

Spring Canyon Middle School

6th Grade Elective Course Descriptions

Fine Arts (Students must choose 1.0 credit from Fine Arts)

***Intro to Fine Arts: Music -Full Year**

Intro to Fine Arts: Music Track is designed for students who want to explore both singing and playing an instrument with a group. Students will spend one semester in Choir where they will learn how to read music through sight singing and studying choral music from diverse cultures. We will also use music games, technology, and activities to master musical concepts. Students will spend the other semester exploring music with an instrumental emphasis. We will learn the fundamentals of playing an instrument, how to read and write music, and how to play an instrument with proper tone, intonation, rhythm, and technique. Students will learn and connect with music and instruments from all over the world and participate in discussions on why music is an important part of almost every community in the world. At the end of each semester, students will have a performance opportunity. If students would like to choose which instrument they would like to play, they should sign up for Orchestra 1 (Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass) or Band 1 (Flute, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Percussion). (1.0 Fine Arts Credit)

***Intro to Fine Arts: Visual Art -Full Year**

Intro to Fine Arts: Visual Arts is designed for students who want to explore the basics of Drama and Art. Students will spend one semester in Drama where they will begin to develop a confident voice through improv games. Members of the class will then become actors, improving their voices through performing several different types of theatrical shows. Students will spend the other semester studying the fundamentals of Art: line, shape, color, form, and texture. Art is a project based class, where students will use various mediums to express themselves while applying the fundamentals of art. (1.0 Fine Arts Credit)

***Orchestra I - Beginning orchestra for those with minimal or no playing experience - Full Year**

This course provides opportunities for students to develop musical skills through learning to play violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Students will love learning many different types of music while developing tone quality, playing in tune, rhythm, bowing and interpretation skills. The group will perform several times throughout the year in concerts, and regional string festivals. Violin and viola students will need to provide their own instruments. Quality instrument rentals or purchases are available through local music stores. Cello and string bass students may provide their own or rent instruments through the school. (1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

***Orchestra 2 - Second year orchestra for those with previous playing experience - Full Year**

This course is for students who have taken Orchestra I (or have previous strong playing experience). The course will expand musicianship skills on the violin, viola, cello and string bass through the second year of development. Violin and viola students will need to provide their own instruments. Quality instrument rentals or purchases are available through local music stores. Cello and string bass students may provide their own or rent instruments through the school. (1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

***Band 1 Woodwinds - Beginning Band for those with little or no playing experience - Full Year**

Come be part of a fun and friendly class and learn how to play an instrument at the same time! 6th and 7th graders can join Band 1. No past experience with music or instruments is needed to take this class. We will start at the very beginning and learn how to read music, play our instruments, and perform as a band. Band students will have many fun opportunities throughout the school year including performing at a high school football game, attending concerts at BYU, and more! Instruments offered in this class include Flute and Clarinet. If you are not sure which instrument you would like to play, please contact Ms. Olson at ali.olson@nebo.edu. So... if you like having fun and being a part of something great come and join band! (1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

***Band 1 Brass - Beginning Band for those with little or no playing experience - Full Year**

Come be part of a fun and friendly class and learn how to play an instrument at the same time! 6th and 7th graders can join Band 1. No past experience with music or instruments is needed to take this class. We will start at the very beginning and learn how to read music, play our instruments, and perform as a band. Band students will have many fun opportunities throughout the school year including performing at a high school football game, attending concerts at BYU, and more! Instruments offered in this class include Trumpet, Trombone, and Euphonium. If you are not sure which instrument you would like to play, please contact Ms. Olson at ali.olson@nebo.edu.

So... if you like having fun and being a part of something great come and join band! (1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

*Band 1 Percussion - Beginning Band for those with little or no playing experience - Full Year

Come be part of a fun and friendly class and learn how to play an instrument at the same time! 6th and 7th graders can join Band 1. No past experience with music or instruments is needed to take this class. We will start at the very beginning and learn how to read music, play our instruments, and perform as a band. Band students will have many fun opportunities throughout the school year including performing at a high school football game, attending concerts at BYU, and more! All percussion students will learn Marimba, Xylophone, Snare, Bass Drum, and Auxiliary Instruments. If you are not sure which instrument you would like to play, please contact Ms. Olson at ali.olson@nebo.edu.

So... if you like having fun and being a part of something great come and join band! (1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

*Band 2 - Second year band for those with previous playing experience - Full Year

This course is for students who have taken Band 1 (or have previous strong playing experience). Band 2 will expand and grow the skills you learned and developed in Band 1. This course will prepare you to continue playing in band through junior high school and beyond! This class includes Brass (Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, French horn, Tuba), Woodwinds (flutes, clarinets, saxophone), and Percussion. (1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

Additional Electives (Students may choose ONE 0.5 credit from this category)

*Show Choir -Half Year

The Show Choir at SCMS offers a unique opportunity for sixth and seventh grade students to develop voice and dance skills together. Emphasis on showmanship is explored through contemporary popular music, vocal jazz and rock, and musical theater song selections. This is a non-auditioned, performance-based class where students will create and practice several numbers over the course of the semester to perform. If you love to sing and dance, or even love the thought of potentially singing and dancing on stage, this course is for you! (.50 Elective Credit - Fee Required)

*Dance - Half Year

This class is a one semester class for the beginning dancers with no previous dance experience required. Students will learn basic dance skills in flexibility, technique and all genres of Jazz dance. Styles taught will include Hip-Hop, Contemporary, Jazz and others. Grading is based on participation. (0.5 Elective Credit)

*Dance 2 - Half Year

In this course students will be following the curriculum strands from the State curriculum found on the Nebo District website. Dance 2 requires a prerequisite of having taken Dance 1 in a previous semester, or at least 2 years of recent dance experience. In this class students will explore multiple dance genres, study the Elements of Dance more deeply, broaden their technical knowledge and abilities, work on large choreographic projects, and experience multiple performing opportunities. (0.5 Elective Credit)

*Aerobic Conditioning - Half Year

This co-ed class focuses on fitness concepts and an overall fitness/conditioning program to help students increase their fitness knowledge and levels. Students will be introduced to flexibility training, cardiovascular activities, and weight training. Fitness activities include (but are not limited to) walking, distance running, sprinting, circuit training, plyometric, speed and agility training, core training, yoga, and sports. If you want to become a better athlete, dancer, or just want to improve your overall health while having a fun time, then this class is for you! (0.5 Elective Credit)

*Debate - Half Year

Do you like to argue? In debate, students will learn the skills needed to argue effectively and respectfully. We will learn the importance of understanding both sides of an argument before debating. We'll look at the structure of an effective argument and how to research to find evidence to support your argument. Students will learn how to identify misinformation and fake news. Finally, we will learn how to present arguments in the most persuasive way. Each day we start with a daily debate where we discuss fun topics as a class. We learn different debate formats and how to confidently present in front of an audience. Come debate with us! (0.5 Elective Credit)

*Communications – Half Year

This semester-long course will explore the broad field of communications. We start on the inside with self-talk and motivation and the messages we communicate to ourselves. Then we move on to one-on-one communication where we learn the skills of talking on the phone, emailing and interviewing. From one-on-one settings, we grow larger and look at group talk or communicating to a group. Students will learn about presentation skills and present a speech to the class. Finally, we explore the expanding field of mass media. Students will learn the basic principles of graphic design to create a poster, they'll record and edit a podcast and finally use all their skills to produce a video. There is something for everyone in communications! (0.5 Elective Credit)

*STEM Science - Project Learning - Half Year

You will enjoy designing and building science, technology, engineering and math projects. This class is intended to expand your creativity and higher order thinking skills as you design and complete hands-on projects. Students will investigate and respond to authentic, engaging and complex questions and challenges set around real-world problems. This class also explores coding, 3D print design and robotics. For 6th graders, one semester of STEM is required. This class would be an extension giving students a full year of STEM. (0.5 Elective Credit – Fee Required)