

Electives 2017-2018 Class Descriptions

American History: U.S. History offers an overview of the United States from 1774 to the Civil War, a study of significant people, events, and issues, and their impact on the United States. Students will use a variety of primary and secondary sources such as biographies, autobiographies, novels, speeches and letters, poetry, music, and works of art to support this study.

Ancient Egypt: In this class we will explore topics from Ancient Egyptian history. We will learn to play the ancient strategy game *Senet* and make our own game boards and pieces. We will learn about the processes of mummification and making papyrus. We will talk about the ancient invention of the Shaduf that is still used to move water today.

Art: C.S. Lewis Academy's art curriculum is designed to enhance creativity, develop problem-solving skills, and foster a love of art. Students in this art class will learn about the elements of art and design, have access to a variety of mediums, and experience a wide variety of art activities in this electives class.

ASL (American Sign Language): This entry-level class will give students an introduction to ASL. Students will focus on mastering the basics of fingerspelling, numbers, colors, and a variety of other signs.

Band: In this class we focus on the basics of playing woodwind and brass instruments. The students learn how to hold, take care of, and play their instrument, follow a conductor, maintain a steady practice routine, and how to play in a large group with mixed instruments. Students will learn to play scales and musical examples up to 4 flats and 4 sharps. Rhythmically, students will be able to understand and execute eighth note rhythms in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, as well as syncopated rhythms. Compound meters, like 3/8, 6/8, 9/8, and 12/8 will also be introduced. There is a strong emphasis on understanding the music theory that applies to what the students are playing. Assessment includes periodic practice checks, comprehensive-playing exams, and participation in two school concerts a year.

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Book Club: This class will help foster the love of reading through high quality books, discussion, and hands on projects. Books will be picked based on reading levels and interest. Students will develop a brochure, poster, PowerPoint, or other project to highlight the book they read for our library!

Choir: This class offers the building blocks for proper vocal technique, music reading skills, and working within an ensemble. Students will be assessed individually and cooperatively through class participation, performances, and one-on-one evaluation.

Couch to 5K: This class is designed to help students get outside, and get fit. It culminates in a 5K race. Students will feel a sense of accomplishment as they succeed in their goal of running a 5K.

Guitar: This beginning level group guitar class will explore the fundamentals of classical acoustic guitar technique, reading of standard music notation in treble clef, playing through 2nd position, the performance of two and three-part ensembles, learning basic articulations and dynamics, basic strummed and plucked chords, understanding and playing of basic left and right-hand fingerings, and major and minor one octave scales in 1st position. Students will participate in a school concert.

Health: This class will cover the Utah State Standards for Health. Students will learn about responsible healthy life styles; including nutrition, fitness, healthy relationships, injury prevention, and consumer and community health.

Homework Club: This club is designed to help students who want to improve their knowledge of a specific area of the curriculum or who need extra help in a particular subject. It is also designed to help students who are having trouble getting homework completed at home or course work completed at school.

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Journalism: This class will not only be about how to write and edit a news story, but also how to spot fake news, and how to be observant of the world around you. We will have the goal of creating a publication to share with our families once a term.

Keyboarding: This class is designed to help students develop speed and accuracy by learning the touch operation of keyboard characters. This will help students succeed as they progress to High School, College and eventually the work place.

Orchestra: Students will be introduced to string instruments: Violin, Viola, and Cello. They will have the opportunity to perform in two concerts and learn the basics of music. This will be a full year class and students will need to bring their own instrument. It can be rented or family owned.

Peer/ Social Civics Club: In this course we will focus on the importance of each citizen and their contribution to society. This class will help students to see the possibilities around them to participate as good friends and community members. At least one service project will be required during this course.

Performance Drama: The C. S. Lewis Academy Drama Class will give students in grades 3-6 an opportunity to participate in supervised creative dramatic activities including a final production. Students will be exposed to different aspects of theater including impromptu skits, vocal music, and dance. The class will work on creative thinking skills, encourage teamwork, and provide students with enriched learning experiences in the area of performing arts.

Poetry: In this class students will explore a variety of poetry forms. They will then be able to create their own poetry using their individual voices.

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Recorder: This class will introduce students to note reading, music theory, positioning, playing individual pieces and playing with a group. Assessment includes periodic practice checks, comprehensive-playing exams, and participation in a school event.

Stage and Set Design: This class will consist of running the lights and sound, creating and building sets and making props for the Performance Drama classes. In this class students will maintain positive attitudes, learn communication skills, and cooperation with others, as well as learn all the intricate details of how to put on a successful production.

Symphony: This elective will combine the advanced band and orchestra students. They will play together as they work on technique and build on their musical skills. This will be a full year elective and students will need to bring their own instrument. They should also have had some previous experience and be willing to practice regularly. Students will be admitted based on teacher recommendation.

Writing and Publishing This class will cover various creative writing techniques and genres. We will also talk about famous published children's authors, and their writing styles. We will learn about the process of publishing creative writing through in-class activities and projects.

Year Book/ Photography (5-6 Grade Only): In this course students will gain skills in the following areas: page design, copy writing, editing and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook which records school memories and events. Participants gain useful, real world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles.