Siuslaw Middle School
Elective Course Catalog

Aim for your *BEST*

Be Respectful
Everyone Counts
Stay Safe
Take Responsibility

Siuslaw Middle School Mission Statement:
Dedicated to Success for All Students

General Information

This course catalog is designed to inform students and parents about our elective opportunities. Siuslaw Middle School is dedicated to success for *all students*. We want every student to have an excellent experience and we strive to achieve that every day. While we understand and value the importance of electives, it is imperative that students understand key concepts in reading and math. **Students who are not at grade level may have an elective replaced by an academic support class. We will do our best to see that you get *at least one* elective that you really like.**

Forecasting:

Forecasting is a decision-making tool. It is to see what courses students are interested in. If there are *not enough* course requests for a class, it may not be offered. Please make sure you put an alternate course request in, just in case you don't get your first or second choice.

Core Classes

Core classes are those that are required by Oregon State Standards. These include English/Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Physical Education.

Elective Courses

Elective courses provide opportunities for students to explore areas of interest and enrich their learning. Students should forecast for multiple elective classes each semester and rank their selections in order of priority. From this list, classes will be added to student schedules. Some electives are one semester classes and others are full year.

- Academic interventions are prioritized over electives.
- 6th grade students will have one section of an exploratory course, and one elective choice.
- 7th and 8th grade students may have up to 2 elective choices per semester.

Advisory

Advisory classes meet daily for the entire year. Advisory period allows students to engage in important tasks related to academic progress, school community and culture, social-emotional learning, and character education. It also allows time to work on other requirements without interfering with academic schedules.

Grading Scale and Grade Point Average

Letter Grades
A = Mastery of Subject
B = Excellent Quality of Work
C = Base Level of Learning
D = Minimum Requisites Met
F = Does not meet minimum requirement
P = Passing
NP = No Pass
NG = No Grade

Grade Point Average
GPA is determined by adding all grade points earned divided by the number of graded class credits per semester.

Points are awarded for each letter grade as follows:
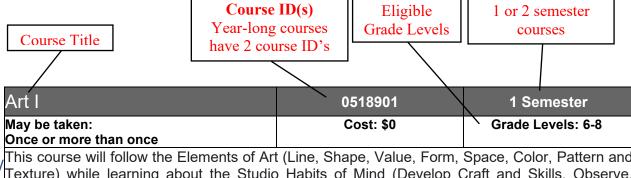A = 4 points
B = 3 points
C = 2 points
D = 1 point
F = 0 points

Pass/No Pass
Some elective courses allow a student to receive a Pass/No Pass instead of a letter grade. Pass/No Pass classes do not affect GPA.

How Do I Read the Course Catalog and Request Elective Courses?

All elective course offerings are found on the following pages of this catalog. Please see the example below of how to read the catalog.

| Course Title |
| **Course ID(s)** Year-long courses have 2 course ID's |
| Eligible Grade Levels |
| 1 or 2 semester courses |

Art I	0518901	1 Semester
May be taken: **Once or more than once**	Cost: $0	Grade Levels: 6-8
This course will follow the Elements of Art (Line, Shape, Value, Form, Space, Color, Pattern and Texture) while learning about the Studio Habits of Mind (Develop Craft and Skills, Observe, Engage and Persist, Stretch and Explore, Reflect, Envision, Express, and Understand Our World). We will experiment with a variety of art media including pencil, pen, watercolor, pastels, charcoal, tempera and acrylic paints, printmaking, clay, and more.		
Prerequisite: None		

Course Description

Course(s) required *prior* to taking this course.

ARTS: FINE ARTS

Art I	0518901	1 Semester
May be taken: Once or more than once	**Cost: $0**	**Grade Levels: 6-8**
This course will follow the Elements of Art (Line, Shape, Value, Form, Space, Color, Pattern and Texture) while learning about the Studio Habits of Mind (Develop Craft and Skills, Observe, Engage and Persist, Stretch and Explore, Reflect, Envision, Express, and Understand Our World). We will experiment with a variety of art media including pencil, pen, watercolor, pastels, charcoal, tempera and acrylic paints, printmaking, clay, and more.		
Prerequisite: None		

Ceramics	0518903	1 Semester
May be taken: Once or more than once	**Cost: $0**	**Grade Levels: 6-8**
This course is designed to introduce students to the basic techniques, materials, and processes involved in creating ceramics. Students will learn the principles of hand-building, wheel-throwing, glazing and firing clay objects. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to experiment with different techniques and develop their own personal style.		
Prerequisite: None		

ARTS: PERFORMING ARTS

Beginning Band	551016 (Semester 1) 551012 (Semester 2)	2 Semesters
May be taken: Once (2 semesters)	**Elective** **Cost: $0 for school instruments**	**Grade Levels: 6-8**
Are you interested in learning how to play an instrument? Start your musical journey and learn music in a fun classroom environment! Band is a great opportunity for personal growth and to work and play together as a team. No prior musical experience is necessary. Students will participate in both a winter and spring concert. Beginning Band is a yearlong course. This course is for *first year* band students. There *may* be a 3rd party rental fee. The school has many loaner instruments, see Band director for questions. **Students enrolling in Beginning Band must sign up for *both* semesters.**		
Prerequisite: None		

Junior Choir	551161 (Semester 1) 551162 (Semester 2)	2 Semesters
May be taken: Once (2 semesters)	**Cost: $0**	**Grade Levels: 7-8**
In Junior Choir, beginning singers learn how to make their voices beautiful and expressive together. This class is for first year choir students who want to sing with their friends, make new friends, and create great music in a safe environment. There is a singer inside of everyone, even if they've never been in a choir before. As you progress, you and your friends will perform in concerts right here on the SMS stage, as well as taking part in community events at the FEC. **Students enrolling in Junior Choir must sign up for *both* semesters.**		
Prerequisite: None		

Cinema Project	110514	1 Semester
May be taken: Once or more than once	**Cost: $0**	**Grade Levels: 6-8**

Cinema – the art of making movies – is more than just glamour and red carpets. The Cinema Project is designed to give you what you need to become a director, actor, writer, cinematographer, or all four! This course is spend creating a script, gathering costumes and props, casting, shooting, editing, and finally premiering an original film. Throughout this course, students will engage in hands-on activities and projects and work together as a team. Students will learn about how to use a green screen and adding special effects to the production.

Prerequisite: None

INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY

Introduction to Computer Science	610001	1 Semester
May be taken: One time per year	**Cost: $0**	**Grade Levels: 6-8**

Intro to computer science is designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of computers. You will receive an overview of computer technology and its applications. This course will cover basics of computer hardware, software, and operating systems. Students will also learn how to use common productivity software, such as word processors, spreadsheets, and presentation software.

Throughout this course, students will engage in hands-on activities and projects, using a variety of computer applications. The course will also cover important topics such as computer security, internet safety, and ethical considerations related to technology.

Prerequisite: None

Robotics	710092	1 Semester
May be taken: Once or more than once	**Cost: $0**	**Grade Levels: 6-8**

This Robotics course is designed for middle school students who are interested in learning about robotics and engineering. Throughout this course, students will use LEGO Mindstorms and LEGO Spike Prime kits to build and program robots that can perform various tasks, such as following a line, navigating a maze, or completing a challenge. Students will work in teams to design and build their robots, as well as to program them using visual block programming language. They will also learn about sensors, motors, and other electronic components used in robotics, as well as principles of mechanical engineering such as gear ratios and power transfer. Through hands-on activities and projects, students will develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills as well as team work and collaboration skills. By the end of the course, students will have a strong understanding of the fundamentals of robotics and engineering, as well as a practical experience in building and programming robots. Students in the first semester course will attend a LEGO Robotics competition in December. No prior experience is necessary for this course.

Prerequisite: None

Innovation Lab	102513	1 Semester
May be taken: Once or more than once	Cost: $0	Grade Levels: 6-8

This course is an introductory level course that covers the basics of computer science and programming. Students will learn the fundamentals of programming and gain hands-on experience by designing and programming robots using Vex Code.

In addition to programming robots, students will also learn how to design and print 3D models using 3D printing software. The course covers the basics of 3D modeling and printing, including 3D design principles, file preparation, and printing techniques. By the end of the course, students will have experience with basic block programming, variables, loops, and conditional statements. You will gain experience with programming basic robot movements and be introduced to sensors and motors. This course is suitable for students with little or no prior programming experience.

Prerequisite: None

CONSTRUCTION

Woodshop I	630031	1 Semester
May be taken: Once or more than once	Cost: $0	Grade Levels: 6-8

This introductory course is designed to teach students the foundational skills and techniques necessary for creating beautiful and functional wood pieces. Throughout the course, students will be introduced to basic hand and power tools, safety procedures, joinery and finishing techniques. Students will work with a variety of woods, including hardwoods and softwoods, and learn how to select appropriate materials for their projects. Through a series of guided projects, students will gain experience in measuring, cutting, shaping, sanding, and finishing wood. By the end of the course, students will have completed several projects and gained the confidence to continue exploring the world of woodworking.

Prerequisite: None

CREATIVE WRITING/MULTIMEDIA

Storytelling through Film	011043	1 Semester
May be taken: One time per year	Cost: $0	Grade Levels: 7-8

Explore the creative foundation of Storytelling through Film. The course will journey through film history and traverse a variety of film genres as an introduction to the filmmaking process. Students will engage in a variety of projects focused on story development, film analysis, and creative writing.

Prerequisite: None

HISTORY & MUSIC

History of Rock & Roll	041091	1 Semester
May be taken: One time per year	Cost: $0	Grade Levels: 6-8

Learn about the history of rock and roll music! Prominent singer/songwriters and groups of each era will be covered, as well as social and cultural factors that shaped the many styles of rock music. We will also analyze lyrics, create art, and design playlists.

Prerequisite: None

2023-2024 Elective Forecasting Worksheet
6th Grade Students

Student Name: _____

<u>Below are the SMS Core Classes. All 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade students will take:</u>

Language Arts ✶ Social Studies ✶ Science ✶ Math
Physical Education ✶ Advisory

The above courses will automatically be assigned to each student. Students will be requesting elective courses online through StudentVUE.

Sixth grade students will also be assigned Exploratory classes. All students will be rotated quarterly between: Stream Team, Nutrition, Creative Writing, and Intro to Spanish.

You will select up to 2 electives for a total of 4 course requests 2 periods of elective *per semester*.

Use the attached course catalog for elective options and put your requests below.

	Semester 1		Semester 2	
	Course Title	**Course ID**	**Course Title**	**Course ID**
1st choice				
Alternate Choice				

Please see example on the back of this form for how to fill out this worksheet.

_____   _____

Parent Signature   Student Signature

Example: Filling out the Course Request Worksheet

	Semester 1		Semester 2	
	Course Title	**Course ID**	**Course Title**	**Course ID**
1st choice	Art I	0518901	Woodshop I	630031
Alternate Choice	Beginning Band	551016	Beginning Band	551012

Note that for Beginning Band, there are 2 course requests from the course catalog, one for each semester. This is required for any, 2-semester course.