

## 2008-2009 Course Selection: 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Please make your course selections for the coming school year. Feel free to add comments to help clarify your preferences. Course descriptions for the electives are on the back.

### ► Core Courses:

- Bible 9/10
- World Literature
- Biology
- World Geography
- Physical Education

- Spanish 9  
(History and Geography of Nicaragua)  
*(Spanish department determines placement in normal, mainstream SSL, or tutoring)*

Choose math track:  
 Algebra I (normal)  
 Geometry (advanced)  
*(70% required to be promoted to the next level)*

### ► Elective Courses:

Rank your #1, #2 and #3 preferred elective choices in each semester. Please explain any special interests or reasons to be in any of the classes (i.e. "Advanced Art is my #1 choice because I plan to major in Art in college.").

#### First Semester

- \_\_\_\_\_ Advanced Art
- \_\_\_\_\_ Concert Choir
- \_\_\_\_\_ Educación Práctica
- \_\_\_\_\_ ELL (English Language Learning)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Filosofía
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public Speaking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Web Design

#### Second Semester

- \_\_\_\_\_ Creative Writing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Design & Drafting
- \_\_\_\_\_ Domestic Arts
- \_\_\_\_\_ J.R.R. Tolkien
- \_\_\_\_\_ Music Ensemble (Instr: \_\_\_\_\_)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Publications
- \_\_\_\_\_ Science Olympiad
- \_\_\_\_\_ Video Production

### ► Extra-Curricular Activities:

Mark any of the following areas that you wish to participate in next year.

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer     | <input type="checkbox"/> Drama Club                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> Earth Club – recycling and stewardship club   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball | <input type="checkbox"/> English Club – volunteer teaching ELL classes |
|                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> HACIA Democracy                               |
|                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> IGNITE – community service club               |

I understand that although every attempt will be made to meet student requests, limitations of class size, teacher availability, and requirements for graduation may make my first choice unavailable. In such cases, taking all of my stated priorities into consideration, I will allow the school to make the elective decision in my best interest.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return it to the school office by Friday, June 6. Schedules and locker assignments will be distributed at Open House on August 8, 2008. Schedule changes will only be made in extraordinary circumstances.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

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**Advanced Art:** Students are provided time, materials, instruction and motivation to complete art projects focused on the production of painting and ceramic work. Students will learn how to make their own canvases for painting and learn different painting techniques. They will also learn how to work with clay.

**Concert Choir:** Students will participate in choir activities including vocal technique exercises, tonal and rhythm exercises that facilitate musical understanding, and rehearsal of songs that span various musical styles. Course requirements may include occasional after school and evening rehearsals.

**Educación Práctica:** In this class, students will acquire basic knowledge of gardening, landscaping, woodworking, plumbing, minor repairs and other skills. They will learn how to use hand tools and small power tools. Students will discover and develop their natural abilities. *Taught in Spanish.*

**ELL:** Students will develop and improve their English proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. The course will also incorporate speaking activities to increase students' confidence and fluency in spoken English. Parts of the course will be standardized while other parts will springboard off of students' own work in their other classes.

**Filosofía:** Students will build on their faith in Jesus Christ to develop their personal convictions and skills of analysis, study and critical thinking. Each unit of study will include activities designed to encourage participation and debate over topics of controversy. *Taught in Spanish.*

**Public Speaking:** Students will be introduced to research, organization, composition, and delivery of speeches for various purposes and occasions, with emphasis on listening skills, informative and persuasive speaking, and small group communication.

**Web Design:** Students learn the basics of HTML and JavaScript to create functional web sites. Grading will be based on weekly computer assignments, quizzes, class presentations and the final project, a fully operational web site ready to post on the Internet.

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**Creative Writing:** This elective course feeds upon students' creative instincts to write in both poetry and prose. The teacher provides directed inspiration and explanatory lectures on form, rhythm, and style. The course is ultimately dependent upon the students' own work in their writing portfolios.

**Design & Drafting:** Students will learn and practice basic concepts of drafting: sketching, lettering, single and multiple view drawings, and isometric drawings. Students begin the first six weeks with manual drawings; however, most drawings and projects will be created using Computer Aided Design software.

**Domestic Arts:** Domestic Arts is designed to give students an introduction to domestic skills, including cooking, entertaining, fashion design, sewing, and interior decorating. Students will learn various skills culminating in their ability to provide finished products in each of the different units. Guaranteed to be a hands-on experience!

**J.R.R. Tolkien:** Students will explore the works of Tolkien, including the Silmarillion and The Lord of the Rings trilogy. They will analyze the works from a Christian perspective, while taking note of Tolkien's subtle style. Ultimately, students will complete the course as true Tolkien experts.

**Music Ensemble:** Students will practice different musical styles and learn new music throughout the semester. Students must have their own instrument and know how to play it. Please indicate what instrument you will play.

**Publications:** Students will learn the fundamentals of graphic design, which consists of working with text, graphics, and the elements and principals of design. Work will be done on the computer with special design programs. Students will produce the NCA Annual Yearbook among other projects such as brochures, flyers, and advertisements.

**Science Olympiad:** Students will use problem-solving skills in science and technology to tackle hands-on science projects such as bridge building and experimental design.

**Video Production:** Students will learn techniques of editing digital video and producing video projects. Projects will be made using various objectives, styles, and effects learned in class.