

High School Program

Airdrie Koinonia Christian School provides a comprehensive high school program that will enable students to be successful whether they continue their education in university or technical school, or move directly into the work force. **Our philosophy is to provide a rigorous academic program geared toward university entrance and encourage as many students as possible to pursue that option.** For example, most students will take two sciences and one math course at the grade twelve level. We recognize, however, that God has gifted each student differently, and **so we make whatever modifications to the core program that are necessary for all of our students to be successful whether or not they are university bound.** We attempt to do this, whenever possible, by integrating these students into the advanced courses and making modifications as needed on an individual basis within those courses rather than streaming them into easier courses. Electives are available as an enrichment to the core program, but it is our belief that most students will receive the greatest benefit by selecting as many course from the core program as possible.

CORE SUBJECTS & CREDITS OFFERED

The subjects listed below (with the exception of Physics) are taken by the vast majority of our students. Most AKCS students will take their seventh year of French in grade 10 and receive credit for grade 12 French at that time. Transfer students with no French background are exempt from French. Alternative courses and additional electives are listed below. Additional credits in Career and Technology Studies (CTS) or Fine Arts can be earned in grade eleven or twelve if a student opts out of one or more of the core courses. Some students also choose to take a three credit Phys. Ed. course instead of five in order to have time to pursue other options.

	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12	TOTAL CREDITS POSSIBLE
Bible/CALM	6	6	6	18
English 10-1, 20-1, 30-1	5	5	5	15
Pure Math 10, 20, 30	5	5	5	15
Social Studies 10, 20, 30	5	5	5	15
Science 10	5			5
Biology 20, 30		5 (Fall)	5 (Spring)	10
Chemistry 20, 30		5 (Fall)	5 (Spring)	10
Physics 20, 30		5	5	10
French 30	15			15
Phys. Ed. 10, 20, 30	5	3, 5	3, 5	15
Fine Arts/ CTS	4			4
Work Experience (Christian Service)				3

AKCS ELECTIVES

It has been our experience that our core program meets the needs of most students, and very few electives are needed to provide a well rounded program. Some of the courses below may be taken in addition to the core courses while others are taken as an alternative to a core course. The exact mix will depend on the individual student's interests and abilities. **These electives are offered under the direct supervision of AKCS teachers.**

English 10-2, 20-2, 30-2, or Social 13, 23, 33 or Math 14, 24

These courses are available to students who need a program which is not university oriented. Typically, the students will work alongside classmates who are taking more advanced courses, but their assignments will be somewhat simpler and easier.

Fine Arts/Career and Technology Studies

Each year our teachers offer a number of elective courses, typically in one credit modules so that students can choose several areas of interest to pursue. The courses offered vary somewhat from year to year, but will usually include most

of the following: Art, Building Construction, Computer Studies (Keyboarding, Word Processing, Presentation, Web Page Design, etc.), Cooking, Drama, Drafting, Mechanics, Music (Choir, Bell Choir, Guitar), Law, Psychology (Personal & General).

Work Experience

All students are required to earn one credit per year of high school at AKCS in an area of Christian Service. This provides students with an opportunity to live out their faith in a real and meaningful way that brings practical benefit to others. Students may also earn additional work experience credits in the area of Career Exploration by working with an employer in a field which interests them as a possible occupation.

Special Projects

Students who wish to pursue an area of independent study may develop their own personal course of study in consultation with a staff advisor and with the approval of the principal. Special projects must not duplicate the learning to be gained from a regular course, and must have clear expectations and standards.

DISTANCE ED. ELECTIVES

Students who know how to work independently and are interested in courses other than those offered directly by AKCS can choose from a number offered through the Distance Learning Center. Students who choose to take a Distance Education elective will always have access to an AKCS teacher who will be able to help them with their work. While this teacher will not necessarily be a specialist in the area of study, they will ensure that students are getting the help they need from the Distance Learning Center and that they are completing their work in a timely fashion. Our completion rate for these courses is nearly 100%. **Many of these subject areas actually have multiple levels and modules so that students who wish to can pursue an interest in considerable depth.** A partial listing of subject areas offered through Distance Learning is given below:

Art	Agriculture	Enterprise & Innovation
Financial Management	Forestry	Multimedia
Health & Personal Development	Legal Studies	Psychology
Spanish	Tourism	World Geography

NORTHSTAR ACADEMY CANADA

Students may also select from a variety of core and elective courses offered through NorthStar Academy, Canada's only Protestant, Christian online school. Through NorthStar Academy students have access to an ever-growing number of core and elective courses from a thoroughly Christian perspective. They will have access to a born again, Christian teacher who can be reached online through forums and email.

Here is one comment from an independent observer about the quality of the NorthStar program:

“I have been involved with the distance education program of the University of Maryland for the last 2 years. This year, I have spent entirely on researching distance education for our school. ... Of all the distance education programs that I have evaluated, NorthStar is head and shoulders above the rest.”--**Dr. Bill Fanska**