

## 7<sup>th</sup> GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### **Beginning Band** (year-long course)

Emphasis is on the acquisition of basic musical skills as students learn to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Band classes prepare several concert compositions that are performed for an audience. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

### **Intermediate Band** (year-long course)

This class is a continuation of the skills taught in Beginning Band with further development of tone production, breath support, and music reading. Students are introduced to performance skills and techniques. They are encouraged to perform as individuals and as members of an ensemble. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

### **Concert Chorus** (year-long course)

Students will continue to apply correct singing technique, study vocal health issues and various elements of musical expression through developmentally appropriate and historic vocal literature. Students will use traditional notation in order to learn music, and to respond correctly to conductors' gestures both in rehearsal and public performance. Students in this class may be asked to represent the school in public performances and should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

### **Chorus** (semester)

Students apply correct singing technique and various elements of musical expression through developmentally appropriate and historic vocal literature. Students learn how to use traditional notation in order to learn music, and to respond correctly to conductors' gestures both in rehearsal and public performance. Students will study vocal music and its relationship to other cultures, eras and geographical locations.

### **Dramatics** (semester)

Students develop specific skills that allow them to study and create characters for the stage. Activities include stage directions, simple set and costume design, prop collection, and play production. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

### **Drawing** (semester)

Students are taught drawing techniques using various media. They work with line, value, and basic perspective. In addition, students will learn to think and write critically about master work as well as their own.

### **Exploring Apparel and Interior Design / Understanding Personal Finance and Hospitality** (semester)

This 18 week middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to explore basic Family and Consumer Sciences foundations and skill sets. The modules that are covered in this course are: personal finance and resource management, food service and hospitality, apparel, and interior design. Students are eligible to receive EverFi's Vault™ and the NC eFoodhandler™ certifications. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced. Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competitive events, community service and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness through authentic experiences.

### **Exploring Computer Science** (semester) **Prerequisites: Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing**

This course will extend the logical and computational thinking skills introduced in math courses. It will serve as an introduction to students with limited knowledge of how to apply these skills to problem solving using a computer and extend learning for those that have Computer Science experience. Students will experience all areas of Computer Science (hardware, software, web page design, computer programming, and data analysis). This approach will allow students to align their area(s) of interest to a corresponding pathway of study at the high school level. This course will help prepare students for the following high school courses: • Multimedia and Webpage Design • Computer Programming I • AP Computer Science Principles

### **Exploring Interpersonal Relationships and Childcare / Exploring Nutrition and Wellness** (semester)

This 18 week middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to explore basic Family and Consumer Sciences foundations and skill sets. The modules that are covered in this course are: interpersonal relationships, nutrition and wellness, child development and education. Students are eligible to receive the American Red Cross® Babysitter certification. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced. Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competitive events, community service and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness through authentic experiences.

### **Introduction to Office Productivity / Office Productivity Applications** (semester) **Prerequisite: Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing**

This middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to provide hands-on instruction using software common in the workplace. The software applications include word processing, presentation, spreadsheet, database, and desktop publishing. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include mentorship, service learning, and job shadowing. Apprenticeship and cooperative education are not available for this course. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

### **Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing / Digital Literacy** (semester)

This middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to allow students to learn the touch method of keyboarding, digital literacy and computer knowledge, and basic word processing and document formatting skills. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include mentorship, service learning, and job shadowing. Apprenticeship and cooperative education are not available for this course. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

### **Spanish Beginning < 1 Year** (semester)

This course begins the study of the Spanish language and culture and is the first part in the Spanish curriculum series for high school credit. Major topics include greetings, conversation questions, telling time, classroom objects, asking for help, the parts of the body, infinitive verbs, expressing likes and dislikes, definite and indefinite articles, adjectives, subject pronouns, the present tense of –ar verbs, and the plurals of nouns and articles. Students who successfully complete this course should continue the Spanish curriculum series for high school credit by taking Intermediate Spanish.

### **Spanish Beginning 1 Year** (semester) **Prerequisite: Spanish Beginning < 1 Year**

This course continues the study of the Spanish language and culture, refining grammatical and vocabulary topics. Major topics include foods, the present tense of –er and –ir verbs, the plurals of adjectives, the verb ser, the verb ir, question words, places, leisure activities, irregular verbs, possessive adjectives, family, celebrations, the restaurant, and personal descriptions. Students who successfully complete this course should continue the Spanish curriculum series for high school credit by taking Advanced Spanish.

### **Visual Composition I** (semester)

Students will engage in deep study of the elements and principles of art centered on the curriculum set forth in the North Carolina Essential Standards for Visual Art. Two and three-dimensional techniques will be taught using a variety of media. Students explore various cultures, art history and learn to think and write critically about master work as well as their own.