

2023-24 HIDDEN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL 9TH 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: 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 II - (Honors Band) (Pre-req: Percussion I): 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.

Business Office Specialist: This course applies advanced concepts and principles using word-processing, spreadsheets, databases and electronic presentation software. Students will integrate applications learned.

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.

Ceramics II (Pre-req: Ceramics I): This is an intermediate course that builds upon the concepts and skills learned in Ceramics 1. Students will consistently produce quality pieces of ceramics.

Ceramics III (Pre-req: Ceramics II): This is an advanced course in ceramics. Students are directed to work independent projects following a theme or pursuing particular problems of design or construction. The goal of the course is to create pieces for exhibition or portfolio purposes.

Child Development: This course covers the development of a child from conception through adolescence. The course includes the following topics: reproductive tracts, prenatal development and care, healthy lifestyles conducive to healthy pregnancies, birth defects, and the development and care of children throughout childhood. Guidance and discipline techniques and the physical, social, and emotional development of children will also be examined. The student learns both how and why a child grows and develops. This class is a prerequisite for any of the higher-level child development courses.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Dance / Company (Advanced) (Required: Audition April 5th & 6th): 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.

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.

Drawing II (Pre-req: Drawing I): This is an intermediate course in drawing that builds on the skills and concepts taught in Drawing 1. The use of value is emphasized. Atmospheric perspective and accurate shading are studied along with composition.

Engineering 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.

Exploring Business and Marketing: Students will be exposed to the fundamentals concepts of business and marketing. Skills include basic business concepts, organizational communication, human resources management, entrepreneurship, accounting, finance, and leadership.

Exploring Computer Science: This course is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, this course is designed to focus on the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools of languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of this course is to develop in students the computational thinking practices of algorithm development, problem solving, and programming with the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as interface design, limits of computers as well as societal and ethical issues.

Foods and Nutrition I: This introductory course is designed for students who are interested in understanding the principles of nutrition and in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Attention will be given to selection and preparation of food and personal health and well-being.

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.

French III (Pre-req: French II): 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 intermediate-low level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards.

Guitar: This course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play a guitar. Emphasis is placed on playing position, tone production, fundamental technique, simultaneous playing and singing, reading music, and composing songs/lyrics. Knowledge and skills will include experiences in singing, playing, listening, and connecting to cultures. Instrument required.

Harmony Choir (Soprano/Alto): Emphasis is 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.

Math Lab: This is a course designed to give students additional time for math work. Students will receive a pass/fail grade.

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.

Percussion II (Pre-req: Percussion I): This course is designed for students to perform as a percussion ensemble as well as possibly performing with concert band, symphonic band. Students with drum or mallet percussion experience (i.e., marimba, xylophone, and bells) are encouraged to improve their skills in a large-group setting. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and constitute a portion of the grade.

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 - (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.

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.

Painting II (Pre-req: Painting I): This is an intermediate course that builds on the skills and concepts learned in Painting 1. More complex techniques and processes are taught. Composition is emphasized as the student learns to make a clear visual statement in a painting.

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.

Portuguese Brazil History & Culture (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.

Python I - A beginning course for non experienced programmers. Students learn and practice coding using python programming language.

Python II - (Pre-req: Python I): A quality computer science curriculum that 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. Python 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.

Robotics Technology: This course prepares individuals with a lab-based, hands-curriculum combining electrical, mechanical and engineering principles. Students learn to design, build, program and control robotic devices. A rigorous study and application of basic electronic concepts will include: sources of energy, electrical safety, use and identification of basic electronic components, sensors and actuators. Engineering concepts will include: mechanical design, prototype development, design testing, programming and proper engineering documentation.

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.

Spanish III (Pre-req: Spanish II): This course is designed to teach advanced 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 intermediate-low level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards.

Sports and Fashion Sewing: This course covers basic sewing skills while completing a variety of projects. This course emphasizes the construction of sports and outdoor clothing. Students start with easy projects like sewing boxer shorts and progress to ski wear, sweats, zippered bags, camo shirts, pants, and polar fleece jackets. Subjects such as: clothing care, maintenance and textile information are covered. Projects are individually selected.

Student Aide - This is a Semester course that offers students a unique experience working with teachers. This position provides an opportunity to observe and model an adult at work. It provides a wide range of learning opportunities in areas such as life skills, human development, and career exploration. Teacher aides experience the opportunity to practice reliable citizenship and social skills as they interact with peers, school staff and the general public. **Student will receive a pass or fail grade (P/F).*

Study Hall: 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.

Theatre Beginning: 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.

Theatre Intermediate (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.

Theatre Musical (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.

Social / Ballroom Dance: This course offers instruction and practice in the basic social dance steps, rhythms, and techniques. The following dances may be included; foxtrot, cha-cha, waltz, swing, mambo, western swing, and western line dance.

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

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.

Weight Training II (Pre-req: 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.