Centennial Jr. High 2023-204 Course Descriptions

8th Grade



Assistants

210 (Sem) Office Assistant*

This semester offering is for students desiring practical experiences in office routine. Students will be selected based on academic achievement, attendance, and citizenship. Students may be assigned to the Main Office or the Counseling Center. Grading is Pass/Fail. Office approval, application, and minimum 3.0 GPA required.

211 (Sem) Teacher Assistant*

This semester offering is for students desiring practical experience in daily classroom teacher activities. Students should talk with the teacher they would like to work with to get permission. Teacher will submit a request. Teacher approval and application required. Grading is Pass/Fail.

212 (Sem) Counseling Office Assistant*

This semester offering is for students desiring practical experiences in office routine. Students will be selected based on academic achievement, attendance, and citizenship. Students may be assigned to the Main Office or the Counseling Center. Grading is Pass/Fail. Office approval, application, and minimum 3.0 GPA required.

213 (Sem) Peer Tutor*

The purpose of this course is to provide support for students with disabilities. Students will be required to apply for this course with Mrs. Loveday, or Mrs. Hallows. In some settings, the peer tutor will be asked to help support students in either an English, math, science, or history class. You will be required to help support students with their needs, assist with online programs (Summit, Canvas, myDSD, ALEKS, etc.), and be a positive influence on their education. During this course, not only will you be required to help the students you are assigned to, but you will also be responsible for assignments via Canvas. No previous experience is required. No N's, U's, or F's. Good attendance is required.

215 (Sem) Library Media Assistant*

The Library Media Assistant provides an important service to the school by helping students, teachers, administration, and the librarian. Media Assistant will be trained in the responsibilities and procedures of working in the media center, including library organization, book promotion, customer service, blog writing, and technology applications. Students will also learn research skills, information finding, and organizational skills. Excellent attendance, grades and citizenship are required-3.0 GPA, no D's, F's, N's, or U's. Teacher approval and application required.

Career Technology Education (CTE)

7404 (Sem) FACS Exploration A

This course provides students the opportunity to learn essential life skills. It allows students to develop skills in interior design, sewing construction, textiles, fashion, consumerism, free enterprise, and job-related tasks. FCS Exploration A may be taken in conjunction with FCS Exploration B. Class Fee Required.

7405 (Sem) FACS Exploration B

This course provides students the opportunity to learn essential life skills. It allows students to develop skills in nutrition, childcare, interpersonal relationships, personal responsibility, consumerism, free enterprise, and jobrelated tasks. FCS Exploration B may be taken in conjunction with FCS Exploration A. Class Fee Required.

7537 (Sem) Digital Literacy

Computers and electronic devices are everywhere. Let Digital Literacy teach you more about how they work and how they can make your life easier. Learn about cloud computing including Office 365 and apps like Outlook, Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Access. Learn to record and edit audio and video and how to edit photos. Learn skills that will benefit you for life. Class Fee Required.

7548 (Sem) Exploring Business Marketing

Students learn about the Stock Market and play, as a team, making trades in a simulation game that corresponds with the actual stock market. They learn about economic principles, business types, accounting and marketing, employment, and budgeting. Students explore the world of business by creating a business and marketing plan for a team business. They create advertisements, business cards, logos, flyers, and packaging for their business. At the end of the term, they sell their products to other classes. Class Fee Required.

7743 (Sem) Creative Coding

Have you ever wondered how mobile apps are created? Students learn and apply computational thinking and technical knowledge and skills to create mobile apps. Students also acquire and apply skills pertaining to the design process, problem solving, persistence, collaboration, and communication. Go beyond being an app consumer and become an app creator. Can only be taken once between 7th & 8th grade. Class Fee Required.

7810 (Sem) Exploring Tech & Engineering 1

This is a good class to take if you enjoyed the Technology portion of CCA. The focus is to learn how to design and create projects using hand drawings and computer modeling. Students will learn the science behind technology by designing simple machines. The students will learn to use some of the shop equipment to make simple projects. Topics include design and modeling using CAD software, electronics with an introduction to robotics, manufacturing, construction, and energy exploration. Class Fee Required.

Language Arts

4030 (Year) English 8

In this class, we foster the appreciation of LA in students through the development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills, with an emphasis in the following areas: utilizing evidence and elaboration, as they pertain to argumentative and informative writing; reading for multiple purposes; and practicing speaking and listening skills through class discussions, peer feedback groups, and in-class presentations.

4035 (Year) English 8 Honors

Eighth grade Honors English classes will develop many of the same skills outlined in the standard eighth grade curriculum; however, honors curriculum usually moves at a faster pace, delves deeper into each concept, and maintains higher expectations for student work. Though Honors English is a self-selected class, the most successful students tend to possess the following attributes: an appreciation and enjoyment of the LA, a desire to be challenged; self- motivated and self- sufficient; have a Lexile score of 1000 or higher; and receive a 3 or higher on their most recent ELA Sage test.

4154 (Sem) Novel Studies

This course introduces students to a variety of literary genres, such as poetry, short stories, novels, and plays. Students will develop their critical reading and thinking skills, as well as their understanding of different styles and themes in literature. Throughout the course, students will read selected texts and participate in class discussions and group activities that encourage them to analyze and interpret the works. They will also practice writing responses to the texts, using evidence from the works to support their ideas. The course may also include lessons on literary devices such as characterization, symbolism, and figurative language, and how these elements contribute to the meaning of a work.

4335 (Sem) Creative Writing 1

In this class, students will explore different forms of creative expression in writing. Students will work in many writing mediums, including fictional stories of all genres and sizes, creative nonfiction essays and memoirs and poetry. Students will work to find a voice and style comfortable for their expression while learning tools of the trade that the professionals use.

4340 (Sem) Creative Writing 2

Students in this class will be given the freedom and guidance to work in the genres of their interest (novel writing, poetry collections, personal essays, etc.) to create a longer work or a collection of short pieces. Students will explore options for publication. Students will utilize peer and teacher feedback to continually shape and improve their writing. Prerequisite: Creative Writing I.

4355 (Sem) Journalism/School Newspaper*

<u>Description:</u> Students will learn interview skills, ethics of journalism, organize ideas, format stories, write informatively, gathering information, and publish information and stories in a school newspaper. <u>Application:</u> We are looking for trustworthy students who enjoy writing, interviewing others, have creative ideas, and are self-motivated. Students fill out a 1-page application in which they address why they are interested in journalism, why they want to take this class, ideas they have for a school newspaper, and detail why they are a responsible student. Applications are due by March 1st.

4375 (Sem) Speech

Speech & Debate I is designed to help students speak comfortably in public, make and defend arguments with skill, and develop research and presentation skills. Students will develop a foundation in the art of rhetoric and the principles of effective public speaking and learn about the U.S. legal system. Competition Speech & Debate events and Mock Trial will be introduced. Grade will be based on participation and in-class competitions.

4365 (Year) Yearbook**

The Centennial Junior High School Yearbook staff is responsible for publishing our school's yearbook. As a part of this staff, members must demonstrate strong writing or design skills and a commitment to our program for the entire school year. As a staff member, you will learn how to interview people and how to take pictures with digital cameras. High standards of journalism and contemporary design will be expected, and skills in these areas will be taught as a part of the class curriculum. What we need from you is your enthusiasm and willingness to learn. This is a teamwork driven class in which DEADLINES are the TOP PRIORITY! Staff members have the opportunity to write stories, take pictures, add captions, and design the layout. Teacher approval and application required

Math

5100 (Year) Math 8

Instruction will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling and association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (3) analyzing 2- and 3-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean theorem. Class Fee Required.

5105 (Year) Math 8 Honors

This course will cover the three critical areas listed in the Grade 8 Mathematics course, as well as extra topics and concepts that would interest an advanced middle school student. Concepts covering fairness and apportionment, voting methods, sets, and graphing beyond the coordinate plane will be explored in greater depth with increased use of contextual situations. This course will have increased rigor and advanced content that will challenge the minds of high-ability students. Class Fee Required.

5205 (Year) Secondary Math I Honors

Secondary Math I concepts will be explored in greater depth with increased use of contextual situations. In addition, it will include concepts dealing with vectors and quantities of vectors, and matrix operations and their applications. This course will include elements that will prepare students to take calculus in high school. This course will have increased rigor and advanced content that will challenge the minds of high ability students. Prerequisite: Demonstrated Proficiency in Math 8 Honors or Math 7/8 Accelerated. Class Fee Required.

Music

2204 (Year) Beginning Brass

This class is for students with little or no experience. Students will learn the basics of how to play an instrument. Students begin with summer band, a two-week experience at the end of Summer which runs weekdays in the morning. Students will perform for parents at the end of each term. Home practice is expected and required. With input and information from the instructor, students will choose the instrument they wish to play.

2205 (Year) Beginning Woodwind

This class is for students with little or no experience. Students will learn the basics of how to play an instrument. Students begin with summer band, a two-week experience at the end of Summer which runs weekdays in the morning. Students will perform for parents at the end of each term. Home practice is expected and required. With input and information from the instructor, students will choose the instrument they wish to play.

2206 (Year) Beginning Percussion

This class is for students with little or no experience. Students will learn the basics of how to play an instrument. Students begin with summer band, a two-week experience at the end of Summer which runs weekdays in the morning. Students will perform for parents at the end of each term. Home practice is expected and required. A simple audition is required to be in the percussion class.

2210 (Year) Intermediate Band

Intermediate playing techniques will be stressed with emphasis on enesmbel playing skills. Students will perform for parents at the end of each term. Home practice is required. Prerequisite: Beginning Band or teacher approval.

2220 (Year) Band 3 Advanced

Brass, Woodwind or Percussion. Advanced playing techniques will be stressed; high level of commitment due to the many public performances is required. 9th grade students who have taken beginning band and intermediate band will be allowed to register. Pre-requisite: Beginning Band, Intermediate Band, Audition or Teacher Approval.

2224 (Year) Advanced Percussion*

All percussionists who have successfully completed the intermediate percussion class should register for this course, which offers continuing instruction on drums, mallets, timpani, and auxiliary percussion. A high level of commitment due to many public performances is required. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Intermediate Percussion.

2225 (Year) Jazz Band**

Jazz Band is a class designed for students who want to explore music more fully. Emphasis will be placed on listening skills, music theory, jazz scales, jazz articulations, and improvisation. Students will have performances throughout the year and will play at other special events. Students enrolled in Jazz Band must also be enrolled in another full-year music class.

2307 (Sem/Year) Choir 2- Mixed

In mixed choir, you will continue to develop your vocal and music reading skills and build confidence. Challenge yourself to singing in 3 and 4-part harmonies. Choir Level one or music exploration is required, or 3 levels of piano completed with the understanding of basic music symbols and theory concepts. This class is also available for 1st semester only, as a half year option. Full year is encourage if interested in Show Choir Class Fee Required.

2310 (Year) Choir 3- Rolling Thunder**

This course is an auditioned choir for primarily 9th grade students who have demonstrated ability in choral performance while continuing to work towards mastery in the areas of tone production, proper diction and musical interpretation. Music reading ability as well as applications/auditions are required. Emphasis is on reading 3-4-part mixed score (SATB). There are several performances each term. As representatives of CJH, students are expected to maintain good grades and citizenship. Auditions are held in March. Please talk with Mrs. Avant mavant@dsdmail.net, if you are interested. Prerequisite: 2 semesters of choir/or 3 years piano instruction. Class Fee and Apparel Fee Required.

2316 (Sem) Music Exploration

You will discover the music elements and how cultural, historical, and modern-day composers use them in many varied ways. You might discover the musician in yourself through creative music making experiences. Class Fee Required.

2405 (Year) Orchestra 1

This class is for beginning string players who have taken Elementary Strings. The class covers basic one- and two-octave scales, shifting, and vibrato to prepare students for the Concert Orchestra. Basic music theory and music vocabulary are taught as well. Students will play basic orchestra literature that will include some solo and ensemble music. Students will take part in required public performances. Home practice is required. Prerequisite: 6th grade orchestra or Teacher approval Students who have not taken Elementary Strings must contact Mr. Kemp at rkemp@dsdmail.net before enrolling. Class Fee Required.

2406 (Year) Concert Orchestra

This class is for advanced junior high string players and focuses on intonation, upper positions, rhythm, harmony, balance, and phrasing. This is a performance-oriented class with required performances at District orchestra and solo & ensemble festivals. Home practice is required. Prerequisite: Beginning Orchestra or Teacher Approval. Class Fee Required.

Theater/Visual Arts

230 (Year) Stage Crew*

Students will design, build, and run all technical elements for the winter musical and spring play. Rehearsal will mostly take place during the school day with 2-3 weeks of mandatory after-school rehearsal and evening performances each semester. The course is an exploration of the duties of stage technicians and their contribution to the total aesthetic effect of a dramatic production. Topics covered will include scene shop organization; painting and construction techniques; equipment use and maintenance; principles and application of sound and lighting; costume and makeup application; theater safety; the function of technical stage personnel in production work; and dramaturgy. Student Acceptance by Application Only— See Ms. Howell or Ms. Tietz for more details. Class Fee Required.

2502 (Sem) Theatre 1

Students explore the fundamentals of acting with the utilization of exercises and games, through which the students develop ensemble and individual performance skills. Students are introduced to basic theatre etiquette and terminology; basic elements and principles of theatrical performance; and an overview of playwriting and design. Students are required to attend at least one live theatrical presentation from a high school in the district. In this introductory course, students showcase what they learn throughout the semester by performing in front of the class. Class Fee Required.

2503 (Sem) Theatre 2

Students continue to study theatre as an art form through use of voice, movement, and character development. Students will be introduced to William Shakespeare and continue to strengthen performance skills by participating in Reader's Theatre, monologues, tableaux, scene work and group performances, with special emphasis on creating believable and real characters. Students are required to attend at least one live theatrical presentation from a high school in the district. Like Theatre I, students showcase what they learn throughout the semester by performing in front of the class. Prerequisite: passing grade in Theater I. Class Fee Required.

2504 (Sem) Acting Company*

In this performance-based class, students prepare and perform the spring play. Rehearsal will mostly take place during the school day with 1-2 weeks of mandatory after-school rehearsal and evening performances. Students will focus solely on acting, characterization, and building a believable character to prepare them for high school theatre. This class is for driven and dedicated students; can be taken in conjunction with Musical Theatre. Prerequisites: passing grades in both Theatre I and Theatre II OR passing grade in Theatre I AND Instructor Permission. Class fee required.

2508 (Sem) Musical Theatre**

In this class, students prepare and perform the winter musical. Rehearsal will mostly take place during the school day with 2-3 weeks of mandatory after-school rehearsal and evening performances. Students focus solely on acting, singing and dancing as it pertains to the chosen musical; and must be driven, team players and show initiative. Students must audition for this class to demonstrate proficiency of theatre skills; can be taken in conjunction with The Acting Company. Prerequisites: a passing grade in Theatre I is preferred. Auditions take place during spring of the previous year and placement in the course will be announced by the end of that school year. Please talk with Mrs. Meadows if you are interested. Class fee required.

PE & Health

1000 (Sem) Health 1

Health Education provides opportunities for students to develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for practicing lifelong, health-enhancing behaviors. Students will learn that they are responsible for their personal well-being and that building a solid foundation of health literacy and decision-making skills can contribute to a variety of health choices for self and others that will be of value throughout life.

1021 (Both) Fitness 8

This course is designed to help students develop positive lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity and healthy lifestyles. Emphasis will be on developing individual and team sport related skills and knowledge, responsible personal and social behavior, and the applications of those skills in game play settings. Uniforms are required and available for purchase in the Main Office. Students may take this course for a full year. Class Fee Required.

1041 (Sem) Social Dance

Social Dance provides students exposure to various dance forms. This course is designed for non-dancers as well as those with dance experience. This class will introduce International Latin dances such as Cha Cha, Samba, Rumba, Paso Doble, or Jive. It will also introduce International Standard or American Smooth dances such as Waltz, Tango, Foxtrot, Viennese Waltz, or Quickstep. Class Fee Required.

Science

6100 (Year) Science 8

This course introduces students to how matter and energy interact in the physical world, how energy is stored and transferred in physical systems, how life systems store and transfer matter and energy, and interactions with natural systems and resources. Because the course focuses on physical, earth and life sciences, students gain a clearer picture of relationships in the natural world. The science curriculum focuses on integration of three distinct dimensions: Scientific and Engineering Practices (SEPs), Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs), and Crosscutting Concepts (CCCs). These standards emphasize that science is not just a series of isolated facts. This hands-on course allows students to explore areas of interest. Class Fee Required.

6600 (Sem) Hacking STEM

This STEM-focused class for 8th and 9th graders builds problem solving skills, promotes teamwork, and teaches perseverance and persistence while engaging in technology-based projects. Experience with wiring and coding are not necessary to take this class, but it requires a willingness to try new things, fail, and try again is! If you are looking for relevant STEM experiences, opportunities to learn new technology, and a forum to brainstorm real-world solutions, this is it. You will get the chance to wonder about the world, make sense of how things work, and solve problems in a collaborative environment. STEM Explorations is a prerequisite. Class may not be repeated. Class Fee Required.

6609 (Sem) STEM Explorations

Science Exploration is a semester program providing students with challenging opportunities to learn science, be a part of an active and collaborative learning environment and receive encouragement to pursue science-related careers. Our Science Exploration classes consist of a series of individual and group activities where students create, design, problem-solve, build projects, perform experiments, but most of all, have a positive and fun science experience. Topics may vary by teacher. Class may not be repeated. Class Fee Required.

6703 (Sem) Horticulture

Taught by Mrs. Waite. This class would cover the science of horticulture with a lot of hands-on time on the greenhouse

6704 (Sem) Science Explorations- Forensics

This course includes key topics in forensic science including the application of the scientific process to forensic analysis, procedures of crime scene investigation and physical and trace evidence. Through lessons, labs and the analysis of fictional crime scenarios, students learn how to use forensic tools and resources. Focus will be placed on forming and testing hypotheses, data collection and making reasonable claims supported by evidence and reasoning. Class may not be repeated. Class Fee Required.

6705 (Sem) Science Explorations - Robotics

Students will learn to build and program VEX IQ robots. Students will practice mechanical design, construction, programming and teamwork skills. Using VEX IQ building pieces, motors and sensors, students will build robots that can complete a variety of challenges and obstacles. Students will use a controller to drive their robot and a computer to program their robot. In this course, students will work through processes of idea creation, planning, logical thinking, analysis and computational thinking to solve problems and accomplish goals. This course is designed for students who are interested in developing their programming and engineering skills. Class may not be repeated. Class Fee Required.

Social Studies

4510 (Year) US History 1

U.S. History is a course which encourages students to explore America's heritage from its beginnings to Reconstruction. Emphasis will be placed upon the social and cultural backgrounds of Americans as well as economic and geographic factors, particularly during the 1800s.

4514 (Year) US History Honors

A more rigorous U.S. history course, students will explore our nation's history from its beginnings to the Reconstruction era. Students will become proficient in analyzing and interpreting various primary and secondary sources. This course adds greater focus on academic reading, writing and thinking to prepare them for AP classes in the future.

4531 (Sem) Civics

Students will learn the basics of government, examine the roots of American Democracy, study the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, examine the roles and responsibilities of citizenship, and learn about government and economy.

Visual Arts

2101 (Sem) Art I

This introductory course offers instruction in various art media and the basic elements of art. Each student will have the opportunity to develop a general knowledge and understanding of basic art terms, styles, skills, and techniques through the creation of art. Required course for all other art classes. Class Fee Required.

2102 (Sem) Art 2

This course is designed to provide an additional enhancement of artistic issues from Art I. There is a continuing emphasis on studio production as students use the elements and principles of art to express themselves and create meaningful art. Pre-requisite Art Foundations I. Class Fee Required.

2104 (Sem) Crafts Explorations

This course offers instruction in various craft mediums. Each student will have the opportunity to develop a general knowledge and understanding of basic art terms, skills, and techniques associated with mediums including weaving, printmaking, and scratchboard. Prerequisite Art Foundations 1. Class Fee Required.

2118 (Sem) Art 3D Design

This course is designed to provide an experience with the artistic issues of Foundation I through 3-dimensional Mediums. The media in this course may include traditional ceramic clay and glazes, sculptural materials, and assemblages. There is a continuing emphasis on studio production as students use the elements and principles of art to express themselves through 3D mediums. Pre-requisite Art Foundations I. Class Fee Required.

World Languages

3110 (Year) Spanish 1

Spanish 1 provides students with the opportunity to develop basic comprehension, listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Class time is spent learning the language with much of the class being taught in Spanish and with an emphasis on speaking. Cultural experiences will be based on contemporary daily life with some exposure to the historical background of Spanish-speaking countries. Class Fee Required.

3120 (Year) Spanish 2

Spanish 2 is a continuation of Spanish 1 with emphasis on continued development of oral communication skills. There will also be further experience with reading and writing. Cultural experiences will be based on contemporary daily life with some exposure to the historical background of Spanish-speaking countries. Class Fee Required.