



Our Lady of Good Success Academy
Educating Youth for the Glory of God
J†M†J



Our Lady of Good Success Seventh and Eighth Grade Curriculum

The next developmental stage of learning begins about the seventh grade and is called the “Dialectic,” and involves a change from the ‘grammar’ of subjects, employing observation and memory, to the ‘dialectic’ of subjects, using the discursive reason. This means the student will be concerned not only with the observation of a topic, but with the “why” and its arguments. The subject of grammar will be more analytical, in history and religion they will be concerned with the reason for actions and positions, in poetry, the emphasis can be put on drama, where arguments are stated in dramatic form. Miss Dorothy Sayers, and expert in the classical method of education, states, “All events are food for such an appetite. An umpire’s decision; the degree by which one may transgress the spirit of a regulation without being trapped by the letter: on such questions as these, children are born casuists, and their natural propensity only needs to be developed and trained-and, especially, be brought into intelligible relationship with events in the grown-up world.”

Religion

Baltimore Catechism No. 3

The Acts of the Apostles

The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare

Fabiola by Cardinal Wiseman

The Story of the Church by Fr. George Johnson

Lives of the Saints

The Credo, Commandments of God and the Church, the Sacraments and Prayer

8th Grade National Religion Exam

Father’s separate Apologetics lessons

A detailed study of the Acts of the Apostles can be made by reading and discussing the text. *The Bronze Bow* and *Fabiola* are works of literature which support the time period of those events, as well as the lives of the saints of the early Church. After the Acts of the Apostles has been studied, early Church history can be learned through 300 A.D. with *The Story of the Church*. In alternating years, study the Credo, containing what they must know and believe, the Commandments of God and Church, containing what they must do, and the sacraments and prayer, containing the means of grace by which they can attain to God. Twice monthly, Father will give a separate apologetics class to the students. At the end of the year, the eighth grade will take the National Religion Exam.

Language Arts

SSPX *Language Arts 7th Grade* and SSPX *Language Arts 8th Grade*, or *English 7* and *English 8 and Composition* by Seton Press

If the teacher has been to a conference or seminar about the SSPX *Language Arts* series, it is to be preferred. However, if the teacher has not, then Seton’s *English 7* and *English 8 and Composition* is to be used. The seventh and eighth grade students are ready for more analytical work in the study of grammar and writing. The students will learn to create a strong mental impression by practicing good descriptions, correct manuscript form, the writing process including drafts, paragraph structure, outlining, writing multi-paragraph summaries, self-correcting, and writing a research paper using multiple sources.



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Math

Saxon Math 87

Saxon Algebra ½

Algebra ½ is an introduction to algebra and fits in well with the dialectic stage of learning. Follow the internal order of the book.

Literature

Without losing sight of the fact that reading is meant to be enjoyed, the seventh and eighth graders will:

Answer recall questions and restate information in their own words

Identify the elements of plot

Recognize foreshadowing, flashback, and point of view

Recognize the influence of the author's background

Analyze the effect of the characters on the plot and resolution of the conflict

Analyze the influence of setting on the problem and the resolution of the conflict

Explain imagery, metaphor, simile, connotation, denotation, assonance, and consonance

Recognize and explain the theme

Gain insight into certain periods or events of history

Use some time to enjoy reading a book aloud to the students each day. The best time for this is after lunch recess.

History/Geography

The Old World and America by Fr. Philip Furlong

Literature set in medieval and modern times

Maps, Charts, and Graphs, Level G and Level H

From year to year, alternate the study of ancient and medieval history, and American history from the Civil War up through World War II. This will give the students a complete picture of history from recordable times to the present. The study of history for this age level will show how individual people have affected history by their cooperation, or lack of cooperation with the will of God. Additionally, the eighth graders are required by law to learn the Missouri Constitution. Use the geography workbooks once or twice weekly to learn the next level of map reading. The seventh and eighth graders should gain knowledge about:

First Year:

Ancient civilizations

Greek and Roman civilizations

The great heresies

The barbarians and the role of the Catholic Church

The High Middle Ages

The Spanish Inquisition

The Protestant Reformation

The French Revolution



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Second Year:

The formation of our government

The rise of liberalism

Capitalism and Communism

World War I and World War II

Highlights of American history

Major events and figures of Missouri history

Latin

Latina Christiana I

Latina Christiana II

Follow the internal order of the book and alternate each year.

Science

Exploring Creation with General Science

Exploring Creation with Physical Science

These two texts will be alternated. They can be used classically by having the children write or speak in detail about what they are learning. Anything that could be added to the classroom to be observed by the students would be most beneficial, and the use of microscopes, models, or “lab” periods are highly encouraged.

Art

Art projects can be woven into other subjects, but if needed, *Drawing Textbook* by Bruce MacIntyre can be referred to, or another art resource. Calligraphy is an excellent art form that was learned throughout much of history, and corresponds well to the periods of history learned by the class. The teacher may weave art or craft projects into the other subjects, as well as to draw attention to any beautiful artwork in their books, or pertaining to feast days of the Church.

Music

Listening to high-quality classical music is very important to the development of proper Catholic taste. When the students are engaged in quiet seat work, play classical music in the background. It is a scientifically-proven fact that classical music helps the concentration and learning process. Occasionally spend five quiet minutes just listening to a piece of music, and discuss the composer and where he lived. If music class is offered, encourage them to enjoy it!



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Sample Schedule for Seventh and Eighth Grade

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
8:00	Prayers	Prayers	Prayers	Prayers	Prayers
8:15	Religion	Religion	Religion	Religion	Religion
9:00	Math 7/SH8	Math 7/SH8	Math 7/SH8	Math 7/SH8	Math 7/SH8
9:30	Math 8/SH7	Math 8/SH7	Math 8/SH7	Math 8/SH7	Math 8/SH7
9:55	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10:00	Language Arts	Language Arts	Science	Language Arts	Language Arts
11:30	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess	Dismissal	Lunch/Recess	Lunch/Recess
12:30	Literature	Literature		Literature	Literature
1:00	History	History		History	History
1:45	Science	Latin		Latin	Science
2:30	Latin	Music		P.E.	Art
3:00	Clean-up	Clean-up		Clean-up	Clean-up
3:15	Dismissal	Dismissal		Dismissal	Dismissal