**Logic Course Description**

This course introduces students to Torrey Academy by exploring the importance of clear thinking for Christian spiritual development. Students learn why great Christian leaders have traditionally seen the life of the mind as a key component of spiritual growth. Students examine the basics of Socratic Logic, including terms, syllogisms, and evaluation of soundness and validity. The class also explores how argumentation plays out in everyday life, including a lengthy study of informal fallacies. Students end the year by exploring good methods for reading and engaging essays and literature using logical principles. Readings include *How to Read a Book* by Mortimer Adler and Charles Van Doren, and works by Plato, G. K. Chesterton, Washington Irving, William Shakespeare, J.P. Moreland, and others. We recommend that parents and independent study programs count this class as meeting the requirements for ten high school academic units for Logic/Critical Thinking.

Specific Course Requirements:

Students will begin to learn to think clearly. They will be able to
- identify key components of logical arguments and their practical applications
- identify errors in the logical thought process and understand how to correct such errors
- experience the argumentative process in a traditional way through a Socratic dialogue
- improve writing skills through the written assessment of different forms of argument

Students will prepare for further education. They will be able to
- interact in a discussion-based class environment similar to that of other Torrey Academy classes
- identify logical arguments in texts where the argument is not immediately apparent
- internalize concepts that will prove invaluable in any college setting

Course objectives will be realized through the reading, completion of textbook assignments, writing, and discussion required of the students. The discussion and writing assignments will serve as the evaluative tools that assess the student’s progress toward the set objectives. Assignments will include exercises from the primary text as well as essays, outlines, and other written work derived from the other required readings, and will serve as a catalog of the student’s progress through the course of the academic year. Each quarter will culminate with an exam, or a writing assignment equivalent to a final exam.