

Madison Middle School

Elective Course Descriptions

ASB/LEADERSHIP CLASS (*ASB*)

The ASB class provides an opportunity for students to develop leadership, communication, and team building skills while fostering an exciting school climate. The class will plan and implement school and lunchtime activities, dances, community events, work together to promote school spirit, and organize recognition for outstanding achievement for both students and teachers. Hours outside the school day are expected. **Recommendation and Application required.**

AVID (*AVID*)

AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) provides in-class study groups directed by college tutors and facilitated by the AVID teacher who assists students with a structure for note-taking, organization, time management, test-taking strategies, and study skills so that students are successful in high school and college. Leadership and character-development, critical thinking skills, analysis, and public speaking are just a few of the skills you will learn. PLUS, we have some really great field trips! We are developing tomorrow's leaders, today!. **Required Interview and application required.**

BAND (*BEG BAND, INTER BAND, ADV BAND*)

Beginning Band at Madison is for students with very limited or no previous experience on woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. To be selected to the percussion section a student must have had at least one year of piano lessons or take drum lessons while you are enrolled in Beginning Band. **Intermediate and Advanced Band members will be selected after 1 year of completing Beginning Band.**

BROADCASTING AND FILM PRODUCTIONS - M.B.C. (*TECHNOLOGY*)

We love our MBC! The Video Production and Broadcasting class is an all-year course for **8th grade** students introducing the operation of a small TV studio with state of the art video equipment and editing programs to produce a quality video production. Students will produce the daily Mustang TV broadcast of daily announcements and school related segments. Students interested in all aspects of video production (acting, script writing, editing, directing, producing, costume design, etc.) will find this class exciting and challenging. Students in this class will also learn and develop team building skills, communication, and leadership responsibilities. **Application and teacher recommendations required.**

CHOIR (*CHOIR*)

Students will learn the fundamentals of vocal production, choral techniques and basic musicianship. There will be opportunities for solo performance and ensemble concerts, with the goal of participating in choral festivals and community events.

CHARACTER LEADERS/PEER HELPERS (*LEADERSHIP*)

Our Character Leaders elective focuses on the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. We discover ways to positively change our campus, community, and the world through service learning. Some of our activities include mentoring at Lake Elementary, donation drives, 9-11 activities, working at homeless shelters, peer mediators, beach cleanups, walkathon for cancer patients, and Safe School Ambassadors. **Prerequisites include having good attendance and no severe discipline issues.**

DIGITAL DISCOVERY I (*DIGITAL DISC/EX*)

Includes the two semester-long courses below.

COMPUTERS I : All Things Google, Basic Coding, and 3D Printing

Become a Google ninja. Explore the world of computer coding, 3D printing, and more! Computers I empowers students to create impressive projects, learn digital citizenship, and solve real-world problems. Keyboarding is practiced every day

DIGITAL ART I : Photoshop, Web Design, and Animation.

Discover the magic of Photoshop. This course will teach Students how to create Digital Art projects using Photoshop. Students will be designing magazines and book covers, posters, animations, and original works of art. Additionally, students will use Google Sites to create a web portfolio of their finished projects. Get ready to make your art creations and photos look amazing and to impress your family and all of your friends!

DIGITAL DISCOVERY II (*DIGITAL DISC 2*)

For 8th grade only- Includes the two semester-long courses below.

Prerequisite: Digital Art I and Computers I or equivalent experience

COMPUTERS II: Advanced Coding and 3D

Printing

Video game design/coding and 3D printing- what could be better? Computers II builds upon the concepts learned in Computers I. Explore various types of coding software, including Scratch, Gamestar Mechanic, Code Warriors, Code Avengers, and others. Learn to code games through object oriented programming as well as JavaScript. 3D design through Tinkercad and SketchUp with real-world applications. Keyboarding is practiced daily.

DIGITAL ART II: Photoshop and Photography

Continue to discover more magic in Photoshop. Students will learn more advanced features in Photoshop to create complex graphics, editing images, and using the paint features, create amazing works of art. While learning photography basics of composing and shooting great photos, students will learn how to edit graphics as well as create and manipulate images. Additionally, students will learn how to create a photo book of their finished projects.

DRAMA (*DRAMA*)

This is a beginning course for students with little or no previous experience in drama. Students will have an opportunity to participate in a variety of drama activities such as: oral interpretation, monologues, character analysis, improvisation, film analysis, and scene work. The class focuses on building student self confidence, creative expression, and cooperative learning, as well as a deep-dive into the mechanics and analytics of theatre and theatre history. There will be a performance on the main stage for a live audience.

MARINE BIOLOGY (*MARINE BIOLOGY*)

Marine Biology will dive into the diversity of marine organisms from octopuses to fish to dolphins and whales. Students will explore environments from our local coastline to remote deep-sea habitats, learning about the adaptations that organisms use to survive. Students will spend the second portion of the year discussing problems the oceans face today. Students will dissect marine creatures, create presentations, and develop solutions to real-world problems. As a part of this course, students will take a field trip in the early spring semester to snorkel and whale watch. Marine Biology is a ton of fun, but students should expect to work hard. This course is an academic elective, and students are required to read, research, write, and present as part of this course. **Prerequisite: Must be a 7th/8th grader and have a passing grade in Science the previous year. A "B" or higher in Science and Language Arts is recommended.**

SPANISH I (*SPANISH 1*)

Spanish I is the first course of a 4-6 year sequence that may continue through the student's senior year in high school. Course content develops skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing Spanish with an emphasis on communication. **A "B" or higher in Language Arts is recommended.**

SPANISH II (*SPANISH 2*)

Spanish II is an extension of Spanish I. This course further develops the ability to communicate in Spanish using skills such as listening comprehension and reading, the productive skills of speaking and writing, and the various aspects of the Spanish culture. Students who are successful in Spanish II will be able to enter Spanish III as a freshman in high school.

Prerequisite - Spanish I

STEM

The acronym STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. This elective will incorporate these disciplines while challenging students with hands-on, real world applications in the areas of design and reverse engineering, trigonometry, projectile motion, energy studies, and robotics. Students are to be responsible individuals with a willingness to demonstrate their understanding through hands-on projects while communicating their experiences in writing.

YEARBOOK PUBLICATIONS (*YEARBOOK STAFF*)

The Yearbook Publications class is a full year course which includes learning aspects of photography and desktop publishing utilizing digital cameras, Photo editing programs, and layout programs to create a school yearbook. Students in this class will also learn and develop team building skills, communication and leadership responsibilities. **Application, teacher recommendations and teacher approval is required.**