



TCCS UPPER SCHOOL ELECTIVES

FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR, STUDENTS IN GRADES 5-8 WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE ELECTIVE COURSES, IN ADDITION TO THEIR REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES.

ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS FOR 2019-2020 WILL INCLUDE:

GRADES 5&6 - Students will take two of the following full-year electives:

BAND

CHORUS

LIFE SKILLS

MIXED MEDIA ART

GRADES 7&8 - Students will take two of the following full-year electives:

BAND

CHORUS

DIGITAL JOURNALISM

MIXED MEDIA ART

COURSE REGISTRATION: On the first day of school, during extended homeroom, students will use an online form to indicate their 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th elective choices, in order of preference.

Registration results will be tallied and class rosters will be prepared and shared by the start of school on Wednesday, September 4. Students will report to their assigned electives beginning that day.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS: See course descriptions on the following pages for additional information.

TCCS ELECTIVE DESCRIPTION: BAND

TCCS Symphonic Band

Instructor: Mr. Keitel

"Music is what emotions sound like."

Students will have the awe-inspiring opportunity to learn a new wind or percussion instrument and create music with a group of peers. Nothing is more rewarding! Students will learn major/minor scales, music theory, performance practice, and more. There will be a minimum of 2 concerts each school year, with multiple other opportunities for solo, small group, and full ensemble performance at community events. Families will be responsible for instrument rentals from either O DiBella's Music (Bergenfield) or Music & Arts (Paramus); specific pricing available on their websites.

TCCS ELECTIVE DESCRIPTION: CHORUS

TCCS Chorus

Instructor: Mr. Keitel

"Music is a world within itself; with a language we all understand."

Do you like to sing? Chorus is the music elective for you. Join your peers in learning healthy vocal technique and create music together through singing. Students will learn how to read music, how to sight-sing, proper and healthy vocal technique, and experience music from all across history and the world. There will be a minimum of 2 concerts each school year, with multiple other opportunities for solo, small group, and full ensemble performance at community events.

TCCS ELECTIVE DESCRIPTION: DIGITAL JOURNALISM

Digital Journalism

Instructor: Mrs. Thomas

Is being a reporter as easy as it looks? This course will explore and implement various elements of journalism. Students will learn how to report the Who, What, When and Why of our School Community, our Town, and beyond.

Students will have the opportunity to learn how to create and implement: Weather Reports, Newscasts, School Sports, Special Events, Feature Stories, Investigative Reporting and more... As part of this course, students will be using various forms of hands-on digital technology.

TCCS ELECTIVE DESCRIPTION: LIFE SKILLS

Life Skills

Instructor: Ms. Nicole

Do you know how to balance a checkbook? Can you type at 25 or 30 wpm (words per minute)? If you have a hole in your clothes, do you know how to sew a patch? Life skills are the necessary abilities and behaviors that allow you to handle everything from how we interact with others and becoming quality employees.

You will be learning financial literacy (i.e. allowances, spending, setting up a bank account, occupations), computer skills (i.e. using a search engine, digital citizenship, typing practice, coding), and home economics (i.e. learning first aid basics, sewing, being a good host, cooking/baking). We will be setting up the classroom as a marketplace, presenting topics of choice through different forms of media, sewing fabric, and hosting a bake sale at the end of the year.

TCCS ELECTIVE DESCRIPTION: MIXED MEDIA ART

Mixed Media Art

Instructor: Ms. Abbie

Experience Art through different mediums. This course is intended to engage student learning in the field of Digital Media and Ceramics with hands-on projects and “real world” activities. This course is based upon the development of a specific set of skills using photography, photoshop, graphic design and the fine art of ceramics.

Smartphone/iPad Photography - No matter where you go — whether it’s home, vacation, shopping or biking on a weekend, or going to school — your smartphone is always with you. Your device provides you with a unique opportunity to take pictures anytime, anywhere. Use it to your advantage to capture your best mobile moments every day. In this course you will learn some tips and tricks to take the best photographs on your mobile device.

Photoshop - Adobe Photoshop CC has become an industry standard for so many different disciplines including graphic design, digital photography, web design, digital video editing, and creating animations. Through project work, students will learn how to use several tools for selecting parts of images, retouching, layers, special filters, and digital photography.

InDesign - A desktop publishing and typesetting software application produced by Adobe Systems. It can be used to create works such as posters, flyers, brochures, magazines, newspapers, presentations, books and ebooks. You will work through real life projects starting with a simple company flyer, menu, and your own personal business cards.

Ceramics - This is an introductory course in ceramics covering the three basic methods of hand building. Students will produce ceramic art work using pinch, slab, and coil techniques. Students will learn the basic vocabulary of ceramics as well as methods of surface treatment, firing, and other related aspects. Art history, aesthetics, and art criticism will be incorporated throughout the course.