



Middle School

**COURSE
CATALOG**

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE CHOICES BY DEPARTMENT 2016 – 17



<p>GRADE 6</p> <p>Bible (required) Two days a week; all year Bible 6</p> <p>English (required) English 6 English 6 Honors</p> <p>Mathematics (required) Math 6 Pre Algebra</p> <p>Physical Education (required) PE Boys 6 PE Girls 6</p> <p>Science (required) Earth Science 6</p> <p>Social Studies (required) Social Studies 6</p> <p>Electives FOUR-DAY ELECTIVES, ALL YEAR Art/Intro to Theatre Battalion Band Choir Computer Skills/STEM Electronics Intro to Spanish ASP Study Skills (Application, approval, and monthly fee required)</p> <p>TWO-DAY ELECTIVES, ALL YEAR Student Council Leadership Yearbook</p> <p>TWO-DAY ELECTIVES, ONE SEMESTER Computer Coding 6 Film Appreciation Lego Robotics (Gr 6,7) Middle School Leadership Photo and Design</p>	<p>GRADES 7, 8</p> <p>Bible (required) Two days a week; all year Bible 7 Bible 8</p> <p>English (required) English 7 English 7 Honors English 8 English 8 Honors</p> <p>Mathematics (required) Pre Algebra Algebra I (P)* Geometry (P)*</p> <p>Physical Education (required) Two days a week; all year PE Boys 7 PE Girls 7 PE Boys 8 PE Girls 8</p> <p>Science (required) Life Science 7 Physical Science 8</p> <p>Social Studies (required) World History 7 US History 8 ASP Study Skills (Application, approval, and monthly fee required)</p>	<p>Electives FOUR-DAY ELECTIVES, ALL YEAR Brigade Band or US Concert Band (P)* [Approval re-quired] Choir French IA (Gr 7) French I (P)* (Gr 8) Spanish IA (Gr 7) Spanish IB/2A (Gr 7 continuation from Intro to Spanish) Spanish IB (Gr 8 continuation from Spanish IA) Electives (Continued) Four Day Elective, one semester Intro to Painting Marine Biology Math Problem Solving</p> <p>TWO-DAY ELECTIVES, ALL YEAR Student Council Leadership Yearbook</p> <p>TWO-DAY ELECTIVES, ONE SEMESTER Acting App Smashing Boys Action-Packed PE Games Computer Coding Beginning Computer Coding Advanced Creative Writing Drawing and Printmaking Girls Beach Games Girls PE Games Girls So You Think You Can Dance? Graphic Design Improv Theatre Intro to Broadcast Jesus is my Jam Lego Robotics (Gr 6,7) Middle School Leadership Movie Making 101 Photo and Design SeaPerch Robotics Video Game Design</p>
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MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2016-17

Bible

The Bible Department seeks to instruct students in the historic Christian faith: imparting students with a greater knowledge of the Bible, equipping them to defend and model the Christian faith, and seeking to disciple them to grow in wisdom and a Godly spiritual walk. Our purpose is to preserve, transform, and influence our sphere of Godly influence using the message of Jesus Christ to develop meaningful personal relationships with our triune God.

BIBLE 6 (Two days per week; all year)

Genesis, Psalms & Salvation. Students will gain an understanding of the structure of the Old and New Testament. An emphasis is placed on the study of Genesis. In addition, students will gain a greater understanding of the nature of God and His love for us. Learning the geographical areas of the world during the writing of the Old and New Testament will help our students better understand Ancient World History. The central message of the Bible, Salvation, will be explored, and students will be encouraged to grow in their faith through various activities such as a Psalm writing project at the beach, personal devotions, writing their own Attributes of God booklet and Sixth Grade Camp.

BIBLE 7 (Two days per week; all year)

An Exploration into the Gospels. The course will begin by setting the historical and cultural background of the time of Jesus. Students will then study, in-depth, the life, ministry, and teachings of Jesus Christ. The ultimate goal will be to draw students deeper in their faith, understanding, and relationship with God. In doing this, the students will tour through the Gospels answering three main questions: Who was the man Jesus? What did He say? What did He do? What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus Christ today?

BIBLE 8 (Two days per week; all year)

Introduction to Biblical Studies/Survival Quest. The mission of Santa Fe Christian Schools is to partner with Christian parents within a Bible-based community, in order to disciple students to embrace biblical truth, strive for academic excellence and model Christ-like leadership to influence their homes, churches and communities for Christ. The Bible Department believes that equipping our students with an understanding of Biblical truth is a prerequisite for modeling Christ-like leadership. In this one semester course, students will explore how they can face both challenges of everyday living and the more difficult challenges of overwhelming experiences. The emphasis of this course extends beyond just surviving to thriving in the midst of such circumstances as together we learn the meaning of Romans 8:37 which says, "Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loves us."

English

An essential part of “developing the Christian leaders of today and tomorrow” is modeling and fostering within students the skill of clear and effective communication. Therefore, the English Department strives to develop Christian communicators who have a command of the English language. As God is the creator of all language, and as He is the Word made flesh, students will approach their study of literature and language through a biblical lens, recognizing God as the origin. Language skills enable students to not only to be successful in college and in their professional lives, but also in sharing their faith with others. Ultimately, the combination of what students read, write, question, and consider will contribute to the development and articulation of a Christian worldview.

ENGLISH 6

Sixth Grade English focuses on three effective methods of communication including reading, writing, and speaking. Grammar is taught to enhance writing skills. Prepositional phrases, infinitive phrases, verb and pronoun agreement with antecedents, and verb tenses are covered. Students use effective sentence construction and learn to edit for improvements in sentence formation, usage, mechanics, and spelling. Correct punctuation and capitalization are emphasized. Students read novels throughout the year both in and outside of the classroom. Additional stories from the literature anthology are read and analyzed for setting, plot, characterization, theme, and figurative language. Simile, metaphor, personification, alliteration, hyperbole, and onomatopoeia are figurative language elements taught, analyzed, and practiced in the students’ writing. Students fulfill writing requirements in a narrative and expository format. Oral reports and presentations allow the students the opportunity to improve their speaking skills.

ENGLISH 6 HONORS

This advanced course is designed for the high level readers. The course covers all the material for standard 6th grade English but has additional reading and more complex writing assignments. Simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences are presented, and students are taught how to subordinate one clause to another using proper punctuation.

ENGLISH 7

This course combines a wide variety of quality reading selections with literary analysis, critical thinking and reading skills, and composition. It is a comprehensive course, which emphasizes reading, vocabulary, grammar, writing, speaking, listening, and thinking. A Biblical worldview and Godly principles are integrated into the analysis and discussions of literature. Writing mechanics, such as the proper use of a thesis statement and its support, are taught. There is an emphasis on the stages of writing: pre-writing, evaluating, revising, proofreading, and writing the final draft. A study of Latin and Greek roots enhances students’ vocabulary and supports the development of vocabulary through literature selections.

ENGLISH 7 HONORS

As an honors course, students will engage in the 7th grade English curriculum with greater depth and complexity. Deeper levels of thinking will be applied to the core curriculum to meet the needs of high ability and intellectually gifted students. The development of critical and creative thinking is emphasized, and students engage in self- directed inquiry projects.

ENGLISH 8

Students will read from *Elements of Literature, Course III* and selected pieces of literature. Each piece is read and analyzed for style, plot, theme, setting, and characterization. A Biblical Worldview and Godly principles are integrated into the analysis and discussions of all literature. The elements of a short story such as conflict, rising action, climax, and resolution are discussed and analyzed. Writing in this course includes journal writing, quick writes, poetry, creative writing, and an emphasis on response to literature. There is extensive practice in writing multiple paragraph essays with training in thesis writing. After developing a research question, students investigate various sources and then compose a research paper using primary and secondary sources. Proper writing mechanics are reviewed and practiced at this level. Vocabulary is taken from literature as well as Greek and Latin root words which are studied in context.

ENGLISH 8 HONORS

As an honors course, students will engage in the eighth grade curriculum with greater depth and complexity. Deeper levels of thinking will be applied to the core curriculum to meet the needs of high ability and intellectually gifted students. The development of critical thinking is emphasized.

Mathematics

The Mathematics Department recognizes that mathematics reflects the infinite and orderly nature of God such as rationality, consistency, and accuracy. The goal for the student is to know God, imitate Him and know that everything exists because of Him. The Mathematics Department wants all students to have a solid foundation in mathematics so that as God reveals His will for their lives they will be equipped to pursue that path.

MATH 6

Math skills and concepts are tied to applications that are part of the student's real world. In the sixth grade, students will work with problem-solving strategies, decimals, analyzing data, number patterns, fractions, integers, equations and functions, proportional reasoning, geometry, area, surface area and volume, discrete math and probability, applications of percents; furthermore, they will have exposure to many pre-algebra concepts.

PRE ALGEBRA

In this course, students will strengthen their knowledge of algebra; including integers, variables and equations. A good understanding of solving basic equations is essential as we later emphasize the distributive property, combining like terms and solving equations with variables on both sides. Students expand their skills as we move into functions and graphing. They will learn that a function is a special type of relation and use linear equations to solve real-world problems involving rate of change. Finally, students end the year by studying polynomials and graphing quadratic and cubic functions.

ALGEBRA I (P)

In this course, emphasis is placed on relationships between variables and in identifying relationships as linear, quadratic, inverse, or exponential. Students learn to solve linear and quadratic equations, inequalities and systems of linear equations. Students study operations with exponents, rational expressions and equations and polynomials. Function notation is formally introduced. Students investigate translations and reflections of functions. Students need to earn a letter grade of B or higher to progress to geometry in the upper school or complete Algebra I by the end of grade 10.

GEOMETRY (P)

This is a two-semester upper school course in the study of Euclidean Geometry. The following topics will be covered: the language and logic of geometry, parallelism, congruent triangles, triangle inequalities, quadrilaterals, similarity, right triangles, circles, geometric constructions, area of plane figures, solid geometry, coordinate geometry, and transformational geometry.

Physical Education

Using biblical integration, (Romans 12:1) the bible tells us to “present our bodies a living and holy sacrifice acceptable to God”, Santa Fe Christian follows the National Standards for Physical Education while aligning with State of California’s Physical Education Framework and Content Standards. According to the Surgeon General, regular physical activity is one of the most important things that a person can do to maintain and improve their physical health, mental health, and overall well-being. A student who is physically educated is more likely to become a healthy adult who is motivated to remain healthy and physically active throughout his or her life. With physical education, students become confident, independent, self-controlled, and resilient; develop positive social skills; learn to set and strive for personal, achievable goals; learn to assume leadership, cooperate with others, accept responsibility for their own behavior; identify parallels between sports and the Christian lifestyle; and improve their academic performance. The physical education courses fulfill the state mandated requirements to graduate. (One year for 6th grade, one year for 7th grade, one year for 8th grade, one year for 9th grade and one additional year for grades 10th – 12th.) Education Code Section 51222 provides for 400 minutes of physical education every 10 school days for students in grades seven through twelve.

GRADE 6

PE Boys 6 & PE Girls 6

This course is taught in gender differentiated classes. Students will experience co-educational recreation game activities. During the class, students will look for a sense of belonging, and peer group acceptance as they gain more confidence from physical activities. This class is designed to acquaint each student with the rules, strategies, and skills involving many of the following activities: volleyball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, baseball, hockey, lacrosse, badminton, golf, weight training, aerobics, square dance, and recreation games. The physical activities in this class will provide a positive outlet for competition with peers and a means of gaining the respect and recognition of others. Students will experience a wide variety of exercises for flexibility, muscular strength as well as cardio respiratory endurance. Students will be expected to improve and/or maintain their level of physical fitness for health and performance through regular daily participation. The students will participate in California’s testing program called “Fitnessgram.” Students will learn that they are responsible for maintaining a healthy body consistent with God’s Word. (Romans 12:1) *“Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice acceptable to God.”*

GRADES 7 & 8

PE Boys 7 & 8, PE Girls 7 & 8

This course is taught in gender and grade level differentiated classes. Students will experience co-educational recreation game activities. During the class, students will look for a sense of belonging, and peer group acceptance as they gain more confidence from physical activities. This class is designed to acquaint each student with the rules, strategies, and skills involving many of the following activities: volleyball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, baseball, hockey, lacrosse, badminton, golf, weight training, aerobics, square dance, and recreation games. The physical activities in this class will provide a positive outlet for competition with peers and a means of gaining the respect and recognition of

others. Students will experience a wide variety of exercises for flexibility, muscular strength as well as cardio respiratory endurance. Students will be expected to improve and/or maintain their level of physical fitness for health and performance through regular daily participation. The students will participate in California's testing program called "The President's Challenge". Students will learn that they are responsible for maintaining a healthy body consistent with God's Word. (Romans 12:1) "Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice acceptable to God."

Science

The mission of the Science Department is to teach that God is the author of the truth concerning His Creation. The department seeks to instill an appreciation for what has been discovered and a passion to probe for a deeper understanding of God's creation. Realizing that science is limited to natural explanations for natural phenomena, students will be able to discern between facts and assumptions. The department will equip students with solid biblical and scientific foundations so they will be capable of engaging in an intelligent and logical dialogue about the moral and ethical questions that arise with each new scientific discovery in an ever-changing world.

EARTH SCIENCE 6

Students will explore and experience a variety of areas within the discipline of Earth Science through the use of reading, research, observation, experimentation, discussion, and application. Units of study include the methods of measurements of the scientist, Celestial Sphere, Atmosphere, Lithosphere, and Hydrosphere.

LIFE SCIENCE 7

This course is designed as a middle school survey course touching the major areas of life science. The school year begins with an introduction to the foundations of science including the scientific method. The remainder of the first semester focuses on topics related to cell biology including cell structure and functions, photosynthesis and respiration, diffusion and osmosis, cell division and DNA. Second semester focuses on genetics, creation/ evolution, immunity and disease, characteristics and classification of living things, and a survey of vertebrates using the frog as the model. Laboratory work includes studies with the microscope, the cell and cell processes, and a frog dissection. Students are required to do an outside science project which includes a research paper. Students are encouraged to participate in the county science fair.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8

This course covers studies in basic chemistry and physics. The chemistry portion focuses on the properties and classification of matter and on the patterns of the periodic table. The students participate in various labs on classification of matter, chemical and physical properties, density, and chemical reactions. The physics curriculum includes the forces of motion, simple and complex machines, heat energy, electricity and magnetism, and fluids. These concepts are learned through a series of long-term projects, which include the design and construction of air powered paper airplanes, propeller powered balsa wood cars, and the building of electrical circuits on circuit boards based upon their schematics. Students sharpen their scientific inquiry and writing skills throughout the year as they learn how to gather and display data and write clear and concise conclusions based upon that data.

Social Studies

A Christian philosophy of the social sciences believes that God has always existed and that His creation of this world marked the beginning of human history. Furthermore, the biblical perspective strongly suggests that God exercises an ongoing role in the affairs of earth and the universe. The study therefore of the social sciences includes a search for explanations concerning the origins, purpose and destiny of the universe and earth's people as determined by God. The study of social sciences should be aimed at equipping students to be involved and informed citizens, good stewards of God's gifts, and to be concerned with the circumstances and ultimate course of the entire world. Students should be able to critically evaluate, analyze and make judgments of the past and current political, social and economic events in light of the Scriptures.

SOCIAL STUDIES 6

Ancient Civilizations and Geography is the focus of this course. Students will explore the ancient world and the major geographical features and boundaries of each civilization. Past kingdoms, empires, rulers, conquests, contributions, and influences from the time of Creation to the fall of Rome will be the scope of study in this exciting course

WORLD HISTORY 7

Students actively participate in a one-year course study of the early civilizations of the world in the Middle East, China, Africa and Japan. Students will also view the Roman and Byzantine Empires and the influence of Islam throughout the Asian and European continents. A study of Medieval Europe will lead them to the Renaissance and Reformation and conclude with the Scientific Revolution. Students will gain an understanding of the early development of civilizations, different cultures and the progress of man until the 1700's. Finally, students will explore the geographical, political and religious influences of world history.

US HISTORY 8

Students actively participate in a study of the origins of the United States from pre-Columbian America up through the war that divided the nation, the Civil War. Students will learn through lecture, discussion, reenactments, simulations and cooperative learning. The focus is on the development and struggle of the new American nation and its relevance to today's United States. This will include a study of important documents such as the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and others including landmark Supreme Court cases.

Electives – Grade 6

FOUR DAY ELECTIVES, ALL YEAR

Art / Intro to Theatre

This elective will include one semester of Art and one semester of Intro to Theatre. In Art the students will study a few different artists each term, focusing on the artist's history, the style of the artist, as well as reproducing a work of the artist. The seven elements of art will also be introduced. The students will build on and extend further the information given them from the Arts Attack series learned at the elementary level. This will give the students a firm foundation from which to begin any further art endeavors. A variety of materials will be used for experimentation and technique. Intro to Theatre will allow students to learn the fundamental aspects of speaking in front of an audience and learning to work as a part of a cast. Students will focus on projection, blocking, moving on stage, and learn the fundamental aspects of reading and understanding a script. Students will work together to put on a small in-class production in which they will memorize lines, learn about character, and feel more confident in front of an audience.

Electives, Grade 6, continued

Battalion Band

This is a combination beginning/intermediate band class. This is for middle school beginners and 6th graders continuing on the band instrument of their choice. Beginning students must get started the summer prior to their first year and commit to one year of private lessons. Regular daily classes are held to develop the skills of the students on their instruments. There is a \$100 band booster fee per year.

Choir

Students will learn the basics of good singing, breathing, posture, tone, diction, signs and symbols, dynamics and phrasing. This class is for the student who wants to feel more confident in their singing or develop their vocal talent. Advanced singers will have the opportunity to audition for solos. Music theory includes note and rhythm reading, intervals, signs, symbols and dynamics. Emphasis is placed on good tone, blending and expressive singing. Repertoire includes traditional and contemporary Christian music, as well as, popular and Broadway literature. The spring semester will include singing in small ensembles and participating in a music festival. Outfits required.

Computer Skills/STEM Electronics

This elective will include one semester of Computer Skills and one semester of STEM Electronics. Computer Skills is a project-driven class that concentrates on enhancing computer skills necessary for school and home. The skills include using advanced Google applications such as Drive, Docs, Images, Sheets, Slides, Maps, Tour Builder, Cardboard, Drawing, Google Earth and website search engines. A beginning graphic design unit is included where students use a combination of images and text to create posters, menus and brochures. Students are able to use their own tablet, Chromebook or laptop for most assignments if desired but classroom computers are also available. STEM Electronics will use Arduino as a gateway to introducing students to the world of electronics. It was built with the aim of reaching students who do not have a background in electronics and programming. We will be using the Arduino boards to receive an input like a light on a sensor or a hand touch that will then create an output like turning on a motor or an LED light. There are literally thousands of applications for Arduinos and in this class we will be able to explore a few of them of the student's choice.

Introduction to Spanish

This course is designed as the first of a three-year Spanish track that will divide Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 over the three Middle School years. This introductory course is designed to give students the basic language tools for developing proficiency in using Spanish for communication. Students will complete 8th grade having studied the content-equivalent of Spanish 1 and Spanish 2. Focus is on the development of basic and relevant vocabulary, simple grammatical structures and an integrated approach to Hispanic cultures within a communicative framework. Students will be given opportunity to practice all four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. They will also be able to present information, concepts and ideas in Spanish both orally and in writing; demonstrate their understanding of both written and spoken Spanish on a variety of topics; and express an understanding of and appreciation for the Spanish language and culture. Due to the fast pace of this program, a high level of motivation and organization is strongly advised.

ASP Study Skills MS

The Academic Support Program (ASP) provides services for SFCs students with learning differences and/or ADHD. The ASP requires each student in the program to obtain a psycho-diagnostic evaluation from a licensed diagnostician, renewing testing every three years. The ASP provides study skills instruction, directed tutoring, academic support, and intervention in this daily class. Mentoring is provided which promotes academic excellence, organization, and confidence in a Christ-centered environment. Extended time on tests and exams is awarded to students with documented

Electives, Grade 6, continued

learning differences with the recommendation from their licensed diagnostician. Analysis of student's performance in all other classes is given each week. Regular report cards and contact with parents and teachers is part of this program. The Academic Support Program has a fee in addition to regular tuition. Tuition fee for the Study Skills Class for 2016-2017 is \$1980 per semester billed in 4 monthly installments of \$495 each. Prerequisites: (1) Current Psycho-diagnostic Evaluation by a licensed Diagnostician (within 3 years); (2) Acceptance into the SFCS Academic Support Program (ASP) See SFCS website for 2016-2017 ASP Application. Please send completed application to Katie Pratt (Director of ASP) at pratt@sfcs.net.

TWO DAY ELECTIVES, ALL YEAR

Student Council Leadership

Do you desire to influence the activities, culture and heart of our Middle School? Student Council Leadership is a course designed to create, govern and implement all MS Activities. It is a course for our elected student council representatives to grow in their leadership skills and spend time serving our school. Students will continue building on their knowledge of what a true servant leader looks like as well as being given opportunities to work on small and large group communication, goal setting, and organizational leadership skills. You don't want to miss being part of an amazing team like this!

Yearbook

MS Yearbook is a year-long opportunity for students to work together in a team environment to create, capture, and share an annual Yearbook that reflects the heart of their MS school year. Students will learn to conceptualize and integrate a theme, tell story through photography, learn basic design skills and master online editing tools. Join our team and experience a fun, creative classroom environment while working hard towards one purposeful goal - production of the annual yearbook!

TWO DAY ELECTIVES, ONE SEMESTER

Computer Coding 6

Scratch is a computer programming environment that allows students to create and design their own interactive stories, games, and animations. Scratch is designed to teach computational thinking using a simple but powerful building-block approach that focuses more on problem solving than on specific syntax. This entry-level course is project-based and promotes creative problem solving, collaboration, and interdisciplinary integration (art, math, sciences).

Film Appreciation

Lights, camera, action! In this class we are going to dive into the world of film and cinematography. We are going to take an analytical approach to movies that will look into different aspects such as setting, plot, acting, special effects, mood, etc. The students will demonstrate their knowledge and ability through various writing assignments that will give them an opportunity to be a movie critic and a movie director/writer.

Lego Robotics

This is a beginning course in robotics utilizing Lego Mindstorm EV-3 autonomous robot and programming software. Students design, build, program, and document table top missions. Topics include algorithms, design, programming, motor control, gear ratios, sensors, and timing sequences. Students can draw on these skills to compete for a position on SFC First Lego League robotics team.

Electives, Grade 6, continued

Middle School Leadership

Do you desire to influence the activities, culture and heart of our Middle School? Be of a part of this team and be a culture shaper of SFC Middle School! Spend time learning the true core values of what servant leadership looks like; discover how your leadership style and gifts fit into a team; and help contribute your ideas, analysis, and thoughts to make this school year one of the most memorable ever. Get a feel for what student leadership looks like at SFC's Middle School!

Photo and Design

Photo and design is the creative planning and execution of visual communication. This is an introductory course presenting the fundamentals of digital photography, visual communication and conceptualization. Photographers use a combination of composition, lights, and surroundings to communicate visually to others. The primary focus is on composition. This class is a hands-on class in which students will use technology to photograph, design and produce a product to visually communicate the creation of God.

Electives – Grades 7 & 8

FOUR-DAY ELECTIVES, ALL YEAR

Battalion Band

This is a combination beginning/intermediate band class. This is for middle school beginners and 6th graders continuing on the band instrument of their choice. Beginning students must get started the summer prior to their first year and commit to one year of private lessons. Regular daily classes are held to develop the skills of the students on their instruments. There is a \$100 band booster fee per year.

Brigade Band [Approval required]

A performance oriented ensemble of advanced middle school wind and percussion players. Brigade band members are students who have a minimum of one-year experience on a traditional band instrument. This band performs at festivals and concerts as a concert band. Regular daily classes are held to develop the skills of the students on their instruments. An audition is required. See the Director for material needed to prepare for the audition. See the Director for material needed to prepare for the audition. There is a \$100 band booster fee per year.

US Concert Band (P) (Approval required)*

This class is for high school level 8th grade musicians. A performance oriented ensemble of wind and percussion players. Concert band members are students who have a minimum of two years experience on a traditional band instrument. This band performs at Festivals and concerts as a concert band playing music from the classical concert band repertoire. Students also learn: how to interpret correct jazz phrasing, articulation and style; how to improvise (make-up) jazz melodies, riffs, and licks; how to play by ear as well as read music; and how to fit into a jazz combo or jazz big band. There is a \$120 band booster fee per year. Prerequisite: each player must meet the standards set by the band director.

Electives, Grade 7 & 8, continued

Choir

Students will learn the basics of good singing, breathing, posture, tone, diction, signs and symbols, dynamics and phrasing. This class is for the student who wants to feel more confident in their singing or develop their vocal talent. Advanced singers will have the opportunity to audition for solos. Music theory includes note and rhythm reading, intervals, signs, symbols and dynamics. Emphasis is placed on good tone, blending and expressive singing. Repertoire includes traditional and contemporary Christian music, as well as, popular and Broadway literature. The spring semester will include singing in small ensembles and participating in a music festival. Outfits required.

French IA (7th Grade)

This introductory course is designed to give students the basic language tools for developing proficiency in using French for communication. Focus is on the development of basic and relevant vocabulary, simple grammatical structures and an integrated approach to Francophone cultures within a communicative framework. Students will be given opportunity to practice all four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. They will grow in their ability to engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express their feelings and emotions and exchange opinions on a variety of topics including travel, school, family, clothing, sports, holidays, and food. They will also be able to present information, concepts and ideas in French both orally and in writing; demonstrate their understanding of both written and spoken French on a variety of topics; and express an understanding of and appreciation for the French language and culture. French 1 will be completed over a two-year period in order to form a solid foundation on which future language skills can build.

French I (P) (8th Grade)

This upper school course is an introductory course designed to give students the basic language tools for developing proficiency in using French for communication. Students will be given opportunity to practice all four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. They will grow in their ability to engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express their feelings and emotions and exchange opinions on a variety of topics including travel, school, family, clothing, sports, holidays, and food. They will also be able to present information, concepts and ideas in French both orally and in writing; demonstrate their understanding of both written and spoken French on a variety of topics; and express an understanding of and appreciation for the French language and culture.

Spanish IA (7th Grade)

This introductory course is designed to give students the basic language tools for developing proficiency in using Spanish for communication. Focus is on the development of basic and relevant vocabulary, simple grammatical structures and an integrated approach to Hispanic cultures within a communicative framework. Students will be given opportunity to practice all four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. They will grow in their ability to engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express their feelings and emotions and exchange opinions on a variety of topics including travel, school, family, clothing, sports, holidays, and food. They will also be able to present information, concepts and ideas in Spanish both orally and in writing; demonstrate their understanding of both written and spoken Spanish on a variety of topics; and express an understanding of and appreciation for the Spanish language and culture. Spanish 1 will be completed over a two-year period in order to form a solid foundation on which future language skills can build.

Spanish IB/2A (7th Grade)

This course is designed as the second of a three-year Spanish track that will divide Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 over the three Middle School years. This course is designed to continue to give students the basic language tools for developing proficiency in using Spanish for communication. Students will complete 8th grade having studied the content-equivalent of Spanish 1 and Spanish 2. Focus is on the development of basic and relevant vocabulary, simple grammatical

Electives, Grade 7 & 8, continued

structures and an integrated approach to Hispanic cultures within a communicative framework. Students will be given opportunity to practice all four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. They will also be able to present information, concepts and ideas in Spanish both orally and in writing; demonstrate their understanding of both written and spoken Spanish on a variety of topics; and express an understanding of and appreciation for the Spanish language and culture. Pre-requisite: Introduction to Spanish

Spanish IB (P) (8th Grade)

This course is the second half of Spanish 1 and will provide a solid foundation for Spanish 2. This course reviews and builds upon the listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills introduced in their first year of Spanish 1A, as the students continue to develop their interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational abilities. Focus will remain on the development of basic and relevant vocabulary, simple grammatical structures and an integrated approach to Hispanic cultures within a communicative framework. Students will continue to grow in their ability to engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express their feelings and emotions and exchange opinions on a variety of topics. Pre-requisite: Spanish 1A

ASP Study Skills MS

The Academic Support Program (ASP) provides services for SFCS students with learning differences and/or ADHD. The ASP requires each student in the program to obtain a psycho-diagnostic evaluation from a licensed diagnostician, renewing testing every three years. The ASP provides study skills instruction, directed tutoring, academic support, and intervention in this daily class. Mentoring is provided which promotes academic excellence, organization, and confidence in a Christ-centered environment. Extended time on tests and exams is awarded to students with documented learning differences with the recommendation from their licensed diagnostician. Analysis of student's performance in all other classes is given each week. Regular report cards and contact with parents and teachers is part of this program. The Academic Support Program has a fee in addition to regular tuition. Tuition fee for the Study Skills Class for 2016-2017 is \$1980 per semester billed in 4 monthly installments of \$495 each. Prerequisites: (1) Current Psycho-diagnostic Evaluation by a licensed Diagnostician (within 3 years); (2) Acceptance into the SFCS Academic Support Program (ASP) See SFCS website for 2016-2017 ASP Application. Please send completed application to Katie Pratt (Director of ASP) at pratt@sfcs.net.

FOUR DAY ELECTIVE, ONE SEMESTER

Intro to Painting

A painting course designed to strengthen the students' awareness of the history and techniques of painting while exposing students to contemporary styles and ideas about visual art production. Students will concentrate on the essential elements of painting, along with materials, methods and craft. This course will lead the student through exercises, applications and projects that explore the multi-dimensional properties of paint, brushes and color. The basic components of color theory and the color wheel will be introduced and studied. The formal elements of design will be explored by experimentation with the variables of composition.

Marine Biology

On the 5th day God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures". In this course students will explore the amazing world that lives right off our coast. We will learn about the visible and invisible creatures, from plankton to whale sharks and everything in between. We will discover the beauty and importance of the kelp forest and how we use this vital resource in our everyday lives. We will visit our local tide pools and the Birch Aquarium. Students will experience a hands on, and sometimes wet, science lab course designed to excite and create an appreciation for the ocean and its creatures.

Electives, Grade 7 & 8, continued

Math Problem Solving

Students have the opportunity to explore and learn math concepts by solving challenging mathematics problems. There is also a focus on learning Combinatorics or advanced counting strategies. Combinatorics problems often appear on national exams such as the SAT and American Mathematics Competition (AMC), but the topic gets very little time ever being taught in the standard middle school or high school mathematics classes. It is strongly recommended that students should have earned an 85% or better in their previous math class.

TWO DAY ELECTIVE, ALL YEAR

Student Council Leadership

Do you desire to influence the activities, culture and heart of our Middle School? Student Council Leadership is a course designed to create, govern and implement all MS Activities. It is a course for our elected student council representatives to grow in their leadership skills and spend time serving our school. Students will continue building on their knowledge of what a true servant leader looks like as well as being given opportunities to work on small and large group communication, goal setting, and organizational leadership skills. You don't want to miss being part of an amazing team like this!

Yearbook

MS Yearbook is a year-long opportunity for students to work together in a team environment to create, capture, and share an annual Yearbook that reflects the heart of their MS school year. Students will learn to conceptualize and integrate a theme, tell story through photography, learn basic design skills and master online editing tools. Join our team and experience a fun, creative classroom environment while working hard towards one purposeful goal - production of the annual yearbook!

TWO DAY ELECTIVES, ONE SEMESTER

Acting

Acting is the emphasis. We will learn basic acting technique including objective, obstacle, tactics, blocking, stage presence, ensemble building, pure improv, and audition techniques. This class is participation-based and includes many drama activities and games to introduce and hone skills. Students will perform in short comic and dramatic scenes at the end of the semester to demonstrate understanding of the material.

App Smashing

App Smashing is the art of imaginatively using multiple apps to create enhanced projects. This course will look at how to use technology to take everyday student projects to the next level. We'll be looking at using technology -- not for technology's sake, but to enhance their regular school assignments. We'll explore and critique apps/programs such as Explain Everything, Emaze, PowToons, iMovie, BookCreator, Tellagami, and more. The goal is that students will harness the full potential of technology for learning. Students are required to have their own iPad.

Boys Action Packed PE Games

The Boys PE Elective is based on our MAFU principles (Mental Toughness, Attitude, Fanatical Effort, Unity/Unselfishness). The class will be built on competition highlighted by tournaments as well as individual challenges. We will play some traditional games as well as many variations of games that work on athletes' coordination, team work, and competitive spirit. This will be a fun class allowing young men the opportunity to compete and be active during the school day. This elective course will be in addition to the boys' required two days of Physical Education.

Electives, Grade 7 & 8, continued

Computer Coding – Beginning

Scratch is a computer programming environment that allows students to create and design their own interactive stories, games, and animations. Scratch is designed to teach computational thinking using a simple but powerful building-block approach that focuses more on problem solving than on specific syntax. This course is project-based and promotes creative problem solving, collaboration, and interdisciplinary integration (art, math, sciences).

Computer Coding – Advanced

This course guides students through advanced concepts of Scratch programming. Building upon coding 6 Scratch fundamentals, students create intricate animations, games, and program solutions using complex logic and program design. Students will broaden their understanding of variables, operators, lists, webcam sensing, debugging and exploring new ways of thinking about Scratch. Other program languages are introduced including but not limited to Python, HTML, and Javascript.

Creative Writing

Are you the next J.K. Rowling or Rick Riordan? Do you love to paint using your words? Then Creative Writing is where you belong! Join us for fun as we journal, blog, and craft our way to good writing. Explore your world through exciting and fun writing projects as we learn to see and experience that world in a new way. Your readers called...they want your autograph.

Drawing and Printmaking

Explore all the possibilities of making marks in an experimental drawing and printmaking course that will explode all notions of what a drawing or print can be. This is a course to help the student gain knowledge, skills, and experimentation that aid in the expression of ideas and feelings through drawing and printmaking. Emphasis will be placed on finding a personal voice, experimenting, and exploring the relationship between subject matter and a specific media. Students will learn traditional drawing and printmaking techniques with pencil, charcoal, chalk, paint, and ink, but may also be encouraged to experiment with unconventional media.

Girls Beach Games

This class will be held at Del Mar North Beach “Dog Beach” and it includes your favorite “Beach” games. Activities include but are not limited to: Beach Volleyball, Soccer, Capture the flag, Over the Line, Squirrel Ball, Ultimate Frisbee, Gatorball, Spud, Power walk/jog to Fletcher’s cove, and many more.

Girls Games

This class includes your favorite PE, Camp and Retreat games. Activities Include but are not limited to: Hunger Games, War Ball, Friendly Ball, Life boat, Crazy Kickball, Speedball Volleyball, Homerun Derby, Dodge Ball, Capture the flag, Gatorball, World Cup Soccer, Over the line, Philly Football, Floor Hockey, Speedminton, Ultimate Frisbee, Squirrel Ball, Knockout, Bickley Ball, A-Ball 16, Volley Tennis, Go for the Gold, Fiddle Stix Lacrosse, and more.

Girls So You Think You Can Dance

This class will focus on the basics of a variety of dance styles including Hip Hop, Step Up Revolution, High Energy Dance Cardio, Latin, Zumba, Line Dancing, etc... The students will also be exposed to Power Stretching. You don’t have to have any dance experience to have a fantastic time learning to dance! So...do you think you can dance?

Electives, Grade 7 & 8, continued

Graphic Design

This course will introduce students to beginning graphic design skills utilizing traditional and digital tools, materials, and procedures in the design industry. Students will be introduced to a variety of desktop publishing and design software on the computer, including Google Design Apps and the Adobe Creative Suite. The focus will be on finding creative visual solutions to communication problems using technical skills. Students will learn to utilize the elements and principles of design, the design process, spatial relationships, typography, and imagery as they apply practical visual solutions for print, logo design, poster design, and other real world graphic design application.

Improv Theatre

Based on the techniques used in Comedy Sportz, we will learn basic improv principles including: story-telling, justification, back story, name-it, show don't tell, give and take, etc. Games introduced in this class include: Blind Line, Dr. Know-it all, What Are You Doing, Slow-mo Olympics, Whatchyou got?, Try That on for Size, Dime Store Novel, etc. Students will perform a short improv "match" for another class to demonstrate knowledge of skills learned.

Introduction to Broadcast

This course will allow students to learn more about the process of creating, pitching, and designing a live broadcast or advertisement. Students will learn about the different roles in the production team, and will be asked to convert their ideas to short advertisements. Intro to Broadcast will also encourage students to work in a team setting; taking ideas and compromising in order to create a solid idea that converts well to the screen. Finally, students will understand how a live, multi-camera production is run and the importance of timing in a live broadcast.

Jesus is my Jam: Cultivating Identity & Fostering Sisterhood (Grade 8 Girls)

This creative and fun elective's goal is to create girl-unity through an exploration of our identity. If we know who we are in Christ—that we are TREASURED, SACRED, and CALLED--then we can pour ourselves positively into the world around us. Come and explore how we can be confident in our God-given identity, in our gifts, and in the greatness God has given each of us uniquely. This class will study a Godly girl's relationship with Christ and how that relationship influences her role in current culture, in friendships, in media, and much more!

Lego Robotics (Grade 7)

This is a beginning course in robotics utilizing Lego Mindstorm EV-3 autonomous robot and programming software. Students design, build, program, and document table top missions. Topics include algorithms, design, programming, motor control, gear ratios, sensors, and timing sequences. Students can draw on these skills to compete for a position on SFC First Lego League robotics team.

Middle School Leadership

Do you desire to influence the activities, culture and heart of our Middle School? Be of a part of this team and be a culture shaper of SFC Middle School! Spend time learning the true core values of what servant leadership looks like; discover how your leadership style and gifts fit into a team; and help contribute your ideas, analysis, and thoughts to make this school year one of the most memorable ever. Get a feel for what student leadership looks like at SFC's Middle School!

Movie Making 101

Lights-Cameras-Action! In Movie Making 101, students will work together to develop their ability to tell great stories through the use of digital media. Course includes instruction in areas of pre-production, film composition, and video editing skills. Camera's and software provided in class. Come learn through hands on experience as you produce a variety of projects that will inspire and engage your creative thinking skills!

Electives, Grade 7 & 8, continued

Photo and Design

Photo and design is the creative planning and execution of visual communication. This is an introductory course presenting the fundamentals of digital photography, visual communication and conceptualization. Photographers use a combination of composition, lights, and surroundings to communicate visually to others. The primary focus is on composition. This class is a hands-on class in which students will use technology to photograph, design and produce a product to visually communicate the creation of God.