

Home School Enhancement Opportunities

As interest warrants, Dr. Matthew Parks will be offering the following classes and tutoring opportunities during the 2008-2009 school year. Dr. Parks was the principal teacher and headmaster of Exeter Classical Christian School from 2001-2008 and has been an instructor in the political science department of the University of New Hampshire since 1996. He received a B.S. from Dickinson College in mathematics and political science and a Ph.D. from Boston University in political science, specializing in American government and political thought. He serves as a deacon and pastor's assistant at Exeter Presbyterian Church (PCA).

All courses will be offered on the following terms:

Cost: \$600: \$100 registration fee; balance due on date of first class

\$50 "finder fee" discount for each student referred who enrolls

Students are responsible for the purchase of all books

Students: Courses will be taught at the high school (rhetoric stage) level. Students of all ages capable of such work are welcome to enroll.

Class size: 6-10 students (Course will run if at least six students are registered by July 7)

Location: Exeter Presbyterian Church (73 Winter St., Exeter, NH) or similar location as arranged for the mutual convenience of the instructor and students.

For more information, please call: (603) 686-1061 or email: mtparkseccs@hotmail.com

Great Books: The Novel

A classical Christian course in great books literature studying novels by Jane Austen, James Fenimore Cooper, Stephen Crane, Charles Dickens, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Herman Melville, Mark Twain, and Fyodor Dostoevsky. Students who successfully complete the course will read a number of the most important 19th century novels, be conversant with the themes and characters of these works, and be able to assess them in accordance with a Biblical worldview.

Meeting: 30 weekly sessions, Monday 10:30-12:00

Books: noted below

Assessment: Weekly written work and essay; end-of-year final essay

Outline of Course:

Fall Semester (begins September 8; ends December 15)

The English Novel: Jane Austen, *Mansfield Park*; Charles Dickens, *David Copperfield*

The American Novel, part 1: James Fenimore Cooper, *The Last of the Mohicans*; Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*; Nathaniel Hawthorne, *The Blithedale Romance*

Spring Semester (begins January 26; ends May 11 – no class March 16)

The American Novel, part 2: Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*; Herman Melville, *Billy Budd*; Herman Melville, *Moby Dick*; Stephen Crane, *The Red Badge of Courage*

The Russian Novel: Fyodor Dostoevsky, *The Brothers Karamazov*

Intensive Latin 1

A classical Christian course in Latin covering all the essential elements of Latin grammar, vocabulary, and translation. Students who successfully complete the course will be ready to begin translating original texts from the Latin classics and Vulgate Bible.

Meeting: 30 weekly sessions, Monday 12:30-2:00

Books: *Oxford Latin Course*, books 1-3; Latin dictionary

Assessment: Weekly translation work; periodic take-home exams

Outline of Course:

Fall Semester (begins September 8; ends December 15)

All noun declensions and related adjectives and pronouns

Imperative and indicative system of verbs for all conjugations

Other parts of speech

Beginning vocabulary and translation

Spring Semester (begins January 26; ends May 11 – no class March 16)

Subjunctive systems of verbs for all conjugations

Infinitives and participles

Uses of the ablative and dative noun cases and other special topics in grammar

Intermediate vocabulary and translation

Introduction to American Law

A classical Christian course in the study of law covering the philosophical foundations of law, the roots and core principles of American law, the role of the courts, the interpretation of law and the Constitution, and key historical and contemporary court decisions at the state and federal levels. Students will participate in a mock Supreme Court case at the end of the year. Students who successfully complete the course will be conversant with key legal terms and principles of law and be able to evaluate contemporary law and legal decisions in light of the American legal tradition and a Biblical worldview.

Meeting: 30 weekly sessions, Friday 10:30-12:00

Books: Reading packet to be purchased from instructor

Assessment: Weekly written work; periodic essays and take-home exams; mock trial preparation

Outline of Course:

Fall Semester (begins September 5; ends December 12)

Introduction to the philosophy of law

Introduction to American law

The law and the courts

Spring Semester (begins January 23; ends May 8 – no class March 20)

Constitutional and legal interpretation

The development of American law from the founding to the present

The present crisis of American law

Great Books: Drama

A classical Christian course in drama focusing on the leading works of the great Greek tragedians and William Shakespeare. Students who successfully complete the course will have studied the most important plays in Western history, be able to evaluate them critically, and understand the similarities and differences among the core ideas of the competing cultures that produced them.

Meeting: 30 weekly sessions, Friday 12:30-2:00

Books: Aristotle, *Poetics*; Works of Aeschylus, Works of Sophocles, Euripides I, Euripides II (University of Chicago Press translations preferred); selected Shakespeare plays

Assessment: Weekly written work and essay; end-of-year final essay

Outline of Course:

Fall Semester (begins September 5; ends December 12)

Aristotle, *Poetics*

Aeschylus, selected plays (including the Orestes trilogy)

Sophocles, selected plays (including the Oedipus cycle)

Euripides, selected plays

Spring Semester (begins January 23; ends May 8 – no class March 20)

William Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Julius Caesar*, *Henry V*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Taming of the Shrew*

Also Available:

Thesis Advising: One-on-one work toward the composition of a 25,000-word thesis on a topic mutually agreed to by the instructor and student. Student meets weekly with the instructor to assess progress. Instructor provides extensive instruction in thesis composition and thorough editing assistance at all stages of the project. **Cost:** \$1500

Tutoring: Private (\$50/hour) or Semi-Private (\$35/hour) tutoring in math (arithmetic to Calculus) and writing.

For more information, please call (603) 778-2344 or email: mtparkseccs@hotmail.com