

# NINTH GRADE

CULTIVATING WISDOM, VIRTUE AND GODLINESS

## THE RHETORIC STAGE

In high school our instructional focus shifts to rhetoric, by which we mean the clear and persuasive expression of ideas. The classroom curriculum itself is organized around three schools: Humane Letters, Math and Sciences, and Arts and Languages.

## STUDENT LIFE

Veritas provides a variety of clubs and activities. High school students can participate in cross country, track & field, Townball, debate, drama, Classical League, garden club, apologetics club, Spanish club, after-school art, choirs and more!

## THE HOUSE SYSTEM

The house model is intended to create an atmosphere conducive to developing positive role models and peer pressure, encouraging good sportsmanship, and inspiring a vibrant personal walk with God. The four houses at Veritas are comprised of students from each of the secondary grades. They are named after the authors of the great poems of Western Civilization that form the basis of our Humane Letters program, and thus of our classical model: Homer, Virgil, Dante, and Milton.



## WELCOME TO NINTH GRADE!

Students in ninth grade are entering the Veritas high school experience. Education shifts to a rhetoric focus and students will learn to how to express ideas persuasively in subjects such as Humane Letters, Theology, Math & Science, Languages, Art and Music.

Ninth graders have Latin or French as language options and will also study Art History, with lab projects tied to their lessons. Students will create paper mosaic designs paired to ancient art history. The class will also take a field trip to the Portland Art Museum.



Joshua Smith  
Homeroom, Latin



Erica Kencke  
Homeroom, French



Bryan Lynch  
Headmaster



Geary Linhart  
Humane Letters



Daniel Jones  
Math



Emily Shelton  
Art History



Adam Fitch  
Theology



Anna Danese  
Science



Jen Sahli  
Science



Mark Wagner  
PE



Sally Mehler  
Music, Choir

## CLASS OVERVIEW

Secondary students will follow a 6 period daily schedule:

*Note: this schedule is from the 2019-2020 school year. Schedules vary each year.*

- **First Period (8:30-9:25)**  
Latin or French– Mr. Smith or Mrs. Kencke (M,T)  
Humane Letters– Mr. Linhart (W,Th,F)
- **Second Period (9:30-10:25)**  
Humane Letters– Mr. Linhart (M,Th,F)  
Theology– Mr. Fitch (T)  
Math– Mr. Jones (W)
- **Third Period (10:30-11:25)**  
Math– Mr. Jones (M,W)  
Humane Letters– Mr. Linhart (T)  
Latin or French– Mr. Smith or Mrs. Kencke (W)  
History of Natural Science– Mrs. Danese (Th)
- **Lunch (11:25-11:55)**
- **Fourth Period (12:00-12:55)**  
Art History– Miss Shelton (M)  
History of Natural Science– Mrs. Danese (T,F)  
Humane Letters– Mr. Linhart (W)  
Math– Mr. Jones (Th)
- **Fifth Period (1:00-1:55)**  
History of Natural Science– Mrs. Danese (M,W)  
Math– Mr. Jones (T)  
Music– Mrs. Mehler (Th)  
Art History– Miss Shelton (F)
- **Sixth Period (2:00-2:55)**  
P.E.– Miss Shelton (M,W)  
Music– Mrs. Mehler (T)  
Latin or French– Mr. Smith or Mrs. Kencke (Th)  
Theology– Mr. Fitch (F)

Convocation takes place most Wednesdays from 10:20-10:40 and students will also have occasional morning assemblies. On these days, classes will follow the assembly schedule.

## NINTH GRADE HIGHLIGHTS

**HOMEROOM (MR. SMITH OR MRS. KENCKE):** Students will hear and receive important news and information about classes and the school.

**HUMANE LETTERS:** Ancient world history and literature– *Epic of Gilgamesh, Iliad, Odyssey, Plato*

**THEOLOGY:** Prophets and Psalms

**LATIN:** Read adapted Latin versions of ancient myths & legends and create our own.

**FRENCH:** French in everyday contexts; start to listen to, read, write and retell stories

**MATH:** Geometry

**HISTORY OF NATURAL SCIENCE:** Learn the history behind the science, from Ancient Greece to current thought– connecting it to the worldview that gave rise to science; science as the study of the natural world, God’s workmanship.

**ART HISTORY:** Discussing a Biblical worldview of art, the elements of art and principles of design, history of Prehistoric through Classical Roman art

**MUSIC:** Students have music class twice weekly and also participate in all-school concerts in December and May.

**ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES:** Students can participate in Cross Country, Track & Field, Townball, Chamber Singers choir, Drama and Classical League.

**CONVOCATION:** Convocation is a weekly time with secondary students to cultivate growth in virtue for both students and teachers.

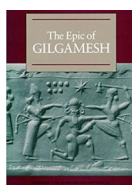
**SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES:** Each quarter, the Houses – led by secondary teachers and seniors – have time to focus on various service projects. Seniors rotate through the leadership positions so that every one has an opportunity to gain these invaluable skills through first-hand experience.

**PROTOCOL:** Curriculum and an annual formal dinner and dance for our high school students. It provides the students with the opportunity to gain invaluable skills in the areas of etiquette, hospitality, correspondence, toasting, and interactions with others as well as a practical avenue to demonstrate these skills throughout the event while having an enjoyable social evening with peers and adult guests.

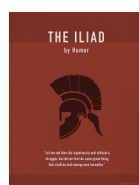
**POETRY OUT LOUD:** As an optional opportunity, high school students can compete in the Poetry Out Loud competition. Students memorize three poetry selections of their choosing and perform them at the classroom level, then at the school level. The top student at Veritas will go on to compete at regionals.

**PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES:** Parents have the opportunity to sit down with their student’s teachers in November and February.

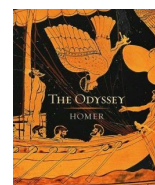
## NINTH GRADE LITERATURE READING LIST



The Epic of Gilgamesh



The Iliad  
Homer



The Odyssey  
Homer



Plato