

Hosford Middle School: Elective Course Descriptions

Rising 7th – 8th Grades: 2019 - 2020

Key: SM = one semester; YR = yearlong GR = grades that may take the class

Art 2 (SM) GR 7-8: Starting in 2019, Art 1 is taken in 6th grade; Art 2 is taken in 7th or 8th grade. They are independent of each other and in the past, either could be taken first, so a student who has not yet had art class may still request Art 2. This class emphasizes the elements of art and principles of design through projects in a variety of 2D and 3D media including drawing, collage, painting, and ceramics.

Advanced Art (SM or YR) GR 7 & 8: Prerequisite: Art 1 + Art 2, or either class + teacher approval. This class offers more advanced and independent work in the areas of drawing, painting, graphic design, 3D design, and mural creation.

AVID (YR) GR 7 & 8: The AVID elective class is part of a national program that surrounds students with supports, structures, and academic skills that propel them into advanced placement classes and set them on a journey to be college bound as they graduate high school. The AVID selection process targets the "middle" student, who has some successes at school, but needs help and supports to fully master class and coursework. AVID's rigorous approach isn't for every student, but those who do join get the help they need to succeed in school and in life. Application and acceptance is required.

Graphic Design (SM) GR 7 & 8: Students learn principles of digital design and use computers to create art.

Intermediate and Advanced Band (YR) GR 7-8: Students will gain valuable life skills through hard work, dedication, and teamwork while learning how to play their instrument and performing literature across all genres. Instruments include: flute, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, oboe, trombone and percussion. (Option for students in DLI, SpEd, ELD, or Spanish: take fall semester before school, 2 practices/week).

Engineering: Shop (SM) GR 7-8: The goal of this course is to provide all students with an introduction to the principles of engineering and technology and its place in the modern world using hands-on activities in woodshop. At the end of this course, students will understand how engineering and technology impact them and the world around them and careers available to them for their future.

Life Skills Assistant (SM) GR 7 & 8: Work with special education students with disabilities. Duties include being friend, role model and a teacher's aide in the life skills classroom.

Main Office Aide (SM) GR 7 & 8: Learn skills related to operating a front office; assist visitors, help with projects as assigned. Application and contract required.

Media Literacy (SM) GR 7 & 8: Media Literacy is the ability to read, understand, analyze, evaluate and create media. Students in this elective will learn to think critically about commercials, advertisements, websites, magazines, online images, social media, and all sorts of news. Students should expect to do projects that include reading, writing, filmmaking and screencasting, using Photoshop and other online tools.

Spanish I (YR) GR 7: In this course, students will learn basic Spanish, the official language of 22 countries worldwide. This is a theme-based course, focusing on "real world" language skills and meaningful cultural knowledge relating to each thematic unit. Themes include, but are not limited to: self, family, food, hobbies and interests and geography. Two years of successful Spanish at Hosford will result in a credit of high school Spanish (Spanish 1-2).

Spanish II (YR) GR 8: Students continue developing their skills in Spanish. Completing this year with a C or better results in high school credit for first year Spanish (Spanish 1-2). Prerequisite: successful completion (C or better) in Spanish I.

Leadership (SM): GR 7-8: Develop leadership skills through planning Hosford school-wide activities like dances, fundraisers and spirit week. Support ELA standards through leadership-themed literature. Learn other leadership skills through projects related to community service and awareness.

Yearbook (SM): GR 7-8: Student work with a faculty advisor to create the Hosford yearbook.