SKYVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL

2019-2020 ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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REVISED FEB 2019

Title: **Concert Band**

Course Code: ***UU420 7-8 BAND, CONCERT***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Year**

Concert Band is an intermediate level group intended to bridge the gap between elementary and more intense secondary band. Instruction will solidify basic skills and prime those necessary for more advanced playing. This group will perform once per quarter, with the possibility of also performing at Mass Band Festival in the spring. Students new to band will be admitted upon approval by instructor.

Title: **Symphonic Band**

Course Code: ***UU425 BAND, SYMPH***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th by Audition

Prerequisite: **STUDENT MUST BE APPROVED BY SKYVIEW BAND INSTRUCTOR**

Length: **One Year**

Symphonic Band is an advanced level middle school group that focuses on furthering instrumental technique and ensemble function. Instruction will develop readiness for high school instrumental programs and follows a one-year continuum. This group will perform at school concerts each quarter, at Mass Band Festival in the spring, and at other engagements. All 7th grade students are enrolled in Concert Band. Students who wish to audition for Symphonic Band must contact their current music teacher or Skyview band director to receive audition instructions and materials. All auditions must be completed by the end of the current school year.

Title: **Drum Line**

Course Code: ***UU460 DRUM LINE***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Semester**

Drum Line is designed for those who have minimal experience in musical groups, but is also open to more advanced musicians. Students will learn to read rhythms and beginning-level pitches while combining in a performing ensemble of snare drums, tonal bass drums, quad-toms, and cymbals. This is a performing group and will showcase their learning at our regular SMS concerts.

Title: **Concert Choir**

Course Code: ***UU450 CHOIR, CONCERT (ONE YEAR) or UU445 CHOIR, MIXED (SECOND SEMESTER)***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Year**

Concert Choir is a co-ed group of new singers as well as more developed voices. ALL VOICES are welcome! Instruction focuses on vocal technique and ensemble tone, blend, and balance. This is a true-to-form vocal experience, intended for those who are willing to make a commitment to long-term participation. This group will perform at school concerts each quarter, at Mass Choir Festival in the spring, and at other engagements.

Title: **Piano Keyboard**

Course Code: ***UU435 PIANO***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required - Designed for students who are not in Band or Choir.

Length: **One Semester**

This course includes beginning, intermediate and advanced instruction in piano/keyboard technique and music reading, history and theory.

Title: **Guitar 1**

Course Code: ***UU465 MS GUITAR***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required - Designed for students who are not in Band or Choir – Must provide own Guitar.

Length: **One Semester**

This course is open to all students interested in playing the guitar. Individuals as well as groups will work on learning all strings of the guitar, music fundamentals, reading notes and chords.

Title: **Art Intro**

Course Code: ***AA415 ART INTRO***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

This is the first art class that every middle school student will take. This class will explore drawing with a variety of media, color theory and painting, art history and culture. Students will also get an opportunity to work 3-dimensionaly with a papier-mâché mask.

Title: **2D Art Design 1**

Course Code: ***AA460 2D ART DESIGN I***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: Art Intro

Length: **One Quarter**

This class expands upon drawing and painting skills. Students will work with photorealism and abstract drawing styles as well as learn to work with watercolors and pen and ink.

Title: **2D Art Design 2**

Course Code: ***AA462 2D ART II (Quarter) or AA750 ART HISTORY (Semester)***

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Prerequisite: Art Intro and 2D Art Design 1

Length: **One Quarter or One Semester**

This class expands upon drawing and painting skills as well as introduces a variety of mixed media techniques and printmaking.

Title: **Ceramics 1**

Course Code: ***AA430 CERAMICS***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: Art Intro

Length: **One Quarter**

This is a hand building, functional clay class. Students will work with ceramic clay and build a variety of functional items such as a bowl, vase, box and mug. Each item will be built with different construction techniques as well as glazed with different techniques.

Title: **Ceramics 2**

Course Code: ***AA465 CERAMICS 2 (Quarter) or AA720 CERAMICS (Semester)***

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Prerequisite: Art Intro and Ceramics 1

Length: **One Quarter or One Semester**

This is a hand building, functional clay class. Students will work with ceramic clay and build a variety of functional items of the students own design. Students will use construction techniques covered in Ceramics 1 and design their own projects. There will be workshops on lidded containers and spouts. Techniques will be mixed and revisited in a new and innovative way.

Title: **Sculpture**

Course Code: ***AA440 SCULPTURE (Quarter) or AA730 SCULPTURE (Semester)***

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Prerequisite: Art Intro

Length: **One Quarter or One Semester**

This is a 3-dimensional building class. Students will work with paper, clay, wire, plaster and papier-mâché. Students will work with abstract, stylized, and imaginative/fantasy styles of additive sculpture.

Title: **Yearbook Photo and Design**

Course Code: ***AA455 YEARBOOK***

Grade Level Offered: **8th QUEST STUDENTS ONLY**

Prerequisite: **STUDENTS MUST BE RECOMMENDED BY CURRENT SKYVIEW QUEST TEACHER**

Length: **One Year**

This course will be a fusion of Digital Photography and Graphic design culminating in the Yearbook production and the creation of a personal digital portfolio. Students will learn how to take digital photos and how to use the computer as a design tool. The course will require excellent attendance, comfort with computers and technology, access to a home computer with internet, willingness to accept constructive feedback, ability to revisit work as well as the ability to make outside of classroom and school day commitments with a motivation to meet deadlines. **Students will play the key role in the production of the Skyview Middle School Yearbook.**

Title: **Woods 1**

Course Code: ***II420 WOODS 1***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

This course is designed to introduce basic skills and knowledge of woodworking. Students will become familiar with working drawings, materials, measurement, safe and proper hand and power tool usage, project construction and finishing. Students can expect to build 2-3 projects depending on time and the flow of the class. Projects may include a shaker peg shelf, scroll saw cutout, and a small laminated cutting board.

Title: **Woods 2**

Course Code: ***II425 WOODS 2 (Quarter) or II710 WOODWORKING 2 (Semester)***

Prerequisite: Woods 1

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Length: **One Quarter or One Semester**

This course is designed to reinforce and build upon skills and knowledge learned in Woods 1. Students will continue to familiarize themselves with working drawings, materials, measurement, safe and proper hand and power tool usage, project construction and finishing. More advanced projects will be constructed which may include a quilt rack, book shelf, and independent projects with instructor approval.

Title: **Metals 1**

Course Code: ***II765 METALS 1***

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

This course is designed to introduce basic skills and knowledge of hot and cold metal working processes. Students will become familiar with working drawings, measurement, materials, safety, hand and power tool usage, bending, cutting, and welding processes such as Oxy, Arc, and Mig.

Title: **Metals 2**

Course Code: ***II770 METALS 2***

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Prerequisite: Metals 1

Length: **One Quarter**

This course is designed to reinforce and build upon skills and knowledge learned in Metals 1. Students will continue to familiarize themselves with the welding process and be introduced to metal fabrication and CAD CAM with a CNC plasma cutter.

Title: **Construction**

Course Code: ***II430 CONSTRUCTION***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

This course is designed to introduce basic skills and knowledge of residential construction (mainly framing). Students will become familiar with plans/blueprints, building materials, construction terminology, measurement, scale, safe and proper hand and power tool usage and project construction. Projects include a scale model garage or shed. Time permitting, a set of sawhorses may be constructed along with larger group projects such as dog houses.

Title: **Cad-Cam**

Course Code: ***II950 CAD CAM***

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Semester**

CAD/CAM will serve as an introduction to the concepts, terminology, and techniques used in CAD (computer aided drafting). AutoCAD 2019 is the primary software we will be using. AutoCAD is the industry leading drafting program because it is versatile and the user interface and commands learned in AutoCAD transfer very easily to other drafting programs such as Inventor, Solidworks, and Chief Architect etc. AutoCAD is available on designated computers in KPBSD schools and is available to students for free. Students will also apply their drafting skills by using CNC (computer numeric controlled) machines: CNC plasma cutter and a laser engraver

Title: **Design & Modeling**

Course Code: ***II450 DESIGN AND MODELING***

Grade Level Offered: **7th or 8th**

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: One Quarter

How do you design a house that will withstand an earthquake? This is the type of question that engineers try to answer by using the Design Process. How do you elevate a golf ball in the air that is 6 inches away from the ground and wall? This is the type of question that the Design and Modeling students will answer when using the Design Process. Students will create prototypes and use the computer software SketchUp® to create virtual 3D images of their designs that will illustrate their solutions to a variety of problems and challenges.

Title: **Robotics 1**

Course Code: ***BB430 ROBOTICS***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

In this course students will build, program and test Lego robots. Students will learn block coding using the Lego NXT or EV3 software. They'll program their robot so that it can perform various tasks using high quality motors and sensors. Students will need to have the ability to be a strong member of a team with good problem-solving and communication skills in order to complete the robot challenges.

Title: **Robotics 2**

Course Code: ***BB435 ROBOTICS II***

Grade Level Offered: **8th ONLY**

Prerequisite: Robotics 1

Length: One Quarter

Students will design and build robots utilizing engineering principals and the Design Process. Students will use RobotC to learn line coding to program their robots. The students will also use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as pull toys, spinning signs, drag racers and Rube Goldberg machines.

Title: **Digital Storytelling 1**

Course Code: ***BB425 DIGITAL STORY***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

Students will use editing software Sony Vegas Video Movie Studio to tell stories. Students will create videos featuring animated slide shows timed to music, fast and slow motion action sequence videos and scripted story videos. The primary goal of this class is to expose students to this digital media and software.

Title: **Student Leadership**

Course Code: ***XX510 STDNT LEADERSHIP***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Length: **One Quarter**

Students will have a chance to put their leadership skills into practice when they play challenging games that are designed to illustrate the core concepts of leadership. After the game and lesson we'll then discuss what happened to focus on the essential elements of group dynamics, goal setting, organization, communication, problem solving, and/or conflict resolution.

Title: **Business & Information Systems**

Course Code: ***BB410 BUS/INFO SYS***

REQUIRED FOR ALL 7TH GRADE and 8th grade who have not taken it

Length: **One Quarter**

This class is designed to help you become a better typist and more fluent in the use of the computer. In this class we spend approximately 20 minutes a day on keyboarding. The remaining time is spent learning Microsoft Word and Excel. There is no lab fee for this course.

Title: **Careers**

Course Code: ***XX535 CAREER PATHS***

REQUIRED FOR ALL 8TH GRADE

Length**: One Quarter**

The students will use the Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS) website to explore Work Values and Career opportunities. They will also be introduced to financial planning through the Financial Peace School Curriculum presented by Dave Ramsey.

Title: **Spanish 1**

Course Code: ***WL470 SPANISH 1***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

Spanish 1 focuses on introductory reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills with an emphasis on developing the ability to participate in simple dialogues. In addition to language skills, students will participate in cultural lessons including food, music, crafts, and exploring Hispanic heritage.

Title: **Exploring Social Studies**

Course Code: ***TT435 EXPLORING SOCIAL STUDIES***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

This elective is a nine week course divided into three units: Geography, History, Government & Citizenship. The goal of the course is to give students the opportunity to dive into topics that focus on our local area with an emphasis on developing the skills necessary to identify needs within our community and access resources for addressing those needs. This class will utilize a variety of local and digital resources, encourage student choice in research and exploration, and provide opportunities for both individual as well as group work.

Title: **Project Based Science 1**

Course Code: ***SS415 7 EXPL SCIENCE***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

Students will complete activities/projects from both Life Science and Physical Science topics with a partner or small group. Students will be introduced to the ideas of: Aerodynamics, Newton's Laws, Weather, Nutrients, Cycles of matter, Abiotic/Biotic factors, The Scientific Method and Beginning Level Engineering Design. Projects may include: Space Derby Construction, Weatherman Recording, Nutrient Cycle Computer Project, Balloon Race Activity, Building an Electromagnet and Hover Crafts.

Title: **Project Based Science 2**

Course Code: ***SS425 8 EXPL SCIENCE***

Grade Level Offered: **8th Only**

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

Students will expand on topics explored in Project Based Science 1. New ideas may include: Transformation of Energy, Alternative Energy/Fuels, The Scientific Method and Level 2 Engineering Design. Projects may include: Simple machines, Roller Coasters and K'Nex Building.

Title: **Rocketry**

Course Code: ***XX450 EXPLORATIONS***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

Students will learn principles of physical science through extensive hands on experimentation, primarily with straw rockets and solid fuel rockets. Launch data will be collected, graphed, and analyzed in order make modifications and predictions for future launches.

Title: **Hunter Safety**

Course Code: ***PP420 PROJ ADVNTR***

Grade Level Offered: 7th or 8th

Prerequisite: None Required

Length: **One Quarter**

Students will study various topics related to enjoying the outdoors. Topics will include: bear safety, knot tying and ADF&G Basic Hunter Education.

Title: **Advanced 7th Grade PE**

Course Code: ***PP415 8 PHYSICAL EDUCATION***

Grade Level Offered: **7TH Only**

Prerequisite: **STUDENT MUST BE RECOMMENDED/APPROVED BY CURRENT PE INSTRUCTOR**

Length**: One Year**

7th grade advanced physical education is a daily Cross fit class designed for 7th grade students who are experienced in multiple team sports (Boys and Girls club, Pop Warner, Cheer/Gymnastics, KPSC, Little League, etc.). Students interested in advanced PE must select this class on the "class registration" Power School screen by Spring Break. Do not contact current PE teacher for approval - Contact will be made by the Skyview Counselor. Not all students interested in this class will be selected. Students will be notified of placement at Fall Registration.