

8th grade Elective Forecasting

For the 2023 - 2024 School Year

Current 7th Grade Students

Course Descriptions

Today we are going to review all the elective course offerings for next year.

Pay attention, ask questions, and get excited!

HOW WILL THIS WORK?

1. Using your Trail Guide (which you'll get on March 13), begin to rank your top 10 elective choices (1 is the elective you want most)
2. Take a picture of your Trail Guide just in case you lose the paper version.
3. Take the Trail Guide home and discuss your choices with your family.
4. On Thursday, March 16, you will use the Trail Guide to complete a Google Form where you will enter your elective rankings.

How many electives can I choose?

- This year, you will be ranking the electives you would like to have. You will rank your electives on May 16, AFTER you have had a chance to talk to your family and teachers.
- Next year, you will have 2 credits of electives in your schedules, which means:
 - Two year-long (1.0 + 1.0) classes
 - Two semester-long (.5 + .5 = 1.0) and one year-long class (1.0) = 1.0+1.0
 - Or FOUR semester-long classes (.5+.5+.5+.5 = 2.0)

Advanced Band



Prerequisite: *minimum of two years prior instruction on instrument*

Length: *year-long (1.0)*

Students develop technical music skills and participate in performance throughout the school year. Advanced Band students play traditional concert band music including marches, overtures, and movie themes.

Jazz Band

Prerequisite: *students must also participate in Intermediate or Advanced Band*

Length: *year-long (1.0)*

Students explore improvisation and perform popular music such as jazz standards and pop/rock. Jazz Band is open to students who play standard Jazz Band instruments.



Beginning Orchestra

Prerequisite: None!

Length: year-long (1.0)



Develop technical skills and participate in performances throughout the school year. Any student is welcome in this class. Orchestra students can choose from the following instruments: violin, viola, cello, bass.

Regarding Orchestra Level: A minimum of one year prior instruction on your instrument and teacher approval is required for placement in Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra.

Please contact the Counseling Office at (541) 355-7100 if you would like to audition for Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra.

Advanced Orchestra

Prerequisite: *minimum of two years prior instruction on instrument*

Length: *year-long (1.0)*



Students perform a variety of music from cultural to classical and participate in concerts throughout the year. Emphasis is placed on performance quality and development fundamental skills on string instruments

Concert Choir

Prerequisite: None!

Length: year-long (1.0)



Students learn how to read music, sing with joy and expression and perform with poise and confidence. Concert Choir students perform several concerts, participate in festivals and find a creative outlet in the inclusive environment of Cascade Choir

Thoughts on Music Electives? 🤔

Who has taken a music elective before?

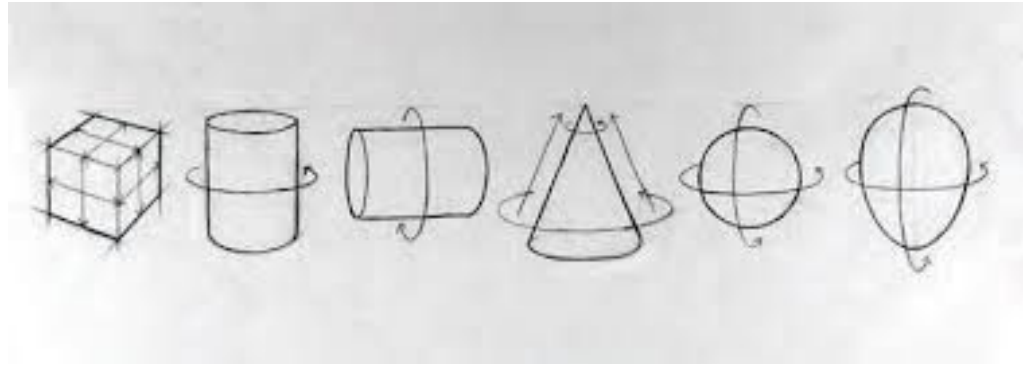
Who can share some insights about one of these electives?

Beginning Art

Prerequisite: None!

Length: semester-long (.5)

In this studio art class students explore art through many different projects: sculpture, drawing, painting, collage, printmaking, mixed media and ceramics. Students are challenged to think creatively and develop their own unique artistic voice while learning about art from various cultures and different artists.



Art 102

Prerequisite: *must have earned a C or higher in Beginning Art*

Length: *semester-long (.5)*

Students interested in continuing their studio art practice will experiment with many two and three dimensional art forms. A variety of materials and processes are explored together with appropriate reading, writing, and vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on the art elements and principles of design throughout the course.



Art 103

Prerequisite: *must have earned a C or higher in Art 7/8*

Length: *semester-long (.5)*

Students explore art with more in-depth projects and creative thinking. Students should be prepared to talk about art, problem solve through a variety of mediums and challenge themselves to grow as an artist.



Thoughts on taking art classes? 🤔

What are some benefits of taking art classes?

How could taking art in middle school help you in high school? What about later in life?

Foods 1

Prerequisite: None!

Length: semester-long (.5)

Working cooperatively as a team, students take part in weekly cooking labs as they explore making tasty healthy meals, snacks, and desserts. Topics include equipment use, measuring, baking, frying, international foods, sanitation, recipe reading, and much more.



Foods 2

Prerequisite: *must have earned a C or higher in Foods 1*

Length: *semester-long (.5)*



Taking a more focused approach to learning culinary skills, students expand their menu and increase the complexity of meals, baked goods and appetizers/snacks. Culinary students will additionally explore menu selection, knife skills, nutrition, culinary job opportunities, and look to answer the question “What is the story of your food?”

Thoughts on learning culinary Arts & Food Preparation? 🤔

What are some benefits to learning basic food preparation skills?

Who has taken the Foods electives before?

What are some things you enjoyed about these classes?

Yearbook

Prerequisite: None!

Length: year-long (1.0)



In this year-long course, students will work collaboratively to learn all aspects of publishing and producing a yearbook. Accurate reporting, writing, effective photography and design are just some of the areas students will get an in-depth study with. During the first semester, students will learn all aspects of design, layout, and effective photography skills. We will also cover the basics in running a business and how to market and sell our yearbook to earn the highest return possible. Covering the events around Cascade is an important job -- in fact, the only class at Cascade that students get "paid" for their homework! In the second semester, in addition to finishing and marketing the yearbook, students will learn aspects of film production and produce several documentary videos, such as the 5th grade step-up day video and the 8th grade graduation video. Be a part of documenting and capturing Cascade's history!

Broadcasting

Prerequisite: None!

Length: semester-long (.5)



In this semester-long course, students will work collaboratively to learn all aspects of producing a news broadcast. Accurate reporting, writing, effective photography, filming and production, fair and equal representation, successful advertising, and professional communication skills are just SOME of the skills students will be taught, required and expected to demonstrate at all times. In this fun, engaging elective, students will cover the major news, events, and happenings in and around Cascade Middle School!

*****Teachers! Feel free to show [an old broadcast](#) from a few years ago if you have time!**

Thoughts on these wide-reaching electives? 🤔

How do you think the classwork you do in Yearbook or Broadcasting might make Cascade feel more like a community?

Spanish 1A – Introduction to Spanish

Prerequisite: None!

Length: semester-long (.5)

Students learn how to speak, read, listen, and write about themselves, their friends, and family. We will also engage in frequent lessons exploring cultural elements in Spanish-speaking countries around the world.



Spanish 1B – Beginning Spanish

Prerequisite: Must have earned a C or higher in Spanish 1A or pass a competency test.

Length: year-long (1.0)



Students learn to communicate about what they eat, activities they do around town, describe the body and weather. Earning a B or higher in Spanish 1B allows you to petition for high school credit as a Freshman and continue into Spanish 2.

Spanish 2

Prerequisite: Must have earned a B or higher in Spanish 1B or pass a competency test.

Length: year-long (1.0)

Students learn to communicate in a restaurant and describe their home, clothing, community, and entertainment. Earning a B or higher in Spanish 2 allows you to petition for high school credit as a Freshman and continue into Spanish 3.



Thoughts on learning a world language? 🤔

What are some benefits of learning another language?

How could taking Spanish in middle school help you in high school?

Computer Science 1

Prerequisite: None!

Length: semester-long (.5)



This course is designed to introduce ALL students to the concepts of computer science through engaging activities that are both on and off of the iPad. Students will transition from being the consumers of technology to the creators of technology and they will explore using the power of coding, creativity, and computers to solve big, real-world problems.

Technology Design

Prerequisite: None!

Length: semester-long (.5)

Students use technology to enhance their creative arts and design process. Using the iPad as an artistic tool, students learn the elements of design, composition, digital art, photography and animation.



Introduction to Design

Prerequisite: None!

Length: semester-long (.5)



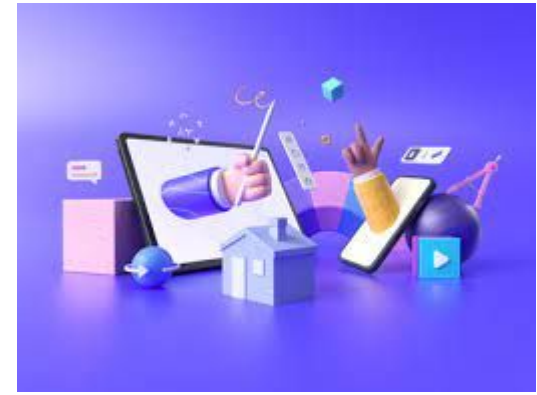
Students will learn how to solve real-world problems using the design thinking process. Students will learn to define problems, design solutions, 3D-model their ideas and create prototypes using 3D printers and laser cutters. By testing and improving their models, students learn to reflect on their work and how to better meet the needs of end-users. This is a great course for students interested in any creative design or engineering field.

Advanced Design & Modeling

Prerequisite: Must have taken Introduction to design / Design and Modeling (I) and earned a passing grade.

Length: semester-long (.5)

Students build on their understandings from the “Introduction to Design” course, and learn more in depth about applied 3D printing technology while they solve bigger problems and undertake more complex designs. Projects will involve product and package designs, architectural and student choice projects.



Thoughts on learning about technology & Design?



What are some benefits to learning about digital design elements?

How could that help you in your future?

Weight Training/Conditioning

Prerequisite: None

Length: semester-long (.5)



This class is designed for students to work on their strength and cardiovascular training. Students will have the opportunity to learn and create strength and cardio programs to meet their personal fitness goals and play a variety of games to enhance their agility and strength.

*Remember, you will still be required to take 8th grade PE/Health even if you choose Conditioning.

Think & Share Time

Review your Forecasting Trail Guide... what classes are you most interested in taking?

Which classes do you know you don't want to take?

Share top picks with your table group!

CURRENT 7th graders – 8th grade Forecasting

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