



Weston
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



COURSE CATALOG



2010-
2011



MIDDLE SCHOOL

**Weston Christian Academy
Elective Registration Form
Middle School
2010-2011**

Office Use Only	
_____	Received
_____	Date
_____	Time

Registration involves making decisions that will greatly influence the life of each student. This guide is provided to help students and parents understand the requirements for WCA Middle School students and to make the best choices possible regarding elective courses. We encourage you to read this carefully and spend time together in prayer as you make your choices for the new school year. **List your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices for each semester.**

WCA provides a Christ-centered environment, which will enable our students to flourish in their academic endeavors, development of talents, and Christian walk as God intends for their lives. The academic program at WCA is designed to promote the development of knowledge, wisdom, and critical thinking skills. Strong academics, taught from a Biblical perspective and worldview, will provide students with the competence and inner strength necessary for future success. Providing a strong academic program and Biblically based worldview training will build the foundation that Paul refers to in Colossians 2:6-8. In order to develop students who are not only fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, but are also spiritual leaders, all students take a daily Bible class that provides spiritual development. The academic program in the Middle School includes seven teaching blocks as follows:

6th grade

Language Arts I
Middle School Math
Life Science
World History
Bible
Wheel (Spanish/Etiquette/
Computer)
Elective

7th grade

Language Arts II
Pre-Algebra
Earth Science
World Geography
Bible
Wheel (Spanish/Web Design)
Elective

8th grade

Language Arts III
Algebra I
Physical Science
American History
Bible
Spanish I
Elective

Middle School Elective Registration Form

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Elective Choice (course descriptions on pages 8 - 13)

Fall

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Spring

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Afterschool Band:

Intermediate Band

Advanced Band

Please Note:

- ❖ Intermediate and Advanced Band are after school and can be chosen in addition to a spring and fall elective (see page 13).
- ❖ Students may not sign up for a course number they have already taken.
- ❖ Registration deadline is no later than **August 2nd**. Students will be assigned an elective on a first come, first served basis.
- ❖ **All courses are subject to change.**

LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts is a 3-year requirement for all middle school students at WCA.

Title: Language Arts I (required)
Course #: LAN06A **Grade: 6** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: None

Description: *Language Arts I* provides instruction in the Language Arts strands of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, language, and literature. It offers instruction in reading and vocabulary strategies necessary for comprehension of printed materials, research the writing of effective papers with emphasis on all stages of the writing process, and instruction in grammar. This course includes exposure to universal themes found in world literature as well as the critical analysis of various genres. *Language Arts I* promotes excellence in oral presentations and public speaking as well as emphasis on multimedia instruction. As students analyze literature, they learn the value of a strong Biblically based faith in dealing with trials. They also learn to express their beliefs in a clear, direct manner that enables them to communicate the gospel truths to others.

Title: Language Arts II (required)
Course #: LAN07A **Grade: 7** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: Language Arts I

Description: *Language Arts II* is a continuation of instruction in the Language Arts strands of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, language, and literature. It offers instruction in reading and vocabulary strategies necessary for comprehension of printed materials, research the writing of effective papers with emphasis on all stages of the writing process, and instruction in grammar. This course includes exposure to universal themes found in world literature as well as the critical analysis of various genres. *Language Arts II* promotes excellence in oral presentations and public speaking as well as emphasis on multimedia instruction. As students analyze literature, they learn the value of a strong Biblically based faith in dealing with trials. They also learn to express their beliefs in a clear, direct manner that enables them to communicate the gospel truths to others.

Title: Language Arts III (required)
Course #: LAN08A **Grade: 8** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: Language Arts I and Language Arts II

Description: *Language Arts III* continues to provide instruction in the Language Arts strands of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, language, and literature. It offers instruction in reading and vocabulary strategies necessary for comprehension of printed materials, research the writing of effective papers with emphasis on all stages of the writing process, and instruction in grammar. This course includes exposure to universal themes found in world literature as well as the critical analysis of various genres. *Language Arts III* promotes excellence in oral presentations and public speaking as well as emphasis on multimedia instruction. As students analyze literature, they learn the value of a strong Biblically based faith in dealing with trials. They also learn to express their beliefs in a clear, direct manner that enables them to communicate the gospel truths to others.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics is a 3-year requirement for all middle school students at WCA.

Title: Middle School Math (required)
Course #: MA06A **Grade: 6** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: None

Description: *Middle School Math* integrates pre-algebra, geometry, statistics, consumer math, business math, and probability with a goal to help each student see that math can be widely applied in the real world. Students become aware that God is a God of order, not chaos, and learn to use math skills to bring order to their world.

Title: Pre-Algebra (required)
Course #: MA07A **Grade: 7** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: Middle School Math

Description: *Pre-Algebra* integrates pre-algebra, geometry, statistics, consumer math, business math, and probability with a goal to help each student see that math can be widely applied in the real world. Concepts are taught through their applications emphasizing the reading and writing of mathematics, providing a wide variety of meaningful problem-solving opportunities and incorporating the latest technology. Students become aware that God is a God of order, not chaos, and learn to use math skills to bring order to their world.

Title: Algebra I (required)
Course #: MA08A **Grade: 8** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: Middle School Math and Pre-Algebra

Description: *Algebra I* introduces the student to variables, algebraic expressions, equations, functions, inequalities and their graphical representation. The student will develop the ability to explore and solve mathematical problems, think critically, work cooperatively with others, and communicate mathematical ideas clearly. Students become aware that God is a God of order, not chaos, and learn to use math skills to bring order to their world. Successful completion of this course fulfills the High School *Algebra I* requirement at most high schools.

SCIENCE

Science is a 3-year requirement for all middle school students at WCA.

Title: Life Science (required)

Course #: SC06A

Grade: 6

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: None

Description: *Life Science* is an inquiry-based introduction to Life Science. Opportunities will be provided for the students to explore experiences and activities dealing with the fundamental concepts of life. Topics will include, but are not limited to: the scientific method, measurement, laboratory apparatus usage and safety, cell biology and cell reproduction, principles of genetics, classification, and structure and function of the human body. The end result is to think critically, solve problems, and gain competence in laboratory techniques. Students are also taught that God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things, and it is His hand that has shaped the world of science.

Title: Earth Science (required)

Course #: SC07A

Grade: 7

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Life Science

Description: *Earth Science* is an inquiry-based introduction to Earth Science. The end result is to think critically, solve problems, gain competence in laboratory techniques, and understand the relationship between earth, water, air, and space. The student is also taught that God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things and it is His hand that has shaped the world of science.

Title: Physical Science (required)

Course #: SC08A

Grade: 8

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Life Science and Earth Science

Description: *Physical Science* is an inquiry-based introduction to the concepts of physics and chemistry. Topics will include, but not be limited to: dynamics classification, interaction of matter, the periodic table, forms of energy, electricity and magnetism, chemical interactions, nuclear reactions, and career opportunities. The end result is to think critically, solve problems, and gain competence in laboratory techniques. Laboratory activities that include the use of the scientific method, measurement, laboratory apparatus and safety are an integral part of this course. The student is also taught that God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things and it is His hand that has shaped the world of science.

HISTORY

History is a 3-year requirement for all middle school students at WCA.

Title: Our Human Heritage (required)
Course #: HI06A **Grade: 6** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: None

Description: *Our Human Heritage* is a survey of world history beginning with ancient times and moving forward through the present day. The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand their connections to the development of civilizations by examining the past, to prepare for their future as participating members of the global community, and to see the hand of God throughout history. Topics will include, but are not limited to: an exploration of ancient civilizations and their contributions to our current world, a multimedia expression of the Barbarians, a biographical journey through the Middle Ages, adventure and exploration on the high seas, and an intimate study of Modern World Leaders. Map skills, geographical themes, and current events will also be emphasized.

Title: Geography, the World and its People (required)
Course #: HI07A **Grade: 7** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: Our Human Heritage

Description: *Geography, the World and its People* is a course designed to help students learn their place in the world, physically as well as spiritually. Students will explore the continents, countries, and cultures of the whole world with an emphasis on map skills, research techniques, reading and interpreting data from graphs and diagrams, and understanding cultural differences as well as how the hand of God is visible in the creation and sustaining of the countries, continents, landforms, and bodies of water all around us. Topics will include but are not limited to Hispanic Heritage month with a focus on Central and South America, A European Adventure, A Caribbean Cruise; an African Safari; A trip through the Asian Jungle; Our Neighbors in North America, and a South Pacific Exploration.

Title: The American Journey (required)
Course #: HI08A **Grade: 8** **Credit: 1.0**
Prerequisite: Our Human Heritage and
Geography, the World and its People

Description: *The American Journey* is a trip through the history of the United States beginning with the earliest settlers and concluding with current events. This course will provide students with the opportunity to acquire an understanding of the chronological development of the American people by examining the political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural events that have affected the rise and growth of our nation. Strong emphasis is placed on the uniquely Christian heritage revealed in the concept, formation, structure, and function of our form of government. Topics include but are not limited to Native American Civilizations, Colonization, The American revolution, American Government and the Presidency, The Civil War and Reconstruction, The Industrial Revolution, and other events that have affected the shaping of The United States.

THE WHEEL

All students at WCA are required to take a wheel elective consisting of the following courses:

Title: Computer Applications (required)
Course #: CA06A **Grade: 6** **Credit: .5**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to allow students to develop knowledge and skills in computer applications. Emphasis is placed on developing proficiency in touch keyboarding, fundamental applications using databases, spreadsheets, and presentation applications, and Internet research. Our Biblical worldview includes ethical computer usage and telecommunications.

Title: Everyday Etiquette (required)
Course #: CEW06A **Grade: 6** **Credit: .25**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to help students to develop the skills necessary to interact confidently and professionally in both social and business settings. Opportunities are offered for students to learn the basic rules of treating others with respect as well as business, community, dining, and sports etiquette. By relying on God's Word for direction in all things, students can become adults who can lead confidently and follow respectfully. This will prepare them to face the many situations they will encounter as the spiritual leaders of their generation.

Title: Beginning/Intermediate Spanish (required)
Course #: SPA06A **Grade: 6** **Credit: .25**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to increase proficiency in Spanish through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of listening, speaking, and writing skills and on a beginning acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar.

Title: Intermediate/Advanced Spanish (required)
Course #: SPA07A **Grade: 7** **Credit: .5**
Prerequisite: Beg. /Int. Spanish

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to increase proficiency in Spanish through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of listening, speaking, and writing skills, on a further acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar, and on beginning reading skills. Cross-cultural understanding is fostered and real-life applications are emphasized throughout the course.

Title: Web Masters (required)

Course #: CO07A

Grade: 7

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to plan, develop, and publish well-designed websites that combine effective navigation with the appropriate use of graphics, text, color, and sound. Students will create a web page based on a Biblical worldview.

Title: Spanish I (required)

Course #: SPA08

Grade: 8

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Beg./Int. Spanish and Int./Adv. Spanish

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to increase proficiency in Spanish through a linguistic, communicative, and cultural approach to language learning. Emphasis is placed on the development of listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills and on acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. Cross-cultural understanding is fostered and real-life applications are emphasized throughout the course. A key focus is placed on witnessing and spiritual development in preparation for our mission trip to the Dominican Republic.

ELECTIVES

All middle school students at WCA are allowed to choose from the following electives. A total of 1.0 credit hour must be chosen.

Fall Semester Electives

Title: Intro to Rhythm
Course #: IR001 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to allow students who are interested in learning guitar, bass guitar, drums or piano to study the basics of how to play. Students will focus on the fundamentals of each instrument including notes, chords, various rhythm combinations and general music theory. This class will help prepare students to glorify God through their instrument and allow those who are interested to try out for Praise Band or to accompany the Steel Drum Band (offered in the spring). An instrument is required for this class. You can bring your own or rent one from Music Tech Studios (see page 13 for contact information). This class will require daily practice outside of class.

Title: Praise Band
Course #: PB001 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None
Students must audition for this elective.

Description: The purpose of this course is for students who play instruments, sing, and have a desire to lead worship, to praise God while leading worship in Chapel. Students will focus on blending instruments; learning to play and sing by ear; understanding stage presence; playing fills, rhythms and leads as well as harmonizing. A variety of styles of Christian music will be performed. Students who lead worship will be expected to maintain a lifestyle that strives to honor God daily both in and out of class. This class will require daily practice outside of class.

Title: Drama I, II, III or IV
Course #: DRA01, DRA02, DRA03 or DRA04 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to develop in the student an interest in drama and the theatre. Students will learn to become more aware of their senses, observe people and places more closely, and move expressively. Students will learn to use their gifts and talents to communicate the message of the gospel and other Scriptural truths through drama. They will be introduced to basic acting skills such as improvisation, characterization, role preparation, and stage movement and will be guided through the production process from casting to performance. Students in this class will be auditioning for and participating in a One Act straight play to be performed at FL JR Thespian District Competition. Students desiring to be a part of the ONE ACT must be enrolled in the Fall Drama class.

Title: Portfolio I
Course #: PORT1 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to create a portfolio of artworks. A portfolio should contain a variety of works in different media that represent the student's creative abilities and interests. Not only will students be required to study, know and use the elements of art, they will also be exploring the elements of design and will be encouraged to incorporate them in their artwork. This course will culminate in the production of a computer CD containing the students' artwork. The different media students will explore include but are not limited to pencil, paper art, pastels, chalk, and tempera paint. It is important that each student see himself as a creator of art made in the image of God with the ability to glorify God through the process of making art.

Title: Multimedia Technologies I, II, III or IV
Course #: MT01, MT02, MT03 or MT04 **Grade: 7 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: Required course for Chapel Tech Team
Faculty recommendation required
Computer Applications

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop basic knowledge of visual and non-visual communication using multimedia production process and event planning. Students will also develop the knowledge and competency to conceive and create moving images (video) on a pre-professional level, learn the basics of running both sound and lighting consoles, as well as the mechanics of running a multimedia visual presentation. Students also learn the basics of digital photography and editing, and clay animation. Students taking this class will be responsible for preparing and facilitating chapels, programs, and other special events. An emphasis will be placed on fostering excellence and doing all things to glorify God.

Title: Keyboard/Piano
Course #: KEY01 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is for students to learn to play the piano in our new keyboard lab. The lab is equipped with eight Yamaha PSRE323 Portable Keyboards with headphones that give the instructor the ability to hear all the keyboards, a small group or an individual. The students will have the same flexibility to hear the instructor or other students playing. Instruction will focus on ear training and music reading skills that are developed through solo repertoire as well as ensemble playing. This is an introductory course in the fundamentals of piano keyboard performance. Classroom topics include the study of musical notation and symbols, the performance of simple melodies, standard scales and chord progressions, as well as other music. Students will also perform ensemble music, with an emphasis on rhythmic accuracy and tempo control. The piano has been used for centuries to worship and glorify God. Come and learn the fundamentals as we worship God through the keyboard.

Title: Video and Music Editing
Course #: VME01 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: Faculty recommendation required.

Description: The purpose of this course is to encourage students to investigate and develop their knowledge of music and video editing. While participating in this class the student will learn the basics of blending music, editing video, applying special effects to music and video, as well as merging it all together to create powerful projects that glorify God. They will be utilizing our virtual computer lab and various programs throughout this course. This class will be limited to 12 students.

Title: Personal Health and Fitness
Course #: PED03 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to provide students the opportunity to acquire knowledge of physical fitness concepts such as cardiovascular fitness assessment utilizing heart rate monitors. The students will apply these concepts towards understanding and developing a plan to maintain lifetime wellness as noted in I Corinthians 6:19-20. "Do you not know your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit...honor God with your body."

Spring Semester Electives

Title: Praise Band
Course #: PB001 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None
Students must audition for this elective.

Description: The purpose of this course is for students who play instruments, sing, and have a desire to lead worship, to praise God while leading worship in Chapel. Students will focus on blending instruments; learning to play and sing by ear; understanding stage presence; playing fills, rhythms and leads as well as harmonizing. A variety of styles of Christian music will be performed. Students who lead worship will be expected to maintain a lifestyle that strives to honor God daily both in and out of class. This class will require daily practice outside of class.

Title: Spring Sports and Recreation
Course #: PED02 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: None

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop knowledge and skills in selected sports (basketball, hockey, & softball) and recreational activities to maintain and improve general health and fitness. Content includes but is not limited to: safety rules, terminology, skill building, officiating, and sportsmanship. Selected health related topics will be introduced throughout the semester focusing on the concept of lifetime wellness; through this students will learn to glorify God by developing health and fitness knowledge and skills that can be utilized throughout their lifetime.

Title: Musical Theatre
Course #: MT001 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: 5th grade Chorus OR Drama I

Description: The purpose of this course is to develop in the student an interest in musical theatre. Students will learn to become more aware of their senses, observe people and places more closely, and move expressively. Students will learn to use their gifts and talents to communicate the message of the gospel and other Scriptural truths through drama. They will be introduced to basic acting skills such as improvisation, characterization, role preparation, and stage movement, and will be guided through the production process from casting to performance. Students in this class will be auditioning for and participating in the Spring Musical. Students MUST have had either Drama I or 5th grade Chorus at WCA to sign up for this class.

Title: Multimedia Technologies I, II, III or IV
Course #: MT01, MT02, MT03 or MT04 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: Required course for Chapel Tech Team
Faculty recommendation required
Computer Application

Description: The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop basic knowledge of visual and non-visual communication using multimedia production process and event planning. Students will also develop the knowledge and competency to conceive and create moving images (video) on a pre-professional level, learn the basics of running both sound and lighting consoles, as well as the mechanics of running a multimedia visual presentation. Students also learn the basics of digital photography and editing, and clay animation. Students taking this class will be responsible for preparing and facilitating chapels, programs, and other special events. An emphasis will be placed on fostering excellence and doing all things to glorify God.

Title: Video and Music Editing
Course #: VME01 **Grade: 6 - 8** **Credit: 0.5**
Prerequisite: Faculty recommendation required.

Description: The purpose of this course is to encourage students to investigate and develop their knowledge of music and video editing. While participating in this class the student will learn the basics of blending music, editing video, applying special effects to music and video as well as merging it all together to create powerful projects that glorify God. They will be utilizing our new virtual computer lab and various programs throughout this course. This class will be limited to 12 students and to join a teacher recommendation is needed.

Title: Steel Pan Band
Course #: SPB01
Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6-8

Credit: 0.5

Description: The purpose of this course is for students to learn to worship God by playing the steel drums. Students will receive instruction from a professional, published percussionist and will have the opportunity to play on several custom made steel drums. Students will focus on ear training and music reading skills that are developed through solo repertoire as well as ensemble playing. Classroom topics include the study of musical notation and symbols, the performance of simple melodies and rhythm combinations, as well as the history and culture around the steel drums.

Title: Portfolio II
Course #: PORT2
Prerequisite: Portfolio I

Grade: 6 - 8

Credit: 0.5

Description: This course is the second part of the portfolio class and will also culminate in the creation of a computer CD containing examples of the student's artwork. Students will continue study on the elements of art and principles of design and will continue to explore a broad range of media. Each student will see himself as a creator of art made in the image of God with the ability to glorify God through the process of making art.

Year Long Electives

Title: Intermediate Band

Course #: INTBND

Grade: 6 - 8

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Beginning Band

Description: The purpose of this course is to continue to develop musicianship skills in band and instrumental ensembles. Emphasis will be placed on development of skills in reading music notation, music theory and composition, and performance techniques. "The students will become worshippers and with their musical instruments they will Praise and Glorify God." Note: Instrument required (rentals available through Music Tech Studios*)

Title: Advanced Band

Course #: ADVBND

Grade: 6 - 8

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Intermediate Band

Description: The purpose of this course is to continue to develop musicianship skills in band and instrumental ensembles. Emphasis will be placed on development of skills in reading music notation, music theory and composition, and performance techniques. "The students will become worshippers and with their musical instruments they will Praise and Glorify God." Note: Instrument required (rentals available through Music Tech Studios*)

Note

- * Band can be chosen in addition to a fall and spring elective.
- * Band is offered after school from 2:45-3:30 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
- * Band instruments may be rented from: Music Tech Studios, Inc., 18249 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines, FL, (954) 447-8554