

The Homeschool Advantage - A Comparison of Our Family's High School and College Curriculums

The following list demonstrates the classes my children completed to prepare them to successfully enter college courses as part of their homeschool high school experience. If you look carefully, you will see that my children completed 10th or 11th grade high school work at approximately age 15 or 16. I discovered that starting with the 11th grade, a strong homeschool curriculum was equivalent to most college freshman liberal arts classes. Therefore, instead of purchasing a complete 11th and 12th grade homeschool curriculum, I began substituting college classes in selective areas. This allowed me to offer my students a more thorough experience in certain academic disciplines such as upper-level math, science labs, and specific subject matter such as computer science, robotics, etc... Please note that while homeschooling four children, I have altered my own curriculum several times. I am NOT making any recommendations for any of the following curriculums. Although I feel that many of these listed below are outstanding, there are some which, after using, I would no longer recommend. This list is strictly to be used to compare our family's high school and college curriculums.

| | | | | |
|-------------------|----------|---|---|---|
| Spelling | 8th | <i>Vocabulary, Spelling, and Poetry II</i> <i>Vocabulary from Classical Roots - A</i> | A Beka by Norma Fifer & Nancy Flowers, Educators Publishing Service. | |
| | 9th | <i>Vocabulary, Spelling, and Poetry III</i> <i>Vocabulary from Classical Roots - B</i> | A Beka by Norma Fifer & Nancy Flowers, Educators Publishing Service. | |
| | 10th | <i>Vocabulary, Spelling, and Poetry IV</i> | A Beka | |
| Literature | 7th | <i>Explorations in Literature</i> <i>Bible Truths for Christian Schools A (Old Test.)</i> | Bob Jones Bob Jones | |
| | 8th | <i>Excursions in Literature</i> <i>Bible Truths for Christian Schools B (New Test.)</i> | Bob Jones Bob Jones | |
| | | <i>Our Goal Our Guides: Our Quest for Happiness, Bk. 1</i> | Mentzer, Bush and Company, Pub. | |
| | | 9th | <i>Themes in Literature</i> <i>Our Goal Our Guides: Through Christ Our Lord, Bk. 2</i> | A Beka Mentzer, Bush and Company, Pub. |
| | 10th | <i>Managing Your Life (1/3 of Bk.)</i> <i>World Literature</i> | A Beka A Beka | |
| | | <i>Our Goal Our Guides: The Ark and the Dove, Bk. 3</i> <i>Managing Your Life (1/3 of Bk.)</i> | Mentzer, Bush and Company, Pub. A Beka | |
| | | 11th | <i>American Literature</i> <i>Our Goal Our Guides: Toward Eternal Commencement, Bk. 4</i> | A Beka Mentzer, Bush and Company, Pub. |
| | Age 16 → | 12th | <i>Managing Your Life (1/3 of Bk.)</i> <i>The Mystical City of God by the Venerable Mary of Agreda</i> | A Beka Tan Pub. |

**Required Summer Reading 2nd-12th grades

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Lang. Arts/ Composition | 9th | <i>Grammar and Composition III</i> | A Beka |
| | 10th | <i>Grammar and Composition IV</i> | A Beka |
| | 11th | (my own homemade composition class) | **Then student passes CLEP Composition I, 3 credits |
| | Age 16 → | 12th | Community College classes, such as - Composition II Advanced Composition Technical Creativity Writing |

(**whatever interests my kids and fulfills liberal arts reqs.)

Physical Science

Age 15 →

9th *Science of the Physical Creation*
Health in a Christian Perspective
10th *Biology, God's Living Creation*
11th **Community College class: Fund. Princ. Of Chemistry**
12th **Community College classes, such as -**
Physics I
Physics II
(other)

A Beka
A Beka
A Beka**Then student passes **CLEP Biology w/ No Lab, 3 cr.**

Social Science

Age 16 →

9th *Boyer's The American Nation*
(weekly homemade geography maps, Eastern Hemisphere)
10th *World History: Perspectives on the Past, 5th ed.*
(weekly homemade geography maps, Western Hemisphere)
11th *American Government, 2nd ed.*
American Government: Policy and Politics, 7th ed.
Economics: Work and Prosperity
Macroeconomics: Principles and Tools, 3rd ed.
12th **Community College classes, such as -**
US History I
US History II
Sociology
Psychology
(**whatever interests my kids and fulfills liberal arts reqs.)

by Paul Boyer, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Pub. ****CLEP, 3cr.**

by Krieger, Neill, Reynolds, Heath, Pub.

A Beka
by Neil Tannahill, Pearson Education Inc, pub. ****CLEP, 3cr.**
A Beka
by O'Sullivan and Sheffrin, Prentice Hall **** CLEP, 3cr.**

Mathematics

Age 16 →

7th *Algebra 1/2*
PreAlgebra
8th *Beginning Algebra*
9th *Modern Geometry*
10th *Intermediate Algebra for College Students*
11th **Community College classes IN THIS ORDER**
College Algebra
Trigonometry
Calculus I
Calculus II
Intro. to Linear Algebra or Calculus III

Saxon
Holt, Rinehart, Winston, Pub.
by Lial & Hornsby (**college text)
Houghton & Mifflin Co., Pub.
Prentice Hall, Pub. (**college text)

Foreign Language

----- 2 yr. private tutor for everyone, then college classes if desired

Bible/Religion

----- 1 hr. family Bible study each morning before school, incl.:
1. Children Bible Stories
2. History of the Catholic Church
3. Important Saints and/or Catholic Literary Works