

Hoover Middle School
ELECTIVES COURSE CATALOG
 2015-2016

YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES	WHEEL ELECTIVES
Beginning Art** Intermediate Art** Advanced Art** Beginning Band Intermediate Band Advanced Band Jazz Band Mariachi Beginning Choir Intermediate Choir Advanced Choir (Women's and Men's Chorus) Beginning Dance Intermediate Dance Advanced Dance (Dance Evolution) 6 th Grade Drama 7 th /8 th Grade Drama Advanced Drama, 7 th , 8 th only Stage Tech, 7 th , 8 th only Beginning Orchestra Intermediate Orchestra Advanced Orchestra Leadership** Beginning Spanish 1/2 HE** Native-Speakers Spanish 1/2 HE** Video Production** Multimedia Art** Beginning Graphic Design** Digital Photography** Advanced Computer Design** Classes marked with a double asterisk (**) are <u>only</u> open to 8 th grade students. Unmarked classes are open to all grades unless otherwise noted in the descriptions below.	<p>*For 6th Grade students only <u>Performing Arts Conservatory Wheel:</u> First semester is 4 weeks of each course; then students select one of these four courses to concentrate on during second semester.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choir • Dance • Drama • Orchestra <p>*For 7th Grade students only <u>21st Century Skills Wheel:</u> 9 week in each course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Art • Introduction to Computers • Leadership/Global Citizenship • Video Production

As an Academic, Visual, Performing, and Technical Arts School, Hoover's ultimate goal is that all students, during their three years at Hoover, experience classes in dance, drama, instrumental and vocal music, visual arts, computer technology, and foreign language. Our diverse elective offerings permit students to learn, explore, and develop special interests, skills, and talents. **Parents and students are advised to review their elective choices carefully. Elective classes are developed on the basis of request, and there may be no class change once the programming and scheduling process has been completed.**

YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES

Beginning Art, 8th Grade - This course covers a broad introduction to fine arts and crafts including art history, explorations of artists, current careers in art, hands-on art projects, and participation in student-produced art exhibits. This course focuses on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design in alignment with the California Visual Arts Standards. Students will participate in an array of art mediums including drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, and more! Students will take home all artwork at the end of the year. **Prerequisite: None**

Intermediate Art, 8th Grade – This course covers a broad introduction to fine arts and crafts including art history, explorations of artists and current careers in art, hands-on art projects, and participation in student-produced art exhibits. This course focuses on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design in alignment with the California Visual Arts Standards. Students will participate in an array of art mediums including drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture and more! Students will take home all artwork at the end of the year. **Prerequisite: Successful Art experience**

Advanced Art, 8th Grade - In this course, students receive an in-depth study of the arts with hands-on art projects, art history, current careers in art, and participation in student-produced art exhibits. Course content includes a variety of experiences and opportunities for self-expression in mediums such as graphite/drawing, acrylic and watercolor/painting, print making, ceramics, and recycled art. Students will be prepared with a solid foundation in the visual arts and will get to take home artwork at the end of the year. This course covers the 8th grade California Visual Art Standards. **Prerequisite: Successful Art experience**

Beginning Band - This course is designed for students who have little or no previous instrumental training. Students will learn to play an instrument and develop skills in rhythm, reading music, performing, and fine motor skills associated with playing an instrument in a variety of musical styles. Students can choose to play a woodwind (flute, clarinet, or saxophone), brass (trumpet, trombone, or tuba), or percussion instrument. **Evening performances are required. This class is open to all grade levels. Prerequisite: none for 6th and 7th grade students. 8th graders must get instructor approval.**

Concert Band (Intermediate) - This course is designed for students who have had at least one year of instrumental training in elementary or middle school. The primary goal is to develop individual instrumental skills and techniques through large ensemble performance. Students will explore various musical styles, receiving instruction in performing with expression and technical accuracy. Students will perform as a group both on campus and in the community. **Evening and other outside performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition required.**

Symphonic Band (Advanced) - Advanced band is composed of students who have demonstrated skill and proficiency with an instrument. Students will explore various music fundamentals such as large and small ensemble skills, advanced techniques, intonation, and expression while playing music of many styles. Students will perform band literature, as well as classical, popular, rock, and jazz music on campus and in the community. **Evening and other outside performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition required.**

Jazz Band - Jazz band is an advanced instrumental music class for students who are proficient with playing saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass, piano, or drum-set. Any other instrument must get instructor approval. Students will explore jazz music fundamentals focusing on rhythm, style, and improvisation for performances on campus and in the community. **(Students must be concurrently enrolled in an intermediate or advanced music course, or have teacher approval.) Evening and other outside performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition required.**

Mariachi - Mariachi is an instrumental and vocal music performance course taught through the use of traditional and popular Mariachi music. All students are required to sing and play an instrument, even if they do not speak Spanish. Students will play violin, trumpet, guitar, or guitarrón depending on availability of each instrument. In addition to performance, the historical and cultural origins and traditions of Mariachi will be covered. One prior year of music class is preferred. **Evening and other outside performances are required. Prerequisite: Instructor approval or teacher recommendation.**

Beginning Choir- This course is designed for students with no prior choral experience. Students will learn and increase their musical knowledge of music theory and healthy vocal technique through the performance of a wide variety of choral music from the last 600 years. Emphasis is placed on healthy vocal production, pitch matching, breath support, posture, vocal warm-ups, tone production, intonation, sight singing, and musicality. Students will sing in unison and 2-part harmony. This class prepares students for Intermediate Choir; however, this class may be repeated. **Evening performances are required. Prerequisite: None**

Intermediate Choir – This course is designed for students with some prior choral experience. Students will learn and increase their musical knowledge of music theory and healthy vocal technique through the performance of a wide variety of choral music from the last 600 years. Emphasis is placed on healthy vocal production, pitch matching, breath support, posture, vocal warm-ups, tone production, intonation, sight singing, and musicality. Students will sing in unison and 2-part as well as 3-part harmony. This class prepares students for Advanced Choir; however, this class may be repeated. **Evening performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition**

Advanced Choir - This course is designed for students with successful previous choir ensemble experience. This class is taught separately as **Women's Chorus** and **Men's Chorus**. Students study advanced middle school choral literature singing 2-, 3-, and 4-part harmony from the last 600 years ranging from the Baroque to Modern periods. Healthy vocal technique, tone production, music theory, intonation, sight singing, and advanced musicality techniques are emphasized. After-school rehearsals, day and evening performances, and the CMEA Choral Festival are mandatory performance requirements for this class. An annual Spring performance tour to Disneyland is also standard for this group. **Evening and day performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition**

Beginning Dance - This course is for those who have had little or no formal dance training. While the class is based on jazz techniques, students will also study hip-hop, ballet, modern, tap, and folk dance. The goals of this course include increased muscle control and body awareness, body alignment and placement, learning specific dance techniques and terminologies, working in small groups, and creating student choreography. **Students are required to perform in two dance concerts. Prerequisite: None**

Intermediate Dance - This course builds on the skills learned in beginning dance and follows a similar format. Because more advanced skills are introduced, a higher level of discipline and ability is required. **Students are required to perform in two dance concerts.**
Prerequisite: Beginning Dance, Audition, or Teacher Approval

Dance Evolution - This is a course for advanced dancers who have a higher level of technique and performance skills. The team learns technique and choreography for performances and competitions. Past performances have taken place at Disneyland, Great America, recruitment tours, and guest appearances at other schools as well as school rallies and assemblies. **Dancers perform at two annual dance concerts and compete at three regional competitions. There are after-school and financial commitments.**
Prerequisite: Audition

6th Grade Drama – This course focuses on appreciation, technique, and enjoyment of theatre. In this course, we will be working on self-confidence on stage as well as learning how to improvise, producing readers' theater productions and scenes as well as one-act plays, creating a character, and presenting skits. Instruction will be given in voice and diction, stage movement, relating to other actors on stage, stage terminology, and theatre history. The course culminates with monologues and scenes in the second semester. **This course is open to 6th grade students only. Prerequisite: None**

7th/8th Grade Drama – This course continues to focus on technique in theatre. Students will continue to advance and work on monologues, scenes, one-act plays, creating a character, writing monologues and dialogues, costuming, make-up, and improvisation. Students will create their own scenes as well as perform in a scripted performance during the spring semester. **Before and after school rehearsals and evening / weekend performances may be required. Open to 7th and 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: While successful completion of 6th grade Drama is preferred, students may be admitted with teacher approval. See Mrs. Jordan for information in room 74.**

Advanced Drama - This course focuses on advanced technique in theater. In addition to participating in two stage productions, students will work on monologues, scenes, one-act plays, creating a character, writing monologues and dialogues, costuming, and make-up. We will continue work on advanced improvisation, pantomime, and play study as well as learn theatre history. **After school rehearsals and evening / weekend performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition by appointment. While successful completion of 6th grade and/or 7th/8th grade Drama is preferred, students may be admitted with teacher approval. See Mrs. Jordan for information in room 74. Open to 7th and 8th grade students only.**

Stage Tech - This course is a companion to all phases of the study of drama. The first semester covers the "behind the scenes" aspects of theatrical performance as well as work on the Fall Drama production. Students will be introduced to a variety of activities relating to the technical aspects of a theatrical performance. Skills include set design and construction, acoustics, special effects, sound and lighting design, costume and make-up design, prop construction and theatre management with an emphasis on procedures and techniques in all these areas. Students act as technical advisors to all major school productions and drama presentations. This course provides students the opportunity to develop the skills in theater management and production to enable them to qualify as technicians for the school theater. **After school rehearsals and evening/weekend performances are required. Prerequisite: None. Open to 7th and 8th grade students only.**

Beginning Orchestra - This is an entry-level orchestra course, primarily for 6th and 7th graders. Students will have the chance to learn how to play the violin, viola, cello, or bass. **All instruments are provided by Hoover Middle School. Two (2) evening concerts are required (December & May). Prerequisite: None**

Intermediate Orchestra – This course is for students who have played an orchestra instrument for at least one year and that can proficiently read music. In this course, students will further develop their musicianship, sharpen their technical skills, and start working on extended techniques of vibrato and shifting. Students will also become familiar with the standard and not-so-standard string repertory. Some music theory and music history is covered. **All instruments are provided by Hoover Middle School. Three or more evening performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition**

Advanced Orchestra – This course is an upper-level orchestra course in which students continue working on extended techniques of shifting and vibrato, refining intonation, and furthering knowledge of music theory and history. We play a wide variety of music in this course, from Baroque to Rock. **All instruments are provided by Hoover Middle School. Four or more evening performances are required. Prerequisite: Audition**

Leadership - Students who participate in Hoover's Leadership class work in cooperative groups to accomplish a variety of rotating tasks including, but not limited to: running the student store, planning and promoting school events, conducting lunch-time activities, creating print, audio, and video communications, researching and presenting on a "Leader of the Week" and supporting community service activities (food drive, etc.). As part of the class, students participate in lessons on leadership principles, sensitivities, and interpersonal skills to develop the competencies that make a good leader. Students that participate in Leadership can have a lasting impact on their school and develop the skills to accomplish great things as an adult. While most Leadership activities take place within the school day, evening and afterschool commitments will include dances, PTSA meetings, and other school events. This class requires an application process at the end of the 7th grade school year. **This course is for 8th grade students only. After school and evenings are required. Prerequisite: Application**

Beginning Spanish 1-2 HE, Non-Native Speakers (High School Equivalency Course) – This is an elective course that provides 1st year high school Spanish equivalency to middle school students. The course offers beginning Spanish language learners with a basic understanding of the language by focusing instruction on pronunciation, grammar, verb conjugation, and sentence structure. Students participating in this course will develop a greater appreciation for the diverse cultural values and origins of the Spanish language. Students must pass the course with a minimum semester grade of C and pass the Exit Exam to receive 10 High School credits. **This course is open to 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: None**

Native-Speakers Spanish 1-2 HE (High School Equivalency Course) – This is an elective course that provides 1st year high school Spanish equivalency to middle school students who have Spanish fluency. The course is designed to promote enhanced Spanish literacy in grammar, verb conjugation, reading, writing, and speaking. Students must pass the course with a minimum semester grade of C and pass the Exit Exam to receive 10 High School credits. **This course is open to 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: Native Speakers and/or basic conversational and writing proficiency in Spanish acquired through other formal instruction or at home.**

Video Production - Focusing on teaching advanced skills in digital photography and video recording, editing, and manipulation, students will use iMovie, Garageband, Keynote, Photoshop, and other software to create digital video presentations such as animations, interviews, public service announcements, music videos, stop-motion, and read-aloud books. Students will view and evaluate different styles of movies and other digital presentations as well as learn about jobs available in the video industry. All student work will be burned to a portfolio DVD at the end of the school year. **This course is open to 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: None**

Multimedia Art – This year-long computer course enables students to learn skills from several different software programs to create expressive multimedia projects. Students will make their own creative projects utilizing Adobe Creative Suite software including Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator; and Apple's iWorks Suite: Keynote and Garageband. Projects will include digital photo enhancement, illustration, slide presentations, music editing, and projects utilizing visual and audio presentations. Students will use the most advanced computer lab with Apple iMac desktop computers. **This class is open to 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: None**

Beginning Graphic Design (Introduction to Computer Graphics) – This year-long course explores the historic and cultural context of graphic design in society and its current impact on media today as well as the practical application of graphic design software used in industry. Students will use Adobe PhotoShop and Adobe Illustrator software to develop skills that will enable them to create their own graphic art projects. The course will include: social responsibility in media, copyright rules and infringement, digital photo enhancement, computer illustration, logo design, typography, art and design in history and current media, practical applications of file preparation, layout, scanning images, and saving files for archiving. **This course is open to 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: None**

Digital Photography and Photo Illustration – This course will teach students to use digital cameras and computer software to create student-produced digital artwork. Students will learn skills in composition, lighting, camera angles, and other photographic techniques using a digital camera. They will also learn to download their photos to Apple iMac computers as well as learn to edit, enhance, and manipulate their images using Adobe Photoshop software. Projects will include creating posters, illustrations for book covers, flyers, and personal artwork. Class activities will include indoor and outdoor photography. **This class is open to 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: None**

Advanced Computer Design – This is a year-long class, offered to 8th graders who have previously taken either Graphic Design or Multimedia. The course will include advanced projects for students who have learned to use Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop in the beginner courses. Students will create posters, illustrations, and other graphic pieces using a greater depth of skill, and complexity. Digital photography will be offered as part of this course to expand student creative learning. **This class is open to 8th grade students only. Prerequisite: Previous Graphics or Multimedia class experience**

6th Grade PERFORMING ARTS CONSERVATORY

The Performing Arts Conservatory consists of four (4) performing arts courses designed to introduce students to these electives. The diverse elective offerings permit students to learn, explore, and develop special interests, skills, and talents. **First semester, students will be in each course for four weeks. At the end of the first semester, students will be placed in one of the four courses to focus on for the remainder of the school year. There are no prerequisites for any of the Conservatory courses.**

***Students will automatically be enrolled in this elective if another elective is not marked on the course selection form or if the course selection form is not turned in.**

Conservatory Courses:

Conservatory Choir – This course is designed for students with little or no prior choir experience. Students learn to develop their singing voice and basic choral ensemble skills and techniques. Healthy vocal production, breath support, posture, and tone production as well as intonation, warm-ups, pitch matching, and singing unison and 2-part harmony are emphasized. Listening skills and basic music reading skills are introduced. **Evening performances may be required.**

Conservatory Dance - This course is for students who have had little or no formal dance training. While the class is based on jazz techniques, students will also study hip-hop, ballet, modern, tap, and folk dance. The goals of this course include increased muscle control and body awareness, body alignment and placement, learning specific dance techniques and terminologies, working in small groups, and creating student choreography.

Conservatory Drama– This course gives the student an appreciation for, and enjoyment of, theatre. Students are introduced to theatre techniques such as improvisation, focus, oral communication, creative problem solving, cooperative and independent work, adaptability and flexibility, concentration, and self-confidence. Instruction is given in voice and diction, stage movement, relating to other actors on stage, and stage terminology. Students have a chance to produce theatre using puppet shows, skits, and reader's theatre presentations.

Conservatory Orchestra – This course is an entry-level orchestra class at Hoover. Students will have the chance to learn how to play the violin, viola, cello, or bass. No experience necessary! **All instruments are provided by Hoover Middle School.**

7th Grade 21st CENTURY SKILLS WHEEL

The 21st Century Skills Wheel is a year-long course consisting of four (4) 9-week courses designed to introduce students to these electives. The diverse elective offerings permit students to learn, explore, and develop special interests, skills, and talents. **There are no prerequisites for any of the 21st Century Skills Wheel courses.**

***Students will automatically be enrolled in this elective if another elective is not marked on the course selection form or if the course selection form is not turned in.**

Introduction to Art – This course covers a broad introduction to fine arts and crafts including art history, explorations of artists and current careers in art, hands on art projects, and participation in student produced art exhibits. This course focuses on the Elements of Art and Principles of Design in alignment with the 7th Grade California Visual Arts Standards. Students will participate in an array of art mediums, including drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, and more! Students will take home all artwork at the end of the year.

Introduction to Computers – Students will use the Apple Mac platform operating system on iMac computers in a computer lab setting. In this class, students will be using Apple's iWorks suite of software. Students will learn to format and compose using word-processing software, create slide presentations, and learn to prepare spreadsheets, using Apple's Pages, Keynote, and Numbers software. Students will also have keyboarding practice to learn to type. Students will learn to navigate and use the internet for information, data, and image gathering, as well as understand proprietary and copyright rules. Students will also learn basic computer terminology, file management and storage, computer concepts and working with peripheral devices.

Leadership/Global Citizenship – Students who participate in Hoover's Leadership wheel class learn the 21st Century skills of being a Global Citizen. The focus of the students will be to participate in lessons on leadership principles, sensitivities, and interpersonal skills to develop the competencies that make a good leader and excellent Hoover community member. Additionally, students will work in cooperative groups to accomplish a variety of rotating tasks including, but not limited to: planning and promoting school events, creating print, audio, and video communications, and supporting Hoover's 8th grade leadership class with our community service activities (food drive, lunch and after school activities, etc.). Students that participate in this class can have a lasting impact on their school and develop the skills to accomplish great things as an adult.

Video Production - Focusing on teaching beginning skills in digital photography and video recording, editing, and manipulation, students will use iMovie, Garageband, Keynote, Photoshop, and other software to create digital video presentations such as animations, interviews, public service announcements, music videos, stop-motion, and read-aloud books. Students will view and evaluate different styles of movies and other digital presentations as well as learn about jobs available in the video industry.