

LIST OF ELECTIVES

FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES	SEMESTER ELECTIVES
<p>MUSIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Band, Concert+ Band, Symphonic++ Choir Orchestra <p>WORLD LANGUAGES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> French 1A French 1B* Japanese 1A Japanese 1B* Spanish 1A Spanish 1B* Chinese (Mandarin) 1A Chinese (Mandarin) 1B German 1A Spanish for Spanish Speakers Spanish Bridge 6* Spanish Bridge 7* Spanish Bridge 8* Mandarin Bridge 6* Mandarin Bridge 7* Mandarin Bridge 8* <p>* Prerequisite ** Permission of staff required + 7th grade only ++ 8th grade only  Application required</p>	<p>ART</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art 1A Art 1B* Ceramics & Sculpture (3-D Emphasis)* Multimedia Art (Technology Emphasis) <p>COMPUTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer Applications Design & Technology Video Production Web Design 1A Web Design 1B* <p>DRAMA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drama 1A Drama 1B* <p>FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative Sewing Foods and Nutrition Money Matters Skills for Living Gourmet Cooking* <p>ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning Architectural Drawing Industrial Technology 1A Industrial Technology 1B (Advanced)* <p>UNIQUE OFFERINGS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AVID**  Broadcast Media *  Creative Writing Current Events Forensics Leadership** ++  School Service** ++  Yearbook** 



IMPORTANT NOTICE



Every effort is made to schedule your first “Elective” preferences, but often that is not possible. ***It is important that you fill out all seven of these electives in rank order. Please keep in mind that Greene reserves the right to place your child in electives to make a complete school schedule.*** Please note that only those classes with sufficient enrollment are offered.

Full-Year Electives

MUSIC

Concert Band (7th Grade)

Intermediate Level

Course Number 6883

7th Grade / Full Year

Symphonic Band (8th Grade)

Advanced Level

Course Number 6884

8th Grade / Full Year

Prerequisite and Placement: If you play a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument, you are strongly encouraged to continue your musical development in one of Greene's outstanding band ensembles!

Curriculum: In each band, students spend daily rehearsals working on the musical fundamentals taught within a historical and cultural context. Weekly sectionals with professional music specialists provide opportunities to develop individual playing skills. You will work on pieces from various periods and cultures, including classical, popular, folk music, rock and jazz styles.

Instrumentation: In order to achieve full instrumentation and make the band sound better, the directors may request that some students switch to different instruments. If you are interested in trying a more unusual instrument, such as the oboe, bassoon, tenor or baritone saxophone, horn, baritone, or tuba you can discuss this with the director, and arrange for an opportunity to try the instrument out. If the change is appropriate and your parents agree, we will provide an instrument for you to use.

Performances: 7th and 8th grade bands each perform at all school concerts, march in the May Fete Parade, and go "on tour" to the elementary schools to perform assembly programs. There may be additional performance opportunities.

Additional Activities: Jazz Band and Jazz Ensemble are two outstanding extra-curricular groups. They meet before school once per week. If you are interested, auditions are held in September for saxophone, trumpet, trombone and rhythm section players. If you do not play one of these instruments, but would like to be in a jazz group, talk to the band directors as soon as possible. Often, students who have played the flute or clarinet in band can easily learn the saxophone during the summer months. Audition information will be announced during the second week of school. Please note that you **MUST** be signed up for Band, Orchestra, or Choir to be in one of the jazz groups. Additional learning activities may include master classes, workshops guest conductors, visiting composers, live performances, and collaborative activities with other classes or departments.

Choir

Course Number 6888

7th and 8th Grade / Full Year

In choir, students will develop and improve their singing technique as well as learn about music through performance. Choral music of a wide variety of styles, cultures and time periods will be studied and performed in two, three, and four-part harmony. Students will have the opportunity to sing solos and participate in small ensembles. Members of the group will be encouraged to audition for regional and statewide honor choirs and participate in regional choral festivals. The choirs perform in formal concerts as well as other events including performances and exchanges with other PAUSD choirs. Students are expected to attend all evening performances.

Orchestra

Course Number 6886

7th and 8th Grade / Full Year

Students in Orchestra work on expanding their string technique, ensemble skills, and musical knowledge by exploring and performing a wide variety of music of differing styles, historical periods, forms, and genres. The Orchestra performs in formal evening concerts as well as other activities that have included attending a music festival, a tour to elementary schools, collaborative performances with other schools, and playing in small chamber ensembles. Students will be expected to attend all evening performances. Students enrolled in orchestra are eligible to audition for the Chamber Orchestra.

WORLD LANGUAGES

IMPORTANT NOTE: Level 1A and 1B classes are designed for students who have NO prior knowledge or exposure to the target language. These courses are not open to native speakers.

Five modern languages are currently available to students – Mandarin Chinese, French, Japanese, Spanish and German may be available if at least 24 students pre-enroll.

Each world language course develops self-confidence through the study of a second language and fosters an appreciation for that language and its culture. Capable students who wish to study more than one language at a time may do so. Homework in world language classes averages no more than 30-40 minutes *per week*.

Seventh graders enroll in the course numbered 1A. As eighth graders, they continue with the course numbered 1B. This two-year sequence in middle school is equivalent to the first year of high school study, allowing students to enter level two as freshmen.

NOTE: Eighth graders are welcome to sign up for 1A classes as preparation for entering level one as freshmen in high school.

General Course Descriptions

Students of French, German, Japanese*, Mandarin Chinese and Spanish will develop growing proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and will gain an understanding of the structure of the language appropriate to the level of instruction. They will also have an opportunity to participate in cultural activities.

****NOTE:*** The Japanese writing systems (*Hiragana and Katakana*) are introduced gradually during the first-year course and *Kanji* (Chinese characters) throughout each year.

Spanish for Spanish Speakers is designed for students who are native speakers of Spanish and is composed of 7th and 8th graders. It is to give students knowledge and appreciation of Spanish-American culture. They will learn to distinguish and value the difference between colloquial and academic language. They will perfect their writing as well as their speaking ability in Spanish. Placement at the high school level for Spanish for Spanish Speakers 2 is determined by the teacher. A grade of "C" is generally necessary to advance to the next level.

Student Outcomes

The expected student outcomes in the five areas of language acquisition are:

- LISTENING:** To understand the language as it is spoken by a native speaker at a normal conversational rate with the vocabulary and grammatical structures appropriate to the level of instruction.
- SPEAKING:** To communicate with reasonable fluency in real-life situations at a level commensurate with the vocabulary and structure appropriate to the level of instruction.
- READING:** To read materials appropriate to the level of instruction; both silently and aloud with understanding.
- WRITING:** To write clearly and correctly within the limits imposed by the vocabulary and grammatical structures at the level of instruction.
- CULTURE:** To gain familiarity and appreciation of the culture and to learn differences and similarities in world views, customs, beliefs, and social conventions of the linguistic community.

BRIDGE 6, 7,8 – COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The Spanish and Mandarin Bridge Programs at Greene Middle School are three-year programs that bridge the Immersion Programs in elementary school with advanced Spanish and Mandarin language classes offered at the high school level. The classes focus on the four elements of language acquisition: speaking, writing, reading and listening. These programs are taught primarily in the target language with the understanding that students have various levels of fluency and proficiency levels in reading, speaking, writing and listening. Students are exposed to culture, literature, and language structures needed to be successful in high-academic Spanish or Mandarin level classes.

Note: Students are eligible to enroll in either of these programs if they have successfully completed the elementary Spanish Immersion program at Escondido or the Mandarin Immersion program at Ohlone. If space is available, students can demonstrate grade level bilingual fluency in Spanish or Mandarin through an assessment process.

For 6th Grade students and their families, they **MUST** apply for a Choice Program in February of 5th grade.

Spanish Bridge 6/ Mandarin Bridge 6

In 6th grade, Bridge is offered as a literacy enrichment class in the target language that will be offered for one period during the students' 5-period core (covering Math, Science, English/Language Arts, and History/Social Studies.) Interactive strategies such as drama, simulations, field trips, guest speakers, and collaborative projects may be used to provide a language-rich experience, with a focus on students' communication skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing, as well as cultural literacy. Students will be expected to communicate in target language at all times in this course, with the instructor as well as among peers.

Spanish Bridge 7/ Mandarin Bridge 7

In 7th grade, Bridge continues as a literacy enrichment class in the target language. Interactive strategies such as drama, simulations, field trips, guest speakers, and collaborative projects may be used to provide a language-rich experience, building on the students' experiences in Bridge 6 with an added emphasis on increasing their literary skills. Students will be expected to communicate in the target language at all times in this course, with the instructor as well as among peers.

Spanish Bridge 8/ Mandarin Bridge 8

In 8th grade, Bridge at Greene transitions to a more conventional language class. Increasing emphasis is placed on the language structures covered in the high school courses. However, students will continue to be engaged through interactive strategies and simulations that provide rich communication and cultural experiences in the target language. As always, students will be expected to communicate in the target language at all times in this course. Students exiting the middle school grade 8 class should be prepared to enter Spanish 3, Spanish 3 Honors, or Chinese 3.

UNIQUE OFFERINGS – FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)

7th and 8th Grade / Year

Prerequisite: *Teacher/counselor recommendation and interview process*

The AVID elective targets 7th and 8th grade students in the academic middle (grades of Cs and Bs) who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but may be falling short of their potential. AVID is a year-long elective class where students learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking and questioning techniques, get academic help from peers and college tutors and participate in enrichment and motivational activities that make college attainable. Enrichment activities within the AVID program may include college tours, team building activities, attending the theater, trips to museums and other culturally important venues. Students are recommended by their teachers and/or counselors to apply for the program. Academic performance, attitude, and other qualifying factors make a student eligible for the AVID program. Usually, the AVID Coordinator will contact students and parents directly to participate in the program. However, any interested student or parent may contact the counselor to be considered for the AVID elective. More information is available at: www.avid.org or on the district website at: <https://www.pausd.org/programs/avid>

Yearbook

Course Number 6166

7th and 8th Grade / Full Year

Prerequisite: *Application with teacher and counselor approval*

Yearbook is a class is designed for highly creative and motivated students, who wish to exercise their creativity by being an integral member on our staff. Being a staff member allows students to make important decisions regarding the design and content of the yearbook. In the process of creating the yearbook, students will develop skills in photography, web-based design, journalism, marketing, and other 21st century skills applicable to the real world. Staff members need to exhibit individual responsibility at all times by keeping track of multiple assignments and various deadlines. It also is important that staff members know they are required to devote time outside of class in order to cover the activities that occur in the entire Greene community. This course may be repeated.

Semester Electives

ART

Art 1A

Course Number 6492
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Interested in creating different styles and types of art while you explore painting, drawing, sculpture, and digital art making? Then, Art 1A is for you. We complete a number of different projects designed to explore various media and art forms from a variety of cultures throughout the world. Digital self portraits, clay animal sculptures, sunflower paintings, and tons of other assignments will challenge experienced artists and engaged people who are eager to learn new approaches in art. This class ideally is taken as a sequence with one or all of the following; Art 1B, Ceramics and Sculpture (3-D emphasis) and Multimedia Art (technology emphasis). Lessons are in accordance with PAUSD Standards as well as California Standards for Visual Art.

Art 1B

Course Number 6493
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Art 1A*

If you enjoy taking art and want more time to draw, sculpt, and paint, then take Art 1B. It is also the foundation for more “hands on” projects that are a bit more accelerated and challenging in Art 1B. You will learn step-by-step techniques of realistic and imaginary drawing, acrylic painting on canvas, printmaking and ceramic sculpture. You will have opportunities to express your creativity and explore a variety of techniques that are more advanced than Art 1A. Projects may include two dimensional techniques in pastel drawing, building large clay boxes, realistic pencil drawing and block relief printing. You may repeat Art 1B if you wish and tackle more ambitious work suited to your advancing skills and experience. This class, ideally is taken as a sequence with one or all of the following; Art 1A, Ceramics and Sculpture (3-D emphasis) and Multimedia Art (technology emphasis). Lessons are in accordance with PAUSD Standards as well as California Standards for Visual Art.

Ceramics and Sculpture (3-D Emphasis)

Course Number 6230
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Art 1A*

CLAY! CLAY! CLAY! If you would like to learn more in this class, about clay construction, then this class is for you! You will create functional clay pieces, such as a vase or mug using hand building techniques, and you will also gain knowledge about clay for sculpture on a larger scale. You will learn about a variety of surface decoration techniques and you will discover exciting options for applying texture and color to your ceramic pieces. Increased emphasis will be placed on craftsmanship and the application of the elements and principals of art. Ideally taken as a sequence with one or all of the following; Art 1A, Art 1B and Multimedia Art (technology emphasis). Lessons are in accordance with PAUSD Standards as well as California Standards for Visual Art.

Multimedia Art (Technology Emphasis)

Course Number 6356
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

In Multimedia Art students use digital technology to realize the truest potential for their art. Students work with computers, ipads, and projectors with a focus on programs such as Photoshop and Procreate. Students will complete lessons utilizing digital photography and digital painting, digital manipulation, wood transfers, stop motion and flash animation, clay installation, and multimedia sculpture. There is no prerequisite for this class.

COMPUTERS

Computer Applications

Course Number 6672
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

Computer Applications is a survey course offering students experience in a variety of Computer Science related topics. Explore a variety of applications to make cool projects using online and computer-based applications such as Google Suite, Adobe, and more. Specific applications include Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop, Google Sheets, Adobe Animate, CoSpaces, and Book Creator. The challenges include changing the scene through image manipulation and photo editing, making infographics, diving into improved website design, designing eBooks, and new and enhancing ways to create videos. Code 3D games and escape rooms, animate, and design art using sheets. All this and more fun ways to design and create new and exciting projects.

Design and Technology Studio

Course Number 6765
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

This is an exciting hands-on project-based elective. Students will work in groups or as individuals to complete projects in multiple challenge areas. These challenge areas include animation, video game design, 3-D printing and carving, VR/AR design, robotics, and more. Projects include use of programs like Adobe Animate, MIT App Inventor, TynkerCad, CoSpaces Edu, and such equipment as Vex robots, 3D Printers, VR goggles. No prior tech background is necessary. Instruction is set to be accessible to beginners, but projects are flexible enough in their design that they can challenge advanced techies as well. In short, there is something for all ability levels in this class.

Video Production

Course Number 6648
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

Join us in Video Production and learn the basics of how to plan, film, and edit your own movies! Students will learn how to use video equipment, as well as a variety of techniques used in producing digital films. Working alone and in small teams, students share ideas through storyboards, then use cameras and tripods to set up and film a variety of shots. Students will import the footage on to the computer for editing, creating special effects and adding sound. Projects include tutorials, public service announcements, horror trailer re-cuts and more.

This course is a pre-requisite for Broadcast Media (Greene Screen).

Web Design 1A

Course Number 6670
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: None

Interested in designing your own website? In this hand-on course, students will be able to develop their own websites using HTML coding and incorporating CSS, while also applying the elements of design. Your sites will be more creative, visually appealing, and user friendly with easy-to-navigation, table-formatting, and appealing images. Previous knowledge of web design and coding is not required as we will move from the basics to more complex aspects of coding for those who are just starting out. Projects are all based on creating your own websites, and will involve different elements of code (creating tables, layout, color). We will also explore creating chatbots, art, and apps using Python. Our projects could include such added features as embedding music, creating animations and movies, and more, all with the purpose of enhancing overall design. Already experienced in coding? We will design projects suited to your coding interests.

Web Design 1B

Course Number 6671
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Web Design 1A*

Done a lot of coding? This may be the option for you. This advanced Web Design course is designed for those students who wants to continue to extend their web design skills while working independently on projects of their own choosing. Students can continue to use HTML coding but there are opportunities to explore other coding options (for example: JavaScript, Python and C++). Students are encouraged to include other applications in their web design such as animation (using Adobe Animate), original music (using Garageband), mobile apps, and graphics using Adobe Photoshop. This course encourages students to get creative.

DRAMA

Drama 1A

Course Number 6512
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

The beginning theatre course helps students to develop communication skills, self-confidence, and performing abilities. As a more extended introduction to Drama beyond the Wheel, projects include group and solo pantomimes, improvisation, character study, short monologues, scene work, and a fully produced short play. Training in makeup techniques, costuming, properties, and stage management introduces the student to technical aspects of theatre. Very little rehearsal outside of class time is required. There will be at least one evening performance for students to present some of their work for family and friends.

Drama 1B

Course Number 6513
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Drama 1A*

Advanced Drama study is for highly motivated students who wish to continue developing their theatre skills. The course provides frequent opportunities for classroom performance, including mime, improvisation, short plays, Shakespeare, audition quality monologues, short student written and directed video, oral interpretation, storytelling, and scene work. Students receive training in directing, design, choreography and stage combat. Field Trips and guest speakers augment the classroom experience. Students will be expected to commit some after school time for rehearsals as needed, and will perform for the school community as well as for family and friends. The course changes each semester depending on enrollment and class experiences; Drama 1B may be repeated

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE

Skills for Living

Course Number 6589
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Skills for Living is a broad-based exploratory course utilizing fun, hands-on activities designed to cover the seven areas of Family and Consumer Science. Students will spend one quarter in the cooking lab, studying basic nutrition, working in small groups, learning kitchen and food safety, proper use of equipment, measuring, recipe reading, effective time management, table setting, entertaining and preparing delicious foods. Popular food labs may include Fruit Salsa & Cinnamon Chips, Chicken Taco Salad, Spaghetti Bolognese, Savory Pancakes, Pumpkin Scones, Cream Puffs and depending on the semester holiday themed appetizers and treats. Other units of study include constructing an easy to intermediate level machine sewn project, learning to do your laundry, child development basics, babysitting, and other ways to earn money, self-care & personal hygiene, manners & etiquette and basic elements of personal finance in a fun, interactive format.

Both Spring and Fall semester will offer different topics in a one-year cycle. This course has no prerequisites or homework requirements and fulfills the prerequisite for Regional & World Foods.

Foods and Nutrition

Course Number 6617
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

In this semester class, students will learn to work cooperatively in small groups to prepare popular and delicious recipes for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. Some popular food labs include Greene's Top Chef challenge, Pico de Gallo and Cheesy Quesadillas, French Crepes, Apple Pie and Vanilla Ice Cream, Ultimate Macaroni and Cheese, Artisan Pizza, Gooey Cinnamon Rolls, Irresistible Pot Stickers, Homemade Farfalle Pasta and Marinara Sauce, special holiday treats and so much more!

They will learn hands-on cooking fundamentals, such as planning and following recipes, effective time management, safe and sanitary food preparation practices, proper use and care of kitchen equipment, including knife skills and the function of ingredients. Students will increase their understanding of healthy nutrition and a balanced diet. Each semester will cover related topics but may feature different variations on recipes and projects.

This course has no prerequisites or homework requirements and fulfills the prerequisites for Regional & World Foods.

Gourmet Cooking

Course Number 6619

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *Foods & Nutrition or Skills for Living*

This popular fast paced gourmet foods course is for students who have mastered the basics and want to refine their cooking skills. The first quarter will focus on “A taste of America” where students will go on a food related “journey” studying foods, culture and preparing regional American recipes. The following quarter will be spent exploring international culture, cuisine, and preparing selected recipes of the world. Lessons on Herb & Spice experimentation and the effects of food additives and preservatives are taught. Examples of past cooking labs are Spanikopita, Homemade Siracha Sauce, California Rolls, Chowder, various types of pizza, Empanadas, Bolani, Crab Cakes, Ban Mi, Philly Cheesesteak, Nachos and Butter Chicken. Popular cooking competitions, such as Cupcake Wars, the Sweet & Savory Crepe Contest and the Amazing Food Truck Race are fun creative ways to collaborate together in small kitchen groups to create delicious entrees judged by Greene staff or parents. An international luncheon may be planned, prepared, and served to selected staff members and students.

Creative Sewing

Course Number 6610

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Students will master basic skills of controlling and operating the sewing machine while making and designing fiber arts. They will learn to make informed decisions with the purchase and use of patterns, fabrics, and notions, culminating in a field trip to a fabric store. Students will work individually on projects, which may include sewing cool accessories, fun crafts, gift items and creative clothing. Project selection will be individualized to meet students' needs, abilities, and experience levels with a special emphasis on creative embellishment, customization whenever possible. Units on textile types, apparel quality, costumes, refashioning, fast fashion, machine quilting, embroidery, interior design will be explored – all with an emphasis on effective time management skills.

Money Matters

Course Number 6400

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Students will learn about Needs versus Wants, Psychology of Money, Saving Money, Interest, Budgeting, and Investing. Students will complete interactive projects involving currency, advertising/marketing, credit and debit, purchasing a car, taxes, scams, insurance, college, career, and an entrepreneur unit depending on semester offered. Students will play the minimum wage game, participate in a bank simulation and semester long student store, take part in a state-wide stock market competition, complete comparison-shopping activities and other finance-related projects. Most assignments will be tracked and managed via spreadsheets and will be completed during class.

ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Industrial Technology 1A

Course Number 6625

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *None*

Industrial Technology is an exciting and fun project-based class where students design and build works of art out of wood. Through hands-on experiences, students will design and build projects using hand tools and many other power tools such as the bandsaw, drill presses, lathes and a router table. Students will design and draw their projects to scale by hand. Students will also use CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) to draw their projects. Students will build a custom pine table and a hardwood pen/mechanical pencil on the lathe.

Industrial Technology 1B

Course Number 6626

7th and 8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *Industrial Technology 1A*

Industrial Technology 1B is a very exciting and fun project-based class where students design and build more complex projects out of wood. Through hands-on experiences, students will expand their skills in CAD and with woodworking hand and power tools. This course introduces students to a variety of skills which can lead to related jobs and academic pursuits. Students will design and build a pine folding chair and a mechanical pencil on the lathe.

Beginning Architectural Drawing

Course Number 6618
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

In this course students will learn about basic residential home design and architectural engineering. Exposure to traditional as well as newer forms of design drafting will be taught. Student projects will include a scale model cabin and bridge. The cabin will be a scaled 384 square ft. structure containing at least three rooms. The bridge will be a scaled model built with wood and tested for strength using a turn force load.

UNIQUE OFFERINGS – SEMESTER ELECTIVES

Broadcast Media

Course Number 6649
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *Video Production or equivalent experience and approved application*

Students in this class will learn to produce a live broadcast of the morning announcements. In our own studio, students will use journalism and video production skills to create news and educational programming including preproduction (planning and preparation of logos, jingles, public service announcements, and special reports) and production (a variety of jobs both in the studio and control room). Announcements and special segments are broadcast from Greene Screen studio to the school. This is a collaborative, project-based, and technology-oriented real-world learning experience.

Creative Writing

Course Number 6540
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Students will keep a journal of unique writing exercises that encourages both an enjoyment of writing as well as practice in various writing skills, such as point of view, characterization, sensory detail, free association, effective dialogue, creating suspense and much more. In addition to daily writing, students will learn to read as writers, studying technique and craft by great writers. All students receive personalized feedback which addresses the efficacy of the writing. The atmosphere is a fun, safe community of writers, who honor each other's attempt to capture their world in words. Three main genres of creative writing – creative non-fiction, short fiction, and poetry – will be deeply explored, culminating in a portfolio of at least four fully developed, finished pieces: one from each genre and one of free choice.

Current Events

Course Number 6064
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Do you like discussing, debating, and thinking about current events? This elective course focuses on world, national, and local issues that impact our everyday lives. In the course, students will read and analyze primary source materials and opinion pieces. In order to better understand the world around them, participate in group projects, discussions and debates, and create their own pieces of media. Through the lens of current events, students will learn the skills to critically analyze news sources and understand how cultural, national, religious, and political experiences affect personal beliefs. Students will learn how to have respectful, civil discourse about controversial issues and opposing viewpoints.

Forensics

Course Number 3953
7th and 8th Grade / Semester
Prerequisite: *None*

Are you interested in learning about how crimes are solved? Explore the connections between the real world, science, and technology while learning about the field of forensics. This is a hands on course and students will be active participants in labs, activities, mysteries, and presentations. Some of the topics include eyewitness identification, blood spatter patterns, fingerprinting, trace evidence, bike mark evidence with candy, chromatography, and handwriting analysis. Students gain insight into the workings of the legal system as they examine cases and outcomes. Students will be in charge of creating their own mystery, that the rest of the class will be participants in. By the end of the course, students will be crime solving masters!

Leadership

Course Number 6635
8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *Application with teacher and counselor approval*

The Leadership class is designed to create a community of student leaders who organize, craft, and lead student activities at Greene. Students seek to create enjoyable and meaningful activities that enhance the community environment on campus and contribute to student growth. Students will be expected to spend time beyond the class period and outside the school day to perform these tasks. Additionally, students are expected to maintain adequate grades in all their classes and to demonstrate behavior commensurate with a leader. Curricular activities for the leadership classes may include: planning setting up for dances, planning and hosting noontime activities, helping at BTSN, helping during Open House, leading fifth grade tours, planning and putting on Spirit Assemblies, 6Th grade movie night, running the ball shed, music days and spirit week.

Leadership students will learn to concurrently manage multiple projects with varied amounts of lead time. Practice with organization, initiative, and problem-solving skills and the ability to work as a team will be crucial components of the course. Special emphasis will be placed on developing students' leadership skills and service learning. Students will participate in at least one community service project per semester.

School Service

Course Number 6636
8th Grade / Semester

Prerequisite: *Application with teacher and counselor approval*

Students in School Service work in school offices, in the library, or serve as department or teacher assistants. School Service students must be reliable and able to work with a minimum of supervision.

Library School Service students learn library circulation, shelving, and filing. They also learn customer service, computer, and business machine skills.