

Sarasota Middle School Encore Course Descriptions

Art - An exploratory, hands-on adventure with emphasis on real life drawing, color theory applied to realistic and abstract paintings, clay work, sculpture, perspective studies and architectural renderings. Master artists and their works are introduced and analyzed.

Band – Learn to play a band instrument including trumpet, French horn, clarinet, flute, tuba, saxophone, trombone, as well as percussion instruments. All students are welcome in beginning band. Intermediate and Advanced classes require teacher permission.

Chorus – Learn ensemble and solo vocal performance skills. Includes the study of music history and notation. All students are welcome in beginning chorus. Intermediate/Advanced choruses require teacher permission.

Coding Fundamentals - The content includes but is not limited to foundational knowledge and skills related to computer coding and software development. Instruction and learning activities are provided in a laboratory setting using hands-on experiences with the equipment, materials and technology

Computer Business Applications - This course is designed to provide instruction in keyboarding, word processing, electronic presentation, computer hardware, Internet, spreadsheet, and business applications skills. This class will utilize the above skills in the creation of the school yearbook and school newspaper.

Creative Writing - This course is designed for students who wish to experiment in self-expression through writing. The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop and use fundamental writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms.

Digital Art - Students explore the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications of digital imaging to create original work. Students produce digital still and/or animated images through the single or combined use of computers, digital cameras, digital video cameras, scanners, photo editing software, drawing and painting software, graphic tablets, printers, new media, and emerging technologies.

Engaged Citizenship - This course provides an introduction to service-learning and civic responsibility. Academic, personal, and career skills needed for effective service-learning project implementation will be taught and applied through structured service projects that meet real school and/or community needs.

Guitar – Learn to play the guitar including how to read music notation and tablature. All students are welcome in beginning guitar. Intermediate and Advanced Guitar require teacher permission.

Orchestra – Learn to play an orchestral instrument such as violin, viola, cello, or bass violin as a member of a symphony. All students are welcome in orchestra.

Physical Education - Students will participate each school day in activities which promote athletic skills and personal fitness through individual and team sport activities.

PE with Dance Emphasis - This high-energy course will combine elements of dance, cheerleading and aerobics. Students will learn and develop skills and combinations from each of these three disciplines. Students will also perform and create choreographed dance routines to popular songs.

Spanish – Learn basic language skills including listening, reading, writing, and speaking. The culture and history of Spanish speaking countries will be introduced. No prior Spanish Language experience required. Sixth graders take beginning, seventh takes intermediate, and 8th grade takes Spanish 1 for High School Credit.

Speech – This course provides instruction in the fundamentals of formal and informal oral communication. Major instructional areas include forms of oral communication, techniques of group discussion, techniques of effective listening, analysis of the audience, and techniques of public speaking.

Technology – Students are engaged in various computer simulations, robotics programming, 3D printing, and participating in engineering projects. In our CTE class, students construct and apply their own knowledge, “design under constraints,” using multiple resources and solutions. Everyone is welcome in the “Automation and Robotics Class.” Participation in the Advanced Technology TSA requires a signature.

TV Production - Learn the “ins and outs” of TV production as part of the WSMS News Team. Experience news research, copy writing, and anchoring while you learn to operate the camera equipment and computer board. Open to all grade levels.