

# Academy of the Most Blessed Sacrament Aquinas

## Middle School Curriculum

### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### Social Studies

##### **World History: Ancient Civilizations**

- This course will focus on world history from the first civilizations to the Middle Ages.
- Over the course of the year, we will analyze how geography played a role and influenced the developments of the first societies, examine how new inventions and innovations influenced human progress, and study the cultures, religion, ethics, history, economics, government and social groups of the Mesopotamians, Egyptians, Ancient Greeks, Romans, and Europe during the Middle Ages. We will also survey the development of civilization in the Far East and Africa.
- Students will explore common themes that were prevalent in ancient societies and draw comparisons with 21<sup>st</sup> century American society
- Analysis and interpretation of primary source documents, prehistoric and classical works of art and architecture will be emphasized in this course.
- Students will be assessed through quizzes, tests, projects, document-based questions, and a variety of informal assessments

#### Science

Topics include the following, but not limited to:

- Safety and laboratory procedures, scientific method, and measurement
- Problem solving in all topical areas with reinforcement of math, technology and writing skills
- Physical/chemical science: metric system conversion, structure of matter and its properties, introduction to the periodic table, compounds and mixtures, states of matter and its changes, behavior of fluids, physical and chemical properties and its changes, temperature, thermal energy, heat, electricity
- Life science: characteristics of living things, ecology and the environment, inorganic and organic compounds, organisms and energy, life processes, stimulus and response, adaptations, dissection, cell structure and function, acquired and inherited characteristics, cell theory, organelles, cell processes, cell transport, cells and obtained energy
- Earth science: plate tectonics, continental drift, plate boundaries, seafloor spreading, magnetic clues, convection currents, layers of the earth, features caused by plate tectonics, earthquakes-volcanoes etc., Sun-Earth-Moon system, solar system, inner and outer planets, use and management of earth's natural resources

## **Math**

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## **Reading/Language Arts**

[New Archdiocese English-Language Arts Curriculum Maps](#)

# **7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

## **Social Studies**

### **U.S. History I**

- This course will focus on early United States history from the exploration of North America to the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction. We will examine and analyze the major changes that occurred as the United States grew from a series of settlements that hugged the Atlantic coast to a country that spanned the North American continent.
- Over the course of this school year we will explore topics such as the pre-Columbian societies that existed prior to European contact, the early establishment of European colonies, the American Revolution, westward expansion, and the major divisions between each region, which culminated in a bloody civil war.
- Analysis and interpretation of primary source documents, music, political cartoons and paintings will be emphasized in this course.
- Students will be assessed through quizzes, tests, individual and group projects, document-based questions, and a variety of informal assessments

## **Science**

Topics include the following, but not limited to:

- Safety and laboratory procedures, scientific method, and measurement
- Problem solving in all topical areas with reinforcement of math, technology and writing skills
- Physical science: metric system conversion, scientific notation, motion and speed, reference point, acceleration, velocity, motion and forces, Newton's Laws of motion, friction and inertia, gravity, air resistance, electricity, energy and its forms, work, power, mechanical advantage and efficiency, conservation of energy
- Chemical science: structure of the atom, subatomic particles, masses of atoms, identifying isotopes, ions, periodic table and its components, energy levels, electron configuration, distinguish between metals, metalloids, and nonmetals (groups and periods), chemical bonding, chemical equations, chemical reactions, types of bonding,

stability in bonding, types of chemical reactions and its energy, balancing chemical reactions, writing formulas, and naming compounds

- Life science: essential inorganic and organic compounds to our body systems, cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems
- Earth science: forces of the earth, gravitational and universal forces

## **Math**

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## **Reading/Language Arts**

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# **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

## **Social Studies**

### **U.S. History II**

- This course will survey United States history from the end of Reconstruction to present day.
- Over the course of the school year, we will examine and analyze the major changes that occurred as the United States continued to expand westward and came into conflict with the western Native American nations, how the United States became an industrialized society, the relationship between business and labor and business and the government, how the ethnic and cultural makeup of the country changed as millions of immigrants poured into the country, how America emerged as a world power through its participation in World War I and II and we will examine America's post World War II role in the world as one of two superpowers during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and beyond
- Analysis and interpretation of primary source documents, music, political cartoons and paintings will be emphasized in this course.
- Students will be assessed through quizzes, tests, projects, document-based questions, and a variety of informal assessments

## **Science**

Topics include the following, but not limited to:

- Safety and laboratory procedures, scientific method, and measurement
- Problem solving in all topical areas with reinforcement of math, technology and writing skills

- Life science: characteristics of living things, biogenesis, classification system of living things, cell structure and function, cell processes, moving cellular materials (transport), cell division and mitosis, process of meiosis, function and structure of DNA and RNA, heredity and genetics, Mendelian genetics and beyond, Punnett squares, advances in genetics, genetic engineering, Hardy-Weinberg principle, all human body systems, dissection
- Physical/chemical science: essential inorganic and organic compounds to our body systems, cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems, essential enzymes and hormones, metabolism, essential chemical compounds
- Earth science: producers and consumers, ecology, energy from the environment, impact of the environment and genetics, evolution and extinction

## **Math**

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## **Reading/Language Arts**

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