

Descriptions for Elective Courses

Grade 7

Band, Chorus, and Orchestra- Students are expected to attend and participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Specific advanced music courses require an audition.

Acoustic Guitar I- Students with little or no experience develop basic guitar skills and knowledge, including simple and full-strum chords, strumming patterns, playing/singing simple melodies, foundational music theory, parts of the guitar, and ensemble skills. Beginning guitarists explore the careers and music of significant performers in pop/rock, jazz, blues, classical, country, bluegrass, and hard rock/metal genres. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

ICT I (Computers) - The purpose of this program is to provide students with the computer, digital, and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic and occupational goals. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with web development, multimedia, word processing, spreadsheet, database, Internet communications, cybersecurity, and computer programming.

ICT II (Computers) - This course builds on the previous course and provides greater depth and more complex concepts and the skills/knowledge to master these concepts. Students will be provided opportunities to extend their skills with various software applications by creating more complex documents and using more complex functions. Students will also be exposed to structured programming and the creation of a more complex computer program.

Beginning Spanish- M/J Spanish Beginning introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this **one-year** course.

Spanish 1* - Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. **This course is for high school credit.**

Project Lead the Way I-

Science of Technology:

Science impacts the technology of yesterday, today, and the future. Students apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology to STEM activities and projects, including making ice cream, cleaning up an oil spill, and discovering the properties of nano-materials.

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Medical Detectives:

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a “crime scene.” They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

Project Lead the Way II-

Design and Modeling: Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Using Autodesk® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

Flight and Space: The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel.

Introduction to Arts, A/V Technology and Communication- The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. The content includes, but is not limited to, technology literacy; understanding the importance of Arts and A/V; understanding the role of science, math, reading, writing, history, and technology in Arts and A/V; and Digital Media. Reinforcement of academic skills occurs through classroom instruction and applied laboratory procedures. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices.

Drama Student's coursework focuses on, but is not limited to, basic acting, basic vocal performance, basic dance/movement, non-dance movement, and staging, which transfer readily to musical theatre literature. Students will survey the current trends in musical theatre by studying representative literature. Students will explore the unique staging and technical demands of musicals in contrast to non-musical plays. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

Art - Students refine techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students manipulate the structural elements of art to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provides a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

Grade 8

Band, Chorus, and Orchestra- Students are expected to attend and participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. Specific advanced music courses require an audition.

Acoustic Guitar I- Students with little or no experience develop basic guitar skills and knowledge, including simple and full-strum chords, strumming patterns, playing/singing simple melodies, foundational music theory, parts of the guitar, and ensemble skills. Beginning guitarists explore the careers and music of significant performers in pop/rock, jazz, blues, classical, country, bluegrass, and hard rock/metal genres. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

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Acoustic Guitar II- Students with previous experience expand on basic guitar skills and knowledge, adding simple and full-strum chords, barre and power chords, and strumming patterns; adding more complex lead sheets and 1st-position chromatics; and building ensemble skills. Guitarists transfer between tablature and standard notation, study the work of significant musicians, and explore electric guitars, basses, and amplifiers. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

ICT I (Computers) - The purpose of this program is to provide students with the computer, digital, and information technology skills necessary for success in their future academic and occupational goals. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with web development, multimedia, word processing, spreadsheet, database, Internet communications, cybersecurity, and computer programming.

ICT II (Computers) - This course builds on the previous course and provides greater depth and more complex concepts and the skills/knowledge to master these concepts. Students will be provided opportunities to extend their skills with various software applications by creating more complex documents and using more complex functions. Students will also be exposed to structured programming and the creation of a more complex computer program.

Digital Information Technology*- This course is designed to provide a basic overview of current business and information systems and trends, and to introduce students to fundamental skills required for today's business and academic environments. Emphasis is placed on developing fundamental computer skills. The intention of this course is to prepare students to be successful both personally and professionally in an information based society. Digital Information Technology includes the exploration and use of: databases, the internet, spreadsheets, presentation applications, management of personal information and email, word processing and document manipulation, HTML, web page design, and the integration of these programs using software that meets industry standards. **This course is for high school credit.**

Spanish 1* - Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. **This course is for high school credit.**

Spanish 2*- Spanish 2 reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by the students in Spanish 1. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. **This course is for high school credit. (Prerequisite of Spanish 1)**

Journalism - The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Some activities may be required outside of the school day.

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Descriptions for Elective Courses

Project Lead the Way II-

Design and Modeling: Students apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. Using Autodesk® design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions.

Flight and Space: The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through Flight and Space. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build, and test an airfoil. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel. ***Possible high school credit for 8th grade.**

Introduction to Arts, A/V Technology and Communication- The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Arts, A/V Technology and Communication career cluster. The content includes, but is not limited to, technology literacy; understanding the importance of Arts and A/V; understanding the role of science, math, reading, writing, history, and technology in Arts and A/V; and Digital Media. Reinforcement of academic skills occurs through classroom instruction and applied laboratory procedures. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology appropriate to the course content and in accordance with current practices. ***Possible high school credit for 8th grade.**

Art - Students extend to an advanced level techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students proficiently manipulate the structural elements of art with increasing independence to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

Musical Theater: Student's coursework focuses on, but is not limited to, basic acting, basic vocal performance, basic dance/movement, non-dance movement, and staging, which transfer readily to musical theatre literature. Students will survey the current trends in musical theatre by studying representative literature. Students will explore the unique staging and technical demands of musicals in contrast to non-musical plays. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.