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## 24-25 Curriculum Committee Report

January 21, 2025

The Nova Classical Academy Curriculum Committee met on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, for the first of two yearly meetings. At our first yearly meeting, we review curriculum proposals for the next calendar year, and at the second meeting, we review curriculum mapping for the district.

When reviewing the proposed courses and materials, committee members are asked to view the proposals through the following lens.

Selection of proposed resources must meet the three curricular tenets of Nova Classical Academy:

- Classical
  - Choosing the best sources
  - Choosing curricular pieces that fit the pedagogies and curricular goals of each stage
  - Emphasizing virtue instruction including Truth, Beauty, and Goodness
- Spiraling
  - From grade to grade (like the concept of nouns or basic addition)
  - From stage to stage (like medieval history)
  - This “spiraling” allows for students to build from a broader to a deeper understanding of subject matter, work with more sophisticated primary texts, and develop a clearer conception of how ideas have unfolded over time.
- Connected
  - Changing one piece affects the whole, so faculty engages in ongoing conversation and professional development regarding the threads of the Curricular Tapestry at Nova Classical Academy.
  - Continuing to calibrate and refine the individual (grade to grade, stage to stage) pieces to stay true to the whole.

This report focuses only on approved proposals, which are listed here.

1. Addition of Advanced Placement (AP) US History to the 11th grade offerings, replacing the Honors option for the course.
2. Updating Cambridge Latin Texts from the 5th Edition to the 6th Edition.
3. Updating assigned reading for the College in the Schools (CIS) to align with the expectations from the University of Minnesota.
4. Phasing out Latin for 2nd grade, moving the official start of Latin to 3rd grade which better supports science of reading research.
5. Updating old and updated Spanish textbooks for Spanish 1-3.
6. Reordering the sequence of texts in 5th grade ELA so that students read *The Wanderings of Odysseus* earlier in the year, and *The Prince and the Pauper* later in the year if time allows.



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7. Addition of the text *1177 B.C.: The Year Civilization Collapsed* as a supplemental text for 9th grade History. This secondary text will not replace existing primary texts, but used to give context to the ancient world.
8. Addition of the online tool Sight Reading Factory for 11th and 12th grade choir.
9. Addition of College in the Schools (CIS) English 1001W: Introduction to Literature: Poetry, Drama, Narrative. 4 Credits.
10. Addition of two essays into the Diaspora/Harlem Renaissance course to include two voices that are important in the Civil Rights era. The nonfiction texts used in this course offer context for the fiction students read. In this case, the proposed essays preview themes from Ellison's *Invisible Man*.

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

Best,

Dr. Missy Johnson

