Revised 8/20/2026

Electives Class Descriptions 2026-2027

Acting Basics
Teacher: Will Hahn
Credit: 1 (Fine Art or Elective)
Meets: Full year, once weekly (see grid), you can sign up for a single semester if desired
Text: Various scene selections based on sign-up and ability. Every effort will be made to not buy texts. Props and costumes will always be optional.
Homework time expectation: 1 hour (memorization of lines, preparation)
Teaching format: We will examine various aspects of acting and rehearse short scenes with an eye toward improving general skills, understanding the joyous challenge that is performance, and readying suitable materials for brief presentations before an audience.
Description: Acting has two connotations which are often wrongly mixed. To some it can mean "faking", putting on a false front to cover wrongdoing or mislead others. But acting is truly part of performance, the activity in which one consciously presents to others who are conscious of observing. Every human being must "act" in the sense of standing before and communicating clearly with our fellow beings. Being onstage is simply a more direct and pure form of participating in a class discussion, giving a short presentation to business colleagues, calling out a comic chant to encourage a friend, or looking someone in the eye when hard truth needs telling. We are all actors- this class will simply help us be better ones.
This process will be fun. Students will learn about staging, posture, projection, and learn scenes to perform alone or with others. We will aim to perform live at least once per semester.

Biblical Exegeses: How to Reason & Study the Scriptures - Fundamentals
Teacher: Christine Metzing
Credit: 1 (Fulfills Bible requirement)
Meets: Full year, once weekly (see grid)
Time expectation: Light. About one to two Bible chapters of reading weekly
Teaching format: In class discussion, instruction, Bible reading, and at home reading
Description: The goal of this class will be to teach the students to intelligently discuss scripture. The homework for this class will be light (about one chapter per week as the reading assignment). We typically cover Romans chapters 1-8, Hebrews, 1 John, and some of Galatians. Each student will be met where they are. For some, it may be their first time delving deeply into the Scriptures, and for others, it may mean becoming equipped to lead a small group Bible study (such as in a dorm). The students will be taught how to reason from the scriptures. The importance of backing up Scripture with Scripture, understanding the context of the passage, and seeing Scripture in light of the whole counsel of God's word will be taught. We will be stressing the importance of leaning on the Lord and asking the Holy Spirit's guidance as we go through God's word both individually and as a group. Since none of us understand God's Word fully, we will stress the importance of how to continue together in studying even when we don't know or don't' agree. We will use resources such as concordances and Bible dictionaries.

Computer Literacy
Teacher: Will Hahn
Credit: 1
Meets: Full year, once weekly (see grid)
Text: None required
Required materials: Regular access to a personal computer. Access to the internet at home. Depending on student use, we will demonstrate both Microsoft Office and Google-based utilities.
Homework time expectation: 1 hour weekly (varies with each unit)
Teaching Format: Lecture and demonstration (sometimes taking notes on the teacher's presentation). Weekly homework is the heart of the grade, and each quarter there will be one project-style grade. Polite participation in class is expected.
Description: Computers are a bit like automobiles: their impact is enormous, almost everyone will learn to use them, but hardly anybody understands them well enough to repair one if it gets broken! We will focus merely on how to "drive" the PC, with no need for advanced understanding of programming or code.
Quarterly units will cover:

- Q1: Word processing utility, safe internet, and search engine use*
- Q2: Presentation-style utility and a personal presentation
- Q3: Spreadsheet-style utility and the use of graphs and figures
- Q4: A combined-media project with the class in teams

*Internet Use and Safe Searching will be an emphasis throughout the year.

Students finishing this course will be comfortable with how to express their thoughts in papers, projects and other coursework in the future.

Connecting with the Bible
Teachers: Daniel Varnell and Michael Thress
Credit: 1 (Fulfills Bible Requirement)
Meets: Full year, once weekly (see grid)
Required text: The Bible
Homework - of course, that is how you learn. The deeper you dig the more you will get out of the course.
Description: Ever wonder how the different parts of the Bible fit together? What are the themes that run from beginning to end and what can we say about what is coming in the future based on what God has said and done in the past. For example, salvation through Jesus is found in every Bible book from Genesis to Revelation. The theme of covenants builds and builds throughout the Bible bringing us to the New Covenant. The Bible also talks about new wine, new wineskins, new hearts, new life, new miracles, new beginnings, a new heaven and earth. We'll look at the accuracy of scripture and answer the questions people ask. Did you know there was far more to Jesus' miracles than just the miracle? There is also power in the Bible, in God's word. So how does that work? There are great prayers throughout the Bible. We'll look at the Bible time line. Along the way we'll dig into how to understand the Bible. Who is a passage written to? Is it talking about man's body, soul, or spirit? Do we understand everything - no. But, God has made clear what we need to know. There will be great discussions. You may need to do some digging to answer your own questions and then, if you want, you can share what you find. In the end,

you will understand what God is saying through His word. There will be adjustments along the way to be sure the class is a blessing to all who attend.

Creativity and Art
Teacher: Sammi Madanat
Credit: 1 (Fulfills Fine Art requirement) – this class is just graded as Pass/Fail
Meets: full year, once weekly – see grid
Prerequisites: none
Description: God is creative, and we are made in his image. We will be looking at scripture that instructs the artist in seeking Gods purposes in their creations.
Students will study the elements and principles of design, learn to systematically critic art, including their own, and be looking at art from many historical periods and nationalities. Finally, they will try their hands at a variety of styles and mediums, including ink, paint, graphite, collage and clay. **Projects will vary year to year so students can take this class more than once.**
Minimum number of students to run class: 3

Financial Literacy, Fall semester
Teacher: Will Hahn
Level: 3
Credit: .5 (Student may also take Spring Semester for a full credit)
Meets: **Fall semester**, Monday & Thursday (see grid)
Text: *Financial Literacy from a Christian Perspective (Parents should download and then share the student-only files with their children)*
Additional required materials: Calculator
Homework time expectation: 1-2 hours weekly
Teaching format: We work through the exercises and worksheets in class as much as possible; tests are administered at home, there is a project/book report presentation each semester.
Description: This class is offered as a one-semester course for .5 credit. The course will cover chapters 1-5 of the text, Money: The Basics, Setting Financial Goals, Budgeting, Saving & Investing, & Credit. If a student also takes the Spring Semester, the last 4 chapters of the text will be covered.

Financial Literacy, Spring semester
Teacher: Will Hahn
Level: 3
Credit: .5 (Student may also take Fall Semester for a full credit)
Meets: **Spring semester**, Monday & Thursday (see grid)
Text: *Financial Literacy from a Christian Perspective (Parents should download and then share the student-only files with their children)*
Additional required materials: Calculator
Homework time expectation: 2-4 hours weekly
Teaching format: Lecture, homework, tests, in-class problems, discussion, project/presentation
Description: This class is offered as a one-semester course for .5 credit. The course will cover chapters 6-9 of the text, Financial Institutions and the Services They Provide, Insurance, Your

Career, and Taxes. If the student takes the Fall semester, they will cover the first 5 chapters of the text.

Foundations of Math
Teacher: Kathy Martin
Meets: Fall semester, once weekly (see grid)
Description: Is your student struggling with fractions and/or positive and negative numbers? These math skills are foundational to success in pre-algebra, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, and Precalculus. This class will help your student master these skills! The Foundations of Math class is an add-on class which does not accrue any high school credits; students will still be taking their regular math course (whether at MSA or elsewhere). The class is open to middle school and high school students. It will be offered on Mondays from 10:45 to 11:40 during the first semester. The first class will be on August 31 (NOT on Aug. 24, the first day of school).

The Foundations class will be offered in two parts: one part about fractions and one part about positive and negative numbers. Students can take either or both parts, depending upon their needs. Class sessions will include hands-on activities, discovery activities, and games. It will NOT be all-lecture! Both conceptual understanding and proficiency in math operations will be emphasized.

If you're not sure if your student is struggling with these skills, you can contact the office for the assessment.. The first three pages of the assessment cover fraction skills, and the last page covers skills for positive and negative numbers. An answer key is provided. It's fine to take the assessment in several sessions! No calculator may be used. For students who struggle with multiplication facts, a multiplication chart has been attached and can be printed for use while taking the assessment.

The Fractions part will last 8 weeks and costs $35 (includes $5 materials fee). The Positive and Negative Numbers part will last 4 weeks and costs $18 (includes $3 materials fee). Homework is minimal, but practice is needed in order to master these skills. Sign up in the MSA office. Students should bring their assessment (if taken) to the first day of this class.

Questions? Contact Kathy Martin at katimmartin@gmail.com

Health
Teacher: Marilyn Groop
Credit: .5 (Fulfills Health requirement)
Meets: Spring semester, once weekly (see grid)
*Text: *High School Health for the Whole Person*, available from 7SistersHomeschool.com
https://7sistershomeschool.com/product/high-school-health-for-the-whole-person/
Homework time expectation: 1-2 hours per week
Teaching format: Lecture, class discussion, video clips
Description: This health course will help teens to develop healthy attitudes and practices while young and to understand 1) how their bodies and minds work, which helps them practice prevention of bad habits 2) how to recognize warning signs when something is wrong, 3) the proper functioning of their body and mind, 4) healthy emotions and relationship skills which

allows them to live and work well in society, and 5) healthy spirituality which prepares them for their own personal walk with God.
*Contact teacher before ordering text and you will be provided with a coupon code.

Introduction to Website Design and Development
NOTE: This class has a limit 12 Students
Teacher: Georgeanna Singley
Level: 3
Credit: 0.5
Meets: Fall Semester, once weekly
Computer:

- Students ***must*** have a laptop that they can use during the week to access the class and must bring the laptop to class each week.
- Students ***must*** have internet access at home. We will also link to the internet while in class at MSA.
- Computer should be
    - less than 5 years old
    - running Mac OS 10.13 (or higher) or PC with Windows 10 (or higher) or ChromeOS version 53 (or higher)
    - Have a current web browser that can be used to access the CodeHS platform

Homework time expectation: ~1 to 2 hours weekly (outside of class)
Description: This is a hands-on, project-based course in which students learn to design, build, and maintain a 3–5 page website. The course guides students through the full web development process—from initial planning and content organization to publishing a live site using Google Sites. Instruction focuses on two core areas: visual design and user experience. Students will explore how to select effective themes, structure information for clarity and accessibility, and incorporate functional elements such as Google Forms for contact pages, Google Maps for location details, as well as embedded YouTube videos and photo galleries.
By the end of the semester, each student will have created and launched a fully functional website that serves as either a personal portfolio or a project-based site.

Paper Crafting
Teacher: Bobbie Brickner
Credit: .25 credit/quarter or 1 credit/year (Fine Art or Elective)
Meets: Quarterly, once weekly (see grid)
Text: No text will be used.
I will assemble packets of information for students and will provide a quarterly written syllabus. This course can be taken on a quarterly basis if desired; however, the required materials are necessary regardless of whether students take one or more quarters.
Additional required materials: Ruler, scissors, composition book, access to a home computer and WiFi for YouTube videos and Pintrest. The additional class supply list is on this Amazon shopping list or can be picked up at the MSA office:
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/12NII9S5XN5TD?ref_=wl_share
Homework time expectation: 2 hours weekly, varies by student

Revised 8/20/2026

Teaching format: Every week, I will bring a sample project for us to use as inspiration, explain how to use tools, and demonstrate a range of techniques so that we can create new and original projects.

Description: Do you love to create? Do you enjoy trying different tools and creative techniques?

- In this class we will use a wide selection of paper crafting tools: inks, stamps, chalks, watercolors, alcohol markers, adhesives, washi tape, ribbon/fibers, punches, embossing folders, etc.
- We will explore a variety of techniques like paper tearing, starbursts, pop-ups, paper piercing, paper piecing, quilling, embossing, iris-folding, etc.
- Our finished products will include bookmarks, cards, snowflakes, gift boxes, cards, paper flowers, envelopes, banners, etc.