

Casey Elective Course Descriptions

YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES

C88 Baile Folklorico - Baile Folklorico is designed to teach the fundamentals of Mexican folk dances and introduce students to many artistic elements of the Mexican culture. Students wear authentic costumes from various states in Mexico. Performances after school hours are an integral part of this course and are required. This course is taught in English and Spanish.

X50 AVID – (Advancement Via Individual Determination) AVID is a college preparatory program that focuses on students who are academically proficient, yet need support in reaching and succeeding in advanced academic courses. AVID bridges student gaps in the skills, language, habits, and resources of the college-bound student. Additionally, students in AVID receive academic and motivational support. Other aspects of the program include: field trips to places of educational and cultural interest and tutoring by college students.

P20 FitLit (Fitness / LA) grade 8 – Eighth Grade Only This course is a two period block that offers Fitness and Conditioning immediately followed by 8th grade Language Arts.

World Languages:

- **F56 Japanese 1**
- **F57 Japanese 2**
- **F58 Japanese 3**
- **F7A Spanish 1A**
- **F7B Spanish 1B**

Music:

- **N05 Guitar**
- **N15 Choir**
- **N21 Band 1**
- **N22 Band 2**
- **N23 Band 3**
- **N24 Orchestra 1**
- **N25 Orchestra 2**
- **N26 Orchestra 3**

SEMESTER-LONG ELECTIVES

A11 Art 1 Building on Exploratory Art learning experiences, students study and apply the elements of art and principles of design in compositions. Inspired by artists and art history, students learn about various materials, tools, techniques, processes and technology in both two and three-dimensional art. Students build and refine motor skills throughout this course. Personal expression is nurtured through an exploration of the creative process. Students understand the role of visual art in shaping historical and cultural traditions. Art history and cultural studies focus on regions within the seventh and eighth grade social studies curriculum. Additional artists and cultures that are not addressed in other middle level art courses may also be included.

SEMESTER-LONG ELECTIVES continued

A20 3-D Design During this one term course, students learn about various materials, tools, techniques, processes and technology of three-dimensional design. Construction methods include casting, assemblage, carving and modeling. The students study a form from different points of view along with how it occupies the space. This interaction is the essence of three-dimensional design that makes it a unique art form. Emphasis is on building and refining motor skills throughout this course. Students understand the role of three-dimensional design in shaping historical and cultural traditions. Art history and cultural studies focus on regions within the eighth grade social studies curriculum. Additional artists and cultures that are not addressed in other middle level art courses may also be included.

A21 Drawing and Painting This one term Drawing and Painting course provides experiences in a wide range of media though the intentional application of elements of art and principles of design. Students build drawing and painting skills through exploration and practice with materials, tools, techniques, processes and technology. Observation, critical thinking and problem solving are stressed as important components of the drawing process and discovering personal style. Students understand the role of visual art in shaping historical and cultural traditions. Art history and cultural studies will focus on regions within the seventh and eighth grade social studies curriculum. Additional artists and cultures that are not addressed in other middle level art courses may also be included.

A23 Pottery and Sculpture In this one term course, students are introduced to the properties of ceramic clay. Inspired by artists and art history, students learn about various materials, tools, techniques, processes and technology of ceramics. The emphasis in this course is on hand-building, however wheel-throwing is introduced where facilities allow. Students will create functional and non-functional pieces and finish them in a variety of ways while developing and refining motor skills. Students understand the role of ceramics in shaping historical and cultural traditions. Art history and cultural studies focus on regions within the seventh and eighth grade social studies curriculum. Additional artists and cultures that are not addressed in other middle level art courses may also be included.

D04 Java Programming By design, this course enables middle school students, with no previous experience, to jump right into the Java programming language. Students will become familiar with objects, classes, methods, parameters, data types, fields, loops, constructors and more. Students will learn about these topics, as well as others, through modifying existing programs and creating programs from scratch.

D08 Multimedia Production Students will design and produce multimedia presentations that incorporate text, graphics, sound, and animation. Software tools may include PowerPoint, Web Page tools, or Timeliner. Students will also learn to modify digital images and Internet images for use in presentations. Presentations may also include Internet links, re-sized images, and imported documents such as charts or graphs.

Casey Elective Course Descriptions

SEMESTER-LONG ELECTIVES continued

H15 Food, Facts & Fun Do you like to eat? Do you like to cook for yourself and others? Would you like to know how to cook and share several tasty recipes for a variety of occasions such as brunch, healthy snacks or dinner? If so, consider taking Food, Facts and Fun, a new elective at Casey. This Consumer and Family Studies course provides students with the opportunity to research and prepare nutritious foods from the Food Guide Pyramid for healthy lifestyle choices. Students will use recipes to plan, prepare, serve and evaluate foods through the use of a variety of cooking techniques. Students will be required to demonstrate the use of appropriate safety, sanitation, and kitchen procedures. Food and nutrition topics may include herbs, spices, fast foods, convenience foods, snacks, baking, and multicultural foods.

J20 TIDE Technology-Innovation-Design-Engineering The T.I.D.E. (Technology—Innovation—Design—Engineering) class is a hands-on learning environment in which students use tools and technology to solve real-world problems. Students take ideas from concept to completion, learning the design-build-communicate process. Students will explore careers and design authentic projects in areas such as architecture, inventions, alternative energy, graphic arts/design, robotics, engineering, CAD, micro-electronics, woodshop or any of a dozen other fields of interest. Students will demonstrate safe and proper use of technology, equipment, and tools. Students will learn to lead, follow instructions, cooperate with others, and work effectively in a team to accomplish authentic design and engineering tasks.

K81 Reading Elective Students who have a passion for reading and are at or above grade level are encouraged to sign up for this reading elective. The course is a reading workshop designed for students reading below grade level who benefit from having strong peer models in the classroom. Teachers differentiate the program for students who take this course as an elective.

K69 Publications (Casey TV) This course is designed for students interested in learning technology and procedures for producing the Casey TV spot that airs weekly. The ability to work independently and within a group and to meet deadlines are important qualifications.

K94 Theater Arts (Drama) Theatre Arts 1 elective course provides opportunities for students to learn about drama. Stage directions and theatrical vocabulary will be introduced. This course will provide situations for developing poise and confidence, interacting with others and appreciating the contribution of others. Reading, writing, speaking and listening skills will be applied as students demonstrate and perform what they are learning.

P18 Middle Level Fitness and Conditioning This course provides students with the opportunity to apply strength training and aerobic conditioning principles to a personalized training program. Students will align their program with personal sports/fitness goals.

SEMESTER-LONG ELECTIVES continued

S09 Applied Science This course is only available at Casey Middle School. Applied Science: Sustainability in Technology and Design is a course of study that prepares middle school students for the changing demands and professions of the 21st century. The Applied Science elective class provides an opportunity for students to extend their knowledge of scientific concepts by working on real-world problems and issues. This course combines design-build learning, using modern tools of technology and awareness of interest-based preparation with an exposure to interconnected issues within science and technology. It is taught as cooperative class involving Casey students working with undergraduate environmental design students from University of Colorado- we meet 90 minutes per week at Casey.

T04 American History through Film American History & Film is a course that traces the origin and development of American film over the past century, and how film has reflected, impacted, and interpreted American society and history. Music, painting, literature, and other major art forms reflect the culture and history of any given time period. American cinema and the films it has produced in the 20th century are no different. This course teaches students to “read” films as historical documents. With an emphasis on the 20th century students will study the historical background of major events and movements and view and critique relevant films. Students will also analyze these films as works of art, and learn the history of film. This class is sure to deepen critical thinking skills, create an appreciation for film as art, enhance student’s ability to analyze primary source material, and broaden their knowledge and of American history.

X60 Leadership This course is open to students who hold leadership positions in or out of school or who are aspiring to hold one. Students wishing to gain skills in communication, decision-making, leading a group, conducting meetings, or resolving conflicts are encouraged to participate. This course may be repeated.

X32 Academic Assistant (Peer Tutoring) Academic Assistant provides students with an organized experience to assist other students, through a helping relationship, with their studies and personal growth and development. The course provides opportunities for the students taking the course to develop a basic understanding of individual differences and to explore career options in related fields. Academic Assistant experiences are preplanned by the teacher of the course and any cooperating teacher under whom the tutoring is to be provided. The course provides a balance of class work relating to the development of and use of: (1) listening skills, (2) communication skills, (3) facilitation skills, (4) decision-making skills, and (5) teaching strategies.

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