

# Spring Canyon Middle School

## 7th Grade Elective Course Descriptions

### **Fine Arts (Students must choose either 0.5 or 1.0 credits from Fine Arts)**

#### Chorus 7 - Half Year

Seventh grade choir students at SCMS are a part of a team whose focus is on success with singing. Working together as a class, we learn and review how to read music through sight singing, and how to take care of our voices. We practice singing two and three independent parts with our sections and turn those sections into a full choir sound. We study choral music from different lands and cultures, and use games and technology to facilitate the fun in learning music. More performance opportunities as a seventh grader will give you a chance to showcase your team's work throughout the semester, as well as prepare you for exciting choral experiences at the Junior High level. Come and be a part of the choir magic at SCMS in seventh grade! (.50 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

#### 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 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

#### Orchestra I - Beginning orchestra for those with little 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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, baritone French horn), Woodwinds (flutes, clarinets, saxophone), and Percussion. (1.0 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

### Drama 7 - Half Year

This is a fun class for 7th graders that introduces students to theater and will improve student's ability to speak and present themselves in front of an audience. Various communication skills, as well as the techniques and fundamentals of theatrical performance will be introduced including using voice and movement in performances. If you love to get in costume and perform, this is the class for you! (0.5 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

### Art 7 - Half Year

This class is designed to improve basic skills in drawing, composition, use of color, and creative problem-solving. Basic vocabulary, higher-level thinking skills, art history, aesthetics and art criticism built into assignments. Pencil, color pencils, watercolor, markers and ink are some of the media used. Two-dimensional and some three-dimensional work will be included. Natural artistic ability is not as important as sincere effort and a positive "I can" attitude. (0.5 Fine Arts Credit - Fee Required)

### **Additional Electives (Students may choose one or two 0.5 credits from this category, depending on how many Fine Arts Credits are selected.)**

#### Introduction to Spanish - Half Year

Hola Amigos - This Spanish class places special emphasis on enjoying the language and culture of the various Spanish-speaking nations around the world. Conversational speaking, listening and vocabulary acquisition are also an important aspect of this class. (0.5 Elective Credit)

#### Introduction to Chinese - Half Year

Ni hao - This Chinese class is designed to expose students to Chinese language and culture. Conversational speaking, listening, and vocabulary acquisition are an important aspect of this class. (0.5 Elective Credit)

#### Dance - Half Year

This class is a one semester class for the beginning dancers with no or minimal dance experience. 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)

### Peer Tutor- Half Year

Peer tutoring is an opportunity to work with students at our school with different abilities. As a peer tutor, you will go into the special education classroom at our school and help the students in their classes. You may be helping them with their academics like reading, math, and science. You could also be going with them to other classes like PE and art. Being a peer tutor is all about helping students with different needs by getting to know them, working with them in their classes, playing games with them, and helping them feel included at school!