

2008 - 2009 Eighth Grade Electives

Course	Credit	Course Description
Acting & Speech	0.5	This course will provide a foundation in the study of acting and speech with an emphasis on analysis and development of characters through internal and external characterization. Biblical worldview is incorporated as we analyze scripts and speeches for various presentations. Performances within and outside school hours are integral to skill development and accomplishment.
Art I	0.5	Students will continue to build on previously learned principles through a variety of techniques, skills, and media, including: basketry, paper mache', clay-pinch and glazing methods, engraved printmaking, watercolor, batik dye, pastels, and pencil. Each lesson will begin with an overview of its origin, along with its Biblical history/application. Students will explore different artists and styles with a concentration on Winslow Homer, especially his watercolor techniques. Students are encouraged to be creative and original within specified criteria.
Art II	0.5	Prerequisite: Art I Students will review previously learned principles through a variety of techniques, skills, and media, including: one-point perspective, macrame', stained glass, acrylic paint, clay-slab and glazing methods, discharge dye, reproductive print-making, colored pencil, and charcoal. Each lesson will begin with an overview of its origin and its Biblical history/application. Students will explore different artists' styles, with concentration on Chagall, especially his stained glass windows. Projects are graded on specific criteria based on learning objectives outlined in each lesson. Students are encouraged to be creative and original while maintaining these criteria.
Band	1	Students who participate in the concert band are an integral part of the band program. During the fall semester they form the Varsity Band, which supports some of the home football and basketball games. In the spring, concert and festival performances are added to the schedule. Students will also be given opportunities to perform as whole, small ensembles, or solos providing an opportunity to share God-given talents with others.
Ceramics	0.5	Prerequisite: Art I Students will build on previously learned hand-building techniques using pinch, coil, slab, and sculpture methods, as well as throwing on the pottery wheel. Various glazing techniques will also be explored. Each lesson will begin with an overview of its origin and its Biblical history/application. Projects are graded on specific criteria based on outlined learning objectives. Students are encouraged to be creative and original while maintaining these criteria.
Chorus	0.5	Students will be exposed to a variety of choral music including classical, gospel, Broadway and pop. Students will learn to read music and apply musical terms. The Biblical study of music as a form of worship, celebration, and ministry will be practiced. Performances within and outside school hours are integral to skill development and the corporate sense of accomplishment fostered in this course.

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Introduction to World Languages	1	Explore the worlds of six languages. Students will be introduced to: Spanish, French, Latin, Italian, German, and Japanese. Students will also experience other languages and cultures. Speaking and listening will be stressed, while reading and writing are minor parts of the program. Many activities will involve group work and hands on experiences.
French I	1	In French I, students will begin to understand the French culture and establish a foundation of its language through study of vocabulary and grammar. Students will develop four important skills of language: Listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will acquire basic vocabulary and will be able to carry on a simple conversation by the end of the course. This course will count toward Upper School credit and will be included on a student's High School transcript when applying for college.
Latin I	1	This class introduces the student to fundamentals of the Latin language and Roman culture. Students will learn basic concepts of Latin forms, grammar and syntax, using sentences and adapted Latin materials to learn the workings of the language, with emphasis on reading and writing Latin. The study of Latin words and English derivatives will enhance vocabulary. This course will count toward Upper School credit and will be included on a student's High School transcript when applying for college.
Spanish I	1	In Spanish I, students will begin to understand the Spanish culture and establish a foundation of its language through study of vocabulary and grammar. Students will develop four important skills of language: Listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will acquire basic vocabulary and will be able to carry on a simple conversation by the end of the course. This course will count toward Upper School credit and will be included on a student's High School transcript when applying for college.
Physical Education	0.5	This course is taught specifically from a non-athletic perspective in which all students, regardless of skill level, can achieve personal success. Athletes and non-athletes alike are challenged to improve in the areas of Christian sportsmanship, knowledge, and physical development through the use of fitness activities, health-related topics, sports, and games.
Reading for Enjoyment	0.5	This course gives students the time and relaxed setting to read books and learn the enjoyable pastime of reading. Students will read acceptable books of their own choosing, then evaluate, summarize, and view movies on the books they have read.
Teacher Aide	0.5	Students will be assigned a Lower School teacher to assist. Students may spend time tutoring students, reading to students, helping with projects, copying, grading papers or other duties assigned by the teacher.
Computer Applications	0.5	This class teaches students to use computers more efficiently through the use of the Internet and Microsoft programs including: Word, Excel, and Power Point. All eighth grade students are required to take this one semester course.