



SANTIAGO SCHOOL

2017-2018 Elective Course Descriptions

AVID

This course is designed to strengthen organizational and study skills and provide students with a launch pad of understanding their future in high school and college/university. Students will participate in modules and have access to AVID college tutors for support.

Leadership (7th & 8th grade only)

Santiago's Leadership program has three goals. The first goal is to work to become a strong, positive leader. The second goal is to work together to make Santiago a great place to learn. The last of our goals is to fundraise to support all school clubs and programs.

Design and Modeling/Automation and Robotics

In Design and Modeling, students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Using Autodesk® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. In Automation and Robotics, students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. Participation in local competitions in 3D design and robotics is highly encouraged.

Medical Detectives

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene." They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

Beginning Drama (intended for students with no previous stage experience)

Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of theatre arts. Students will use various creative drama techniques to build confidence and trust, stimulate imagination, movement, and role-play. Students will learn and use drama and theatre vocabulary in class discussions and the activities will specifically address the promotion and reinforcement of students' literacy skills.

Intermediate Drama (for students who have taken Beginning drama at Santiago or with previous drama experience)

Students will build upon previously learned skills as they begin to refine their presentational skills and learn to portray more compelling characters and complex scenes. In the first semester, students will perform in Santiago's 1st annual Shakespeare play. In the second semester, students will have the opportunity to audition for a role in Santiago's annual spring musical production.



SANTIAGO SCHOOL

2017-2018 Elective Course Descriptions

Production & Set Design

Students will learn to work collaboratively to confront the challenges and responsibilities that are essential in bringing text from the page to the stage. They will get hands-on experience in the art and techniques of working behind the scenes on a theater production; including scenic design and construction, scene painting, prop and costume design and acquisition, as well as publicity. In the second semester, students will use imaginative problem-solving to perceive, visualize, and realize practical theatrical designs for Santiago's spring musical production.

Creative Writing /Journalism

Creative Writing is a full year course, which places emphasis on improving each student's ability to communicate using the written word. Students will communicate the written word through a variety of methods, including exploring the writing process, journal writing, poetry, short stories and genres. Through these writing methods, students will gain a sound understanding of the elements and forms of writing to create their own written creations.

Band

Learn music theory and basics of playing a band instrument: woodwind, brass, percussion. Students learn a variety of music styles including classical, jazz, ethnic, pop/rock, and film scores.

Orchestra

Students have the opportunity to play violin and explore other instruments such as the viola, cello (violoncello), and string bass. Students learn a variety of music styles including classical, jazz, ethnic, pop/rock, and film scores. Orchestra students have the opportunity to go on field trips like intermediate honor orchestra.

Makerspace

Learn and create at your own pace. If you have been thinking about inventing a product or solving a problem by making something, or if you are curious about how things work, this class is for you.

Office Aide (8th grade only)

Students who hold an office position assist with the daily operations of the office or library. A variety of skills are learned including communication, proper interaction, and working as a team. Office aides must be in good academic standing in order to be selected.



SANTIAGO SCHOOL

2017-2018 Elective Course Descriptions

MESA (Math, Engineering, Science Achievement)

Would you like a class in which you get to design and build a bridge, a mousetrap car and an egg drop device? Then MESA might be just the elective for you. In MESA, we design and build a variety of projects using math, science, engineering, and a bit of artistic creativity. We then compete against one another and students from other schools. Get your engineering hat on and choose MESA as your elective next year.

Exploratory (6th Grade Only)

In exploratory, you will discover your interest, critique movies, and write a children's book. You also get the opportunity to explore your creative side by writing poetry, creating a menu, and build a journal.

Speech & Debate

Students will acquire skills related to structured listening and speaking. Students will learn the basics related to giving verbal presentations and using positive criticism. Students will also get to choose from different categories of speech like poetry and dramatic performance. Students will also compete against their peers' various tournaments.