

Schedule for Tuesday, July 15

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:00-8:45	Registration and Coffee		Saint Andrews
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	Plenary: Classical Christian Education: What's It All About? An introductory, 30,000-foot look at classical Christian education, its beginnings, biases, and Biblical foundation.	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
10:00-10:50	Laying a Foundation for Practical Perfection: Insisting That It Is Done Correctly in the First Two Weeks We'll discuss the characteristics of the first two weeks of school at MHA. From lineup to recess to lunch to dismissal, suggestions will be offered for getting protocol and procedures correct in the first days, which will save you hours of time for classroom productivity through the year. "Let's try it again," might be the most common phrase you use in the first couple weeks of school.	James Waldy	Room 207
	STEM: A High and Humble Calling – Part 1: Worldview Foundations "Science is real" is one of the core tenets of today's secular creed. Too often, people exalt science to God-like status, making it the foundation of all their knowledge. How should classical and Christian educators approach science? When we reflect on our history and our theology, we will discover that, for us and for our students, STEM subjects should be pursued as a high and humble calling from God.	Andy Stapleton	Room 210
11:00-12:00	From the Outside in: Transitioning to CCE from the "Other Side of the Fence" Have you always had a dream to teach but feel that you are getting into the game a little late? Hear the personal story of how a child's persistent prayer led to one teacher leaving a lucrative career in the business world to become a teacher. You'll glean insights about the joys, challenges, and surprises that have come with transitioning into the field of education. This presentation will benefit those changing careers to pursue teaching, as well as those managing or mentoring teachers who have recently made such a transition.	Dr. Laura Lucas	Room 208
	First Two Weeks of Upper School In order for the successful Logic and Rhetoric teacher to get off on the right foot, we will take an in-depth look at the procedures, processes, and planning that must take place to ensure a successful year of teaching.	Mike McKenna	King Alfred

Schedule for Tuesday, July 15

Connective Community & Parent-Teacher Partnerships

Kathryn Wheeler

209

Students spend approximately 13 years of their life growing and learning within your Classical Christian school community, so it is vital to create a school culture in which your families and students are seen, known, and connected. Our schools should reflect a commitment to Christ-centered learning and Christ-centered relationships. Capture the heart and vision for living in Christian community, partnering with parents, and maximizing the possibilities for deep connections in your K-12 Classical Christian classrooms and school.

12:00-12:45

Lunch Provided

Saint Andrews

1:00-1:50

Plenary: The Heart of the Matter

James Waldy

King Alfred

At Mars Hill Academy, we strive for high academic standards and an orderly approach to educating children according to the model of the trivium. To place first in the nation on the Classic Learning Test for five years running causes us all to rejoice. However, we know that such accolades would be analogous to the whitewashed tombs referred to by Jesus if we were not targeting the hearts of students with a view to training them to "glorify God and enjoy Him" in all they do. This session will address positive and proactive steps to foster an atmosphere of love for God, love for neighbor, honor for parents, and respect for authority.

2:00-2:50

Building an Engaging Science Curriculum

Laura Lucas

Room 210

How can you bring science to life for your students, especially under budget constraints and limited class time? In this session, you will investigate a variety of strategies for making science educational, accessible, and fun for students of all ages.

Beyond the Essay: How to Measure Understanding at the Dialectic Level

Dr. Christopher Jero

Room 207

The dialectic level of education focuses on understanding, logical implication, and cause and effect. Assessments — whether assignments, quizzes, or tests — should measure a student's progress in logical reasoning about the topic of study. Assessments should also serve as a tool to develop reasoning skills. This session describes how to design assessments that require the application of reasoning skills. It explains how the concepts of logic class can be applied to various kinds of assessments in Bible, literature, and history classes. Topics include how to develop questions that encourage attentive reading, designing student presentations that stimulate synthesis and analysis, and the effective use of multiple choice.

Get Organized

Kathryn Wheeler

Room 208

Have you ever asked the questions: "What would my teaching day be like if I could find my papers or materials when I need them?" or "Why am I always feeling behind and trying to catch up with my planning?" If so, this seminar is the place for you. During this session, we will explore ideas to organize your space and create a monthly master plan to bring efficiency and purpose to your classroom.

Schedule for Tuesday, July 15

3:00-3:50	Shepherding Hearts (Grammar)	James Waldy	Room 209
<p>We've likely learned that "discipline" is not inherently negative, and that may be true. Did you know, however, that the earliest use of the word in the 1200s was directly linked to correction and punishment? Full orb'd discipline involves proactive, positive training, as well as corrective chastisement. We'll discuss how we shepherd hearts at Mars Hill and walk you through the proactive principles that we believe prevent a multitude of sins. We'll also explain the steps that are taken for different levels of correction — from the interaction with the teacher to the visit with the principal.</p>			
	Shepherding Hearts (Upper School)	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
<p>The dialectic level of education focuses on understanding, logical implication, and cause and effect. Assessments — whether assignments, quizzes, or tests — should measure a student's progress in logical reasoning about the topic of study. Assessments should also serve as a tool to develop reasoning skills. This session describes how to design assessments that require the application of reasoning skills. It explains how the concepts of logic class can be applied to various kinds of assessments in Bible, literature, and history classes. Topics include how to develop questions that encourage attentive reading, designing student presentations that stimulate synthesis and analysis, and the effective use of multiple choice.</p>			
6:30-8:30	Latin for Non-Latin Teachers* <i>*(Additional fees apply.)</i>	Dr. Christopher Jero	Room 207
<p><i>"My school continually stresses that Latin is essential to a quality education, but I don't know Latin myself! I feel like I am missing out, but I don't have time for a full Latin course."</i> If you ever have such thoughts, this mini-course is for you. Learn the logic of Latin grammar, and the essentials necessary to navigate a Latin sentence. After just three lessons you will be reading important Latin expressions and making application to your area of teaching.</p>			

Schedule for Wednesday, July 16

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	Plenary: Seven Laws of Teaching: Practically Speaking Gregory's Seven Laws of Teaching will be unpacked with an eye toward the practical application of day-to-day instruction.	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
10:00-10:50	Are You a Conductor or a Performer? What we look for in effective lessons. James will walk you through the 75-point rubric that is used for training and observation of teachers. Those 75 points capture elements both philosophical and practical with emphasis upon the wisdom found in The Seven Laws of Teaching. You'll come to understand why a proper lesson observation focuses more on the activities and participation of the students than the performance of the teacher. Are you a conductor of the orchestra or a solo performer on the stage?	James Waldy	Room 207
	STEM: A High and Humble Calling – Part 2 Science In this session, you will further explore how the development and application of a philosophy of teaching science can connect God's character to His creation and increase wonder for both students and teachers.	Dr. Laura Lucas	Room 210
11:00-12:00	Phonics Instruction at MHA: Developing a Love for Reading from the Start Giving our youngest students a solid foundation in phonics sets them up for a life of reading and writing. In this workshop we will discuss ways we engage our students in phonics and literature. Examples will be given for activities we use to make phonics and literature both meaningful and fun for our littlest learners.	Natalie Walls	Room 208
	Evil: A Problem in Every Worldview Everywhere we turn, we find evil. We find it in both ourselves and our neighbors. We find it in both the past and the present. We even find it in the stories we read together in class. Evil is troubling, no matter where we find it. This workshop will examine how to respond to the problem of evil, whether the class is theology, history, or literature.	Andy Stapleton	King Alfred

Schedule for Wednesday, July 16

Every Room's a Stage

Lisa Cunningham Room 209

Join us as we discover how to transform any room to a stage. We'll discuss plays, reader's theater, poetry, oral presentations, and competitions. Drama requires role-playing and helps us better understand humanity. Good public speaking is a goal of the rhetoric school, but the grammar of public speaking starts in the grammar school. We'll explore the importance of public performance, ways to use it to enhance your studies, and even assessments. Walk away with ideas for incorporating role-playing and public speaking into your classroom. (If there's interest, we'll also cover ideas for starting an after-school drama program or summer camps.)

12:00-12:45

Lunch Provided

1:00-1:50

Filling the Unforgiving Class Period with 50 Minutes Worth of Distance Run

James Waldy King Alfred

James will model for teachers a typical classroom period from opening to closing bell to demonstrate strategies and methods for getting the very most out of every class period. Opening exercises, strategies for effective review, advanced organizers, lesson flow per time markers, and effective endings to a lesson session will be discussed. The emphasis of this workshop is practical application. Principles can be applied at any level of the trivium.

How to Read Latin or Greek like a Roman

Dr. Christopher Jero Room 207

When approaching simple sentences, students of Latin and Greek often adopt methods of translating that are not the same as reading. These methods usually fail when the student encounters original Latin texts. This session provides tools and tips for enabling students to process meaning from left to right and experience the mental operation of truly reading an inflected language. It explains how to use a reading approach from the very first Latin lessons to prepare students for advanced reading, and how the same method works with extremely complex sentences. The tools are effective for Latin and Greek but can be adapted to any foreign language.

2:00-2:50

For the Love of Grammar

Kathryn Wheeler Room 210

Parse like a pro with strategies that work! Ignite a love for Grammar and a passion for language in the hearts and minds of your students through the strategies presented in this workshop. We will examine a variety of "tools" for your classroom and participate in hands-on activities that will increase your students' understanding of English Grammar. During our time together, we will discuss the value of singing and choral analysis, the use of manipulatives to solidify learning, and the integration of instructional methods that will promote understanding and increased retention. Learn new tips and strategies for classroom instruction, and encourage your students to love Grammar!

Schedule for Wednesday, July 16

Learning & Loving Latin (or any other subject for that matter)

Lisa Cunningham Room 209

In this workshop, we'll discuss how to build strong foundations by using chants, songs, games, paddles, and more. This workshop will center largely around introducing beginning Latin, but the principles can be applied to any subject. Come and be a student in our Latin workshop and find some tools you can use in your classroom next year which will get every student involved.

Lesson Planning: Applying the Seven Laws

Mike McKenna Room 208

Making sure that the principles of the Seven Laws are incorporated into our daily lesson plans goes a long way to ensure successful teaching.

3:00-3:50

How to Teach the Bible Without Spoiling It!

Dr. Christopher Jero Room 207

The Bible is an extended argument whose conclusion is *You should love God in Jesus with all your being and love His people as yourself*. The argument comes to us in a form that appeals to and stimulates wonder and curiosity. It is not easy, however, to ensure that the goal of each Bible lesson properly coincides with the goal of the day's Bible passage. Learn how the Bible builds its case step-by-step and how a dialectic-level lesson plan can facilitate the Bible's own strategy of discovery rather than work at cross purposes to it.

Developing A Personalized Classroom Management Plan

Laura Lucas King Alfred

In this hands-on workshop, you will develop a framework for a written classroom management plan that will help you proactively clarify specific principles, expectations, procedures, and responses to maximize learning in your classroom. You will leave with a living document that will become your playbook for effectively managing your day-to-day interactions with your students and set you up for success heading into a new school year.

6:30-8:30

Latin for Non-Latin Teachers*

Dr. Christopher Jero Room 207

*(Additional fees apply.)

"My school continually stresses that Latin is essential to a quality education, but I don't know Latin myself! I feel like I am missing out, but I don't have time for a full Latin course." If you ever have such thoughts, this mini-course is for you. Learn the logic of Latin grammar, and the essentials necessary to navigate a Latin sentence. After just three lessons you will be reading important Latin expressions and making application to your area of teaching.

Schedule for Thursday, July 17

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	Plenary: The Gospel and Grades As Christian educators, we seem to have a problem. From the same mouth we command students to follow the rules and we urge them work hard to earn good grades, while we also invite them to receive salvation from God as a free gift of his grace. Is this really a problem? We will explore how to clarify these important issues for our students in life-giving ways.	Andy Stapleton	King Alfred
10:00-10:50	STEM: A High and Humble Calling; Part 3: Math This session explores how to teach mathematics within a classical Christian context, emphasizing the order and beauty of God's creation. We will discuss how math serves as a language that trains students to think logically, while also serving as a model for understanding the natural world. By grounding math instruction in theological insights, we'll show how math fosters not only intellectual growth but also virtues such as gratitude, perseverance, and humility. Educators will leave with practical strategies for teaching math as a meaningful and spiritually enriching subject.	Kayla Pollock	Room 209
	Getting to the Heart of Classroom Behavior (Grammar) Before a classroom full of spirited children arrive, the teacher needs to have a plan to shepherd hearts, build character, and train minds. In this session, we will explore some practical ways for grammar teachers to create an environment of love and learning in connection with parents.	Abby Taylor	Room 208
11:00-12:00	Why Humans Need Humanities Because American culture has forsaken God, people are struggling to understand themselves correctly as the image of God. The Christian study of humanities — including history, literature, art, and music — solves this problem, because it directs students toward their true identity and purpose in union with the true image of God, Jesus Christ. We will consider how to apply this approach in a Classical and Christ-centered classroom.	Andy Stapleton	Room 210
	Teaching from a Cart: How to Maintain Your Supplies and Your Sanity Discover tips and tricks from an experienced teacher who has taught hundreds of students from a cart over the past eight years. You will learn how to leverage different carts for specific purposes and strategies for keeping supplies organized across different subjects or grade levels. This presentation will benefit teachers without their own classrooms who need to physically transport supplies to multiple locations each day, as well as teachers with a room that may use a cart for special activities or technology needs.	Laura Lucas	Room 304

Schedule for Thursday, July 17

Imperative of Beauty

Mike McKenna

King Alfred

Because we were created in God's image, we were made to desire beauty. In a very real sense, we were created for beauty. And yet, even in our classical Christian schools, how many people continue to believe that beauty is in the eye of the beholder? In this seminar, we'll examine beauty as an objective reality and the necessity of our response to its call.

12:00-12:45 Lunch Provided/Panel Discussion on Integration

1:00-1:50

Teaching Hermeneutics as a Historical Journey

Dr. Christopher Jero

Room 207

Classical education emphasizes the study of primary texts over textbook syntheses. Primary texts are particularly important in the study of biblical hermeneutics, because the "rules" of sound interpretation were developed through a long history of error and correction that continues to this day. This session explores how to make primary texts, including interpretations of ancient Jewish sects, church fathers, reformers, and modern critical interpreters, accessible to high school students. It demonstrates how to design a lesson that works from student observation and discussion to abiding hermeneutical principles.

Using Integrated Themes in the Grammar Classroom

Abby Taylor

Room 210

As classical teachers, we want to inspire and illicit wonder in our students, but how? By using a piece of literature or a topic of study, we can build curiosity and wonder as we move an idea from a flat page to a multi- sensory experience of learning. Come join the discussion and be inspired to create some themes in your grammar classroom.

2:00-2:50

No Child Left Inside: Getting the Grand Tour Off the Ground at Your School

Mike McKenna

King Alfred

According to the Latin proverb, "Travelers may change their climate but never their souls." While it may be true, there can be little doubt that travelers may at least change their thinking. By virtue of seeing the world – the different sights, sounds, textures, and passions of cultures different than their own – affords our students with a unique perspective that militates against prejudice, parochialism, and pettiness. As Mark Twain said, travel somehow "broadens the mind and softens the heart." For this reason, travel has always been a component part of a well-rounded education. During this workshop, future classical Christian school travelers will learn how to plan the itinerary, prepare your students and parents, and fund the whole thing.

Nuts & Bolts: The Tactical and the Practical

Kathryn Wheeler
& Lisa Cunningham

Room 112

Avoid chaos and confusion within your day by implementing organizational tools and strategies in your grammar school classroom. In this workshop, you will learn techniques and practical steps to maintain order and create routines that will improve your classroom culture. You'll leave with ideas and tips to help your students remain organized and engaged from the first bell to the last.

Schedule for Thursday, July 17

3:00-3:50

Teaching to an Academically Diverse Classroom

Dr. Christopher Jero

Room 207

This session helps those who teach procedural and problem solving skills, such as foreign language and math, to classes that contain students of a wide range of aptitude. With the right techniques, the teacher does not have to choose between a pace that leaves struggling students behind and one that leaves analytically-gifted students sitting idle and bored with class. This session provides strategies for keeping every student engaged and making progress in learning throughout the entire class period.

Creating Joy and Connection in Your School

Lindsay Atkinson
& Abby Taylor

Room 210

As a classical Christian school, we want joy and connection to be evident in every aspect of our community. However, the burdens of this world easily isolate and discourage teachers and families. Discover how you can practically assist in creating a joy-filled and supportive atmosphere for your staff and families.

6:30-8:30

Latin for Non-Latin Teachers*

Dr. Christopher Jero

Room 207

*(Additional fees apply)

"My school continually stresses that Latin is essential to a quality education, but I don't know Latin myself! I feel like I am missing out, but I don't have time for a full Latin course." If you ever have such thoughts, this mini-course is for you. Learn the logic of Latin grammar, and the essentials necessary to navigate a Latin sentence. After just three lessons you will be reading important Latin expressions and making application to your area of teaching.

Schedule for Friday, July 18

Time	Session Title	Speaker	Location
8:45-9:00	Announcements and Hymn/Psalm Sing	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
9:00-9:50	<p>Astronomy: The Capstone of the Quadrivium</p> <p>In many classical Christian school science curricula, astronomy often gets ignored. James will make an argument not only for its inclusion in your program, but also why its exclusion is a mistake. Astronomy, the mathematical art of number in time and space, allows for an integrative review of all aspects of the students' K-12 education. The literary stories of the mythology of constellations; the use of the luminaries for determining signs, seasons, days, and years; the development of trigonometry as a child of astronomy; and the formation of a solid apologetic for God's creation of the cosmos through His natural laws are but a few of the aspects of learning and wonder that are available in astronomy. Did we mention navigation, history, world cultures, cosmological art, space exploration, and the proper evolution of the Christian worldview? Come explore how the "heavens declare the glory of God" in nearly every aspect of life and inquiry.</p>	James Waldy	Room 209
	<p>Decorating Do's & Don'ts</p> <p>Decorate with intentionality that reflects truth, beauty, and goodness in your classroom. What does your space reveal about you? What do you value? Your room is an important place to show and model truth, goodness, and beauty. In this workshop, we'll concentrate on designing a beautiful space. Sample bulletin boards will be shown with practical, how-to-do it yourself tips. We'll take a look at ways to incorporate art and scripture; how to consider color, proportion, placement, and accessories; as well as ideas which encourage wonder.</p>	Lisa Cunningham	Room 210
10:00-10:50	<p>Plenary: Male and Female He Created Them: Teaching Boys and Girls in Today's Culture</p> <p>Who would've believed that our gender-bending culture would end up where it is today with regard to questions of basic human biology? How do we teach boys and girls about biblical masculinity and femininity in the midst of a world that seems to be losing its collective mind on this topic? Let's discuss some principles and practices.</p>	Mike McKenna	King Alfred
10:50-11:00	Closing Announcements, Psalm Sing, Dismissal		King Alfred