



UPPER SCHOOL

6th Grade
to
12th Grade

**Curriculum
and
Course Overview**

Cambridge Academy Mission

Cambridge Academy provides students with an academically excellent curriculum, while fostering physical, social, and spiritual wellness within a nurturing environment.

Cambridge Academy Philosophy

Cambridge Academy believes that high academic expectations within an atmosphere of care and mutual respect generate the most effective college preparatory education possible. The school's philosophy affirms that each individual is of infinite worth and dignity. We strive to assist each student to reach his or her potential - intellectually, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. Cambridge Academy consistently nurtures a love of learning that will enable students to respond enthusiastically to a lifetime of challenges.

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
English Focus on developing writing skills across various genres, emphasizing grammar and the implementation of MLA format. Study of literary genres, including mythology, poetry, and novels Introduction to Greek and Roman mythology Emphasis on oral presentation skills and vocabulary expansion	English Continued development of writing skills in multiple genres with greater emphasis on structure and logical organization. Study of poetry, short stories, and novels Oral presentations are required throughout the year	English I Honors* Advanced writing skills with a focus on composition, critical analysis, and documentation. Grammatical structure and usage, vocabulary study, oral and written elements of research. World literature with an emphasis on major genres.
Mathematics Focus on number relationships through 1,000,000 and the development of arithmetic skills. Topics: Fractions, decimals, geometry, ratios, division, volume, and angles Introduction to more complex word problems	Pre-Algebra Preparation for algebra with a focus on integers, inequalities, factors, fractions, equations, ratios, proportions, and statistics.	Algebra I Honors* High school-level course covering: Linear equations and inequalities Functions, graphing, polynomials, and factoring Quadratic and exponential functions
Social Studies <i>World Civilizations I</i> Study of ancient world history through the Renaissance Emphasis on culture, geography, and historical developments	Social Studies <i>World Civilizations II</i> Continuation of historical study through the modern era Focus on the origin of civilizations and nations Emphasis on geography	Social Studies <i>U.S. History to 1865</i> Chronological and thematic exploration of U.S. history Includes geography, economics, and civics integration
Science <i>Earth Science</i> Introduction to astronomy, geology, and meteorology Incorporates labs, lectures, and independent research	Science <i>Life Science</i> Focus on biology and the organization of life Topics: Cells, organ systems, and classification of organisms Emphasis on experimental methods and lab work	Physical Science Honors* Introductory chemistry and physics Topics: Matter, energy, force, motion, light, and sound Extensive lab work and demonstrations

6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Spanish Introduction to basic vocabulary and grammar Focus on listening, speaking, reading, and writing Emphasis on spoken language	Spanish Expanded vocabulary and grammar Emphasis on communication through reading, speaking, writing, and listening	Spanish I CP* Continued development of fluency Focus on accurate usage and cultural understanding Emphasis on verbal and written expression
Enrichment Areas: Art <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration of the elements and principles of design; focus on perspective, proportion, and various art styles • Advanced techniques, including CityScape and abstract design • Continued exploration of artistic media, including printmaking and sculpture Music <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to basic music elements through singing and instruments • Continued music development through performance and theory • Advanced study of music reading and performance Drama <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamentals of theater arts, voice projection, and stage presence • Emphasis on character portrayal and physicality in preparation for the Cambridge Musical Computer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to project-based programming • Emphasis on coding, design, and digital responsibility Physical Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasizes exercise science, team and individual sports, and healthy lifestyle choices Guidance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using group exercises, students develop interpersonal skills and values that will help them to navigate middle school and prepare for high school. Students will explore self-growth, healthy friendships and relationships, study skills, college planning, and the job market as they mature. Electives vary by year depending on teacher availability, but typically include: art, band, drama, Bible, board games, chorus, and book club		

Students in grades 6th-8th attend class for a 50-minute period.

Core classes meet daily, while enrichment and elective classes are once to twice a week.

Courses marked with an asterisk (*) may earn high school credit upon successful completion.

High School

Grades 9-12

All CA full-time High School students, except seniors, are required to be enrolled in at least five academic credits each year, and will therefore will likely graduate with more credits than required by SCISA. Since it is common for CA students to graduate with more credits than required for a diploma, CA does not allow early graduation. There are specific rules that apply to the course load for athletes. Rules concerning course load for athletes can be found in the CA Athletic Handbook. Please note that our students begin taking high school credit classes beginning in 8th grade. Students entering the school out of sequence will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

English 4 credits to required	English I Honors (typically taken in 8th grade) English II: World Literature Honors English III: British Literature Honors English IV: American Literature Honors English 101/102: Dual Enrollment (taught at Cambridge Academy through PTC)
History 3 credits to required	Western Civilization Honors American Government Honors (half credit) Economics (half credit) American History Honors History 201/202: Dual Enrollment (taught at Cambridge Academy through PTC) *Seniors have the option of exploring other Dual Enrollment courses through PTC and Lander University
Mathematics 4 credits to required	Algebra I Honors (typically taken in 8th grade) Geometry I Honors Algebra II Honors Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry Honors Probability & Statistics Honors Math 110/111/120: Dual Enrollment (taught at Cambridge Academy through PTC when available) *Seniors have the option of exploring other Dual Enrollment courses through PTC and Lander University
Science 4 credits to required	Physical Science Honors (typically taken in 8th grade) Biology Honors Chemistry Honors Biology 101/102: Dual Enrollment (taught at Cambridge Academy through PTC) *Seniors have the option of exploring other Dual Enrollment courses through PTC and Lander University
Foreign Language 2 credits to required	Spanish I Spanish II Spanish III Honors Spanish IV Honors *Seniors have the option of exploring other Dual Enrollment courses through PTC and Lander University

Fine Arts 1 credit recommended	Art Drama Band Chorus *Seniors have the option of exploring other Dual Enrollment courses through PTC and Lander University
Computer Science 1 credit required	Computer Science *Seniors have the option of exploring other Dual Enrollment courses through PTC and Lander University
Physical Education 1 credit required	Physical Education
Electives 8 credits required	<p>Electives vary year to year and are dependent on staffing.</p> <p>Electives may include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>Yearbook Physical Education Weight Lifting Bible Digital Photography Psychology Book Club Study Hall (no credit given)</p> <p>*Seniors have the option of exploring other Dual Enrollment courses through PTC and Lander University</p>

Throughout the year, the Upper School Principal and Guidance Counselor will plan lessons to meet the needs of our students. These include but are not limited to: career planning, college planning, healthy friendships and relationships, study skills and time management, personal growth, drug awareness and prevention, bullying, and how to handle peer pressure.