

# Middle School Elective Courses

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Electives

### **Art- Semester Long**

This course discusses basic information about the Principles of Design and the Elements of Art. This class starts with drawing techniques which leads into discussing value. We practice shading, blending, scale, and placement. We then will move onto elements of Color which incorporates color themes, color pairings, colors of emotions, with techniques in colored pencil and oil pastel. Next is a relief printmaking lesson, which is a mixture of drawing, painting, and sculpture all, mixed into one. We then have a painting unit that will further help us practice color theories. To wrap up the semester, there is a ceramics and sculpture unit where we can envision and build 3-D forms.

### **Spanish- Semester Long**

Students are exposed to a wide range of basic vocabulary including greetings, pronunciation of the alphabet, body parts, colors, months, places, and the ability to tell time. In addition, the verbs Ser, estar, ir, and tener are explored in the present tense. Students are given packets that contain homework assignments and general information that will be covered. Homework, quizzes, and short tests are used to check for understanding.

### **Band- Year Long**

Seventh grade band provides an opportunity to continue the study and mastery of woodwind, brass and percussion instruments that are traditionally scored for a wind band setting. Students are required to participate in two concerts during the school year. Prerequisite: Participation in 6<sup>th</sup> grade band or audition for the instructor.

### **Choir- Year Long**

Choir provides the opportunity to sing a variety of choral literature styles for men's & women's voices and are designed to develop vocal techniques and the ability to sing parts.

### **Technical Education- Semester Long**

This class begins with the concept of communicating graphically, and the importance of understanding the discipline. An object, model, house, or manufacturing plan can only be defined in a limited fashion with words. This concept is taught through orthographic (3 view) pencil drawings at first being that almost anything can be defined by 3 views. We start with basic blocks. The second major lesson is the ability to create an isometric

drawing, and transfer an orthographic into an isometric, this tends to solidify the 'idea' of 2D vs 3D. Once this concept is grasped students move onto CADD (computer aided drafting and design). Here we transfer 2D orthographic drawings into true 3D models while learning to use various CADD programs. The class finishes touching on architecture concepts and basic architectural rules. Students design and create their own CADD houses which are presented with virtual walkthroughs.

## **Jobs for Montana Grads (JMG) - Semester Long**

JMG helps students see themselves, others and the community in a different light. Students build confidence and gain skills that will last them a lifetime. By determining the direction of the class, learning to work together as a team, and exploring options for their future, students find themselves completely engaged. JMG benefits all staff and students as JMG students provide a strong leadership role within the school. The class provides an opportunity for students to experience a class that truly makes a difference today and tomorrow.

GOALS: The three (3) major goals of a JMG Middle School Program are:

- Students will stay in school and transition into high school.
- Students will improve their academic performance, school behavior, attendance, participation and self-esteem.
- Students will improve their skills in leading and being an effective member of a team.

## **7th Grade Goals**

- Self-Understanding
- Communication
- Organizational Skills
- Study Skills
- Decision-Making
- Character Development
- Team Building
- Daily Journaling/Class Discussions