

# Elective Descriptions 2019-20

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*All elective classes listed below will be offered based on teacher and scheduling availability. It is very important that your student rank all the way through the list with careful thought.*

*We cannot guarantee that a student will be placed in their top 4 choices or that we will be able to offer all of the electives listed here.*

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

### **ART I Instructor: Mrs. Monica Avila**

In this beginner level art class, we will be learning the basics of art technique and design. We will work in many mediums such as colored pencil, oil pastel, marker and pencil. The class will focus on color blending, shading, composition, and rendering. Projects include lessons in pop art, surrealism, perspective and figure drawing with each project featuring a specific artist and style from art history.

### **5th CONCERT BAND Instructor: Mr. Jonathan Held**

Students will have the opportunity to learn foundational skills on a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. The curriculum will include instrument fundamentals, instrument care and maintenance, music theory, rhythm, listening, sight-reading, and memory skills. The students will take part yearly in 2 campus concerts, music festivals, and contests. Individual weekly lessons with an instrumental specialist are strongly encouraged. Sectionals and masterclasses may be scheduled before or after school hours. Students earn grades for band that are based upon in-class activities, home practice assignments, and attendance at sectionals and performances.

### **SERAPHIM CHOIR Instructor: Dr. Brusick**

Students in 5th grade have the opportunity to sing in the Seraphim Choir. This choir occasionally sings for worship services and school chapels at Trinity. A factor to take into account when considering this elective is that **participation in all scheduled events**, such as worship services, concerts and community performances **is required**. Please consider this if you are not a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

\*Each year the choir performs in the annual **Klein Deutschfest** at one of the Klein High Schools, the **Neudorf Christmas Concert** in Tomball, as well as a Christmas concert and a spring concert held at Trinity Lutheran Church. In the spring, the choir also performs annually **for a local adjudicated music festival**. Students receive grades for choir, which are based upon rehearsals, written quizzes, singing exams and attendance at required performances. Performance attire is provided by the school each year but students are responsible for their proper upkeep and must return the clothes at the end of the year in order to receive their final grade.

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## **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives**

**ART II** (for 6th graders)**Instructor: Mr. Matt Holman** In this class, students will build on skills introduced in Art I, such as rendering, value, shading, composition, and construction of media. Students will work in mediums of pencil, plaster, clay, colored pencil, and watercolor. The primary projects in this class are a clay slab pot and a free-standing plaster and wire sculpture. ***(Art I is NOT a prerequisite to take Art II. Art II may be used as a prerequisite for High School Art.)***

**6th CONCERT BAND Instructor: Mr. Jonathan Held** Students will have the opportunity to build on foundational skills on a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. The curriculum will include instrument fundamentals, music theory, rhythm, listening, sight-reading, and memory skills. The students will take part yearly in 2 campus concerts, music festivals, and contests. Individual weekly lessons with an instrumental specialist are strongly encouraged. Sectionals and masterclasses may be scheduled before or after school hours. Students earn grades for band that are based upon in-class activities, home practice assignments, and attendance at sectionals and performances.

**SERAPHIM CHOIR Instructor: Dr. Brusick** Pupils in grades 5-8 have the opportunity to sing in the Seraphim Choir. This choir occasionally sings for worship services and school chapels at Trinity. A factor to take into account when considering this elective is that **participation in all scheduled events**, such as worship services, concerts, and community performances is **required**. Please consider this if you are not a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

\*Each year the choir performs in the annual **Klein Deutschfest** at one of the Klein High Schools, the **Neudorf Christmas Concert** in Tomball, as well as a Christmas concert and a spring concert held at Trinity Lutheran Church. In the spring, the choir also performs annually **for a local adjudicated music festival**. Students receive grades for choir which are based upon rehearsals, written quizzes, singing exams and attendance at required performances. Performance attire is provided by the school each year but students are responsible for their proper upkeep and must return the clothes at the end of the year in order to receive their final grade.

**EXPLORATORY ELECTIVE BLOCK I: Instructor: TBA (will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability)** This course is made up of 4 nine week exploratory courses that are intended to be high-interest, hands-on classes to introduce students to a subject they may choose to explore in more depth later in their education and teach valuable skills that fall outside of the standard curriculum. The four courses for this school year will be: Study Skills, Life Skills, Introduction to Spanish, and Spanish Culture.

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Study Skill will focus on organizational and study techniques, while Life Skills will focus on areas that many students need instruction in - manners/etiquette, household chores such as laundry, following simple recipes in the kitchen, and goal setting.

Introduction to Spanish will learn basic Spanish conversation terms, weather vocabulary and phrases, Spanish numbers, and some other common vocabulary terms. Students will also receive a foundation in basic Spanish grammar, including but not limited to: masculine vs. feminine nouns and articles, plurals of nouns and adjectives, formal vs. informal speech.

Spanish Culture will focus on the ways in which learning Spanish can enrich your life and be enjoyable. We will learn how to eat out at a Mexican restaurant through several fun activities in class and participate in a field trip to a Mexican food restaurant. We will also watch videos from Spanish speaking countries to discover fun facts about their culture. Our final goal will be to learn about shopping at “el mercado” using only Spanish. It will culminate with a classroom marketplace experience.

## 6th Grade FAQ

**1. *If I want to take High school Art should I take Art II in 6th Grade?***

You have two (2) choices: Take Art II in 6th grade and take High School Art in 7th Grade or take Art III in 7th grade and take High School Art in 8th grade.

**2. *If I want to take High School Desktop Publishing should I take Art II in 6th Grade?***

Desktop Publishing has two (2) prerequisites:

*Computer prerequisites:* Computer I in 6th grade means you can take Desktop Publishing in 7th Grade.

OR

Computer II in 7th grade means you can take Desktop Publishing in 8th grade.

*Art prerequisites:* Art II in 6th grade means you can take Desktop Publishing in 7th grade.

OR

Art III in 7th grade means you can take Desktop Publishing in 8th Grade.

**3. *Why would I want to take a High School credit class in 7th grade?***

This would allow you to earn more High School credits and have more choices in electives as an 8th grader.

**4. *Can I take Spanish I in 7th Grade if I don't take the Exploratory Elective Block in 6th Grade?***

Yes, students are recommended for Spanish I based on their performance and grades in Language Arts. Any 6th Grader is eligible to request Spanish I as a 7th Grade elective. Students who take the Exploratory Elective Block will have a strong introduction to Spanish 1, but those topics will be reviewed again in the 7th grade Spanish I class.

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## 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** *All students will participate in Physical Education.*

**ATHLETICS PERIOD:** *(7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade) Prerequisite: Completion of the Athletic Participation Form, which includes a physical exam (Course will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability).* This course is for students who plan to participate in one or more of Trinity Klein's varsity sports. In this class, students will learn the concepts, techniques, and exercises integral to conditioning, resistance /strength training, and speed and agility development.

**ART III:** *(7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> graders who did not take Art II in 6<sup>th</sup> grade ) Instructor: Mr. Matt Holman* This course continues building on basic art fundamentals of composition, design, and technique utilizing the principles of design. Various projects using media of pencil, ink, paint, cut paper collage and watercolor are utilized, specific techniques in each media are taught per project with an emphasis on art history. Design elements will also be discussed with each topic covered such as still life, acrylic painting, self-portraiture and abstraction. ***(This class serves as a prerequisite for High School Art and High School Desktop Publishing.)***

**7<sup>th</sup> /8<sup>th</sup> SYMPHONIC BAND: (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Instructor: Mr. Jonathan Held** Students will have the opportunity to build on foundational skills on a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. The curriculum will include instrument fundamentals, music theory, rhythm, listening, sight-reading, and memory skills. The students will take part yearly in 2 campus concerts, music festivals, and contests. Individual weekly lessons with an instrumental specialist are strongly encouraged. Sectionals and masterclasses may be scheduled before or after school hours. Students earn grades for band that are based upon in-class activities, home practice assignments, and attendance at sectionals and performances.

**COMPUTER II:** *(7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders who did not take Computer I in 6<sup>th</sup> grade OR who are not typing at 28 WPM and 80% accuracy level) Instructor: Mrs. Sandra Hampton* This course will focus on accurate typing skills as well as enhancing word processing skills. More advanced activities in spreadsheets, presentation applications, and research skills will be provided. Those students keyboarding at 28 WPM and 80% accuracy by the end of the year will be eligible to take High School Touch Systems Data Entry. Those students not meeting the keyboarding requirement will be able to take Computer III. This class will continue to strengthen keyboarding skills while covering all of the applications. listed above. ***(Computer II serves as a Prerequisite for High School Touch Systems Data Entry and High School Desktop Publishing.)***

**COMPUTER III:** *(8<sup>th</sup> Grade) Instructor: Mrs. Sandra Hampton* This course will continue the focus on accurate typing skills of at least 28 wpm with 80% accuracy as well as enhancing the word processing skills that the students developed at the beginning level. More advanced activities in spreadsheets, presentation applications and research skills will be provided.

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**DRAMA PRODUCTION:** (7th- 8th Grade) **Instructor: Karen Bransky (will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability).** For students who want to work on stage and perform for various audiences on campus. Students will learn aspects of stage work, design, sound, and theater history. The class will perform one production and participate in the annual Christmas program during 1st Semester and perform one general production (Drama Night) for 2nd Semester. Limited outside time commitment is required. **(This course may be taken in both 7th and 8th grade.)**

**EXPLORATORY ELECTIVE BLOCK II:** (7-8th Grade) **Instructor: TBD (will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability)** This course is made up of 4 nine week mini courses that are intended to be high-interest, hands-on classes to introduce students to a subject they may choose to explore in more depth later in their education. The four courses for this school year will be: American Sign Language, 10 That Changed America, Mock Trial\*, Ecosystems.

*\*Mock Trial is taught by two practicing lawyers who participated in Mock Trial as students and have years of courtroom experience as practicing lawyers. Mock Trial is a fun and challenging way to provide students with an operational understanding of the judicial system and legal processes. (There is no prerequisite for this course. This course may be taken both years - course offerings within Block Electives will rotate to offer new courses.)*

**FUNDAMENTALS of COMPUTER SCIENCE:** (7-8th Grade) **Instructor: Mr. Salamone** Students will engineer software using algorithm analysis, logic gates and boolean expressions, coding with procedural and object oriented languages, parsing and debugging, and ongoing maintenance. An overview of architectural design is experienced through several programming languages from simple block coding/pseudocode/JavaScript to the powerful iOS Swift and object oriented Python languages. Critical thinking, problem solving skills, societal impacts of computing, digital citizenship, and publishing will be emphasized in the course.

**SERAPHIM CHOIR:** (6th - 8th Grade) **Instructor: Dr. Brusick** Pupils in grades 6-8 have the opportunity to sing in the Seraphim Choir. This choir occasionally sings for worship services and school chapels at Trinity. A factor to take into account when considering this elective is that **participation in all scheduled events**, such as worship services, concerts and community performances **is required\***. Please consider this if you are not a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. **(This course may be taken in both 7th and 8th grade.)**

*\*Each year the choir performs in the annual **Klein Deutschfest** at one of the Klein High Schools, the **Neudorf Christmas Concert** in Tomball, as well as a Christmas concert and a spring concert held at Trinity Lutheran Church. In the spring, the choir also performs annually **for a local adjudicated music festival**. Students receive grades for choir, which are based upon rehearsals, written quizzes, singing exams and attendance at required performances. Performance attire is provided by the school each year but students are responsible for their proper upkeep and must return the clothes at the end of the year in order to receive their final grade.*

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**SERVANT LEADERSHIP:** (7th -8th Grade) **Instructor: Mrs. Sanabria** (Course will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability). **Prerequisite: Membership in NJHS or Application submitted by June 1st. *Students selecting Servant Leadership as one of their top 3 choices will receive additional information about the application process.*** This course is designed to help students learn how Jesus turned leadership upside down. Using the leadership style that Jesus taught and modelled, the course seeks to teach students that leadership is not about command and control, nor status and power. We will seek to grow character centered on a Christ-like servant heart by joining missions on our campus such as the Food Pantry, shut-in cards, Chick-fil-A breakfasts, worship leadership, Kenyan Schools of Hope, Large Print Ministry, and many more. **(This course may be taken in both 7th and 8th grade.)**

**SPANISH I:** (7th - 8th Grade) **Instructor: Mrs. Blake** This course covers the introductory material that is required for HS Spanish. Seventh graders must take this class if they want to take High School Spanish in eighth grade to receive 1 high school credit. Students entering this class must have strong study skills, as it is an advanced level class. This class will meet twice a week. Eighth graders may take this class to give them a head start for a high school Spanish class if enrollment allows. *This class will have a limited enrollment and academic standing may be used in the event that the classes become full.* **(Spanish I serves as a prerequisite for High School Spanish.)**

**STUDY HALL:** (7th-8th Grade) **Instructor: various** (will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability) Students are required to come to class prepared, and they will receive a grade based on their preparedness and work ethic in the class period. Students who have completed their work will be required to read. **(This course may be taken in both 7th and 8th grade.)**

**WORSHIP ARTS CLASS** (GRADES 7 – 8) **Instructor: Mr. Cahill & Mr. Salamone** Students will be given an opportunity to explore and produce the Audio/Visual components of a worship services. *This class will be conducted with hands-on training with Trinity's audio equipment, video projection equipment, and stage lighting. Students will be responsible for running A/V during chapel services and have roles in various other school activities such as the Christmas Program and the Spring Musical. THIS COURSE REQUIRES AN OCCASIONAL OUTSIDE TIME COMMITMENT ON SUNDAYS.*

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## High School Credit Electives

### **CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

- (1) Grades - The student will earn a high school credit upon successful completion of the class with a yearly average of an 75% or higher.
- (2) Attendance - The student must meet the state's required 90% attendance in order to receive High School credit on their transcript. Additionally, in classes that meet every day, students may have no more than 10 absences (*excused and unexcused*) per semester or 20 absences (*excused and unexcused*) for the school year. In classes that meet less than everyday, students may have no more than 5 absences (*excused and unexcused*) per semester or 10 absences (*excused and unexcused*) for the school year.

**HIGH SCHOOL ART I: 1 credit** (7th - 8th Grade) **Instructor: Mr. Matt Holman Prerequisite: Art II in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or Art III in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.** This course is meant to teach advanced techniques in design and composition at a high school level for students interested in continuing advanced art studies in high school. In this class, students will be responsible for keeping a weekly sketchbook and taking part in class critiques. Students will complete projects in printmaking, clay, wire sculpture, abstract design, painting, oil pastel, and dry media such as pencil, colored pencil, and chalk. The advanced nature of this class will better prepare students for continued high school level art courses by teaching them to actively critique their own works and make greater use of their creative abilities.

**HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS: 0.5 credit** (7th or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade) **Instructor: Mrs. Brennan (will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability)** Communication Applications is an interactive course designed to study and improve basic communication skills and elements, personal communication roles and responsibilities, group and social communication processes, as well as preparation, organization and delivery techniques for public speaking.

**HIGH SCHOOL DESKTOP PUBLISHING: 0.5 credit** (7<sup>th</sup> -8th Grade) **Instructor: Mr. Holman (will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability) Prerequisite: Computer I or Intermediate Computer II AND Art II or Art III.** Desktop Publishing will teach students to use the Adobe Creative Suite programs of Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. In Photoshop, students will learn color correction, image manipulation, color enhancement and digital composite construction. In Illustrator, students will learn to make vector art images, text (outlined text, drop shadows, three-dimensional text and vector manipulation using Bezier curves and anchor adjustment), and layered compositions. In-Design projects will cover page layout design utilizing the principles of design including half and full-page advertising layouts, book cover, tri-fold brochure and full-page flyer design. Layout projects will also include placement of vectors rendered in Illustrator and images corrected/modified in Photoshop to teach utilization of all three programs at once in a single project. Students may take Art III during the same school year as Desktop Publishing.

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**HIGH SCHOOL HEALTH: 0.5 credit** (7th - 8th Grade) **Instructor: Mrs. Hampton (will be offered based on teacher / scheduling availability)** Students develop skills that will make them health-literate adults. Students gain a deeper understanding of the knowledge and behaviors they use to safeguard their health, particularly pertaining to health risks. Students are taught how to access accurate information that they can use to promote health for themselves and others. Students use problem-solving, research, goal-setting and communication skills to protect their health and that of the community.

**HIGH SCHOOL SPANISH: 1 credit** (8th Grade) **Instructor: Mrs. Blake (Prerequisite: Spanish I students may be screened for success)** This is an advanced elective class that will meet four times a week and requires strong study skills. *Students must have taken Spanish in 7th grade and completed the class with a minimum of an 80% average to qualify.* This class will have a limited enrollment and academic performance and date of elective submission request will be considered if the need arises.

**HIGH SCHOOL TOUCH SYSTEM DATA ENTRY: 0.5 credit** (7<sup>th</sup> - 8th Grade) **Instructor: Mrs. Hampton (Prerequisite: Computer I or Intermediate Computer II AND a typing speed of 28 wpm with 80% accuracy)** In Touch System Data Entry, students apply technical skills to address business applications of emerging technologies. Students enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the business environment. Students will develop advanced training in keyboarding skills and word processing. In addition, spreadsheets and presentation applications will be explored and advanced internet research skills will be developed.

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## 7-8th Grade FAQ

- 1. *If my student will not play a varsity sport - does he/she have to take PE.***  
Yes, all students will participate in physical education and will be scheduled for a regular PE class.
- 2. *If I am in 7th grade and have never taken ART, can I still take High School Art?***  
Yes, you will need to take Art III as a 7th grader and High School Art as an 8th grader.
- 3. *If I am in 7th grade and have never taken Art, can I still take High School Desktop Publishing?***  
Yes, you will need to take Art III as a 7th grader and you must have taken Computer I in 6th grade or Computer II as a 7th grader. Then, you will take High School Desktop Publishing as an 8th grader.
- 4. *If I am in 8th grade and have never taken Spanish, can I take a Spanish class?***  
Yes, you can take Spanish I. It is NOT a high school credit class, but it will give you a great foundation for taking Spanish I in 9th grade.
- 5. *As a 7th grader, what High School Credit classes can I take?***  
Assuming you have met all Prerequisites: High School Art, High School Desktop Publishing, High School Communications, High School Touch Systems Data Entry, HS Health
- 6. *What is a Prerequisite?***  
A class or classes that you must have taken BEFORE you can take the elective.
- 7. *What High School Electives are available only for 8th grade?***  
Assuming you have met all Prerequisites: High School Spanish
- 8. *How many electives can 7th graders fit in their schedule?***  
*Including PE, 7th graders will have a minimum of 4 elective slots to fill. Each elective 7th graders can take would fill 1 elective slot.*
- 9. *How many electives can 8th graders fit in their schedule?***  
*Including PE, 8th graders will have a minimum of 4 elective slots to fill. Each class listed above would fill 1 slot, except High School Spanish which fills 2 slots.*
- 10. *What electives can I take in 7th grade and then again in 8th grade?***  
Band, Choir, Servant Leadership, Exploratory Block, and Drama Production.

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**11. *Can I take High School Spanish and be in Band?***

Last year, this was possible. We are hoping it will work again this year.

**12. *Can I change my elective at semester if I don't like it?***

No, unfortunately, our scheduling does not allow changes at semester. You are selecting the elective for the entire year.

**13. *When can I change my elective?***

An Appeals Form will be available the first day of school. If a change is desired, complete and submit it by the first Friday of school for consideration.

**14. *Are High School Communications and High School Health still required electives to graduate from high school?***

No, these classes are no longer required to graduate in the State of Texas. They simply give your student elective credits to begin with when they start planning their high school credit plans. This frees them up to take additional courses toward endorsements or to have study halls on years they may need one. We, at Trinity, also believe that the classes are very important in the development of young Christians, so we continue to offer them here at Trinity.

**15. *There is a possible Block I for 6th graders and a Block II for 7-8th graders. Do you have to take Block I to take Block II?***

Students do not have to take Block I in 6th grade to take Block II in 7th or 8th grade. Students may take Block I in 6th grade and take Block II again in both years in 7th and 8th grade if they would like. The courses are on a rotation that allows us to offer new classes each year.