.

TRIAD BAPTIST CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Bible

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
6th Bible-The Christian Worldview	6	All year
What does it mean to have a biblical worldview of all things? This course answers questions about God, the universe, people, truth, and right and wrong. This course includes a Bible Survey of Acts of the Apostles.		
7th Bible-Competing Worldviews	7	All year
This course includes an analysis, evaluation, and critique of Islam, naturalism, and new spirituality in comparison with Christianity. This course includes a Bible Survey of Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians.		
8th Bible-Christianity in Action	8	All year
This course is about cultural engagement and life application of Christianity in areas including theology, philosophy, ethics, psychology, sociology, biology, and history. This course includes a Bible Survey of the Epistles.		

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
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 analyses, 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 the 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
This course will cover a variety of literary genres and styles. Topics include plot, conflict, figurative language, tone, and mood. Students will read novels covering fiction and nonfiction genres, short stories, and poetry. Students will be encouraged to utilize their creativity in both written and visual presentations. Specific novels read in 6th grade include <i>Esperanza Rising</i> , <i>Bronze Bow</i> , <i>A Father's Promise</i> , and <i>Elijah of Buxton</i> .		

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

This course will cover a variety of literary genres and styles. Topics include plot, conflict, figurative language, tone, and mood. Students will read novels covering fiction and nonfiction genres, short stories, and poetry. Students will be encouraged to utilize their creativity in both written and visual presentations. Specific novels read in 7th grade include *Boy in the Striped Pajamas*, *Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna*, *Fever 1793*, and *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry*.

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

This course will cover a variety of literary genres and styles. Topics include plot, conflict, figurative language, tone, and mood. Students will read novels covering fiction and nonfiction genres, short stories, and poetry. Students will be encouraged to utilize their creativity in both written and visual presentations. Specific novels read in 8th grade include *90 Miles to Havana*, *Animal Farm*, *Diary of Anne Frank*, and *Hidden Figures*.

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 plots, statistical data, and linear equations and functions.

Course Title**Grade Level****Graduation Credit****Weight****Algebra 1****8-9****1 unit****4.0**

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.

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 U.S. history from the beginning of America to 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 outlined in the bill of rights, and individual responsibility.		

Fine/ Performance Arts

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Beginner Piano Beginner piano is a class for students who have a desire to learn how to play the piano. The class size will be 5-6 students, and students will use beginner keyboards to learn.	6-8	Semester
Beginner Band The beginner band class focuses on learning the fundamentals of music and basic instrumental techniques used throughout the band program. The beginner band spends the first couple of weeks of school not only learning the fundamentals of music but also trying out instruments as well.	6-8	All Year
Intermediate Band The intermediate band is for students with one year of band experience or teacher approval. The class improves the basic skills learned in the Beginner Band and teaches new intermediate concepts. Performances include school assemblies and special events.	6-8	All Year
Chorus 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. The chorus will perform at various school events during the year. All students are expected to attend all required performances.	6-8	All Year
Handbells Handbells is a class for students that will explore the fundamentals of music through the unique and collaborative art of handbell ringing. Designed for beginners and those with some musical experience, the course emphasizes teamwork, rhythm, note reading, and proper ringing techniques. Students will learn to perform as part of an ensemble, develop listening skills, and gain confidence through rehearsals and performances.	6-8	All Year
Drama Drama is a class where students will explore the world of theater through creative expression, storytelling, and performance. The course introduces the basics of acting, stage presence, improvisation, and character development in a supportive and energetic environment. Students will build confidence, collaboration skills, and imagination as they participate in games, scene work, and short performances.	6-8	All Year
Fine Arts Fine Arts is a class to prepare students to compete in the North Carolina Christian School Association Fine Arts Competition in the spring of each year in the categories of music and speech.	6-8	All Year
Beginner Art 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.	6	Semester
Intermediate Art 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 cover painting using acrylic, oil-based, watercolors, India ink, and landscape painting.	7	Semester
Advanced Art In Advanced Art, students expand their personal growth in the visual arts through the identification of specialized areas of interest explored through the use of traditional and contemporary media and techniques	8	Semester

Digital Arts

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Desktop Apps	6	Semester
This course provides students with instruction in basic computer skills and provides the foundation for more advanced middle school Digital Arts courses. Students will learn to understand computer-related terms and identify computer hardware components and peripheral devices. Students will acquire knowledge of the Google suite of applications, such as Docs, Sheets, Slides, Drive, Classroom, and Calendar.		
Robotics	7	Semester
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 by applying Computer Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematical 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.		
Engineering	8	Semester
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	8	Semester
A comprehensive Graphic Design course in digital media. In this course, students will learn Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Premiere Pro, and Adobe Animate.		

Physical Education

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Physical Education	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. This year-long course will involve strength and conditioning, team sports, and life sports.		

Special Emphasis Courses

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Study Skills	6	Semester
In this course, students will learn how to become better organized and more successful student. Topics include Goals & Priorities, Organization, Time Management, Reading & Note-Taking, Planning Projects, and Taking Tests.		

Foreign Language

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Spanish A	6	Semester
This course is an introduction to the Spanish language with an emphasis on acquiring accuracy in pronunciation, oral fluency, and vocabulary development. There will be numerous oral exercises and a variety of classroom activities emphasizing personal expression. Spanish culture and civilization are also taught. Included are such topics as geography, cities, historical sites, birthday customs, food, school, sports, hobbies, and entertainment.		

Spanish B	7	Semester
This course is a continuation of Spanish A. This course continues and includes an introduction to the Spanish language with an emphasis on speaking, pronunciation, and the fundamentals of Spanish grammar. The study of Spanish culture continues.		

Spanish C	8	Semester
In this course, students continue to further develop and improve Spanish listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The study of Spanish culture continues.		

Leadership

Course Title	Grade Level	Time
Leadership A	6	Semester
This course is designed to teach students basic character traits that will help them become leaders in their school and personal lives. The course utilizes the Habitudes program that uses the language of today's generation and images to help your students build the necessary skills to succeed in school and life. Topics include Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, and Responsible Decision-Making		

Leadership B	7	Semester
This course is designed to teach students basic character traits that will help them become leaders in their school and personal lives. The course utilizes the Habitudes program that uses the language of today's generation and images to help your students build the necessary skills to succeed in school and life. Topics include Identifying Emotions, Accurate Self-Perception, Recognizing Strengths, Self-Confidence, Self-Efficacy, Impulse Control, Stress Management, Self-Discipline, Self-motivation, Goal Setting, and Organization Skills.		

Leadership C	8	Semester
This course is designed to teach students basic character traits that will help them become leaders in their school and personal lives. The course utilizes the Habitudes program that uses the language of today's generation and images to help your students build the necessary skills to succeed in school and life. Topics include Perspective-Taking, Empathy, Appreciating Diversity, Respect for Others, Communication, Social Engagement, Relationship Building, Teamwork, Identifying Problems, Analyzing Situations, Solving Problems, Evaluating, Reflecting, and Ethical Responsibility.		