



AMERICAN CLASSICAL ACADEMY

RUTHERFORD

SOPHOMORE YEAR CURRICULUM

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR MORAL PHILOSOPHY (SEMESTER 1) our students will:

- be introduced to the major themes in philosophy through a study of literature
- read and discuss great works of dystopian literature such as Brave New World and 1984
- understand Swift’s critique of the Enlightenment as “the Ancients” vs. “the Moderns”
- recognize the dehumanizing potential of what C.S. Lewis calls “the conquest of nature”

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR ECONOMICS (SEMESTER 2) our students will:

- understand the free market and concepts such as supply and demand
- understand savings, investments, and money management
- study macroeconomic theory and the role of the government

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR BRITISH LITERATURE our students will read and discuss:

- Beowulf, the oldest Anglo-Saxon work of literature
- selections of The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer and Paradise Lost by John Milton
- William Shakespeare’s Macbeth and a selection of his sonnets
- poems from English Romantic poets such as Blake, Wordsworth, Byron, Keats, and Shelley

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR EUROPEAN HISTORY our students will:

- study the major events of European history from 500-1815
- recognize how Enlightenment ideas influenced the Founding Fathers
- understand the contributions of the major monarchies in the Middle Ages
- study the major contributions of Renaissance artists, philosophers, and religious figures

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR LATIN IV (OR AP LATIN) our students will:

- study and translate selections from Virgil’s Aeneid and Caesar’s Gallic Wars
- review passive periphrastic, infinitives, comparative and superlative adjectives, etc.
- participate in classroom discussions, debates, and presentations on literary themes
- explore concepts like Roman values, war and empire, leadership, and views of non-Romans

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR ALGEBRA II our students will:

- solve equations in two and three variables
- understand and apply the general quadratic trinomial: $ax^2 + bx + c$
- explore irrational roots of quadratic equations
- apply the laws of logarithms and the laws of exponents

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR CHEMISTRY our students will:

- use the steps of the scientific method throughout the course
- study the history and use of the Periodic Table
- study atomic structure, chemical bonding, electron configuration, and electrochemistry
- explore the subjects of gasses, acids and bases, reaction energy, and chemical equilibrium

AS SOPHOMORES, STUDENTS MAY ALSO TAKE SEMESTER ELECTIVES IN ART & MUSIC

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Head of School

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IN SOPHOMORE YEAR
our students read:

Beowulf
The Abolition of Man
Pride and Prejudice
Gulliver’s Travels
“Ode to a Grecian Urn”
A Tale of Two Cities
Darkness at Noon
1984
Brave New World
MacBeth

IN SOPHOMORE YEAR
students will write about & discuss:

Heroism
Justice
Government
Wealth
Progress
Nature
Love
Truth
Beauty