

## 2010-2011 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 Part 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ Concert Choir
- \_\_\_\_\_ Criminal Justice
- \_\_\_\_\_ Domestic Arts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Educación Práctica
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public Speaking
- \_\_\_\_\_ Video Production

#### Second Semester

- \_\_\_\_\_ Essence of Worship
- \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument lessons (specify instrument)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nicaraguan Crafts
- \_\_\_\_\_ Psychology/Sociology (Bachillerato req.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Publications
- \_\_\_\_\_ Strategy Games
- \_\_\_\_\_ Web Animation
- \_\_\_\_\_ Weight Lifting

### ► Extra-Curricular Activities:

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

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soccer     | <input type="checkbox"/> HACIA Democracy                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basketball | <input type="checkbox"/> IGNITE – community service club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volleyball |  |

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 28. Schedules and locker assignments will be distributed at Open House on August 6, 2010. 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, and instruction to complete art projects. Media covered: oil paint, acrylic paint, watercolor paint, printmaking, pen and ink, pencil, oil pastels and clay. Students are encouraged to explore their creativity within the guidelines of project requirements, including expressing responses to readings of the Bible, poetry, and other literature. Students will also learn art vocabulary related to projects.

**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.

**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, with a focus on crime scenes, patrol tactics, and “life on the beat.” Students will reenact real-life scenarios, ask questions, and challenge each other and the instructor. In addition, the class includes photos and videos of criminal justice topics, including autopsies. The class is designed to show a complete picture of the criminal justice system.

**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.

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**Essence of Worship:** Students who have been equipped by God with talent to play an instrument and a desire to serve Him through its use will learn what it means to be a worshiper who worships in spirit and truth. Through daily Bible reading, students will discern in what way God wants them to serve with their instruments. They will also learn the basic elements of how to read music and will be responsible for planning and conducting chapel services.

**Instrument Lessons:** As available, students will receive lessons on a particular instrument such as guitar or piano.

**Nicaraguan Crafts:** Students will be introduced to basic techniques of a variety of crafts, and develop their ability to design and create art pieces. Students will develop a love for creating art out of common materials and will learn to appreciate different kinds of art. Also, students will learn skills to teach craft methods to others, enabling them to start a business and support themselves.

**Psychology/Sociology:** Students will learn about the spiritual, physical and emotional areas of life and their influence on human behavior. They will develop the capacity to analyze life situations and problems and find solutions. Students will learn about themselves through discussion, role-play and other types of interactions. The semester is divided into theoretical and practical sessions with the necessary dynamics to keep the students motivated. *Taught in Spanish. This class is required to be taken once by all students who will receive the Nicaraguan Bachillerato degree.*

**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.

**Strategy Games:** Students will interact through challenging games and lessons to learn the skills of effective critical thinking under pressure. A variety of board games, card games, logic games, and team games will be used to challenge students to use original and creative thought. Strategy games will be graded based on class assignments, effort, and application of learned principles.

**Web Animation:** Students will learn the Macromedia Flash interface to create active components for web design. The class looks at types of animation, symbols and actions, 3D animations and effects, storyboards and action scripts.

**Weight Lifting:** Students will learn weight lifting techniques and spend time developing their own physical abilities.