



Libertas Selectives

The Libertas Selective classes will now meet for the entire school year and not on a semester basis. They are broken down into two categories:

3 Day Selectives and 2 Day Selectives

3 Day Selectives meet on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays throughout the school year from 1:20 – 2:00pm. 2 Day Selectives meet at the same time on Tuesdays and Thursdays. When signing up for Libertas Selectives, students will be asked to give their first and second choices for both categories. We will make our best effort to accommodate each student with his first choice, but there are limits to the class size per selective. Some selectives are only open to particular grades. If this is the case it will be apparent in the title of the selective. Also, please note that this year there is no formal music requirement, however students are encouraged to take advantage of the music classes offered through the Libertas Selective curriculum.

3 Day Selectives

Advanced Band (7th and 8th Grade)

Mr. Keenley
Mr. Klatt

Building upon the fundamentals of ensemble music learned in the previous year, students in Advanced Band will continue to perfect their instrumental capabilities while playing at various events during the school year. The Advanced Band will strive to reach a level of cohesion and professional demeanor through hard work and attention to detail, while at the same time having fun playing music together. The two key performances for the Advanced Band during the year are the Christmas and Spring Concerts.

(20 students - audition may be required)

Art & Craftsmanship (6th Grade)

Mr. Collins

The basic skill developed throughout the Art & Craftsmanship class is that of drawing. 6th grade students learn to draw basic three-dimensional shapes and move to more difficult assignments such as drawing the human person, the use of

perspective, etc. Other projects include learning about and coloring heraldic shields with a special regard to understanding the color wheel. There will also be some light craft projects connected with various feasts throughout the year.
(20 students)

Advanced Art & Craftsmanship (7th and 8th Grade)

Mr. Hebert

In Advanced Art & Craftsmanship, students continue to refine their artistic skills while expanding their horizons. Although drawing still forms the heart of this class, students will also begin to explore other mediums such as paint, clay, leatherwork, etc. Different techniques will be explored as students attempt to define their own styles and discover their creative sensibilities.

(20 students)

Advanced Acoustic Guitar (7th and 8th Grade only)

Mr. Whitebread

Designed for guitarists that have already taken '6th Grade Guitar', this course seeks to further the development of guitarists that currently have a basic grasp of reading music, open position chords, song performance, and beginning music theory. As students continue studying the acoustic guitar, the class will include a richer exploration of applied Western music styles including jazz, country blues, modern pop/rock, and the guitar's historical roots in the medieval, baroque, classical, and romantic era arts. While the course is primarily open to all students who have successfully completed the '6th Grade Guitar' class, openings may be available by audition. Students are asked to provide their own guitar, clip-on tuner, guitar picks, and 3 sets of guitar strings. The anticipated expense is about \$140 per student for all needed items including the instrument.

(18 students – audition may be required)

Silent Study

Mr. Thomas (6th Grade)

Mr. Inglish (7th Grade)

Mr. Miggins (8th Grade)

The Silent Study period is designed for students who would benefit from a period of intense work that is proctored by a teacher. Students may do homework, study for tests, work on projects, or perform any other school related activity during this period. The Silent Study period is split into three different grade level classrooms with a teacher available in each room to answer questions about school work.

(20 students per grade)

Speech & Debate

Mr. Thompson

Speech and Debate affords students the opportunity to hone their speaking and critical thinking skills. For the speech portion of the course, students will select, interpret, and perform prose, poetry, drama, biblical passages, historical speeches,

and Reader's Theater with constructive criticism from their teacher and peers. For the debate component, students will learn the fundamentals of logic, research, case writing, flowing, cross-examination, and rebuttals within the context of the Public Forum Debate model. Students will be encouraged, but not required, to put their talents to the test in a few local middle school speech and debate tournaments.
(20 students)

2 Day Selectives

Acoustic Guitar (6th Grade)

Mr. Whitebread

In this introductory course to acoustic guitar, students will learn to read, play, and perform on their instrument from a Western perspective. While drawing from the traditional roots of European harmony and African rhythm, the students will learn guitar basics in the context of American musical styles uniquely born in this country. Within the scope of a class designed for beginners, lessons will cover styles that span the blues, jazz, folk, sacred, classical and rock genres. Course content is aimed at achieving a basic proficiency on the instrument while fostering the skills of group performance, ear training, and reading standard notation. Students are asked to provide their own guitar, clip-on tuner, guitar picks, and 3 sets of guitar strings. The anticipated expense is about \$140 per student for all needed items including the instrument.

(8 students)

Band (6th Grade)

Mr. Keenley

Mr. Klatt

6th grade students will apply lower school music theory to learn the essential elements of playing a wind instrument. Instruction will focus on developing good tone quality, pitch, and the ability to play music in an ensemble. The 6th Grade Band will perform at various points during the school year, including the Christmas Concert in December and the Spring Concert in May.

(16 students - audition may be required)

Introduction to Art History (8th Grade)

Mr. Thomas

This class is an introduction into the history of art, tailored to 8th grade boys who are mature enough to really appreciate form and beauty. The class will begin with establishing a basic definition for art and then proceed to cover the major movements in art history, highlighting individuals who were leaders of those same movements. Students will learn what events and ideas surrounded the birth of these movements. Though the class is learning, primarily, about Western art, students will be given some exposure to the art of other major world cultures. Students should leave the class with a basic knowledge of major

movements and artists, as well as having the cultural literacy to identify individual works.

(20 students)

Logic (7th and 8th Grade)

Mr. Creech

Whether a general in battle, a lawyer in courtroom, a quarterback on the field, or a statesmen in the assembly, success in action or persuasion depends on clear and logical thinking. In Logic, students will develop and hone the logical and strategic thinking necessary to navigate the many complex, fluid situations of life. Along with grammar and rhetoric, logic is a pillar of the liberal arts trivium. In this class students in the 7th and 8th grade have an opportunity to strengthen their logical thinking, which will improve their writing and communication skills immensely. Students will also have fun solving logical puzzles and playing challenging strategy games.

(20 students)

Silent Study

Mr. Power (6th Grade)

Mr. Inglish (7th Grade)

Mr. Miggins (8th Grade)

The Silent Study period is designed for students who would benefit from a period of intense work that is proctored by a teacher. Students may do homework, study for tests, work on projects, or perform any other school related activity during this period. The Silent Study period is split into three different grade level classrooms with a teacher available in each room to answer questions about school work.

(20 students per grade)

Theater

Mr. Janeiro

Mr. Callahan

Building upon the bard tradition of Western Academy's festival days, Theater offers students a rich immersion in the history of theater as they mature in their acting craft and hone their public speaking skills. Throughout the first semester students will learn various acting techniques and perform them through different scenes on stage. At the end of the semester in early January, the entire class will produce a one act play, replete with set building, costumes, props, playbills, etc. During the second semester theater students will be given the first opportunity to audition for Western's Spring Show - Sherlock Holmes. They will also take part in the preparation for that show while continuing to refine their acting skills in the classroom.

(20 students)

Woodworking (7th and 8th Grade)

Mr. Rodrigues

Woodworking is both an art and a craft which requires an incredible attention to detail. When done well, woodworking is truly a marvel to behold. In Woodworking class, 7th and 8th grade boys will carefully hand-craft a variety of wooden objects. With prudence, diligence, and precision, both wood and virtue will be carved out in what is sure to be a popular selective.

(8-10 students)

Yearbook (8th Grade)

Mr. Thompson

From start to finish, Western Academy 8th grade students will complete the production of the 2017-18 Yearbook. Although it requires a lot of effort, this is an extremely rewarding endeavor that will result in a finished product for the entire school community. In the Yearbook class, students can expect to get a lot of hands-on technological training. They will gain a greater proficiency with typing, become fluent with the Lucidpress software we use to create the yearbook, improve their writing and editing skills, and learn the fundamentals of photography and videography.

(6 students)

Other Selectives*Middle School Choir**

Mr. Whitebread

This year the Middle School Choir class is in a category of its own. Since we are unable to clone Mr. Whitebread, this class must now meet before school from 7:45-8:15am on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Middle School Choir remains a Libertas Selective class and will be included on all report cards and transcripts of those enrolled. It is essentially a 3rd selective for those students. This class continues the study of choral music developed in the lower school grades. The focus is on developing a healthy vocal technique, choral score reading and ensemble performance. The boys will learn to sing a variety of music (sacred, classical, folk, show tunes, etc.) and will also learn to sing in harmony with each other. The Middle School Choir will perform in various shows throughout the year, including the Christmas Concert, the Spring Show, and the Spring Concert. They will also make a few special field trips during the year to sing.

(16 students – auditions may be required)