

**Monte Vista Christian Middle School
Elective Course Descriptions
Third Quarter 2016-2017**

These are the course descriptions for electives offered during 7th period for the third quarter. This is your opportunity to select electives using your home computer or iPad. You must use your child's user name and password to select elective classes.

Students enrolled in Yearbook will not need to register for the third quarter since this is a full year course.

Registration Timeline: Students and parents are asked to follow these dates for registration. The first opportunity for each grade level to register will begin at 8:00 am on that day.

- **Sixth grade students** will have the first opportunity to register on Tuesday, December 6 and Wednesday, December 7.
- **Eighth grade students** will be next and they can register Thursday, December 8 and Friday, December 9.
- **Seventh grade students** will be able to register Saturday, December 10 to Monday December 12.
- All students who didn't register in their timeframe will be allowed to register Tuesday, December 13 through Sunday, Dec. 18.

Students who attempt to register outside of their assigned dates will have their names deleted from the elective and they will have to wait until Tuesday, December 13th to register for an elective.

How to Register: With the student's username and password, go to the school website www.mvcs.org and follow these steps. There is also a You Tube video explanation you can view by clicking on the following link:
<https://youtu.be/ai1K2E7e7nw>

1. Click on Focus then log in with the *student* username/password.
2. Click on My Information.
3. Click on Class Schedule/Registration.
4. Click the **third** quarter tab at the top of your class schedule. Make sure it is **third** quarter, otherwise you may be registered in another quarter which will invalidate your registration.
5. Select the Subject – drop down button-choose MS Electives.
6. Double click the Search button – No need to enter course codes, etc.
7. Select your elective then click OK to save.

Please select your classes carefully. Once you have chosen a class you will not be able to change it. When you click on a class, that becomes your schedule for the third quarter, so be careful in making your selection.

These are the course descriptions for electives offered during 7th period third quarter.

Art: This is a one quarter course designed to expose the student to a variety of disciplines and art genres from the masters to the present. Assignments may incorporate indoor and outdoor settings. A strong emphasis on the elements of design will be evident in each project. Slides, lectures and video will be used as a means to expand the students' knowledge base to the various styles of art we will be exploring.

Ceramics: (This class may be taken one quarter each year) This is an introduction to hand-made pottery. Students will learn hand building and glazing techniques. They will also be introduced to "throwing" clay on the potter's wheel. Make a honey jar, a special coffee cup, or even a cookie jar for home-baked cookies. Students must be willing to get a little messy, and to clean up after themselves. They will also have the opportunity to exercise patience as making, drying, bisque firing, glazing, and firing again is a process that takes time.

Choir: (Semester Class) This class is offered in place of a P.E. class. If you take this class as an elective you will not be assigned to P.E. and you will be allowed to take a second elective. You must check with Mrs. Hamilton to see if it is possible to change your schedule.) Do you like to sing? Even if you've never sung in a choir, you are welcomed here! We will learn the basics of singing correctly, we'll learn how to blend our voices together, and we'll perform our music at various concerts and field-trips. This is a semester class, because we need time preparing to be EXCELLENT. You will be very proud of what you accomplish in your performances in this class. Come sing with us! (*Fees: Field trips and tee-shirt costs are approximately \$50 per semester. Optional participation in honor choir costs \$40.*)

Drama: (Semester Class) An introduction to character development, vocal variance, presentation and theatrical performance. This course will engage students through grade level appropriate vocabulary, improvisation, reader's theatre, monologue memorization and class presentations in an effort to improve public speaking skills while providing an opportunity for artistic expression. The course will culminate with a public performance to showcase learned skills. This semester long course addresses the following California State Standards for sixth through eighth grades: development of the vocabulary of Theatre – 1.1, development of theatrical skills – 2.1, creation/invention in theatre – 2.2 and 2.3, and connections and applications – 5.1. The course requires one evening performance.

Exciting Games and Apps: This is a fun and exciting class in which students will have the chance to improve their skills in Math, Reading, English, and even Social Studies while playing fun, interactive, critical thinking games with their fellow students. Students will be playing many different learning game Apps like Math Ninja, Words with Friends, UNO, Checkers, Scramble with Friends, LuBan Lock, Life Quest, and so many others. Students will be testing their memory power in games like Master Mind, Simon, Guess Who, and Memory Magic. In games like Zoom, Gotcha, Slap Wacky, Yahtzee, Math Dice, Say Go, Perudo, Dominoes, Tri-Ominoes, Bing-O Multiplication/Division, students will have the opportunity to improve on their Math skills. Students will also be given the opportunity to use their English skills in exciting games like Buzzword, Pass Word, Boggle, Scrabble, Across Words, Scattergories, Outbursts, I Spy Word Scramble, In A Pickle, The Last Word, and the hilarious game of Apples To Apples. We will be playing brain teasing strategic games like Chess, Risk, Blokus, Checkers, Frame It, Trivial Pursuit, Cranium, Battleship, Clue, and Perfection. Finally, students will be able to participate in Life Learning games and Bible Games like Life, Monopoly, and Pay-Day, Cash Flow, Allowance, Budget, Proverbial Wisdom, Bible Trivial Pursuit, and Bible Scattergories.

Food Etc.: In this elective, fellow foodies will compete in food challenges and learn about what's fueling our bodies. In addition, be prepared to learn about:

1. Where foods come from.
2. Food labels
3. Meal planning
4. Food Safety
5. Food advertising
6. Beverages
7. Organic and Genetically modified foods
8. Calories
9. Nutrients
10. Food art

Bring your appetite and eagerness to learn!

French: This course is designed as an introduction to speaking French. You will learn basic French words, phrases, and pronunciation for use in common everyday situations. We will also do some fun games and activities, possibly including a cooking project! This is a safe and fun way to explore learning a foreign language and to impress your friends and family!

Growing with Games: Do you want to get the wiggles out? Growing with games is just the place to do that. Invite a friend and come play team games with others in this excellently exhilarating elective. We offer a variety of games: from absolute arch-rival capture-the-flag to zealously zippy horse shoes, and if you have a game to suggest we keep our options open. We have even been known to create our own – like crazy-confusing cone catch. Come ready to have fun and practice great sportsmanship.

iMovie: (This class may be taken one quarter each year) Students will learn and practice the basics of acting, writing, directing, and editing short movies using the app iMovie. Students will learn by viewing examples of various films. Additionally, students will get to experiment with Claymation and Stop Motion Animation. Creating short films, trailers, documentaries, commercials, and music video projects will be an essential part of the curriculum of this course.

Keyboarding for 6th Grade :(This course is for 6th grade students only. Each 6th grader will take one quarter of keyboarding assigned by the principal) An introduction into the basic skills of keyboarding. Students will develop a working knowledge of the keyboard as they participate in exercises which teach proper hand positioning and recollection of the location of the letters of the alphabet, including numbers and symbols. Basic punctuation will be reviewed and reinforced. Students will have opportunity to increase in keyboard fluency as they participate in speed drills.

Math Enrichment: (This class is meant for those students struggling in Math. Students must have the teacher's and principal's permission to register for this class.) This enrichment period is designed so that a math teacher is available to answer questions and come alongside the students as they work on their math homework, take missed tests, or work on homework corrections for additional credit. Students who ride the bus or those involved in sport activities, or who are unable to ask for help any other time during the school day, would be able to have concepts cleared up on a real time basis. No additional work is assigned for this class, but rather it is specifically set up to assist students to successfully complete assignments that they find themselves struggling to complete otherwise. Students who fail to use this time productively (read, do homework, study) or are disruptive to the learning environment will be removed from the class and receive an F for the quarter. Parents will be notified before we take this action.

Makerspace: Design, Make, Play...Come let your imagination guide you during free-form exploration time! What do you do in a makerspace? You make things that you are curious about, that spring from your imagination. The exploration atmosphere allows learning to unfold. The makerspace will be a craft, engineering, and wonder-driven elective.

Mega Madness: Roll up your sleeves and put your game face on, because it's the battle of the teachers. Week by week, Team Ms. G will be competing against Team Mrs. Smith. Both teams will be competing in sports and games such as Spike Ball, Dodgeball, Kickball, relay races, etc. At the end of each week, the winning team will win a small prize; however, at the end of the quarter, the winning team will receive something worth bragging rights :) Get ready to throw it down and may the best team win!

Minecraft: Minecraft Education Edition is an open-world game that promotes collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving. As students enter an immersive environment they explore, resource, craft, build, survive, plan, and more... wherever their imagination takes them.

Student Activities: In this course, students will be working together to plan and implement activities for the entire school. This is not just an elective class - it's an opportunity for personal growth, school improvement, and community involvement. It's a way to leave a positive, lasting legacy at MVCS. Students will plan, organize, and participate in such activities as Homecoming, Spirit Week, pep rallies, Play Day, Talent Show, grade-level competitions, fund raisers, and more. Sign-up and have an impact on your school!

During the second quarter they will be responsible for planning the school play day in December. Students will also conduct and develop all the activities and dress-up days for spirit week. This class will also plan weekly activities to build school spirit. These students will act as an advisory group to the principal on what activities and events will make our school more fun and exciting for everyone.