



2025-2026
7th Grade
Elective Course Descriptions

*Below are brief descriptions of the potential courses for 2025-2026. Students will need to select their top three choices. **Staffing, enrollment, and student interest will determine which classes are offered.** There are no guarantees, but we will do everything we can to give students their desired elective course.*

Music courses:

Beginning Band (601000): In Band, students will learn to play a musical instrument of their choice, learning musical concepts along with the fundamentals of playing an instrument. Practice at home and attendance at concerts are required.

Advanced Band (601100): In Advanced Band, students will further develop the skills they learned in Beginning Band. Practice at home and attendance at concerts are required. Advanced Band is only for students that already passed the Beginning Band or for students that have sufficient prior experience.

Chorus (601300): In this class, students develop skills to sing correctly and learn the basics of good musicianship through a variety of music. No previous experience is required, but a willingness to sing and participate is a must! Practice at home and attendance at concerts are required.

Orchestra (Strings 601200): In Orchestra students will learn to play a musical instrument of their choice, learning musical concepts along with the fundamentals of playing an instrument and developing good musicianship skills. Practice at home and attendance at concerts are required.

Advanced Orchestra (Stings 601400): In Advanced Orchestra, students will further develop the skills they learned in Strings. Practice at home and attendance at concerts are required. Advanced Strings is only for students that have already passed Strings or for students that have sufficient prior experience.

Ukulele Ensemble (601900): Ukulele: a small, four-stringed guitar with Hawaiian origin. Also, tons of fun to play. In this class you will learn basic musicianship such as how to play a ukulele, playing with other people, learn how to read music and chords, and perform songs learned in class. This class will allow you to also play many contemporary and pop songs. In addition, you will learn the history of the ukulele and its major impact on the world. Finally, you will also gain the skills to maintain your ukulele when things break. No experience is necessary, but not being afraid to sing will be a plus.

All other courses:

Art- Intro to Art & Design (703200): The world is filled with so many different forms of art – In this course, you'll explore art found in everything from the traditional studio of drawing & painting to the digital world of graphic design and photography. The visual art curriculum for this course is geared to the student who would like an introduction to a variety of art mediums. The elements and principles of the visual arts standards are stressed through different projects utilizing a variety of materials, processes, techniques, and art history references. *All mediums including art supplies & technology are used throughout the year and will vary depending on the project and standard explored.

AVID 7 (700700): (Advancement Via Individual Determination) AVID 7 students practice note taking, study skills, time management, test-taking strategies, effective textbook reading, and library research skills. Students will begin exploring future careers and colleges that best support those fields. AVID 7 students will take field trips to both California State University and community college campuses. Students may be required to maintain Cs or higher in all of their classes to stay in the AVID elective. Students must choose an alternate elective.

Performing Arts (601500): This is a performing arts course that will provide students with the opportunity to develop performance skills in the areas of stage direction, movement and dance, theater, film, and even some of the technical side of putting on a show. Within this performance-based course, students of all experience levels (from beginning to advanced) are welcome to participate and will be able to utilize personal talents as well as develop skills that will contribute to the culture and community of our campus.

Spanish 1st year (702000): Students will understand, speak, read, and write Spanish. Spanish will be used with daily class routines. Lessons will center on familiar situations, meeting people, friends, school, family, etc. This course is for those who can devote the time necessary to learning a world language. Homework will be assigned daily and may consist of 30-60 minutes a day, including weekends. To earn High School credit, Spanish 2 will need to be completed with a B grade or higher.

STEM-Discovery (706500): This class introduces students to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) and provides hands-on activities that encourage critical thinking and problem-solving. Students will learn computer programming, drive robots, fly drones, design and create using laser engravers and 3D printers, and more! The goal of this class is to be HANDS-ON! In addition, students will improve their skills using Google Suite Applications, including Google Docs, Sheets, Sites and Slides

Strategies for Academic Success (414100): Students will be given tools to practice and consistently utilize strategies for academic success. They will learn how to use the planner, locate information from textbooks, manage time wisely, study for tests, stay organized in tracking homework, and work in cooperative learning activities. This course is intended for students earning 1s and 2s on their elementary report cards.

Questions? Email ckemp@lodiUSD.net