



2020-2021 CHESS Elective Course Descriptions

Around the World (K-2)

Get ready for your student to take the ultimate class field trip! Through games, stories, art, and music, students will be introduced to many countries, exploring languages and cultures across the globe. Along the way students will keep journals and passports as they meet special guests from around the world.

Outside commitment: none

Art (K-2, 3-6)

Anyone can learn to further develop their already existing natural creative talents, build confidence and have fun too! Through painting, drawing, sculpting, and the use of raw materials, students will enjoy creating a new project each week.

Outside commitment: none

Art I (9-12)

This class is for the artist with some experience or who would like a bit more of a challenge. Students will research ideas for projects at the beginning of each new project. Students will study the Elements of Design and complete projects pertaining to these concepts (line, shape, color, etc), using primarily pencil, but also colored pencil, and a few other mediums. Internet access is required (at home, library, etc.) to research ideas. Students must have the ability to print in color.

Outside commitment: moderate

Applies toward elective graduation requirement.

ASL I (9-12)

ASL I is a first-time look at the language of American Sign Language and the Deaf community. Students will learn basic vocabulary and work to build a foundation of understanding. In this remote learning class, we will not only learn hand signs, but also dig into the Deaf community and what makes them unique. Work will include online videos, assignments, quizzes and interactive elements. Students may also get a chance to meet and interact with people in the community to use the skills they've learned in a real way and understand the language from the perspective of a native user. This class will fulfill a high school foreign language credit. This class will have a remote teacher and an in-class proctor.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: moderate

Applies toward elective graduation requirements.

ASL II (9-12)

ASL II is a continuation of ASL I for students who have successfully completed ASL I with a 70% or higher. In this remote learning class, we will dive further into the language and community. Students will not only learn more advanced vocabulary to continue their language learning, but will also work on grammar and sentence structure to use the language outside the classroom. Work will include online videos, assignments, quizzes and interactive elements to expand understanding and start to develop mastery of ASL. Students may also get a chance to meet and interact with people in the community to use the skills they've learned in a real way and understand the language from the perspective of a native user. This class will fulfill a high school foreign language credit. This class will have a remote teacher and an in-class proctor. This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: moderate

Applies toward elective graduation requirements.

ASL (3-5)

ASL is a way for students to learn a language that uses manual hand signs (American Sign Language) and facial expressions to communicate with an often-neglected people group: the Deaf community. Students will learn the basic vocabulary needed to communicate as well as how to describe the world around them in ASL. Students will learn online with the help of videos, interactive lessons, assignments and even games. This class will have a remote teacher and an in-class proctor.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: minimal

Beginning Worship Band (6-8)

Students will have the opportunity to explore different roles and responsibilities of a worship band based on their abilities (guitar, drums, piano, bass, etc). Students will periodically lead worship during chapel on Monday.. Students must already possess knowledge on vocals and instruments (these are not taught in this course).

****Students must currently be taking vocal or instrumental lessons, and will be required to provide a letter from their instructor.**

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: moderate/high (Vocal and instrument practice outside of class and performances.)

Career Planning/Life Skills (9-12)

This course will be divided by semester. One semester will have a strong emphasis on culinary arts, with six weeks of practical life skills. Topics include, but are not limited to: culinary skills, meal planning and hosting, laundry/clothing repair, stress management techniques, basic car maintenance, online safety, and etiquette. Another semester will be devoted to helping students discover their God-given gifts and align them with various career options. Topics covered include: spiritual gift testing, career interest surveying, college applications and scholarships,

writing resumes and preparing for interviews, and creating a personal post HS plan. Two job shadow experiences will be required outside of class time.

Outside classwork requirement: minimal, (with the exception of job shadowing).

Applies toward elective graduation requirements.

Civil Air Patrol (CAP)/STEM (6-8)

This class will focus on learning about aerospace knowledge, which will include activities relating to rocketry, airplanes, astronomy, and quadcopters. Students will also study basic level programming to use in conjunction with Sphero and a robotic arm.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: minimal

Cooking (3-5, 6-8)

Students will learn some of the basics of proper nutrition and kitchen skills, as well as how to make some of their favorite dishes and how to follow a recipe. Basic and advanced kitchen skills will be taught based upon age.

Outside commitment: minimal

CPR/First Aid (9-12)

Students will be certified in CPR and First Aid upon the completion of the course. In the CPR portion of the course, students will gain the ability to recognize life-threatening emergencies, provide CPR, use an AED, and relieve choking in a safe, timely and effective manner. The First Aid portion of the course is designed to provide rescuers the fundamental skills to recognize and treat medical emergencies. This course will teach students scene safety, the signs and symptoms of diabetes, stroke, and seizures and how to best treat these emergencies.

Outside commitment: minimal

Dance (K-2, 3-5)

CHESS dance classes are designed to work on technique, stretching, movement, and choreography. The classes are for multilevel learners and will cater to the individual needs of each student. Every student will learn a love of dance in a fun filled atmosphere while being motivated to be the best they can be. Not only is it a beautiful art form, but it allows everyone to use the gifts and talents God has blessed them with in a creative way.

Outside Commitment: moderate (practice time; possible biannual performances)

Drawing (6-8)

This class is for the newer artist or one who enjoys guided projects. This class will begin with the basics of drawing: how to see an object and translate what is seen to the paper.

We will use a lot of pencil, then add in colored pencil and possibly a few other mediums.

Outside commitment: minimal

Financial Planning (9-12)

A Dave Ramsey based introduction to the principles of sound money management with a focus on biblical principles. Personal Finance is a course designed to help students understand the impact of individual choices on occupational goals and future earnings potential. Topics covered will include income, money management, spending and credit, as well as saving and investing. Students will design personal and household budgets simulate use of checking and savings accounts, demonstrate knowledge of finance, debt, and credit management, and evaluate and understand insurance and taxes. This course will provide a foundational understanding for making informed personal financial decisions. Curriculum: Dave Ramsey - Foundations In Personal Finance - High School Edition
This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: moderate

Applies toward graduation requirements.

Five in a Row (K-2)

Students will be introduced to math, science, social studies, geography, and art through classic children's literature. The class will include hands-on interaction with the stories read, and fun extension ideas you can use at home. This is a great class for all types of learning styles.

Outside commitment: minimal

Girls Dance Fitness (6-8, 9-12)

Dance Fitness is designed for dance-loving girls who are also interested in staying fit. Students will be actively engaged in cardio, strength, toning and building core muscles, while "moving and grooving!". This class is recommended for cheer participants, but not required. Students also do NOT have to be in cheer to participate.

Outside commitment: moderate (Daily practice)

Girls Devotional Class: Defined (9-12)

In this class, young women will have the opportunity to explore their identity as women rooted in Christ. The first semester, students will go through the book Defined, by Priscilla Shirer. The second semester they will discuss the armor of God and how it relates to protecting Christian identity.

Outside commitment: minimal

Health (9-12)

This class will provide a basic overview of health, wellness, and safety, with a Biblical view of how we should treat our bodies. Topics to be discussed include communicable disease and how do I protect myself, nutrition, healthy relationships, substance abuse, mental health, holistic medicine, etc.

Outside commitment: moderate

Applies toward graduation requirements.

Health and Fitness (3-5)

Students will be in the classroom to learn a variety of health topics and will be challenged to put them into practice as this class will also incorporate physical fitness. We will focus on having fun, learning about our bodies, and will explore healthy outlets for built up energy.

Outside commitment: minimal to none

Heart of a Warrior (6-8, 9-12)

This year Heart of a Warrior will take a wider brushstroke in providing young men an opportunity to gain a greater understanding about who and where they are and recognizing the good that God is up to in their lives. The primary goal is for a student to discover their identity in Christ and to know belovedness and wholeheartedness. Spiritual and emotional health is addressed as well.

We will be partnering with [Manna WorldWide](#) helping [to Engage, Equip and Empower](#) young people to become servant leaders who leverage all they have and all they are for the Glory of God and the good of others. Students will be invited to participate in an optional Fall weekend Equip retreat and an overseas spring mission trip. Fundraising initiatives will be built into the experience to support their involvement and ownership of these experiences. There will be a need for parent chaperones as well.

Equip Retreat (Kentucky) Sept 11-13
Empower Mission Trip Spring 2021

Outside Commitment: Moderate (fundraising, activities, and optional trips)

IEW (3-5)

Students will learn to write with clear structure and compelling style. Incremental lessons present a system of structural models (e.g., narrative, essay, report) and stylistic techniques (e.g., strong verbs, quality adjectives, and a variety of sentence openers).

Outside Commitment: minimal

Literature Alive (K-2)

Literature will come alive as students discover artists and books that are engaging, exciting, and will expand their knowledge and imagination!

Outside Commitment: none

Logic (9-12)

The art of arguing with reason and sound logic is a critical skill for students. This course will outline the principles of informal logic, including important definitions and fallacies. Students will learn to identify false arguments and will begin to develop the skills necessary to incorporate clear, valid reasoning into their speech and writing.

Outside commitment: moderate

Nature Studies (K-2, 3-5)

Students who participate in Nature Studies will cultivate a love of God as Creator, encourage and direct natural curiosity, and lay a foundation for formal science studies, through nature walks, journaling, reading, crafting, and writing/memorizing related Scripture and prose. Students will be asked to choose and complete an at-home activity each week from a list of related activities.

Outside commitment: minimal

Novel History (6-8)

Students will read assigned novels outside of class and discuss the historical events they represent during class. After the initial book, student interest will inform the choice of novels. Some novels may need to be purchased/borrowed.

Outside Commitment: moderate (reading assigned novels).

Pint-Sized Food Prep (K-2)

In this class students will make a snack corresponding to a weekly theme. Books, videos, and a variety of activities will be used for teaching. Students will learn simple kitchen skills such as, measuring, mixing, prepping, clean-up, and following directions.

Outside commitment: none

PE (K-2, 3-5, 6-8)

Students will be introduced to fun, physical activities to promote health and wellness through a variety of organized games.

Outside commitment: none

PE (9-12)

This course will be an exploration of and participation in athletic activities. We will focus on having fun, healthy outlets for built up energy, team building, and how athletics can help build the characters and qualities God wants for us.

*Meets high school PE credit requirement

Outside commitment: minimal to none.

Applies toward graduation requirements.

Pottery (3-5, 6-8)

Students will learn the basics of hand building and glazing with clay, as well as pinching, coiling and slab techniques. Projects will be specific to each technique, and pieces created during the class will be fired in a kiln to be displayed at the end of the year. Students also will be expected to learn the terminology and the correct use of the tools they will be using throughout the year.

Outside Commitment: minimal

Psychology/Sociology (9-12)

Students will be introduced to the principles of psychology and sociology from a biblical perspective. In the first semester, students will examine topics including the physiology of the

brain, the history of psychology, theories of psychology, and modern developments in the field. The second semester will cover the basics of sociology, including social structure and forces, as well as the Christian's role in social interaction and change.

Outside Commitment: Moderate. There will be homework and reading assignments every week.

Science Lab (K-2, 3-5)

Scientific concepts will be introduced through children's literature then explored through an investigative, hands-on approach. Students will be encouraged to ask "why" and demonstrate "how."

Outside commitment: none

Sensory Based Phonics (K-2)

This class is a fun way to improve your students foundational reading & handwriting skills. This class will use multi-sensory techniques to facilitate acquisition of phonics knowledge, decoding, sight-reading skills and early reading comprehension skills. Multi-sensory instruction combines listening, speaking, reading, and a tactile or kinesthetic activity. Using hands-on learning activities such as zoo phonics, letter blocks/beads, audiobooks, file folder games, dry erase markers and much more will help keep students engaged and productive. Math activities will be incorporated when possible.

Outside commitment: None

Spanish (K-2, 3-5)

Students will learn basic vocabulary (numbers, colors, greetings, manners, nature, food), and will learn vocabulary related to family members and zoo animals. We will learn about Spain and their culture (their music, history, and traditions). Students will be encouraged to become teachers at home by sharing and practicing the vocabulary learned in class.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: minimal

Spanish (6-8)

Students begin their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of language study: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Through the extensive use of authentic materials (video, audio, images and texts) allows for a contextualized and interactive presentation of the vocabulary and linguistic structures. A previous introduction to Spanish may be helpful, but not necessary.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: moderate

Spanish I (9-12)

Students begin their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of language study: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Through the extensive use of authentic materials (video, audio, images and texts) allows for a contextualized and interactive presentation of the vocabulary and linguistic structures. This course is a complete high school

credit that fulfills the foreign language requirement for CHES graduation, so any attendance that drops below two missed classes may require extra make-up assignments.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: moderate/high (Daily assignments must be completed each week.)

Foreign language credits are not required for graduation, but are strongly recommended for students considering college acceptance.

Spanish II (9-12)

Students continue learning Spanish in Spanish II and III by building on and expanding their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Frequent use of authentic videos, images, audio and text provide greater contextualization of key learning concepts and cultural information relevant to Hispanic countries and communities. This course is a complete high school credit that fulfills the foreign language requirement for CHES graduation, so any attendance that drops below two missed classes may require extra make-up assignments.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: moderate/high (Daily assignments must be completed each week.)

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Foreign language credits are not required for graduation, but are strongly recommended for students considering college acceptance.

STEM Robotics II (9-12)

Robotics II will involve advanced level electronics and coding skills. Students will acquire skills in working with motor drive boards using previously learned coding skills to work with a mobile platform.

Applies toward graduation requirements (as a math course).

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside commitment: minimal

Prerequisite: Robotics I

Strength Training (9-12)

An introductory course designed to help each student improve muscular strength, gain knowledge and understanding of weight training theory and practice, and develop a personalized weight training program.

This class is not eligible for mid-year enrollment.

Outside Commitment: Minimal

Applies toward graduation requirements (as a PE course).

Typing (6-8)

Students will work at their own pace to learn typing basics. Instruction will be given on how to sit properly and how to use correct finger positioning, in order to increase speed and accuracy.

Outside commitment: Moderate (Daily practice outside of class.)

Woodworking (6-8, 9-12)

This course is designed to teach students basic woodworking knowledge, emphasizing hands-on training, discussions on woodworking theory, and practical project application. Students will also be introduced to basic hand tools. They will complete group and individual projects designed to provide practical experience in woodworking techniques.

Outside Commitment: minimal

Worship Band (9-12)

Students will have the opportunity to explore different roles and responsibilities of a worship band based on their abilities (guitar, drums, piano, bass, etc). Students will lead worship during chapel on Wednesday and perform at local churches several times during the year. Students must already possess knowledge on vocals and instruments (not taught in course).

Outside commitment: moderate/high (Vocal and instrument practice outside of class and performances.)

Applies toward elective graduation requirement.

Writer's Station (K-2)

Students will be introduced to various writing styles and encouraged to explore their own creativity. Students will be guided through the process of writing in engaging ways.

Outside commitment: none

Writer's Workshop (6-8)

Students will learn how to implement various writing styles in unique and creative ways. Aspiring writers will learn to create their own works as well as recognize various forms of writing.

Outside commitment: minimal (may need to finish assignments started in class)

Yearbook (6-8, 9-12)

Students will have the opportunity to develop skills while producing the 2020.21 CHES Christian School yearbook. Students will develop photography, graphic design, page layout, advertising, time management, and teamwork, as they work through the process from start to finish of the school yearbook. Student efforts will culminate in the submission of the group yearbook project at the end of the school year.

Outside commitment: minimal (moderate at select times of the year, when students may be asked to photograph CHES events or meet page layout deadlines.)