

2023-2024 Rhetoric School Electives

Reminder: one semester of art, music, and PE (or sport participation) is required to meet graduation requirements.

To access the request form, use the QR code or log into your Student Portal.



Monday/Wednesday/Friday

Subject (*Fulfills requirement)	Course	Description	Notes	Semester
Fine Arts*	Drama	Audition Required. Rhetoric School drama is a production class by audition only. Auditions are held the first week of school with opportunities in cast, crew, wardrobe and set construction.	\$50 Fee.	Fall & Spring
Fine Arts*	Drawing (Introduction)	Learning how to use the 7 basic art elements to add dimension and shape to your line drawings is the key ingredient that will bring your drawings to life. This class will show you how to use simple lines in different combinations to make beautiful, dimensional artwork. Focusing on several different styles – abstract, geometric, representational, and organic – We will use tools to help you define shape, including positive and negative space exercises, and lessons on how to use shading to add definition.	\$25 Fee. Supplies will be handed out in class for students to keep.	Spring
Fine Arts*	Drawing (Advanced)	Learn how to use the art elements and design principles to create assigned projects while learning to use different drawing techniques.	PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Drawing is required. \$25 Fee. Supplies will be handed out in class for students to keep.	Spring
Fine Arts*	Studio Art	Studio art is the creation of visual art through painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, glass, fiber, or design. Students will learn about the principles of design as they create their projects. They will also learn how to write summaries for their art and learn new art vocabulary.	\$25 Fee. Supplies will be handed out in class to keep.	Fall
Fine Arts*	Portfolio	A mostly independent study class for students seriously thinking about applying for an art degree or field. The purpose of this class is to give the student the freedom to work on projects that are needed for their portfolio. The instructor will have a progress report for the student to follow for their project. Unless otherwise specified, an application portfolio may include drawings, paintings, photography, digital media, design, three-dimensional work, web design, animation, video and almost any other type of artwork.	\$25 Fee. Supplies will be handed out in class to keep.	Fall

2023-2024 RHETORIC SCHOOL ELECTIVES

			Permission from Art Teacher is required to enroll in this class.	
Fine Arts*	Intro to Film	Students study the progression of American cinema throughout the 20 th and early 21 st centuries by viewing and discussing films that are representative of their time and genre and are considered models of excellence in filmmaking. The goal of this course is to elevate the student's experience of this important art form to promote a greater appreciation for truth, goodness, and beauty.		Fall
Fine Arts*	Yearbook	Would you like to learn how to zoom, crop or even make your pictures "pop"? Yes! Then Yearbook is the place for you. Learn to design, edit, and write captions for pictures while learning more about photography.	Full year commitment is required.	All-year
Fine Arts: Music*	Music Appreciation	Learn to identify the elements of music and trace the development of the modern-day orchestra. Learn about famous composers and listen to examples of their greatest works. Survey the major historical time periods and discuss the unique characteristics found in the music associated with each period.	Non-performing music class	Fall & Spring
English/Literature	English Literature & Composition Prep	This literature course will supplement CCS's literature program by deepening the students' understanding and evaluation of works of fiction, poetry, and drama from various periods and cultures. They'll learn to read a text closely and draw conclusions from details, identify the techniques used by an author and their effects, develop an interpretation of a text, and present their interpretation and make an argument for it in writing. As a college level course, students will go beyond what they learn in CCS literature classrooms. Students will obtain and develop the skills necessary to earn a passing score on the AP English Literature and Composition exam administered by the College Board. This exam includes a multiple-choice section and three free response essays: a literary analysis of a given poem, a literary analysis of a given passage of prose fiction (this may include drama), and an analysis that examines a specific concept, issue, or element in a work selected by the student. All work will be completed during class; there is no homework.	Grades 11-12 only who intend to register for the AP Eng Lit & Comp Exam in May; \$25 fee for purchase of AP Book	Fall

2023-2024 RHETORIC SCHOOL ELECTIVES

English/Literature	English Language & Composition Prep	This composition course will cultivate students' understanding of rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and writing texts as they explore topics like rhetorical situation, claims/evidence, and reasoning/organization. This course will solidify the students' understanding of grammar, syntax, and style. By the end of the year, students will have obtained and developed the skills necessary to earn a passing score on the AP English Language and Composition exam administered by the College Board, which can boost a student's high school GPA and earn them college credit. This exam includes a multiple-choice section and three free response essays: rhetorical analysis, synthesis, and argumentation. These skills will benefit students not only on their AP test, but also in college and on various standardized tests like SATs and ACTs. All work will be completed during class; there is no homework.	Grades 10-12 only who intend to register for the AP Eng Lang & Comp Exam in May.; \$25 fee for purchase of AP Book	Spring
English/Literature	Literary Classics: 1984	If you enjoyed <i>Animal Farm</i> , then you will be drawn into the darkly compelling vision that Orwell creates in his most famous novel 1984. Here is a complete totalitarian world, where language, history, and all sense of the self is submitted to the all-powerful Party. We will long see our protagonist, Winston Smith, rebel against the system and find hope and freedom. This novel will give you a haunting vision of dystopia and show you how it is truly only the light of Christ that can overcome the darkness of this world.	<i>You will need to ask permission from your parents before taking this class because the novel contains scenes of a sexual nature and of torture. Please ask Mr. Adams if you have any questions.</i>	Fall
English/Literature	Biblical Discipleship: <i>It's Good to be a Man</i>	Our society is confused about the value, nature, and purpose of masculinity. Perhaps you are too. This elective will teach you in community what it is to be a man who honors God, pursues his Kingdom, and celebrates the gift of masculinity with humble confidence. We will pray together, discuss the book <i>It's Good to be a Man</i> (Canon Press: 2022), and take time to talk about relevant topics. Each week we will take it in turns to showcase one skill or interest we have, whether it be throwing a football, building a fire, or a particular team or topic we are passionate about. You are invited to come and learn together.	For men only.	Spring
History/Social Studies	History of Fashion	The aim of this course is to explore the evolution of fashion with focus over the last eight centuries, engaging students in a visual and cultural journey. Students will study social influences which have historically affected fashion along with tracing garment development and silhouettes through the centuries.		Fall
History/Social Studies	European History Prep	The goal is to provide additional review for the AP European History exam.	For 11th & 12th grade only who intend to register for the AP Euro History Exam in May.	Spring

2023-2024 RHETORIC SCHOOL ELECTIVES

History/Social Studies	US History Prep	The goal is to provide additional review for the AP US History exam.	For 12th grade only who intend to register for the AP US History Exam in May.	Spring
History/Social Studies	World History Prep	The goal is to provide additional review for the AP World History exam.	For 10 th , 11th & 12th grade only who intend to register for the AP World History Exam in May.	Fall
Science/Technology	Introduction to Engineering	Students will learn about several different types of engineering including civil, mechanical, chemical, biomedical, and industrial. Discussions cover the types of work and work environments possible in each discipline. We will explore hydraulics, bridge design, manufacturing techniques, system optimization, and material balances. Be prepared to think critically and do engineering calculations. The class culminates with a design project.	\$25 Fee	Fall
Science/Technology	Introduction to Computer Programming: C++	This program will teach students problem solving skills through C++ programming language. Programming fundamentals include Variables, control statements, loops, arrays, functions, strings, vectors, files, structures and classes. Also, students will be learning prefix, postfix, infix notations; Boolean Algebra; debugging; what does this program do; Recursive functions to strengthen their skills.		Fall
Science/Technology	Introduction to Computer Programming: Python	Python is a language with a simple syntax, and a powerful set of libraries. It is an interpreted language, with a rich programming environment, including a robust debugger and profiler. While it is easy for beginners to learn, it is widely used in many scientific areas for data exploration. This course is an introduction to the Python programming language for students without prior programming experience. We cover data types, control flow, object-oriented programming, and graphical user interface-driven applications.		Spring

2023-2024 RHETORIC SCHOOL ELECTIVES

Science/ Technology	Environmental Science Prep	The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, yet it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. The AP Environmental Science course is an excellent option for any interested student who has completed at least two years of high school laboratory science – one year of life science and one year of physical science. Due to the quantitative analysis that is required in the course, students should also have taken at least one year of algebra. Because it is designed to be a course in environmental science rather than environmental studies, the AP Environmental Science course includes a strong laboratory and field investigation component. The goal of this component is to complement the classroom portion of the course by allowing the students to learn about the environment through firsthand observation.	For 11th & 12th grade only who intend to register for the AP Environmental Science Exam in May.	Spring
Biblical Worldview	Christian Themes in Film	We will study depictions of Christ and Christ-figures as well as other Christian themes in secular films. This course will provide a detailed introduction to the characteristics of the Christ-figure and its most common manifestations in film. The class will focus on viewing and evaluating films containing Christian themes such as redemption, sacrifice, sin and faith.		Spring
Biblical Worldview	Deep-Dive into the Bible	Students who desire to apply the tools of Bible-study to a slower walkthrough of a book of the Bible (to be determined). The class will both carefully study the text as well as spend time in group discussion of various topics. Students should only take this elective if they are committed to this study as the grade will be based on participation.		Fall & Spring
Biblical Worldview	The Gospel of Mark	We will journey through Mark's record of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This class will build a foundation for a deeper study of Mark, analyzing historical and cultural backgrounds as well as literary criticism.		Fall
General	Introduction to Early Childhood Education	We will explore key aspects of learning and teaching through examining your own learning processes and those of others, with the goal of applying your knowledge to enhance the learning of all students in a variety of educational settings and contexts. This course will also explore educational psychology and include experiential learning simulations.		Spring
Study Hall	Study Hall	Supervised study period recommended for new students, those busy with extracurricular activities, and students who may be struggling a bit academically.	Limited to one class per semester.	Fall & Spring
Omit	OMIT MWF Elective	Must have parent permission on file, per semester; must have completed graduation requirements (art, music, PE).	Must have parent permission on file.	Fall & Spring

Tuesday/Thursday

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Fine Arts*	3D Modeling	This course is an introduction to 3D Modeling using Blender. It focuses on learning the basics of 3D polygonal modeling and with covers learning about the basic 3D components of vertices, edges, and faces. We will be modeling basic, everyday items as we learn how to think in 3D.	Laptop required for the course (Windows, Mac, Linux – no chromebooks).	Fall
Fine Arts*	Photography	Beginner and intermediate level. Learn how to operate the camera in manual mode and learn to capture the world around you in a beautiful and artistic way.	Strongly recommended: SLR digital camera	Spring
Fine Arts	Advanced Film	This course is designed for students who enjoy viewing and discussing films. Designed to deepen the participant's understanding of various aspects of filmmaking, this course will challenge students to recognize and value excellence in filmmaking by presenting them with examples techniques such as directing, screenwriting, cinematography, special effects, etc.	<i>Note: This class does NOT meet the fine arts elective requirement.</i>	Spring
Fine Arts: Music*	Band	A program emphasizing both music theory and performance using musical instruments.	All-year commitment	All-year

2023-2024 RHETORIC SCHOOL ELECTIVES

Fine Arts: Music*	Concert Choir	A choral program emphasizing both music theory and performance.	All-year commitment. \$75 fee.	All-year
Physical Education*	Strength & Weight Training (Mens)	MEN: Train with weights to improve or maintain fitness, strength, and endurance. Athletic/PE shirt and shorts, purchased from Flynn O'Hara, are required (a CCS spirit wear shirt is also permissible).		Spring
Physical Education*	Fitness Workouts	This class will be a fitness class. It will explore bodyweight exercises and calisthenics. It will focus on health benefits for those that want more muscle tone and growth as opposed to muscle bulking.		Fall
English/ Literature	Creative Writing II	A semester-long opportunity to craft your own short story, refine your writing ability, discuss literature, and enjoy tea!		Spring
English/ Literature	Literary Classics: Cormac McCarthy	We will explore the works of one of the greatest American novelists, Cormac McCarthy. This class will look at one of his most well-known works: <i>The Road</i> . We will examine some of the biographical and cultural background information relevant to these novels, and we will seek to define the genre of southern gothic literature. Throughout this course we will evaluate themes of good and evil, fate, change, humanity, and hope. If there is time, we may also read his first novel: <i>The Orchard Keeper</i> .		Spring
General	College Seminar	SENIORS ONLY: Designed to help seniors navigate the college admissions process in its entirety. Students will fine tune resumes, tailor their college lists, work on college admission essays, complete their Common App, explore scholarship opportunities, make scholarship applications, and practice interviewing.	Students must bring their own laptop computer.	Fall
History/Social Studies	Debate	In the fall semester, this course will provide students with an introduction to Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Students will learn format, styles, methods, and strategies, with a particular focus on how to argue and persuade as Christians: effectively and yet with respect. Throughout the semester, students will build and develop cases in preparation for the tournament season, which takes place in the spring semester. In the spring, they will refine their cases and compete in at least one local NCFCA debate tournament. Full year commitment. Participation in the class during the fall semester is a prerequisite for participation in the spring semester. Competition in at least one tournament during the spring season is required for the second semester.	\$50 tournament fee	All-year

2023-2024 RHETORIC SCHOOL ELECTIVES

History/Social Studies	Military History & Strategy	Explore the nature, history, science, and philosophy of warfare, from 20th century, covering the world wars up through the Cold War. Throughout the course, we will discuss battles, strategy, tactics, international relations, and philosophical questions.		Spring
General	God & Money	There are more than 2,300 Bible verses on the topics of money, wealth and possessions, and Jesus spoke about money in nearly half of his parables. This class will show you how to integrate your faith with personal finances by exploring topics such as investing in the stock market, credit cards, and the use of debt to pay for college. By offering practical ways to apply biblical wisdom to every financial decision, CCS students will have greater confidence in how to handle money so that they may be good and faithful stewards.	For 10 th , 11 th and 12 th Grade only. \$25 Fee.	Fall
General	Chess	This course will guide students interested in chess through the rules of the game, basic tactics, endgame strategies, and common openings. Class will contain times for instruction, interacting with chess puzzles, and playing against classmates.		Fall
General	Strategic Games	Be challenged and grow in the use of strategy and sometimes teamwork. The class will be centered around several different board and card games that will range from simple to complex, conquest to co-op. All students should be ready to participate, have fun, and stretch your mind.		Fall & Spring
Study Hall	Literature/ Reading Lab	A dedicated space to do your literature reading homework or ask questions about your writing.		Fall
Study Hall	Study Hall	Supervised study period recommended for new students, those busy with extracurricular activities, and students who may be struggling a bit academically.	Limited to one class per semester.	Fall & Spring
Omit	OMIT TTH Elective	Students must leave campus if they choose to omit and have parent permission on file.		Fall & Spring