



CHARLOTTE
CHRISTIAN
SCHOOL
veritas tota | homini toti



2019-20
MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVES



Middle School Electives

Registration is open March 11 - 31, 2019. Please note that final determination as to whether an elective course is offered during any academic year will be made by the administration based on interest, capacity, staffing, and scheduling. Placement in classes is determined by space, availability, and other scheduling considerations.

Some elective classes will receive a traditional letter grade and some electives will receive a pass/fail grade. Electives marked with an asterisk (*) will receive a letter grade. In addition, please note that some fine arts electives may require a prerequisite or audition.

The drop/add period is August 23 - 30, 2019. Please wait until this time to contact the middle school regarding changes to original submissions. Changes to schedules must be approved by the middle school administration by Aug. 30, 2019, and all class choices become final on this date.

All middle school students will be required to take a minimum of one fine arts elective class each year. Grade 6 students may choose from the year-long classes listed below and grades 7 and 8 students may choose either year-long or semester-long classes.

Please direct all questions to MSschedule@charchrist.com

WORLD LANGUAGE CHOICES - Full Year Course

*Rising seventh and eighth graders will be automatically enrolled in the language they are currently taking.

Grade 6

Latin
Spanish
French

Grade 7

Latin 1A
Spanish 1A
French 1A

Grade 8

Latin 1B
Spanish 1B
French 1B

*Newly enrolled rising 8th graders may be asked to take a language placement exam to determine the appropriate class level.

SEMESTER 1 ONLY	SEMESTER 2 ONLY	YEAR LONG
<p>(Grades 7-8) Creative Media* Digital Music* Engineering Exploratory Art* Forensic Science Guitar* Intro. to Theatre* Intro. to Ukulele* Podcasting Student Senate Study Hall</p> <p>*Fine Arts Elective</p>	<p>(Grades 7-8) Creative Media* Creative Writing Digital Music* Engineering Exploratory Art* Guitar* Intro. to Theatre* Junior Achievement Shaped to Serve Study Hall</p>	<p>(Grade 6) Art 1* ACT 2* Beginning Brass* Beginning Choir* Beginning Orchestra* Beginning Woodwinds* Design Think Intro. to Theatre* RoboKnights Study Hall</p> <p>(Grades 7-8) ACT 2* Advanced Band* Advanced Choir* Advanced Orchestra* Art 2* Art 3* MidKnight News RoboKnights</p>

CREATIVE WRITING

The “Write” Stuff

This elective is designed to give students the opportunity to think and write creatively and to develop a love for writing. Writing can clarify, heal, excite, encourage, remind, inspire - and simply make the world a better place. This class will create poets, freelance writers, storytellers, essayists, non-fiction writers - the possibilities are endless - and will explore and write according to many different genres.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

PODCASTING

Everyone has a story and a voice. This class will explore how an individual’s story fits within the story God is weaving and how to tell that story through all aspects of podcasting - from beginning to end.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

DESIGN THINK

Design Think is an industrial arts course that will emphasize design and creation through focusing on STEM-based projects. Built around a design thinking model, this course will allow students an opportunity to create projects through designing, building, problem solving, and more. This course will strengthen students’ abilities to think critically and problem solve.

Grade 6 • full year course

ENGINEERING

Engineering features a project-based curriculum designed to challenge and engage students’ natural curiosity and imagination. Students begin by focusing their understanding on the engineering design process which includes defining problems, developing solutions, and optimizing design solutions. The knowledge that students gain and the skills they build will foster higher-order thinking, problem solving, teamwork, and innovation, as well as deepen their understanding of how engineering influences the world around them.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT

Junior Achievement, a nationally employed program since 1919, combines “work readiness, entrepreneurship and financial literacy skills, and uses experiential learning to inspire kids to dream big and reach their potential.” Students will learn and apply the “4 C’s”- critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity to solve real world problems.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

FORENSIC SCIENCE

Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, students will follow evidence trails until the investigation goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

MIDNIGHT NEWS

MidKnight News is a broadcast journalism class that will teach students how to gather information, organize ideas, and format stories for an episode that will air once a week. This fast-paced class needs students of all interests including actors, directors, editors, camera crews, and more. An audition will be required before acceptance into this class.

Grades 7 & 8 • full year course

ROBOKNIGHTS

RoboKnights is the middle school robotics competition team. Students will be introduced to the engineering and programming process through the VEX robotics curriculum. RoboKnights is a hands-on course in which students build a working robot in order to compete during the spring semester in the nationally-recognized VEX robotics competitions.

Grades 7 & 8 • full year course

Grade 6 • full year course (not competition)

SHAPED TO SERVE

Students in this course will learn more about their SHAPE (Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality and Experiences) and how they are uniquely designed to serve others. Students will learn how to identify needs, select projects that are personally meaningful, apply practical skills, reflect on their learning experience, and behave responsibly in a service setting. Activities include coordinating service projects for the middle school and problem-solving to create solutions for a local service agency or school.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

STUDENT SENATE

Student senators will work to develop their leadership skills through a variety of exercises, debates, interviews, and discussions. Senators will spend the semester delving into various leadership styles, developing their own “leader self,” exploring the importance of “followship” as servants, and working to improve the middle school through acts of service. Senators will be charged with answering the question “How can we make the middle school a shining light to others?” Students who participate in this class will also participate in the Student Senate club in the spring.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

STUDY HALL

This class is for students who are self-motivated and have demonstrated the ability to work independently on their homework in a quiet environment. Students will be expected to work on school work or read independently for the entire class period.

Grades 6, 7, & 8 • semester or full year course.

Grade 6 will incorporate study hall with the World Language choice unless the student wants to participate in three fine arts classes. *Any 6th grade student who would like to opt out of study hall to take an additional elective may do so if it works in their schedule.

Fine Arts Electives

*Electives that receive a traditional letter grade (not a pass/fail grade)

CREATIVE MEDIA

Creative Media is a course that will blend the creative mindset of fine arts with the design aspect of technology. This class is designed to give students an introduction into the constantly changing world of digital media, as well as providing hands-on experience using software apps and creative concepts. Using curriculum from Apple, students will harness the power of creativity in order to design inspiring digital pieces through photos, movies, drawings, and music.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

***ACT 2**

ACT 2 provides focused and rigorous acting and stage training for theatre students as they prepare drama pieces for presentation in chapels and at outside events including competition in the North Carolina Theatre Conference (NCTC) and the Christians in Theatre Arts Festival (CITA) in the spring. This team serves the school and the community and must commit to the class and team for the entire year. Please note that attendance at outside rehearsals, festivals, and competitions is required for students enrolled in this course. Auditions were held Feb. 20, and the cast list will be posted by March 4. Please register for this class if you have been notified that you are on the cast list.

Grades 6, 7 & 8 • full year course

***ART LEVEL 1**

In Art 1 students are given a basic introduction to the variety of materials and techniques used to create art. They will learn about and create art with drawing, painting, printmaking, and clay. Students will learn to use the basic elements of art and principles of design. They will gain an understanding of art history, art appreciation, art materials, and art methods, and begin to explore and develop means to express themselves artistically.

Grade 6 * full year course

***ART LEVEL 2**

In Art 2 students will be introduced to an increasing variety of art materials and methods. Emphasis is on developing original solutions to visual challenges. Students will gain a greater understanding of composition and aesthetic quality through drawing, painting, printmaking and other media. Various creative and technical skills will be practiced and developed. Students will study the role that culture and art history play in producing art and will utilize this knowledge in their own art projects.

Grades 7 & 8 * full year course

***ART LEVEL 3**

In Art 3 students will further develop their visual problem-solving skills with emphasis on increasing technical skills and creative solutions. Students will produce advanced artwork in drawing, painting, printmaking and 3-D media with the goal of achieving higher aesthetic and creative quality. We will study the art of artists and cultures throughout history and apply these to the use of current art materials and techniques. A photography unit will also be included in this course. Quality artwork will be created for exhibition and competition.

Grades 7 & 8 * full year course

***BEGINNING BAND (BRASS or WOODWINDS) - GRADE 6**

Grade 6 beginning band is the entry point for any middle school student interested in learning to play a wind, brass, or percussion instrument. Students may choose to begin on one of four instruments: flute, clarinet, trumpet, or trombone. Instruction will focus on the fundamentals of caring for and playing a band instrument and reading basic music notation. Color instruments such as saxophone, bass clarinet, baritone, tuba, and percussion will be added in the 7th and 8th grade years after students have developed strong fundamental knowledge of both tone production and music literacy skills. Please note that concert attendance is required for all students enrolled in this course. Students that desire to start their band journey on flute or clarinet will register for the woodwind section of the class. Students choosing to start on either trumpet or trombone will register for the brass section.

Grade 6 • full year course

***ADVANCED BAND - GRADES 7 & 8**

Grade 7 & 8 advanced band is open to any student who has successfully completed grade 6 beginning band. Students in advanced band further develop their performance technique and music literacy skills as they prepare for the challenge and rigor of upper school band. Color instruments such as saxophone, bass clarinet, baritone, tuba, and percussion will be added over the course of grades 7 & 8 as students show readiness. Students in this class perform grade appropriate music for concerts, chapels and special events throughout the year. Please note that concert attendance is a required for all students enrolled in this course.

Grades 7 & 8 • full year course

***BEGINNING CHOIR - GRADE 6**

Choir 6 is designed to instill a love of singing in an ensemble. Students will learn fundamental singing techniques, music reading skills, and part-singing - skills that are all necessary to the foundation for developing musicianship. Please note that concert attendance is required for students enrolled in this course.

Grade 6 • full year course

***ADVANCED CHOIR - GRADES 7 & 8**

Choir for grades 7 & 8 gives students the opportunity to develop their vocal and musicianship skills as part of a choral group. Students perform music in a variety of styles at concerts and outside events during the school year. Additionally, students develop a foundation of vocal technique and grow in their ability to understand and express music. Please note that concert attendance is required for students enrolled in this course.

Grades 7 and 8 • full year course

DIGITAL MUSIC

Students will compose their own original music and beats by learning the basic concepts of iOS music apps such as GarageBand®, Launchpad, and Groovebox. Through the use of these apps, students will learn fundamentals of recording, editing, and mixing music. Students will need their own headphones or earbuds for this class.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

***EXPLORATORY ART**

In this course students will stretch the definition of what can be created.. Students will explore new and sometimes unusual materials to invent new ways of making art. Traditional art materials will also be used in innovative combinations. We will utilize drawing, painting, sculpting or “invented techniques” to allow students to explore, discover, develop and create their unique creative expressions. We will play with any material to create original creative artwork.

Grades 7 & 8 * semester course

***GUITAR**

This class is designed for beginners on the guitar. It is not designed for those who have extensive study (several months of private instruction.) This course will cover instrument knowledge, individual strings, basic techniques, simple chords, strumming, basics of fingerstyle technique, and reading music (standard notation, not tabs.) Music played in this class will be drawn from classical, contemporary Christian, American popular, and folk styles. Students are responsible for providing their own acoustic instrument, with nylon or steel strings, in good playing condition, an electronic tuner, and guitar picks. Note: Electric only guitars are not conducive to this class.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE

This hands-on course is designed for the beginning actor who wants to experience the basics of acting through a variety of games and exercises. The students will also participate in the play production process. The culminating project is the performance of a one-act play.

Grades 6 • full year course

INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE

This hands-on course is designed for the beginning or intermediate actor who would like to explore a variety of acting games and exercises while learning more about acting. The students will also work on scenes and a monologue. There will not be a final performance for this semester class.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

***BEGINNING ORCHESTRA - GRADE 6**

Grade 6 beginning orchestra is the entry point for any middle school student interested in learning to play a string instrument. All beginning orchestra students begin on violin to promote strong development of performance fundamentals and music literacy. Cello will be introduced later in the sixth grade year. Instruction will focus on the fundamentals of caring for and playing a string instrument and reading basic music notation. Please note that concert attendance is required for all students enrolled in this course.

Grade 6 • full year course

***ADVANCED ORCHESTRA - GRADES 7 & 8**

Grade 7 & 8 advanced orchestra is open to any student who has successfully completed sixth grade beginning orchestra. Students in advanced orchestra further develop their performance technique and music literacy skills as they prepare for the challenge and rigor of upper school orchestra. The viola and bass will be introduced to advanced orchestra students over the course of the 7th and 8th grade year based on student readiness. Students in this class perform grade appropriate music for concerts, chapels and special events throughout the year. Please note that concert attendance is required for all students enrolled in this course.

Grades 7 & 8 • full year course

INTRO to UKULELE

This semester-long middle school ukulele ensemble course is designed for the student who wants to develop their love and appreciation of music by building basic ukulele skills including single note playing, strumming patterns, chords, and reading standard music notation. Ukulele students will learn full arrangements of songs across all genres, including folk, pop, traditional, and worship music. Students interested in this course must provide their own ukulele and should have completed at least one year of band, orchestra, or choir.

Grades 7 & 8 • semester course

Charlotte Christian School is a Christ-centered, college preparatory school, equipping and developing students to effectively integrate Biblical truth and learning into their daily lives and to impact the culture for Christ.

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