

Northwood Middle School 2020-2021 7th and 8th Grade Course Descriptions

Course Name	Course Description
Art	This is a semester long class where seventh and eighth grade students will dive deeper into skill development. The eras we cover will range from renaissance to current day street artists. Our goal for this class is to refine our skills and techniques, broaden our knowledge of art history and art careers, and reflect on our own art.
Advanced Art (8 th grade ONLY)	This is an all year art class for eighth grade students with previous experience and an elevated interest in art. We work on our fundamental techniques and skills, our artistic vocabulary, independent choice work to collaborative work with a wider range of materials. Students have more freedom of choice when it comes to media, subject matter, style, or composition.
Beginning Band	This is a yearlong class for 7th and 8th grade students that either did not get the opportunity to try an instrument in 6th grade or would like to learn a second instrument. The instruments included in this class are flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. In this class, students will be able to find the proper instrument for them, perform at least ten notes, read different musical notes and rhythms, perform alone and with others in musical works. The students of this class perform at two different concerts at the Winter and Spring concerts.
Orchestra	This is a yearlong class for 7th and 8th grade students that play violin, viola, cello, or bass string instruments. In this class, students will be able to perform all notes in first position of the instruments, read notes and count rhythms on music, perform alone and with others on musical works. The students of this class perform at three different concerts at the Winter, Spring and Believe in a Dream concerts.
Exploring Music	This is a semester long class for any students to get involved in music. In this class students will get the opportunity to connect music to many different facets of life. This includes family, history, people, school subjects, entertainment and emotions. Students will learn how to use Garage Band recreate known music and create their own music inspired by different topics.
Percussion	This is a yearlong class for 7th and 8th grade students that have performed on percussion instruments for at least one year. These instruments include snare drum, bass drum, timpani, marimba, xylophone, bells, chimes, shaker, casaba, cymbals, and drum set. In the class students will learn the fundamentals on each instrument, traditional and non-traditional percussion instruments, perform music alone and with others, count and read basic rhythms, read the different letter names of notes on the music paper, repair drum heads. The students of this class assist the advanced band in completing their ensemble music as well as performing music for their own ensemble. The students perform Halloween music, Veterans day event, Winter concert, ISSMA solo and ensemble, ISSMA, and Spring concert.
Advanced Band	This class is a yearlong class for students that have been performing music on band instruments for at least one year. These instruments include flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, french horn, trumpet, trombone, baritone, and tuba. The class performs music for Halloween, Veterans Day, Winter Concert, ISSMA, and Spring Concert. In this class students will learn proper tone production, ensemble balance, producing proper notes and rhythms, musical forms and structures, warm up repertoire, and all twelve major scales.
Choir	This year long class allows students to sing with others and perform at the end of each semester in front of friends and family. In this class students will learn about controlling their breath for singing, keeping steady beat and accurate rhythm, good intonation (pitch), and singing within an ensemble. Students may be asked to fundraise for the group in order to purchase new music and supplies (fundraisers will include an incentive program allowing kids to earn prizes).
Guitar	This semester long class allows students to learn how to play the guitar, drums, and bass guitar. Although the class is mainly focused on guitar, the exploring of the instruments in a modern band allows the students to create their own bands, which will perform together in front of the class.

	This class will focus on: learning to play the guitar, drums, bass (reading chord charts, strumming patterns, rhythmic drum patterns, and TAB), and creating music (writing chord progressions, rhythm patterns, and song writing).
Business Technology	The semester-long class is designed to teach proper technique and increase student efficiency when typing on the computer. The students will build their skills from home row, use correct finger strikes, maintain proper positioning, and increase accuracy and speed. There will be several guided and independent activities embedded throughout the semester formatting and utilizing Word documents and Power Point presentations.
HS Business (8 th Grade ONLY)	A full-year class for 8th graders divided into two sections: Introduction to Business and Entrepreneurship. Introduction to Business provides an overview to the world of business including business management, marketing fundamentals, and business ethics and law. Entrepreneurship topics include the assessment of entrepreneurial skills, leadership roles, the importance of business ethics, and the role of entrepreneurs in our society.
Physical Education	A semester-long Physical Education class allowing students the opportunity to learn a variety of team sports and sports related movements as well as health fitness concepts: daily flexibility, strength, endurance and speed. Emphasis is placed on active participation and positive social interaction during fitness and sports activities.
Advance Physical Education (8 th grader ONLY)	A Year-Long Physical Education class for 8th graders only. This class is based around student-centered instruction and competitive games. Students are required to teach a lesson each semester along with running the mile up to six times during the school-year. Students will learn a variety of team sports and sports related movements as well as health fitness concepts: daily flexibility, strength, endurance and speed. There is an emphasis placed on active participation and positive social interaction during fitness and sports activities.
Cardinal Television (CTV)	A semester long class introduces students to the technical and creative aspects of broadcasting and audio/visual production.
Advanced Cardinal Television (CTV)	A year-long class expands on previous knowledge of audio/visual production to empower students to produce Cardinal News along with other creative projects. MUST have completed one semester of CTV with "C" or higher.
Spanish	This semester-long class introduces students to reading, writing, speaking and understanding introductory Spanish.
HS Spanish (8 th grader ONLY)	This year-long class introduces students to a full year of high school level one Spanish. In this class, students will be able to read, write, speak, and understand Spanish