

8th GRADE ELECTIVES

LANGUAGES

INTRO TO SPANISH .5 credit (Fee)

An introductory course designed to give the student an experience with the Spanish language and culture.

SPANISH I 1.0 credit (Fee)

This class stresses the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students practice the skills by means of dialogues, structure drills, reading selections and written exercises. Emphasis will be on near-native pronunciation, speaking, listening and writing correct Spanish.

INTRO TO AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE .5 credit (Fee)

This course is an introductory course to the ASL language program. It includes instruction in American Sign Language (ASL) or other deaf languages, finger spelling orientation to deaf culture, and interpreting from signing to voice and from voice to signing.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I 1.0 credit (Fee)

This class provides students with instruction in American Sign Language (ASL) or other deaf languages, finger spelling, orientation to deaf culture, and interpreting from signing to voice and from voice to signing.

INTRO TO CHINESE .5 credit (Fee)

An introductory course designed to give the student an experience with the Chinese language and culture.

CHINESE I 1.0 credit (Fee)

In level 1, students begin to communicate sufficiently to satisfy basic survival needs and minimum courtesy requirements. They can ask and answer some simple questions, respond to and sometimes initiate short statements and maintain simple conversation. Students understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics. Students will begin to identify and react to perspectives and practices of the target culture.

ART

ART FOUNDATIONS I .5 credit (Fee)

The student learns the basic elements and principles of art through drawing, painting & sculpturing.

CERAMICS I .5 credit (Fee)

The student receives instruction in ceramics and designing in ceramic clays. Preparation of clay bodies, use of tools and equipment, firing and construction methods, and an introduction to wheel throwing is included.

MUSIC

BEGINNING BRASS 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential through learning to play a brass instrument. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. This ensemble is directed toward building music performance skills. Curriculum includes 2-4 performances per year including introduction to music theory, history, and composition.

BEGINNING WOODWINDS 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential through learning to play a Woodwind instrument. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. This ensemble is directed toward building music performance skills. Curriculum includes 2-4 performances per year including introduction to music theory, history and composition

INTERMEDIATE BAND 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course further develops and refines core concepts and fundamentals introduced in Beginning Band. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music with increasing fluency, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Curriculum includes 6-8 performances per year including adjudicated music festivals, introduction to music theory, history and composition. *Pre-requisite course is Beginning Band.*

SYMPHONIC BAND 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course further develops and refines core concepts and fundamentals introduced in Beginning Band. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music with increasing fluency, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Curriculum includes 6-8 performances per year including adjudicated music festivals, introduction to music theory, history and composition. *Pre-requisite course is Beginning Band, or audition.*

ORCHESTRA BEGINNING 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play orchestral string instruments. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. *No pre-requisite course is required.*

ORCHESTRA INTERMEDIATE 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play orchestral string instruments. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music with increasing fluency, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. *Pre-requisite course is Beginning Orchestra, or audition. Teacher Approval required.*

ORCHESTRA ADVANCED 1.0 credit (Fee)

Students will be part of an ensemble of intermediate to advanced string players directed toward performing the finest in classical and contemporary music.

PERCUSSION (A) 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential through learning to play percussion instruments. Study includes the building of proper technique on all percussion instruments, the ability to read music, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. *Pre-requisite two years piano or previous instrument experience and audition.*

BEGINNING PERCUSSION 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential through learning to play percussion instruments. Study includes the building of proper technique on all percussion instruments, the ability to read music, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. *Two years piano or previous instrument experience, audition.*

ADVANCED PERCUSSION 1.0 credit (Fee)

This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential through learning to play percussion instruments. Study includes the continued building of proper technique on all percussion instruments. Study includes the continued building of proper technique on all percussion instruments, the ability to read music with increasing fluency, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will have opportunities to improvise, compose, strengthen listening skills, analyze performances and relate their music experiences to the time and culture of the pieces they study, as well as to contemporary society. Curriculum includes 6-8 performances per year, introduction to music theory, history, and composition. *Pre-requisite course is Beginning Percussion.*

CONCERT CHOIR (Mixed) 1.0 credit

This is a non-auditioned course designed to introduce and build upon previous musical knowledge through basic music fundamentals as well as basic skills of musicianship. In class and concert we will rehearse and perform all types of music. Through participation and group activities, skills such as note and rhythm reading, singing with accurate pitch in two and three-part harmony, sight reading, and musical terms will be learned in order to develop a sense of pride and accomplishment in the individual student.

ADVANCED WOMEN'S CHOIR (Audition Only) 1.0 credit (fee)

This is a women's audition only class. Students accepted into this class have demonstrated a proficiency at basic music skills, an ability to produce good vocal tone, and excellent self control. Various styles of music are rehearsed and performed. We will seek to become excellent musicians, not just singers, through note and rhythm reading, dynamic and tempo terms and symbol in order to develop a sense of pride and accomplishment in the overall, developed student.

P.E. ELECTIVES

CHORUS AUDITION (Audition Only) 1.0 credit (fee)

This is a women's audition only class. Students accepted into this class have demonstrated a proficiency at basic music skills, an ability to produce good vocal tone, and excellent self control. Various styles of music are rehearsed and performed. We will seek to become excellent musicians, not just singers, through note and rhythm reading, dynamic and tempo terms and symbol in order to develop a sense of pride and accomplishment in the overall, developed student.

DRAMA

DRAMA FOUNDATIONS .5 credit

This course is designed to encourage students to reach out of their comfort zone and become comfortable performing in front of others. Curriculum focus will be: Confidence Building, Basic Theater History, Vocal Technique, Body Movement, Characterization, Scene Work, Solo Performances, Constructive Critiquing, Self-Reflection, and Auditioning. Students will be required to see a live play production and read a published play script.

DRAMA I .5 credit

This class is an intermediate study of theater history, advanced performance skills, confidence building, Shakespearean acting, and audition preparation. Students will be required to see a live play production and read a published play script. *Pre-requisite of Beginning Theatre required.*

MUSICAL THEATER .5 credit

Students in musical theater will automatically be cast in the school's yearly musical to be rehearsed during the first quarter of the semester. During the second quarter class time will be focused on improving musical theater technique such as acting a song, coming up with choreography, and working as an ensemble. We will also be studying the history of musical theater. *Audition required.*

STAGE CRAFT .5 credit (fee)

A chance to learn about the backstage elements of theater! This class focuses on design elements of technical theater. Stage Basics, Makeup, Set, Lighting, Sound, Costumes, and props are all areas that we study in this class. Students who are interested in the performing arts but don't love to perform will enjoy this class.

STAGE CREW (Application Only) .5 credit

A specialized group of student techies that assist with assemblies, concerts, building rentals, and plays. Requires fairly extensive after school commitments and an approved APPLICATION.

DANCE

DANCE FUNDAMENTALS .5 credit

Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of dance technique and choreography, and begin to discover dance as an art form. This course will focus on four dance standards based off of the Utah State Core Curriculum, which are: technique, elements of dance, creative/choreographic processes, and meaning. Modern dance will be the main focus of this class, but we will also explore the dance styles of jazz, ballet, hip-hop, and a bit of folk dance.

DANCE IA .5 credit (Fee)

Students will continue to study dance technique and choreography, and continue to discover dance as an art form. This course will focus on four dance standards based off of the Utah State Core Curriculum, which are: technique, elements of dance, creative/choreographic processes, and meaning. Modern dance will be the main focus of this class, but we will also explore the dance styles of jazz, ballet, hip-hop, and a bit of folk dance. *Dance Fundamentals is a prerequisite for this class.*

FRONTIER DANCE COMPANY (FDC) .5 credit (fee)

The purpose of this organization is to provide students the opportunity to refine skills in choreography and performance in dance. Although dancers will be instructed in many dance techniques, the primary purpose is to increase choreographic and performance skills. Selected members of FDC already possess dance technique; experiences in FDC will build upon that technique by channeling those skills into the creative, artistic expression of art by utilizing the medium of dance. *This class requires an audition.*

BALLROOM .5 Credit

This co-ed dance class teaches various forms of American style social dancing. All of the social dances taught are designed to give students dance experience that they can share and enjoy on any social dance occasion. Emphasis is placed on the fox-trot, cha-cha, waltz and triple swing.

AEROBICS .5 credit (Fee)

This total body fitness class involves cardiovascular exercises as well as body toning exercises. Exercise routines will be choreographed to music. Basic principles of fitness will be taught and applied in class. *This class does NOT fill any PE credit.*

CROSS TRAINING .5 credit (Fee)

This class is designed for students to tone, shape and strengthen. Cardiovascular exercise will be incorporated for an overall training program. *This class is an elective only and does NOT fill any PE credit. PE fee required.*

CTE

KEYBOARDING .5 credit (Fee)

In this beginning semester long keyboarding course, the student will master touch operation on a computer keyboard. Correct techniques including fingering, key strokes, posture, and the development of speed and accuracy will be stressed. The fourth row numbers and symbols and 10-key pad will also be taught. The students will use basic word processing functions on a variety of document types.

FACS EXPLORATION: SEWING & INTERIOR DESIGN .5 credit (Fee)

This course provides students the opportunity to learn essential life skills. It allows them to develop skills in clothing construction and fashion, clothing care and maintenance, textiles, interior design, and consumerism. Students will also use their creativity to personalize their sewing projects.

FACS EXPLORATION: FOOD & CHILD CARE .5 credit (Fee)

This course provides students the opportunity to learn essential life skills. It allows them to develop skills in childcare and safety, consumerism, family relationships, personal responsibility, and job-related tasks. It is designed for students who are interested in understanding the principles of nutrition and maintaining a healthy level of fitness for life.

EXPLORING TECHNOLOGY 2 .5 credit (Fee)

Students will be introduced to topics such as: technological systems of, communications, construction, energy/power/transportation, manufacturing and biotechnology. We will stress the safe operation of machines and tools. The course emphasis is on exploration activities using computers, technology, and equipment and manufacturing tools.

COMMUNICATIONS TECH 1 .5 credit (Fee)

This class will introduce students to a wide range of communications technologies. Students will apply skills and concepts through the completion of activity-based hands on curriculum, centered in the following areas: Graphic design, Robotics, Drafting, Video and Audio production, Digital Media, 3D Modeling and many more. This course will provide opportunities for students to work individually and in a team, while also developing skills in technological design, innovation, and problem solving.

OTHER ELECTIVES

CREATIVE WRITING .5 credit (Fee)

This class is designed to provide experiences and activities which will enhance the communication of ideas through written expression.

DEBATE 1 .5 credit (Fee)

This is a basic course in speech and debate. Students will learn techniques of research, persuasion, organization, refutation, and group processes. Content will include important issues facing the world, our nation, and ourselves.

PEER TUTOR .5 credit

Students will be involved in peer tutoring students in special education and resource classes in math, English, reading, life skills and other academic areas. This class would be most helpful to students considering a career in teaching, coaching, etc. This course involves working with disabled students. It is extremely important that the students chosen for this class have a very good attendance record. During the school year this class goes on a number of community trips, a few of them may require the student to bring a dollar or so. *Application Required.*

TEACHER AIDE .5 credit

A student may be an aide for one period only. Students will help the teacher by doing tasks related to the subject. *Teacher and counselor approval required. Must have a request form signed by the teacher and a parent.*