

TEACHER CERTIFICATION at Covenant Academy:

Teacher certification encourages professional development and deeper understanding of Covenant's mission and vision. Our certification program is designed to encourage and equip teachers as they hone their craft in classical pedagogy and curriculum.

Explanation of Certification Levels and Requirements:

All teachers are required to complete Level One certification within one year after their first year of teaching at CA and to continue to pursue professional development each year. Levels 2-4 provide financial incentive of \$1,000 added to the base pay as teachers continue to pursue further training.

Pre-requisite to First Year

This level must be completed the summer prior to starting as a first year teacher.

1. Scan and skim Covenant's Curriculum Guide K-12.
2. Read (or watch relevant DVD's) *Shepherding a Child's Heart* or *Age of Opportunity*.
3. Read CA's Parent Student Handbook.
4. Read *Covenant Cultura*.
5. Read through the Covenant Events on Teacher Web page.
6. Review relevant sections of *The Spalding Method* (For Grammar School teachers only). Complete the DVD training: *Teaching the Classics* by Adam Andrews (for Upper School teachers only) OR *1 Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press*

Level One: Essentials of Classical Education

(Required within one year of first year of teaching).

1. Read one book on CCE.
Book Options: *The Seven Laws of Teaching*, *The Liberal Arts Tradition*, *Repairing the Ruins*, *Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning*, *The Trivium* OR *1 Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press*.
2. Skim *Teach Like a Champion* and identify 3-5 useful strategies that you can use in your classroom.
3. Write 3-6 unit plans/liturgies (or one for each subject taught) that reflect the seven laws of teaching and address the essential skills needed to accomplish curriculum goals.
4. Attendance at 1 local or national CCE conference (funds permitting) OR *1 Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press*.
5. Observation of 2 lessons of another teacher.
6. Performance of fair to excellent on Master Teacher Rubric.

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Level Two: Curriculum Mastery

Level One Certification required.

1. Read two selections from the Upper School Great Books lists (grades 7-12) OR 1 *Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press.*
2. Write a blog post type of reflection (about 300-500 words) on the reading described above and how it relates to our mission and CCE as a whole. This is not intended to be stodgy or stuffy but thought provoking.
3. Observation of 2 lessons of another teacher.
4. Attendance at 1 local or national CCE conference (funds permitting).
5. Listen to 2 ACCS, SCL, or Circe presentations on any topic of interest OR 1 *Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press.*
6. Performance of good to excellent on Master Teacher Rubric.

Level Three: Mastery of Classical Education

Prerequisite: Level Two Certification for a minimum of 1 year.

1. Listen and respond (about 500 words) to 2 online, recorded or live seminars from any CCE organization.
Read one of the following: *How to Read a Book; How to Speak, How to Listen; The Peacemaker; Habits of the Mind* OR 1 *Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press.*
2. Read two selections from the Upper School Great Books lists (grades 7-12).
3. Write a blog post type of reflection (about 500 words) on any aspect of CA mission, curriculum or culture, including one of the books above. This is not intended to be stodgy or stuffy but thought provoking.
4. Observation of 2 lessons of another teacher.
Attendance at 1 local or national CCE conference OR 1 *Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press.*
5. Presentation of 1 topic at a local or in-house CCE conference.
6. Performance of good to excellent on Master Teacher Rubric.

Level Four: Pursuing Wisdom and Virtue

Pre-requisite: Level Three Certification for a minimum of 1 year.

1. Listen and respond in writing (about 600 words) to 2 online, recorded or live seminars from any CCE organization OR 1 *Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press.*
2. Read and respond (about 700 words) to 1 of the following:
Norms and Nobility, The Trivium, Wisdom and Eloquence. Provide insight and application to the concepts as applied to CA.
3. Read two selections from the Upper School Great Books lists (grades 7-12) OR 1 *Approved Classical U Course through Classical Academic Press.*
4. Mentorship of another teacher at CA or other CCE school.
5. Presentation of 1 topic at a local or in-house CCE conference.
6. Performance of good to excellent on Master Teacher Rubric.