

Crittenden Middle School

7th & 8th Grade Electives Catalog 2019-2020

All electives are subject to enrollment, demand, and funding

Academic Enrichment Electives (select two)

ART HISTORY

Eligible Grade Level(s) 6,7,8

Art History will provide an in-depth study of art history and basic art concepts. Students will examine a variety of aspects of art history including themes and purposes of art; styles of art; the elements of art; design principles; two-dimensional media; western and non-western art history. Students will also have a working knowledge of media. Students will create projects inspired by historical time periods ranging from prehistoric to postmodernism.

CODING THROUGH MATH

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

Coding through Math is an introductory elective course designed to introduce coding alongside math content and to illustrate how coding and math can support each other and the many benefits that each can provide to the other. The course is designed such that students may code engaging math-centric programs without any prior coding knowledge, learning the basics of coding as they progress through the course.

EXPLORATORY ENGLISH

Eligible Grade Level: 7, 8

In this course, students will explore the creative and critical aspects of Language Arts. Units of exploration include: speeches, mock trial (productive, academic arguing!), a documentary film unit, production of the Crittenden Chronicle newspaper, and the Genius Hour project in which students spend every Friday exploring and pursuing a long-term project that is chosen by them and ignites their passion culminating with a final project exhibition in May.

MARINE BIOLOGY

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

This Marine Biology course is an introduction to key marine science concepts and ideas. It is intended to expose students to the marine organisms and ecosystems as well as the ecology/relationships between them. Students develop critical and creative problem-solving skills that will prepare them for future marine science courses. The topics will raise awareness of the physical, chemical and geological aspects of oceanography, marine biology, the coastal environment and what we need to do to preserve it.

SPANISH I: INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

Students will learn vocabulary on a variety of subjects and will be able to read, write, and speak in the present tense. No prior Spanish skills are required. (50% of instruction is in Spanish)

SPANISH II: APPLICATIONS OF SPANISH

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

This is the continuation of Spanish I. This course is taught entirely in Spanish. Students must have completed at least one year of formal instruction in Spanish or must be native Spanish speakers who are conversationally fluent. Graduates of the dual immersion program at Mistral are candidates for this class.

SPANISH ADVANCED

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6,7,8

This course is designed to help students to practice and improve Spanish literacy. (Fluent Spanish speakers and students entering from the dual immersion program at Mistral School are candidates for this class)

STEM 6-8

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6,7,8

The STEM 6-8 elective class offers an engaging way for students to learn how to combine problem solving skills and project based learning across the disciplines of science, math, engineering, and writing. Inquiry, collaboration and

problem solving sit at the heart of all STEM investigations. STEM reinforces relevant math and science standards by giving students a platform to apply what they know to an inquiry, exploration, or a problem. STEM 6-8 promotes innovation, data analysis and exploration that develop students' Critical thinking, Communication,

STEM 6-8: SPANISH

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6,7,8

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Electives (select two electives and three alternates)

ART I

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

Have you ever wanted to improve your art skills, use your imagination, or express yourself creatively through art? The art classes at Crittenden will offer a variety of experiences with creating different types of 2-D and 3-D Art. Students will learn about different art movements throughout history and learn how to create many types of art. Some types of projects that will be made this year are paper-mâché sculptures, collage, brush paintings, watercolor paintings, self-portraits, 3-D sculpture, paper making, pottery/ceramics, drawing superheroes, duct tape art, and much more. Everyone will improve their art skills while enjoying the company of new friends. This course can be repeated since different projects and skills will be taught in rotation.

BAND - BEGINNING BAND

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

Do you want to learn to play a band instrument OR re-learn the instrument you are already playing? Join our band program! Students will learn basic techniques on a band instrument of their choice and perform in the group in our new auditorium. School-lent instruments are available to all students. Attendance at all evening performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to every concert. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. *No audition necessary!*

BAND - INTERMEDIATE

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

By audition only - contact Mrs. Rzepiela for details.

This band is open to students who have played a band instrument for more than one year **and** upon the approval of the elementary or middle school band director. Careful consideration will be taken if the incoming middle school student will be participating in the upcoming CSMA Summer Honors Program for Band. Student must be able to confidently perform the Concert B-flat Major Scale. This course continues to build on playing techniques previously learned in beginning band. Participants will study a variety of repertoire with an emphasis on theory and ensemble performance. They will perform at the Fall Demonstration, Winter Concert, and Spring Concert. There is a required concert uniform that students may purchase or borrow through the music department. Attendance at all performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to every concert. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. Students should consider renting their own instrument as Crittenden has a limited number of school rentals available. For rental advice, please contact Mrs. Rzepiela. *Please contact Mrs. Rzepiela to set-up an audition time. (650) 903-6945 Ext. 2371 or lrzepiela@mvwsd.org*

BAND - ADVANCED

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

By teacher recommendation and audition only - contact Mrs. Rzepiela for details.

This band is open to all 7th and 8th grade band students by audition only **and** upon the approval of the band director. This course continues building on playing techniques previously learned in Intermediate Band. Participants will study a variety of repertoire

with an emphasis on ensemble performance. They will perform at the Fall Demonstration, Winter Concert, and Spring Concert as well as a three day trip to Los Angeles. There is a required concert uniform that students may purchase or borrow through the music department. Attendance at all performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to local concerts. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. Students should consider renting their own instrument if possible, as there is a very limited supply at Crittenden. *Please contact Mrs. Rzepiela to set-up an audition time. (650) 903-6945 Ext. 2371 or lrzepiela@mvwsd.org*

ACOUSTIC GUITAR - BEGINNING

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

This course is open to students who desire to learn how to read music notation and play acoustic guitar. This class requires daily practice at home. *Some* instruments are available to students through the school rental program, but it is highly recommended that students provide their own acoustic guitar. *If you are considering purchasing a guitar for the class, please contact Mrs. Miyata for a reputable list of guitar make/model to purchase from.* ELECTRIC GUITARS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO BE USED FOR THIS COURSE. This course will focus on music theory, instrumental techniques and exploration of several musical styles. This ensemble will have one **mandatory** evening concert performance in the Spring Trimester. Attendance of the performance is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to the concert. Date of the performance will be posted at the beginning of the school year.

GUITAR ENSEMBLE (Guitar II):

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

By teacher recommendation and audition only - contact Mrs. Miyata for details

Students must have completed Guitar 1 **and** have the approval of the middle school guitar teacher by audition. Students who have taken private lessons may audition for placement. Audition materials are available from the guitar teacher. This course continues to build on performance techniques previously learned in Guitar I. The ensemble studies a variety of repertoire with an emphasis on music theory and ensemble performance. Students perform at the Luau Fundraiser, Winter Concert, Spring Concert and the three day trip to Los Angeles. Attendance at all performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to local concerts. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. *Please contact Mrs. Miyata to set-up an audition time. (650) 903-6945 Ext. 2373 amiyata@mvwsd.org*

MUSICAL THEATER

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

If you love to sing, act or dance, this is the class for you! No audition necessary this year. This group will focus on basic acting and singing techniques plus incorporate some basic dance choreography into songs. Students will study and perform pantomimes, write and perform simple monologues, learn stage directions, how to prepare for an audition and sing and dance in choral pieces. The class will also perform two mini-musical plays per year. All students will be required to participate in our big annual after school musical as either a performing cast member OR a backstage crew member (backstage includes moving sets, operating the spotlights, managing props and doing makeup or hair. These students do not need to attend rehearsals until the final week of the show). 7th and 8th graders will be invited to participate in the three day music trip to Los Angeles in February. Attendance at the two mini-play performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to local performances. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. ***Students who are not enrolled in this class will still be invited to audition and participate in the annual musical after school.***

ORCHESTRA - BEGINNING (Orchestra I)

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

This course is open to any student who desires to learn a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, string bass) or needs to review playing technique on a previously learned string instrument. The class requires daily practice at home. This string class teaches students beginning instrumental technique, basic music theory and ensemble playing skills. Some instruments are available to students through the school rental program. This ensemble performs at the Fall Concert, Winter Concert, and Spring Concert. There is a required concert uniform that students may purchase through the music department. Attendance at all performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to every concert. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. Students should consider renting their own instrument as Crittenden has a limited number of school rentals available. Contact Ms. Miyata for rental advice if needed.

ORCHESTRA - INTERMEDIATE (Orchestra II)

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

By teacher recommendation and audition only - contact Mrs. Miyata for details

This course is open to students who have played a string instrument for more than one year **and** upon approval of the elementary or middle school string director by audition. Careful consideration will be taken if the incoming middle school student will be participating in the upcoming CSMA Summer Honors Program for Strings. Student must be able to confidently perform D Major scale with proper technique. This course continues to build on performance techniques previously learned in Beginning Orchestra. The ensemble studies a variety of repertoire with an emphasis on music theory and ensemble performance. Students will perform at the Fall Concert, Winter Concert, and Spring Concert as well as various school and community events. There is a required concert uniform that students may purchase or borrow through the music department. Attendance at all performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to every concert. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. *Please contact Mrs. Miyata to set-up an audition time. (650) 903-6945 Ext. 2373 amiyata@mvwsd.org*

ORCHESTRA - ADVANCED (Orchestra III)

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

By teacher recommendation and audition only - contact Mrs. Miyata for details

This course is open to students who have played a string instrument for more than two years **and** upon approval of the elementary or middle school string director by audition. Careful consideration will be taken if the incoming student will be participating in the upcoming CSMA Summer Honors Program for Strings *and/or* is currently taking private lessons. This course continues to build on performance techniques previously learned in Intermediate Orchestra. The ensemble studies a challenging repertoire of music with an emphasis on music theory and ensemble performance. Students will perform at the Fall Demonstration, Winter Concert, and Spring Concert and a three day trip to Los Angeles. There is a required concert uniform that students may purchase or borrow through the music department. Attendance at all performances is **mandatory** and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to every concert. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year. Students should consider renting their own instrument as Crittenden has a limited number of school rentals available. If you need advice on renting an instrument, please contact Ms. Miyata. *Please contact Mrs. Miyata to set-up an audition time. (650) 903-6945 Ext. 2373 or amiyata@mvwsd.org*

PANTHER CHORUS

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6,7,8

This chorus is for students who would enjoy singing and performing in a vocal group. The class will study a variety of choral music with a focus on music theory, sight-singing and group performance. Please note: This ensemble performs between four and six evening concerts per year and there is a performance outfit, which can be purchased or borrowed (at no cost) through the music department. Performances include the Fall Demonstration, Winter Concert, The California Music Educators Festival, and a Spring Concert. Attendance at all performances is mandatory and graded. All students are responsible for finding their own transportation to every concert. Dates of performances will be posted at the beginning of the school year.

COMPUTER CODING

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

Students will learn to design, build, and present computer programs; analyze and debug algorithms; collaborate using product design cycles; compare ways of representing data; code using variables, conditionals, loops, and events; understand object-oriented abstraction; and discuss the social impacts of computing.

COMPUTER MEDIA ARTS

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

This class will incorporate theory and practice in the use of still and video photography. Students will learn project planning, video style, planning scenes and shots, camera use, effective lighting and audio, cut-aways and cut-ins, camera movement, use of still images, editing techniques, and presentation of a final product. Students may also incorporate their own talents in graphic design.

ROBOTICS & ENGINEERING

Eligible Grade Level(s): 6, 7, 8

Students will be engaged in innovative, hands-on projects, using lego robotics education and structural engineering and will work in teams to plan, design, and build a robot which interacts with its environment. Students will program the robot to use sensors to solve a problem or complete a mission. Structural engineering projects will focus on designing, building and testing wood towers, bridges, and trebuchets.

COLLEGE BOUND (FORMERLY AVID)

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

Application required. Applications are available in the office.

This course is based on an internationally recognized program (AVID) designed to prepare students for success in high school, colleges, and universities. Specifically, College Bound supports middle school students to enable them to enroll in college preparatory classes and the AVID elective in high school. The class is a mix of skills to prepare student for academic success as well as projects.

STUDY SKILLS

Eligible Grade Level(s): 7, 8

This course will help students complete work and prepare for classes by learning time management, prioritization, organization, goal-setting and many more habits and skills necessary for success in middle school and beyond. Students who want to take this course should be committed to working hard and continually improving as a student.

Crittenden Middle School

Catálogo de Clases Electivas de 7o y 8o Grado 2019-2020

Todas las clases electivas son sujetas a la inscripción, demanda, y fondos

Optativas de enriquecimiento académico (selecciona dos)

HISTORIA DEL ARTE

Grado(s) académico(s) idóneo(s) 6,7,8

La historia del arte brindará un estudio a fondo de la historia del arte y de conceptos básicos del arte. Los alumnos examinarán una variedad de aspectos de la historia del arte, incluyendo temas y propósitos del arte; estilos de arte; los elementos del arte; principios de diseño; medios en dos dimensiones; historia del arte occidental y no occidental. Los alumnos también tendrán un conocimiento práctico de los medios. Los alumnos crearán proyectos inspirados por periodos históricos, desde la prehistoria hasta el posmodernismo.

PROGRAMACIÓN A TRAVÉS DE LAS MATEMÁTICAS

Grado(s) académico(s) idóneo(s) 6,7,8

La programación a través de las matemáticas es un curso optativo introductorio diseñado para introducir la programación junto al contenido de las matemáticas e ilustrar cómo la programación y las matemáticas pueden apoyarse una a la otra y los numerosos beneficios que cada uno pueden brindarse entre sí. El curso está diseñado de forma que los alumnos pueden programar atractivos programas centrados en las matemáticas sin conocimiento previo alguno de programación, aprender lo básico de la programación mientras progresan en el curso.

INGLES EXPLORATORIO

Niveles y Grados Elegibles:: 7, 8

En este curso, explicaremos y jugaremos con los aspectos creativos y críticos de las artes del lenguaje. Las unidades de exploración incluyen: discursos, simulacros de juicio (!debates, académicos!), Una unidad de documentales, producción del periódico Crittenden Chronicle, y el proyecto Genius Hour donde los estudiantes pasan todos los viernes explorando y persiguiendo un proyecto a largo plazo que es elegido por ellos y enciende su pasión culminando con una exposición final del proyecto en mayo.

BIOLOGÍA MARINA

Grado(s) académico(s) idóneo(s) 7, 8

Este curso de biología marina es una introducción a los conceptos e ideas claves de la ciencia marina. Su objetivo es exponer a los alumnos a los organismos y ecosistemas marinos, además de la ecología/relaciones entre ellos. Los alumnos desarrollan habilidades críticas y creativas de resolución que los prepararán para los futuros cursos de ciencia marina. Los temas crearán