

HIDDEN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Art Foundations I: Art Foundations 1 provides an overview of visual arts while studying a broad variety of art tools and materials. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art related technology skills, art criticism, art history and aesthetics.

Art Foundations II (Pre-req: Art Foundations I): Art Foundations 2 provides an overview and introduction to visual arts through studying a variety of art tools and materials. This course builds on Foundations 1 with a more in-depth experience with fewer art forms. This course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics, with an emphasis on studio production.

Band I Woodwinds: This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the flute, oboe, clarinet or saxophone. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. An instrument is required. If available, an oboe or tenor saxophone may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

Band I Brass: This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the cornet, trumpet, french horn, baritone horn, euphonium, trombone or tuba. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. An instrument is required. If available, a french horn, baritone horn, euphonium or tuba may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

Band I - Percussion (Drums): This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the drums, mallet, keyboard instruments, and other percussion-related instruments. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. Drum sticks are required. A drum kit or mallets may also be required as per teacher request. One-year piano experience required.

Band II - Concert (Pre-req: Woodwinds/Brass): This is an intermediate level band course that encourages increased technical and expressive musical proficiency through performance and study of music. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and constitute a portion of the grade. French horn, baritone horn, euphonium, or tuba may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

Band III - Honors Band (Pre-req: Band II): This is a course open to students whose interests are in performing jazz, rock and related musical literature. The group is designed to provide fundamental knowledge of this music through performance. Rehearsals and performances outside of class designed to provide fundamental knowledge of this music through performance. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and constitute a portion of the grade. Practice outside of class time with an instrument is required. If available, a tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone or electric bass guitar may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

Study Skills: This course is a course in which students learn and apply social and academic skills and strategies. This class may cover the following areas: Organization, time management, stress management, reading strategies, test taking strategies, study strategies, note taking, academic tracking, teamwork, communication and goal setting, learning and interest assessments.

Peer Tutor: This course is a course in which students learn and apply social and academic skills and strategies. This class may cover the following areas: Organization, time management, stress management, reading strategies, test taking strategies, study strategies, note taking, academic tracking, teamwork, communication and goal setting, learning and interest assessments.

Creative Writing: This course, based on Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Writing Standards, is designed to introduce students to imaginative composition with the writing of personal experiences, character sketches, short fiction, and poetry. Students will have the opportunity to prepare manuscripts for publication, awards, and scholarships.

Python I - Creative Coding I: Creative Coding I is a beginning course for non experienced programmers. Students learn and practice coding using python programming language.

Python II - Creative Coding II (Pre-req: Coding I): Creative Coding II is a quality computer science curriculum not only engages students in interesting, collaborative learning activities using sound pedagogical strategies, but it also ensures that students are learning concepts vital to the deep and broad field of computer science. Creative Coding has been designed to achieve this goal by aligning with the CSTA K-12 Computer Science Standards. This course is primarily an introductory programming course, and units are grounded in an array of standards from the strands of computational thinking, collaboration, computing practice and programming, computer and communication devices, and community, global and ethical impacts.

Orchestra I: This class is for students who would like to learn to play the violin, viola, cello or string bass. No experience necessary. Practice outside of class time and performance are part of this course. Instruments are required. If available, a viola, a cello, or a string bass may be rented from the school for a nominal fee.

Orchestra II - Concert (Pre-req: Orchestra I): This is an intermediate-level orchestra class focusing on intermediate-level literature for orchestra. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirements and will constitute a portion of the grade. Practice outside of class time with an instrument is required. If available, a viola, a cello, or a string bass may be rented from the school for a nominal fee.

Orchestra III - Honors Orchestra (Pre-req: Orchestra II): This is an orchestra class focusing on advanced-level literature for orchestra. Rehearsals and performances outside of the class time are part of the course requirement and will constitute a portion of the grade. Practice outside of class time with an instrument is required.

Choir I Tenor / Bass (Male): This is a vocal music course open to all students with tenor or bass vocal ranges. Two, three and four part music performed at various concerts. Primary consideration is given to part-singing, good vocal production and rudiments of music. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirements and constitute a portion of the grade.

Choir I Soprano / Alto (Female): This is a vocal course open to all students with soprano or alto vocal ranges. Two, three or four part music is performed at various concerts. Primary consideration is given to part-singing, good vocal production and rudiments of music. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirements and constitute a portion of the grade.

Choir I - Mixed Choir: This class is open to all students. Emphasis will be placed on quality vocal production, individual singing and music reading skills. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and will constitute a portion of the grade.

Choir II - Concert Choir: This is a vocal music course that is open to all students. It covers three and four-part music and a review of singing fundamentals. Approval of the instructor may be required. Rehearsals and performances outside of class are part of the course requirements and constitute a portion of the grade.

Dance I: This course offers basic dance techniques, fitness fundamentals, movement qualities and rhythm with an emphasis on creativity, sequencing and problem solving.

Dance II (Pre-req: Dance I): This course offers basic dance techniques, fitness fundamentals, movement qualities, and rhythm with an emphasis on creativity, sequencing, and problem solving.

Reading 8H: This course, based on the 8th Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for students who qualify for more advanced instruction in reading comprehension, writing, methods of inquiry and the processes, skills and strategies for effective communication.

Beginning Theatre: There are two basic goals in theatre education: finding meaning in works of theatre art through the study and appreciation of theatre as an art form, and constructing meaning in works of theatre art through film analysis, improvisation and the following competitive areas: dramatic and humorous interpretations, mono acting, scenes from plays and pantomime.

Intermediate Theatre (Pre-req: Beginning Theatre): This is an intermediate course in theatre with an emphasis on performance and playwriting. The course will include, but not be limited to, playwriting, characterization, monologues, scenes from plays, movement, voice projection and diction and improvisation. Other skills learned and developed include critical thinking, rehearsal skills, plot structure, reading, writing and cooperative group work.

Musical theatre (Pre-req: Beginning Theatre): This is a performing arts elective course focusing on musical theatre productions. Students will learn the skills necessary to become a "Triple Threat." We will dance, sing, and act-- and do all three at the same time!" Students will develop choreography, learn the basics of reading sheet music, as well as improve their acting chops.

Stage Design: This course teaches scenery construction, scenery painting and all other aspects of production for school musicals and plays.

Advanced Dance / Company (Required: Audition March 23-24, 2021): A course designed to enhance and develop all aspects of dance technique and composition, emphasizing creativity and artistic choreographic skills. There will be performances outside of class time that are part of the course requirements, and they will constitute a portion of the grade.

Ceramics I: Ceramics develops basic skills in the creation of 3-D forms and pottery from clay. Techniques in hand building, wheel throwing, basic glazing, and firing are taught. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking and art-related technology skills. Some art criticism, art history, and aesthetics may be included.

Drawing I: Drawing focuses on black and white or monochromatic rendering from life, pictures, masterworks, and imagination. This course is designed to develop higher-level thinking and art-related technology skills with an emphasis on studio production. Some experiences in art criticism, art history, and aesthetics may be included.

Painting I: Painting 1 includes wet and dry color media with processes such as transparent and opaque painting focusing on the properties of color. Techniques with color media mixing and application will be covered. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking skills and art-related technology skills. Some art criticism, art history, and aesthetics may be included.

FACS Exploration: This Family and Consumer Science course provides students with essential life skills. The course allows students to develop skills in two or more of the following areas: food and nutrition, childcare and safety, interior design and care of a home, clothing construction and style, consumerism, family relationships, personal responsibility, and job-related skills. (Local schools can determine the areas of emphasis from the above curricula where multiple sections may be offered).

Exploring Technology: This course shows students how technology is used in engineering to solve everyday problems. The units excite and motivate students to use their imaginations and teach them to be creative and innovative, while gaining the skills they need to develop, produce and use products and services. Gateway to Technology-PLTW is an approved curriculum for this course. Units may include: Design and Modeling, The Magic of Electrons, The Science of Technology, Automation and Robotics, as well as Flight and Space.

French I: This course is designed to teach elementary skills in listening, speaking, reading and spelling. The curriculum covered in this course will give students the skills to communicate in culturally-appropriate ways in the target language. By the end of this course students' skill level should be at novice-mid level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards. Students will develop an appreciation for the culture of the countries where the language is spoken.

French II (Pre-req: French I): This course is designed to teach intermediate skills in listening, speaking, reading and spelling. The curriculum covered in this course will give students the skills to communicate in culturally-appropriate ways in the target language. By the end of this course, student skill level should be at novice-high level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards. Students will develop an appreciation for the culture of the countries where the language is spoken.

Portuguese Culture & Media III (DLI Students Only): This course continues the development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Narratives and dialogues are used to teach structure and vocabulary. Culture and geography of the Portuguese-speaking countries are taught through reading selections. For dual immersion students only.

Portuguese Culture & Media IV (DLI Students Only): This course continues the development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Narratives and dialogues are used to teach structure and vocabulary. Culture and geography of the native country are taught through reading selections. For dual immersion students only.

Spanish I: This course is designed to teach elementary skills in listening, speaking, reading and spelling. The curriculum covered in this course will give students the skills to communicate in culturally-appropriate ways in the target language. By the end of this course, student skill level should be at novice-mid level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards. Students will develop an appreciation for the culture of the countries where the language is spoken.

Spanish II (Pre-req: Spanish I): This course is designed to teach intermediate skills in listening, speaking, reading and spelling. The curriculum covered in this course will give students the skill to communicate in culturally-appropriate ways in the target language. By the end of this course, students' skill level should be at novice-high level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards. Students will develop an appreciation of the culture of the countries where the language is spoken.

Weight Training I: This is a physical education course designed to give students the opportunity to learn weight training concepts and techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the basic fundamentals of weight training, strength training, aerobic training and overall fitness training and conditioning. Course includes both lecture and activity sessions. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness and movement activity for a lifetime.