

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS 2020-2021

Below you will find descriptions of this year's elective course offerings. Note that some grade level options vary. On the google form, choose your top 3 choices in order of preference, 1 being your top choice. Requests will be served on a first come first served basis. Elective form will close **Tuesday, August 18 at 12 midnight.**

Follow the link to make your selection. [ELECTIVE FORM](#)

MUSIC (6th, 7th, 8th)

Mr. Palmer (LIMIT 25)

Students will have the exciting opportunity to be a member of the “El Sol Rockers”. Each member of the group will gain performance experience on an instrument of their choice (piano, drums/percussion, acoustic or electric guitar, bass, and/or vocals). Throughout the year, the students will gain valuable musical theory knowledge (reading music) as well as the correct technique in learning to play an instrument.

Members of the group will also have several performance opportunities that consist of performing for their peers at school assemblies, off campus performances, as well as an exciting opportunity to be a member of the “pit band” for our Broadway musicals that happen each year for our elementary students.

CASA Code (6th, 7th, 8th)

Mrs. Gonzalez

CASA stands for *Cultura, Aprendizaje, Servicio, and Acción*. The program provides students with access to hands-on coding lessons while instilling a sense of civic and community. Students will be able to learn and expand on their coding skills through block based coding and algorithmic thinking. This year, students will be focusing on creating service learning projects around the theme of Covid-19. CASA Code will offer students opportunities for virtual field trips and interviews with leaders in STEAM careers.

Ethnic Studies (6th, 7th, 8th)

Ms. Hernandez

Through Ethnic Studies Understanding Me

We are always growing, changing and learning about ourselves. In this course we will explore various ways in which our identities are developed like photos through the experiences, histories and struggles of the world around us. We will develop an understanding of how race, ethnicity, nationality, and culture have shaped and continue to shape us as individuals and the larger society around us. As class, we will learn from other young people’s perspectives through their writings, photos, music and art. We will reflect on these stories and how they mirror or contrast our own experiences through writing, creating art and thoughtful discussion.

ART (6th, 7th, 8th) - Limit 25

Mrs. Harrison (6th)

Ms. G. Rodriguez (7th and 8th)

Students will explore the creative process from start to finish through a variety of media and technique in order to grow their skills and knowledge in visual arts. From dreaming and creating to art history and culturally

significant artworks from around the world, students will explore all facets of the visual arts. Media addressed this year will include digital art, illustration, printmaking, sculpture and more.

CASA Leadership (6th)

Mrs. Mejia

Cultura, Aprendizaje, Servicio, y Acción (CASA) is a leadership program that promotes service learning projects in our community. It is a place where you can have a voice, honor the culture of our Hispanic communities and become an agent of change through various activities and actions. Through active engagement, students develop complex critical-thinking skills while gaining high levels of academic learning. CASA is a nationally recognized program and as such requires a year-long commitment in becoming representatives of El Sol that want to make a difference in their communities

Creative Writing (7th)

Mr. Torres

Stories are all around us. They are found in the books that we read, the comics that we flip through, the movies we watch, and the tales that our friends and family tell. In this course, we will focus on creative writing as a way of telling stories both real and imagined. We will be reading and writing our own creative pieces, from poetry and short stories to comics and skits.

Understanding the World through Fiction and Poetry (8th)

Mr. Torres

Stories and poetry are forms of art that can help us understand the world and our place in it. In this course, we will read and discuss stories and poetry together in order to better understand who we are and the many issues that our world currently faces. Topics that will be discussed include racism, cultural identity, immigration, gender inequality, etc.