



NEW COVENANT
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

NCCA Upper School

FAQ

Student Life

Q. What type of schedule do Upper School students use?

NCCA has a traditional schedule as of the 2022-23 academic school year. It is anticipated that a more traditional schedule will continue for the next few years for core classes. It would be more reasonable for upperclassmen to have a block schedule rather than our youngest upper-school students. However, depending on teacher schedules and the logistics of scheduling, an attempt to utilize block scheduling would most likely start with electives rather than core subjects.

Q. Would middle and high school have the same classes?

Middle and high school students would have very limited opportunities to have core classes together. On a rare occasion, an advanced middle school student may have the option to take a course that meets the specific advanced needs of the student.

Integration of both middle and high school during electives may occur until our high school grows complete with more freshmen through seniors.

Currently, lunch break is separated into younger and older upper school students.

Q. What are Upper School Houses?

Students are divided into houses across grade levels to participate in team-building exercises, leadership skills, and building relationships with a variety of peers outside of the student's homeroom class.

House assignments are for team spirit along with servant leadership. It provides a system to reinforce the proper attitudes and behaviors of upper school students. Typically, the houses have students from all upper school levels assigned to them. This allows the older students to be role models and serve as leaders to the younger students. Meetings are often once per week and will include additional time for service projects and events.

Curriculum

Q. What courses have our Upper School students taken in addition to core subjects?

We have the traditional electives that all of our families have experienced in elementary school. Rather than pray for programs, NCCA prays for passionate people to glorify God through their areas of giftedness.

Upper school students choose their favorite electives which may vary each day of the week based on our staff's schedules. NCCA has offered classes such as:

- Typing / Keyboarding
- Computer Software Applications
- Health
- Financial Planning (Financial Peace University curriculum for middle and/or high)
- Internships / Job Shadowing
- Life Skills
- Agriculture
- Choir
- Art
- Study Skills
- Drama
- Foreign Language
- Instrumental Music
- Agricultural
- Yearbook
- Introduction to Business
- College / ACT Prep
- Sewing / Knitting

- Sports History
- Cinema and Worldview
- Lion News & Broadcasting
- National History Day

New electives and varying electives are becoming more readily available as we grow.

Q. Are students required to take 2 years of foreign language in high school?

Currently, NCCA students are required to take 2 years of a single language. Many schools allow an 8th-grade foreign language course to count as 1 of the 2 years. That would mean students at NCCA would finish their foreign language requirement after their freshman year.

Q. Do all students participate in career education or job shadowing as juniors or seniors?

Not all students may desire to have a career education outside of the walls of NCCA. NCCA may provide flexibility within this area. Based on student interest and career survey results, NCCA attempts to match students to career education assignments outside the walls of NCCA that best meet the interests of the student. Career elective credits may range from 1 -2 credits per year depending on the needs of the student. NCCA provides contracts for students, parents, and businesses to explain the specific requirements of each party. Juniors will have the opportunity for 4 days of job shadowing throughout the academic year.

Primary Care, Taylor Dental, Southern Family Dental, Southern Grace Assisted Living, and Dixie Lawn Care have partnered with NCCA in 2019-2020. More recently we have had students intern under chiropractors, elementary teachers, and salons for cosmetology.

Extra-Curricular & Activities

Q. What extracurricular activities does NCCA offer middle & high school students?

NCCA offers several sports & activities which include:

Sports:

- Lady Lions' Volleyball
- Basketball
- Archery
- Cheerleading
- Track & Field
- Cross Country

Non-athletic:

- FFA Regional & State Competitions
- Boys' Adventure Club
- Drama - productions outside of school hours
- National History Day Competition

Future events may include:

- Formal Ball & Dining for Juniors & Seniors
- Homecoming Celebration
- Senior Graduation Night Festival
- European Reformation Tour
- Academic Team / Quick Recall

Q. How are holiday parties or special events handled in Upper School?

Upper school students have the opportunity to participate in events that support a more mature, age-appropriate setting, and thus, these events may differ from more common elementary events. Student council members often help decide on events best suited for upper school.

Parent & Teacher Communication

Q. Why do teachers use Google Classroom for communication?

NCCA began using Google Classroom during nontraditional school days due to COVID. Because NCCA is part of the Google Education Workplace, this service is a free educational tool that allows students to have access to assignments from every class in an easy-to-use format rather than parents and students receiving numerous daily emails from multiple teachers.

Teachers are able to post assignments and provide worksheets or needed materials electronically, and students have the opportunity to return work electronically within Google Classroom.

Students also have access to a color-coded calendar that is visually appealing for students to see assignments for an entire week.

Google Classroom also prepares students for navigating information online to help prepare them for college as this is the standard form of communication at the collegiate level.

Google Classroom trains students to begin the needed transition of becoming responsible for their own learning and yet continues to allow parents to monitor their child's assignments through parent notifications.

Q. Do parents receive daily emails from upper school teachers like in elementary?

No, parents and students do not receive daily emails. NCCA transitions students to more independent means of gathering information through our Google Classroom.

Q. Will middle school students still have THT folders?

No, Students will not have Take Home Tuesday Folders with graded work from the previous week. Students will have color-coded folders per class and are trained on how to put notes, graded work, and other important documents into the correct folder to assist in staying organized.

Q. How do I find out about Upper School policies that may differ from elementary policies?

Along with the Parent Student Handbook, NCCA has an official Upper School Handbook which explains procedures, policies, and guidelines for upper school students. You may find this online at our website: NCCAKY.ORG.

Graduation

Q. What are the requirements for graduation?

28 credits;
7 credits per year
4 credits of math - taken each year of high school (1-2 credits are considered an elective)
4 credits English - taken each year of high school
4 credits history/ humanities (corresponds with English / Literature)
4 credits science (1 year science elective)
2-4 credits theology
2 credits foreign language (single world language for 2 years)
6 or more electives

Credit hours may vary by 1 or 2 depending on dual enrollment scheduling and the amount of courses taken for dual enrollment.

Dual credit and honor classes are not weighted differently than other NCCA courses at this time.

Q. Do all students have to take dual enrollment from a local university prior to graduation?

No. Juniors and seniors must first be recommended by NCCA teachers for this possibility. NCCA desires to ensure a successful experience. Several college-level courses also require a prerequisite of specific ACT scores within the field of study.

NCCA has received the requirements for dual enrollment at WKTCC, MSU, and Boyce College.

With qualified teachers, these courses may be taken at NCCA, a web course, or on the main campus of the university. Our first dual credit courses began during the 2020-2021 academic year.

Q. What diplomas are offered at NCCA?

NCCA offers a liberal arts classical Christian education. The diploma offered is a high school diploma that meets state graduation requirements.

Q. How can my high school student be competitive for scholarships?

Students' GPA and College Entrance Exam scores become very important in acquiring academic scholarships to universities. Community service and involvement in clubs and organizations also reflect well on scholarship applications.

KEES money is not available at NCCA currently. If NCCA begins to accept KEES scholarship money, it would be the parents' decision to use this money. Many Christians are opposed to the funding source for this money.

Q. How does NCCA recognize seniors' accomplishments?

NCCA celebrates our seniors with school posters hung in our school for all guests, students, and faculty to view in honor of our graduating class.

NCCA's administration and teachers invite the students to a Senior Lunch at Patti's to celebrate their success and say farewells in a more intimate setting.

A Graduation ceremony & baccalaureate service also are scheduled for graduating seniors to celebrate with their friends and family.

A junior/senior trip also is scheduled for students. NCCA desires to provide a life experience that would allow students to attend a European Reformation Tour during their junior or senior year.

ACT - College Admissions Test

Q. When can students take the ACT?

Some students may want to take the ACT as early as middle school. NCCA has allowed 8th and 9th grade students to take the PreACT before taking the ACT as freshmen or sophomores.

Our goal is for freshmen to take the PreACT before taking the ACT during a students' sophomore through senior year. Students may take the ACT several times. NCCA requires one ACT test during the duration of high school.