

Electives 2008 - 2009

Coordinator: Mrs. Angela Rebol 476-4000 ext. 25 arebol@gsschool.org

Brief Course Descriptions:

Good Shepherd Catholic School recognizes choice as an integral part of learning. We want to acknowledge the importance of choice and integrate it into our Elective program. 7th and 8th graders will have the opportunity to be able to choose an elective class for each of the three trimesters. Courses will vary each trimester based upon student interests. Studies show when students are involved in choosing their learning they are more active participants and learn at a deeper level because it is a topic they want to learn more about and/or it is a subject they are directly interested in.

Objectives:

The following have been adapted from our Schoolwide Student Learning Expectations (SLE's).

The student will demonstrate the qualities of an *Active Christian* who:

- possesses a positive sense of self, as a child of God deserving of respect and dignity and offering the same to others
- appreciates that other people, cultures and nature are all a part of God's creation

The students will achieve the skills of a *Life-Long Learner* who:

- can think critically and is learning to recognize different points of view
- is an effective communicator about their academic, social-emotion, and physical needs
- applies their learning to appropriate life situations
- works cooperatively with others, demonstrating tolerance and respect

The student is a *Globally Aware Individual* who:

- develops the skills to communicate with others and appreciate their differences

- **Requirements & Assignments:**

There are 2 categories of requirements weighted as follows:

Classwork/Participation	50%
Projects/ Homework	50%

Together with the coordinator, students will construct a rubric to assess their work and performance during their elective classes. The rubric will include 2 sections: Classwork/Participation, Projects/ Homework. The rubric will provide students with a clear set of expectations outlining how the elective is to be assessed and evaluated (graded).

Participation grades will reflect active listening and contribution to class discussions. Students are encouraged to take risks in their responses and ask thoughtful questions. Their comments should reflect critical thinking and healthy reflection.