

Menno Simons Christian School

Career & Technology Foundations (CTF) Elective Selection Form

2017-2018 School Year

Grade 6, 7 and 8 students are able to select electives to explore areas of study outside of the core courses. With many electives available, students are encouraged to take a variety of courses in order to broaden their perspectives.

This year, there will be a few changes to the way in which courses are offered and the process by which students will select their electives. Please note the following:

1. We will be aligning many of our elective courses with the Career and Technology Foundation clusters outlined by Alberta Education. Our course catalogue and course descriptions are available on the school website at www.mennosimonschristianschool.ca
2. Students will enroll in up to 9 electives for the 2017/2018 school year.
3. **Students are encouraged to choose a variety of electives. They will not be able to take the same option (ex. Foods) all three terms.**
 - a. If a course is offered more than once, please star or highlight the course that is your very top priority, so that your electives can be planned around that course.
4. Students must complete the introductory course, where applicable, prior to enrolling in the advanced course.
5. Students are asked to rank their choices on the selection form. While every effort will be made to place students in their choices, due to limited enrollment or sections of classes, students may not receive their first picks.
6. While the course menu is comprehensive, we cannot guarantee that each course will be offered. If there are not sufficient numbers of students to make a class viable, we will place students in other courses.
7. We have provided a copy of the tentative timetable showing in which term and block each course is offered. With guidance from their parents and teachers, students should develop a timetable plan, ranking their choices and determining which are priority courses based on when each is offered.
8. Completed forms will be handed into Mrs. Weaver by Friday, June 9, 2017. Priority of courses will be given to students with signed forms by this date.
9. Should you have any questions, please call the school office at 403-531-0745.

Course Strands and Description

Business

- **Exploring Entrepreneurship**
Through entrepreneurship education, students will learn the components of taking an original idea and applying a business model. Students have the unique opportunity to create and run their own mock business. Working in small groups students write business plans, request start-up capital from investors, receive funding for their companies, make product samples, manufacture inventory, and sell their products to real-world customers.
- **Game of Life**
Do you spend your money the moment you earn it? This class will teach you good money skills. Plan how much it would cost to move out, learn to develop good savings habits, write a cheque, and how credit cards work. There will be guest speakers from the financial industry to teach you how to be smart with your money.

Technology

- **Media Arts**
Students will apply the creative process to create media art works, individually and collaboratively. They will apply traditional and emerging technologies, tools, and techniques to produce and present media art works for a variety of audiences and purposes. Students will explore photography, video, audio manipulation and media editing techniques. If time permits, students will build an understanding of media art as a shaper of personal and cultural identity. Projects that students will participate in will include creating this year's Yearbook and creating a stop-animation video.
- **Tech Sherpas**
Sherpas are known for their courage and bravery in guiding others to accomplish difficult tasks. Are you brave enough to be a Tech Sherpa? In this elective, students will expand their knowledge of computer applications. They will develop strong basic computing skills and an operational knowledge of general use software. The goal of this course is to help students operate computer technology safely, responsibly and proficiently. Students will complete set tasks and create a tech tutorial in order to complete the Tech Sherpa Certification Course. They will also take part in educating their classmates and teachers on new technology.

Resources

- **Agriculture and Forestry**
Are you the type of person who loves nature and wonders about how God has created such an amazing world for us? Come and learn about where and how things grow, how to help create greener communities and how to inform people of the awesome world God has made. Students will undertake activities that help them cultivate their green thumb and put their learning into practice in a hands on manner. This elective will also allow students to look at the food, culture, economy and geography of areas by exploring countries around the world. So come and learn a little bit more about God's great Earth!

Human Services

- **Foods**

Get ready to learn all about how to WOW your friends and family with your skills in the kitchen. Each term will be slightly different in the focus of what students will experience. Students will create baked goods for our AGM, Christmas and Spring Productions as they develop skills in the kitchen. They may have the opportunity to plant and harvest fruits and vegetables. Final projects may include baking and decorating an 8 inch cake or publishing a Menno Cookbook with their chosen meals.

- **Outdoor Education**

Are you the type of person who enjoys being outside in God's great country? If you are then this program is for you! Through activities, students will explore skills involved in surviving the outdoors. This program will help students learn how to be prepared for various outdoor activities such as hiking and camping. Classes will also focus on the areas of first aid and how to treat emergency situations that students might have while they are enjoying the great outdoors.

- **Fitness**

Are you interested in trying new activities? Do you want to work on your personal fitness? If you do, this class is for you! This course focuses on building your knowledge and skills in various sports and the area of personal fitness.

Communication

- **Lights, Camera, Action**

Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the stage curtain? In this course, students will have the opportunity to learn about stage management, set design and construction, lighting and special sound effects, and everything else that goes into making a successful performance! Students will work in small groups that focus on their interests. Makeup, costume design and sewing, and set building and painting will all be a part of this elective. Students will take a large responsibility in the planning and setting of the stage for our Christmas and Spring Productions.

- **Discover Design!**

Design plays an important role in our daily lives. The places we live and the machines we use are all the end result of design. If you choose to take this elective, you will learn the fundamentals of 2D and 3D design. You will learn all about drafting and the design process as you sketch and create shapes and simple designs by hand and learn how to transfer your drawing to computer-aided-design (CAD) software. Students will learn about scale and perspective. They will complete a 3D model of the school stage to scale as a final project. This will be used to design our school's stage for our theatre production. Students will move through modules independently and, if time permits, will be able to create a house plan or car design in this term.

- **Design Studies Advanced**

Do you find yourself tuning in to HGTV after school? Do the shows Fixer Upper or Backyard Builds ring a bell? This may be the elective for you! Students will practice what they learned in *Discover Design!* as they develop their skills in drafting. They will use computer programs to design their own floor plan for a house and design a backyard design layout. Finally, students will learn about physical 3D modelling to construct scale model prototypes using modelling material like foam core, cardboard, and cardstock. Students will also take part in designing our outdoor space as they propose ideas for our school's outdoor spaces.

Arts / Languages

- **Band 7-9**

This course is a continuation of the skills learned in grade six beginner band. Students are building upon their knowledge of technical skills on their instrument as well as the teamwork and cooperation required to play and participate in a band. Music fundamentals such as melody, tempo, harmony, dynamics, balance, blend, intonation, and rhythm are the focus as the students learn to play a variety of music and a variety of musical styles.

Cost: instrument rental for the year

- **Bonjour, Mon Ami! Beginner French**

Oui! Oui! Join this class to help develop your French skills. Through participation in games, projects, and oral activities, students will work towards fluency, while building their knowledge and confidence. C'est amusant! Themes we will study include: School, People Around Me, Weather, Animals, Clothing, Christmas, Summer vacation, and various Francophone holidays and celebrations.

- **Allô, Tout le Monde! Advanced French**

Do you remember the song, "Je Suis une Pizza"? This class will help improve your French skills. Students will have the opportunity to learn another language through technology, games, drama, audio/visual media, and creative projects. Themes we will study include: Food, Sports and Exercise, Housing, Community, Easter, Thanksgiving, Valentine's Day, and various Francophone holidays and celebrations.

- **Break a Leg! Theatre Production**

Join the cast of our theatre production as we use this elective time to develop acting skills and rehearse for this year's show. We will use this rehearsal time to replace our noon hour practices and to better prepare the students for the final performance. This elective is a mandatory choice if you plan on auditioning and joining this year's play. Students will have the opportunity to work on scenes and learn technical drama skills. For example, you may learn how to theatrically fall, fight, show emotion or be in the background of a scene.

- **Worship and Arts**

Are you interested in the art of worship? In this elective, students will take part in planning and leading Chapel weekly. You will learn the various aspects of what it takes to put Chapel together. This includes creating the worship space, presenting scripture, drama and music and running the technology.

- **Encounters with Art**

Do shapes, lines and colour spark your imagination? Would you love to stroll through an art gallery or museum? Students who choose this elective will explore the history of art. Understanding masterful techniques will allow further development of individuals' skills. Students will be invited to "get messy" in both the art room and alongside nature.

- **Clay Exploration**

Students who choose this elective will work with tools and hands to create unique clay projects. If you enjoy creating something from nothing, and allowing your imagination to take shape, then this is a perfect place for you! Artists will meet in the Art Room.

- **Glass Works**

Have you ever bathed in the splendour of the spectrum of light refracted through a stained glass window at church? Have you simultaneously wondered how such beauty could exist? In Glass Works, students will explore the expansive beauty of light through glass projects, including plate and jewelry making.

CTF Elective Sign-up
Planning Sheet 2017-2018

Please select elective courses from the catalogue above and determine which term and which period you would like to take each course in. Understand that not all electives are offered in every block and that due to enrollment restrictions, some electives may be full.

Instructions:

1. Your teachers will assist you in completing the planning sheet and helping you to select your courses. Please place a first, second, third and fourth choice for each term and each period. You will need to look at the timetable schedule and determine when each course is offered and place it in the appropriate spot on the sheet.
2. You will then take your planning sheet home to discuss your electives with parents.
3. Consider taking a well-rounded elective program. Take courses that interest you and not just based on what your friends select. Trying something new helps you discover and develop new skills.
4. If you have any questions, make sure to speak with your teachers.

Please sign and date the form below and acknowledge that you consent to enroll your child in the courses selected. Please return this form to the student's homeroom teacher by Friday, June 9, 2017.

Student Name / Grade

Signature

Date

Parent Name

Signature

Date

