

VALOR CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

INFLUENCE THROUGH EXCELLENCE

BIBLICAL STUDIES, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & PHILOSOPHY

The Biblical Studies, Christian Education and Philosophy (BiCEP) department will focus on transforming the mind through development of critical thinking skills and transforming the heart and soul by encouraging students to seek a real, passionate and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Students will understand God's Plan for humanity and develop a foundational biblical worldview. Our hope is for each student to take ownership of their faith and be inspired and equipped to transform the world for Jesus Christ. True spiritual formation is about a real, intimate and transformational fellowship with the living and true God.

BIB 105 (107/109)

The Good Life

The first war of the 21st century has been coined "The battle for the minds and hearts of the American People." With the era of globalization, universal internet connectedness and religious and cultural amalgamation, American society is facing far reaching consequences. In the midst of this, people are operating out of fragmented, false and competing worldviews. Many lack the basic means to critically analyze and process these competing messages. Equipped with essential reasoning tools, students will come to an understanding that the biblical worldview offers unsurpassed congruence and reliability with respect to truth claims, consistently providing solid answers for daily living, stability and hope for the future as the good life Jesus promised in John 10:10. (*Single gender classes available 107-SGM, 109-SGF*)

Grade: 9; **Prerequisites:** None; **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

BIB 115

Bible Survey

This course is not being offered for the 2011-2012 school year. The Bible is the world's bestselling book of all times. Three major religions representing more than half the world's population trace their origins back to this unique and enduring compilation of writings that span more than two thousand years. Believing Christians subscribe to the Bible as the inspired word of God and as such revere it to be true and faithful in its claims and teachings. Surveying the Bible in its entirety is elementary to all successful Bible study. This introductory course presents a comprehensive overview of cultures and people in Biblical times and of the far-reaching doctrines from before creation to the cross and the things yet to come.

Grade: 9; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life; **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

BIB 205 (207/209)

The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kinds that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as this "one solitary life." (Dr. James Allan Francis) This course is a study of the birth, ministry, suffering, death, resurrection and exaltation of our lord as revealed in the Gospels. Special attention is given to a detailed study of Jesus' teaching, Parables, miracles, and passion history, together with an evaluation of contemporary estimates of the personality, significance and impact of Jesus. (*Single gender classes available 207-SGM, 209-SGF*)

Grade: 9,10; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, Bible Survey; **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

BIB 305

Heroes of the Faith

This class is only offered in the Fall Semester

Hebrews Chapter 11 is often referred to as the "Hall of fame of Faith" as Paul recounts past biblical saints who by faith accomplished amazing things for God. This course will encourage students to deepen their resolve to live a life of faith. We will explore the faith of biblical characters as well as historical and contemporary individuals whose commitment to living by faith made great impacts on the world. [This course will also explore current issues teens and young adults are facing today and provide a biblical foundation on which to guide their decision in hopes of living a life of faith. Experientially, these students will also encourage the entire Valor community through what they've learned by helping make an impact on our culture and community in encouraging all to become Heroes of the Faith.

Grade: 10,11,12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

BIB 315

Missions and Outreach

This class is only offered in the Spring Semester

"Mission" is often understood to represent one subject within the Bible, one program within a church, and one aspect of the Christian life. Yet, God's very plan for humanity is innately mission-oriented; thereby requiring believers to understand and live out God's redemptive purposes on a daily basis.

To gain a personal understanding of this commission this course will explore the concept of mission in God's word, paying special attention to the relationship between evangelism and social action. Students will examine the history of Christian outreach and service and contemporary local and global mission movements. Students will also encounter local missionaries and mission/non-profit organizations firsthand through guest lecturers and organized exploration labs. Through the exploration of contemporary social action causes and movements students will learn how to become active in their communities and world- even now. Throughout the semester students will work in conjunction with Valor's Heart and S.O.U.L program engaging in hands-on projects: to include an individual service project, a team social justice presentation, and a personal social action experience.

Grade: 10,11,12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ; **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

BIB 325

Introduction to Christian Ethics

This class is only offered in the Fall Semester

How do we make difficult decisions about right and wrong behavior? What does it mean to say something is right or wrong? How does God's word instruct us in deciding what to do? This course will foster critical thinking by exploring different approaches to ethical thinking and how they apply to specific dilemmas we face today, including but not limited to genetics, war, church and state, capital punishment, the environment, and life – for both the unborn and elderly. The goal of this course is to investigate ethical thinking, discover a helpful way to approach contemporary ethical dilemmas, and develop a substantive, defensible position for each. The emphasis, throughout the course, will remain on seeking truth from scripture for constituting sound ethical decision making.

Grade: 10,11,12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

BIB 335

Apologetics

The course title "Defending Your Faith" is taken from Peter's exhortation: "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence" (1 Peter 3:15). It has been the task of Christ followers in every generation to be not only a witness to but also a defender of the Biblical worldview. This defense must be done with gentleness and reverence, reflecting true godliness through the power of the Holy Spirit. Defending the Faith will help equip you to respond to the honest questions and doubts which believers and unbelievers have about the Christian faith. The course will

BIB 345

Spiritual Formation

This class is only offered in the Spring Semester

This course includes two required retreats – one during the first month of the course, and a second just prior to Easter weekend. The first retreat focuses on the development of team, community, and corporate spiritual formation, while the second offers practical experience in several spiritual disciplines we study during the course. These retreats are essential to the development of the course and attendance is required. Alternative assignment opportunities will be rare, and offered only in extreme circumstances.

Grade: 10,11,12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

BIB 395

Discipleship: Following in the Footsteps of Jesus Christ

This is a class for students who want to passionately pursue God. It is an academic class that is paired with a Discovery Trip. Students who register for this class will complete an application form, obtain references, and go through an interview process similar to all of the Discovery Trips. In addition, students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher to apply. The class size will remain relatively small, and will only meet a few times each cycle. Students who anticipate attending a Christian college/university, or who want to major in Theology or Christian Ministries, sense a calling to vocational ministry, or who passionately desire to understand the Bible at a deeper level are strongly encouraged to apply. We will be reading through the Gospels, as well as selected readings from the Old Testament, as we intensely study the prophecies fulfilled, life, words, and actions of Jesus Christ. Additionally, we will focus on the geography of the land of Israel and Palestine to understand the locations of and distances between Biblical events. The culmination of the class is a 2-3 week trip to Israel in June. This trip will bring the semester long study of the Gospels to life, as students will visit many of the locations they have read about. The trip will enrich the students' knowledge of the Bible, and give a glimpse into understanding of the relationship between the Jews and Palestinians in the land today. A course fee similar to other Discovery Trips will apply and be set by January 15th.

Grade: 10,11,12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, **Term:** Spring Semester only; **Credit:** 0.5 **Fee required:** TBD in January

BIB 405

Leadership and Mentoring

A raw definition of leadership is that "leaders make things happen". For either good or bad, we believe this statement to be true. The goal of the Leadership and Mentoring class is to train students in the leadership styles, methods and character development that would allow them the opportunity to be good, sound and ethical leaders. This course will research and examine what the characteristics are that make a good leader and study various leaders culminating in the greatest leader of all time the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grade: 12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, Bible Electives, **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5

introduce students to key topics in apologetics and provide the foundation for a confident defense of the Christian faith that will help thinkers to believe and believers to think.

Grade: 10,11,12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, **Term:** Semester;

Credit: 0.5

BIB 415

Senior Seminar

The senior year is the culminating year for education in the United States. The Senior Seminar course should be the capstone class of their senior year and accordingly, this class is designed to draw together student's identity, belief system and future direction.

Grade: 12; **Prerequisites:** The Good Life, The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, Bible Electives; **Term:** Semester; **Credit:** 0.5