

## GrJHS 7th Grade Electives : 2025-2026

**Choir I :** This course is a study of beginning music concepts: music reading skills with emphasis on solfege, vocal technique, and performance skills. No previous experience is required and students will not be required to sing alone. The purpose of this course is to encourage students to have fun while studying different types of music, including traditional, musical theater, jazz and popular styles as well as music in foreign languages. (year long)

**Orchestra I: (Prerequisite: Previous string experience required)** This course covers fundamental and intermediate orchestra skills including tuning, vibrato, scales and basic shifting. Repertoire for this class may include classical, fiddling and pop music. Performance attendance is required. (year long)

**Band I: (Prerequisite: Previous band experience):** This course is a study of basic fundamental, technical development and large ensemble performance. The major topics covered in this class will be Band Method II and traditional and contemporary band music. Other features of this course are participation in school assembly programs and evening concerts. This is for seventh grade students who have their band instruments for more than one year. (year long)

**Theatre I:** Students taking this beginning course will study various genres of the Theatre. Students will gain and demonstrate skills through acting, stage movement, pantomime, improvisation, Theatre history, script writing and characterization. Students will learn and use Theatre vocabulary in activities, in addition to reinforcing their literacy skills. (semester)

**Art I:** This course is designed to complement Introduction to Art by continuing to explore various kinds of art. Students will enhance their abilities in line drawings, pen and ink cross hatching, color stippling, marker rendering, collage making, watercolor and pastel painting. The principles of art and elements of design will be emphasized. This is a specialized class for students who enjoy art. Students may enter their artwork in the school's Spring art exhibit. (semester)

### Mini Courses (Wheel)

Students will rotate through and experience 4 of the "Mini" course offerings, assigned randomly. Each course is one quarter in length. Offerings are determined each year based upon staffing. When requesting this option you will only need to enter the "Mini Computer" course code.

**Intro to Computers:** This course focuses on establishing basic computer skills. Computer terminology and keyboarding skills are stressed. Also included are units on word processing, drawing, painting and hypermedia. This is a hands-on class where students are involved in entering and editing data, saving and printing their work.

**Intro to Family and Consumer Sciences:** This course is an introduction to Family and Consumer Science. This class introduces kitchen safety, sanitation, understanding recipes, and basic cooking methods. Other areas of study may include childcare, career introductions, hand-sewing techniques and cooperative learning.

**Intro to STEM:** This course introduces students to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) experiences in a project-based environment and connects these experiences to the Arizona Mathematics Standards. Topics include the use of computers in mathematical problem solving, technical writing and drawing, applications of fluid power, coordinate geometry, data analysis and statistics.

**Intro to Spanish:** This course is an introductory exploration of the Spanish language. This class will be conducted mainly in English, yet students will start developing interpersonal skills at the "Novice Low" proficiency level. As students explore the benefits of learning a second language, they will gain basic vocabulary and knowledge of simple conversation patterns, culture, geography and history. Learners will gain communication skills and a broadened cultural perspective based on coursework aligned with the World and Native Language Standards.

**Intro to Art:** This course is a study of various media and techniques used in art today. Two-dimensional art is taught with an emphasis on creativity and an understanding of processes. Students may enter their artwork in the school's Spring exhibit.

**Intro to Music Appreciation:** This course is a non-performance class that explores music of various styles through listening and discussion experiences. A variety of musical styles will be explored. Styles may include classical, folk, musical theater, jazz, pop, rock and music of other cultures. Common activities include listening, discussions, projects and presentations.

**Intro to Theatre:** Students will be introduced to the basic concepts of Theatre Arts in this course. Students will use various creative techniques to build confidence and trust, and stimulate imagination and movement. Students will build and reinforce skills through group performance, games, improvisation, stage directions and script writing.

## Advanced Teacher Approval Electives

**Yearbook:** This course creates a 100+ page volume of junior high memories. Students in this class are people who are idea oriented, creative, original and hardworking. Photographers, graphic artists and budding writers are encouraged to apply. Competent writing skills and computer literacy are advantages. Students in this class will gain an understanding of layout design, desktop publishing, marketing, sales, interviewing, copywriting and editing, and photography. Students will work in groups where cooperation, responsibility and effort are a must. Attendance at before school, after school and lunch staff meetings will be required periodically. (year long)

**Introduction to Journalism/Newspaper:** This course incorporates basic concepts of beginning journalism, including writing, editing and photography into a student publication. (year long)

**Leadership Development (Student Council and G-Team):** Leadership Development is an interactive course designed to equip students with the fundamental skills and principles of effective leadership. Through engaging activities, group discussions and real-world applications, students will develop their self-confidence, communication abilities, teamwork, and problem solving skills. This course encourages students to explore their potential as leaders and prepares them for leadership roles within their school and community. (year long)

**Independent Physical Education:** This course is an opportunity for students who participate in highly competitive club and league sports to use their practice and competition time to earn PE credit. Students must complete 100 hours of organized sports activity per semester, log their participation and submit a signed attestation from their coach.

