



VERITAS ACADEMY
ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
2011-2012

The following classes are our elective classes offered for the 2011-2012 school year. These classes are offered after our regular school hours. The classes are taught by experts in the fields of music, art, and drama. Each class is different each year. If your student has already taken the class, they can take it again and receive new instruction and teaching.

MUSIC COURSES:

This year music will be offered to students in the 2nd – 6th grades. Students will be divided into two age designated classes. However, unlike most curriculums, these courses will allow for each individual student to advance at their own musical level while still participating in their age group. Thus, a student can be in Music II for all three years and continue to grow as a musician. The curriculum is designed for students of any age (child through adult) which allows students to advance at their own pace. Yet, the goal is not to advance through all the levels of the curriculum as fast as possible, but rather on steady development and training. Once the student has mastered a level, they will graduate to the next level while continuing in their age group. (See level specifications in the class information below.)

Every student will study and practice the grammar, logic, and rhetoric of the art of music. The grammar of music is learned as students study the language and application of music theory and vocal technique. The logic of music takes place in exploring the order, symmetry, and cohesive nature of music, as demonstrated in the various historical eras and their related musical literature. Finally, the rhetoric of music is experienced in performance: a forum where students can learn how to express and communicate, with excellence and beauty, many of the classical and Christian truths that they have been studying in all their classes, as well as in music.

There will be two end-of-the-semester vocal performances in which students will showcase what they have learned (this may take place in large and small ensembles, as well as in duets or solos as students advance in the various levels of study.)

2nd – 3rd Grades: Music I

Time: 2 hours/week – Tuesday & Thursday, 12:30-1:30pm, Materials Fees: \$100.00

This fall all the students in this class will begin at the Introductory Level of the curriculum.

4th – 6th Grades: Music II

Time: hours/week – Monday and Wednesday, 12:30-1:30pm, Materials Fees: \$100.00

This fall all the students in this class will begin at Level I of the curriculum.

DRAMA COURSE:

6th – 12th Grades: Drama

Time: 2 hours/week – Wednesday, 1:30-3:30pm, Materials Fees: \$125.00

This “hands on class” will help students dive into to the art of the theater. Students will actively participate in developing characters, line memorization / interpretation, stage blocking, set design, costuming, improvisation and theatrical performance. There will be two end-of-the-semester productions in which students will showcase what they have learned. The fall production will be a play and the spring production will be a musical. As the semesters progress toward the performance dates there will be additional rehearsals added to fully prepare for the performance. This class is appropriate for students of all theatrical levels and knowledge.

ART COURSES:

1st – 3rd Grades: Art I

Time: 2 hours/week – Monday and Wednesday, 12:30-1:30pm, Materials Fees: \$125.00

This class aims to introduce basic art making concepts to young children to create an innate awareness of those concepts when viewing and making art. Art history will be incorporated into the lessons to further understanding of those concepts. Taking advantage of the children’s natural curiosity, media of all sorts will be explored during the classes to broaden the artistic experience.

4th – 6th Grades: Art II

Time: 2 hours/week -Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30-1:30pm, Materials Fees: \$125.00

In this class students will learn, and will be expected to use appropriately, basic and intermediate art terminology. At this unique stage of learning we will explore and incorporate a wide variety of materials to experiment with. Professional artists from the community will visit the classroom to discuss their craft and how it relates to contemporary culture. Using the model laid out in Juliette Aristedes’ Classical Drawing Atelier, an introduction to the atelier method of drawing instruction will be put into practice in the classroom to get the students familiar with the notion of drawing as the foundation to all art making. We will also discuss general art history from ancient times to the Impressionist period, practically exploring modes of art making that relate to major moments in history.

7th – 12th Grades: Art III

Time: 2 hours/week - Thursday 1:30-3:30pm, Materials Fees: \$125.00

The purpose of this class is to familiarize the students with art terms, early art history and criticism so that they will be able to intelligently discuss art work within a cultural context. Students learn that art involves many different disciplines from math, science, history, geography, theology. A survey of art history from ancient times to the Impressionist period will be covered with a detailed analysis of exemplary works of each historical period. A 18th century classical French atelier approach, as described in Juliette Aristedes’ Classical Drawing Atelier will be implemented to teach the students about drawing, as the foundation of all art making. Use of color will be touched on towards the end of the spring semester, providing a foundation for an in-depth exploration of color in subsequent years. Within this year we will also experiment with a variety of media and have unique, resourceful career artists visit the classroom to discuss their craft. Critical thinking will be expected when discussing master works as well as the students’ own works.