Religion Standards

OUR GOAL

The goal of Seventh-day Adventist education is about more than quality teachers providing innovative instruction. Adventist education aims to provide student learning infused with Christian faith and an Adventist worldview. To achieve this goal Seventh-day Adventist standards for grades 9-12 subjects have been carefully developed to embody Seventh-day Adventist beliefs and to prepare students for life-long learning, equipping them for earthly service and heavenly citizenship. An education of this kind imparts strong academic knowledge and a clear picture of Christ and His love for mankind.

These standards focus on what students should know, understand and be able to do. They will be a useful tool for teachers in developing lessons and ensure a thorough preparation for college or university when fully implemented across the curriculum.

Seventh-day Adventist Secondary Standards:

1. Provide clear expectations for student learning and accountability.
2. Provide an essential user-friendly tool for developing instruction.
3. Transform textbooks from curriculum guide to a resource for instruction.
4. Provide for a complete and uniform Adventist secondary curriculum.
5. Have been developed exclusively by Seventh-day Adventist educators.
6. Have been aligned with the goals of Journey to Excellence
7. Have been developed using national and state standards, Adventist curriculum guides, and standards compendiums from McRel and Ten Sigma.

RATIONALE

Secondary Religion Standards for Seventh-day Adventist Schools seeks to ensure that the Bible courses lead students into a relationship with the loving God through Jesus Christ and to discover His plan for their lives. Instruction in Bible courses will incorporate the beliefs, values and mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church through a variety of “head, heart, and hand experiences.” These standards should help students learn to see and reflect God's image through understanding, applying and responding to the Holy Scriptures.

These carefully developed standards for Bible courses are a practical tool to assist teachers in focusing their instruction so that students will experience critical and creative thinking while exploring and incorporating biblical principles into a relevant Christian life. These standards should lead to more than strong academic knowledge of the Bible, they should guide the students to meaningful, life-changing experiences that mark the path of spiritual discipleship.

The Crossroads religion textbook series prepared under the direction of the North American Division Office of Education serves as a primary resource for implementing the standards.

CREDITS

The following resources were referenced in developing Secondary Religion Standards for Seventh-day Adventist Schools: NAD Curriculum Guide for Religion 9-12, the Crossroads religion textbook series, and Journey to Excellence.

STANDARDS CODING

The standards and essential learnings have been coded so that educators can easily refer to them in their curriculum, instruction, assessment, and professional development activities. The coding system begins with the course abbreviation in letters, all are identified with BC—Bible Courses. The first of three numerals refers to the grade level (BC.9.2.1). The second numeral refers to the standard (BC.9.2.1) and the third numeral refers to the subcategory (BC.9.2.1) under the standard.

JOURNEY TO EXCELLENCE

When the standards on the next page have been met the instruction in this course will have also met some of the Goals and Essential Core Elements for the curriculum in Seventh-day Adventist schools listed in Journey to Excellence. The number (1.A) refers to the Goal and the letter (1.A) refers to the Essential Core Element that is met.

GRADE NINE

1. A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H  6. A,B,C,D,E,F

GRADE TEN

1. A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H  6. A,B,C,D,E,F
3. A,B,C,D,E  8. A,C,D,E,F,G
5. A,B,C,D,E,F  10. A,B,D,F

GRADE ELEVEN

1. A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H  6. A,B,C,D,E,F
5. A,B,C,D,E,F  10. A,B,C,D,E,F

GRADE TWELVE

1. A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H  6. A,B,C,D,E,F
5. A,B,C,D,E,F  10. A,B,C,D,E,F
Religion Standards—Grade Nine

**COURSE FOCUS** [Apply the following for each content standard]

BC.9.1 Identify the loving God and the plan of salvation by faith through Jesus Christ that form the center of Seventh-day Adventist beliefs.
   
   **BC.9.1.1** Recognize Scripture as the revelation of God.
   
   **BC.9.1.2** Identify Seventh-day Adventist biblical doctrines.
   
   **BC.9.1.3** Acknowledge Ellen G. White as a prophet of God and utilize her writings.
   
   **BC.9.1.4** Apply Seventh-day Adventist beliefs in discipleship of Christ through relationships, lifestyle, and service.

**COURSE ABILITIES** [Apply the following to each content standard.]

**BC.9.2** Develop abilities in Bible Course Grade Nine.
   
   **BC.9.2.1** Develop critical and creative thinking skills (research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.2.2** Learn and utilize relationship-building skills (love God and others, spiritual formation, service, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.2.3** Develop effective communication skills (witnessing, debating controversial issues, using technology, etc.).

**BC.9.3** Be able to apply Bible Course Grade Nine knowledge and skills.
   
   **BC.9.3.1** Respond to Scripture (reading, researching, creating, presenting, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.3.2** Identify key spiritual concepts and themes.
   
   **BC.9.3.3** Develop spiritual formation (prayer, meditation, Bible study, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.3.4** Build personal and outreach relationships (mission trips, friendships, witnessing, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.3.5** Incorporate relevancy of the Bible from past to present.
   
   **BC.9.3.6** Explore and employ relevance of subject matter to student life.

**COURSE CONTENT: SCRIPTURE, GENESIS, CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS**

**[Understand, apply, respond.]**

**BC.9.4** Be able to understand the nature and elements of Scripture (incorporate into BC.9.5 and 6).
   
   **BC.9.4.1** Explain the purpose, inspiration, and history of the Bible.
   
   **BC.9.4.2** Develop techniques for studying the Bible (narrative, linguistic, indexes, technology, etc.).

**BC.9.5** Be able to understand God through the Book of Genesis.
   
   **BC.9.5.1** Study narratives of Genesis (setting, character, conflict, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.5.2** Investigate themes (God, creation, Sabbath, sin, salvation, providence, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.5.3** Discover principles (relationships, stewardship, character formation, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.5.4** Demonstrate understanding of relevant principles (projects, role playing, journaling, etc.).

**BC.9.6** Be able to understand Jesus Christ through the Gospels.
   
   **BC.9.6.1** Study narratives of the Gospels (setting, character, conflict, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.6.2** Investigate themes (Christ’s character, His nature, His teaching, His ministry, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.6.3** Comprehend and respond to Christ’s first and second advent (projects, outreach, research, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.6.4** Develop a relationship with Christ (art and music, writing, worship, testimony, etc.).
   
   **BC.9.6.5** Participate in developing the kingdom of God (witnessing and service).
Religion Standards—Grade Ten

COURSE FOCUS  [Apply the following for each content standard.]
BC.10.1 Identify the loving God and the plan of salvation by faith through Jesus Christ that form the center of Seventh-day Adventist beliefs.
   BC.10.1.1 Recognize Scripture as the revelation of God.
   BC.10.1.2 Identify Seventh-day Adventist biblical doctrines.
   BC.10.1.3 Acknowledge Ellen G. White as a prophet of God and utilize her writings.
   BC.10.1.4 Apply Seventh-day Adventist beliefs in discipleship of Christ through relationships, lifestyle, and service.

COURSE ABILITIES  [Apply the following to each content standard.]
BC.10.2 Develop abilities in Bible Course Grade Ten.
   BC.10.2.1 Develop critical and creative thinking skills (research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, etc.).
   BC.10.2.2 Learn and utilize relationship-building skills (love God and others, spiritual formation, service, etc.).
   BC.10.2.3 Develop effective communication skills (witnessing, debating controversial issues, using technology, etc.).

BC.10.3 Be able to apply Bible Course Grade Ten knowledge and skills.
   BC.10.3.1 Respond to Scripture (reading, researching, creating, presenting, etc.).
   BC.10.3.2 Identify key spiritual concepts and themes.
   BC.10.3.3 Develop spiritual formation (prayer, meditation, Bible study, etc.).
   BC.10.3.4 Build personal and outreach relationships (mission trips, friendships, witnessing, etc.).
   BC.10.3.5 Incorporate relevancy of the Bible from past to present.
   BC.10.3.6 Develop techniques for studying the Bible, Ellen White, and historical documents (narrative, linguistics, indexes, technology, etc.).
   BC.10.3.7 Explore and employ relevance of subject matter to student life.

COURSE CONTENT: Old Testament, Christian History, Seventh-day Adventism
[Understand, apply, respond.]
BC.10.4 Be able to understand Old Testament history.
   BC.10.4.1 Study various narratives of the Old Testament (setting, character, conflict, etc.).
   BC.10.4.2 Investigate themes (nature of divine history, salvation, worship, love and forgiveness, justice, etc.).
   BC.10.4.3 Examine and express personal and corporate worship (research, debate, design, present, etc.).
   BC.10.4.4 Trace the plan of salvation through the Old Testament (exodus, laws, sanctuary, covenant, etc.).
   BC.10.4.5 Develop servant leadership skills (discern, classify, measure, analyze, emulate, etc.).

BC.10.5 Be able to understand history of Christianity.
   BC.10.5.1 Study the development of the New Testament Church (Book of Acts).
   BC.10.5.2 Delineate God’s leading throughout church history in the perspective of the great controversy between Christ and Satan.
   BC.10.5.3 Survey the history of Christianity from A.D. 70 through 1800s (key people, events, concepts, timelines, conflicts, doctrines, etc.).
   BC.10.5.4 Relate key influences and themes of the past to present and possible future events (projects, research, presentations, etc.).
   BC.10.5.5 Define and develop spiritual gifts; contribute to church life (various ministries and outreach).

BC.10.6 Be able to understand the Seventh-day Adventist movement.
   BC.10.6.1 Trace the development of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination (key people, events, concepts time lines, conflicts, doctrines, etc.).
   BC.10.6.2 Apply lessons from key influences, themes, and theological concepts (projects, research, presentations, etc.).
   BC.10.6.3 Cultivate a passion for the Seventh-day Adventist movement and mission (projects, contribute to church life, outreach, various ministries, etc.).
Religion Standards—Grade Eleven

COURSE FOCUS [Apply the following for each content standard.]

BC.11.1 Identify the loving God and the plan of salvation by faith through Jesus Christ that form the center of Seventh-day Adventist beliefs.
  BC.11.1.1 Recognize Scripture as the revelation of God.
  BC.11.1.2 Identify Seventh-day Adventist biblical doctrines.
  BC.11.1.3 Acknowledge Ellen G. White as a prophet of God and utilize her writings.
  BC.11.1.4 Apply Seventh-day Adventist beliefs in discipleship of Christ through relationships, lifestyle, and service.

COURSE ABILITIES [Apply the following to each content standard.]

BC.11.2 Develop abilities in Bible Course Grade Eleven.
  BC.11.2.1 Develop critical and creative thinking skills (research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, etc.).
  BC.11.2.2 Learn and utilize relationship-building skills (love God and others, spiritual formation, service, etc.).
  BC.11.2.3 Develop effective communication skills (witnessing, debating controversial issues, using technology, etc.).

BC.11.3 Be able to apply Bible Course Grade Eleven knowledge and skills.
  BC.11.3.1 Respond to Scripture (reading, researching, creating, presenting, etc.).
  BC.11.3.2 Identify key spiritual concepts and themes.
  BC.11.3.3 Develop spiritual formation (prayer, meditation, Bible study, etc.).
  BC.11.3.4 Build personal and outreach relationships (mission trips, friendships, witnessing, etc.).
  BC.11.3.5 Incorporate relevancy of the Bible from past to present.
  BC.11.3.6 Develop techniques for studying the Bible, Ellen White’s writings, and historical documents (narrative, linguistics, indexes, technology, etc.).
  BC.11.3.7 Explore and employ relevance of subject matter to student life.

COURSE CONTENT: Daniel and Revelation, Romans, Beliefs, Christian Service
[Understand, apply, respond.] Topics may be taught in any order as selected by the teacher.

BC.11.4 Be able to understand the Books of Daniel and Revelation.
  BC.11.4.1 Study various elements of Daniel and Revelation (narratives, linguistics, history, symbolism, etc.).
  BC.11.4.2 Investigate prophetic themes (Jesus Christ, divine leading, time prophecies, sanctuary, etc.).
  BC.11.4.3 Examine and express personal and corporate worship (research, debate, design, present, etc.).
  BC.11.4.4 Trace the plan of salvation through Daniel and Revelation (great controversy, eschatology, etc.).

BC.11.5 Be able to understand the Book of Romans.
  BC.11.5.1 Study the Book of Romans (and other New Testament epistles as necessary).
  BC.11.5.2 Investigate salvation themes (grace, sin, law, faith, works, etc.).
  BC.11.5.3 Relate key themes of Romans to past, present, and possible future issues of life (projects, research, presentations, etc.).

BC.11.6 Be able to understand the Seventh-day Adventist beliefs as grounded in the Bible.
  BC.11.6.1 Analyze the 28 fundamental Seventh-day Adventist beliefs.
  BC.11.6.2 Apply various principles from the 28 fundamental Seventh-day Adventist beliefs (projects, research, presentations, etc.).
  BC.11.6.3 Cultivate a passion for the Seventh-day Adventist movement and mission (projects, contribute to church life, outreach, various ministries, etc.).

BC.11.7 Be able to understand and actualize Christian service.
  BC.11.7.1 Understand, explore, and experience the Gospel Commission of Matthew 28.
  BC.11.7.2 Study various methods of soul winning and witnessing (Bible, Ellen White, etc.).
  BC.11.7.3 Train and participate in spreading the mission of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
  BC.11.7.4 Develop awareness and compassion for others, and develop various ministries by emulating Christ’s example.
Religion Standards—Grade Twelve

COURSE FOCUS  [Apply the following for each content standard.]

BC.12.1 Identify the loving God and the plan of salvation by faith through Jesus Christ that form the center of Seventh-day Adventist beliefs.
  BC.12.1.1 Recognize Scripture as the revelation of God.
  BC.12.1.2 Identify Seventh-day Adventist biblical doctrines.
  BC.12.1.3 Acknowledge Ellen G. White as a prophet of God and utilize her writings.
  BC.12.1.4 Apply Seventh-day Adventist beliefs in discipleship of Christ through relationships, lifestyle, and service.

COURSE ABILITIES  [Apply the following to each content standard.]

BC.12.2 Develop abilities in Bible Course Grade Twelve.
  BC.12.2.1 Develop critical and creative thinking skills (research, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, etc.).
  BC.12.2.2 Learn and utilize relationship-building skills (love God and others, spiritual formation, service, etc.).
  BC.12.2.3 Develop effective communication skills (witnessing, debating controversial issues, using technology, etc.).

BC.12.3 Be able to apply Bible Course Grade Twelve knowledge and skills.
  BC.12.3.1 Respond to Scripture (reading, researching, creating, presenting, etc.).
  BC.12.3.2 Identify key spiritual concepts and themes.
  BC.12.3.3 Develop spiritual formation (prayer, meditation, Bible study, etc.).
  BC.12.3.4 Build personal and outreach relationships (mission trips, friendships, witnessing, etc.).
  BC.12.3.5 Incorporate relevancy of the Bible from past to present.
  BC.12.3.6 Develop techniques for studying the Bible, Ellen White’s writings, and historical documents (narrative, linguistics, indexes, technology, etc.).
  BC.12.3.7 Explore and employ relevance of subject matter to student life.

COURSE CONTENT: Gospel of John, Hebrews, Worldviews and Religion, Relational and Life Skills
[Understand, apply, respond.] Topics may be taught in any order as selected by the teacher.

BC.12.4 Be able to understand the Gospel of John.
  BC.12.4.1 Study various elements of the Gospel of John (narratives, linguistics, symbolism, etc.).
  BC.12.4.2 Investigate practices of a devotional life (journaling, prayer and meditation, etc.).
  BC.12.4.3 Experience and express personal and corporate worship (design, present, etc.).
  BC.12.4.4 Evaluate the impact of understanding a relationship with Jesus as presented in the Gospel of John.

BC.12.5 Be able to understand the Book of Hebrews.
  BC.12.5.1 Study the Book of Hebrews (Old and New Testament references, etc.).
  BC.12.5.2 Investigate salvation themes (sanctuary, roles of Jesus Christ, faith, etc.).
  BC.12.5.3 Relate key themes of the Book of Hebrews to past, present, and possible future issues of life (projects, research, presentations, etc.).

BC.12.6 Be able to understand worldviews and religion.
  BC.12.6.1 Study, compare, and analyze the practices and beliefs of various worldviews and religions.
  BC.12.6.2 Design and present Seventh-day Adventist responses to alternate viewpoints.
  BC.12.6.3 Cultivate a passion for the Seventh-day Adventist movement and mission (projects, contributions to church life, outreach, various ministries, etc.).

BC.12.7 Be able to understand the dynamics of relational and life skills.
  BC.12.7.1 Understand the different stages of relationships (single, friendships, dating, etc.)
  BC.12.7.2 Discover biblical principles for relational and life skills (communicating, finances, parenting, careers, moral and ethical behavior, etc.).
  BC.12.7.3 Develop relational and life skills (research, projects, presentations, etc.).
  BC.12.7.4 Apply lessons learned from the study of the principles of relational and life skills.
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jim Ingersoll  
Ian Kelly  
Danaran Fredrick  
Carolyn Jensen  
Gayle Norton  
Somer Penington  
Michael Smith  
Southern Union Conference  
Columbia Union Conference  
Hinsdale Adventist Academy  
Forest Lake Academy  
Walla Walla Valley Academy  
Redlands Adventist Academy  
Highland Academy