



37501 Center Ridge Road  
North Ridgeville, Ohio 44039  
www.lakeridgeacademy.org

**Our mission** is to send into a changing world confident young people of integrity who think critically and creatively while embracing the joy of lifelong learning.

For admission information, please contact  
Alexa Hansen, Director of Admissions  
440-777-9434 ext.: 103  
hansena@lakeridgeacademy.org

2005 - 2006  
Curriculum Overview  
Condensed Version

	Language Arts / English	Social Studies / History	Mathematics	Foreign Languages	Sciences	Visual Arts	Drama	Musical Arts	Instrumental Music	Physical Education	Technology	Library / Research	Life Skills	Community Service	
Lower School	<b>K</b>	Development of emergent literacy (e.g. sound/symbol correspondence, letter tracking, etc.) skills through literature, shared reading, shared experiences, interactive writing and personal writing.	Skills are developed through honoring similarities and differences as they relate to classroom, family, community, the world around us and the ability to coexist.	Use of manipulatives and other materials enhance mathematical problem solving, comparison and classification of objects, patterning, graphing, estimation, number concepts, computation and measurement.	Communicative approach to French language learning. Linguistic focus is on oral development through the use of listening and speaking activities. Integration with the classroom curriculum is an important component. French culture explored.	Use of inquiry model skills: observation, exploration, identifying, and questioning to study of environment (insects, birds); awareness of change over time (seasons, animal life) life cycles, plant growth.	Experiment with a variety of art media. Learn to use art materials properly. Introduce elements of design. Learn to use simple artist's tools.	Drama experiences are integrated into the language arts and music curricula. This includes a variety of small performances and attending theater productions.	Introduction to Solfege; students learn through play by doing singing games; Orff methodology is used by exploring pitched and unpitched instruments, body percussion and speech songs. Students begin to learn how to become active listeners.	Introduced to the instruments of the orchestra and to rhythm via echo clapping with syllables to understand beat vs. rhythm. Also study direction of a melody. Experienced stringed instrument players may join the micro-strings ensemble.	Movement Program: Develop social, perceptual and fundamental motor skills through game play, rhythmic, manipulative and cooperative activities. Multi-age experience with Grade One.	Begin learning proper use & care of computers, begin to use interactive and productivity software for projects that connect to the classroom curriculum; begin to develop a familiarity with the keyboard.	Students become familiar with basic library routines; know the general location of books of interest to them in the picture book and nonfiction areas; and learn how to select books. At story time, students listen to books from numerous genres and participate in a variety of literature related activities.	Development of classroom learning community that encourages cooperation, mutual respect, empathy, and self-control. Health and safety topics include emergencies, strangers, home dangers, germs, and handwashing.	Participate in classroom-designed and division-wide projects. Take part in the school-wide Holiday Project.
	<b>1</b>	Enhance the language processes of reading, writing, listening and speaking. Writing workshop supports children through the developmental stages of writing. Word study encourages active learning/analysis of print. Reading skills supported through literature.	Thematic studies provide a framework through which to integrate Social Studies, Science and Language Arts.	Problem solving and creative thinking build number sense, collecting & sorting data, exploring 2D and 3D shapes. Measuring, addition and subtraction explorations are major investigations.	Integration with classroom curriculum continues to be an important feature of first grade French. Students have opportunities to work cooperatively to further develop their linguistic skills. The classroom atmosphere is student centered.	Use the scientific process as children classify, order, measure, predict, experiment and infer. Develop an awareness of the interrelationships and dynamics of the natural world. Butterfly garden and pumpkin patch planted and maintained.	Experiment with a variety of art media. Learn to use art materials properly. Develop elements of design. Primary color, shapes, lines	Drama experiences are integrated into the language arts and music curricula. This includes a variety of small performances and attending theater productions.	Introduction to Solfege; students learn through play by doing singing games; Orff methodology is used by exploring instruments, body percussion, folk dancing and speech songs. Students begin to learn how to become active listeners.	Introduced to the instruments of the orchestra and to rhythm via echo clapping with syllables to understand beat vs. rhythm. Also study direction of a melody. Experienced stringed instrument players may join the Micro-Strings ensemble.	Movement and basic skill development: Develop social, perceptual and fundamental motor skills through game play, rhythmic, manipulative and cooperative activities. Fitness concepts introduced. Multi-age experience with Kindergarten.	Practice proper use and care of computers, effectively use mouse, interactive and productivity software for projects with connections to the classroom curriculum; continue to develop a familiarity with the keyboard.	Become familiar with library routines, the location of books of interest; select books of interest including "just right" books; distinguish between fiction and nonfiction; and identify parts of books. They listen to books in various genres & do various literature-related activities.	Establish expectations for ways to learn together. Develop strategies to work together in a community of learners. The ability to cooperate and collaborate is central to our learning. Health and safety topics are emergencies, safety hazards, healthy habits, germs/ disease, dental hygiene	Relationship with an animal rescue group is established. Participate in classroom-designed and division-wide projects. Take part in the school-wide Holiday Project. Relationship with an animal rescue group is established.
	<b>2</b>	Further develop comprehension and fluency by independent, guided & shared reading, expand & refine writing skills, integrate word study with reading, use more conventional spelling, review D'Nealian manuscript and introduce cursive handwriting.	Introduce Ohio studies, read biographies, research famous people, extend understanding of national and international holidays integrate geography and map skills in all curricular areas.	Develop math thinking and reasoning abilities through age-appropriate problems and investigations in number, geometry, patterning, place value, measurement, graphs and simple fractions.	Children increase their repertoire of French conversational expressions. The written language is explored as the students begin to write stories and skits. Songs and games from the Francophone world continue to be explored.	Environmental education through a yearlong, in-depth study of trees, maintenance of a "Peace Garden," and research Ohio animals. Also a study of the human body with an emphasis on systems and organs	Introduce principles of design. Works with the following: Primary, secondary colors, Printmaking, Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Weaving, and Sculpture.	Drama experiences are integrated into the language arts and music curricula. This includes a variety of small performances and attending theater productions.	Students begin to study the basic elements of music. Orff methodology is used by exploring pitched and un-pitched instruments, body percussion, folk dancing and improvisation. Active listening to all types of music is encouraged.	Develop ability to identify rhythmic values, take dictation and have an understanding of meter, barlines, measures. Experienced stringed instrument players may join the Micro-Strings ensemble.	Movement and basic skill development: Development of fundamental motor, perceptual and social skills through games, rhythms, cooperative activities and modified games. Health-related fitness concepts included.	Use the LRA network; save & retrieve items; employ computer technology properly and ethically; use accurate technology vocabulary; begin word processing; use interactive & productivity software for projects; begin using Internet with support.	Know the library routines; choose books to read for pleasure and for research; locate books of interest using visual references; and become familiar with a wide variety of research resources including dictionaries, almanacs, encyclopedias, phone books, newspapers, magazines, and atlases.	Continue to develop skills for interacting with peers & adults in a positive way. Strengthen self-confidence and independence; build a sense of community in class and school groups. Health and safety topics are emergencies, safety rules, nutrition, use of medicine, handling emotions.	Partnership with a nursing home for holiday events. Participate in classroom-designed and division-wide projects. Take part in the school-wide Holiday Project.
	<b>3</b>	Continue developing skills associated with the writing process including a focus on reading, writing, speaking for an audience and spelling skills; improving facility with writing in a variety of genres.	Emphasis on world geography: landforms, map skills, continents and oceans. Integrated study of people groups and world cultures through the eyes of historic and modern-day explorers.	Adding, subtracting larger numbers with and without regrouping, time & money, multiplication and division focusing on place value & decimal notation. Practice of geometric, measurement, fractions, graphing, and problem solving.	All four areas of language; listening, speaking, reading and writing are emphasized. Total physical response story telling is introduced to enrich the curriculum. A textbook entitled, "Adventures" is used to supplement the curriculum. Dialogues are practiced and recited.	Solar System – sizes, distance, gravity, mass/density, revolution, rotation, weather, Gardening and Plants – soil, plant parts and processes, garden creatures, worms, measurement, graphing.	Continues principles of design. Works with the following: Native American studies, Ceramics, Printmaking, Weaving, Sculpture, Drawing, and Painting.	Drama experiences are integrated into the language arts and music curricula. This includes a variety of small performances and attending theater productions.	A more concentrated study of basic elements of music, including harmony and texture occurs. Orff methodology is used by exploring instruments, body percussion folk dancing & speech songs. Aural identification of all instruments.	Review of all rhythmic aspects covered since K. Begin to learn how to read music on treble staff. Experienced stringed instrument players may join the Junior -Strings ensemble.	Fundamental movement and basic skills; Specialized sports skills develop using lead-up and modified game activities; Review of health and skill-related fitness concepts; Social development and cooperative team-building skills.	Use LRA network independently; save & retrieve work; practice touch-typing techniques; use word processing; import graphics into documents; Use keyboard shortcuts; use the Internet with increasing independence as a resource; create simple multi-media projects.	Choose books to read for pleasure and for research; locate books using the Dewey Decimal system and author's last name with assistance; search for books using the online catalog with assistance; categorize books by genre; and increasingly use the library for research purposes.	Further reinforcement of social skills, meetings to strengthen group and individual behavior, development of class expectations and rule development, conflict resolution. Health and safety topics are injury prevention, basic first aid, road/outdoor/water safety, managing feelings.	Participate in food drives, Tsunami relief, letters to troops overseas. Participate in classroom-designed and division-wide projects. Take part in the school-wide Holiday Project.
	<b>4</b>	Develop reading skills, enhance critical, and creative thinking skills. Writing emphasizing correct capitalization, punctuation, and conventional spelling. Grammar and mechanics practice. Variety of teacher & student-selected literature in content areas.	Mapping and research skills enhance the study early Jamestown, VA. Ohio's history (late 1700's - 1800's), landmarks, products, regions and landforms. Election process, Presidents & regions of the United States.	Continue mastering the basic math operations. Explore data, chance, geometry, patterns, and algebra. Study measurement, numeration, fractions and decimals. Further develop number sense, estimation, and problem solving.	All four areas of language; listening, speaking, reading and writing continue to be emphasized. Phonemic decoding strategies are introduced as children recognize patterns in the spelling of words. The concept of verb conjugation is introduced and practiced	Scientific investigations on the following topics: Standard & metric measurement, scientific method, work & energy, electricity & magnetism, light & sound, matter, simple machines I, and body systems I.	In addition to the principles of design, study continues on the following: American art, Colonial folk art, Ceramics, Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, and Weaving.	Drama experiences are integrated into the language arts curriculum. This grade also prepares an historic reenactment. On alternating years the fourth and fifth graders perform in a joint musical production.	Singing in canon, dancing and playing of all classroom instruments including recorder, creating music for drama. Many activities follow an Orff methodology. A continuing appreciation of all music is encouraged.	Violin, viola, cello and bass are taught; these students form the Cadet Stringer ensemble. Experienced instrument players may join the Junior-Stringer ensemble.	Fundamental movement and basic skills mastery; Specialized sports skills with lead-up and modified games; Review and apply health and skill-related fitness concepts; Self and peer assessments; Social development and cooperative team skills.	Attain minimum typing speed of 5 words/min, 95% accuracy; format different types of documents; begin online searches; develop media literacy; use email accounts; create more complex multi-media projects.	Choose books for pleasure and for research; independently locate books using the Dewey Decimal system; use the online catalog to search for books by subject, author and keyword; and select appropriate and reliable resources for a given task.	Emphasis on friendship, good manners, self-discipline, and respect. Additional focus on decision making and organization. Health and safety topics include first aid, choking rescue, being home alone, fire safety, drug prevention, and conflict resolution.	Participate in food drives, recycling, vermicomposting, and letters to troops overseas. Participate in classroom-designed and division-wide projects. Take part in the school-wide Holiday Project.
<b>5</b>	Further develop reading in various genres & content areas. Reinforce spelling patterns & vocabulary. Homophone/affix/roots, resource use & research methods. Multiparagraph writing (essays, personal narratives, journals with more descriptive language and complex writing.)	Historical understanding of connection of past and the person, using topics of education, civil liberties, innovations, immigration, and fine arts. Our primary source stories define us and connect us to distant places and past events. Geography is a thread throughout each generation study.	Continue mastering the basic math operations. Explore statistics, geometry, spatial sense, number theory, algebra, patterns, & measurement. Study fractions, decimals, & percents, and their relationships. Use graphs and problem solving to projects.	The French curriculum is connected to the language arts program through the theme of nature. Grammatical structures are explored as the children deepen their writing skills. Students read and write poems about nature from a variety of genres.	Scientific investigations on these topics: simple machines II, principles of flight & aeronautics, classification of living things, body systems II, metric measurement, scientific method, and Eyewitness (outdoor activities).	In addition to the principles of design, a focus on nature and family study continues on the following: Painting, Drawing, Ceramics, and Printmaking.	Drama experiences are integrated into the language arts curriculum. On alternating years the fourth and fifth graders perform in a joint musical production. Also, collaboration occurs in drama between the fifth graders and Upper School Acting I and II students.	Singing in canon, dancing and playing of all classroom instruments including recorder, creating music for drama. Many activities follow an Orff methodology. A musical drama is presented as one of many concerts.	Violin, viola, cello and bass are taught; these students form the Intermediate Stringer ensemble. Experienced instrument players may join the Junior-Stringer ensemble.	Advanced movement pattern development; Individual, dual, and team sport skills using lead-up and modified sports; Apply health & skill-related fitness concepts; Self and peer assessments; Social development and cooperative team skills.	Attain minimum typing speed of 10 words/min, 95% accuracy; create multi-media projects and spreadsheets with graphs; use Internet and software; continue to develop media literacy; practice safe Internet use & proper email etiquette; produce live daily TV broadcasts for K-5.	Independently choose books for pleasure and for research; locate books using the Dewey system; use the online catalog to search for books and through power searches; select appropriate resources for a given task; and become familiar with some Caldecott and Newbery books.	Participate in a one semester life skills class on decision-making, study habits, safety, friendships, peer pressure, student relationships, their role as lower school leaders and preparing for middle school. Health and safety topics include rescue breathing, hygiene, healthy habits.	Participation in food drives, recycling, letters to troops overseas. Participate in classroom-designed and division-wide projects. Take part in the school-wide Holiday Project. Take leadership responsibility for recycling and outreach to local community care charity.	

**Beyond the Classroom:** Co-curricular activities enrich the Lake Ridge Academy Education. Buddy programs (5<sup>th</sup> with 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> with k), Family Groups (mixed K-5) and cross-divisional activities (lower school with upper school) provide positive modeling and a strong multi-age community. Intramural sports are available to fourth and fifth graders and Saturday basketball clinics for grades 3-6. Fifth graders enjoy a three-day camp experience in September and a variety of leadership opportunities throughout the year. Student-led assemblies, division-wide picnics, fall festival and field day are special features for all. The After School Arts Program, Extended Day Program, parent-run chess club, rocketry club and cub scouts are typically options beyond the school day.

	Language Arts / English	Social Studies / History	Mathematics	Foreign Languages	Sciences	Visual Arts	Drama	Musical Arts	Instrumental	Physical Education	Technology	Library / Research	Life Skills	Community Service	
Middle School	6	<b>GRADES 6-8</b> Middle Schoolers are required to read 2 books per summer. <b>Reading and Communication</b> Develop discussion and public speaking skills emphasis on recalling details, conceptual culminating in 8 <sup>th</sup> grade speech.	Develop understanding of the cultural universals in comparing various civilizations, i.e. Ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome; Aztecs, and Medieval Japan. Focus on factors influencing change. Interactive simulations, role playing and research projects engage learners in content material.	Computation with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions; order of operations; number sense; measurement in metrics and customary measures; algebra, and introduction to data analysis.	<b>French &amp; Spanish</b> ½ year each New students are integrated into the program. The students study the two languages to make a more educated choice of either French or Spanish at the 7 <sup>th</sup> grade level	<b>Life Science and Matter:</b> Further development of inquiry investigation skills, dichotomous keys, seed plants, origin of life theories, classifying organisms, cells—units of life, introduction to matter, and original experiments.	Continue to study elements of design and composition. Enhanced work in 3-dimensional design and study of early historical styles and techniques. Sketchbooks, critiques, and displays of work are required.	Focus on facilitating a variety of theatrical experiences for students to explore creative expression, including body awareness, spatial perception, expressive bodies and voice. Cooperative work in emphasized. On alternating years middle school presents a musical.	<b>General Music 6</b> Identification of musical symbols; reading notation in treble clef; study of style across time periods; singing in 2-part harmony as part of an ensemble; opportunities include choral performance at concerts for parents.	<b>Sixth Grade Orchestra</b> – strings, winds, pianists, percussion - developing tone production, keys and scales through 2 sharps and flats, mastery of 6 -8 bowings, 5 part beginning – intermediate orchestra literature, first level terminology, history, and concert performances.	Advanced movement and skill development in modified games and cooperative activities. Develop concepts and skills related to dual, individual and team sports. Begin personal fitness program plan.	Continue building a solid foundation of basic computer skills while integrating academic subject area projects where feasible. Topics include networks, email, Internet resources, keyboarding, word processing, digital media, and spreadsheets.	Extend research strategies; evaluate and utilize online resources; use print and non-print resources effectively; learn about young adult literature.	<b>Health 6:</b> Everyday health concerns and issues. Awareness of adequate fitness levels and healthy lifestyle choices. Mental, social, and physical concepts related to nutrition, hygiene, first aid, drugs, alcohol, tobacco and medicine. Advisory class – see below.	<b>Grades 6, 7, and 8:</b> Students participate community outreach programs with nursing homes, women’s centers, and regional charities. They volunteer at a local food bank. Students do a variety of LRA community projects, such as maintain a middle school garden, clean up the woodland trails, recycling, or help at the all-school picnic. Middle schoolers take part in the school-wide Holiday Project.
	7	Further develop reading comprehension with understanding and extracting themes. Apply literary terms to various genres. Emphasize a maturing vocabulary <b>Writing Workshop</b> Emphasize the writing process Utilize mini-lessons for incorporating spelling and grammar study. Incorporate peer and self-reflections. Expand expository writing and research skills. Practice writing in multiple genres.	Broaden concept of culture, explore what it means to be a world citizen through historic and current global issues and conflicts studies and model United Nations project, strive for solutions to global problems, and discover their roles as members of a global society.	<b>Pre-Algebra:</b> Operations with integers, solving linear equations and inequalities, exponents, operations with fractions and decimals, ratios and proportions, percents, data analysis and probability. <b>Algebra 1</b> (see below)	Students choose <b>French</b> or <b>Spanish</b> – full year program. The program continues to emphasize the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing.  See: 8 <sup>th</sup> for credit See: 9 <sup>th</sup> for content	<b>Physical Science:</b> Introduction to chemistry, including atomic theory, chemical reactions, acid-base interactions. Physics, including magnetism, electricity and magnetism, force and motion.	Expand and develop drawing and design skills. Investigate the use of real and illusionist planes, Mass, and space in sculpture. Introduce easel painting in acrylics. Use and maintain an active sketchbook.	Drama fundamentals are re-enforced through a series of puppet performances, scriptwriting, reader’s theatre, improvisational games and speeches. On alternating years middle school presents a musical	<b>General Music 7</b> Identification of musical symbols; reading notation in treble and bass clef; singing in 2 and 3 part harmony as part of an ensemble; listening to and describing different styles and genres of music. Performance at concert for parents.	<b>Seventh Grade Orchestra</b> – strings, winds, pianists, percussion – developing tone production, sight reading skills, keys and scales through 4 sharps and flats, mastery of 10 bowings, 5 part intermediate orchestra literature, terminology, theory, and concerts	Advanced movement and skill acquisition through participation in recreational activities and team sports. Emphasis is on developing sport knowledge, physical fitness and strategies for game play. Personal fitness plan and testing	Review and reinforce the foundation of computer skills established in sixth grade. Integrate academic subject area projects in language arts, social studies and science. Additional topics include digital photography, web page design, animation, and databases.	Use the Internet, atlases, almanacs, international newspapers, subject-specific encyclopedias & other references to gather information for social studies projects. Hear book talks about multicultural young adult literature.	<b>Advisory Grades 6,7,8:</b> Middle schoolers reflect upon & apply study skills, homework management, peer skills & goal setting. The students expand their knowledge of self as a learner. Student and teacher-led activities build a sense of community and belonging for middle schoolers. September retreats start the advisory year for each grade. For the year-end trip, sixth grade expands the curriculum in southwest PA, seventh graders go to leadership camp, and eighth graders travel to Quebec City for an international experience.	Additionally, middle schoolers plan and implement community service projects through a student council community service committee, which is headed by the president of the council.
	8	Emphasize the writing process Utilize mini-lessons for incorporating spelling and grammar study. Incorporate peer and self-reflections. Expand expository writing and research skills. Practice writing in multiple genres.	The US from the pre-colonial period to 1877. Students determine what it means to be US citizens through inquiring and examining concepts essential to the development of this country. These concepts include geography, democracy, nationalism and individualism.	<b>Algebra 1:</b> Order of operations, linear equations, inequalities, graphing, linear systems, exponents, factoring, and quadratic equations. <b>Augmented Algebra:</b> sequences and series, data analysis, rational expressions and equations; probability.	Students continue their choice of <b>French</b> or <b>Spanish</b> made in 7 <sup>th</sup> grade.  Successful completion of 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade programs earns the student credit for French I or Spanish I See: 9 <sup>th</sup> for content	<b>Earth and Life Science:</b> mapping, landforms, internal structure of the Earth, plate tectonics, rock/mineral identification, atmospheric structure, and chemistry, astronomy, introduction to life, kingdoms.	Continue the development of drawing, design, and compositional skills. Unit theme of “who I am” focuses subject matter on the human form. Life drawing and use of figure in context along with reflection and analysis are used.	Play production from start to finish; auditions, read-throughs, blocking, memorization, polishing, dress rehearsal, and final performances. Continuation of improvisational games and simple monologue study. On alternating years middle school presents a musical.	<b>General Music 8</b> Identification of musical symbols; reading musical notation; identification and analysis of musical time periods; singing in 3 part harmony with changed voices; development of singing techniques. Performance at concert for parents.	<b>Eighth Grade Orchestra</b> – same as 6 and 7, keys through 7 sharps and flats, mastery of 12 bowings, 5-part upper intermediate to advanced music, terminology and theory, independent tuning, and performance at concerts.	Advanced movement and skill acquisition through participation in recreational activities and team sports. Application of sport knowledge, physical fitness and advanced strategies in game play. Personal fitness plan and testing.	Students begin to move towards more complex applications that support personal productivity, group collaboration, and communication skills. Topics include media and design, digital video and audio production, and html programming.	Review and refine research strategies; hone computer skills. Hear book talks about short stories, personal narratives, and young adult historical fiction.	September retreats start the advisory year for each grade. For the year-end trip, sixth grade expands the curriculum in southwest PA, seventh graders go to leadership camp, and eighth graders travel to Quebec City for an international experience.	
Upper School	9	<b>All Upper school students are required to read 25 books over the fours years.</b> <b>Grades 9 and 10</b> Study includes canonical and multi-cultural prose and poetry; amass a wealth of analytical tools (literary, rhetorical, and poetic devices); hone analytical and creative writing skills; develop grammatical fluency (punctuation, usage, and sentence analysis); and expand vocabulary and spelling strategies. In addition, students continue to refine oral communication skills	<b>World Cultures:</b> Comparative study of the rise and fall of world civilizations including Greece, Rome, Egypt, India, China and the Middle East. Emphasis on political, religious, social and economic influences.	<b>Algebra 1</b> (see above) <b>Geometry or Honors Geometry:</b> basic terminology, parallel lines, congruent and similar triangles, Pythagorean theorem, area, perimeter and volume, properties of polygons and circles, coordinate geometry.	<b>French / Spanish I</b> Vocabulary dealing with daily activities. Structures: Articles, nouns, pronouns, regular and some irregular conjugations of verbs in the present and the past. <b>French / Spanish II</b> See 10 <sup>th</sup> grade <b>French II-Spanish I**</b> combined	<b>Biology/Honors Biology:</b> Students will learn about the basics of ecology, cell biology, evolution, the six-kingdom system, and basic plant and animal form and function.  Honors Biology emphasizes the more quantitative aspects.	<b>Acting I</b> Performances of one-act plays for a variety of audiences. Directing and acting workshops. scene work and directing opportunities for spring performance. Reading and critiquing plays from history. Attendance at community theatre productions.	<b>Choir – grades 9-12</b> Choir is taken as a formal class; sight reading; intonation; blend/balance; development of tone and flexibility thereof; individual musical interpretation; performance in a large ensemble setting in various venues far various audiences	<b>Instrumental Camerata – grades 9-12</b> Students study a wide range of chamber music in depth, major and minor scales, music history and theory as applied to music being studied. Terminology, complex rhythms, emphasis on performance techniques, phrasing, and musical Styles are also studied.	<b>PE 9</b> Lifetime Wellness and Personal Fitness: Exercise concepts and principles related to personal health, wellness and physical fitness. Positive lifelong decision-making model, including wellness planning and development.  <b>PE 10</b> Lifetime recreational and fitness related activities designed to improve social interaction, skill development and sport knowledge.  <b>Interscholastic sports are listed below.</b>	LRA Technology courses are developed to support various and diverse curriculum areas in an interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning.  LRA has its own TV studio and campus cable channel.  Electives open to Upper School students include:  <b>Technology Skills Review</b> <b>Digital Imaging I, II, III, and IV - PhotoShop, Digital Graphic Design, Presentation, Sound and Motion.</b> <b>Digital Photography I and II.</b> <b>Intro. to Programming</b> <b>Electronic Painting</b> <b>Advanced Digital Projects Beginning and Advanced Video Production</b> <b>Desktop Publishing</b>	Through the librarian and subject teachers’ collaborative effort, library research skills are integrated into the curriculum.  <b>During Grade 9</b> Further refine library research strategies, plan & select resources, use computers effectively. Organize information for term papers / essays Learn proper format for bibliographical and footnote notation for both MLA & APA  <b>During Grade 10</b> Use computers to effectively gather and organize information. Employ analytical research strategies; analyze Internet sources.  <b>During Grade 11</b> Expand analytical research strategies; further explore news and governmental sources; use computers to effectively gather and organize information. Explore various forms of literary criticism.  <b>During Grade 12</b> Review and refine computer & research skills; prepare for college research & library usage.	<b>Health 9:</b> Social, emotional and physical discussion topics include study of nutrition, growth and development, personal fitness, first-aid, safety, disease, substance information and abuse. Emphasis on informed decision making.  <b>Upper School Advisory</b> is comprised of a “House System” based on the old English boarding school model. Students become members of a House and then acquire their personal advisor through that induction. Advisory relationships are both academic and personal in nature. Participation in traditions, goal-setting and academic class management issues are all things that may fall within the domain of the advisory system.  <b>Financial Life Skills</b> course provides skills in business and personal finance.  <b>Senior Ethics:</b> A full year course to help students articulate their ethical and moral standards and decision-making processes and an understanding of ethical theories and their meaning. Seniors begin their year with an all-class leadership experience and 3-day, off-campus trip.	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, &amp; 12:</b> Upper school students provide service to the LRA community, the local community and the global community.  <b>Examples of service to the LRA Community:</b> Lower School Mentoring, tutoring middle schoolers, visitor ambassadors, volunteers at all-school dance, tech interns, community service awareness committee, volunteers for lower school cub den, poster production by digital graphics class, and more.  <b>Examples of service to local community:</b> All-school Holiday project, Write Friends, food banks, clothing drives, presenting plays at Providence House, fund drives for American Red Cross, organizing Diversity Forum, and more  <b>Examples of service to global community:</b> Raising funds for village school in Cameroon with Culturefest, projects organized through Humanitarian Aid Society, and more.	
	10	Develop grammatical fluency (punctuation, usage, and sentence analysis); and expand vocabulary and spelling strategies. In addition, students continue to refine oral communication skills	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students may select:</b> <b>Western Traditions:</b> Focused study of the development and impact of western civilization. Topics include history, art, music and philosophy from the classical period to the Renaissance and from the Reformation to modern times.	<b>Geometry</b> (see above) <b>Algebra 2</b> or <b>Honors Algebra 2:</b> Solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities matrix algebra, quadratic equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, probability.	<b>French / Spanish II</b> Further acquisition of vocabulary. Beginning to read some basic short stories. Structures: Formation of the past tenses, the commands and the future. <b>French / Spanish III</b> See 11 <sup>th</sup> grade <b>French III-Spanish II**</b> combined	<b>Chemistry/ Honors Chemistry:</b> Study of nature and behavior of atoms with an infusion of practical connections to the learner’s environment. Both courses are geared to a hands-on, inquiry-based approach. Honors Chemistry emphasizes the more quantitative aspects.	<b>Art 2-General Art</b> – a study and exploration of painting and color theory. Study and exploration of ceramic, jewelry, enameling, silkscreen and casting techniques. Sketchbook, critiques and display of work required  <b>Digital Photography I and II. Electronic Painting</b> See technology.	<b>Acting II</b> In-depth study of World theatre i.e. Chinese and production in the style of world theatre piece. Write-Friends project. Directing workshop and spring performances. Improvisational skill development and monologue work.  <b>Advanced Acting</b> One act plays with in-depth coaching for acting styles. Play-making, scene writing, directing. Scene study. Monologue work. Study of two/three pieces of historical American theatre. Scene work from each. Attending theatre.							
	11	<b>Grades 11 and 12</b> In their chosen electives, students will intensify their study of sophisticated works and enhance their writing and analytical skills. <b>Semester Electives:</b> <b>Portfolio Writing</b> (poetry and Short Stories) <b>Play Writing Debate</b> <b>Expository Writing</b> <b>American Literature</b> <b>American Drama</b> <b>World Literature</b> <b>The Hero</b> (classical literature) <b>OCEAN* Shakespeare</b> (3 hrs Oberlin College credit) <b>AP English</b> (year long course)	<b>Eastern Traditions:</b> Focused study on the cultural-historical past as well as the current global significance of China, Japan, India, Africa, and Latin America.	<b>Algebra 2</b> (see above)  <b>Discrete Math Problem Solving Functions</b>  <b>Honors Precalculus AB</b> <b>Honors Precalculus BC</b>	<b>French / Spanish III</b> Further acquisition of vocabulary. History and culture of the Hispanic or Francophone people. Readings of longer stories. Uses of the past tenses, Indicative vs. Subjunctive. <b>French / Spanish IV</b> See 12 <sup>th</sup> grade <b>Italian***</b> elective.	<b>Grades 11 &amp; 12: Animal Behavior:</b> a semester elective hands on ethology course that culminates researching the behavior of a zoo animal.  <b>Operation New World:</b> integrated field ecology, social studies, and literature course. Culminates in field study in a developing country.  <b>Physics Honors Physics AP Physics AB/BC</b>  <b>AP Chemistry</b>  <b>AP Biology</b>  <b>AP Environmental Science</b>	<b>Grades 11 and 12</b> <b>Survey of Arts and Crafts</b> (a full year course). Refine drawing, painting composition skills; explore craft techniques in pottery, batik, macramé, glass, and enameling.  The following classes are one semester. The first one is a beginning course; the second is more advanced.  <b>Jewelry 1 and 2.</b> <b>Ceramics 1 and 2.</b> <b>Painting 1 and 2</b>  A sketchbook, critiques and display of work are required.								
12		<b>Grades 11 and 12</b> <b>US History</b> <b>AP US History</b> <b>AP World History</b> <b>AP European History</b> <b>Comparative Politics</b> <b>Operation New World</b> <b>Psychology</b> <b>Philosophy</b> <b>OCEAN* Global Politics</b>	<b>Functions</b> <b>Discrete Math Problem Solving</b>  <b>Introduction to Calculus</b> <b>AP Calculus AB</b> <b>AP Calculus BC</b>  <b>OCEAN* Statistics</b>	<b>French / Spanish IV &amp; V</b> Reading from a variety of sources, some full-length novels. Further refinement and amplification of structures learned at the previous levels. <b>AP French / AP Spanish</b> Preparation for the AP exam  <b>Italian***</b> elective.											

**Beyond the Classroom:** A wide range of co-curricular activities enriches the Lake Ridge Academy education. Soccer, basketball, golf, tennis, volleyball, track and field, cross-country, baseball and softball provide team sport experience. Diversity Forum, Culturefest, the Holiday Project, musicals, drama productions, and community building activities extend the experience. Upper school clubs and activities include National Honor Society, Junior Engineering and Technical Society, Student Senate, Mock Trial, Model United Nations and more. Middle schoolers learn leadership in student council or on the many committees or expand their horizons in graphics arts club, chess club, cheerleading or rocketry club. Upper schoolers may travel abroad in the French Exchange, or humanities trips to Italy and Greece. In the summer middle schoolers can visit a French family or host a French adolescent from Valence, France.

\*OCEAN means Oberlin College Educational Alliance Network // \*\*French / Spanish combined program. Highly motivated students study the two languages on a three days rotating basis. // \*\*\*Italian elective: Juniors or Seniors who have finished their basic language requirement may study another Romance language.