

**Grace Christian Academy  
Course Description**

**Course Title:** 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Penmanship  
**Course Length:** Full school year

**Class Meetings (Per Week):** 15 min. Daily  
**Textbooks:** D'Nealian Handwriting Book 1  
Scott Foresman Publishing Co.  
Let's Learn to Print, Pre K-2,  
Key Education Publishing Co.

**General Course Description:** D'Nealian is designed to lead the student into cursive writing with virtually no trouble due to its unique, easy to write lower case manuscript. It focuses on legibility and has a strong reading/language arts correlation, which enhances language development. Students learn a couple vowels and a couple consonants right away so they can immediately write words.

**Biblical Principles:**

**God expects us to know how to write and keep a record of His spoken word. (Jeremiah 30:2, Exodus 17:14)**

**Revelation is to be written and shared with mankind. (Revelation 1:19)**

**Writing is a means to communicate one's thoughts with others. (Luke 1:63, Romans 15:15)**

**General Course Content:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter:**

Review Lower Case Letters  
Transcribing Practice-Review-Evaluation  
Cumulative Review

**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter:**

Review Numbers and Number Words: 1 –12  
Practice – Review – Evaluation  
Review Capital Letters  
Practice – Review – Evaluation

**3rd Quarter:**

Continue Review of Capital Letters  
Practice, Review, Evaluation  
Cumulative Review  
Writing Forms  
Days of the week and months of the year  
An Invitation and Thank you note  
Directions and Transcribing  
Reading and Writing  
Start new Book: Review Alphabet and write sentences daily:  
Capital and lower case letters together  
Trace and write 2 sentences every other day

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter:**

Review both capital and lower case letters together  
Trace and write 2 sentences every other day  
Review lowercase letters

Review capital letters  
 Final assessment  
 Creative writing

**Related Objectives/Learner Outcomes:**

The student will learn:

1. To demonstrate the proper positioning of paper and pencil for right and left-handed writing
2. To identify objects that are alike and are different
3. To demonstrate an understanding of top, middle, and bottom
4. To demonstrate an understanding of around, above, below, over, and under
5. To demonstrate eye-hand coordination
6. To demonstrate fine motor coordination
7. To demonstrate left- to- right progression
8. To match lower-case letters to capital letters
9. To associate objects with number 1-6
10. To associate objects with the numbers 7-12
11. To demonstrate concept of letter size
12. To demonstrate concept of letter and word slant and space
13. To demonstrate print awareness
14. To trace and write the lower-case letters a,d,o,g,c,e, and s
15. To write the lower-case letters a,d,o,g,c,e,and s in words and phrases
16. To trace and write the lower –case letters f,b,l,t,h,and k
17. To transcribe from type into D’Nealian Handwriting
18. To write the lower-case letters f, b, l, t, h and k in words and phrase
19. To trace and write the lower-case letters l,u,w,y,j, r, n, m, and p
20. To write the lower-case letters l,u,w,y,j,r,n,m,and p in words and sentences
21. To evaluate the letters i and j for dots
22. To trace and write the lower case letters q,v,z, and x
23. To use the lower-case letters q, v,z,and x in words and phrases
24. To write an original composition in response to literature
25. To evaluate writer’s ideas and legibility of a model
26. To evaluate own handwriting to ensure effective communication
27. To write the lower-case alphabet
28. To write the numbers 1,2, and 3 and the number words one, two, and three
29. To write the numbers 4,5, and 6 and the number words four, five and six
30. To write the numbers 7, 8, and 9 and write the number words seven, eight, and nine
31. To write the numbers 10, 11, and 12 and write the number words ten, eleven, and twelve
32. To write the numbers 9-12 and the number words nine through twelve
33. To evaluate the numbers 9 and 0 to determine whether they are closed
34. To demonstrate print awareness
35. To demonstrate concept of letter size
36. To demonstrate letter and word slant
37. To distinguish between lower-case and capital letters
38. To write responses to riddles
39. To identify capital letters
40. To write the punctuation marks ? . ‘ and ,

41. To trace and write the capital letters C,G,O,Q and S
42. To demonstrate using the capital letters C,G,O, Q, and S by writing names
43. To evaluate the capital letters C,G,O, and S in sentences
44. To evaluate the letters C,G,O,and S for curves
45. To trace and write the capital letters I, L, T, J, U, H, and K
46. To demonstrate using capital letters I,L,T,J,U,H,and K by writing names
47. To evaluate the capital letters I,T,J, and K in sentences
48. To evaluate the letters I and T for crossbars
49. To trace and write the capital letters A,B,D,M,N,P, and R
50. To demonstrate using the capital letters A,B,D,M,N,P, and R by writing names
51. To evaluate the letters D, P, and R for closure
52. To trace and write the capital letters E,F,Z,V,W,X, and Y
53. To demonstrate using the capital letters E,F,Z,V,W,X,and v by writing names
54. To evaluate the capital letters F,V,W, and X in sentence
55. To evaluate the letters F, V, W, and X for slant
56. To write the capital alphabet
57. To complete a form for a library card and bus pass
58. To write the names of four days of th week
59. To write the names of eight months of the year
60. To copy an invitation
61. To copy a thank-you note
62. To copy a set of directions
63. To write an original composition in response to literature
64. To evaluate own handwriting to ensure effective communication
65. To trace and write sentences

#### **Presentation Methods:**

- Demonstrate letter formations on chalkboard, chart paper, clay, etc.
- Introduce workbook page: Write down responses of words beginning or containing letter, label spaces – upstairs, downstairs, basement, and emphasize what space letter takes up.

#### **Evaluation and Grading Methods:**

- Correct formation of letters and spacing evaluated by the teacher in handwriting workbook and daily writing assignment, poems, and stories.
- Grading Methods:
  - + = Commendable
  - √ = Acceptable
  - = Area of Concern

#### **Enrichment Resources or Special Activities:**

- Help children learn and present to the class simple poems about seasons, months, or special holidays.
- Children read stories they have written to the class.