

COURSES FOR THE 2024–2025 SCHOOL YEAR

MANDATORY CLASS FOR ALL FIRST-TIME PILLAR STUDENTS

CHRISTIAN SELF-GOVERNMENT THURS. AUG. 29, 7:00 - 9:00pm –OR– SAT. SEPT. 7, 10:00am - 12:00noon **ALL NEW STUDENTS & PARENTS**
Individual self-government is the essential foundation for all levels of liberty-based government – local, state, and national. This was recognized by our Founding Fathers as the necessary basis for the decentralized and limited form of government they established. It is learned in the family and practiced in public. Pillar students are expected to understand and practice individual Christian self-government, and as such, **ALL FIRST-TIME STUDENTS AND PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THIS 2-HOUR CLASS.**

FULL YEAR COURSES

Annual Core Classes

WORLDVIEW FOUNDATIONS WED. 11:30 - 1:30, SEPT. 4 - MAY 14 — INSTRUCTOR: DANIEL HITE **9th-12th GRADE**
This course is unique to The Pillar Foundation and is a must for every American student. It will lay a solid foundation for a consistent Christian worldview in all academic disciplines as well as promote our Christian civic responsibility as American citizens. *WVF* will examine the essentials of absolute truth, the reliability of the Scriptures, origins, purpose, and other theological and philosophical roots that are necessary for a Biblical worldview. The Christian worldview will be compared and contrasted with other worldviews prevalent in American culture today – Marxism/Socialism, Secular Humanism, Islam, New Spirituality, and Postmodernism. This study will also examine various disciplines rooted in law and government, science and education, and the arts and media. This course will sharpen critical evaluation skills as well as promote the expression of individual Christian self-government in the home, church, civil arena, and society.

UNDERSTANDING WORLDVIEWS THURS. 1:00 - 3:00, SEPT 5 - MAY 15 — INSTRUCTOR: DANIEL HITE **MATURE 8th GRADE-12th GRADE**
This is an introductory course to worldviews. Emphasizing the Biblical Christian worldview, we will also contrast competing worldviews and examine contemporary issues in our culture today from a Biblical perspective. Alongside homework, quizzes, and tests, this academic course adds a practical component that applies truth to life. We will investigate the implications of our worldview in all areas of life and education and discover the vital importance of being influencers and leaders in American civics and culture. There is no prerequisite. (Students may also opt to stay for one extra hour and participate in the STL Teen Eagles **Eagle Nest Workshop**. See description at the end of this class list.)

AMERICAN HISTORY: AMERICA'S CHRISTIAN HERITAGE TUES. 10:00 - 12:00, SEPT. 3 - MAY 13 — INSTRUCTOR: DANIEL HITE **10th-12th GRADE**
This course is unique to The Pillar Foundation and is a must for every American student. Every American Christian needs to know the true nature and extent of America's Christian heritage. It is God who made nations and appointed their historical times and boundaries (Acts 17:26). We are commanded in Scripture to remember the great things the Lord our God has done. "In God We Trust," though not always official, has always been America's motto. Based on primary source documentation, students will study the heritage of our nation as one wrought in the struggle to find and defend truth, liberty, and justice. We will trace the development of civil liberty in world history, through the Reformation, and its subsequent establishment and development in America. We will see the providential hand of God in our history, the spiritual roots of our liberty, as well as the duty to understand, appreciate, and defend it. This course will continue to trace America's decline through the 20th and into the 21st Century – exchanging exceptionalism for pragmatism, republicanism for progressivism, and theism for humanism in its many forms. The restoration of America begins with knowing our providential history and heritage, and praying for spiritual awakening.

PRE-ALGEBRA THURS. 10:00 - 12:00, SEPT. 5 - MAY 15 — INSTRUCTOR: SUE HANCOCK **8th GRADE**
Pre-Algebra is a standard 8th grade or honors 7th grade math course. It will cover positive and negative integers, absolute values, graphing on the coordinate plane, solving multi-step equations with variables, writing equations for word problems, ratios and proportions, percents, linear functions, powers and exponents, right triangles, Pythagorean theorem, distance formula, and pre-algebra applications in basic geometry. If there is time, we will cover probability and statistics. The textbook to be used is Bob Jones Pre-Algebra (2nd edition). Four lessons will be taught each class. Homework will be required for each lesson, and parents will be required to grade it with a supplied answer sheet. Calculators will be utilized, but basic arithmetic skills are required: proficiency without the aid of a calculator, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division with whole numbers, decimal numbers and fractions. **PREREQUISITE: Students must pass a pretest.**

ALGEBRA 1 TUES. 10:00 - 12:00, SEPT. 3 - MAY 13 — INSTRUCTOR: DARLENE FALLON **8th-12th GRADE**
A typical Algebra 1 class is 8th grade or higher. Using Saxon Algebra 1 (3rd edition) textbook, we will cover signed numbers, order of operations, algebraic expressions, areas, surface area, volume, exponents and roots, fractional parts of numbers, ratios, graphs of linear equations, finite and infinite sets, factoring, probability and scientific notation. Four lessons will be taught each class period, and students are required to complete given assignments at home and bring them to class. **PREREQUISITE:** Completion of Pre-Algebra, knowledge of all addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts up to 12s, and the ability to multiply/divide multi-digit and decimal numbers along with a basic understanding of fractions. **Students must pass a pretest.**

ALGEBRA 2 THURS. 1:00 - 3:00, SEPT. 5 - MAY 15 — INSTRUCTOR: SHIRLEY MORRIS **9th-12th GRADE**
As a continuation of Algebra 1, Algebra 2 will review solving simple linear equations and simultaneous equations and graphing linear and simple quadratic equations. In addition, we will solve proportions, graph quadratic and exponential equations, simplify radicals, and solve radical equations. Also addressed will be negative exponents and some geometric functions like angles, perimeters and proportional segments. The textbook to be used is Bob Jones Algebra 2 (3rd edition). **PREREQUISITE:** Algebra 1 and **students must pass a pretest.**

PHYSICS MON. 9:30 - 11:30, SEPT. 9 - MAY 12 — INSTRUCTOR: RUSTY MYERS **11th -12th GRADE**
Using Apologia *Exploring Creation with Physics, 2nd Edition*, topics covered will include: Newtonian Motion, Waves and Light, Electricity and Magnetism, and Nuclear Physics (if time allows). Students will be required to turn in a research paper at the end of each semester. **Lab fee: \$30 per student. PREREQUISITE:** Algebra 1

BIOLOGY WED. 10:00 - 12:00, SEPT. 4 – APR. 2 — INSTRUCTOR: BOB KIRKWOOD **9th-12th GRADE**
This course offers hands-on learning in cellular biology (microscope use) and anatomy/physiology (dissection of animals). The student will learn how science reveals the wonderment of God's creative hand; for example – the embryonic fetal development of the human and the symbiotic relationship of nature to man. There will be critical thinking skills designed to help the student develop higher thinking skills. **Lab Fee: \$30 per student**

FULL YEAR COURSES (cont'd.)

GETTING INTO GREEK

MON. 11:30 - 1:00, SEPT. 9 - MAY 12 — INSTRUCTOR: LEAH HITE

9th GRADE-ADULT

This course is for those who don't have time to take full Greek but would like a Greek primer. Using syntax and grammar rules together with Greek interlinear references, you will become familiar with the tools needed to translate the original New Testament language without the memorization of Greek vocabulary. By the end of the year, we will have translated the epistle of 1 John, and you will have a reference notebook to use for years to come. **ADULTS ARE WELCOME!**

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)

TUES. 12:00 - 1:30, SEPT. 3 - MAY 13 — INSTRUCTOR: AMBER SOBERY

9th-12th GRADE

This year-long course in American Sign Language (ASL) introduces students to the language and culture of Deaf people in the United States and Canada. This course will focus on receptive and expressive language skills along with Deaf culture, community, art, literature, and history. Students are required to attend and participate during class using a comprehensible input model that focuses on understanding first and signing as understanding grows. Students should expect 5-10 minutes of daily practice of vocabulary, fingerspelling, and numbers in addition to 60-90 minutes of written homework and receptive language videos weekly. In order to demonstrate ability in signing skills, students will be asked to record videos of themselves signing to submit to the instructor throughout the year for individual progress tracking. Internet access is required for the completion of weekly "at home" assignments. This is a good class for those who are interested in studying sign language as a world language, want to be involved in ministry to the deaf in their church or community, or just want to learn something new.

MUSICAL THEATER

WED. 2:00 - 5:00, SEPT. 4 - DEC. 18 / WED. & FRI. 2:00 - 5:00, JAN. 8 - MAR. 12 — INSTRUCTORS: KATHY SIDE & ELIANA STEELE

High School Ages 14 – 19 (on 7-1-24)

This course's classes are considered rehearsals for Take 3 Christian Theater's performing arts productions whose goals are to educate, edify, and entertain for the express purpose to glorify God. To "register" for Musical Theater means to sign up for a required audition slot in order to be considered for either or both of Take 3's 2024 Christmas and 2025 Spring production cast members. There is a limited number of audition slots and a limited number of cast members accepted. Not all who audition will be accepted. Rehearsals will be uniquely structured according to the production's needs. The production week will require attendance at dress rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals will conclude at the end of the cast member's final production. Production expenses will be shared by the families of the participating cast members enrolled (anticipated fees are not to exceed \$200 **per cast member**). Note: 8th graders (age 13 on 7-1-24) may audition for a provisional consideration. Regardless of age, students who have participated in a high school graduation are not accepted. For more information visit Take3christiantheater.com or email Take3christiantheater@gmail.com with questions.

1st SEMESTER COURSES

INCREASING PERSONAL EFFECTIVENESS

10 WEEKS - MON. 2:00 - 4:00, SEPT. 9 – NOV. 11 — INSTRUCTOR: LARRY DARBY

10th-12th GRADE

Personal Effectiveness is the ability to reach YOUR goals with minimal frustration. These goals may be career, relationship and/or ministry. In this 10-week course, you will learn and practice some of the most important skills (and attitudes) that lead to greater personal effectiveness. In other words, you will increase your ability to reach YOUR life goals. Topics include: what are effective goals; the art of affirmation; conversation skills; active listening; non-verbal communication; conflict resolution; positive attitude; taking initiative; perseverance; time management. Every week there will be mandatory homework (30-60 minutes) along with a goal-setting exercise. In order to be considered for the class, students should read this course description and write three complete sentences on "Why I want to take Increasing Personal Effectiveness." Answers must be submitted to Larrydarby53@gmail.com by September 1.

BEGINNER SEWING

10 WEEKS - TUES. 1:30 - 3:30, SEPT. 10 - NOV. 12 — INSTRUCTORS: JAN PETZOLDT & SANDY SPENCE

9th-12th GRADE

This 10-week beginner class focuses on the basics of sewing, covering: how to begin sewing on your own; learning how to use your sewing machine; and learning to read and follow a pattern. We will complete simple, in-class projects to learn basic skills. Students are required to bring their own working sewing machine and basic sewing supplies and cover the cost of their fabrics.

RIISING ABOVE CULTURAL MIEDIOCRITY

WED. 10:00 - 11:30, SEPT. 4 - DEC. 18 — INSTRUCTOR: JIM HANCOCK

9th-12th GRADE

An in-depth book study and question-guided discussion class through two excellent books: *Do Hard Things* by Alex & Brett Harris, and *The Third Alternative* by Bill Burtness. This study will help students recognize their unique potential for excellence and impact in a culture that underrates teenagers, and will emphasize the value of embracing responsibility and developing Christian self-government. Through open discussion, students will uncover their own personal strengths and convictions, as well as confront areas of compromise, disorder, and fear. Students will also look at ways to develop character, direction, and a principle-based life in an unprincipled society. In order to be considered for the class, students should read this course description and submit a paragraph stating why you want to take this class and explain your commitment to attendance and completing reading/homework on time. Please send your answer to pillar@thepillar.org.

CHRISTIAN CLASSIC LIT: DEVELOPING GODLY CHARACTER

TUES. 10:00 - 11:30, SEPT. 3 - DEC. 17 — INSTR: CATHY RUCHE

9th-12th GRADE

This course will focus on the interpretation and application of classic Lamplighter literature. During the semester, students will read and discuss these creative, 19th Century stories woven with Biblical truths that cultivate Christlike character in attitudes, self-image, and relationships. We will evaluate character strengths and weaknesses, handling adversity and challenges, and discerning good and evil, truth and justice, and personal priorities. Students will also participate in weekly discussion, take comprehension quizzes, and will be encouraged to apply in their own lives the Christian virtues modeled in each story. **Different books will be studied each semester.**

APOLOGETICS: BECOMING A CONFIDENT AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST

TUES. 2:00 - 4:00, SEPT. 3 - NOV. 19 — INSTR: ED BOWEN

9th-12th GRADE

Why is Christianity true? How do I answer common objections to the Christian faith? How can I be an effective communicator? This 12-week course is a very focused and practical apologetics course, instructing students on how to start and guide more spiritual conversations in their sphere of influence. Students will be guided in understanding the basics of the simple Gospel message in 1 Corinthians 15, and their role in sharing the Gospel and also addressing personal questions and fears. Applying the Gospel message to today's challenging culture, this course will coach teens on how to relate to their audience, show care, and how to use questions to guide conversations. This class is an opportunity to help any student make the faith of their family or their church their very own.

FULL YEAR courses are UPPER CASE

SCHEDULE SUMMARY

Semester courses are lower case

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY	
• PHYSICS	9:30-11:30	• AMERICAN HISTORY	10:00-12:00	• BIOLOGY	10:00-12:00	• PRE-ALGEBRA	10:00-12:00
• Genesis 101 (2 nd sem)	9:30-11:00	• ALGEBRA 1	10:00-12:00	• Rising Above (1 st sem)	10:00-11:30	• Am. Liberty (2 nd sem)	10:00-12:00
• GETTING INTO GREEK	11:30-1:00	• Christ. Classic Lit. (1 st & 2 nd sem)	10:00-11:30	• WORLDVIEW FOUND.	11:30-1:30	• UNDERSTAND. WRLDVW.	1:00-3:00
• Comp Program (2 nd sem)	11:40-12:30	• AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE	12:00-1:30	• MUSICAL THEATER	2:00-5:00	• ALGEBRA 2	1:00-3:00
• US Const & Gov't (2 nd sem)	1:00-3:00	• Beginner Sewing (1 st sem/10 wks)	1:30-3:30			• Etiquette (2 nd sem)	2:00-4:00
• Pers. Effectiveness (1 st sem)	2:00-4:00	• Intermediate Sewing(2 nd sem/9 wks)	1:30-3:30				
		• Apologetics (1 st sem/12 wks)	2:00-4:00				

GENESIS 101: UNDERSTANDING CREATION, THE FLOOD, AND BABEL MON. 9:30 - 11:00, JAN. 6 - MAY 12 — VARIOUS INSTRUCTORS **9th-12th GRADE**

This is a survey course taught by members of the Missouri Association for Creation. From a Biblical worldview, *Genesis 101* will examine the creation vs. evolution controversy from the authority of the Word of God. It will address a young earth, the worldwide flood of Noah's day, animal "evolution," fossil evidence, dinosaurs, races and genetics, as well as a Biblically consistent and coherent view of other related sciences. This course will equip the student with a basic Christian apologetic for our origins, an understanding of how to evaluate scientific evidence, and a deeper commitment to the authority of Scripture from the very first verse.

INTRO TO COMPUTER PROGRAMMING MON. 11:40 - 12:30, JAN. 6 - MAY 12 — INSTRUCTOR: RUSTY MYERS **9th-12th GRADE**

This class is for high schoolers who wish to learn the basics of computer programming. The computer language we will learn is called Python. It is a very popular language used by many large companies such as Google and Facebook but is also one of the easier languages to learn. Better yet, it is free to download. All students confirmed in the class will be sent download instructions. If you have a laptop, you can bring it to class, but it's not necessary. There will be no tests for the class, but we will complete required exercises and projects as described in the book we will use – *Python Crash Course 3rd Edition* by Eric Matthes. You must have access to a computer that can run Python. Before you sign up for the class, go to the website www.python.org/ and verify that your computer can run the latest version of Python. For Windows users, you need at least *Windows 8*.

U.S. CONSTITUTION & GOVERNMENT MON. 1:00 - 3:00, JAN. 6 - MAY 12 — INSTRUCTOR: DANIEL HITE **9th-12th GRADE**

This course will lead the student into a study of the U.S. Constitution and the principles and patterns of American government. We will discover the tapestry of American exceptionalism woven by the framers and superintended by the hand of Divine Providence. Using Rick Green's and David Barton's fast-paced video curriculum, *Constitution Alive!*, students will also read founding-era primary documents: the U.S. Constitution line-by-line, the Declaration of Independence, Federalist (and "Anti-Federalist") Papers, as well as other supporting historical documentation. We will examine the principles of liberty and the personal and political process by which our liberty is maintained. This course will require weekly class discussion and assignments, quizzes, and tests. It will equip students to understand and articulate our God-given rights and responsibilities, our civic duty, and the Godly principles which sustain and protect these liberties.

INTERMEDIATE SEWING 9 WEEKS - TUES. 1:30 - 3:30, JAN. 7 - MAR. 4 — INSTRUCTORS: JAN PETZOLDT & SANDY SPENCE **9th-12th GRADE**

This 9-week class offers further application of the skills learned in Beginner Sewing class as we create more complex and exciting sewing projects. Students are required to bring their own working sewing machine and basic sewing supplies and cover the cost of their fabrics.

CHRISTIAN CLASSIC LIT: DEVELOPING GODLY CHARACTER TUES. 10:00 - 11:30, JAN. 7 - MAY 13 — INSTR: CATHY RUCHE **9th-12th GRADE**

This course will focus on the interpretation and application of classic Lamplighter literature. During the semester, students will read and discuss these creative, 19th Century stories woven with Biblical truths that cultivate Christlike character in attitudes, self-image, and relationships. We will evaluate character strengths and weaknesses, handling adversity and challenges, and discerning good and evil, truth and justice, and personal priorities. Students will also participate in weekly discussion, take comprehension quizzes, and will be encouraged to apply in their own lives the Christian virtues modeled in each story. **Different books will be studied each semester.**

AMERICAN LIBERTY: PAST AND PRESENT THURS. 10:00 - 12:00, JAN. 9 - MAY 15 — INSTRUCTOR: NANCY SANDER **9th-12th GRADE**

America's founding was called The Great American Experiment – something no other country in recorded human history had ever tried. The result? The freest, most prosperous nation the world had ever seen. What was the recipe for America's success? Come learn the foundational principles of America on display in the Monument to the Forefathers in Plymouth, Massachusetts. We will learn the principles on which our nation was built and see how those principles played out in our nation's history, government, and culture. The textbook *Monumental: Restoring America as the Land of Liberty* by Stephen McDowell will accompany a series of video discussions between the author and Kirk Cameron from the documentary film *Monumental*. There will be weekly reading and writing assignments along with class discussion.

ETIQUETTE THURS. 2:00 - 4:00, JAN. 9 - MAY 15 — INSTRUCTOR: VICKIE WELLER **MINIMUM AGE 14 by September 1 & IN HIGH SCHOOL**

An important component of a college prep home education is to develop social skills that promote confidence, character, and leadership while glorifying God. The Etiquette class will be an interactive and participatory classroom where principles and the practical application of etiquette will be presented, discussed and practiced. Students are encouraged to step out of their comfort zones to practice and further develop their etiquette skills to help others to feel comfortable and valued, all the while not compromising their own moral beliefs. During this semester course, students will learn many skills including: warm introductions, the art of conversation – including listening skills and body language, written correspondence, classroom etiquette, personal presentation, scholarship and job interviewing, work manners, technology etiquette – including social media and cell phone use, illness and disability etiquette, etiquette while attending the symphony - theatre - conferences, citizenship etiquette, home and community manners, hospitality, dance etiquette, wedding etiquette, funeral etiquette, etiquette of a gentleman/lady, and dining etiquette. Some expenses incurred include a casual luncheon and a semi-formal dinner which all students are required to attend. Please pay a \$70 per student fee by December 5, 2024. (Make checks payable to The Pillar Foundation and deliver or mail to the Pillar at 15820 Clayton Rd., Ellisville, MO 63011.) Homework: Only some weeks have required assignments outside of class to enhance the student's learning experience – not many and nothing difficult. **Auditing the class is not an option.**

EAGLE NEST WORKSHOP THURS. 2:00 – 4:00 **NO REGISTRATION NECESSARY** **Ages 13 and up**

The St. Louis Teen Eagles invite you to participate in Eagle Nest, a weekly interactive workshop equipping the next generation to share a biblical Christian worldview and what it means to be a Christian American. Through discussion, fellowship, study, group projects (writing and video media), and building leadership and life skills, our goal is to glorify God and refute Marxism, socialism, and progressivism in media, education, and government. Learn more about Eagle Nest by visiting stteeneagles.org or by email at teeneagles@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION BEGINS MAY 6, 2024

Please visit us at 15820 Clayton Road or call 636-386-7722, Monday-Thursday, 9am-5pm

Pillar does not charge tuition; however, students are responsible for the cost of books and supplies.

These classes are available to all mature students who are serious about learning, have a positive attitude, and are respectful to teachers, fellow students, and the facilities.