

2009-2010 Course Selection: 9th 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
- Intro to Literary Critique
- Physical Science
- World History
- 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
- _____ Christian Marriage and Family
- _____ Criminal Justice
- _____ Domestic Arts
- _____ Educación Práctica
- _____ Public Speaking
- _____ Video Production

Second Semester

- _____ Advanced Web Design
- _____ Basic Photography
- _____ Concert Choir
- _____ J.R.R. Tolkien
- _____ Publications
- _____ Science Olympiad
- _____ Strategy Games

► Extra-Curricular Activities:

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer | <input type="checkbox"/> English Club – volunteer teaching ELL classes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> HACIA Democracy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball | <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, May 29. Schedules and locker assignments will be distributed at Open House on August 7, 2009. Schedule changes will only be made in extraordinary circumstances.

9th Grade Electives

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.

Christian Marriage and Family: Students will study Biblical concepts of dating, abstinence, marriage, and raising children. They will explore a healthy relationship between husband and wife and the God-ordained roles of each.

Criminal Justice: If you enjoy the show “COPS”, this is the class for you. Students will study the American criminal justice system, its history and philosophy, including an analysis of the major components of criminal justice and their interrelationship in the administration of justice. Focus of police patrol functions with emphasis on responsibilities of the uniformed officer, personnel distribution theories, community and problem-oriented policing strategies, police ethics and accountability, and the relationship between the officer and the community.

Domestic Arts: Students will be introduced to domestic skills, including cooking, fashion design, card making, jewelry-making, and scrapbooking. Through project-based learning experiences, students will gain an appreciation of the creativity and skill needed in each of these areas. Guaranteed to be a hands-on experience!

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.*

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.

Video Production: Students will learn various techniques of editing digital video and producing video projects. Most projects will be done in groups where students will use various objectives, styles, and effects learned in class. Projects may include video slide shows, digital shorts, documentaries, composite editing, and a class newscast.

Advanced 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.

Basic Photography: Students will learn to see photographically through an exploration of the basic tools, techniques and aesthetics of digital photography. Coursework will include a series of projects and critiques with an emphasis on the creative use of basic camera function, exposure and image processing.

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.

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.

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 explore the world of science through hands on projects, research, classroom activities and competitions. They will learn how to create, design and critique the designs they develop while using skills they have acquired in the areas of math, science and biology.

Strategy Games: Students will interact through challenging games and lessons to learn the skills of effective critical thinking under pressure. Lessons will be held in and out of the classroom and are designed to challenge students to use original and creative thought. Strategy games will be graded based on class assignments, effort, and application of learned principles.