

ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Students who have goals on their IEPs that require minutes in Interpersonal Relationships or Learning Strategies may have that as their elective. Please inquire with your student's case manager.

Counselors are available to assist students with concerns around possible course fees

ART

Fundamentals of Art (Full Year)

This class is an introduction to the world of visual art with an opportunity to earn high school credit. Students will get to try a variety of art media and will produce a number of projects that focus on the Elements of Art. Projects will allow students to gain a basic understanding of art vocabulary, painting, drawing, and art history. In the class, students will not only create art, but view, discuss, and write about artwork too. Students will also look at works of art from different time periods and cultures, while developing visual literacy skills that will help them to better understand and interpret the visual world we live in. This class is an important foundation for other advanced art classes. Students will be evaluated on daily effort, class projects, tests, and a sketchbook that will be maintained throughout the semester.

Materials Fee: \$40 (\$20 per semester)

DRAMA (Full Year)

Drama is a yearlong class which focuses on improvisation, theater games, comedy skits, commercials, monologues, pantomime, conflict scenes, special effect makeup, movie producing, musical theater choreography, Shakespeare, one-act plays and more! The class will focus on developing characters, stage movement, rehearsing and performing a play before a live audience. Students will also learn tech skills like: lighting, sound, graphic design, rigging, and terms. The class produces 2 shows each year. Come with your creative ideas, energy, and talent! Required class materials: Ben Nye Personal Creme Kit, Ben Nye Bruise Wheel, and Ben Nye Monster Wheel. Fee: \$20 for entire year

MUSIC

See Band Video

Wind Ensemble/Jazz Band (Full Year)

Open to highly qualified seventh and eighth graders. Admission is by audition only and openings are limited. Students in Jazz Band must also be members of the symphonic/concert band, choir or orchestra. Students must agree to remain in the class for the entire school year. Students continue to work on the fundamentals of musicianship including practice and rehearsal skills, performance-related music theory, instrumental techniques and accurate music reading. Also, they study symphonic band literature, jazz band literature with an emphasis on rhythmic analysis, interpretation, phrasing and improvisation. Members are required to participate in all concerts at which the band performs. Performances are quite frequent so all members must remain in good standing with their teachers and with the school's administration. Fee \$20 for entire year

Symphonic Band (Full Year)

Open to students with one to three years of experience or the equivalent. Students must agree to remain in the class for the entire school year. Students continue to work on the fundamentals of musicianship including practice and rehearsal skills, performance-related music theory, instrumental techniques and accurate music reading. Also, they study symphonic band literature with an emphasis on rhythmic analysis, interpretation, and phrasing. There is an increased emphasis on public performance. Members are required to participate in all concerts at which the band performs. Members are expected to remain in good standing with their teachers and with the school's administration. Fee \$20 for the entire year

Symphonic Orchestra (Full Year)

Open to students with three years of experience or the equivalent. Admission is by director approval. Students must agree to remain in the class for the entire school year. Students continue to work on the fundamentals of musicianship including practice and rehearsal skills, performance-related music theory, instrumental techniques and accurate music reading. Also, they study symphonic orchestra literature with an emphasis on rhythmic analysis, interpretation, and phrasing. There is an increased emphasis on public performance. Members are required to participate in all concerts at which the orchestra performs. Members are expected to remain in good standing with their teachers and with the school's administration. Fee \$20 for the entire year.

STEAM

Introduction to Coding (1 Semester) - See Computer Science Video

This introductory course focuses on coding using the Python language, covering basic Coding and Game Design concepts. Students engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, problem solving, and fun. The course inspires students as they control their own character and master each level as well as designing gaming levels. The Ozaria and curriculum will be used for this course.

STEAM 8 (1 Semester) - See STEM 8 Video

This is a one-semester class for 8th graders who wish to further explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) through project-based learning. Previous projects have included engineering balsa structures, designing and racing CO2 dragsters, building solid fuel rockets, and engaging in laser or 3D design projects. The possibilities are endless, time permitting.

STEAM Applications (Full Year) - See STEM Foundations Video

This is a more advanced year long STEAM course for 8th graders who are excited about engineering and technology and interested in leveling up! You will develop technical skills in safely operating hand and power tools for more complex building of CO2 powered vehicles, furniture, and catapults. You will make a robotic car that you will program to drive autonomously, a wind turbine that generates voltage in a wind tunnel, a solid fuel rocket that will fly hundreds of feet, and enter a laser cut mousetrap powered car competition. Other projects include balsa bridges, gliders, video production, soldering circuit boards, laser cut LED light stands, and many more cool experiences. More complex Computer Aided Design (CAD) programs will be introduced in this class, and time will be taken to

connect you to career opportunities in engineering and design fields. By the end of this course you will have had an unforgettable experience as an engineer and designer!

WORLD LANGUAGE

Spanish 1a & 1b (Full year, Eighth grade only) - See Spanish Video

Spanish is a first-year course with the opportunity to earn high school credit and enter the high school program at the second level. The course will contain vocabulary, grammar, culture, and geography while focusing on speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

Student Assistants

Library Assistant (1 Semester or Full Year)

Library Assistants are responsible for helping with daily duties in the library, as well as larger projects. AMS students who take on this leadership role are reliable, dependable, and highly motivated. Some daily duties include checking library materials in and out, assisting other students in locating library materials, updating/refreshing displays, and straightening shelves and books. Students also partake in larger projects throughout the semester, including adding/removing books from the computer system, covering books, taking inventory, and creating displays.

Office Assistant (1 Semester or Full Year)

As an Office Assistant, students will learn various office procedures including but not limited to filing, sorting, alphabetizing, and disbursement of materials to classrooms. Students will also assist with running passes to students in classrooms. This leadership role requires the student to reliably use strict confidentiality and to display a professional attitude while working in the office. There will be times when students will have a chance to work on homework or silently read. Students will be graded on attendance, quality of work, and professionalism. Preference is given to students in the Eighth Grade.

Teacher Assistant (1 Semester or Full Year)

As a Teacher Assistant, students will work directly with one teacher helping with organization and classroom preparation. AMS Teacher Assistants who take on this leadership role are reliable, dependable, and highly-motivated. Students need to coordinate with the teacher before the start of the semester to be registered as a Teacher Assistant.

Course Fees

Some classes require the student to pay a fee for consumable materials. If a student does not pay the course fee, a fine in the dollar amount of the course fee will be assessed to them, or a payment arrangement can be made. If it is not possible to work out satisfactory arrangements for payment of these fees, the following waiver procedure shall apply:

1. The student and the student's parents are responsible for initiating a request for the waiver.
2. The present income guidelines established by State and Federal agencies for qualifications for free lunches will serve as a qualification for waivers. These income guidelines are subject to change by the Federal Government.
3. Students or guardians must provide the district-generated "Eligibility Notification Letter, School Foods Services Office" to the Main Office or counselor to obtain the waiver. The Food Services phone number is 425-431-7077.
4. Counselors are available to assist students with concerns around course fees.