

Northland Pines Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Elective Courses 2017-18

We must have a sufficient amount of students signed up to run each class.

CHORUS – Choir is open to any 7th or 8th grader who is interested in music, singing and performing. We focus on three-part repertoire from many genres, cultures and languages. This group performs at least eight times per year: the Veterans Day Assembly, Winter Concert, Winter Community Tour, Singing Valentines, Solo/ensemble, Large Group Festival, Spring Concert and NPMS assemblies. Students' performances at Solo/Ensemble include solos, duets, trios and large group ensembles. Outside of performances, we study vocal tone, music history and cultures, vocal percussion, music theory, drama activities and African percussion instruments.

INTERMEDIATE BAND – Students are provided with an opportunity to advance and progress in the development of instrumental performance. Students will have the opportunity to grow and mature as young musicians on their instruments and they will be able to participate in WSMA competitions. Solo/Ensemble Contest and large group Festival begins at this level and carries on into the high school. This is a combined 7th & 8th Grade band. The Intermediate Band students perform at the middle school Holiday and Spring programs and join other band students at the 4th of July parades. This is a year long course.

JAZZ BAND – The Jazz Band course is offered to band students that are highly motivated and hard workers. Students will learn style characteristics common in various forms of Jazz, Swing, blues, Latin and Rock. Students will rehearse three times a week and will have a resource period the other two days. Students must be in Intermediate Band to be in Jazz Band. This will be a year long course.

INTRODUCTION TO FOREIGN LANGUAGE – Each one a semester course.

Introduction to Spanish – This class is designed to give students an introduction to basic language skills in speaking, comprehension, reading and writing. Students also learn about Latin American culture in order to participate in a global society. This class offers an integrated approach to learning Spanish. Presentation and practice of functional expressions, vocabulary and grammar structures are interwoven with cultural information and language learning tips to facilitate mastery. Students learn to carry on basic conversations with classmates and gain confidence throughout the semester in communicating basic likes, dislikes, interests, hobbies, classes and daily schedules.

Introduction to German – Students will learn simple grammar and vocabulary on a wide variety of topics. They will learn to ask questions and carry on simple conversations in German. This class also explores the culture of Germany and other German-speaking countries. Students learn about Wisconsin's rich German heritage and celebrate some of the traditional holidays. Several hands-on projects will be done during the semester including baking pretzels, singing and playing vocabulary games.

ART (7) - This course will give students the opportunity to experiment with a variety of new two-dimensional and three-dimensional mediums. Copper embossing, scratchboard, clay sculpture, wood burning, and linoleum block printing will allow students to learn new techniques while finding unique ways to follow their interests. Creative drawing, painting, and design projects provide many artistic avenues for self-expression. Each new project builds on art skills that were previously learned. This is a semester long class.

ART (8) – This is a semester course. This individualized class will give students the opportunity to expand their experiences in their favorite mediums. In-depth projects will allow time to fully develop the possibilities and interests in their mediums. In-depth projects will allow time to fully develop the creative possibilities and interests of each student. The two-dimensional units give students options to choose their own projects. It is strongly recommended that students have previously taken 7th grades art in order to be prepared for the class, as the sequential projects build on art skills that were previously learned. Emphasis is placed on individual effort and creativity.

SCIENCE OF FOOD - Have you ever played with your food? Have you ever eaten your homework? The Science of Food class will let you do both. This class will let you explore the science behind the flavors and ingredients while learning different cooking techniques. Many local plants and animals will be used in recipes. This hands-on class will allow you to make sausage, cheese, ice cream and maple syrup. Students will harvest wild rice, tend to a honeybee hive and turn sugar into caramel. Learn about science in a whole new way. Let's get cooking 8th graders will be scheduled into this class first. This will be a semester course

BUSINESS CONCEPTS – Business Concepts is a course designed to assist students in understanding all of the roles that take place in a free enterprise economy. It will provide the basic principles, concepts, and understanding as vital for development of individuals as effective citizens, employees/employers, and consumers participating in the American system. Units which will be studied will include the organization and economic role of business, the impact of computers in business, the rights and responsibilities of consumers in business, managing your money wisely, and government's role in our economy. This is a semester course

SPANISH I - This is a full year course dealing with the development of skills in speaking, reading, writing, and comprehending the Spanish language. Culture and daily life of Spanish speaking countries are also studied. Students will also be exposed to vocabulary about activities that they want to do, like to do, need to do, know how to do, and are going to do. They will be able to describe people physically and professionally. Students will learn to use regular “-ar” “er”, and “ir” ending verbs to ask and answer questions about daily routines and feelings. Students will be exposed to the concepts of speaking to adults as well as informal conversations with friends. This course is worth 1 **High school credit and the final grade goes on your High School transcripts.** This is a year long course.

GERMAN I - German I focuses on successful communication through speaking, writing, reading and listening as well as a thorough grounding in aspects of culture. Unit activities blend different forms of communication and culture to ensure that the student meets all standards. Course strategies include warm-up activities, vocabulary study, reading, practice activities and games, oral and written assignments, projects, quizzes, and exams. Learning activities in each unit are focused upon a specific theme. German I covers the basics of German language among other things the present tense, nouns and pronouns as subjects and object. This course is worth 1 **High School Credit and the final grade goes on your High School transcripts.** This is a year long course.

8th GRADE DESIGN and MANUFACTURING – This course is designed for 8th Grade students who are interested in the research, design and construction of woodworking projects. During this course students will learn proper measurement, drafting and woodworking techniques. Laboratory activities include research and design, construction of wood projects, proper use of tools and material identification. The course objective is to introduce students to the basic terminology and techniques of drafting and woodworking and to encourage students to use creative thinking skills to design their individual projects. This will be a semester class.

8th GRADE TECH ED

This 8th grade “Hands On” Technology Education course allows students to explore the expanding field of Technology. During this course students will study terminology, processes and careers related to materials and manufacturing, construction, transportation systems, power and energy, and biotechnology. Students will have the opportunity to use multiple digital manufacturing machines such as the Shopbot, Techno Mill, laser printer, and 3D printer. Students will also learn machine safety and woodworking techniques for the completion of unit projects.

8th GRADE GATEWAY

In this engineering based course students will learn the development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students will use the Fischertechnik Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, elevators, and revolving signs(PLTW 2015). This class will build students’ knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, and innovation.

GERMAN II

COURSE # 3352

German II students build on what they have learned as they continue the curriculum introduced in German I. Course strategies include warm-up activities, vocabulary study, reading, practice activities and games, oral and written assignments, projects, quizzes, and exams. Learning activities in each unit are focused upon a specific theme. A greater emphasis is placed on correct speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. The conversational past is introduced.

CREDITS: 1.00 (Year Long Course)

RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of German I and/or instructor’s approval

SPANISH II

COURSE # 3362

This full year course is a continuation of Spanish I dealing with development of skills in listening, reading, writing, speaking and comprehension of the Spanish language in the present, preterit, and simple future tenses. Beyond using all learned information from Spanish I, students will be introduced to the concept of ownership, continue with number vocabulary to 1,000,000, talk about things that they have to do, talk about preferences and talk about what people can and cannot do. Highlighted themes to include: family, personal hygiene, food, clothing, and celebrations.

CREDITS: 1.00 (Year Long Course)

RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Spanish I and/or Instructor's approval.