

## Northshore Christian Academy

A Ministry of Northshore Christian Church ~ [www.northshorechristianschools.org](http://www.northshorechristianschools.org)

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## NCA Middle School Core Supplement (Elective) Classes 2011-2012 Sign-up Information

Dear Parents of Current Sixth and Seventh Graders,

As this school year is wrapping up, we are looking at exciting opportunities for next year! The new Middle School Pavilion will be up and open for learning, with wonderful chances for our students to experience spiritual growth and academic achievement.

Please see the descriptions below for the core supplement (elective) classes to be offered for **your child's grade** next year. These course offerings add to the education provided by our core subjects (English, Science and Math). Some of the courses are required and some are up to each family to select.

A portion of these classes is intended for the full year, while others are semester offerings. We do not expect that all of these classes will experience sufficient enrollment to enable us to schedule them, but we do want to gauge your interest in a wider variety of courses than we currently offer. Thanks to your input, we are glad to propose these classes for our middle school young people at NCA.

**Music offerings:** if your student is currently enrolled in a band or choir class, we strongly encourage you to continue with these courses. The foundation that is laid there is vital to success in high school in that the *skills and discipline* acquired in these classes also enhance performance in future *academic* courses.

**Forms are due May 17.** Courses will be filled on a first come-first served basis, with preference given to eighth graders. If you have any questions, please contact me.



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## 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Supplement (Elective) Classes

- Beginning German:** Learning basic expressions, numbers, phrases and other issues in basic literacy in the German language. *Sprechen sie Deutsch?* This course requires a full year commitment.
- Beginning Spanish:** The first part of a two-year program seeking to prepare students to pass a competency exam for Spanish 1 in high school. This course requires a full year commitment.
- Advanced Spanish:** The second part of a two-year program seeking to prepare students to pass a competency exam for Spanish 1 in high school. This course requires a full year commitment.
- Advanced Drama:** Building upon basic concepts presented in Beginning Drama, this class looks towards the presentation of a one-act play.
- Robotics:** This semester-long course is aimed at providing further practice in manipulating simple robots through the Lego *Mindstorms* curriculum NXT software used by the Carnegie Mellon Robotics Academy.
- Pre-AP Writing:** Preparing students with skills necessary for success in later high school *Advanced Placement* English classes as directed by the *College Board*.
- Microsoft Office 2010:** Continuing the acquisition of skills required to successful navigation of Word, Excel, Publisher and other programs in the suite
- Google Sketchup:** Students will learn utilize a 3D software tool that combines a tool-set with an intelligent drawing system.
- Servant Leadership:** Developing skills necessary to become team leaders who work with others to achieve the most in school, business and in the Kingdom of God
- Independent Living:** Learning basics of food preparation, clothing care and repair and household management.
- Pre-AP Physics:** Preparing students with skills necessary for success in later high school physical science classes and Advanced Placement Physics classes as directed by the College Board.
- Speech and Debate:** Honing skills begun in our Speech Meet exercises to conduct research and present compelling arguments.
- Praise Team:** Using voices, guitars, drums and keyboards to lead other students in music and worship in our weekly chapel services
- Jazz Band:** This “zero hour” class will meet Monday and Thursday mornings for students who want to learn to play the “Big Band” sound. Duke Ellington and Glen Miller would be proud!
- Reading Lab:** Gaining additional practice in building vocabulary, predicting, analyzing, summarizing, and reviewing written material, students will improve their ability to deal with challenging material. This course requires a full year commitment and may be required according to teacher recommendations.
- Math Lab:** Receiving extra time, students are encouraged to work on, and ask specific questions about problems and concepts for which they need help. This course may be required according to teacher recommendations.
- World Missions:** Studying how God is using various mission organizations to bring the hope of the gospel across our borders and around the world!
- String Ensemble:** Developed for students with at least a year’s experience playing a violin, viola, cello or bass; this class improves the young musician’s skills and familiarity with his /her instrument.
- Study Hall:** Helps our busy students get it all done!
- Student Aide:** Students assist our busy elementary staff with basic tasks aimed at increasing academic achievement for our younger students and at the same time in acquiring better organizational skills for themselves!
- Basic Home Repair:** Repairing a lamp, replacing a shingle, fixing a leaky faucet, refinishing a chair, these are just a few of the simple home repairs students can learn. Don’t you want to sign up?
- Financial Peace University:** A hit with our Northshore School of the Arts and Enrichment students, this course will teach young people vital skills in the area of personal finance.
- Advanced Band:** Woodwinds, horns, guitars and drums...It’s all here! This course requires a full year commitment and requires teacher approval.
- Business Education:** Students will be introduced to these key business concepts: establishing goals, understanding a target market, budgeting, obtaining and managing inventory, marketing products, merchandising product, and proper records maintenance.
- Art:** Building on the principles and techniques practiced in 6th grade art, students will imitate famous artists after studying their styles. Artists will sample abstract art, impressionism, and realism and explore ways to influence their culture.
- Yearbook:** Working with our adult staff to create next year’s edition. Students will learn the basics of photography and page layout
- Web Design:** Provides students with the skills necessary to plan and create web sites using Expression Design and Web.
- Game Design:** Provides students with the skills necessary to plan and create basic video games. Complement to the Web Design class.
- Peer Counseling:** Introduces techniques aimed at improving interpersonal communication, practicing academic pair/share techniques and how to spiritually encourage classmates.
- Intermediate Band:** Taking the next step in instrumental instruction, this band builds on skills learned in Beginning Band and prepares our musicians for the challenges of Advanced Band and Jazz Band. This course requires a full year commitment.
- Beginning Strings:** The beauty of chamber music...this is where it all begins! Violins, violas, cellos and more! This course requires a full year commitment.
- Select Choir:** This is an audition only group for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Vocalists will learn sight reading and choral literature that is both inspiring and fun. This course requires a full year commitment and requires teacher approval.
- Career Exploration:** Learning about different career options through interest surveys, guest speakers and research projects
- Pre-Driving:** Preparing students for future Drivers Education classes by helping them understanding the basic systems of automobiles the issues involved in safe motoring.
- Android Apps:** Design your own apps for Android phones. Could this be the launching pad for the next “Angry Birds?”