



East Wake Academy

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Friday May 13, 2011

Dear EWA Rising 7th and 8th Grade Parents/Guardians,

The electives team is writing to inform you about an exciting and enriching learning opportunity that is in the works for next year. Seventh and Eighth grade students will have the privilege to choose two semester long elective classes each year that support their interests and broaden their experiences. Students will be able to choose from 8 distinctly different courses. The semester long classes with a mixture of seventh and eighth grade students in the classes will allow the elective team to offer more comprehensive and challenging courses in the seventh and eighth grades. This will help make the transition to high school smoother and enable students to explore their individual interests.

In the fourth quarter, students will attend an elective assembly where course outlines will be discussed and options given. Students will be given a form to fill out in which they will rank their choice of elective classes. The elective team will try to successfully ensure that students will be assigned their top choices.

Course being offered for the 2011-2012 School Year:

- Introduction to Graphic and Web Design
- Photography and Cinematography
- Spanish A
- Spanish B (A is a prerequisite for the class)
- 2 Dimensional Art (Drawing and Painting)
- 3 Dimensional Art
- Career Management
- Sports and Entertainment
- Personal Finance

Thank you for your time and we look forward to this wonderful new experience.

The Middle School Elective Team



2011-2012 ELECTIVE SELECTION FORM

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Goes By: _____

Current Homeroom: _____ Current Grade: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Student Email: _____

Parent Email: _____

Please Rank the following electives in order, **1** being the class you wish to take **most** for a semester to **8** being the class you wish to take **least**:

_____ Introduction to Web and Graphic Design

_____ Photography and Cinematography

_____ Spanish A

_____ Spanish B (A is a prerequisite for the class)

_____ 2 Dimensional Art

_____ 3 Dimensional Art

_____ Career Management

_____ Sports Management

_____ Personal Finance

**Some classes may not be offered if there is not enough interest*

*****Failure to return this form to your Homeroom Teacher by Friday, May 20th, 2011 will result in student being placed last in classes with the most availability.***

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

INTRODUCTION TO WEB AND GRAPHIC DESIGN

This is an introduction course that will examine desktop publishing or document design, how graphics are a part of our daily lives, the elements that make up good design, image and art selection, and how color influences all of this. We will also be exploring these concepts in relation to website design and students will get some hands on experience in the design and implementation of websites. The goal of this course is to get an in-depth and hands on understanding of desktop publishing and graphic design and to apply this to the creation of documents, graphics, and web design.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND CINEMATOGRAPHY

This course will explore various facets of photography and cinematography. Students will be exploring the techniques, uses, editing, history, and composition of photography in addition to the study of famous photographers from different cultures and periods of time. Students will then apply their photography knowledge to cinematography including the history of film, creation and editing of video, how films are created, and more. Over the semester students will create a portfolio of work demonstrating their understanding of the course work.

SPANISH A

Viajes en Español: Join Señora Watson on a semester-long *viaje* through the Spanish-speaking world. Students will fill up their *pasaportes* with stamps as they journey to variety Spanish-speaking countries. At each stop, students will be introduced to the products (songs, games, food, and traditions), perspectives (attitudes, values and beliefs) and social practices of each new culture. Throughout their travels, students will build on their previous study of the Spanish language, strengthening their skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students will develop a deeper understanding of Spanish grammar and vocabulary, allowing them to begin expressing their own thoughts and ideas. ¡**Vámonos!**

SPANISH B

This course will be a continuation of Spanish 1A, allowing students further explore the Spanish language, grammar and culture. In order to sign up for this course, students must have completed Spanish 1A with a C average or better.

2 DIMENSIONAL ART

2D Art will emphasize a higher level of artistic craftsmanship with a focus on drawing and painting in various mediums. Students will begin to master dramatic shading and modeling techniques depicted in the works of the old masters. Students will also be exploring a variety of artists from different cultures and periods in time. This course will prepare the art enthusiast for high school level visual fine arts courses.

3 DIMENSIONAL ART

3D Art will focus on creating realistic and abstract forms and sculptures using the elements and principles of design. Students will learn various techniques for mediums ranging from clay, fiber, and recycled materials and installation art. Students will also be exploring a variety of 3 Dimensional artists from different cultures and periods in time.

CAREER MANAGEMENT

This course develops knowledge, skills and understanding related to finding, keeping, advancing in, and changing employment. Students are provided appraisal opportunities, and experiences that facilitate their abilities and interests to enable them to make wise career decisions. Places of potential employment are identified and techniques practiced in searching for employment and succeeding on the job. Students study benefits, deductions, guidelines, laws and policies they encounter in beginning a job. They also learn skills that enhance success and possible advancement on the job.

SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT:

This course will be designed for students interested in sports, entertainment, and event marketing. The emphasis will be placed on the following principles as they apply to the industry: branding, licensing, and naming rights; business foundations; concessions and on-site merchandising; economic foundations; promotion; safety and security; and human relations. Skills in communications, human relations, psychology, and mathematics will be reinforced.

PERSONAL FINANCE:

This course prepares students to understand economic activities and challenges of individuals and families, the role of lifestyle goals in education and career choices, procedures in a successful job search, financial forms used in independent living, and shopping options and practices for meeting consumer needs. Students will learn to understand consumer rights, responsibilities, and information, protect personal and family resources, and apply procedures for managing personal finances. Appropriate work-based learning strategies may include career shadowing and service learning.