



ACADEMIC PROFILE 2009

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The Academy: Northwest Academy was founded in 1993. Northwest Academy is a year-round, coeducational boarding school, located in the scenic panhandle of northern Idaho. The 120 acre campus provides a wide array of educational opportunities. Indoor and outdoor classroom settings allow students in grades 11 through 12 to experience a college preparatory academic program. Students also participate in team sports such as soccer, basketball and softball, and receive an environmental education.

Northwest Academy offers a broad selection of courses designed to meet each student's academic and personal needs. Course offerings include a general education curriculum as well as college preparatory classes. By combining the tradition of secondary academics with innovative methods of interpersonal education, graduates are prepared to meet the rigors of post-secondary education.

Northwest Academy, fully accredited by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools (NAAS), is a co-educational boarding school. Northwest Academy creates an optimal educational environment for our students and instills life-long learning skills, utilizing individualized instruction applied through experiential learning.

INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

Northwest Academy offers an integrated curriculum addressing the emotional, academic and physical needs of the student. The curriculum is presented in classrooms, personal growth learning experiences, an active outdoor adventure curriculum, and recreational or leisure activities. The integrated curriculum is supplemented by individual and group therapy provided by the Clinical Services Department, substance abuse counseling, and 12 Step work.

The integrated curriculum offered by Northwest Academy focuses on the development of:

- Core academic competencies
- Critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Preparation for post-secondary education or entry into the workforce
- Responsibility and accountability for actions
- Positive social skills
- Communication skills
- Healthy relationships with parents, peers and others
- Leadership skills and experience
- Age-appropriate and healthy lifestyle
- Personal values for a successful life

OUR MISSION

To provide a caring and compassionate community of adult care givers who academically, mentally, emotionally, physically, and spiritually educate students and families in a safe, supportive, and nurturing environment.

Driving our mission, Northwest Academy believes that:

- Everyone can learn, grow and change;
- Learning best occurs in a nurturing and safe environment
- Every student is a valued individual
- Unique learning styles are accommodated and respected
- Active engagement leads to learning efficiency
- Healthy relationships encourage trust and commitment
- The integrity of the teacher is as important as the content of the lesson

Northwest Academy is specifically designed to provide a challenging blend of academics, psychotherapy, personal growth and substance abuse education for the 17-year-old student who has fallen behind in a traditional school environment. Its coeducational, residential curriculum provides the student opportunity to obtain a high school diploma by earning up to two years' worth of core academic credits in twelve months. Northwest Academy students are empowered to rekindle their motivation, develop confidence, set college and career goals and learn skills for independent living.

The primary academic goal of the Northwest Academy student is to attain a high school diploma and master secondary course material in preparation for post-secondary education. This achievement is made possible by a disciplined approach to study, careful scheduling and attention to individual learning styles. It is enhanced by comprehensive and intensive substance abuse education and supported by development of a plan for maintaining sobriety.

Diploma Requirements

To graduate from Northwest Academy, a student must have successfully completed all State of Idaho required courses listed, as well as three required credits in personal growth (Theory and Practice of Life Skills). The personal growth curriculum consists of individual and family therapy, substance abuse education, relapse prevention, anger management, conflict resolution, healthy relationships, self-awareness, social responsibility and post-secondary planning.

For the student entering Northwest Academy, three personal growth credits are earned during a stay of three terms over a period of one year.

A student who enrolls as a senior with fewer academic credits to earn may be involved in taking college courses through North Idaho College as a Dual Enrolled student, and gaining meaningful work experience within the community through supervised Job Shadow.

High School Graduation Requirements

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Required Credits</u>
English	8.0
Speech	1.0
Science (must be laboratory science)	4.0
Mathematics	4.0
U.S. History	2.0
U.S. Government	2.0
Economics	1.0
Humanities	5.0
Health	1.0
Physical Education	2.0
Electives	11.0
Computer Literacy (demonstrated proficiency)	1.0
Theory & Practice of Life Skills	3.0
Total Credits	45.0

While Students are engaged in a full academic program focusing on the core subject areas, they are also working on appropriate classroom behavior, completing assignments on time, and active participation in the classroom process. Students learn what is required to address their learning challenges and, where possible, to compensate for them.

They expand their understanding of personal learning styles and identify academic strengths and weaknesses. As personal issues are addressed and self-confidence and acceptance increase, students demonstrate increased academic success.

Testing Core Competencies

Coursework in the core subject areas extends to include additional college entrance requirements such as foreign language, higher level math, and additional science courses. Students are also able to prepare themselves for the SAT and/or ACT. The competency and readiness for graduation of all Northwest Academy students is tested by the Idaho Standard Achievement Test (ISAT), for which students will have been prepared by pre-testing to determine the subjects in which they may require some remedial work.

Grading:

Core and Elective classes provide grades (A-C and No Credit) based on individual achievement. Some classes are based on group participation and students receive either a Pass (P) or No Credit (NC) in those classes. Only classes with a letter grade (not those designated with a "P") are included in calculating a student's GPA.

Grade Reporting

Parents receive updated reports regarding student progress on a weekly basis by phone through the student's therapist. This information includes a brief description of the course content covered during the week, the student's in-progress grade, and classroom behaviors. Parents receive printed report cards following the end of each term.

Class Rank:

Northwest Academy does not rank our students due to the small size of its classes and of the group of student peers.

Credit Acceptance Policy

We accept all credits granted by any other educationally accredited institution. Where possible and necessary, we will convert equivalent courses with different titles to satisfy specific requirements. If it is not possible to make such a conversion elective credits are awarded.

Transcript Repair

Students have the opportunity to retake courses for which they received a “D” or “F” grade, if the course is offered at Northwest Academy. The previous grade is expunged from the transcript.

Post-Secondary Planning

Preparation and planning for post-Northwest Academy education, training or employment, as determined by students’ interests, aptitudes and abilities, is also initiated. For students contemplating college attendance, ACT or SAT testing is completed or repeated if necessary. With their parents, students begin formulating a plan, in which they may be assisted by an educational consultant. College entrance applications are prepared and submitted, and students may visit the colleges to which they have applied and been accepted.

Transcripts: Transcripts are available upon written request at:
NORTHWEST ACADEMY
Registrar
1 Ruby Creek Road, P.O. Box 370
Naples, ID 83847

Eleventh & Twelfth Grades in Twelve Months

Northwest Academy is able consolidate two years of core academic credits into a twelve month period because of its unique year-round class schedule and its grading periods. The academic year at Northwest Academy is organized on a Trimester basis, each approximately 16 weeks in duration.

In each grading period students may take up to six core courses to earn one semester credit for each class. Core classes such as Language Arts, Government and History, Science and Math will be taught in each grading period.

In addition to receiving credit for the core academic classes, students accrue credit for Physical Education class and Theory and Practice of Life Skills each Trimester. Physical Education provides daily large muscle movement and the activities may be as varied as snow shoeing and cross-country skiing in the winter to soccer, basketball, and weightlifting/cardio-training. Theory and Practice of Life Skills incorporates the student’s personal growth program, 12 Step work, Yoga, individual, family, and group process.

Winter Trimester

01-05-09	1 st Trimester Start Date
02-23-09 through 02-27-09	CBW (Community Building Week)
04-24-09	Graduation/End of 1 st Trimester
04-27-09 through 05-01-09	CBW (Community Building Week)
04-30-09 through 05-01-09	Parent Workshop Weekend

Spring/Summer Trimester

05-04-09	2 nd Trimester Start Date
06-22-09 through 06-26-09	CBW (Community Building Week)
08-14-09	Graduation/End of 2 nd Trimester
08-17-09 through 08-21-09	CBW (Community Building Week)

Fall Trimester

08-24-09	3 rd Trimester Start Date
10-01-09 through 10-02-09	Parent Workshop Weekend
10-26-09 through 10-30-09	CBW (Community Building Week)
11-25-09 through 11-27-09	Thanksgiving Break
12-18-09	Graduation/End of 3 rd Trimester
12-21-09 through 12-25-09	CBW (Community Building Week)

Field Trip and Community Building Weeks

Throughout the year as shown on the calendar, there are Field Trips and Community Building Weeks (CBW). During these break weeks the regular schedule of classes is suspended and students may be taken off campus on various field trips, recreational and cultural activities. These weeks give students a necessary break from the routine of daily classes, but they are not strictly vacations because the process of learning continues no matter what the venue. Students are adding to their knowledge and experience base and putting into practice their new-found social skills.

With this schedule, NWA can grant up to 24 credits in twelve months. A sample student academic plan illustrates how these credits can be earned.

American Literature A	1.0
U.S. History A	1.0
Physical Education	1.0
Theory and Practice of Life Sk.	1.0
Algebra 2A	1.0
Spanish IIA	1.0
Government A	1.0
Health	1.0

American Literature B	1.0
U.S. History B	1.0
Physical Education	1.0
Theory and Practice of Life Sk.	1.0
Algebra 2B	1.0
Chemistry A	1.0
Government B	1.0
Geometry A	1.0

World Literature A	1.0
World Literature B	1.0
Physical Education	1.0
Theory and Practice of Life Sk.	1.0
Geometry B	1.0
Chemistry B	1.0
Communication	1.0
Economics	1.0

NORTHWEST ACADEMY CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE ARTS

These course offerings incorporate literature, composition and language in the development of appropriate communication skills. Students develop skills as listeners, speakers, writers and readers. Students explore themes of self, multi-cultural dimensions of American life and language, as applied to modern communications. Projects involve multi-modal instruction to facilitate individual learning styles and enhance creativity, confidence and understanding of concepts.

American Literature A and B

Students explore American culture by examining America's cultural heritage, including myths, legends, parables, classical literature, films and speeches. They write about American cultural unity using the following forms: a literature-based position paper, historical and speculative fiction, descriptions of landscapes, folktales, myths, legends, fables and historical journals. Credits: 2

World Literature A and B

World Literature provides insight into events and circumstances beyond those within the traditional Anglo-American culture. Students examine author and character responses to global concerns and issues, and incorporate these insights into their own oral and written responses to the reading. Students read and evaluate essays, newspapers, magazines, research papers, poetry, myths and novels from the international community. Composition focuses on the unity and diversity of global cultures and involves argumentation, persuasion, reflection and evaluation. Credits: 2

Communication (Speech)

Through the use of instruction in tempo, tone, mannerisms and other techniques that can be applied to life situations, students learn more than merely how to speak in public. They are responsible for several presentations that are critiqued by their peers on the subjects of sales, improvisation, information, persuasion and Power Point presentation. Student speeches may be videotaped for the purpose of critical analysis and feedback.

Credit: 1

Practical Studies

This course is provided for students needing additional support within the core academic curriculum.

Credit: 1

SOCIAL STUDIES

The social studies curriculum develops awareness and understanding of American culture and the global society. Special attention is paid to the past as a bridge to a full understanding of the present.

United States History A and B

The important work of helping students develop an understanding of change, growth and our democratic heritage is the task of this survey course. Each student is asked to examine important historical issues in order to achieve a sense of responsible citizenship and appreciation for the ideals, principals and economic and cultural realities upon which the nation was constructed. Credits: 2

United States Government A and B

Government in the United States is presented in a manner that promotes discussion of national and international government decisions, legislative outcomes and the role of government in the 20th century. Students study the structures, processes and issues of national, state and local governments. Topics include the definition of governments; formations, functions, and comparative forms of government; the branches of federal government; the constitution; state and local government; and current affairs. Students read newspapers and magazines to facilitate the study and discussion of current events. Credits: 2

Economics

Providing an overview of basic economic concepts, this course familiarizes students with terminology while promoting an understanding of personal and national economic issues. The student studies economic decision-making on both an individual (micro) level and a system-wide (macro) level. Topics include the law of supply and demand; production of goods and services; the roles of the consumer, labor and management; money and banking; economic cycles; the role of government and the world economy. We emphasize hands-on experiential activities through role-playing, mock “real world” situations creating opportunities to learn economic lessons, and field trips that pose common consumer challenges. Credit: 1

MATHEMATICS

The essential objectives of the Mathematics Department are to establish a thorough foundation in mathematical processes and structure, preparing students for future progressive mathematics courses, and empowering students with a sense of the utility of numbers and of their own ability and potential for developing greater competence.

Algebra I A and B

Fundamental algebraic operations using signed numbers and their elementary applications are the essence of Algebra I. Topics include real numbers, equations, introduction to inequalities, exponents/ polynomials, introduction to irrational numbers through radicals, graphing, solving verbal problems, factoring and introduction to quadratic equations. Credits: 2

Algebra II A and B

Most colleges and universities require a third year mathematics course such as Algebra II. This course reviews concepts learned in Algebra I and Geometry while introducing more complex formulas and logical thinking than in previous courses. Critical components are polynomials and factoring, rational expressions, irrational/complex numbers, functions, logarithms, trigonometry, graphing figures and statistics.

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry. Credits: 2

Geometry A and B

Typically taken between Algebra I and Algebra II, this study of Euclidean geometry meshes real world figures with mathematical logic. Students are given the opportunity to experience mathematics in a unique way with the use of construction tools such as the protractor and compass. By drawing and constructing the figures they are studying, students find meaning in the concepts being covered. Theories of three-dimensional figures and elementary analytic geometry are presented and a review of algebraic materials is included. Students learn through traditional classroom instruction, kinesthetic experiences and individual projects. Credits: 2

Prerequisite: Algebra I.

Pre-Calculus A and B

Pre-calculus is a course designed for students planning on attending a four-year university. This course begins with a review of concepts of algebra and geometry with emphasis on complex fractions and logarithms. The majority of the first semester involves a rigorous study of trigonometric ratios and identities, as well as solving trigonometric equations. The second semester involves a study of polar coordinates, sequences, series, limits, and conic sections. Credits: 2

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Calculus A and B

Calculus is a course designed for students planning on a degree in math or science. The first semester involves a study of limits and the slope of a tangent line to a graph. This leads into differentiation of functions, along with applications. The second semester involves a study anti-derivatives and integration of polynomial, exponential and trigonometric functions, which allows us to find the area under a curve. Credits: 2

Prerequisite: Pre-calculus

SCIENCE

The Science Department encourages critical analysis of the world through scientific principles and processes. Ethical issues inherent in scientific discovery are introduced, and students develop a respect for the natural environment. The curriculum promotes and sustains curiosity about everyday interactions with science and nature. Inquiry takes place in the classroom, laboratory and outdoor environments. Through their scientific studies, students develop the ability to explore and investigate the fundamental truths of nature.

Advanced Biology A and B

Natural resources and environments are examined as students study the nature of living organisms through lectures, discussions, reading, research, laboratory experiments and field studies. The campus and surrounding areas are utilized as a natural laboratory for in-depth studies of pond and stream environments, forest ecology and management, basic ecological principles, and plant and animal identification. Partial and full-day field trips provide students with diverse natural laboratories. Credits: 2

Chemistry A and B

Students are introduced to the basic principles of inorganic chemistry in this class which also examines atomic structure, chemical bonding and the laws governing chemical reactions. Extensive laboratory experience is provided to acquaint students with basic safety requirements and the process of scientific discovery in the laboratory environment. The historical context and social implications of chemistry also are examined, with particular emphasis on current environmental problems. Credits: 2

Prerequisites: 2 years of science plus Algebra I and Geometry.

Physics A

Physics A is an introduction to general physics with a focus on problem solving from an analytical approach. Physics A covers the properties of motion; velocity; acceleration; forces; vector analysis; two-dimensional motion; universal gravitation; and momentum. Classes consist of lectures with real world examples, and labs both physical and analytical. Students

learn how to describe the motion of objects in the world around them after completion of this course.

Physics B

This course takes the physical laws learned in Physics A and applies them to the universe around us. Areas covered are Astronomy and Optical Physics. Students discover how the planets, stars, and galaxies follow the same simple laws of physics that govern motion here on Earth. Students investigate astronomers of the past and their part in putting together our modern picture of the universe. Investigations are also made into current and future astronomical theories. Students discuss the various theories related to the formation of the universe, stellar evolution, and galactic evolution. Prerequisites for Physics B are Physics A, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, or Geometry.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The primary emphasis of the Foreign Language Department is on learning correct pronunciation, developing verbal fluidity, and building aural comprehension. The acquisition of skills in reading, writing and speaking is paramount, and every opportunity is used to teach students about the cultural and geographical civilizations being studied.

Spanish I A and B

For students with little or no prior exposure to the language, this introductory course emphasizes basic vocabulary, phonetics and grammar. It uses dialogues to ask and respond to questions, engages in basic conversations, and introduces oral readings from Spanish literature. Students are encouraged to actively communicate in the small group setting. Credit: 2

Spanish II A and B

The foundation established in Spanish I is expanded on in this course, which continues the development of verbal and aural skills and increases the emphasis on reading and writing. Reading assignments are designed to build vocabulary and develop familiarity with the language and the culture, and an interdisciplinary approach exposes students to the culture and language of Spanish-speaking countries via geography, history, film, literature and music. Credits: 2 Prerequisite: Spanish I.

Spanish III A and B

Prerequisite: Spanish I and II Credits: 2

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Health education focuses on lifestyle issues that may have a continual impact on an individual's development throughout adolescence and adulthood. The goal of these courses is to promote healthful living and enhance the ability of students to make informed lifestyle choices. Physical education, required for all students each trimester, teaches the importance of physical conditioning as an integral part of lifelong health and fitness.

Physical Education

As today's active lifestyle is strongly rooted in the health and well being of an individual, students are encouraged to develop their personal fitness. With a variety of fitness and conditioning courses, students are given an opportunity to maintain or improve their current level of fitness. Students are introduced to aerobic and anaerobic conditioning that may serve as the basis of life-long fitness. Positive body image, self-confidence and increased energy are just a few of the benefits of these classes. Courses include aerobics, walking, jogging, running, calisthenics, circuit training, outdoor conditioning and weight training. Credit: 1

Health

In this course, various issues are discussed and skills are taught that pertain to everyday living, such as personal hygiene, physical fitness, relationship building, nutrition and mental/emotional health. In addition, a special workshop on human sexuality is required. Credit: 1

Individual and Team Sports

Several individual and team sports focus on fundamental skills, coordination and teamwork, sportsmanship, good conduct, adherence to rules and a spirit of competition. Self-discipline, communication, and the ability to win and lose with dignity are among the values taught by participation in basketball, softball, soccer, volleyball, golf and/or cross-country running.

Alcohol and Drug Education

The impact of alcohol and drugs on the body's system is examined through courses considering addiction symptoms, peer pressure, family patterns and use of drugs or alcohol as a means of coping with other problems. The courses, taught by certified addictions specialists, also explore methods of relapse prevention and maintenance of a clean and sober lifestyle.

ELECTIVE COURSES

The objectives of elective courses are to teach technical skills, enhance core academic skills, provide opportunities for critical thinking, and allow students to pursue academic interests outside of the core curriculum. Not all elective courses are offered every trimester.

Creative Writing

The focus of this class is to make writing enjoyable while emphasizing creativity and originality. A variety of forms of creative writing are presented and students are encouraged to develop their own special focus area through stories, poems, the first few chapters of a novel, plays, screenplays or essays. The primary goal is to increase students' confidence in their writing abilities and unleash their creativity. Credit 0.50

Environmental Studies

The goal of this course is to illustrate the inter-relationships of meteorology, geology, geography, and biology. Through class discussion and on-site laboratory experience, students develop the ability to see the inter-relationships between these disciplines and how humans affect the environment. Full use is made of the natural resources within and surrounding the campus.

Credit 1

Native American Studies

Students are introduced to the history of regional Native American tribes and focus on their cultures, spiritual direction and crafts. Special emphasis is placed on the trail of treaties and prevailing attitudes surrounding broken treaties. Students gain a further understanding of Indian life by reproducing artifacts. The class may culminate with a visit to one of the cooperating tribes.

Credit 0.50

FINE ARTS

Exposure to visual and performing arts complements a student's academic and personal growth program, and introduces alternative media for personal expression. Staff members with appropriate training, experience and expertise teach students in the arts as electives, leisure time activities or special classes, as time and schedules permit. Not all Fine Arts are offered every trimester.

Art

This course covers principles of composition in line, color and form through mediums of graphite, charcoal, pastels and acrylic paint. Advanced students utilize watercolor and oil. Subject matter will adhere to realism following traditional methodology.

Cinema History

This course examines the development of American and international cinema with an emphasis placed on significant directors, actors, and genres. Students will view approximately 10 films in a trimester class. Coursework will include film summaries and reviews, with the objective to learn the components of "classic" works, and a greater appreciation for the various cinematic genres.

Photography

Exploring photography is an important means of developing visual awareness and personal expression. Students learn about the technical, artistic and historical aspects of black and white photography, including the role of light in photography and the operation of the adjustable 35mm camera. Students will become proficient in film exposure and development, paper processing, the creation of refined photographic images and the presentation of final prints.

Credit 0.50

Colleges and Universities to which Northwest Academy graduates have been accepted for undergraduate and/or graduate studies:

Arizona State University * Augustana University * Ball State * Berklee College of Music *

Butler University *

Cal State – Chico * Carroll College * Chapman College *

Colby-Sawyer College * College of DuPage * Colorado Mountain College * Colorado State University *

Columbia College of Chicago *

Dean College * DePaul University * De Vry *
Galveston Community College * Hawaii-Pacific University * Harcum College * Illinois State
University * Indiana University * Kendall College * Loyola University *
Lynn University * New England College *
New Mexico State University *
Northern Arizona University * Northern Idaho College *
Northern Illinois University *
Pine Manor College * Quinnipiac University * Ripon College *
Southern Illinois University * Southern Oregon University * Temple University*
University of Alaska, Fairbanks * University of Arizona * University of Portland* University
of Redlands * Western Illinois University *
Western Michigan University