

7th Grade Electives Course Information 2021-2022

Beginning Art

Teacher: Ms. O'Neill

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview: In this class students learn how to use the elements of art, principles of design, and numerous techniques in pencil, marker, tempera, watercolor, acrylic, pastel and collage. Students will get to show their work in outside school art shows and participate in various art contests. If time and circumstances allow we may work with clay and possibly go on a field trip!

Beginning Band

Teacher: Ms. Wassum

Grade: 7th and 8th

Length: Year

Requirements: This class is for any student who is new to playing a Band instrument. If you have had NO prior music instruction -OR- if you have had LESS THAN 1 year of music instruction, then Beginning Band is the right class for you!

Course Description/Overview: In the first week of beginning band you will be introduced to all of available band instruments for this class- which includes instruments from the Woodwind, Brass and Percussion families. You will see & hear each instrument demonstrated for you, and then you will be able to hold and play a few starting sounds on any instruments you want to try. (we SANITIZE instruments between EACH student!). From there, you will choose your instrument and the beginning band journey will begin. You will learn the fundamentals of reading sheet music: including how to read notes, rhythms and music symbols. You will learn how to play the instrument YOU selected in this class and we will prepare, over several months, to perform in concerts during the school year. **SCUSD provides Band instruments and accessories to all students FREE of charge.** If you have ANY questions about the Sutter Beginning Band please email Ms. Wassum at: patricia-wassum@scusd.edu

Advanced Band

Teacher: Ms. Wassum

Grade: 7th and 8th

Length: Year

Requirements: This class is for students who have had 1 or more FULL years of band experience or private music lessons. Students coming from an elementary school band program that had LESS THAN 5 days/week of band instruction, please contact Ms. Wassum *in advance* to discuss if Advanced Band is the appropriate class to sign-up for.

Course Description/Overview: The Advanced Band class will pick-up from where the students left off in their prior year(s) of band experience and continue to grow and challenge them daily in class, and with their at-home practice. Students will prepare, over several months, to perform in concerts during the school year. Advanced Band students will also have the opportunity to participate in District and regional Honor Band

events, if they desire. **SCUSD provides Band instruments and accessories to all students FREE of charge.** If you have ANY questions about the Sutter Advanced Band please email Ms. Wassum at: patricia-wassum@scusd.edu

Beginning Photography

Teacher: Ms. Turner

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview: Digital Photography is an introductory photography class that will cover the history and the science of photography, important photographers and works of art, and basic compositional skills. Learn how to make photos that stand out and communicate what you are thinking, feeling, and how you see the world. The class will also cover the basic function of a digital camera, basic photo editing skills, and how to self-critique and critique the work of others.

Computer Concepts and Coding

Teacher: Ms. Brandt

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview: Do you want to learn how to use your computer beyond watching TikTok videos and YouTube? This is the class for you. You will learn how to use your computer as a tool to help you succeed in your classes here at Sutter and your future educational classes. From word processing to spreadsheets, coding to creating digital presentations—we've got you covered. A small part of class will also focus on your keyboarding techniques and improve your speed to spend less time typing things and free up time for creative things you want to do!

Creative Writing

Teacher: Mr. Mitchell

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview:

Creative Writing is your chance to explore the depths of your thoughts and imaginations. This elective is designed to encourage your love of writing and thinking. You may have cobwebs clinging to your thoughts and it is my job to make writing easier for you. It is through writing that we make sense of the world and we make meaning out of our experiences. Writing can clarify, tickle, excite, encourage, terrify, remind, inspire, and divert us from the everyday. This class is the beginning for you to be a poet, a freelance writer, a storyteller, an essayist, a non-fiction writer, or whatever you choose to become as a writer. There will be many options presented to you. It is my job to guide you as you hone your craft and if you make the effort to write and share in this class you are assured a positive experience.

7th Grade Electives Course Information 2021-2022

Intro to Industrial Arts (Woodshop)

Teacher: Mr. Heckey

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview: This class is designed to give students the ability to design and build wood products to the specifications of their design. Students will gain knowledge and skills in working safely and efficiently with hand tools and power tools. In addition, they will be introduced to different types of wood and their uses, the industrial woodworking environment and technology in use today. Students will gain the skills necessary to draft technical drawings to communicate form and dimensions.

Intro to Spanish

Teacher: Ms. Bovy

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview: Introduction to Spanish class is a fun, lively, and low pressure way to introduce students to the Spanish language and culture. You do not need prior exposure to Spanish. Successful completion of the class is helpful, but not mandatory, in taking the advanced Spanish Class (high school level Spanish 1) in 8th grade. Focus includes salutations and greetings, alphabet and numbers, pronouns, verbs and their conjugations in present tense, calendar/time, likes/dislikes and family vocabulary.

Beginning Drama

Teacher: Ms. Scripa

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview: This class will allow you to be creative and to express yourself through a variety of dramatic activities. Creative Drama focuses mostly on the informal aspects of the art, but also provides an introduction to some of the more formal ones including acting techniques, stage movement, and other elements of production. This is an activity based class that includes theatre games, improvisation, pantomime, basic acting, stage awareness, and script elements. Most of all, I hope it includes a lot of fun for all.

Course: MESA

Teacher: Ms. Tammi

Grade: 7th and 8th

Length: Year

Requirements: **Application Required** ([CLICK HERE](#))

Course Description/Overview: Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) is a statewide program for students interested in the STEM fields. MESA students complete a variety of engineering and science activities throughout the year leading up to competitions in the spring at local universities. In the past students have designed pelican nests, engineered balsawood gliders, designed mousetrap cars and created life-vests.

Robotics

Teacher: To Be Determined

Grade: 7th and 8th

Length: Year

Course Description/Overview: This is a beginning course in robotics which will introduce students to basic programming as well as problem solving strategies. This course will involve the development, building and programming of a LEGO Mindstorm robot. Students will work in hands-on teams to design, build, program, and document their progress. This class will include group collaboration, project design, critical thinking and troubleshooting, time management, understanding of current topics and proposed solutions to current world and space issues.

Speech & Debate

Teacher: Mr. Baradat

Grades: 7th and 8th

Length: Year

Requirements: **Application Required** ([CLICK HERE](#))

Course Description/Overview: In this elective, students learn the art of public speaking and argumentation. Debate allows students to stay up to date with current events and have lively discussions with classmates. Participation in tournaments provides a fun way to meet students from other schools and compete for Sutter.

Study Skills - 7th

Teacher: Ms. Cooperman

Grade: 7th

Length: Semester

Course Description/Overview: Study Skills elective is designed to introduce students to a variety of skills and techniques that will prepare them for success in the "business" of school and life. The different skills, activities and techniques used in this class can be applied both in the classroom, at home, and in the future to support the development of healthy, lifelong physical, mental and emotional habits for students.

Study Skills - 7th/8th

Teacher: Ms. Tammi

Grades: 7th and 8th

Length: Year

Course Description/Overview: Study Skills elective is designed to introduce students to a variety of skills and techniques that will prepare them for success in the "business" of school and life. The different skills, activities and techniques used in this class can be applied both in the classroom, at home, and in the future to support the development of healthy, lifelong physical, mental and emotional habits for students.