

Locally Developed Course Outline

Christian Studies and Living 7, 8, and 9 (2023)



Submitted:

June 2023

Course Description:

Christian Studies and Living 7-9 presents students with valuable opportunities to cultivate attitudes, skills, and knowledge that will empower them to become engaged, active, well-informed, and responsible disciples of Jesus Christ. Within a thoughtful and meaningful community, recognizing and respecting individual and collective identities is crucial. Christian Studies and Living 7-9 fosters the development of students' sense of self and community, encouraging them to affirm their unique place as individuals within the wider body of Christ.

The primary objective of Christian Studies and Living 7-9 is to provide students with meaningful encounters and the ability to discern biblical, cultural, historical, and contemporary issues from a Christian perspective. By engaging with these subjects, students are equipped to encounter and navigate them while upholding Christian values.

According to Section 58.1 (1) Notice to Parent of the [Education Act](#), “A board shall provide notice to a parent of a student where courses of study, educational programs or instructional materials, or instruction or exercises, include subject-matter that deals primarily and explicitly with religion or human sexuality.”

The outcomes of this course incorporate the competencies and Alberta Education’s [Ministerial Order on Student Learning \(#028/2020\)](#), as well as supporting *students in gaining the knowledge and skills needed to form the foundations for successful and fulfilling lives, and to make meaningful contributions to their communities and the world.* ([Alberta Education Guide to Education May 2023](#)).

- Critical Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Managing Information
- Creativity and Innovation
- Communication Collaboration
- Cultural and Global Citizenship
- Personal Growth and Well-Being

Student Need:

Christian Studies and Living 7-9 offers students a platform to delve into the study of Christianity within an academic context. This course invites students to explore different facets of Christianity, encouraging them to engage as critical thinkers about religion and the development of their own personal faith. Through the learning outcomes of this course, students are empowered to identify and examine key themes within Christianity, as well as in other world religions, and to consider the influence of these themes on decision-making processes for individuals. Ultimately, Christian Studies and Living 7-9 aims to provide students with opportunities to develop a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of how faith plays a role in shaping moral values and guiding ethical decision-making.

Scope and Sequence (Learner Outcomes):

The guiding questions and outcomes in Christian Studies and Living 7-9 are interrelated and interdependent. This model best represents a students' faith journey as students begin to have a broader understanding of the world around them. Student learning outcomes should be reinforced, extended, and broadened with each successive grade level, building on what the students have learned before. The outcomes should be progressive, promoting the development of more intricate thinking skills as students grow and encounter new life experiences. Outcomes can be integrated or re-clustered to best suit the needs and maturity of the students as the year progresses.

Guiding Questions (General Outcomes):

1. How can we grow our relationship with Jesus Christ?
2. How do we respond to questions and challenges about the Christian faith?
3. How can the study of scripture deepen the understanding of the Christian faith?
4. How do Christian values guide decision making and how we respond to others?
5. How do faith and spirituality play a role in different communities and cultures?

Learning Outcomes (Specific Outcomes):

How can we grow our relationship with Jesus Christ?	7	8	9
Examine and reflect on the relationship between spiritual practice and a personal faith journey.	✓	✓	✓
Examine and describe the relationship between God's love and grace, and personal salvation.	✓	✓	✓
Describe the significance of the Holy Spirit and his role in a Christian person's life.	✓	✓	✓
Describe the key teachings of Jesus Christ and the significance of his life, death, and resurrection.	✓	✓	✓
Examine and explain God's character (faithfulness, justice, mercy) through his interaction with various people throughout history.	✓	✓	✓
Explain how a Christian worldview provides purpose to human life.	✓	✓	✓

How do we respond to questions and challenges about the Christian faith?	7	8	9
Identify and develop personal responses to questions about God and humanity.	✓	✓	✓
Interpret and evaluate Christ's response to a variety of ethical questions.	✓	✓	✓
Explore and examine the role of faith in response to crisis.	✓	✓	✓
Explore and examine issues central to personal faith.	✓	✓	✓
Identify and respond to challenges that impact Christ-centered living in the school, community, and beyond, including social media and digital culture.	✓	✓	✓

How can the study of scripture deepen the understanding of the Christian faith?	7	8	9
Interpret Scripture through the study of a variety of characters and situations.	✓	✓	✓
Evaluate scripture and reflect on how it relates to daily life.	✓	✓	✓
Present a variety of Biblical passages.	✓	✓	✓
Identify major themes in the Bible and explain how they play a role in Christianity.	✓	✓	✓

How do Christian values guide decision making and how we respond to others?	7	8	9
Identify and discuss the components of a healthy Christian community.	✓	✓	✓
Examine and explain the practice of living Biblical shalom.	✓	✓	✓
Analyze and discuss the meaning and application of the commandment to love God and love others.	✓	✓	✓
Implement and evaluate a plan that employs faith-based servant leadership.	✓	✓	✓

How do faith and spirituality play a role in different communities and cultures?	7	8	9
Identify evidence that people belong to different spiritual communities.	✓	✓	✓
Explore and discuss the historical connections between Christianity and other world religions and spiritual communities.	✓	✓	✓
Research and describe another world religion's or spiritual community's history, beliefs, traditions, and practices.	✓	✓	✓
Compare and contrast two different Christian denominations.	✓	✓	
Compare and contrast Christianity and at least one world religion or spiritual community.		✓	✓

Facilities or Equipment

Facilities

No special facilities are required.

Equipment

No unique equipment required.

Learning and Teaching Resources

No unique resources required.

Resources may be chosen at the discretion of the principal of the school.

Assessment Standards

Assessment practices will follow board policies ([Administrative Procedure 360: Learning Assessment](#)).

No unique assessment is required.

Sensitive or Controversial Content

[Administrative Procedure 205: Controversial Issues and Resources](#)

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Issue Management Strategy

Health and Safety

Classroom setting – no unique health and safety issues.

Risk Management Strategy

Statement of Overlap with Existing Programs

There is no significant overlap with an existing program.

Reasoning For LDC

School Authority Monitoring and Evaluation

The school's principal will ensure that the outcomes of this course are being met. Teachers will ensure that they are meeting the guidelines under which the course was intended. Instructional Supports will regularly review this Locally Developed Course.