

ETC-NWA Scope and Sequence for Core Program Classes

(updated 2-2023)

Most Core Classes will be on a two or four-year rotation cycle depending on the subject. This ensures that there is very little to no repeat for the students since we occasionally use multi-graded classrooms. The rotation years are listed below:

- Year One – Fall 2021/Spring 2022
- Year Two – Fall 2022/Spring 2023
- Year Three – Fall 2023/Spring 2024
- Year Four – Fall 2024/Spring 2025

Each subject's curriculum has a Biblical Worldview if available. It has been reviewed by the curriculum and instruction director and approved by the board and/or executive director. If you have questions or concerns about the curriculum, please contact the curriculum director and/or the executive director.

Grading

ETC-NWA is a supplemental program for homeschool parents, not a school. Therefore, ETC instructors will **NOT** be giving grades for courses taken at Core Consortium. Our instructors use a rubric that shows classroom behavior, homework completion, and class participation. You may choose to use these rubrics in your grading for each course. Most courses upper elementary and above also have optional tests or quizzes you can purchase if you wish to give these to your students as a form of evaluation. ETC instructors will be giving feedback on writing assignments, projects, and science labs. Because we are not a school, our instructors are not paid nearly what we feel they are worth, so we are trying to maximize their time in developing excellent lessons that incorporate hands-on projects and labs, which does not allow time for them to grade every assignment. If you need assistance with how to grade or tools to use, please contact the curriculum director. She will be happy to assist you.

Grade Level Identifications –

ETC uses the following groupings to identify the groups of students:

Lower Grammar – 1st and 2nd grade

Middle Grammar – 3rd and 4th grade

Upper Grammar – 5th and 6th grade

Dialectic – 7th and 8th grade

Rhetoric – 9th and 10th grade

Mastery – 11th and 12th grade

High School Classes

High School Core classes will give high school students courses they need for graduation with some electives being the exception. At the end of the description for each high school class, it will list what credit(s) towards graduation it will count towards.

Arkansas High School Graduation Requirements –

The state graduation requirements are listed below. ETC strongly encourages you to contact the colleges, universities, trade schools, etc. that your student is looking at attending after high school and find out their requirements for the program(s) your student wishes to enroll in when they attend. I would then tailor their High School program to that plan mainly.

- English Language Arts (4 credits)
 - English 9 – 1 credit
 - English 10 – 1 credit
 - English 11 – 1 credit
 - English 12 – 1 credit
- Mathematics (4 credits)
 - Algebra I – 1 credit
 - Geometry – 1 credit
 - ADE Approved Mathematics – 1 credit
 - Computer Science Flex Credit – 1 credit*
 - *Algebra II and any math beyond Algebra II (Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, etc.)
- Science (3 credits)
 - Biology – 1 credit
 - Physical science (Physical Science, Chemistry, or Physics) – 1 credit
 - Another high school lab science (Anatomy, Physics, Chemistry) – 1 credit
- Social Studies (3 credits)
 - World History – 1 credit
 - U.S. History – 1 credit
 - Civics – ½ credit
 - Economics with Personal Finance – ½ credit
- Fine Arts (1/2 credit) Music, Art, Dance, Theater
- Physical Education (1/2 credit)
- Oral Communication (1/2 credit)
- Health and Safety (1/2 credit)
- Career Focus or Content Electives (6 credits)
- Students must complete a digital course for credit – A.C.A. § 6-16-1406
- Students must earn a credit in a course that includes personal & family finance in grades 9-12 – A.C.A. § 6-16-135
- Students must pass the Arkansas Civics' Exam – A.C.A. § 6-16-149
- Students must complete hands-on CPR training – A.C.A. § 6-16-143
- Students must complete a high school computer science course.

History Scope and Sequence

Our history classes have a Biblical Worldview and focus on God's direct intervention in history (HIS STORY). We are primarily using the Notgrass Curriculum, which includes literature that goes along with the studies that is optional for families to use. Beginning in Fall 2023, High School will be transitioning to the Notgrass Curriculum. Since high schoolers are only required to have three credits of history (1 world, 1 American, and ½ credit of Government/Civics and ½ credit of Economics with Personal Finance, these classes will be on a different rotation. They are listed below the other history classes.

Year One – Focus: Early American History

- All elementary and middle school students will be studying American History Part 1 (early America before the Europeans arrived – the late 1800s). This study will include literature study.
 - Curriculum:
 - Lower and Middle Grammar (1st – 4th) – Our Star-Spangled Story book 1 by Notgrass
 - Upper Grammar and Dialectic (5th – 8th) – America the Beautiful book 1 by Notgrass

Year Two – Focus: Modern World History – 1800 – Present

- All elementary and middle school students will be studying about American History Part 2 (the late 1800's through modern times).
 - Curriculum:
 - Lower and Middle Grammar: Our Star Spangled Story book 2 by Notgrass
 - Upper Grammar and Dialectic: America the Beautiful book 2 by Notgrass

Year Three – Focus: Government and Geography

During this year, we will be learning about our world and our government/economic systems that run our world and country.

- Lower and Middle Grammar – US Geography and Arkansas History
 - Curriculum: Our Fifty States by Notgrass/Arkansas History from a Christian Perspective
- Upper Grammar & Dialectic – US Government
 - During this class, each student will participate in an in-depth study of how the US Government is set up and works as well as learning about our Constitution and laws.
 - Curriculum: Uncle Sam and You books 1 and 2 by Notgrass

Year Four – Focus: World Geography/World History

- Lower and Mile Grammar - Introduction to World Geography -
 - In this class, students will learn about different countries and the people who live there. They will be introduced to a few words in different languages as well as learning that as people we are just as much alike as we are different.
 - Curriculum – My Story Books 1 and 2 by Masterbooks
- Upper Grammar and Dialectic – World History
 - Curriculum – From Adam to Us Books 1 and 2 – Notgrass

High School history classes –

High School History classes will be on a three-year rotation beginning in the Fall of 2023.

- **Rotation 1– Government and Economics (1 semester of each)**
 - High School Government will cover different forms of government around the world, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, the three branches of US Government, and other issues.
 - Students will receive a ½ credit for Government/Civics as well as being taught what they need to pass the Arkansas Civics test.
 - Curriculum: Exploring Government 2nd edition by Notgrass
 - High School Economics will cover the differing types of economic systems, how business works, issues facing our economy as well as a big hands-on project to practice what they have learned by creating a product to sell, advertising and marketing their product and selling stock in their company.
 - Students will receive a ½ credit for High School Economics
 - Curriculum: Exploring Economics by Notgrass
 - The personal finance portion of the requirement may be fulfilled by the student taking the Dave Ramsey Homeschool Personal Finance class offered on elective days.
- **Rotation 2 (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)**
 - High School American History – from exploration through present times, this course offers a survey of American history. Part I – Columbus through Reconstruction will be taught in the fall and Part 2 – Late 1800's – present will be taught in the spring semester.
 - Curriculum – Exploring America, updated edition by Notgrass
 - Students will receive 1 credit for American History
- **Rotation 3 (Fall 2025-Spring 2026)**
 - High School World History – from creation – present times, this course offers a survey of World History. Part 1 – Creation – Middle Ages will be taught in the fall and Part 2 – The Renaissance – the present will be taught during the spring semester.
 - Curriculum – Exploring World History, updated edition by Notgrass
 - Students will receive 1 credit for World History

Extra High School Social Science classes that may be offered:

- **Psychology – ½ semester –**
 - Curriculum: Psychology from a Christian Perspective
 - High School Credit – ½ credit of Psychology would count towards content electives.
- **Anthropology – ½ semester**
 - Curriculum: Anthropology from a Christian Perspective
 - High School Credit – ½ credit of Anthropology would count towards content electives.
- **World Geography – 1 credit**
 - Curriculum: Notgrass Exploring World Geography
 - High School Credit – 1 credit of World Geography would count as 1 credit of content electives.

Science Scope and Sequence

- Most of our science classes use the Apologia Science curriculum. This curriculum shares our Biblical Worldview and Creationist approach to science.
- All science classes will include labs and/or experiments.
- Lower and middle grammar will use a four-year rotating cycle.
 - Year One –
 - Apologia Astronomy/Science of Flight
 - In this class, students will learn about the universe God created, all the planets, stars, and more. Astronauts, astronomers, and famous people in the field of aeronautics will also be studied. We will also be studying the science of flight and rockets.
 - Year Two –
 - Fall Semester - Apologia Earth Science
 - -In this class, during the first semester students will learn about our beautiful planet, Earth, and how God created it and all of its' features. This class will cover such topics as rocks and minerals, crystals, earthquakes, volcanoes, weather, climate, biomes, and taking care of the earth.
 - Spring Semester - Apologia Botany 2nd edition
 - During the second semester, students will learn all about the different types of plants that God created. Seeds, leaves, trees, flowers and more will covered and explored during this semester.
 - Year Three -
 - Fall Semester - Apologia Flying Creatures of the Fifth Day (Zoology 1) –
 - Students in this class will learn about animal classification, birds, insects, and flying reptiles as well as one of their favorites, bats.
 - Spring Semester – Apologia Swimming Creatures of the 5th day (Zoology 2) –
 - Students in this class will dive into learning all about creatures who live in the water (ocean, lake, river, pond, etc.) This class is sure to make a big splash with your elementary students.
 - Year Four
 - Apologia Land Animals of the Sixth Day (Zoology 3)
 - Students in this class will learn about the different classifications of animals that live on the land. It is perfect for any zoologist in the making.

- Upper Grammar will alternate between the two courses listed below:
 - Year One – Apologia Human Anatomy and Physiology
 - Students in this class will learn all about the eleven different systems of our wonderful bodies that God created. There will be hands-on activities, games, and projects to help make the learning interactive and fun.
 - Year Two – Apologia Elementary Chemistry and Physics
 - Students in this class will have a blast learning about chemistry, the building blocks of God’s creation in the fall. Then during second semester, students will spring into learning about physics including forces, motion, electricity, light, sound, and energy. They will also be introduced to many famous scientists through short research reports and learn about how the scientific method works during their labs and experiments.
- Beginning in 7th grade, each grade level will have a standard science class that is offered.
 - 7th grade – Apologia General Science
 - Students in this course get a great introduction to a variety of the different types of science through reading, experiments, and class discussion. Topics include geology, energy, weather, conducting scientific experiments, history of science, and more.
 - 8th grade – Abeka Life Science
 - Students in this class will develop a foundational understanding of life science from amoeba to large animals. They will participate in hands-on activities, projects, and class discussion.
- High School – High School students will have two-three choices per year. There will be a high school level life science (biology, anatomy & physiology, marine biology) as well as a high school level physical science (physical science, chemistry, physics. Some of these classes have prerequisites before a student can take them, which are listed.
 - 9th grade – Apologia Physical Science
 - students in this class will explore the different physical sciences through hands-on activities, mathematical calculations, and experiments. This is counted as a high school lab class.
 - Prerequisites - a student must have completed pre-algebra to enroll in this class.
 - 1 credit of High School Physical Science given for this course
 - This class uses the Apologia Physical Science 3rd edition and labs are included.
 - 10th grade - Apologia Biology –
 - a high school level biology class which includes using a microscope, dissections, and learning about all the kinds of life God created in fun and interesting ways.
 - 1 credit of High School Biology given for this course
 - This class uses the 3rd edition of Apologia Biology and labs are included.
 - 11th grade - Discovering Design Through Chemistry by Dr. Jay Wile –
 - Students in this high school level chemistry class will learn about atoms, molecules, periodic tables while conducting experiments, doing hands-on projects and more.
 - Prerequisites – students enrolling in this class MUST have completed Algebra 1 at the minimum.
 - 1 credit of High School Chemistry given for this course

Other High School Science classes that may be offered from time to time:

Apologia Anatomy and Physiology (Advanced Biology)

- A high school level anatomy class, which includes lab dissections
 - 1 credit of High School science given for this course
 - This class uses Apologia Advanced Biology/Human Body 2nd edition for a text
 - Apologia Biology or other high school level biology class is a pre-requisite for this class.

Conceptual Physics -

- a high school level class which introduces all the major concepts in physics. Students in the class will develop a solid foundation in physics principles and be able to demonstrate these at different times in class activities and labs.
 - Prerequisites – students MUST have complete Algebra 1 to enroll in this class. Completing or concurrently taking Algebra 2 is strongly recommended
 - 1 credit of High School Physics given for this course
 - Conceptual Physics for High School 5th edition by Paul Hewitt is the text for this class.

Math Scope and Sequence

- We use Saxon Math from Kindergarten through Algebra. We use Dr. Grant Lathrom's math curriculum for Algebra 1 and higher level classes. Other texts may be required to supplement
- Placement tests for Saxon Math can be found at www.saxon.com
 - Currently Saxon 6/5 and Saxon 7/6 are taught on alternating years.
 - Upon Saxon's recommendation, we use Saxon 8/7 for pre-algebra instead of Algebra 1/2
 - Most math classes are multi-grade classrooms.

English/Language Arts Scope and Sequence

The goal of our Language Arts program is to assist the parents in developing strong readers, writers, and communicators. Language Arts includes all of the following areas: Reading, Phonics (younger ages), Grammar, Handwriting, Spelling, and Composition (Writing). Due to the fact that we only meet twice a week, formal spelling and handwriting are not specifically taught during language arts classes. I have attached a list of suggested curriculum choices if you wish to add in these areas at home.

PREKINDERGARTEN – MIDDLE GRAMMAR (PK – 4TH GRADE)

- ▶ English/Language Arts classes in Kindergarten through Middle Grammar levels will be based more on ability than age within reason. Each level will have pre-requisites that may need to be met to enroll in that class.

▶ Reading

- ▶ Learning to read has many different components. Letter and sound recognition, sight words, picture clues, context clues and more. These strategies will be taught in various ways at the age-appropriate level. Reading to your children every night is the best way to help them become a reader.
- ▶ Formal phonics instruction will begin in pre-kindergarten with an informal introduction to the letters and the sounds they make, then a more formal instruction in Kindergarten and First Grade
 - ▶ Kindergarten will be using Getting Ready to Explode the Code Books A, B, and C. Kindergarten students will be introduced to 25 beginning sight words toward the end of the second semester
 - ▶ First grade will be using Making Words and other Orton-Gillingham based phonics programs to supplement as needed.
- ▶ In second – fourth grade, phonics instruction will move to learning spelling patterns through Making Words lessons and spelling pattern lessons in *Language Lessons for a Living Education*.
- ▶ Formal spelling will not be taught since we only have two days a week. If you wish to add a formal spelling program at home, please see the list of recommended spelling curriculum at the end of this document.

▶ Literature

- ▶ Each level will have certain literature they will focus on each year in age-appropriate ways.
 - ▶ Discovering Letters (Pre-K3) – Moncure's alphabet set (The A Book, The B book, etc.)
 - ▶ Before We Read (Pre-K4) – books from Before Five in a Row and More Before Five in a Row
 - ▶ Getting Ready to Read and Write (Kindergarten) – books from Five in a Row volumes 1, 2, and 3 and Nursery Rhymes
 - ▶ Learning to Read (First Grade) – Guided Reading books levels B-J, classic literature, favorite children's authors (Eric Carle, Dr. Seuss, Jan Brett, Mo Wilems)
 - ▶ Reading to Learn (Second grade) – Henry and Mudge series, Frog and Toad series, Mr. Putter and Tabby series, Arthur series, beginning biographies, Magic School Bus series, Magic Treehouse books, and other classic literature

▶ Beginning in middle grammar level, students will be using different, age-appropriate novels to learn literary elements, comprehension, vocabulary, story structure and more. Students will be interacting with the novels in many different interactive and creative ways including group discussion and hands-on projects. Teachers will be using a variety of literature guides with these novel including: Progeny Press, Veritas Press, and others.

▶ Middle Grammar – Middle grammar students will be learning about and focusing on different genres during their literature time.

▶ Third grade level

▶ Folktales including fables (*Aesop's Fables* by McGovern and *Fables* by Arnold Lobel; *Why Mosquitos Buzz in People's Ears* (a pourquoi tale) by Verna Aardema; fairy tales (with a focus on Cinderella versions from around the world), and Steven Kellogg's tall tales (*Paul Bunyan*, *Pecos Bill*, *Sally Ann Thunder Ann Whirlwind Crockett*, and *Mike Fink*)

▶ Realistic Fiction – *The Chalkbox Kid* by Bulla

▶ Historical Fiction - *The Bears on Hemlock Mountain /Courage of Sarah Noble* by Daligish

▶ Mysteries – *The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude C. Warner

▶ Adventure – *Stone Fox* by J. Gardiner

▶ Fantasy – *The Mouse and the Motorcycle* by Beverly Cleary

▶ Fourth Grade Level –

▶ Fantasy - *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White

▶ Legends – *Legend of the Indian Paintbrush* and *Legend of the Bluebonnet* by Tomie dePaola

▶ Adventure – *Mr. Popper's Penguins* by R. Atwater

▶ Realistic Fiction – *Shiloh* by P. Naylor

▶ Historical Fiction – *Little House in the Big Woods/Farmer Boy* by L. Wilder

▶ Science Fiction, Biography/Autobiography, and Poetry

▶ **Grammar-** Formal grammar instruction begins in second grade and continues through high school

▶ Second – Fourth grade – *Language Lessons for a Living Education* by Masterbooks

► Composition (Writing)

► Journal writing – Writing in personal journals using sound spelling and transitioning to book spelling is used in kindergarten – fourth grades. The expectations are age and grade level appropriate.

- Kindergarten – draw a picture and label using beginning sounds
- First grade – draw a picture and write a sentence about it using sound spelling
- Second, Third, and Fourth grade – draw a picture and write about the picture using sound spelling and transitioning to book spelling
- First – fourth grade taught how to use age-appropriate writing dictionaries to help them with writing words.
- Neat and legible handwriting is encouraged, but not formally taught.

• Formal writing instruction – First – fourth graders will be taught to write lists, how-to instructions, recipes, friendly letters, invitations, thank you notes, as well as poetry. They will also use the writing process to publish an age-appropriate self-written and illustrated book.

• Spelling

• First through fourth grade students are taught spelling patterns through Making Words activities as well as activities in the Language Lessons books. Formal spelling tests are not given in class, but may be given at home. A recommended list of spelling curriculum is at the end of this section.

Upper Grammar – Dialectic (5th – 8th grade)

► Reading/Literature

► Each level will have certain literature they will focus on each year in age-appropriate ways. Most grade levels will have two novels that are always read and discussed at that level, one historical fiction novel that goes along with the time period studied in history, and one that is chosen by the instructor from an approved list of literature. Core novels (ones that will be read each year in that particular grade) are noted with an *.

► Fifth Grade Level –

- *A Wrinkle in Time* by L'Engle*
- *Number the Stars* by Lowry*
- A historical fiction novel to go with time period studied in history
- Teacher's choice

► Sixth Grade Level

- *Chronicles of Narnia* by C.S. Lewis – includes: *The Magician's Nephew**; *The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe**; *The Horse and His Boy**; *Prince Caspian**; *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader**; *The Silver Chair**; and *The Last Battle**

▶ **Seventh Grade Level**

- *Where the Red Fern Grows**
- *The Bronze Bow**
- A historical fiction novel to go with time period studied in history
- Teacher's Choice

▶ **Eighth Grade Level**

- TBD
- TBD*
- A Historical fiction novel to go with time period studied in history
- Teacher's Choice

▶ **Grammar/Composition (Writing)**

- ▶ Students in fifth grade and up will use Fix-It Grammar and Structure and Style for Students by Institute of Excellence in Writing (IEW).

• **Spelling/Handwriting**

Formal spelling and handwriting are not taught at Core classes since we only meet twice a week. A recommended list of spelling and handwriting curriculum is at the end of this section.

High School – 9th – 12th grade

- **Literature** – each of these courses will be combined with a composition part to give 1 English credit per year. Not all courses are taught every year except Introduction to Literary Analysis.

- ▶ Introduction to Literary Analysis – students in this class will use classic literature to discuss, respond to and write about each week. (Primarily for Rhetoric level students)
- Curriculum: *Windows on the World: An Introduction to Literary Analysis* by IEW
 - Literature: *Around the World in 80 Days* by Verne, *Treasure Island* by Stevenson, *Pygmalion* by Shaw and a novel of the teacher's choice chosen from the curriculum list.
- ▶ World Literature – students in this class will read literature from authors all around the world in a variety of genres (short stories, plays, novels, mysteries, epics, etc.)
- Curriculum: *Abeka World Literature 4th edition*
 - Literature: *No Fear Shakespeare: Julius Caesar, Silas Marner* by Eliot, *Screwtape Letters* by C,S, Lewis, and a novel of the teacher's choice chosen from the curriculum list.
- ▶ American Literature – students in this class will focus on short stories, plays and novels written by some of the great American authors such as Twain, Lee, Irving, Hawthorne, and Hemingway
- Curriculum: *Words Aptly Spoken: American Literature*
 - Literature: *Call of the Wild* by London, *Through the Gates of Splendor* by Elliott, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Lee and a novel of the teacher's choice chosen from the curriculum list.
- ▶ British Literature – students in this class will focus on several of the great British authors such as Dickens, Shakespeare, Milton, Chaucer, and Orwell.
- Curriculum – *Words Aptly Spoken: British Literature*
 - Literature – *Selected Canterbury Tales* by Chaucer, *Animal Farm* by Orwell, *Gulliver's Travels* by Swift, and a novel of the teacher's choice chosen from the curriculum list.

Grammar/Composition (Writing)

High School Students will continue with Fix-It Grammar through World Literature and will use the IEW writing program through twelfth grade.

English/Language Arts Recommended Supplement List

Grammar

- Rod and Staff English – very traditional style of teaching English including diagramming sentences at the oldest levels
- Easy Grammar/Daily Grams by Wanda Phillips – Easy Grammar is the teaching component and focuses on each element of grammar and then moves to another (i.e. nouns, adjectives, prepositions, etc.) Daily Grams is a daily review to practice skills learned.
- English All-in-One series – a workbook type teacher resource that covers parts of speech, punctuation, capitalization and more.

Spelling

- Sequential Spelling – uses spelling patterns and builds words adding endings, prefixes, suffixes, etc. Also works on homophones.
- Spelling Power – can use the same curriculum for different levels – students take placement test – uses patterns and has activity cards that you can purchase for extra practice
- All About Spelling – this is a relatively new curriculum but is based in great research about how children learn to read and spell using all three learning styles (visual, auditory, and kinesthetic)
- Spectrum Spelling – traditional spelling book with a spelling list and workbook activities

Handwriting

There are several different methods of handwriting.

1. Traditional manuscript/print/ball – stick – this is the method most of us learned growing up
2. Contemporary manuscript/Modern Manuscript/D’Nealian – this method has more curves and some slant to the letters, which helps students transition to cursive easily.
3. Cursive – there are many different types of cursive letters – I would suggest finding one form and sticking with that one.

Handwriting Curriculum

- Handwriting without Tears – this program uses wooden pieces to help the students learn to build the letters then write them.
- Cursive Logic - great curriculum for teaching cursive
- Copywork – have your students copy good modeled handwriting poems, songs, sentences, etc. There are copywork books available to purchase.

If you would like to supplement with a good vocabulary curriculum, I would suggest Wordly Wise, Vocabulary from Classical Roots, or English from the Roots Up.

Bible, Worldview, and Apologetics

Pre-K/K – All-in-One Bible Fun for Preschool by Group Publishing (Fruit of the Spirit, Heroes of the Bible, Stories of Jesus, and Favorite Bible Stories).

LG and MG – Travel Guide to the Fruit of the Spirit, Travel Guide to the Lord’s Prayer, Travel Guide to the Lord’s Army, and Travel Guide to the Parables, Travel Guide to the Ten Commandments– by Group Publishing – one per semester

Upper Grammar (5th and 6th grade) – these classes will alternate between Old Testament and New Testament Surveys

2022-2023 - Old Testament – Curriculum: Word In Motion: Old Testament by Apologia

2023-2024 – New Testament – Curriculum: Word in Motion: New Testament by Apologia

Dialectic - Mastery

OT Survey, NT Survey, Apologetics, Missions, Church History, Biblical Worldview