

Syllabus

Course: Religious Studies

Grade: Eight

2011-12

A. Course Description

The religious studies program encourages an educational and transformative experience of the mysteries of God revealed through the person of Jesus Christ, traditions of the Catholic Church and Church history, and a reflection on Christian scripture. One unit is dedicated to human sexuality including a Catholic/Christian response to the AIDS crisis and substance abuse education. The goal of this is to instill Christian/moral values and to develop students “self” identity as rooted in these values. This course focuses on developing the students “imaging of God” through study of New and Old Testament writings.

B. Goals of the Class

The goal of the religious studies program is to cultivate discerning, moral, and caring young women of the Christian/ethical stature. The girls develop understanding, tolerance, and respect towards different religious beliefs and acknowledge truths found in a diversity of religious traditions.

The students demonstrate their responsibility for making the world a better place by performing 20 documented hours of service in the community. The students recognize the importance of working for truth, justice, and peace through the discussion of various newspaper, magazine articles, video clips, and movie clips.

C. Grading Policy

100-90 **A**

89-80 **B**

79-70 C
69-60 D
59-0 F

D. Required Text

Come Follow Me Benziger
Family Life Benziger

E. General Expectations

Students are expected to experience an understanding, knowledge, and respect for the basic traditions, practices, and beliefs of the Catholic faith as well as those contained in other faith traditions. Students exhibit this knowledge through class participation, preparation of prayer services, participation in a retreat, completing reading assignments, and questions for reflection, journaling, and written tests. The ACRE survey will be completed by all the students.

- Class Participation – Students are expected to interact and dialogue with the class group. Critical thinking, questions, and discussion are readily encouraged.
- Make-up Tests – These must be completed within a reasonable amount of time. It is up to the student to make arrangements with the teacher.
- Extra Credit – If a student demonstrated a need for extra credit to raise her grade and request it within a reasonable time period, extra work will be assigned.
- Project – Students will be required to create and write a book of at least 10 pages, fiction or nonfiction, that teaches a biblical lesson. Detailed guidelines will be provided for the students.

Supplementary Reading- Break Through (Bible for Young Catholics)