



What follows are the instructions and course descriptions for electives offered during 7th period of the 2018 - 2019 school year. All electives are for one quarter unless otherwise indicated.

Elective Registration Timeline: Each grade has specific dates for registration. Students and parents are asked to follow these dates as specified. The first opportunity for each grade level to register will begin at 8:00 am on the day indicated. **Students may not register before their assigned date; doing so will cause the student to be taken out of that elective and he/she may have to wait until registration closes in order to register again.**

- **8th grade students** will have the first opportunity to register online Monday, July 30 and Tuesday, July 31
- **7th grade students** will be next, and they can register online Wednesday, August 1 and Thursday, August 2
- **6th grade students** will be able to register online Friday, August 3 and Saturday, August 4
- **All students who have not yet registered** will be allowed to register Sunday, August 5 and Monday, August 6.

**Please note that 7th grade students register first for Second Quarter; 6th grade registers first for Third Quarter; 8th grade registers first for Fourth Quarter.*

Instructions:

With the **student's** username and password, not the parent's, login to [Focus](#) on either a computer or iPad and follow these steps. This [Video Tutorial](#) may assist in the process.

1. From the main page in Focus
2. Click on My Information
3. Click on Class Schedule/Registration
4. Click on Quarter 1 of the current school year in the upper right corner. *Make sure it is first quarter otherwise you may be registered in another quarter, which will invalidate the registration.*
5. Click on the Subject drop down menu and choose MS Electives; click on Q1 for the term.
6. Click the Search button; no need to enter course codes, etc.
A list of all electives should now be viewable. Scroll for more options, as some elective choices may not be visible on the current screen.
7. Click on the chosen elective, but read below before clicking OK to save

Caution! Please select the elective carefully. Once you have chosen an elective and clicked OK, you will not be able to change it, so be careful in making your selection. Please make sure you are registered in the correct quarter. Your chosen elective will indicate the quarter next to it.

Course Descriptions:

Ceramics (*May only be taken once each year*)

This elective 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. Preselected projects will be determined by the instructor. 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. The outcome is an artistic expression of each student.

Code with Minecraft

In this course students will learn coding basics while playing the popular game Minecraft. Code Builder for Minecraft: Education Edition is a program that allows students to explore, create, and play in an immersive world. It also allows partnerships with learn-to-code platforms like ScratchX, Tynker, and Microsoft MakeCode. In the process, students will not only develop computational thinking but will also be able to apply their learning directly into the game. Students will not need the Minecraft iPad app for this elective.

Concert Band (*Semester or full year*)

Are you a returning band student? Or new to playing an instrument? This is the place for you! In this course students will learn how to play an instrument, read and perform music, and make new friends! In addition to exciting daily rehearsals and instrumental exercises, students will perform together at various concerts, pep rallies, and community events. Students will not only be joining band, but will be apart of our Fine Arts community. Together we will accomplish amazing things! Instrument choices include: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, and mallet percussion. **Requirements:** Parents must supply an instrument if one is not available from the school (supply is limited). An instrument can be rented at a local music store; selection must be pre-approved by the instructor. Practicing at home is expected, a minimum one hour per week. **Additional fees:** This course will include a future fee to cover the cost of one to two exciting, team-building field trips.

Discovering Art (*Semester*)

This course will allow students the opportunity to experiment with several media including graphite, paint, and pastel. Students will learn the fundamentals of shading and proportion in relation to the human figure. They will also be introduced to perspective and techniques for creating depth and realism. We will also be introducing the Elements of Art and Principles of Design and learning about several master artists through research and hand-on activities.

Games R Us

This is a fun and exciting course where students will play many different types of games including app games (such as Dots N Boxes, Flow), Wii games (such as Mario Kart, Hot Pursuit, Wii Sports, and Just Dance), board games (such as Life, Monopoly, Pay Day), card games (such as Apples To

Apples, Uno, Wink, and Gotcha), crazy party games (such as Wet Head, Bounce Off, and Pie In The Face), billiard games (such as pool and foosball), word games (such as Catch Phrase, The Last Word, and Word On The Street), dice games (such as Perudo, Yahtzee, and Dominoes), acting games (such as Shradoe and Guesstures), and drawing games (such as Telestrations and Pictionary). There are many more to choose from. In Games R Us there is never a dull moment. You can even bring in your favorite game and we will try them out in class. If you like playing games, this is the elective for you.

Makerspace (*May only be taken once each year if student interest is high*)

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

Math Enrichment

This course is designed so that a math teacher is available to answer questions and come alongside students as they work on their math homework, take missed tests, or work on homework corrections for additional credit. No additional work is assigned for this class; it is specifically set up to assist students to successfully complete assignments that they find themselves struggling to complete otherwise. Priority registration will be given to students who are earning a C or lower in math after the first quarter of each year. 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. Students may self-enroll for first quarter only.

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. Renard. Both teams will be learning about sportsmanship while competing in sports and games, such as capture the flag, basketball, kickball, etc. At the end of each game, the winning team will receive a point. At the end of the quarter, the teachers will tally up the points and the winning team will receive bragging rights and a prize. Get ready to throw it down and may the best team win!

Middle School Drama/Musical Theatre Production (*Semester*)

This very interactive course focuses on the fundamentals of acting, with an emphasis on the development of imagination, self-awareness, sense memory, improvisation, the ability to execute basic stage tasks, characterization and character development. The course also explores vocal technique focusing on warming up, harmonizing, and singing as a group and individual. Students will have the opportunity to perform in a large scale production. **Fall Production:** Seussical the Musical Jr.

Student Activities (*Semester*)

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 MVC. Students will plan, organize, and participate in activities such as Homecoming, Spirit Week, Play Day, Talent Show, pep rallies, grade-level competitions, fundraisers, and more. During the first

quarter students will be responsible for building the Middle School float, which they will ride on in the Homecoming game parade. 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. Students will act as an advisory group to the Principal to make our school more fun and exciting for everyone.

Writer's Workshop

This course is for those who love to write or for those who would benefit from additional writing practice. Students will be able to focus on creative writing, essay writing and/or analytical response. Students drive their own learning, so they must come prepared with an assignment they need help with or a specific type of personal writing they would like to work on, such as poetry, journaling or story writing. Peer editing, the sharing of written work and increased vocabulary acquisition will all be part of this workshop.

Yearbook (*Full year*)

This class teaches basic book production skills while students help create the Monte Vista Christian yearbook. Using state-of-the-art software, students will be able to layout pages, edit and organize photographs, and write headlines, captions and body text. Students will also learn how to take high quality photographs using professional equipment, learn interviewing skills, and revise proofs. Out of class participation during the school day is required (for photo taking) and some after school participation is encouraged, when logistically feasible for parents.

Questions or concerns, please email carissamedina@mvcs.org.