

# FRANKLIN ROAD ACADEMY



## Upper School Academic Program Guide 2011-2012

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# FRANKLIN ROAD ACADEMY

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## Mission Statement

The mission of Franklin Road Academy is to:

- *Instill in our students a lifelong love of learning, emphasizing academic excellence and college preparation.*
- *Develop students of integrity with Christian values to sustain and lead them in lives that will make a difference.*
- *Guide students to discover needed balance for life through opportunities in the arts, athletics and activities.*

## Highlights

Located on a 57-acre campus in Nashville, Tennessee, Franklin Road Academy enrolls approximately 850 students in PK-12th grades. FRA's Upper School includes approximately 250 students in grades 9-12. Admission to FRA is selective and based on the student's ability to succeed in a college preparatory environment. The following are key facts about FRA:

- ◆ Accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Southern Association of Independent Schools.
- ◆ All FRA students in grades 7-12 use tablet PCs in order to enrich their learning experiences and to better prepare them for 21st century collegiate life and professions.
- ◆ All FRA students in grades 9-12 must complete a minimum of 20 hours of community service for graduation.
- ◆ FRA matriculates 100% of our students to college each year. The graduating class of 2011 earned close to \$4 million in scholarships.

## Upper School Academic Notes

Students must earn 24 total credits for Upper School graduation including:

- ◆ 4 English
- ◆ 4 Mathematics
- ◆ 3 Science
- ◆ 3 Social Studies
- ◆ 2 Foreign Language
- ◆ 1 Fine & Performing Arts
- ◆ 1/2 Technology
- ◆ 1 Physical Education
- ◆ 1 Religion
- ◆ 4 1/2 Electives

## The Center for Philanthropic Studies

Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, The Center for Philanthropic Studies at Franklin Road Academy will provide programming in community service, service learning and philanthropic education for all FRA students. Experiential learning activities, student led initiatives, and an introduction to the non-profit sector will enrich academics, cultural, and spiritual life.

ENGLISH

**ENGLISH (4 credits required)**

The English curriculum in literature is based on the goal of developing critical readers who have strong analytical and composition skills. Sequential courses offer the continuing practice of grammar skills, the addition of an extensive vocabulary, and the development of strong research and writing skills.

English electives provide an opportunity to study specific areas of literature and to strengthen student writing skills. Independent study courses are available in the area of journalism.

**Course Options** (\*one semester course)

- English I or English I Honors (9th)
- English II or English II Honors (10th)
- English III or AP English Language (11th)
- English IV or AP English Literature (12th)
- Speech\* (9th-12th)
- Shakespeare Survey\* (10th-12th)
- Writing Process\* (12th)

MATHEMATICS

**MATHEMATICS (4 credits required)**

The mathematics curriculum is designed so that students learn to:

- ◆ Read, write and orally communicate mathematical concepts.
- ◆ Organize, analyze, depict and interpret data to make decisions and predictions related to real world situations.
- ◆ Solve theoretical and practical problems using essential concepts of algebra, geometry, probability and statistics.
- ◆ Comprehend the relationships between mathematics, the sciences and technology.

Topics in each class are presented numerically, graphically, analytically and verbally to enhance the learning experience. AP courses in calculus and statistics follow the topic outlines set by the College Board for their respective disciplines. Graphing calculator competencies increase with each grade level and students are exposed to the latest math software each year.

**Course Options**

- Algebra I or Algebra I Honors (8th-9th)
- Algebra II or Algebra II Honors (9th-11th)
- Geometry or Geometry Honors (10th-11th)
- Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus Honors (11th-12th)
- AP Statistics (11th-12th)
- Calculus or AP Calculus (11th-12th)
- Advanced Math Topics (12th)

SCIENCE

**SCIENCE (3 credits required)**

Science classes are designed to give students the ability to manipulate collected data in the classroom and the laboratory in order to prove or disprove hypotheses.

Extensive laboratory skills are taught and utilized in upper level classes. AP courses in chemistry, biology and physics follow the topic outlines set forth by the College Board for their respective disciplines. Required laboratory series in these classes prepare students for college laboratory success.

Ecology at FRA provides the opportunity to participate in recycling and other hands-on field experiences.

**Course Options**

- Biology I or Biology I Honors (9th-11th)
- Chemistry I or Chemistry I Honors (10th-11th)
- Physics I or Physics I Honors (9th-12th)
- Biology II or AP Biology (10th-12th)
- Chemistry II or AP Chemistry (11th-12th)
- Physics II or AP Physics (11th-12th)
- Environmental Science (11th-12th)

SOCIAL STUDIES

**SOCIAL STUDIES (3 credits required)**

Extensive reading and writing are integral for all social studies classes. Note-taking and organizational skills are emphasized. Tablet PCs accelerate the research process and improve writing and material comprehension.

Elective courses vary in length (1-2 semesters) depending on specific course content. Essay skills are emphasized. AP courses allow for intensive coverage of the main topics and additional analysis, writing and comprehension.

**Course Options** (\*one semester course)

- Ancient History or Ancient History Honors (9th)
- World History or AP World History (10th)
- U.S. History or AP U.S. History (11th)
- Economics\* (11th-12th)
- Modern American Social Issues\* (11th-12th)
- American Government\* (11-12th)
- U.S. History 1820-1900\* (11th-12th)
- AP European History (12th)
- U.S. Presidents (11th-12th)

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE • ARTS • ENRICHMENT • TECHNOLOGY

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE (2 credits required)

In French and Spanish students develop abilities to listen, speak, read and write in the foreign language, gaining proficiency throughout the course of study. The main objective is oral and written communication. Advanced courses (Level III and beyond) are taught entirely in the foreign language. Cultural aspects of Francophone and Hispanic civilizations are woven into the curriculum.

Latin and classical courses offer a rigorous study of grammar, vocabulary and reading of the great classical works. In addition, students learn about the culture of ancient civilizations as well as the connections to the modern world and modern languages.

Upper level foreign language courses offer college-level exposure, especially in the four AP courses offered. A number of hosting and travel opportunities are sponsored by the foreign language department, which foster an authentic experience not possible in the classroom.

#### Course Options (\*one semester course)

French I (8th-12th)  
French II (9th-12th)  
French III or French III Honors (10th-12th)  
French IV/V Honors (11th-12th)  
AP French Language (11th-12th)  
Spanish I (8th-12th)  
Spanish II (9th-12th)  
Spanish III or Spanish III Honors (10th-12th)  
AP Spanish Language (11th-12th)  
AP Spanish Literature (11th-12th)  
Latin I (8th-12th)  
Latin II (9th-12th)  
Latin III or Latin III Honors (10th-12th)  
Latin IV/V Honors (10th-12th)  
AP Latin Vergil (11th-12th)  
Greek/Latin Derivatives\* (10th-12th)  
Classical Mythology\* (10th-12th)

## ENRICHMENTS

### ENRICHMENTS (1 religion/1 P.E. required)

Enrichments focus on physical fitness and spiritual life. P.E. classes emphasize the importance of overall fitness and an active lifestyle. Religion courses teach the history and theology of Christianity and other world religions. Life lessons of faith, integrity, character and love are taught from the perspective of Biblical truth.

#### Course Options (one semester each)

Life of Christ (9th-12th)  
World Religions (9th-12th)  
New Testament Survey (9th-12th)  
Old Testament Survey (9th-12th)  
Faith & Film (11th-12th)  
Wellness (9th-12th)  
Weights/Conditioning (9th-12th)

## FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

### ARTS (1 credit required)

The Fine and Performing Arts department provides a wealth of opportunities for student participation and performance. Course options include drama, art, pottery and clay design. Performance opportunities include instrumental and vocal ensembles and participation in solo and ensemble competitions at both the regional and state levels. Fine arts classes develop and nurture creative thinking skills. Arts courses provide balance to academic focus and encourage lifelong appreciation of the arts.

#### Course Options (\*full year course)

Art I, II, III or IV (9th-12th)  
Advanced Art or AP Art\* (10th-12th)  
Drama I or II (9th-12th)

#### Course Options (full year each)

Concert Choir (9th-12th)  
Vocal Ensemble (9th-12th)  
Jazz Ensemble (9th-12th)  
Jazz Combo (9th-12th)

### TECHNOLOGY (1/2 credit required)

Technology is an integral part of the FRA education. Students use tablet PCs to demonstrate competencies in word processing, spreadsheets, multi-media, web design and internet-based applications. Courses discuss troubleshooting, file management, ergonomics and maintenance techniques as well as image editing, movie making, and graphic design.

#### Course Options (one semester each)

Technology (9th-12th)  
Technology Practicum (10th-12th)  
Digital Media (10th-12th)  
Computer Science (H) (10th-12th)

## TECHNOLOGY

# ORGANIZATIONS, SERVICE, ATHLETICS & FACILITIES

## ORGANIZATIONS, SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES & ATHLETICS

### ORGANIZATIONS

Student Council, Honor Council, National Honor Society, Service club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Young Life, Yearbook, Newspaper, Literary Magazine, Quiz Bowl, Model U.N., French Club, Latin Club, Spanish Club and Mu Alpha Theta (math club).

### ALPHA & OMEGA

All FRA Upper School students are divided into two groups: Alpha & Omega. These groups compete in academic and athletic competitions throughout the year, as well as other fun events, promoting school spirit and healthy competition.

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

#### *Interim*

During the four days before Spring Break, FRA provides unique learning opportunities for Upper School students. Each faculty member sponsors a class, trip, internship “job shadow” or service project. Interim is an integral part of the educational experience at FRA.

#### *Turner Fellows*

This summer program offers rising seniors, chosen by committee application and review, the opportunity to serve at not-for-profit organizations in the Nashville community. Participating agencies have included The Margaret Maddox Family YMCA, The Salvation Army, The Martha O’ Bryan Center and St. Luke’s Community Center.

### ATHLETICS

Baseball—boys  
Basketball—boys & girls  
Cheerleading—girls  
Cross country—boys & girls  
Football—boys  
Golf—boys & girls  
Hockey—boys  
Soccer—boys & girls  
Softball—girls  
Swimming—boys & girls  
Tennis—boys & girls  
Track—boys & girls  
Volleyball—girls  
Wrestling—boys

## FACILITIES

### FINE & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

FRA’s Fine and Performing Arts Center features beautiful facilities including an outdoor amphitheater, an 800-seat theatre with professional sound and lighting, and separate rooms and studios for visual and performing arts, band, dance, drama, and voice.

FRA students have many opportunities to express their talents through Fine & Performing Arts including two major drama productions each year—a fall drama and spring musical.

FRA produces both fall and spring choral and band concerts, *Cocoa and Carols* at Christmas time and *~an evening with the arts~* in the spring—all of which showcase student talent.

### ATHLETIC FACILITIES

FRA’s athletic facilities include:

- ◆ 4 gymnasiums
- ◆ Football/soccer field within a 1,500 seat stadium
- ◆ Baseball stadium
- ◆ Softball field
- ◆ Tennis courts
- ◆ Fully-equipped weight room

### THE L.M. CROCKETT LIBRARY

FRA’s Middle and Upper School library has 15,000+ holdings of books, magazines, audio books, DVDs and videos. It features an online card catalog system, nine databases and internet search capability with thousands of sources for those who log on to the library website. The library has a copier, scanner and both B&W and color printers for student and teacher use.

There are 44 cozy chairs and 3 study rooms which accommodate up to 4 students each for studying and collaborating on projects. The Rodewald Room under the cupola is available for conferences and luncheons.

### CHAPEL CONFERENCE CENTER

FRA’s chapel has been converted into a state-of-the-art conference center with audio visual presentation equipment and conference seating for 80.