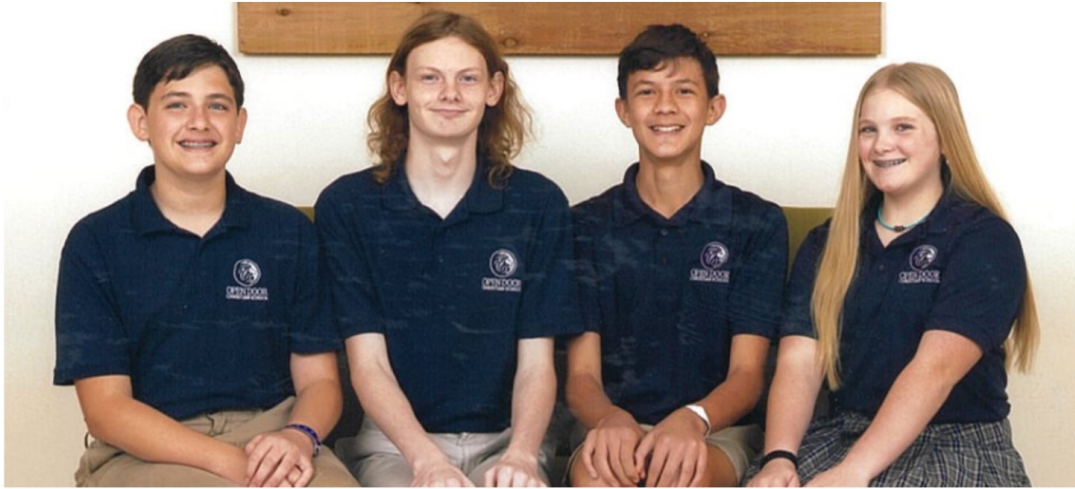


Open Door Christian School



Upper School Course Catalog



Open Door Christian School

Class of 2027

Academic Overview

At Open Door Christian School, we strive to achieve academic excellence while instilling a firm Biblical worldview and guiding our students to discover their God-given gifts and talents. From kindergarten through high school, our curriculum is designed to instill in our students a Biblical worldview and reinforce the importance of a well-rounded education. Throughout a student's academic career, we build on an educational program that achieves our goal of enabling graduates to share the Gospel, build upon a strong Biblical foundation, and experience success as they enter the adult-world.

Open Door challenges their students by providing them with a robust academic curriculum and by cultivating their unique, God-given talents. Whether these talents are in the writing lab, on the athletic field, in math, science or the arts, every child is encouraged to be their best (Colossians 3:23) and to discover new and exciting abilities along the way.

Open Door is focused on glorifying Christ in all we do.

Open Door Christian School is accredited by National Association of Private Schools (NAPS) and is pursuing accreditation with Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

Academic Requirements

Open Door Christian School maintains engaging, challenging, and fully accredited curriculum. Our academic program provides a Biblical worldview with a focus on classical methodologies and stresses independent thinking, writing, critical reading, discipline, and creativity.

High School Graduation Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 26 credits to satisfy the requirements for high school graduation. The following courses are required for graduation:

Discipline

English	4 Credits
Mathematics	4 Credits
Science	4 Credits
Social Studies	4 Credits
Religion	4 Credits
Foreign Language	2 Credits
Computer Science	1 Credit
Physical Education	1 Credit
Electives	Varies

Course Overview

English

- 9 Classical Literature
- 10 World Literature
- 11 American Literature
- 12 British Literature

Mathematics

- 9 Algebra 1
- 10 Geometry
- 11 Algebra 2
- 12 Pre-Calculus/Statistics/AP Statistics

Science

- 9 Physical Science
- 10 Biology
- 11 Chemistry
- 12 Physics

Social Studies

- 9 Cultural Geography
- 10 World History
- 11 U.S. History
- 12 Government and Economics

Biblical Studies

- 9 Apologetics
- 10 Apologetics
- 11 Apologetics
- 12 Apologetics

World Language

Two years of either French or Spanish are required. Students are strongly encouraged to take more.

Computer Science

Two semesters of Computer Science (programming) are required.

Physical Education

Students are required to participate in two semesters of Physical Education.

Electives

Electives vary from year to year and are announced prior to Spring Advising.

Report Cards

Report Cards are issued each quarter. These reports are intended to communicate to students and parents areas of strength and weakness. If a child is experiencing difficulty in a specific subject, the teacher will be happy to offer assistance.

Grading Scale for Grades 9-12

A+	97-100	4.0
A	94-96	3.85
A-	90-93	3.7
B+	87-89	3.5
B	84-86	3.25
B-	80-83	3.0
C+	77-79	2.8
C	74-76	2.4
C-	70-73	2.0

F Below 70

Honor Roll

To qualify for the ODCS High Honor List, a student must receive an A in all courses each quarter. To earn Honor Roll status, a student must receive a B or above in all courses each quarter.

Transfer Credits

Students with special interests and talents are encouraged to pursue outside studies, keeping in mind that core educational requirements must be met within the confines of the course offerings at ODCS. Exceptions are limited to transfer students who are unable to meet the requirements for graduation or placement, and these exceptions must meet with the approval of the school.

Cumulative Grade Point Average

The cumulative grade point average is calculated using semester grades. Grades for all high school courses except non-academic electives (i.e., study hall and athletics) will be averaged into the GPA, including those courses that were repeated. Cumulative grade point averages will be rounded to the nearest one-hundredth.

Ranking

Open Door does not rank; however, for Texas public institutions Open Door will report rank up to the top 10% according to the university's admission policy in relation to Texas House Bill 588.

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The Valedictorian will be the graduating senior who has the highest GPA for four years. The Salutatorian will be the graduating senior who has the second highest GPA for four years. Students are eligible if they have attended Open Door for more than one year. Students who have attended Open Door for less than four years, but more than one year of high school will be eligible if their previous school is comparable to Open Door in curriculum and accreditation. (ODCS administration will make the determination of eligibility before the student begins school.)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

CLASSICAL LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION- Grade 9

This course exposes the students to a variety of classical texts. Students will further their abilities to analyze literature critically and use thoughtful written expression to demonstrate their analysis. Research skills and an introduction to Modern Language Association (MLA) documentation style are integrated into many of the writing assignments. Grammar, usage, punctuation, and composition skills are refined by teaching prescriptively from writing assignments. Vocabulary enrichment continues with a structured course of study, application in writing, and recognition in reading. Novels: *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis, *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte, *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens, *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, and *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe
Full year, 1 credit.

WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION- Grade 10

In this course students will read, discuss, and analyze literature from ancient times to Shakespearian time from around the world. The emphasis will be on classic literature and its influence on modern literature. Critical thinking and analysis will be stressed through in class discussions, timed writings, and literary analysis papers.
Full Year: 1 Credit

AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION- Grade 11

American Literature is a course that studies the national literature of the United States since the early 19th century. The course considers a range of texts, including novels, essays, and poetry, and their efforts to define the notion of American identity. Readings usually include works such as *Up From Slavery*, *Adventures of Huck Finn*, *Grapes of Wrath*, *Our Town*, and *The Scarlett Letter*, And Edgar Allan Poe.
Full Year: 1 Credit

BRITISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION- Grade 12

In this course students will receive an overview of British literature from early Anglo-Saxon to Modern. Literary study will be infused with historical applications for a better understanding of the social and historical context of the readings. Literary terms and elements of poetry will be discussed throughout this course. The study of grammar and mechanics of writing will continue with a focus on reviewing concepts and avoiding common errors. Students will further improve their writing through the study of problem areas, as well as regular use of response journals. Spelling and vocabulary will largely come from literary terminology, but will also include the study of root words and affixes in preparation for college entrance examinations.
Full Year: 1 Credit

MATH DEPARTMENT

ALGEBRA I- Grade 9

Precision of language, algebraic structure, processes, and operations are stressed, as are the acquisition of necessary manipulative skills and an adequate understanding of algebraic concepts. Content includes solving and graphing equalities and inequalities in one and two variables, linear or quadratic; the quadratic equation; functions and relations; and radical and exponent laws. Applications of algebra to problem solving are emphasized.

Full year, 1 credit

GEOMETRY- Grade 10

This course emphasizes two-dimensional geometry, but elements of three-dimensional geometry are introduced as well. Main topics include inductive and deductive reasoning, congruent and similar polygons, coordinate geometry, and areas and volumes of solids. The student is expected to learn the relationship between algebra and geometry, the role of logical thinking in mathematics through the use of formal geometric proofs, and the necessity for clarity and precision of language in mathematics. When appropriate, relevant material from the PSAT and SAT will be covered in class. Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra I.

Full year, 1 credit

ALGEBRA II- Grade 11

This required course reintroduces and reinforces the algebraic properties of the real number line, as well as the concepts and skills associated with linear and quadratic equations and inequalities. The concept of functions, particularly polynomial, rational, logarithmic, exponential functions and irrational functions will be introduced. Conic sections, complex numbers, probability theory, and matrices will be integrated throughout the year. The use of graphing calculators will supplement the learning process. Prerequisite: Completion of Geometry.

Full year, 1 credit.

PRE-CALCULUS- Grade 12

This course is especially designed to prepare students for college mathematics and advanced mathematical study. It gives students a sound understanding of the concepts required in the study of Calculus. Principle topics include analytic geometry; elementary analysis; trigonometric, exponential, polynomial, and rational functions; advanced graphing techniques; sequences and series; probability, matrices, polar coordinates, and determinates; vectors; the complex number field; and an introduction to differential calculus. The use of graphing calculators will supplement the learning process. Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II.

Full year, 1 credit.

STATISTICS- Grade 12

This course will introduce the student to statistical concepts that would be highly useful in a scientific or business type setting through real-life examples and exercises. Topics covered will include measures of central tendency, probability, the normal distribution, hypothesis testing, estimates and sample sizes, and a basic introduction to non-parametric statistics.

The use of graphing calculators will supplement the learning process. Prerequisite:

Completion of Algebra II.

Full year, 1 credit.

CONSUMER MATH- Grade 12

This course helps students develop the knowledge and skills they need to successfully handle their personal finances. Topics include developing a budget, filing taxes, and planning a vacation. Stewardship & Scripture features encourage students to view their handling of money in light of scriptural teaching. (BJU)

Full year, 1 credit.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

PHYSICAL SCIENCE- Grade 9

This science course meets the students where they are: in the cafeteria, on the sports field, on the roads, and in the music room. Through physical science, students will learn how everything they do relates to chemistry and physics. In the chemistry chapters they will see the wonder in how matter and energy interacts in the food we eat, the drinks we drink, and the matter that makes up our world. In physics chapters, they will see how things move, why things move, and why objects behave as they do.

Full year, 1 credit

BIOLOGY- Grade 10

Biology shows your student God's power and glory in creation as they learn about cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany, zoology, and human anatomy. When studying topics such as creation and evolution, human cloning, abortion, and stem cell research, students are pointed to Scripture as the ultimate authority and are encouraged to develop a biblical perspective about these topics.

Full year, 1 credit

CHEMISTRY- Grade 11

Through the study of chemistry, students will learn how many everyday events relate to chemistry. They will see the wonder in how matter and energy interact in the food we eat, what we drink, how cars move, and how medicine works. They will learn about how chemistry impacts the world around us and our obligation to help redeem others and the physical world with what we know about chemistry.

Full year, 1 credit

PHYSICS- Grade 12

Enable your students to handle problems involving motion and matter. *Physics* equips students to ethically engage in the work of physics through a program of instruction, practice, inquiry, and engineering design based on real-world problems. Students will extend their knowledge and skills through strategic modeling and practice, case studies, evaluation of scientific models, and ethics activities. They will also be able to collect and analyze data as well as create their own models using discovery labs, inquiry labs, and collaborative STEM experiences.

Full year, 1 credit

BIBLICAL STUDIES

Understanding the Times (9th-12th)

This course prepares young believers to defend a Christian worldview against other belief systems. Prior to high school graduation, students will complete the following courses in Apologetics.

- *Understanding the Faith* shows students how to defend and promote the biblical worldview.
- *Understanding the Times* teaches students how to identify and counter opposing worldviews.
- *Understanding the Culture* outlines the key social issues of our time and how to positively shape culture.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY- Grade 9

Cultural Geography helps students become informed citizens and empowered participants in society. The curriculum teaches cultural geography from a biblical perspective and will encourage your students to appreciate the diversity of people, cultures, and landforms. It also aims to develop critical-thinking skills and demonstrates how knowledge of cultural geography is essential to understanding people from different nations and cultures. During the two-semester course, students study the seven continents and the people who live on them.

Full year, 1 credit

WORLD HISTORY- Grade 10

World History guides students through the story of history, starting with creation and continuing to the present. Students will analyze five key themes throughout history from a biblical perspective: justice, power, citizenship, environment, and world religions. They will also do specific studies on Africa, the East, Asia, pre-colonization Americas, and empires in Africa, India, and Asia. As they trace the major patterns in world history, they will see how those themes point more and more clearly to the triumph of the kingdom of God.

Full year, 1 credit

UNITED STATES HISTORY- Grade 11

United States History teaches students about the development of the United States as a nation in order for them to become informed and empowered citizens. The course begins with early American settlement, then moves on through the formation and early years of the nation, the Constitution, and the many challenges that have threatened survival. Students will develop their critical thinking skills as they learn to use their knowledge of the nation's history to make informed decisions about issues on a local, state, and national level.

Full year, 1 credit

GOVERNMENT- Grade 12

This course prepares students to be informed and empowered citizens who have a biblical perspective of government. It teaches students about our nation, its development over the last four centuries, and its system of government. Students will have the opportunity to examine primary sources that are foundational to understanding how the US government should operate.

One semester, ½ credit

ECONOMICS- Grade 12

Economics introduces and explores key principles of economics from household purchases to the stock market. Each chapter includes personal finance sections which explain important economic principles and provide practical information about budgeting, banking, debt, credit and interest. Students will also learn about issues related to national economic systems and policies.

One semester, ½ credit

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

FOREIGN LANGUAGE 1

These courses provide an introduction to the language and culture of French and Spanish-speaking countries. Students will be introduced to the basics of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and culture. Students are expected to develop a general understanding of the nature and function of the language in preparation for the second year of study. Instruction in this course will provide a balanced focus on the following four language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will be able to comprehend and produce limited, meaningful compositions and dialogues. Their reading and listening skills will be practiced through the use of scaffolded, authentic sources. Lessons are centered on communication in order to accomplish practical tasks in familiar situations. No prerequisite. Full year, 1 credit.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE II

Second-year French/Spanish instruction solidifies and expands the instructional concepts of the previous year and adds complexity, thus helping students form a complete and firm base in the language. Instructors help students develop the skills to interpret chunks of information and complete longer texts. As their vocabulary grows and their grammatical structures move to more complex structures, students will express themselves through connected ideas with growing fluidity. Students continue to acquire and enhance their understanding of culture through short class discussion and project-based learning. Prerequisite: French I/Spanish I. Full year, 1 credit.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE III

The third year is for students with a strong base in the language who consistently demonstrate the interest and skills to handle the rigor of the course. Students will work toward mastery of interpersonal, presentational, and interpretative communication skills while they explore new facets of the culture, thus developing a more sophisticated mode of communication. Through the incorporation of limited idioms and cohesive devices, students increase vocabulary and develop a more fluid and organized means of self-expression. Grammar instruction at this level focuses on compound tenses and adds dimension to students' pre-existing capabilities in the target language. The incorporation of increasingly complex authentic sources helps students move beyond the recognizable and familiar to the independent exploration of the new and advanced. Prerequisite: French/Spanish II. Full year, 1 credit.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE IV

These courses are for those students who would like to deepen their knowledge of the target language at an advanced level. It is designed to help students further their level of proficiency so they may communicate with ease and increased fluidity in a native-speaking environment. On a daily basis, students will engage with authentic materials in order to strengthen their recognition of and competency with advanced grammar concepts. Interaction with professional, academic, and culturally relevant authentic sources naturally expands each student's vocabulary base in a personalized manner. Finally, students will explore the intricacies of the native speakers' culture, drawing valuable inferences and insights. The course is conducted in a seminar, discussion-based format that challenges students to synthesize their learning. Prerequisite: French/Spanish III. Full year, 1 credit.

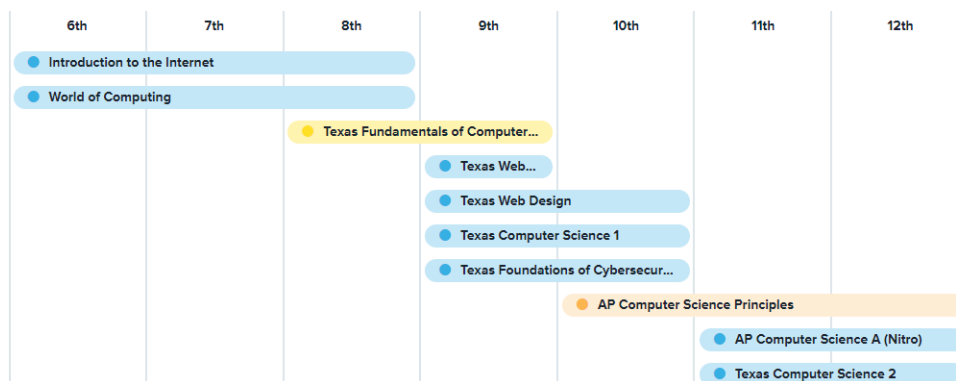
COMPUTER SCIENCE

Our Computer Science courses are facilitated through CodeHS. This online platform provides robust computer science courses and CTE pathways aligned to state and national standards such as CSTA, ISTE, College Board Advanced Placement, and more.

Full Year: 1 Credit

Texas Computer Science Pathway

CodeHS courses align with Texas middle school and high school computer science standards for a robust grade 6-12 pathway.



ELECTIVES

Art

This school year the Open Door Art Program will be studying Art Through the Ages. The course instructor will be teaching young artists how art has progressed throughout the centuries through fun and engaging lessons. Artist will practice skills and techniques, as well as studying art movements and famous artists. The artists can plan to walk away with 15-20 pieces of art by the end of school.

Full Year: 1 Credit

Choir

Open Door's upper school choral program begins in 6th grade. We teach sight reading, part singing and basic vocal training. The goal for our choral program is to instill a love for singing while our students become musically literate. The social, emotional and spiritual benefits of singing have been proven and we strive to grow closer to God and each other when we join together and sing!

Full Year: 1 Credit

Journalism

The journalism class teaches students the various forms of journalism, application and analysis of media, as well as writing skills. Students will learn to formulate their own questions, interview people, write stories, and take photographs for the monthly school newspaper. Also, students design and create the yearbook. At the end of this course students are efficient in using Canva, Treering, and word documents.

Full year, 1 credit

STEM

In this course, students can expect a unique educational experience that combines rigorous scientific inquiry with a firm foundation in Christian values. This program incorporates teachings that highlight the harmony between faith and science. Students will engage in hands-on experiments and projects that encourage critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. Additionally, the program emphasizes the development of practical skills such as typing and robotics, empowering students to effectively communicate their ideas and interact with emerging technologies. Through this holistic approach, students can grow academically, spiritually, and technically, equipping them for future endeavors in STEM fields while staying grounded in a Biblical worldview.

Full year, 1 credit