



# Sahuarita Middle School

## 2021-2022 Elective Course Catalog



### ART

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#### **Art – 6, 7, 8**

This course will introduce students to the foundations of art, including life drawing, the elements of art, and how to use a variety of materials. Students will build experiences with drawing, painting and sculpture techniques. We will also study art movements from throughout history, as well as work made by contemporary artists. The same concepts are taught at each grade level. However, the projects are different and more challenging.

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

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#### **Spanish – 6**

This class is designed to teach basic vocabulary in reading, writing, and speaking Spanish. Emphasis is on practical writing and conversation in Spanish. A variety of activities such as reading Spanish dialogues, singing Spanish songs, and playing Spanish vocabulary games are used to help students become more comfortable with the language.

#### **Spanish – 7**

Students at this level continue to improve their ability to understand, converse and write in Spanish, with more emphasis on grammar. Students will learn how to conjugate verbs in the present tense. This course also includes games and dialogues.

#### **Beginner's Spanish – 8**

In this course students will build vocabulary and conjugating verbs in the present tense. We will explore language through poems, short stories, film, cultural projects, and writing, as well as focusing on proper grammar. Students will learn how to write complete sentences and short paragraphs and conduct presentations in Spanish.

#### **Spanish for High School Credit – 8 (Class held during Zero Hour or during regular day)**

This course is designed to teach novice proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening through active participation. It is an academic college preparatory course with emphasis on practical writing, conversation in Spanish, and an introduction to Hispanic culture. 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have taken beginning and/or intermediate Spanish or who have some experience speaking Spanish are also welcomed to enroll. This class is a year- long elective class offered as an

option for Zero hour (students have the opportunity to take 2 elective classes during the year) and it's also offered during the day as their only elective class. In completion of this class with a passing grade, students will be able to receive high school credit.

## **FORENSICS**

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### **Forensics – 8**

This year-long elective course introduces the topics of criminology within the field of forensic science. Study includes the applications of concepts from the areas of biology, chemistry, physics and geology to analyze and investigate evidence that may be discovered in a criminal investigation. Classroom activities include projects, famous case studies, and labs to learn the techniques forensic scientists use to solve crimes and then using these techniques to solve crimes.

## **LEADERSHIP**

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### **Leadership NJHS – 8**

National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is a leadership class consisting of elected officers and selected members-at-large. In addition to planning and carrying out service projects for the school year, students enrolled learn leadership skills, Robert's Rules of Order and other related topics. Written work is required of all class members throughout the school year. Grading is based on class work, group service projects, individual community service, and individual student research projects. In order to enroll in the class, you must have a 3.5 G.P.A. during the spring of your 7<sup>th</sup> grade year. Students must complete the application process and be selected for membership. This process takes place in the spring of the 7th grade year. Selected members are enrolled in the NJHS elective class for their 8th grade year.

### **Leadership/Student Council – 7, 8 (Class held during Reteach & Enrich)**

The emphasis of this class is for students to learn leadership and team-building skills through active participation in a variety of exercises, games, and school projects. Students will learn skills in communication, decision-making, and the importance of goal setting and completion of projects. The Council will be actively involved in the Arizona Association of Junior High Student Councils which requires participation in statewide activities. These activities require fees for participation. Student Council members may be required to pay all or part of these fees to be able to participate. A breakdown of fees will be given to students who complete the application for membership. Scholarships are available to cover fees based on demonstrated financial need. Students will be required to complete some community service projects. Student Council members must be model citizens both in and out of the classroom and maintain a GPA of 3.0 or better.

## **MUSIC**

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### **Beginning Band – 6**

Prerequisite: None. An entry-level course designed for student musicians with little or no prior band or performance experience to develop skills for participation in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band. This is a performance class, with regular required concerts scheduled throughout the year. A variety of band literature will be studied, with emphasis on developing basic musicianship skills, including: reading music notation, playing instruments with characteristic tone, and performing successfully as a group, as defined by the Arizona State and National music standards. Evening performances will be required at least twice through the school year. It is important to

understand that band is a year-long course. Students must provide their own instrument and instrument supplies or make arrangements with the instructor to rent school equipment, if available. Information regarding getting an instrument will be provided at the beginning of the term. Students who register for band must understand the time and financial commitment required, as schedule changes will not be permitted. Instruments to choose from: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Percussion (keyboards and drums).

### **Intermediate Band – 7**

Prerequisite: Previous band experience. An audition with the director, successful completion of Beginning Band at SMS or SIS, or Director's permission is required. An intermediate level course designed for student musicians of any grade with some band performance experience to develop skills for participation in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band. Course will focus on the study of quality band literature for public presentation at concerts and other events. Musicianship skills, including sight-reading, rhythms, scales, characteristic tone, and ensemble blending will be reviewed and emphasized. Participation in performances, which include evening and weekend events, is required. It is important to understand that band is a year-long course. Students must provide their own instrument and instrument supplies or make arrangements with the instructor to rent school equipment if available. Information regarding getting an instrument will be provided at the beginning of the term, if necessary. Students who register must understand the time and financial commitment required, as schedule changes will not be permitted. Any instrument switching from one year to the next is discouraged and may only be approved after having a discussion and making a plan with the director.

### **Advanced Band – 8**

Prerequisite: Previous band experience. An audition with the director, successful completion of 7<sup>th</sup> grade Band, or Director's permission is required. An advanced level course designed for student musicians with band performance experience to develop skills for participation in High School Band. Course will focus on the study of quality band literature for public presentation at concerts and other events. Advanced musicianship skills, including sight-reading, rhythms, scales, characteristic tone, and ensemble blending will be reviewed and emphasized. Participation in performances, which include evening and weekend events, is required. It is important to understand that this is a year-long course. Students must provide their own instrument, and instrument supplies, or make arrangements with the instructor to use school equipment if available. Information regarding getting an instrument will be provided at the beginning of the term, if necessary. Students who register must understand the time and financial commitment required, as schedule changes will not be permitted. Any instrument switching from one year to the next is discouraged and may only be approved after having a discussion and making a plan with the director.

### **Beginning Orchestra – 6**

Prerequisite: None. An entry level course designed for student musicians with little or no prior orchestra or performance experience, to develop skills for participation in 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra. This is a performance class, with regular required concerts scheduled throughout the year. A variety of orchestra literature will be studied, with emphasis on developing basic musicianship skills, including: reading music notation, playing instruments with characteristic tone, and performing successfully as a group, as defined by the Arizona State and National music standards. Evening performances will be required at least twice through the school year. It is important to understand that orchestra is a year-long course. Students must provide their own instrument and instrument supplies or make arrangements with the instructor to rent school equipment if available. Information regarding getting an instrument will be provided at the beginning of the term. Students who register for orchestra must understand the time and financial commitment required, as schedule changes will not be permitted. Instruments to choose from: Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass.

### **Intermediate Orchestra – 7**

Prerequisite: Previous orchestra experience. An audition with the director, successful completion of Beginning Orchestra at SMS or SIS, or Director's permission is required. An intermediate level course designed for student musicians with some orchestra performance experience to develop skills for participation in 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orchestra. Course will focus on the study of quality orchestra literature for public presentation at concerts and other events. Musicianship skills, including sight-reading, rhythms, scales, characteristic tone, and ensemble blending will be reviewed and emphasized. Participation in performances, which include evening and weekend events, is required. It is important to understand that orchestra is a year-long course. Students must provide their own instrument and instrument supplies or make arrangements with the instructor to rent school equipment if available. Information regarding getting an instrument will be provided at the beginning of the term, if necessary. Students who register must understand the time and financial commitment required, as schedule changes will not be permitted. Any instrument switching from one year to the next is discouraged and may only be approved after having a discussion and making a plan with the director.

### **Advanced Orchestra – 8**

Prerequisite: Previous orchestra experience. An audition with the director, successful completion of 7<sup>th</sup> grade Orchestra, or Director's permission is required. An advanced level course designed for student musicians with orchestra performance experience to develop skills for participation in High School Orchestra. Course will focus on the study of quality orchestra literature for public presentation at concerts and other events. Advanced musicianship skills, including sight-reading, rhythms, scales, characteristic tone, and ensemble blending, will be reviewed and emphasized. Participation in performances, which include evening and weekend events, is required. It is important to understand that this is a year-long course. Students must provide their own instrument, and instrument supplies, or make arrangements with the instructor to use school equipment if available. Information regarding getting an instrument will be provided at the beginning of the term, if necessary. Students who register must understand the time and financial commitment required, as schedule changes will not be permitted. Any instrument switching from one year to the next is discouraged and may only be approved after having a discussion and making a plan with the director.

### **Jazz Band – 6, 7, 8 (Class held during Reteach & Enrich)**

Prerequisites: One year of band. Students must know how to play or be willing to learn how to play one of the following instruments: saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass guitar, drum-set, or piano. Course will focus on the study and performance of quality big band jazz and combo literature. Historical and cultural aspects of jazz as America's original musical art will be studied in correlation with study of music in the many genres of jazz music. Advanced musicianship skills, including scale studies, chord structures, improvisation, and jazz and swing styles will be reviewed and emphasized. Students must provide their own instruments and equipment or make arrangements with the instructor to use school equipment if available.

### **Choir – 6**

This is an entry level course designed for students with little or no music experience. There will be emphasis on developing good vocal sound production, consistent tone quality, strong practice habits and information on taking care of one's singing voice. Students will also study basic musicianship skills which will include reading music notation and learning how to sing new music by sight. There will be regular required concerts of quality choral literature scheduled throughout the year, including an all-district choir concert in the fall and an evening concert at the end of each semester. This class may or may not be offered during R/E, as we do not know what the master schedule will look like next year.

### **Choir – 7**

This is a beginner to intermediate level course designed for students with some choir experience from lower grades. There will be emphasis on developing good vocal sound production, consistent tone quality, strong practice habits and information on taking care of one's singing voice. Students will also study basic musicianship skills which will include reading music notation and learning how to sing new music by sight. There will be regular required concerts of quality choral literature scheduled throughout the year, including an all-district choir concert in the fall and an evening concert at the end of each semester.

### **Choir – 8**

This is an intermediate to advanced level course designed to prepare students for high school vocal music. There will be emphasis on developing good vocal sound production, consistent tone quality, strong practice habits and information on taking care of one's singing voice. Students will also study basic musicianship skills which will include reading music notation and learning how to sing new music by sight. There will be regular required concerts of quality choral literature scheduled throughout the year, including an all-district choir concert in the fall and an evening concert at the end of each semester.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

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### **PE Foundations – 6**

The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts, such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting.

### **PE Physical Fitness – 6, 7, 8**

This course is an alternative to PE Foundations which will introduce students to overall physical fitness, including nutrition, stretching, flexibility, balance, core strength training, injury prevention, and cardiovascular health. Students may practice yoga, Pilates, aerobics, walking/jogging/running, and strength training.

### **PE Advanced Team Sports – 7, 8**

In this course students will learn the complexities of the classic team sports and play according to the actual rules.

### **PE Weight Training – 7, 8**

PE Weights are Co-Ed classes. Students will learn how to safely lift weights in repetitions and sets for developing strong bones and muscles. Students will learn how to use free weights and circuit training equipment. Students will set individual goals and track their progress toward achieving their goals. Students will also learn Latin names of muscles and be able to identify what exercises work which muscles.

## **NAVY/MARINE CORPS JROTC I**

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### **Navy/Marine Corp JROTC I – 8**

This course introduces students to the meaning of citizenship, the elements of leadership, community service, pride, living a healthy life and physical fitness. Students can participate in armed and unarmed drill teams, air rifle teams, orienteering and physical fitness team, Color Guard, and academic team. A sound appreciation for the heritage and traditions of America, with recognition that the historically significant role of sea power will be important in America's

future, is developed in each cadet. This course is taken during the school day at Sahuarita High School. Course Fee: \$26 per year.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

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### **Technology – 6, 7, 8**

This is a project-based instructional course, designed for each grade's developmental and proficiency levels. The course for each grade level are:

- 6th grade-learn how to use productivity tools to create a travel business and restaurant.
- 7th grade-learn how code and design a game.
- 8th Grade-learn how to draw using 3D drafting software and create a 3D animation.

All grades will learn about how to be better Digital Citizens and improve their typing skills. Students will gain knowledge through exploration and discovery to become creators of the world today.

### **News Media – 8 (Class held during Reteach & Enrich)**

This course is designed to educate students on the world of Digital Media. Digital Media covers many topics. These topics include video production and editing, graphic design, audio production, animation, podcasts and more. Students will have hands-on experience with editing segments for the school news, creating mini shows and music, designing and more. Gain experience and knowledge through the use of technology and create their own digital media products.