

Coram Deo Academy

A Statement of Core Values

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Coram Deo Academy exists to educate youth in a historic Christian worldview through a rigorous classical curriculum. The Goal of CDA is to train thousands of Christian youth to become ethical leaders and wise thinkers who will shape culture for the glory of God. We envision a system of Coram Deo Academy campuses in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex and a system of schools and home schools throughout the US provided with support to accomplish a similar goal.

Core Values

Coram Deo Academy is classical and Christian; professional, personal and partners with parents. .

Classical

- Recovering the legacy of pre modern Western Civilization especially as it relates to the development of Christendom.
- Enjoying the greatness of the classical world and developing West as interpreted and influenced by biblical Christianity.
- As Augustine said, “All truth comes form God.” We discover truth in The Book of God’s Word and the Book of God’s works, or in the Bible and in His works of creation and providence.
- We revel in teaching ancient languages, art and architecture, geometry and government, philosophy and religion. We love the traditional more than the modern but we seek to help students apply their learning to the world and age in which they live.

Christian

- Coram Deo Academy seeks to believe in and apply historic Christianity to its every endeavor in study and administration.
- We apply the Word of God and redemption through Jesus Christ to every arena of life and study.
- As Dorothy Sayers aptly wrote, “Without creed there will be chaos.” We enjoy what C. S. Lewis referred to as Mere Christianity that binds us in common beliefs. These beliefs were summarized long ago in simple summaries such as the Apostles Creed. As such we share at least the following beliefs.
- Although we revel in the study of ancient things including the literature, art and philosophy of fallen civilizations we are firmly rooted in the wisdom of God critiquing our studies from the perspective of His infallible and unchanging Word.
- We believe in God the Father Almighty maker of heaven and earth. Our God is really real and he created the entire material and non material world. We don’t wonder about things we can presuppose with clarity and without question. Therefore we

revere Him and we find meaning in every arena of endeavor; those typically classified as spiritual and those typically classified as material. The everyday struggles and joys of life find meaning because the sovereign God is Lord of them all, who is in all and holds us and our temporal and eternal future in his hands.

- We believe man was made in the image of God, fell and was hopelessly lost in sin. This understanding of man both cautions us about his potential for evil and elicits a respect for his dignity as the creation of God. We seek the good of man in Jesus Christ while guarding against his impulse toward evil.
- We believe in Jesus Christ His only Son as our Redeemer and Lord. Thank God for Jesus Christ who has redeemed us from sin. We are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works which He has before ordained that we should walk in them. He has redeemed us unto eternal life and unto a worthwhile calling in this life.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the church catholic, forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead and life in the world to come and in eternal judgment.
- We believe the bible is the Word of God, and as such is the final authority not only for what we think of as a life of piety but as the source, guide and judge every our entire system of epistemology and cosmology for every arena of life. Every thought and every institution of man must be brought under the manifest dominion of the reigning King Jesus Christ through the application of His Word.
- It is imperative to read, study, understand and apply the very words of God as found in true and faithful translations of the Bible. These include but are not limited to the King James and New King James (both of which use the received text), the recently published English Standard Version and to a lesser extent the New International Version or the New American Standard Version. We stay away from paraphrases that risk losing the original meaning of the text.
- We believe the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed to be true and accurate summaries of Trinitarian Christianity which all that claim to be Christians must believe. We delight in teaching students and ministry to families that come from a variety of ecclesiologies.
- We teach consistent with the Statement of Faith in the Parent/Student Manual written by B. B. Warfield. However we seek to do so in fashion that is not overly strident, not desiring to alienate those who hold the Faith a little differently.
- In thought and in character we seek to deliver graduates that will live all of life Coram Deo.

Professional

- Organizational chart. As Coram Deo Academy has grown it is necessary to place qualified management level administrative staff in place to assure excellence.
- The Board of Directors provides broad governance while assuring consistency with the mission and assuring fiscal responsibility. .
- A qualified team manages the academy and its goals under the executive leadership of the headmaster.
- All personnel must maintain professional relationships with one another and toward parents. Create and engender a positive working relational environment for faculty, staff and parents and students.

- All must apply the principles of Matthew 18 and its cross reference in Luke to maintain personal relationships for mutual edification without gossip, backbiting or ought.
- Instead of complaining about something either become a solution to a problem or find someone to help solve a problem. Don't take the problems home.
- Apply Biblical ethics in executing the mission of CDA. Remember we serve under God, en loco parentis; or we function within the delegated authority of God and the parents of the students we educate.
- Develop joyful, interesting and well disciplined classroom environments.
- Seek emotional moderation by checking expression of anger toward any child, class of children or parent.
- Coram Deo Academy does not approve of and forbids the use of corporal punishment by school personnel. If a student is that difficult to handle after using proper means of correction simply call the parents and ask them to take the child home. Make an appointment for a parent conference with the school Director before allowing the student to return to class.
- Apply Biblical principles of stewardship in management of property and facilities, financial provision, time management. Faculty and staff should not shoulder over burdensome concerns that detract from family life. These concerns should be addressed with administrative staff at school and managed for positive outcomes.
- Assure accuracy in all grading, invoicing and accounting.
- Perform an annual professional financial audit.
- Manualize various aspects of governance and policy.

Personal:

- Coram Deo Academy partners with parents in the great endeavor to train youth in a biblical worldview. This approach provides for some 1:1 tutelage for the student and encourages a flourishing parent/student relationship and family-centric life.
- As CDA grows numerically it needs to retain the feeling of a smaller school. It needs to be ministry that is personally close to the families it serves. Each family and each student needs to be treated under the ethos of loving one's neighbor; treating others as one would like to be treated. CDA and its families are far from perfect, occasionally fail one another and need to be charitable one to another.
- Provide personal bios about teachers and opportunities for parent/faculty interaction to enhance that partnership. Seek to know the names and faces of our constituency.
- Improvement should grow out of collegial relationships for mutual edification as much as it grows out of leadership from the top.
- Learn the names and faces of the people.
- Establishing and maintain the partnership with parents.
- We desire a high retention amongst our parent constituency.
- Coram Deo Academy intends to establish additional campuses in DFW to keep ministry closer to the people while fulfilling its vision to train thousands of students. The youngest students should not need to travel far to receive quality classical education in the presence of God.

Providing classical education in the presence of God carries with it the excitement of a mission worth pursuing and the responsibility for every participant in the enterprise to apply biblical ethics in its outworking. Coram Deo Academy faculty, staff, parents and students seek to fulfill our mission together. Together we seek to be classical, Christian, professional and personal.