

MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2023-2024

AGRISCIENCE

INTRODUCTION TO AGRISCIENCE

This middle school agriculture focuses on the importance of agriculture, the sustainability of agriculture and the role that future generations will play, plants and animals, careers in agriculture and the future of agriculture, and other agricultural pursuits.

ORIENTATION TO AGRISCIENCE

In this course students are educated about the source of their food supply. They are taught about agriculture literacy, the necessity of agriculture, technology that works to assist farmers and ranchers, and sources of consumer goods that come from agriculture.

Prerequisite: Introduction to Agriscience

FUNDAMENTALS OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCE SYSTEMS

This course is an 8th grade course and should be taken after Introduction to Agriscience and/or Orientation to Agriscience. Students will be exploring agriculture literacy, plants and animals, a further understanding of animal systems, importance of agriculture, consumer goods that come from agriculture, and further agricultural pursuits. This course will assist with high school foundational agriculture.

Prerequisite: Orientation to Agriscience

ART

*2D1 STUDIO ART

In this course students will make two-dimensional (2D) artwork; art on a flat surface (i.e., drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, etc.). In the process of making 2D art, they will receive a broad overview about various 2D techniques, 2D media, the elements of art, principles of design, compositional theory, color theory, art history, writing artists statements, and critiquing their own art and that of other artists. Students will be required to maintain their own portfolio and self-assess their work and progress.

2D2 STUDIO ART

7th and 8th grade who have taken 2D1

This intermediate course is a continuation of 2D1 Studio Art. In this course, students will hone the skills acquired and practiced in 2D1 Studio Art (i.e., drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, etc.). Projects will generally be more immersive and larger in size. The first semester of this course focuses in detail on drawing foundations, while the second semester focuses on painting, collage, printmaking and other 2D media and techniques. Students will also continue to utilize art theories and critique their own work and that of other artists as in 2D1 Studio Art. Students will participate in group and schoolwide art projects during the fourth quarter. Students will be required to maintain their own portfolio and self-assess their work and progress.

Prerequisite: 2D1

3D1 STUDIO ART

8th grade only who have taken 2D2

During this course, students will create three-dimensional (3D) art projects; art that is multi-dimensional (i.e., ceramics, sculpture, carving, jewelry making, installation art, origami, etc.). In the process of making 2D art, they will use 3D techniques, 3D media, utilize the elements of art, principles of design, compositional theory, color theory, as it relates to 3D art. They will also learn about contemporary 3D artists and continue to critique their own work and that of other artists. Students will participate in group and schoolwide art projects during the fourth quarter. Students will be required to maintain their own portfolio and self-assess their work and progress.

Prerequisite: 2D1

BAND

BEGINNING BAND

Beginning Band is open to all students who wish to learn a wind or percussion instrument. Previous musical experience is not necessary! Beginning Band students will have an opportunity to try out several instruments. Selection of instrument is based upon student interest, individual physical characteristics (formation of lips and teeth), rhythmic coordination (percussion instruments), and instrumentation requirements (the number of students playing each instrument must be kept within reasonable limits in order to be able to perform the music written for band.)

CONCERT BAND

Concert Band is an intermediate ensemble open to all students that have completed a year of beginning band OR completed a year of Elementary Band. All the basic techniques that are taught in beginning band are further developed and refined in Concert Band. Students will rehearse after school when necessary to prepare for a concert or event.

Prerequisite: Beginning Band or Elementary Band

SYMPHONIC BAND

7th and 8th Grade

Symphonic Band is an advanced ensemble open to all students that have completed a year of beginning band. All the basic techniques that are taught in Beginning band and Concert Band are further developed and refined in Symphonic Band. Students will rehearse after school when necessary to prepare for a concert or event.

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

JAZZ BAND

7th and 8th Grade

Jazz Band is an ensemble that consists of members of the Symphonic Band; this class is *dual enrolled*. This means that in order to participate in Jazz Band, you *must* be enrolled in the Symphonic Band. Audition materials, requirements, and deadlines will be communicated by the director. This ensemble will learn to perform a variety of musical styles, including Swing, Jazz-Rock, Latin, and Ballad.

Prerequisite: Audition

ORCHESTRA

Orchestra consists of beginners, intermediate, and advanced string players. This class will have a minimum of two performances a year, will have the ability to perform in solo and ensemble, and audition for the all-county Orchestra.

CREATIVE WRITING

ORPHEUS ADVANCED CREATIVE WRITING (APPLICATION ONLY)

Students on the *Orpheus* Magazine Editorial board will continue to study the elements of various literary genres (Poetry, Fiction, Drama, Autobiography, etc.) and work on both print and multimedia publications. Students will perfect the art of collaboration and feedback through workshopping their pieces with their writing group. They will have the opportunity to pursue writing

competitions in each of the genres throughout the school year and even have their pieces performed. This course is designed for students who are dedicated to their craft as writers. Students in this course will work to edit and publish our award-winning literary journal, *Orpheus*. Come join your community of 6th-8th grade writers! Please see Mrs. Wilson for an application into this advanced course.

DANCE

DANCE TECH I

This is an introductory level dance class for any dancer who has not taken class with Mrs. Kushner in Middle School. Dancers will receive a strong foundation of training primarily in Ballet and Jazz, and sometimes Lyrical or Musical Theatre dance styles. Dancers will be a part of the Veteran's Day Performance, Nutcracker with a Twist, Diversity Performance, and Spring Dance Showcase.

DANCE TECH II

7th and 8th grade

This Intermediate level dance class will receive training in Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, and Contemporary styles. Dancers will be a part of the Veteran's Day Performance, Nutcracker with a Twist, Diversity Performance, and Spring Dance Showcase.

Prerequisite: Dance Tech I

DANCE TECH III

8th Grade or Teacher Recommendation

This is an advanced level dance class that will receive dance training in Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, and Contemporary styles. Dancers will also create student choreography and will be a part of the Veteran's Day Performance, Nutcracker with a Twist, Diversity Performance, and Spring Dance Showcase.

Prerequisite: Dance Tech I and II, and/or Teacher Recommendation

SENIOR ILLUMINATION DANCE TEAM (AUDITION ONLY)

This is an audition-only double elective course for serious dancers who wish to be a part of a competitive level dance team. Dancers accepted will receive technique training in Ballet and Jazz in addition to learning numerous pieces of choreography they will perform at community performance events and regional competitions throughout the year. There are fees associated with this course and additional rehearsal time outside of school. Auditions are held in May and information will go out to all current 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students in April.

DRAMA

M/J THEATER 1

A beginning Theater Class covering acting skills, theater careers, theater history, improvisation, and technical theater for students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade who have not had Theater class in middle school. This class is a prerequisite for M/J Theater 2 and 3.

M/J THEATER 2

7th and 8th grade

A theater class that continues where M/J Theater 1 left off including more in-depth acting study, playwrighting, production elements of the theatre and performance opportunities.

Prerequisite: M/J Theater 1 or M/J Music Theater 1

M/J THEATER 3

8th grade only

An advanced theater class that takes theater skills to the next level and assists theater students' readiness for High School theater classes.

Prerequisite: M/J Theater 1 and 2 or M/J Music Theater 1 and 2 to qualify

M/J MUSIC THEATER 1/2/3

A music theater class that includes audition preparation, music, acting, and dance skills. Music theater students will rehearse and perform 2 musical theater pieces during the year and will gain knowledge of various musical theater pieces to increase their appreciation of American Musical Theater.

Beginning level students, Intermediate level students and Advanced level students are mixed in this class in order to learn and grow from each other. 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.

FASHION

BEGINNING COSTUME AND INTERMEDIATE COSTUME DESIGN

6th and 7th grades

Welcome to the wonderful world of costume design! In this beginning and intermediate class, once familiar with sewing machines and your tools, you will begin to develop the ability and techniques to create and construct costumes based on your own sketched designs. You will learn how to create your own textiles through block printing and fabric manipulation, as well as use recycled,

repurposed, new and found objects to make headpieces, masks, accessories and jewelry. This class will prepare you for Advanced 8th grade Costume Design. Once you dive into the sea of possibilities there is no going back...If you can see it and dream it, it can be made!

COSTUME DESIGN (ADVANCED)

8th grade

Welcome back Costume designers!

This year we will be looking at costume design and construction through the broader lens of Art. In this class, now familiar with sewing machines and your tools, you will further hone your sewing skills to create and construct costumes based on your own designs and patterns with a focus on details of the time period, craftsmanship and artistry. You will broaden your creativity through the use of textile printing, dyeing, weaving and fabric manipulation, as well as use recycled, and repurposed materials to create Avant Garde pieces. There will be an intensified focus on the making of headpieces, masks, accessories and jewelry to accessorize your costumes. Whether your interest in costume is theatrical, historical, reenactment, cosplay or performance art, you will further be developing the ability and techniques to design and make them. Remember, if you can see it and dream it, it can be made!

Prerequisite: Intermediate Costume Design and Teacher Recommendation

PRINTMAKING/SCULPTURE

6th and 7th grade

Welcome Artists! In this beginning hybrid printmaking and sculpture class you will learn to use basic carving skills and techniques to help you create 2- and 3-dimensional works centered on the use of wood carving tools. We will be focusing on the melding of printmaking and carved wood sculpture using wood chisels, gouges, wood rasps, Dremel tools, sanding and staining techniques as applied to woodcut and linoleum printmaking and carved wood sculpture.

FILM

FILM AND ANIMATION 1

Explore film and animation in this hands-on class. Become a content creator. Learn how to use cameras, set up lighting, and record sound. Explore how your favorite movies and videos are made. Understand how to review a movie and what makes a good story. Write scripts, create storyboards and shoot your own videos. Produce stop-motion shorts. Includes an introduction to Adobe Premier.

FILM AND ANIMATION 2

7th and 8th grade who have taken Film 1

Advance your film and content creation abilities with this hands-on class. Create short stories and documentaries while learning about lighting, color theory, and sound design. Explore animation techniques with the use of drawing tablets. Understand and utilize green screen technology and other special effects. Learn to use powerful industry software like Adobe Premier, Adobe Animate, and Adobe After Effects.

Prerequisite: Film 1

BROADCAST TECHNOLOGY

Learn the technical knowledge needed for a television production. Write, present and produce your television news broadcasts. Report and investigate current school events. See what it takes to be a producer, director, camera operator, graphics designer, boom operator, etc. Practice on-set TV roles while you develop camera presence, microphone techniques, camera work, and editing skills. This class is responsible for the weekly Ivy Hawn television show.

Prerequisite: Film 1 and Teacher Recommendation

GUITAR

BEGINNING GUITAR

This is an introductory course designed to help you learn the many styles of guitar playing. Each unit includes many playing activities and written exercises which are essential to guitarists. This course will focus on technique and discipline of guitar as a solo and ensemble instrument. Course Fee: \$25

INTERMEDIATE GUITAR

7th and 8th grade

This second-year course for any student that has had one year of guitar in Middle School. Critical focus of this class will be refinement of skills from Beginning Guitar. Music performance and leadership will be explored as more than a physical skill and emphasize the practice routines and mindsets for success in class and on stage. Course Fee: \$25

Prerequisite: Beginning Guitar

ADVANCED GUITAR (AUDITION ONLY)

This is a course for students that have auditioned and been selected for their outstanding technique, musicianship, teamwork, and leadership in the guitar studio. Students in this class will continue to refine skills and techniques with an emphasis on performance. Course Fee: \$25

CHOIR

CONCERT CHOIR

Students study vocal techniques and applications in both classical and contemporary repertoires to expand vocal, technical, musical, and ensemble skills through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality choral literature. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students in this choir will perform at Music Performance Assessments in the spring. This class is open to all middle school students who love to sing. No audition needed!

IVY HAWNSEMBLE SHOW CHOIR (AUDITION ONLY)

Ivy Hawnsemble is our top choral performance group at Ivy Hawn. This class not only works on traditional/classical music repertoire, but also focuses on show choir, pop, jazz, barbershop, and musical theatre. Ivy Hawnsemble is a Superior rated vocal ensemble that requires serious dedication to music. Hawnsemble members must attend two Music Performance Assessments and one regional competition during the school year and will have outside performance opportunities as well. We move at quicker pace than other choral classes, therefore, behavior is a large deciding factor in this audition process. If you love to sing, groove, work hard, and have a great time, this is the group for you! This is an audition only course for 6th-8th graders. Please see Mrs. Wilson for an audition packet.

PE

M/J COMPRE PE GR 6/7

This course is designed for 6th and 7th grade students and intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the development of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which includes, but is not limited to: Fitness Activities, Educational Gymnastics and Dance, and Team Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

M/J COMPRE PE GR 7/8

This course is designed for 7th and 8th grade students and is intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which include but is not limited to: Outdoor Pursuits/Aquatics, Individual/Dual Sports, and Alternative/Extreme Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

PHOTOGRAPHY

CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY I:

In this course, we will learn the basics of digital photography while using our creative minds to express art in the form of photos. We will explore the basics of DSLR cameras, shooting modes, shutter speed, aperture, and ISO, and how they work together to create the “exposure triangle”. We will learn some basics about composition, lighting, posing, styling, angles, subject focus, basic editing and more by doing imaginative photo projects.

CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY II:

In this course, we will build on what we learned in CP I. We will have new photo projects each week and continue working in manual modes taking our creativity to the next level by creating our own props, backdrops, and more!

Prerequisite: Creative Photography I or Visual Arts I (single semester photography course from 2022-23)

JOURNALISM I (YEARBOOK):

In this course, we create the school yearbook! This class involves photography, graphic design, and journalism. Each team member is responsible for creating their assigned pages in the yearbook. Two monthly meetings after school are required. Photographing and documenting school events/performances during and outside of school hours will also be a requirement.

Prerequisite: Creative Photography I or Visual Arts I (single semester photography course from 2022-23)

TECHNICAL THEATRE (FORMERLY STEM)

M/J TECHNICAL THEATRE: DESIGN AND PRODUCTION (#0400110)

Students' work focuses on learning the elements of technical theatre. This includes lighting, properties (props), publicity, scenery, and sound. Also important is students' technical knowledge of safety procedures and demonstrated safe operation of theatre equipment, tools, and raw materials. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend or participate in technical work, rehearsals, and/or performances beyond the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

USE THIS SPACE TO PLAN OUT WHAT ELECTIVES YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR. YOU WILL BE PUTTING YOUR ELECTIVE CLASSES IN ORDER BY PREFERENCE BUT WE CANNOT GUARANTEE YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR TOP CHOICE(S). PLEASE BE SURE YOU LOOK AT THE PREREQUISITES FOR EACH CLASS TO SEE IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO SIGN UP FOR THOSE CLASSES.

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