



Agape International Academy

“Building Loving Leaders”

Curriculum Overview

Mission Statement:

“Partnering with Parents to Personally and Purposefully Build Loving Leaders who are Disciplined in Soul, Mind, and Body for the Glory of God.”

Overview:

Core Subjects

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Science
- Foreign Language
- Physical Education
- Technology

Core Skills

- Rhetoric
- Logical Reasoning
- Utilizing the Scientific Method
- Practical Leadership
- Relationship Development
- Discipline in Diet and Exercise
- Problem Solving

Core Experiences

- Christ-Honoring Bible Study Habit Development
- Presentation of Junior Thesis and Senior Project
- Certification in Student-Specific Skills
- Development of Personal Business
- Labor/ Study Abroad Trips

1. Core Subjects

Note: Agape International Academy is laboring to rename the game of education. In order to focus on having the flexibility to determine curricular standards and with the intention of developing a new global standard for education from a Christian perspective, Agape International Academy will labor to ensure that students are receiving the highest quality education. Accreditation will be sought through ACTS, but the school will primarily focus on meeting the needs of students and parents. The team's experience and expertise will be used to develop effectual and efficient education that emphasizes the importance of real life relationships and develops discipline of the soul, mind, and body.

We are teaching students at the excellent standard that we desire for our own children to reach. Education is a deeply personal pursuit and we look forward to partnering with many dedicated parents!

English

Grades ≤ 2nd Grade

A careful pursuit of phonetic awareness will prepare students for a future of success with the English language. The school utilizes a curriculum that was developed by its education team entitled the Próta series. This program focuses on a pursuit of phonetic awareness, reading, spelling, vocabulary, poetry, and handwriting.

Grades 3-6

Students will begin to memorize the definitions and rules that govern the English language in the study of grammar. They will also begin reading full-length books to develop their identity as readers and will begin writing compositional pieces. Spelling and handwriting will continue to be emphasized. The school utilizes a curriculum that has been developed by its education team entitled the Grammat series.

Grades 7-8

Students will be expected to utilize their knowledge of grammar, spelling, reading, and handwriting to function within their other classes. Every assignment in every class will include points available for neat handwriting and careful spelling. Composition in classes such as social science, science, and logic classes will be graded by a composition instructor. This instructor will meet individually with students to develop their ability to compose essays and write with clarity. Literature will continue to be emphasized as students read classic literature. Formal logic will replace formal grammar classes although formal grammar considerations will be heavily emphasized in literature class.

Grades 9-12

Students will continue to follow the pattern set in grades seven and eight to utilize their grammatical abilities to function in their other classes. Literature class will continue to formally emphasize grammatical constructs and the students will labor towards producing a grade 11 research project and a final grade 12 project both of which are designed to help students learn how to identify local problems, research practical solutions, and make careful applications. The final grade 11 thesis and grade 12 project will be presented orally before a panel of judges.

Mathematics

Grades 1-8

Students will use morning memory times to memorize mathematical facts that will equip them to utilize mathematical operations with ease. The Singapore mathematics program will be used as the formal textbook standard for grades 1-8.

Grades 9-12

Saxon math curriculum will be utilized as the formal textbook standard for students earning high school credit.

Science

Science study is the formal pursuit of being able to apply the subjects of Chemistry, Physics, and Biology and to be able to use the scientific method to make methodical observation, to purposefully ask defined questions, and to develop methods to solve problems and answer questions. Three university-level texts will be used as the foundation for the pursuit and the students will be guided from grade 1-12 through the grammar stage, logic stage, and rhetorical stage of the three subjects according to this university-level standard. The students' science study will culminate in the completion of the Junior thesis and the Senior project.

Although Agape may elect to utilize various elementary science texts (Abeka, Bob Jones, Etc.), the foundation of Biblical pursuit of the creation mandate (Genesis 1:28) will be accomplished through a careful acquiring of information and the development of inquisitive and disciplined students. The university-level texts will be reviewed on a five year basis for relevancy and accuracy.

Chemistry Text Foundation: Introductory Chemistry (Tro, 5th Ed.)

Physics Text Foundation: TBD

Biology Text Foundation: TBD

Social Science

Grades 1-6

Excellent citizenship is critical as students learn how become loving leaders who serve the needs of their local communities. In order to serve their community from a biblical perspective, it is important that students recognize the heritage of the United States of America as it was developed on the Judeo-Christian worldview. AIA we will purposefully teach students how local, state, and federal government operate to prepare the students to perform their civic responsibilities as they mature. Students will also study other cultures and be involved in a myriad of relationship-building opportunities with individuals from various cultural backgrounds.

We utilize a system of study that helps students to focus on specific themes throughout history and to be engaged in the process through special activities. A heavy emphasis is placed on the students entering into their imagination as they transport themselves into the lives of individuals in empathetic exercise. We will also emphasize many historical themes that appear throughout literature books that students begin reading in grade 3.

Grades 7-12

As students enter the logic and rhetoric stages of learning, we aim to prepare them for civic responsibility. Students will understand all of the facets of the United States government on the federal, state, and local levels. This includes the study of primary sources such as the Declaration of Independence, US Constitution, Bill of Rights etc. Students will also understand their responsibilities as citizens and how to participate in government on all levels.

As an international school, our goal is to give all of our students a global perspective. We hope to further the gospel of Jesus Christ and encourage our students to develop a heart of peace and Godly love for all people through cultural exchanges; through international trips; and through studies of world history, cross-cultural communication, and geography.

Another important aspect of social science is economics and personal finance. Our goal is for students to have a Biblical understanding of Christian work ethic; to understand principles of Biblical stewardship, finances, and investments; and to utilize Biblical business practices. This conservative and Biblical perspective will be provided through the utilization of a myriad of source texts.

Foreign Language

Grades 1-6

As young students are involved in various activities, their teachers will purposefully provide immersion experiences throughout the day. Our school's

Spanish and Chinese language department heads will establish the standard that runs parallel to the final goal of standardized foreign language communication in the late logic and rhetoric stages.

Grades 7-12

As students earn high school credit for their study of foreign language, our foreign language instructors will take them through programs that are aimed at acquiring certifications in their target languages to formally demonstrate native fluency. Students will be expected to study either Spanish or Mandarin Chinese and will be required to take part in cultural exchanges centered on using these languages to develop practical fluency.

Physical Education

Grades 1-6

Activity and nutritional teaching form the core for developing discipline in physical education. We are partnering with Canadian Education Specialist Bethany Stewart to determine a practical and rigorous physical education program dedicated to personally and purposefully building loving leaders who are disciplined in how they use their physical bodies.

Grades 7-12

Students will be working towards completion of “the gauntlet” that acts as a standardized physical education exam. This will include various requirements of muscle strength, dexterity, and questions related to our nutritional standard.

The nutritional standard is currently established by the text “Human Nutrition” as was published by the University of Hawaii at Mānoa food science and nutrition program.

Technology

The program at Agape International Academy will weave technological usage into the program to ensure that students are technologically fluent. The high school program at Agape will ensure that students have opportunities to work with introductions to coding, usage of common computer applications, and video production. Agape will also host clubs for lego robotics which will enter local and state competitions.

Extra Curricular Activities

The school provides several opportunities for activities that run parallel to the school's purpose of personally and purposefully building loving leaders. The following activities are opportunities for students to be involved in activities that build character through intentional times of exploration, competition, and engineering:

1. Outdoor Program (Expected for All Students)
2. Soccer Club
3. Wrestling Club
4. Chess Club
5. Robotics Club (First Lego League)

Graduation from Rhetoric School (Grades 9-12)

Before graduating from Agape International Academy, we expect our students to demonstrate discipline in soul, body, and mind. We expect them to humbly labor according to our 7 core values to develop themselves spiritually, intellectually, and physically in preparation as loving leaders.

Students should declare before grade nine whether they will choose to study on a college or a career path according to counsel developed by communication between parents, mentors, and students. While students can switch paths along the way, it may cause difficulties and is not recommended.

College and Career Paths for Graduation

The sharpest distinction between the two graduation paths is the number of credits required for graduation. The lesser amount of credits required for the career path allows for a greater amount of time in high school to focus on building career experience outside of school with a schedule that leaves many afternoons available for volunteering/ interning/ or paid labor.

Graduation requirements can be broken into three main categories: Academics, Certifications, and Experience. These three form the backbone of determining an individual student's eligibility for graduation. Our staff team will personally labor together with all of our families to help the students labor towards success in all of these areas while also ensuring that students take personal responsibility for reaching their goals.

ACADEMICS

The Carnegie unit is used as the standard for issuing credit for courses and a syllabus is developed for each course according to administrative approval. Midterm and Final exams are issued by the administration in reasonable cooperation with instructors to ensure that course standards are adhering to established norms for the course.

College Path Graduation \geq 32 Credits

Career Path Graduation \geq 24 Credits

CERTIFICATIONS

As a part of preparation for future plans, Agape International Academy requires that all graduates earn certifications approved by student mentors and according to future plans for the student. The number of certifications required varies depending on the graduation path, but students will be directed how to obtain certification in a skill that could serve their future. The school may make several certifications available (education, leadership, etc.) but will expect students to obtain certifications from outside of the school for at least one of the required certifications.

College Path Graduation \geq Two Approved Certifications
Career Path Graduation \geq Four Approved Certifications

EXPERIENCE

Part of training as a loving leader is having opportunities to lead. Having an opportunity to labor, and even fail, in a safe environment is critical for healthy training. Our older-brother-older-sister program requires older students to be involved in serving younger students at the school in practical leadership opportunities. Students will also be expected to obtain a set number of volunteer/internship/paid labor hours during their high school career, will be required to take part in a labor abroad program, and will complete a joint junior thesis and senior service project that will address and solve a tangible problem in the local community.

College Path Graduation \geq 700 Labor Hours
Career Path Graduation \geq 1,000 Labor Hours

Both Paths:

Two Labor Abroad Trips
Junior Thesis Project
Senior Service Project

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Graduation Requirements (Advanced Diploma)

Academic Requirements

Requirement \geq 32.0 Credits

<i>Subject/ Course</i>	<i>Credit</i>	<i>Subject/ Course</i>	<i>Credit</i>
Foreign Language	8.0	Science	4.0
Spanish I (Available in Grade 7)	1.0	Physical Science (Required)	1.0
Spanish II (Available in Grade 8)	1.0	Biological Studies (Required)	1.0
Spanish III	1.0	Chemistry (Required)	1.0
Spanish IV	1.0	Physics	1.0
Spanish V	1.0	Anatomy/Physiology	1.0
Spanish VI	1.0	<i>Note: One Summer Science Internship Required</i>	
Chinese I (Available in Grade 7)	1.0	Social Science	5.0
Chinese II (Available in Grade 8)	1.0	U.S. History (Required)	1.0
<i>Note: Equivalent Credit or Languages Could Apply</i>		Virginia History (Required)	1.0
Mathematics	5.0	Anthropology (Required)	1.0
Algebra I (Required)	1.0	Government (Required)	0.5
Algebra II (Required)	1.0	Economics (Required)	0.5
Geometry (Required)	1.0	World History	1.0
Precalculus (Required)	1.0	Our Founding Documents	1.0
Calculus	1.0	<i>Note: Course Availability Depends on Demand</i>	
Accounting	1.0	Technology	2.0
Consumer Mathematics	1.0	Computer Intro (Required)	0.5
<i>Note: Course Availability Depends on Demand</i>		Coding Intro	0.5
English	4.0	Web Design Intro	0.5
Literature and Composition I	1.0	Graphic Design Intro	0.5
Literature and Composition II	1.0	Electrical Engineering	0.5
Research and Junior Thesis*	1.0	Video Editing/ Film Production	0.5
Research and Senior Service Project*	1.0	<i>Note: Course Availability Depends on Demand</i>	
<i>*Literature Requirements Included</i>		Arts	2.0
Physical Education	2.0	Choir	1.0
Exercise and Health I	0.5	Art	1.0
Exercise and Health II	0.5	Music	1.0
Exercise and Health III	0.5	<i>Note: Equivalent Credits Could Apply</i>	
Exercise and Health IV	0.5		

Certification Requirements*

Students are required to pursue certifications in skills approved by the school that will help them to pursue a future of loving leadership. The requirement for the *Advanced Diploma* is two (2) certifications before graduation. Students will also obtain standardized testing certifications in their two pursued second languages.

Experience Requirements*

Students are required to be involved in two Labor or Study Abroad Programs approved by the school. These could take the form of student exchange programs or service trips. Students are also required to verify a minimum of 700 volunteer/internship/paid labor hours of experience. Finally, students will complete the Senior Service Project for academic and experience credit.

**Although the school will serve to reasonably prepare and mentor the student to complete these goals, it is expected that the students will take personal responsibility to meet these requirements.*

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Graduation Requirements (Standard Diploma)

Academic Requirements		Requirement \geq 24.0 Credits	
<i>Subject/ Course</i>	<i>Credit</i>	<i>Subject/ Course</i>	<i>Credit</i>
Foreign Language	4.0	Science	3.0
Spanish I (Available in Grade 7)	1.0	Physical Science (Required)	1.0
Spanish II (Available in Grade 8)	1.0	Biological Studies (Required)	1.0
Spanish III	1.0	Chemistry (Required)	1.0
Spanish IV	1.0	Physics	1.0
Spanish V	1.0	Anatomy/Physiology	1.0
Spanish VI	1.0	<i>Note: One Summer Science Internship Required</i>	
Chinese I (Available in Grade 7)	1.0	Social Science	3.0
Chinese II (Available in Grade 8)	1.0	U.S. History (Required)	1.0
<i>Note: Equivalent Credit or Languages Could Apply</i>		Virginia History (Required)	1.0
Mathematics	4.0	Anthropology	1.0
Algebra I (Required)	1.0	Government	0.5
Algebra II (Required)	1.0	Economics	0.5
Geometry (Required)	1.0	World History	1.0
Precalculus	1.0	Our Founding Documents	1.0
Calculus	1.0	<i>Note: Course Availability Depends on Demand</i>	
Accounting	1.0	Technology	2.0
Consumer Mathematics	1.0	Computer Intro (Required)	0.5
<i>Note: Course Availability Depends on Demand</i>		Coding Intro	0.5
English	4.0	Web Design Intro	0.5
Literature and Composition I	1.0	Graphic Design Intro	0.5
Literature and Composition II	1.0	Electrical Engineering	0.5
Research and Junior Thesis*	1.0	Video Editing/ Film Production	0.5
Research and Senior Service Project*	1.0	<i>Note: Course Availability Depends on Demand</i>	
<i>*Literature Requirements Included</i>		Arts	2.0
Physical Education	2.0	Choir	1.0
Exercise and Health I	0.5	Art	1.0
Exercise and Health II	0.5	Music	1.0
Exercise and Health III	0.5	<i>Note: Equivalent Credits Could Apply</i>	
Exercise and Health IV	0.5		

Certification Requirements*

Students are required to pursue certifications in skills approved by the school that will help them to pursue a future of loving leadership. The requirement for the *Standard Diploma* is four (4) certifications before graduation. Students will also obtain standardized testing certifications in one (1) of their pursued second languages.

Experience Requirements*

Students are required to be involved in two Labor or Study Abroad Programs approved by the school. These could take the form of student exchange programs or service trips. Students are also required to verify a minimum of 1,000 volunteer/internship/paid labor hours of experience. Finally, students will complete the Senior Service Project for academic and experience credit.

**Although the school will serve to reasonably prepare and mentor the student to complete these goals, it is expected that the students will take personal responsibility to meet these requirements.*