

Hamilton Middle School Elective Course Catalogue 2015-2016
(All electives are one quarter unless otherwise specified)

6th Grade

Advanced PE - Advanced P.E. Is a class that will give 6th and 7th graders an opportunity to have more Physical Exercise in their lives. The class is designed to introduce some activities that they don't get the opportunity to do in their regular P.E. classes. For example: Folf, golfing, swimming, bowling and others.

6th Grade Art-In this quarter course study, students will produce artwork in two and three Dimensional forms. Students will gain confidence and proficiency working with a variety of mediums, including, drawing/coloring tools, paint, and collage. They will also learn about art history, various artists, cultural/commercial art, art criticism, color theory and drawing/coloring techniques. (No prerequisite)

Beginning Band - A non-audition based band, this class introduces the beginning musician to the areas of music theory, history, ear training, instrumental technique and performance. The class is primarily performance based. Students will have the opportunity to perform in public concerts and in classroom ensembles. (Prerequisite - Consent from instructor) (Full year course)

Choir - Open to all 6th grade young ladies and gentlemen. Students in 6th Grade Choir will begin learning the fundamentals of reading, writing and performing vocal music. They will learn to sing basic harmony which will improve their ability to sing in tune and hear intervals. They will also learn the fundamentals of vocal technique to improve their projection and tone. (Semester long class)

Creative Writing - Students will focus on using their proficient writing skills in order to challenge their creative potential. From responding to imaginative prompts to writing poetry, the students will engage in a variety of creative writing styles.

Engineering - This course employs the Engineering Design Process to find the best solution to various problems. We explore the design, forces and energy involved with structures like bridges and domes. Students design and build

their own models and have the chance to test their strength!! This course involves a lot of hands-on discovery, independent work, attention to detail and developing problem-solving skills.

Family and Consumer Science - This class is designed to actively and comprehensively study a few of the core principles of the Family and Consumer Science area, including:

1. Babysitting
2. Manners and etiquette
3. laundry
4. Hand Sewing Skills
5. Kitchen Skills
6. Basic Budgeting and Money Management

German - This is an introductory level class to German. It will focus on the basics in communicating in German as well as German culture.

Keys to Programming I - Keys to Programming is a unique course which will aim to introduce students to a variety of computational skills that will be applicable across a variety of disciplines. The main goals of this course are to improve student touch keyboarding skills and performance, as well as introduce students to the field of computer science and programming. Through the exploration of computer programming, students will gain an understanding of how computer programs work, are created, and solve a variety of problems using computational thinking. Students will use a variety of programs (Scratch, Microsoft Small Basic) in order to create interactive computer applications and utilize computational problem solving in the development of simple computer programs and games.

Keys to Programming II - Keys to Programming II will serve as an extension course to Keys to Programming. Throughout this course, students will revisit many of the topics covered Keys to Programming while creating more complex and robust programs. In addition to program development, kids will continue to develop their computational thinking skills while exploring text based coding strategies. (Prerequisite - Keys to Programming I)

MTSS Math - This class will cover current material from the regular math classes. It is designed to reinforce those mathematics areas in which identified

students are not up to grade level, giving a more solid math foundation for the next levels.

MTSS ELA - Students will focus upon reviewing and building basic writing skills with the goal of becoming clear and effective writers. Throughout this course students will learn how to write more complex sentences, structure paragraphs, and will also learn the traits of well-written expository, narrative, and personal narrative pieces.

Spectra Challenge - This elective, for identified gifted Spectra students, challenges and supports students of high ability intellectually and social/emotionally. (Tier 3 Identified Students Only)

Spectra Independent Studies - Identified gifted Spectra students design and implement a project of self-interest in this elective. Students gain valuable self-regulatory skills as they independently pursue projects in talent areas or potential career paths. (Tier 2 and Tier 3 Identified Students Only)

Spectra Logic Smart - This elective will challenge and improve your Critical, Flexible, Strategic and Logical Thinking Skills! Problem solving techniques, higher level thinking and real world situations will be studied. A great class for logical/mathematical thinkers!

Spectra Word Smart - This elective will support and extend the linguistic intelligence! Creative, Analogical and Flexible Thinking Skills will be strengthened. A focus on writing, reading, listening and public speaking skills will challenge and improve your Word Smarts!

Sports Media - The students will learn the basics in Radio, TV, Filming and writing about different sporting events.

Study Hall - This class is an opportunity for students to have a class period specifically focused on classwork and homework. Students may request study hall, however, it is not a guarantee as we must consider class sizes.

Theater - This class focuses on the creative process and character development. Students will study various aspects of the theater arts and will participate in a in-class performance.

7th Grade

Advanced Lit - This class offers an opportunity for students who excel at reading to get a second dose, whether that be through classic or modern literature.

Advanced PE - Advanced P.E. Is a class that will give 6th and 7th graders an opportunity to have more Physical Exercise in their lives. The class is designed to introduce some activities that they don't get the opportunity to do in their regular P.E. classes. For example: Folf, golfing, swimming, bowling and others. (2nd and 4th QTR Only)

Art I - In this quarter course study, students will produce artwork in two and three Dimensional forms. Students will gain confidence and proficiency working with a variety of mediums, including, drawing/coloring tools, paint, and watercolor. They will also learn about art history, various artists, cultural/commercial art, art criticism, color theory and drawing/coloring techniques. (No prerequisite)

Art II - In this quarter course study, students will produce artwork in two and three Dimensional forms. Students will gain confidence and proficiency working with a variety of mediums including drawing/coloring tools, paint, papermaking, wire sculpture, and plaster. They will also learn about art history, various artists, cultural/commercial art, art criticism, color theory and drawing/coloring techniques. (Prerequisite - Art I)

Civics 7 - 7th Grade Civics Class 9 week course (Required)

British colonies

Why do we need a government?

Republic government and other types of government

Constitutional government

Charters for freedom

Declaration of Independence

Constitution

Bill of Rights

Resources: American Journey, We the People, I-Civics on line, Civics and Citizenship

Any current activities or events regarding the government that provide teachable moments: government shut down, potential war in Syria, 50th anniversary of the JFK assassination, etc.

Choir -

Boys' Choir is a class open to all young men in the 7th and 8th grade. This class will be a semester long. In order to accomplish their goals and develop their skills, students should enroll for the entire semester. Students in Boys' Choir will develop the fundamentals of reading, writing and performing vocal music. They will learn to sing chordal harmony which will improve their ability to sing in tune and hear intervals. They will continue to develop the fundamentals of vocal technique to improve their projection and tone. Students will audition for the Western Montana YouthSing (Honor Choir) at the end of the second quarter. (Semester long course)

Girls' Choir is a class open to all young ladies in the 7th and 8th grade. This class will be a full year in length. In order to accomplish their goals and develop their skills, students should enroll for the entire year (however, other requirements do pop up which could take them out for a quarter or two if needed). Students in Girls' Choir will develop the fundamentals of reading, writing and performing vocal music. They will learn to sing chordal harmony which will improve their ability to sing in tune and hear intervals. They will continue to develop the fundamentals of vocal technique to improve their projection and tone. Students will audition for the Western Montana YouthSing (Honor Choir) at the end of the second quarter. (Full Year Course)

Concert Band - A non-audition based band, this class continues to develop the intermediate musician in the areas of music theory, history, ear training, instrumental technique and performance. The class is primarily performance based. Students have the opportunity to perform at home in concert band and ensembles, as well as travel to band festivals out of town. (Prerequisite - 6th Grade Beginning Band and/or Consent of Instructor) (Full Year Course)

Exercise Research - Teacher Recommendation Only!

1st Quarter Boys

3rd Quarter Girls

FACS - Family and Consumer Science - This class is designed to actively and comprehensively study a few of the core principles of the Family and

Consumer Science area. The main focus is to examine the basics of foods and nutrition and study financial management.

1. Personal and Family Finance
2. What is Work?
3. Foods and Nutrition
4. Safety in the Kitchen
5. Food Preparation skills
6. Careers in FCS

German - In 7th and 8th grade German students will review some of the basics of German conversation and continue to learn more vocabulary to further communication in German (both written and spoken language). We will also get a glimpse of different cultural aspects and life in different Germanic countries.

Introduction to Computer Programming and Modeling I - Introduction to Computer Programming and Modeling is a course designed to equip students with the foundational skills necessary to understand and comprehend the highly in-demand field of computer science and computer programming. Through the application of advanced problem-solving techniques and introductory programming software, students will create interactive computer programs, solve linear problems using advanced algorithms, and create simple, single and multiplayer video-games. Through a series of hands-on projects, students will create a variety of programs requiring the application of cross-curricular knowledge.

Introductions to Computer Programming and Modeling II - Introduction to Computer Programming and Modeling II will serve as an extension course of Introduction to Computer Programming I. In addition to revisiting topics explored in CPM I, students will work with higher-order computer programming methods in order to create more complex and customizable computer applications. In addition to introducing new programming languages, students will also begin working in the world of mobile app development. (Prerequisite - Intro to Computer Programming and Modeling I).

Keyboarding/Technology - Keyboarding fundamentals are taught and reinforced throughout this class while learning the in's and out's of all the apps

available in Google Drive. You will learn lots of cool tips and tricks that you can use in all of your core classes.

Life Sports - Students will be introduced to the basics of fly fishing, archery, fly tying, and bowhunting. These activities one can enjoy and do for a lifetime. While participating in these activities students will learn how to be safe and ethical sportsmen and women. They will learn the role that hunting and fishing play in the management of game species. Students will also learn about how the management of areas can affect the ecology of that area.

MTSS Math: In seventh grade RTI math we get a second dose of math every day and review the concepts that were taught in the class room. We often finish and review homework assignments and go to the library lab and use the Khan Academy to review math concepts.

MTSS ELA - Per EasyCBM scores and/or teacher recommendation, students may be placed in Step up to Writing to help assist students with their writing and reading skills. These classes are taught by the grade level English Language Arts teachers.

Play Productions - This class will focus on producing a full length, fully produced (costumes, set and props) production culminating in a public performance. (Pre-Requisite: Theater 1 or Teacher Approval) (Spring Semester Course)

Public Speaking/Speech Class - This class is designed to help students prepare themselves in front of groups for presentations, speeches, quick response paragraphs, etc. Toastmasters will come in to teach specific topics as well as guest speakers to present speeches. All work is done in class and 95% of assignments are graded through oral presentation. There are not notes, tests, or homework. A very light and easy class.

Rough Draft to Publish class

- *Select purpose for writing and an audience for each piece.
- *Research and draft pieces of writing to polished finished product.
- *Find a publisher for each piece of writing and get published.

Science Engineering - Students will be working on skills of mathematics, engineering, design, creativity, production and implementation to build structures that will allow them to compete in a variety of class competitions.

Spanish 1- In Spanish 1 students will learn basic communication skills through conversations both written and spoken. The class will also focus on different Hispanic cultures giving students a glimpse of life in different countries.

Spanish 2 - In Spanish 2 students will delve deeper into communicating by learning how to construct meaningful sentences with correct Spanish grammar in both spoken and written conversation. The class will also focus on different Hispanic cultures giving students a glimpse of life in different countries. (Prerequisite - Spanish I).

Spanish 3 - In Spanish 3 students will continue to learn more vocabulary and how to converse in Spanish focusing on vocabulary and grammar in both written and spoken conversation. The class will explore different Hispanic cultures and everyday life. (Prerequisite - Spanish I and II).

Spectra Challenge (Tier 3 Identified Students Only) - This elective, for identified gifted Spectra students, challenges and supports students of high ability intellectually and social/emotionally.

Spectra Independent Studies (Tier 2 and Tier 3 Identified Students Only) - Identified gifted Spectra students design and implement a project of self-interest in this elective. Students gain valuable self-regulatory skills as they independently pursue projects in talent areas or potential career paths.

Study Hall - This class is an opportunity for students to have a class period specifically focused on classwork and homework. Students may request study hall, however, it is not a guarantee as we must consider class sizes.

The Birchbark House Novel Study - Students follow the main character, Omakayas, as she matures and learns more about her Chippewa way of life in the 1850s. Additional activities in class include beading pens and exploring the cultures of other Montana tribes.

Theater I - This class focuses on understanding theater basics through performance, building confidence, experiencing theater arts, and team work.

Students will study various aspects of the theater arts and will participate in an in-class performance.

Title Tutorial - Title Tutorial is a small group study hall typically consisting of 8-10 students. (Teacher Recommendation Only)

8th Grade

Advanced Lit - This class offers an opportunity for students who excel at reading to get a second dose, whether that be through classic or modern literature.

Art I - In this quarter course study, students will produce artwork in two and three Dimensional forms. Students will gain confidence and proficiency working with a variety of mediums, including, drawing/coloring tools, paint, and watercolor. They will also learn about art history, various artists, cultural/commercial art, art criticism, color theory and drawing/coloring techniques. (No prerequisite)

Art II - In this quarter course study, students will produce artwork in two and three Dimensional forms. Students will gain confidence and proficiency working with a variety of mediums including drawing/coloring tools, paint, papermaking, wire sculpture, and plaster. They will also learn about art history, various artists, cultural/commercial art, art criticism, color theory and drawing/coloring techniques. (Prerequisite - Art I)

Art III - In this quarter course study, students will produce artwork in two and three Dimensional forms. Students will gain confidence and proficiency working with a variety of mediums including drawing/coloring tools, paint, clay, plaster, and printmaking. They will also learn about art history, various artists, cultural/commercial art, art criticism, color theory and drawing/coloring techniques. (Prerequisites - Art I and Art II)

Civics 8 - 8th Grade Civics Class 9 week course (Required)

- Review 7th curriculum
- Constitutional Convention
- 3 Branches of government
- Bill of Rights court cases

Implied powers, Delegated powers, Reserve powers, and Concurrent powers

Political Parties

How to write a letter to congressman

Citizenship Exam

Resources: American Journey, We the People, I-Civics on line, Civics and Citizenship

Any current activities or events regarding the government that provide teachable moments: government shut down, potential war in Syria, 50th anniversary of the JFK assassination, etc.

Choir

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(Semester long Course)

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(Full Year Course)

Concert Band - A non-audition based band, this class continues to develop the intermediate musician in the areas of music theory, history, ear training, instrumental technique and performance. The class is primarily performance based. Students have the opportunity to perform at home in concert band and ensembles, as well as travel to band festivals out of town. (Prerequisite - 7th Grade Concert Band and/or Consent of Instructor) (Full Year Course)

Exercise Research – Teacher Recommendation Only!

2nd Quarter Girls

4th Quarter Boys

FACS – Family and Consumer Science - This class is designed to actively and comprehensively study the core principles of Family and Consumer Science areas. The main focus is to examine basic care for babies/babysitting, reading to preschoolers, financial management, and foods and nutrition.

1. Safety with children /Child Development
1. Basics of baby sitting
2. City of Life (Financial Management)
3. Foods and Nutrition
4. Safety in the Kitchen
5. Basic Meal Preparation Skills
6. Careers in FCS

German - In 7th and 8th grade German students will review some of the basics of German conversation and continue to learn more vocabulary to further communication in German (both written and spoken language). We will also get a glimpse of different cultural aspects and life in different Germanic countries

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MTSS Math: This class is designed to help students improve their math skills. We work on basic math skills and work on the concepts that are taught in the 8th grade math core class.

MTSS Reading/Writing - This class is a second dose of English class for those who struggle with reading, writing, and/or work completion in English class. Extra time and assistance will be given to complete English assignments and expand reading and writing skills.

Play Productions - This class will focus on producing a full length, fully produced (costumes, set and props) production culminating in a public performance. (Pre-Requisite: Theater 1 or Teacher Approval) (Spring Semester Course)

Public Speaking/Speech Class - This class is designed to help students prepare themselves in front of groups for presentations, speeches, quick response paragraphs, etc. Toastmasters will come in to teach specific topics as well as guest speakers to present speeches. All work is done in class and 95% of assignments are graded through oral presentation. There are no notes, tests, or homework. A very light and easy class.

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the 1850s. Additional activities in class include beading pens and exploring the cultures of other Montana tribes.

Theater 1 - This class focuses on understanding theater basics through performance, building confidence, experiencing theater arts, and team work. Students will study various aspects of the theater arts and will participate in an in-class performance.