



# **WYLIE PREPARATORY ACADEMY**

## **Lower School Enrichment Course Descriptions**

*Revised 2/2020*

# Wylie Preparatory Academy

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## **Visual Art 1 (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>)**

This course is designed to introduce art from a Christian perspective. Using a variety of artistic media, including drawing, painting, and sculpture, students will learn techniques and principles of good composition. The course will expose students to artists and periods in history as well as the Biblical, Christ-centered origin of art and creativity. At this level, focus will be placed on vocabulary, basic techniques and creative expression while students begin to discover their unique talents and how to use them to glorify the Master Creator.

## **Visual Art 2 (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)**

This course is designed to introduce art from a Christian perspective. Using a variety of artistic media, including drawing, painting, and sculpture, students will learn techniques and principles of good composition. The course will expose students to artists and periods in history as well as the Biblical, Christ-centered origin of art and creativity. At this level, students will refine their use of different media and grow in technical skills while they develop their unique talents and how to use them to glorify the Master Creator.

## **STEM 1 : Lego Builders & Computers (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>)**

STEM courses will follow a six-week rotation schedule with two instructors and will consist of learning objectives from both Lego Builders and Computers. It will include opportunities for problem solving, critical thinking, cooperative group work, engineering challenges, coding, and keyboarding.

The computer portion of this course introduces students to the use of a computer, including terminology, and to basic keyboarding and coding skills. Students will learn how to type correctly and become comfortable with the computer. They will practice these skills by typing letters to a pen pal, by producing a power point presentation, and by designing a simple computer game. Students participate in the technology portion of STEM by exploring virtual environments and solving problems.

The Lego portion of the course challenges students to learn design principles and explore problem solving using a familiar and favorite medium...Lego bricks! Students will be presented with scenarios, problems or questions that they will engage on their own and as part of a team. They will have a lot of opportunity for teamwork and cooperation as they are introduced to valuable skills in the STEM areas!

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## **STEM 2: Lego Builders & Computers (Grades 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)**

STEM courses will follow a six-week rotation schedule with two instructors and will consist of learning objectives from both Lego Builders and Computers. It will include opportunities for problem solving, critical thinking, cooperative group work, engineering challenges, coding, and keyboarding. STEM 2 will also include an introduction to robotics.

The computer portion of this course continues instruction in basic keyboarding, computer and coding skills. Students will learn how to type correctly and become comfortable with the computer. They will discover how to apply this knowledge through various computer applications to produce schoolwork, create a power point presentation and design a simple computer game. Students participate in the technology portion of STEM by exploring virtual environments, solving problems, and designing products that meet specified goals.

The Lego portion of the course challenges students to learn design principles and explore problem solving using a familiar and favorite medium...Lego bricks! While students will continue to be presented with scenarios, problems or questions, they will also have the opportunity to modify designs as scenarios change and handle the occasional challenging twist to assignments. They will have a lot of opportunity for teamwork and cooperation as they are introduced to valuable skills in the STEM areas!

## **Performing Arts 1 (Grades 1-3)**

This energetic performing arts class will focus on introducing students to creative avenues of expression. Students will learn different ways to glorify God through music, movement, creative expression and dramatization. In addition, students will learn basic music theory, music literacy, theatrical expression, memorization, and evaluation. They will experience the joy of using instruments, expressing through movement, performing, and singing praise to our Lord. Students will have the opportunity to build confidence and creativity as they cooperate with others to perform in class and on stage. This class lays a foundation for a wide variety of performing arts basics over the course of three years.

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## **Performing Arts 2 (Grades 4-6)**

This class, called the Patriot Performers, combines components of music education and theatrical experiences in an engaging and exciting way. Students will continue to develop musical theory, as well as analytical, evaluative, writing, and vocal skills. They will refine those skills by learning to blend voices in harmonic and melodic intervals and create rhythmic and melodic phrases of their own. Theater components will include both onstage and offstage production techniques, critical evaluation, character development and interpretation, and respectful audience behavior. They will build confidence on stage and have multiple opportunities to perform for others. The Patriot Performers will present skits and songs in Crossover on Wednesday mornings. In addition, they will work as a team to develop, write, and perform multiple skits, songs, and even a larger scale production, all while learning to use their talents to honor the Lord.

## **Physical Training (Grades 3-6)**

In this course, the students will concentrate on the development of Godly character qualities through the playing of various sports, games, and skill building activities. The students will also learn about developing physical strength, endurance, and agility. Most importantly, they will be encouraged to develop a life-long appreciation for, and enjoyment of, physical fitness. This course is intended for all 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders and 6<sup>th</sup> graders *not enrolled in athletics*.

## **Foreign Language 1 (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>)**

The Foreign Language courses will follow a nine-week rotation schedule with two instructors and will consist of learning objectives in Spanish, Mandarin, Sign Language and Latin. These courses will focus on language and culture with a missional perspective.

### **Sign Language**

The Sign Language component offers a hands-on introduction to American Sign Language. Students learn to use sign language in conversational communication and music and have lots of fun in the process! Students learn key elements of vocabulary, dialogue, numbers, and finger spelling. They are introduced to cultural aspects of the deaf community and have opportunities to sign worship songs and skits in a performance setting.

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## **Spanish**

This introductory component is a fun, hands-on class. Students learn basic Spanish through games, music, crafts and activities. Students will be exposed to the fundamentals of the Spanish language as well as various aspects of Spanish culture. This class will focus on vocabulary development and basic conversational speaking. Key elements of conversation will include the alphabet, colors, numbers, and common greetings, parts of the body and days of the week.

## **Mandarin**

This introductory component is a fun, hands-on class. Students learn basic Mandarin through games, music, crafts and activities. This class will focus on vocabulary development and basic writing in Mandarin. Key elements of conversation will include the numbers, colors, sight words, dates, shapes and pre-writing characters.

## **Latin**

This component will use games, music and activities to develop the fundamentals of learning Latin. The students will focus on root words that will contribute to their overall academic vocabulary. This course will build a strong over-all foundation for learning language.

## **Foreign Language 2 (Grades 4-6th)**

The Foreign Language courses will follow a nine-week rotation schedule with two instructors and will consist of learning objectives in Spanish, Mandarin, Sign Language and Latin. These courses will focus on language and culture with a missional perspective.

## **Sign Language**

The Sign Language course offers hands-on instruction to American Sign Language while building on previous elements of Foreign Language 1. Students learn to use sign language in conversational communication and music and have lots of fun in the process! Students learn everyday concepts such as eating, drinking, telling time, weather, parts of the body and emotions. They are introduced to cultural aspects of the deaf community and have opportunities to sign worship songs and skits in a performance setting.

## **Spanish**

This component is a fun, hands-on class. Students learn basic Spanish through games, music, crafts and activities. Students will be exposed to the fundamentals of the Spanish language as well as various aspects of Spanish culture. This class will focus on vocabulary development and conversational speaking. Key elements of conversation will build upon concepts learned in Foreign Language 1 but will also include vocabulary for animals and family.

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## **Mandarin**

This component is a fun, hands-on class. Students learn basic Mandarin through games, music, crafts and activities. This class will focus on vocabulary development and basic writing Mandarin. Key elements of conversation will include the weather, seasons, question words, and character structures.

## **Latin**

This course will use games, music and activities to develop the fundamentals of learning Latin. The students will focus on root words that will contribute to their overall academic vocabulary. This course will build a strong over-all foundation for learning language as well as preparation for academic vocabulary in upper level courses.

## **Study Hall (Grades 1-6)**

A monitored study hall is available for both enrichment periods. Students are expected to have all needed materials and work on assignments as independently as possible. The study hall teacher is available to help with homework as needed.