



Libertas Selectives 2019-20

The Libertas Selective classes for 2019-20 meet for the entire school year and 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 12:45 – 1:20pm. 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, and sometimes a third choice is required. 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, and the advanced courses for Art & Craftsmanship, Acoustic Guitar, and Band all have prerequisite courses that must be taken first.

3 Day Selectives

Advanced Acoustic Guitar (7th and 8th Grade)

Mr. Whitebread

Designed for guitarists that have already taken Acoustic 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 Acoustic Guitar class, openings may be available by audition. *Note: 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.*

Art & Craftsmanship

Mr. Collins

The basic skill developed throughout the Art & Craftsmanship class is that of drawing. 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 three-dimensional craft projects primarily using the medium of leather.

Band

Mr. Gabbart

Mr. Keenley

In band, students will apply lower school music theory to learn the essential elements of playing a brass or woodwind instrument. Instruction will focus on developing good tone quality, pitch, and the ability to play music in an ensemble. The band will perform at various points during the school year, including the Christmas Concert in December and the Spring Concert in May. *Note: Students will be required to rent or buy their instruments from an outside source and take lessons outside of school as well. A list of possible rental places and lesson opportunities will be provided upon acceptance to the class.*

Myths & Stories

Mr. Thompson

In Myths and Stories, students will study man's storytelling nature throughout the ages. Students will explore the origin, meaning, and enduring value of myths in both ancient societies and our own. One of the central goals of the course will be to cultivate an artistic sensibility and a philosophical appreciation for our cultural patrimony as it has been manifested in timeless stories.

Roam in Rome

Mr. Callahan

Do you ever wonder about the many peoples of the ancient world and how they lived their daily lives? What were their hopes? Their dreams? What did they fear and worry themselves over – what delighted them? In this selective we will attempt to answer all of these questions and more. By steeping ourselves in the ancient stories, customs, and culture of the Greco-Roman world, students will gain a tempered yet privileged glimpse of the strange, sandal-clad folks who roamed the earth before our time. We will also do what the Romans did such as make swords and shields, perform in plays and myths, and inscribe various Latin phrases atop the towering monuments of Rome!

Silent Study

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.

Theater

Mr. Janeiro

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. In this class, students will learn various acting techniques and perform them through different scenes on stage. They will put these skills on display during a live performance for their families and peers. Students in the theater class will also increase their chances of landing a role in the annual Spring Show at the end of the year.

2 Day Selectives

Acoustic Guitar

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. *Note: 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.*

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

Mr. Collins

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 ceramics, clay, and glass. Different techniques will be explored as students attempt to define their own styles and discover their creative sensibilities.

Advanced Band (7th and 8th Grade)

Mr. Gabbart
Mr. Keenley

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. *Note: Students will be required to rent or buy their instruments from an outside source and take lessons outside of school as well. A list of possible rental places and lesson opportunities will be provided upon acceptance to the class.*

Adventures in Literature

Mr. Janeiro

Would you like to go on an adventure? A world of adventure and mystery is open to those willing to apply themselves. You will read some of the greatest adventures and mysteries ever written. This selective will be very rewarding for those with the heart and mind to see each tale through to its dramatic conclusion. Treasures await the bold! Works in this class may include: Captain Blood by Rafael Sabatini, Jerusalem Liberated by Torquato Tasso, Taras Bulba by Gogol, The Prisoner of Zenda by Anthony Hope, Beau Geste by Sir Percival Wren, and many more...

Chess & Strategy

Mr. Carroll

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 Chess & Strategy, students will develop and hone the logical and strategic thinking necessary to navigate the many complex and fluid situations of life. Students will also have fun solving logical puzzles, playing challenging strategy games, and learning the art of chess.

Silent Study

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.

Theater

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. In this class, students will learn various acting techniques and perform them through different scenes on stage. They will put these skills on display during a live performance for their families and peers. Students in the theater class will also increase their chances of landing a role in the annual Spring Show at the end of the year.

Woodworking (7th and 8th Grade)

Mr. Rodrigues

Mr. D'Andrea

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, students will carefully hand-craft a variety of wooden objects. With prudence, diligence, and precision, both wood and virtue will be carved out in this hands-on selective.