

Madison Square Homeschool Ministry

Class Descriptions • 2011–2012

(listed alphabetically by class type)

ART

Art Classes (ages 6–11) with Mrs. Diane Wright — 1:30–2:30 p.m.

Art Classes (ages 12–18) with Mrs. Diane Wright — 2:45–4:15 p.m.

Fall Semester 2011

Start saving shoeboxes. We'll be making mirrored panoramas in the fall while we study shape, depth and construction artist Claes Oldenburg. We'll experiment with cartooning by distorting facial proportions. We'll critique newspaper cartoon artists and Roy Lichtenstein's work. Finally we'll learn the craft of bookmaking and construct our own sketchpads.

Spring Semester 2012

We'll start the winter semester drawing and studying facial proportions while studying the portrait artist Chuck Close. After we complete self-portraits, we'll make "mugs" in clay with lots of personality. We'll build mobiles and stabiles while studying "the big kid," Alexander Calder (this project will call for donated wire hangers). After reviewing the elements and principles of design, we'll complete the semester with visits to downtown galleries to apply what we've learned.

Please feel free to Google the above artists in order to become familiar with their work.

Students are advised to wear a paint shirt or old clothes to art class.

DANCE & FITNESS

Pre-Ballet (ages 3–5) with Ms. Jaime Brown — 3:00–3:45 p.m.

Pre-ballet is an excellent way for young kids to learn the fundamentals of movement and basic age appropriate dance skills to Christian music and prayer time.

Beginning Ballet (ages 6 & up) with Ms. Jaime Brown — 2:00–2:45 p.m.

Beginning ballet is a more advanced class where children will learn skills in choreography, timing, and harder movements. We have special time for prayer and learning how to minister to others.

Praise Dance with Christian Hip-Hop (ages 9–11) with Mrs. Aimee DeHollander — 12:15–1:15 p.m.

Praise Dance puts the HIP in WorsHIP! Learn cool, respectful moves to Christian music. Opportunities to perform learned group songs at an area worship service and/or local ministries. Wear comfortable movable clothing. Free dance T-shirt provided.

Praise Dance with Christian Hip-Hop (ages 12–18) with Mrs. Aimee DeHollander 12:15–1:45 p.m.

Description same as above. Classes are combined for the first hour. During the last half an hour, older students focus on easy-to-learn but challenging hip-hop techniques with a variety of dance styles. This class learns two group songs. No previous dance experience necessary.

Zumba Fitness (ages 12 to adult) with Ms. Aimee De Hollander — 1:45-2:30p.m.

A fun exercise dance class for moms dropping off kids for their classes, or moms and daughters together! Easy-to-learn choreography with intervals of high and low intensity that can be done at your own pace. Lots of great, fun music!

LEGO ROBOTICS

Lego Robotics (ages 9–14) with Coach Linda Wheeler — 12:30–2:30 p.m.

Lego Robotics is the worldwide program of a company called FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology). It is generally a 12-week middle-school program that challenges kids ages 9–14 to excel in math, engineering, and scientific research. Each year, on the first Saturday of September, a worldwide kick-off challenge is presented. (This past year's challenge was called "Body Forward" and introduced the kids to the world of biomedical engineering.) Each team has about 8 weeks to build a robot out of Legos, program it to run through a course autonomously, and do a project presentation, all relating to the theme of the year. The kids compete at the regional, state, country, and world levels to see which teams have best accomplished the high standards that FIRST requires.

SCIENCE

Biology (high school) with Mrs. Jennifer Snyder — 2:30–4:15 p.m.

Biology is the study of all life in God's creation. In this course we will learn about the broad spectrum of living organisms, from single-celled organisms to diverse plants and animals. We will learn about genetics and how life is carried on in DNA. We will also study ecology and the interactions between living organisms and their environment. This course is filled with interactive labs and class discussion with a Christian perspective. After taking this course, students will be prepared for a college-level biology course. This course is recommended for students in grades 9–12.

Required book: **Apologia** *Exploring Creation with Biology*, 2d ed. (textbook only)

Physical Science (grades 7–8) with Mrs. Kim VanderHill — 8:55–10:25 a.m.

Middle School Science for grades 7–8 will be studying Physical Science by exploring creation through some of the following topics: air, atmosphere, lithosphere, weather, physics of motion, light and astrophysics. There will be weekly reading assignments from various websites and other sources. The 1½-hour class will include experiments each week such as: making an electro-magnet, your own lighting, an electroscope, a model of plate tectonics, weather predicting and the Doppler effect. You will be able to see God in all of creation and science. There will be at least one project and report for this class, and you are expected to bring a 3-ring binder (1½ inches).

Science (grades 4–6) with Mrs. Kim VanderHill — 10:30–11:45 a.m.

This upper elementary class will study science through a variety of topics such as: light, electricity, simple machines, digestion, plants, trees, insects, and more. Each week the students will have fun with hands-on experiments or activities, which will include such things as constructing simple electrical circuits, making light bulb and circuit fuses, working with simple machines, and much more. The students will have weekly assignments and are expected to bring a 3-ring binder (1½ inches).

SPANISH

Spanish I (grades 8–12) with Mrs. Dawn Niewenhuis 10:30 a.m.–12:00 noon

In this high school level Spanish course, we will be using the Bob Jones University Level 1 Spanish text to begin our journey of learning the language of another culture. Besides the BJU text students will receive occasional supplemental materials with further explanations and exercises. Since the objective is to communicate in the language, we will practice speaking in class and will use the Rosetta Stone program. Over the course of the year we will be covering as much of this first level book as possible. Also plan on learning customs and traditions in the Spanish-speaking countries, singing Spanish songs, memorizing Scripture in Spanish, and learning simple prayers in Spanish. Homework will be required. In addition to completing grammar exercises, students will need to memorize vocabulary and will be quizzed weekly (or bi-weekly) to review past material. Grades will be determined by quizzes, exams, projects, and weekly homework.

Materials needed: BJU Spanish 1 for Christian Schools, second edition, spiral notebook, and 3-ring binder

Spanish for Beginners (ages 6–10) with Mrs. Dawn Niewenhuis — 3:00–4:00 p.m.

First semester: Students will gain a working knowledge of beginning Spanish. This class will include a vocabulary list, worksheets, games, learning songs in Spanish, reading and listening to Spanish children’s books, and will include some work with Rosetta Stone with the class as a whole. We will be focusing this first semester on TRANSPORTATION words — things that move (cars, trucks, bikes, etc.) and how they move. We will learn about a couple of Spanish-speaking countries and talk about their culture and traditions.

Second semester: Students will continue learning beginning Spanish. This class will include a vocabulary list, worksheets, games, learning songs (including Christian songs) in Spanish, reading and listening to Spanish children’s books, and will include some work with Rosetta stone with the class as a whole. We will be focusing this second semester on vocabulary words having to do with being in the COUNTRY and WOODS. Students will continue to learn about a few more Spanish countries and their cultural traditions.

SPEECH/DEBATE

Speech and Debate (high school) with Mr. Chris Hamstra — 2:45–4:00 p.m.

This class will teach the basics of speech communication through active participation in the speaking and listening process. Students will experience and practice different types of speeches and learn how to convey their thoughts and feelings with a focus on the needs of the specific audience. Students will cover informative and ceremonial speeches with a focus on persuasive speeches. An emphasis is placed on speeches of debate so that an understanding is developed about what makes a “good” argument. In addition to learning the “skills” of speech communication, students will also begin developing an understanding of communication for continued learning and development throughout their life.