



## ESSENTIAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDIES

### **Classical Philosophy**

Prepare and analyze arguments, practice decision-making, develop critical thinking about matters of importance to a person living in reality.

### **The Western Heritage to 1600**

Acquaint yourself with the historical roots of the Western heritage and explore the ways in which modern man is indebted to the Greco-Roman culture and the Judeo-Christian tradition.

### **The Western Theological Tradition**

Instruction in the basic teachings of the Christian faith in order to see how religious belief informs self-understanding, provides a comprehensive view of reality, and by instilling a vision of human life, its purpose and proper comportment, shapes the larger culture.

### **The Western Philosophical Tradition**

Receive a general overview of the history of philosophical development in the West from its inception with the Pre-Socratic philosophers of ancient Greece to the 20<sup>th</sup> century Anglo-American and Continental traditions.

### **The American Heritage**

Follow the history of "The American experiment of liberty under law" from our colonial heritage and the founding of the republic to the increasing involvement of the United States in a world of ideologies and war.

### **The U.S. Constitution, Government, and Economics**

Receive an introduction to early American political thought and its crowning political achievement, the United States Constitution. Explore the great ideas of government and economics.

### **Great Books in the Western Tradition**

Receive an introduction to representative Great Books in the West from Antiquity to the Middle Ages.

### **Great Books in the British and American Traditions**

Continue study of Western literary tradition with English authors, like Chaucer, Shakespeare, Milton, Swift, Wordsworth, Dickens, Yeats, and Eliot, and American authors, like Thoreau, Hawthorne, Melville, Whitman, Dickinson, Twain, Frost, Hemingway, and Faulkner.

### **Fine Arts**

Choose from visual arts, music, or theatre.

### **Great Principles of Science**

Consider the implications of the "big ideas" of physics, chemistry, and biology, and the evidence for them.

### **Mathematics and Deductive Reasoning**

Learn Aristotelian logic and deductive reasoning, mathematical arguments and proof, and study axiomatic systems like Euclidean geometry as you explore the nature of mathematics.

### **Physical Wellness Dynamics**

Practice a basic physical wellness program through physical conditioning, strength development, and nutrition.

### **Senior Thesis/Capstone**

Synthesize critical concepts across the essential curriculum and see their purpose in relation to a life pursuing the good, true, and beautiful.