



Middle School Course Descriptions 2022-23

Art	<p>The exploratory art class is designed to help improve students' basic art skills and fine motor skills, specifically: drawing, painting, and designing artwork using a variety of media and techniques. The projects selected will develop students' creativity and self-expression by allowing for student voice and choice on both project choice and artistic direction within projects in a mixture of different collaborative settings. Students will also learn to critique, reflect upon, and revise their own artwork and the artwork of others. Judgment will not be passed on students' artwork and instead will be evaluated based on a rubric and specific catalog of necessary requirements per project or art piece given to students prior to evaluation. The main goals for students are to recognize and use the art elements (line, shape, color, value, space, texture and form), and design principles (rhythm, balance, proportion, variety, emphasis, harmony and unity) continuously in a collaborative and focused direction.</p>
Humanities 1	<p>Humanities 1 provides students a comprehensive study of the social sciences, reading, and writing through project-based learning as well as content and skills-based instruction. Students engage in a combination of readings, discussions, and interactive activities as they develop critical thinking and analytical skills. Topics covered in the course include world history, current events and more.</p> <p>Humanities projects, while integrated with other areas of study such as math, science, and art, will address themes such as culture, resilience, civil disobedience, cooperation, courage, citizenship, and justice.</p> <p>Students will develop transferable reading skills to engage with assigned texts and texts of choice, both fiction and non-fiction. Students will also develop as writers, engaging in producing many genres of writing during the course.</p>
Humanities 2	<p>Humanities 2 provides students a comprehensive study of the social sciences, reading, and writing through project-based learning as well as content and skills-based instruction. Students engage in a combination of readings, discussions, and interactive activities as they develop critical thinking and analytical skills. Topics covered in the course include world history, current events and more.</p> <p>Humanities projects, while integrated with other areas of study such as math, science, and art, will address themes such as culture, resilience, civil disobedience, cooperation, courage, citizenship, and justice.</p>



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Humanities 3	<p>Humanities 3 provides students a comprehensive study of the social sciences, reading, and writing through project-based learning as well as content and skills-based instruction. Students engage in a combination of readings, discussions, and interactive activities as they develop critical thinking and analytical skills. Topics covered in the course include U.S history, government and politics, current events, international relations and more.</p> <p>Humanities projects, while integrated with other areas of study such as math, science, and art, will address themes such as culture, resilience, civil disobedience, cooperation, courage, citizenship, and justice.</p> <p>Students will develop transferable reading skills to engage with assigned texts and texts of choice, both fiction and non-fiction. Students will also develop as writers, engaging in producing many genres of writing during the course.</p>
Integrated Math-Science 1	<p>Integrated Math-Science 1 immerses students in math/science within the project-based environment. We address integrated math content (area, surface area, and volume; ratio reasoning; unit rates and percents; operations with decimals and fractions; solving equations and inequalities; negative numbers; and statistics) through rich problems and projects. Science is based on the NGSS standards. We explore earth science topics through project-based work.</p> <p>Math/Science projects, while integrated with other areas of study such as humanities and art, address themes such as community, change, empowerment, and justice. As we design and create products for authentic audiences in and around our community, we engage in the design thinking process to gain feedback, critique, and revision in all of our work. Students are seen as principal investigators in this work, so it is our vision that all our students will confidently guide their own personal growth by consistently reflecting on their goals of study.</p>
Integrated Math-Science 2	<p>Integrated Math-Science 2 immerses students in math/science within the project-based environment. We address integrated math content (Probability, Statistics, Geometry, and Pre-Algebra concepts) through rich problems and projects. Science is based on the NGSS standards. We explore life science topics through project-based work.</p> <p>Math/Science projects, while integrated with other areas of study such as humanities and art, address themes such as community, change, empowerment, and justice. As we design and create products for</p>



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Integrated Math-Science 3	<p>Integrated Math-Science 3 immerses students in math/science within the project-based environment. We address integrated math content (the number system; expressions and equations; functions; geometry; and statistics and probability) through rich problems and projects. Science is based on the NGSS standards. We explore physical science topics through project-based work. Math/Science projects, while integrated with other areas of study such as humanities and art, address themes such as community, change, empowerment, and justice. As we design and create products for authentic audiences in and around our community, we engage in the design thinking process to gain feedback, critique, and revision in all of our work. Students are seen as principal investigators in this work, so it is our vision that all our students will confidently guide their own personal growth by consistently reflecting on their goals of study.</p> <p>Throughout the course students will be encouraged to think critically and make connections between mathematical concepts, as well as apply mathematical skills and reasoning to real-world scenarios. This course will prepare students for further study of mathematics in high school.</p>
Makers	<p>In the Makers course, students will have the opportunity to explore the world of making and creation. Through various projects and challenges, students will learn how to design, build, and bring their ideas to life using a variety of tools and materials. Whether they are creating something functional, artistic, or just for fun, the focus of this class is on the process of making and the thrill of seeing their ideas become a reality.</p> <p>The curriculum will cover basic skills in areas such as woodworking, electronics, and CAD, while also encouraging students to think critically, work collaboratively, and solve problems creatively. With a focus on the STEAM principles of science, technology, engineering, arts, and math, students will develop technical skills and gain a deeper understanding of how these subjects relate to the world around them.</p> <p>In this Makers class, students will have the freedom to be creative, take risks, and make mistakes, all in a supportive and encouraging environment. Whether they are working on individual projects or collaborating with their classmates, they will develop confidence, perseverance, and a love for making that will serve them well in all areas of their lives.</p>



Music	<p>In music, students will explore various methods of music making while strengthening their knowledge of the elements of music, music reading, composition, recording, editing, and critical listening. Students will apply their new knowledge to singing and playing various musical instruments such as ukulele, guitar, keyboard, pitched, and non-pitched percussion instruments. Student learning will be presented in the form of various projects. Curriculum may be adjusted in order to carry out those projects.</p>
Outdoor Leadership	<p>Outdoor Leadership exploratory course combines physical education, environmental education, team building, social emotional learning, and artistic expression.</p> <p>Students will engage in a variety of physical outdoor activities including cooperative and competitive physical activities intended to promote healthy lifestyles, develop athletic skills, and foster leadership and teamwork. Working together is a crucial part of this class. Students will participate and reflect on team building activities that will help develop communication, trust, and collaboration skills.</p> <p>As students explore environmental topics, they will learn about the natural world and how to protect and preserve it. Students will discuss environmental issues and learn how we can make a positive impact on the environment. Students will express their relationship with the natural world and themselves creatively through forms of artistic expression by engaging in a variety of visual art forms.</p> <p>Through experiential projects in outdoor recreation and environmental education, students will gain a deeper understanding, appreciation, and connection to the natural world while fostering stewardship for their planet, community, and self.</p>
Theater	<p>The Theater course teaches skills-based theater for beginning actors and theater artists. In this class, students will learn about actor tools: body, voice, & imagination and use these tools to become expert storytellers & presenters. Areas of creative work include playwriting, design, puppetry, mask making, audience etiquette and performance. Additionally, students will learn about theater as an industry and collaborative artform.</p>