Class list for high school transcripts

Challenge I

Classical Conversations Course Title	**Course Title for high school transcripts**	**Credits**
Grammar	Latin I	1
Research	Honors, Physical Science with lab	1
Exposition	English I - American Literature & writing/composition	2
Debate	Introduction to Debate	.5
Debate	Economics	.5
Debate	Honors, American History, Government, & Founding Principles	1
Reasoning	Drama/Shakespeare	.5
Reasoning	Traditional Logic	.5
Logic	Algebra I (or whatever math you choose)	1
		Total 8

Challenge II

Classical Conversations Course Title	**Course Title for high school transcripts**	**Credits**
Grammar	Latin II	1
Research	Honors, Biology with lab	1
Exposition	English II - British Literature & writing/composition	2
Debate	Debate I & Speech I	.5
Debate	Western Cultural History/Art History	1
Reasoning	Socratic Dialogues	.5
Reasoning	Traditional Logic II	.5
Logic	Algebra II or Geometry (or whatever math you choose)	1
		Total 7.5

Challenge III

Classical Conversations Course Title	**Course Title for high school transcripts**	**Credits**
Grammar	Latin III	1
Research	Chemistry with lab	1
Exposition	English III – Poetry & Shakespeare	1
Debate	American History	.5
Debate	Speech II & Debate II	1
Reasoning	Music Theory	.5
Reasoning	Philosophy	.5
Logic	Algebra II or Precalculus (or whatever math you choose)	1
		Total 6.5

Challenge IV

Classical Conversations Course Title	**Course Title for high school transcripts**	**Credits**
Grammar	Latin IV	1
Research	Physics	1
Exposition	English IV – Ancient Literature	1
Debate	Speech III	1
Debate	World History	1
Reasoning	Theology	1
Reasoning	Senior Thesis	.5
Logic	Calculus (or whatever math you choose)	1
		Total 7.5

Course Descriptions

This can be handy. Some colleges may ask for course desriptions.

Challenge I

Honors Physical Science w/ lab

Exploring Creation with Physical Science covers

- The basics of science including the scientific process, scientific theories and laws, inferences and models, and measurement and units
- Chemistry including properties and states of matter, atomic structure and the periodic table, chemical bonds and reactions and energy
- Physics including motion, forces, energy, waves and sound, light and electricity and magnetism
- Earth Science including the Earth's structure and processes and our atmosphere and beyond
- Chemistry and Physics in the life sciences
- Physical Science research

In lab, students conduct controlled experiments where they observe a problem, ask a question, formulate a testable hypothesis, and then conduct the experiment and analyze the data to see if their results support their hypothesis. It involves quantitative data that requires measurements.

Latin I

Using *Henle Series* year 1, students study Latin with an emphasis on memorization of vocabulary, noun declensions, adjective declensions, and verb conjugations. There is a focus on understanding the five main grammatical cases. Verb conjugations cover present, imperfect, and future tense of all four verb conjugations in the active indicative. Many repetitious Latin phrases and copious exercises produce mastery through a mixture of Christian and classical content. Exercises and readings teach Roman and American history, the difference between the pagan and Christian worldviews, and the difference between the virtues of the natural man (of whom the Roman was the greatest type) and the virtues of the Christian man.

American Literature & Writing/Compositions

Robust reading and writing characterizes this seminar. Students read essays, sermons, speeches, short stories, and 18 American novels. In seminar, students engage in book discussions to better understand the stories and characters. The American literature takes students from the pre-Revolutionary War setting of Johnny Tremain through the Civil War with The Red Badge of Courage to issues of the role of government in Born Again and Starship Troopers. Conversations delve into the complexity of freedom, and persuasive essay writing challenge students to dig deeper into their own beliefs and express themselves eloquently and clearly. Using The Lost Tools of Writing as the spine text, students practice the art of rhetoric by discussing their readings and by writing many essays throughout the year.

American Government
In the true sense of classical studies, students will look at original historical documents and practice annotating and summarizing them. Students study the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, the Federalist papers, and other important American documents and speeches in order to create a foundation for the understanding of the U.S. government.

Free Market Economics
Students read and discuss various articles related to free market economics in this seminar. Discussions in seminar revolve around the impact of free-market economics on national histories and present politics. Students participate in various hands-on projects that allow for real-life understanding and practical application of current economic issues.
The conversational Penny Candy and Money Mystery books guide them through understanding economics. They participate in a stock market game and learn about personal budgeting by preparing a budget in detail.

Traditional Logic I
Logical thinking skills are foundational for strong rhetorical skills, and logic is an important subject within the classical method. Traditional logic is the study of formal logic which covers classical syllogism, the four logical statements, and the seven rules for validity. On a deeper level, students gain an appreciation of logic as it serves to lead them from one truth to another and to a basic understanding of the Christian theory of knowledge. Students study formal logic to learn how to think with distinction, discern truth, and recognize fallacies. Logical thinking skills are foundational for strong rhetorical skills, wherein the student becomes able to winsomely persuade others unto truth.

Drama
Using *The Taming of the Shrew*, students learn to read and enjoy the plays of Shakespeare; they also complete a special project related to this play. In seminar, students act out scenes from this play to better understand the humor and concepts. The theme of this play centers around courtship, so seminar discussion embraces that theme and compares different cultural perspectives on courtship. Many of Shakespeare's themes are also discussed in seminar.

Debate
Students participate in team policy debate, where they learn how to arrive at the truth of an issue using the tool of debate. Students are also given an opportunity to learn and practice public speaking skills by memorizing and delivering three- to five-minute speeches.

Challenge II

Latin II
Using Henle Second Year Latin, students translate Caesar's letters and some accounts of Christ. They learn to appreciate history as told from these unique points of view and begin to transition from translating word-by-word to appreciating the content of the Latin they are translating.

British Literature & Writing/Compositions
Reading British literature takes students on a journey of the imagination, from the exploits of *Beowulf* to the *Canterbury Tales*, through the French Revolution with *A Tale of Two Cities*, and into the adventures of Middle Earth with *The Hobbit*. Over the course of the year, the students read 18 British novels. Seminar discussions revolve around the importance of making wise choices and finding examples from each book. Students further develop their writing skills by writing essays on these novels.

Western Cultural History/Art History
The significance of choices is clearly demonstrated through the lens of western art and music history. Students research and write about significant artists and composers in their own histories of art and music. Seminar discussions focus on Francis Schaeffer's ideas in *How Should We Then Live?* Using this insightful book, students learn to define and compare artwork and appreciate its cultural relevance and, as always, hold each idea up to the truth. Students design an original art installation and write an art grant application, then present their ideas to the class. The students vote on allocating funds for the projects.

Biology
This college-prep biology course provides students with a thorough understanding of the relevance of scientific inquiry. Textbook readings are backed by hands-on experiments that take students' book knowledge and bring it into real-world applications. After completing this course, students will be able to understand the vocabulary of biology and gain a strong understanding of the scientific method that will equip them to analyze data across other disciplines. Modules cover atoms, chemical structures, ecosystems, biomes, ecological communities, cell structure and function, cellular energy, DNA, proteins, cell cycles, and genetics (including inheritance, disorders, and technology). Students also learn about prokaryotes, viruses, protists, fungi, and the fascinating worlds of plants and animals. In lab, students study with microscopes and dissections and then write formal lab reports following the guidelines for scientific writing.

Traditional Logic II
In the first semester, students continue with the logic ideas that they began in Challenge I. They begin to look at hypothetical rhetoric and complex syllogisms. In Logic II, students study new forms and examine arguments or philosophical ideals for logical thought and validity.

Socratic Dialogues
Students are introduced to the idea of Socratic dialogues through reading Plato's Crito. Then, they will begin a more in-depth study of Plato's Meno dialogue. In seminar, students attempt to define virtue and discuss whether it can be taught.