

Junior High Elective Courses

7th Grade Electives

Art

This course discusses basic information about the Principles of Design and the Elements of Art. This class starts with drawing techniques which leads into discussing value. We practice shading, blending, scale, and placement. We then will move onto elements of Color which incorporates color themes, color pairings, colors of emotions, with techniques in colored pencil and oil pastel. Next is a relief printmaking lesson, which is a mixture of drawing, painting, and sculpture all, mixed into one. We then have a painting unit that will further help us practice color theories. To wrap up the semester, there is a ceramics and sculpture unit where we can envision and build 3-D forms.

Spanish

Students are exposed to a wide range of basic vocabulary including greetings, pronunciation of the alphabet, body parts, colors, months, places, and the ability to tell time. In addition, the verbs Ser, estar, ir, and tener are explored in the present tense. Students are given packets that contain homework assignments and general information that will be covered. Homework, quizzes, and short tests are used to check for understanding.

Band

Seventh grade band provides an opportunity to continue the study and mastery of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments that are traditionally scored for a wind band setting. Students are required to participate in two concerts during the school year. Prerequisite: Participation in 6th grade band or audition for the instructor.

Technical Education

This class begins with the concept of communicating graphically, and the importance of understanding the discipline. An object, model, house, or manufacturing plan can only be defined in a limited fashion with words. This concept is taught through orthographic (3 view) pencil drawings at first being that almost anything can be defined by 3 views. We start with basic blocks. The second major lesson is the ability to create an isometric drawing, and transfer an orthographic into an isometric, this tends to solidify the 'idea' of 2D vs 3D. Once this concept is grasped students move onto CADD (computer aided drafting and design). Here we transfer 2D orthographic drawings into true 3D models while learning to use various CADD programs. The class finishes touching on architecture concepts and basic architectural rules. Students design and create their own CADD houses which are presented with virtual walkthroughs.

Keyboarding- Required Course

The goal of this course is keyboarding mastery. Students will acquire touch-typing skills, develop speed, accuracy and techniques necessary in today's technology environments, while incorporating organizational, team building, and decision-making skills. They will learn basics of saving, editing, and file management in Microsoft Office Word, which are prerequisites to some high school classes and necessary in daily work in all high school classes.

8th Grade Electives

Art

This course dives deeper into the Elements of Arts and Principles of Design. Throughout the drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture units, we still discuss and practice these elements and principles of art, but work more on extracting ideas from within. This class has more freedom to choose subject and image content pertaining to each student's individuality and looks for more reflection on student's personal ideas.

Spanish

Students do a brief review of the information learned in the 7th grade and then move into the textbook Paso A Paso where their knowledge of vocabulary in combination with AR ending verbs is expanded. Students are able to create oral dialogues and written cartoons forming complete sentences in Spanish. Spanish passages from the text are used to help students begin to synthesize the Spanish language. Homework, oral Spanish presentations, quizzes, power points, and tests are used to check for understanding.

Band

Eighth grade band provides an opportunity to continue the study and mastery of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments that are traditionally scored for a wind band setting. Students are required to participate in two concerts and a massed band festival during the school year.

Prerequisite: Participation in 7th grade band or audition for the instructor.

Technical Education

This class contains modules on CO2 dragsters, winged flight, hot air balloons, robotics, solar, electronics, bridge building (triangular strength, load vs weight efficiency, compression vs tensile factors and how to balance them, careers in civil engineering, etc.). The CO2 dragsters modules main lessons are aerodynamics, drag, and a small amount of automotive and transportation knowledge. Also incorporated in this module

is proper and safe use of selected tools in the woodshop. In Lego Robotics students use problem solving skills, once they learn the basics, they are given various challenges in design, engineering, and programming to make an autonomous robot complete a specific task.

Microsoft Office

Students learn to work with application files, find information, manage files, computer ethics, and copyright laws, as they format reports, work with headers and footers, outlines, and create citations, title pages, interoffice memos, and business letters. Students learn to merge, split, and change row height and width, create borders and shading in cells as they create tables. Students work in Desktop Publishing to incorporate graphics, text boxes, auto shapes, clip art, and multi-column documents into presentations relevant to high school, the work place, and continued education.