

Language Arts

Adventures in Writing

Writing Gateway—Emphasis is placed on positive reinforcement in the writing process especially for students who may have had difficulties with writing in the past.

Brain Games

This course challenges students to solve many types of word and logic puzzles relating to the language arts curriculum. They will create and publish their own puzzles for their classmates and for the rest of the school. In addition, students will participate in "quiz-bowl" type activities using electronic buzzers and computers. Students will research and create their own Jeopardy and quiz-bowl questions. They will create quiz-bowls on the computer to challenge their classmates. Students will also have the opportunity to post their contests on the school's World Wide Web site or in the school's literary magazine.

College Preparatory Success (CPS)

The CPS elective (available only to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students in participating schools) provides academic instruction in core content, tutorial support, and motivational activities. The curriculum is based on writing as a tool of learning, inquiry method, collaborative grouping, and academic reading. Sixth grade CPS students are concurrently enrolled in 6th grade advanced math. *(This is a yearlong elective. May or May Not Be Offered During 2009-2010).*

Classical Mythology

Students investigate the influences of mythology on several major cultures as well as the influences of mythology on present life. Analysis and comparison of Greek and Roman myths are included in this course.

Creative Writing

A variety of writing styles and techniques are practiced. Students spend a majority of class time writing and receiving help from the teacher and their peers in editing and revising.

Debate

Students review the production of oral communication through writing, delivering, and critiquing informal and formal speeches. Information and persuasive public speaking are emphasized as students learn to consider both sides of an issue in formal debate.

Film Analysis (Video I and II)

Through the study of various genres and time frames of film, students will analyze the connections between personal preference, objective view, and critical reference. Students will have multiple opportunities to compare and contrast classroom and personal experience with experiences portrayed in selected films. Students will develop the ability to critically view a film, and relate connections that support that point of view.

Folktales and Myths

In this course, students explore myths and folktales from the cultures of Africa, Asia, and America. They develop skills in reading comprehension, critical thinking, and literary analysis.

Future Problem Solving: Change the World

Do you see "problems" in the world around you that you'd like to "fix", but don't know how? Through this elective, you'll learn how to identify a need or problem, brainstorm your own ideas, collaborate with others, and come up with a plan. Activities include creating a "toy" based on a need, to market to the community, and identifying other needs locally and globally. Strong communication skills are built while you learn how to get across your message.

Improving Organizational & Study Skills

This course helps students improve organizational skills and offers guidelines for building better study habits and test taking practices. Students learn how to collect data, develop research projects, effective note taking, review material for tests, and manage their time effectively so they can become independent learners. **Required for 6th grade students during 1st quarter.**

It's Hilarious

Students apply knowledge of the elements, levels, and forms of humor throughout history via creative products. This course seeks to broaden the student's appreciation of humor and develop awareness of appropriateness of humor.

Journalistic Reporting

The journalism class combines classroom instruction with activities requiring practical application of the skills learned in class to examine the various types, purposes, and effects of journalistic style and design. The course incorporates a study of textbook material and an analysis of the local professional and school newspapers, magazine and yearbook layout, and TV news casting.

Junior Great Books

Through a continuing program of thoughtful reading and discussion, students increase comprehension skills, logical and critical thinking processes, and literary interpretation.

Literary Magazine

Students apply knowledge of various literary forms in the development of creative products. They review literary forms in order to develop their own creative writing skills.

Logical Minds

In this language arts based logic course, students study analogies, brainteasers, mind stretchers, paradoxes, puzzles, matrix logic, and other forms of reasoning activities.

Meet Mr. Dickens—Bah Humbug

Say, “Charles Dickens,” and students probably connect the name to the classic *A Christmas Carol*. But, most students do not know that the life of Charles Dickens is expressed through his many other classical novels. In this course, students will learn about his real life experiences and connect these to his works of literature. Charles Dickens became an entrepreneur at the age of twelve. He invented the modern day “soap opera”, and he lived his life with great passion. Through the study of Charles Dickens’ life students will learn about the fascinating characters, he invented such as, David Copperfield, Oliver Twist, and Scrooge. The opening line of one of his greatest novels “It was the best of times; it was the worst of times,” could also be the open line of Charles Dickens’ life.

Newspaper Production

The goal of this course is to acquire the skills needed to produce the school newspaper. Students practice writing news and sports stories, editorials, interview features, and other items appropriate for school publication. Yearlong Course.

Odyssey of the Mind I

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation. In this course, thinking process development and logic skills are stressed as students develop their problem solving abilities. Students create and study truth tables, Venn diagrams, Euler circles, analogies, paradoxes, puzzles, and symbolic proofs. Skills in application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation are stressed. Both convergent and divergent problems are studied in preparation for later problem solving competition.

Once Upon A Time

This course invites students to seek out pleasurable reading experiences. The student will begin reading nursery rhymes and fairy tales and proceed to sharing poetry. Finally, the student will read level appropriated selected books. This course is for both the avid reader and for the person who wants to read, but who has difficulty choosing interesting books to read.

Poetry in Motion

Poetry in Motion is designed to encourage a life-long love of poetry, regardless of entry feelings about this genre. A student-centered approach is used, beginning with the creation of the “textbook” for the course: an anthology of favorite published poems, chosen by students in the class, to be continued later in the course with their own original poems.

Puppets with a Purpose

Through the art of puppetry, learners will become teachers of the eight character traits recognized by Wake County Public Schools for character education. They will analyze and internalize the eight character traits through discussion, writing and art. They will design puppets, write scripts incorporating the eight character traits, and perform puppet shows for peers, teachers, parents and community members.

Reading Acceleration and Support

This course is designed for students who need additional instruction and support in comprehension building, vocabulary building, and reading skills. Direct strategy instruction will occur with extended opportunities for guided reading practice with both fiction and nonfiction text. Students will have the opportunity to self-select texts and set individual reading goals. Instructional strategies will include teacher reading aloud, paired readings, reciprocal teaching and building of independent reading time. Students who score below a level III on the End of Grade will be placed into this elective.

Research and Report Writing

Students choosing this course will learn the proper way to write a research paper. They will learn how to plan and research their topic, how to prove a thesis statement, proper ways to cite quotations and works from authors. MLA and APA formatting will be taught for citations and bibliography pages.

Rudiments of Reading

Students will develop their understanding of the process of reading through class discussions, role-playing, individual skills practice, and reading a variety of enjoyable materials. Computers and other available technology will be used regularly. This course also helps students in preparation for the End of Grade test. Students who score below a level III on the End of Grade will be placed into this elective.

SAT PREP

This class focuses on strategies and content knowledge in math, reading or writing areas to help prepare students for the SAT. Students will also learn how to prepare for important tests such as EOG, SAT, PSAT. It also helps students gain strength in areas they are weak in such as vocabulary building, reading skills, etc.

Science Fiction

In this course, students will expand their appreciation for science fiction as a literary genre, as a tool for picturing the future, and an avenue for creative social interactions.

Short Stories

Students will focus on the literary form of short story while reading and viewing contemporary and classical works. Writing styles plot development; characterization, setting, themes, and formats of various authors will be studied and discussed.

Sports Fever

Students increase reading comprehension and vocabulary skills through reading and writing about professional, college, high school, and middle school sports. ***This is not a PE class***

Storytelling/NC Legends and Fairytales

Students will practice telling and listening to stories, read stories by other authors, create different types of stories, and share their stories with the class. NC Legends and Fairytales are two separate courses, but have the same focus and objectives, just different areas of literature.

Studies in African-American Literature

This class is designed to give students an appreciation for the contributions of African-American writers to American literature and help them understand how literature reflects culture. Students examine the understanding of the conflict between people and philosophies through critical reading, oral discussion, and personal writing.

Tar Heel Folklore

This course will introduce students to the rich folklore and various literary geniuses of North Carolina.

Video Literature

Under this course title, students will be exposed to how film media has been used to depict different aspects of literature from the core subject areas of language arts, social studies, and science. Comparison and contrast are emphasized between print and film media. Differences in technique to tell a story are investigated, for example, what is read vs. what is shown. Students will analyze the connections between how a story is presented in written vs. cinema format.

Video Production I, II, and Video News Production III

In these courses, students will learn different aspects of how video and film are made. Critical view is emphasized: Aural, visual, literary, time frame, sequence, etc. Historical aspects of film are studied for links to current creations by the students. Technology, as well as cross-curricular links, such as writing, research, and storyboarding are integrated throughout these courses. Students will analyze the connections between personal preference, objective view, and critical reference. Students will develop the ability to critically view their own and their peer group's work, by comparing it to exemplars. Students will gain basic video production skills through the introductory course, which will prepare them to further hone these skills through the upper-level production courses. Video News Production III includes the WTRJ News Show. Students are accepted by an application process.

Yearbook

Open to 7th and 8th Grade Students Only. In this course, students will learn the various responsibilities involved in producing the school yearbook, including layout procedures, picture cropping, writing, and editing to publish the school yearbook. ***Teacher approval only***

Mathematics

Advanced Chess

Prerequisite: Intermediate Chess or permission of instructor. Students continue to deepen and broaden their understanding of the intellectual, aesthetic, and sporting obligations of the chess player. They build their chess capability through intelligent obligation, and the continuing demand to find the best move in the face of fierce enemy opposition.

Algebraic Concepts I

This course deals extensively with developing concepts, which are the foundation for academic Algebra I. Students will use manipulatives, calculators and other available technology to investigate and apply mathematics. ***Available for students not enrolled in Algebra I or Compacted Math***

Algebra Lab

Algebra Lab is an extra help class for students who are struggling in Algebra I. Teachers and parents can make recommendations for extra help.

Beginning Chess

Students study chess history, rules, information, and notation systems. They apply strategic concepts and principles through many practice games.

Math Art

Students learn to construct geometric figures using a straight edge and compass. They study common geometric terms such as point, line, and plane. Some classes are involved with counting books for area day cares and other classes will sew quilting squares together based on geometric design.

Geometric Principles

Geometric Principles is a course designed to enrich and strengthen student's mathematical skills in geometry with measurement. Students will calculate perimeter, area circumference, surface area, and volume of the various geometric shapes. Real world applications will be explored.

Getting the Message

This course is a semester-long elective designed for seventh grade students to improve their language arts and math skills and enable them to be more successful on the EOG tests. The course will examine literature with mathematical tie-ins. The course has four high-interest units from various disciplines and involves practical application. These units are as follows: Communication through Media, Weather, Marketing and Olympics.

Graph It

Students work with basic statistics – range, mean, median, and mode. They learn to collect and interpret data. Constructions of the following graph types are taught: picture graphs, bar graphs, line graphs, circle graphs, and histograms.

Intermediate Chess

Prerequisite: Beginning Chess or permission of teacher. This course is a follow-up to Beginning Chess and builds upon the ideas developed in that course. At the intermediate level, students review the basic strategic concepts, principles, and notation systems of chess.

Math 1

Math 1 is designed to strengthen students' mathematical skills. With hands-on manipulatives and interactive activities, the course will emphasize the basic concepts of number theory and computational skills of whole numbers and decimals. Students who score level II and below on the End of Grade test will be placed into this elective.

Mathcounts

To qualify for the Mathcounts elective, a pretest is given to interested "math whizzes." Materials developed by the Professional Engineers council are used to train and to develop a team of students who may enter the regional competition.

Math Acceleration and Support

This course is designed for sixth grade students who need additional instruction and support in gaining grade level mathematics skill, problem-solving strategies, test-taking skills, and mathematical thinking in authentic contexts. Activities will focus on the use of manipulatives to build understanding of mathematical concepts and the use of cooperative and individual activities that practice and strengthen grade level skills and ability in mathematics. Technology, reading, and writing for greater understanding mathematics will be incorporated where appropriate. Students who score below level III on the End of Grade test will be placed in this elective.

MSEN Pre-College Program

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval. North Carolina State University in conjunction with the Wake County Public School System sponsors this program. It is an academic enrichment program, which focuses on math and science needs of minority and female students. This is not a remedial program.

Number Crunching in the Real World

This course integrates mathematics skills with making decisions about consumer activities and data all around us. Through classroom simulations, students keep records for financial decisions, looking at population trends, and interpreting real world data in topics of interest to them (financial data, population trends, sports data, employment data, etc.)

Problem Solving; Calculator Explorations

In this elective, students tackle challenging math problems using systematic problem solving techniques. The activities extend beyond the usual textbook word problems. Students are encouraged to use unique and creative methods as they follow a four-step approach.

Quizzical Quilts

This course is an introduction to the art of quilting using mathematical concepts. Students will learn basic quilting techniques and create small paper and fabric quilts. Topics include the history of quilting, quilt design, hand sewing, algebraic and geometric properties and relationships. Quilters from the community will be invited to share their artwork and expertise

Statistics and Probability

Students design data gathering instruments and use the information obtained to apply statistical operations. Information is presented through different graphing techniques such as bar graphs and histograms. Students learn to predict outcomes as they analyze the statistical outcomes of their data collection.

Stock Market, The

Students study the process of buying and selling stocks. They compute profit and loss and graph the results. The effects of economic indicators on the value of stocks are examined.

Science

Pet Vet: Animal Science

Come journey into the science of our most loved pets. Explore the habitats, adaptations, relationships, and care of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, aquatic life, and insects. Learn the classification system scientists use to study these fascinating creatures. Conduct your own research using books, internet, and live animals. Discover animal careers and the challenges and joys they bring. If you love animals, this is the place for you!

Astronomy

This course includes three areas of astronomy: early astronomy, the motion of the planets, and methods of astronomy.

Botany

Students investigate the structure and function of representative examples of the major divisions within the plant kingdom. Under controlled laboratory/greenhouse conditions, they investigate factors affecting the growth of plants.

Chemistry I: General Concepts

This course is designed as an introduction to chemical principles for the interested student. Through observations, students will observe the principles of oxidation, evaporation, absorption, simple experiments, coagulation and separation.

Biotechnology

In this course students will cover the basic scientific and techniques in biotechnology. Topics that will be covered are introduction to gene expression and regulation, protein structure and its relation to function, mechanisms of antibiotic resistance, commercial application of biotechnology and molecular biology of gene cloning.

Environmental Ecology

This course fosters the understanding of ecological concepts and allows students to explore environmental choices as related to the use and protection of air, land, food, and other natural resources.

Field Biology I

This is a hands on course that offers students a unique way of learning about their environment and the plants and animals who live in it. Students will be using CBL probes and calculators to determine the best place to plant flowers and put up bird and butterfly houses. The students will learn to identify the tracks, songs, and noises of small animals. They will be involved in creating gardens, building bird and butterfly houses, and presenting a project to show what they have learned about the relationship between the environment and its inhabitants.

Field Biology II

Students will continue their studies of the ecosystem. Wearing waders, the students will look into the affects of both oil and trash pollution on a local wetlands. They will search for solutions to environmental issues such as resource use, population growth, and pollution.

Forensics I

The American public has recently become intrigued by forensic study because of television shows like CSI and Crossing Jordan. Students can now gain experience in the investigative skills and techniques that crime scene investigators use to solve crimes in this exciting new elective. Critical thinking skills will be emphasized as students investigate simulated crimes and crime scenes, using fingerprint and handwriting analysis, hair and fiber studies, and DNA extraction and testing to find out "WHODUNIT". ***Class capacity limited to 20 students. Available to 7th & 8th graders only.***

Forensics II

In the second installment of this elective students, will take a more in-depth look at forensic study by examining case files of true crimes where forensics has been used to solve and prove the case. Students will also have the opportunity to expand upon the investigative skills they used in Forensics I. Emphasis will be placed on technological advances in the field of forensic science and students will be using digital microscopy to aid in identifying evidence. ***Class capacity limited to 20 students. Available to 7th & 8th graders only.***

Galileo, Newton, & Einstein: How Their Ideas Changed the World

Ideas from Galileo, Newton, and Einstein have deeply impacted the way we view science and the world. This course will introduce students to the idea of these three scientists. Students will compare and contrast Galileo, Newton, and Einstein's theories on gravity, motion, light, and time. Students will understand Galileo's, Newton's, and Einstein's contributions to understanding astronomy. This course has a video-based format.

Genetics

Do you have an attached or detached ear lobe? Why are your eyes brown? This course helps students understand the causes of genetic differences. They learn about chromosomes, dominant and recessive genes, mitosis and meiosis.

Green Pieces

Green Pieces is centered on the F. J. Carnage Middle School Ecosystem Learning Center (greenhouse and gardens). Students will learn and employ basic botany and landscaping skills to establish and care for a diverse indoor and outdoor plant population.

Topics include plant classification, plant structure, plant processes and needs, economic aspects of greenhouse management (cost and analysis), and the many ways in which plants are used.

Activities will include various methods of plant propagation, soil analysis, garden design and maintenance (planting, weeding, mulching), organization and implementation of a plant sale, botanical craft projects, and a community service project. ***Special note: students with severe plant/pollen allergies should not take this elective***

Grey Matter: An Owner's Guide to the Brain

Do you know your Pons from your Pituitary? What's a medulla? How does your personal processor make you unique? Learn about your brain's function, and theories of learning.

Lab-Busters – Solving “myths” using the Scientific Process

Urban legends or truth? How can you find out if that crazy incident you heard about is truth, a colorful hoax, or a little of both? Use the scientific process to discover whatever “myth” you choose to “bust”! This course is designed to help students thoroughly understand the scientific method, and to be able to successfully construct experiments of their own using the scientific method. They will also demonstrate and understanding of many of the different disciplines of science, (biology, physics, earth science, chemistry, etc.) and how some experiments incorporate different science disciplines. Students will also learn about some notable scientists from each discipline covered in the curriculum.

Micro Madness

Students will learn the principles of microscopy in laboratory-based lessons. They will be taught proper use and care of the microscope and will explore the history of the microscope. Students will investigate the micro world around them by observing such specimens as those found in a drop of water, plant cells, animal cells, and fibers. Students will use video-cam microscopes to capture their images and save them in the computer as a collection or for future presentations.

The Most Amazing Machine: An Owner's Guide for the Body

We all own a model of the Most Amazing Machine—the human body, but do you know its parts and how they work? Does regular “maintenance” prevent breakdowns? How can you keep your “model” in tip-top condition?

Mousetrap Cars

Students will design, build and test a mousetrap car. By building the mousetrap car, students will learn to classify the kinds of motion as linear, rotational, reciprocating and oscillating. They will learn to analyze and predict the motion of objects, devices and systems by understanding the forces that act on them and determine the magnitude, speed and direction of movement. Students will follow the design and testing process to build a mousetrap car. Near the end of the nine weeks, students will compete in two types of in class competitions: (1) Fastest (races in heats) and (2) Farthest distance traveled. ***Students must have a “C” average or better in their Science class or Teacher recommendation.***

Oceanography

This course will investigate the history of ocean exploration, topographical features, water circulation, and marine life.

Olympics of Science and Math (Science Olympiad)

Students explore problem solving in science through hands-on experiences. They participate in competitions that require them to analyze a problem, synthesize a solution, and evaluate the results in real-world situations, such as egg-drops and slot cars. ***Invitation and teacher approval only. 7th & 8th Grade Students Only.***

Principles of Flight

Study of first in flight, how planes are built and exploring how to build and launch rockets.

Quest Atlantis

Is an international learning and teaching project that uses a 3D multi-user environment to immerse children, in educational tasks. QA combines strategies used in the commercial gaming environment with lessons from educational research on learning and motivation. It allows users to travel to virtual places to perform educational activities (known as Quests), talk with other users and mentors, and build virtual personae. Explore our site and learn more about this exciting project.

Robotics/Robo Challenge

Using a kit, the students will create robots and teach them to dance, play music, and become basketball hoops. After some training, they will program their robots through the use of laptops.

Science Lab

Students use experimentation and the scientific methods to learn about the world around them. The procedures used during a scientific investigation are studied, along with laboratory techniques to support those procedures.

Solar Race Cars

Students will have a greater understanding of renewable energy technologies. They will understand basic aerodynamic principles in automobiles and also implement the scientific method through the designing, testing, and modification of a solar racecar. Building a solar powered model car is similar to building a real car. Young engineers must consider the effects of the following forces when they design their vehicles and select the materials to use for the chassis and wheels. Students will learn about friction, momentum, inertia, gravity, speed, and drag.

Zoology

In this course, students study basic biological principles, the physiology of the cell, classification of animals, and the anatomy of invertebrates.

Social Studies**African American Studies**

African American Studies is an in-depth look at the history and experiences of African Americans from the time that they lived in Africa up through the American Civil War in the mid nineteenth century.

American History Themes and Dreams

This course focuses on twentieth century themes in the American nation. Selections from the series, A History of US (Author Joy Hakim), will be used to energize and engage students in American History as they study the significant people, places, and events that impacted our nation in the twentieth century. This elective is highly recommended for all students as excellent preparation for high school social studies.

American Women

This elective will trace the changing role and contributions of Women in America from the 1600's through today. A significant focus will be on women in American society since the 1920's. Students will trace the change in women's traditional roles in society from the first settlers (1607) through today. Students will identify women of major significance throughout the history of American society, with a focus on women since 1800. Students will choose one or more women with whom they can identify, and explore the impact of the women/women's achievements to their personal life.

Archeology

Students learn about basic archaeological processes and tools, methods of site selection, and interpretations of the professions. Discoveries from nearby digs as well as the world's famous findings are covered.

Civil War, The

This course explores the cause and effects of the Civil War in greater detail than the basic curriculum and will include the study of social, cultural, and global concerns of the time.

Fabulous Sixties, The - A Decade In Review

Students will explore a decade in American History: the turbulent 1960's. Students will examine the Kennedy administration, Vietnam War, Civil Rights movement, women's movement, and space programs. The scientific, musical, and artistic foundations laid at the time will also be addressed. Students will be actively involved as they dress as hippies, sing songs of the 60's and learn to do the twist. Student will learn about oral history and they conduct interviews with family members who grew up in the fascinating decade. Other learning activities include Internet research, drama performances, and Paideia seminars.

Geography: Exploring the World

This course reinforces students' knowledge of the continents and oceans and promotes better understanding of the relationship between the earth and mankind.

Global Conflicts

Students will research the major global conflicts of the 20th century and seek to understand their underlying causes and effects. Factors that influence human behavior and interaction will be examined, as well as opportunities for conflict resolution on a personal and global scale. Students will research conflicts as World War 1, World War 2, Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf, as well as current world conflicts and present their findings to the class.

Heritage of Wake County

Students will see for themselves historic landmarks of Wake County, trace Wake County's history, and use techniques of role history to interview local citizens who are "living treasures" of the capital area. Topography studied, and the unique communities of the county are introduced. Using old records and other primary sources, students find themselves face-to-face with the historical process, seeking answers to their questions in old cemeteries and in courthouse records.

In the Days of Knights

Through this nine week, project based course about the Middle Ages; students will gain a more in-depth understanding of feudal society. This course will include studies of kings, knights, castles, and cathedrals.

It's In the News

This elective is designed to engage students in learning about current events and how they are reported. Student will develop and interest current news items through reading newspapers, major news periodicals (Time and Newsweek), watching the news as well as keeping up with current events through on line news agencies. Students will research these events and conduct seminars concerning the events in which they will be able to voice their opinions pro and con.

The Melting Pot: American Immigration

"America has never been united by blood or birth or soil. We are bound by ideals that move us beyond our backgrounds, lift us above our interests and teach us what it means to be citizens.

.... Every immigrant, by embracing these ideals, makes our country more, not less American."

(President George W. Bush, January 20, 2001). The Melting Pot investigates the important role immigrants have had and continue to have in shaping American culture.

Nifty Fifties, The

This course will highlight important events that shaped history in the 1950's. This very important decade saw the beginnings of the Civil Rights Movement and the turmoil of the Korean War and the Cold War years following World War 2. In the '50's we the emergence of new teen culture deeply rooted in rock and roll and coupled with new media called "television".

Old Ballgame, The: History Through Baseball

Students will examine themes of race relations, equality for women and the effects of Prohibition and War on America. Through this course, students will examine the existence of Minor and Major League Baseball as a reflection of the social, political and economic changes in North Carolina and the United States of American since 1865.

Old West, The

This course will examine the reality of life in the Old West. Students will study westward expansion, geographical factors, and natural resources of the land. Students will examine the social climate of the time. Personal stories of the daily lives of miners, ranchers, pioneers, Native Americans, African Americans, and women will be included.

Passages to Other Cultures

In this introductory course about world cultures, students learn art, music, language, customs, and social practices of people of various cultures throughout the world.

Prevention of Violence

Teacher approval. Class is only available to 8th graders. This course allows students to explore mature subjects they may experience as they go through life. The subject matter ranges from school violence and peer pressure to the Bill of Rights and laws that protect citizens. The students will study trial laws such as the O. J. Simpson case, as well as exploring topics such as lyrics in music, drugs, and dress code. Character education is also included in the curriculum. Students must have permission from instructor before signing up for this class.

Sixties, The Fabulous – A Decade in Review

Students will explore a decade in American history: the turbulent 1960's. Student will examine the Kennedy administration, Vietnam War, Civil Rights movement, women's movement, and space programs.

Roaring Twenties, The

The 1920's were an exciting time in American History. With the end of World War 1, the nation experienced new confidence and energy. The Roaring 20's class will learn how North Carolina was affected by national changes through studying pictures, documents, and newspapers. This course will enhance reading and writing skills while developing new interest in NC and US history.

Tar Heel Junior Historians

The history of North Carolina with activities through the Tar Heel Junior Historians (THJH) program is the focus of this course. Students will become historians as they look at various ways to study North Carolina's history. Students participating in this class will also participate in the Quiz Bowl competitions. ***Class requires teacher permission.***

US Military History

Students examine the wars in which the United States was involved. They study the factors contributing to United States involvement and the effects of that involvement. Topics for research and discussion include battles, military schools, famous leaders, weaponry, medical techniques, technology, women, and minorities.

Youth and the Law: How Do Laws Affect You?

Civil and criminal law and the court system as they relate to juveniles are studied in this course. Emphasis is placed on juvenile rights and responsibilities and the consequences of crime.

Health

First Aid

This course focuses on all aspects of first aid. The importance of first aid knowledge and understanding the procedures used for various situations is stressed.

Healthful Living

Healthful living is required for all 7th grade students at Carnage Middle School. Through a quality healthful living education program, students will learn the importance of health and physical activity and develop skills to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle

Technology

Business Computer Technology I (BCT I)

Prerequisite: Keyboarding/Computer Literacy Available to 7th and 8th graders and 6th graders who have completed Keyboarding/Computer Literacy This course introduces basic concepts of processing information. Content areas include the impact of computers on business and individuals, input/output media, survey of computer applications (word processing, database, and spreadsheets), and career opportunities

Business Computer Technology II (BCT II)

Prerequisite: Business Computer Technology I Available to 7th and 8th graders only. In this course students further develop skills learned in BCT I. They also study graphics, telecommunications, and BASIC programming.

Intro to Computers/Keyboarding/Computer Literacy

This course offers general keyboarding instruction on the computer keyboard. Students develop basic skills in touch-typing and learn proper use and care of equipment and materials. General computer literacy includes history, terminology, and computer uses. Word processing, database management, electronic spreadsheet, and telecommuting skills are introduced. The course helps prepare students for the Computer Literacy Exam and is a prerequisite for any advanced computer classes. **All sixth graders are required to take this class.**

Multimedia I

Create projects in PowerPoint using text, graphics, and sound. Make your next report and audiovisual presentation that will impress your teachers and other students.

Effective Design/Desktop Publishing

Effective Design: Newsletters, Brochures, and Slide Shows are created to instruct students in correct design principles, which are applied to newsletters, brochures, and slide show presentations. The skills acquired are real-life based and are transferable to interdisciplinary projects. Students begin to design with the aid of a template and conclude with their original creations. There is also a heavy emphasis on the correct utilization of graphics. It is assumed that students have mastered intermediate computer skills.

Robotics (Robo Challenge)

This course is simple but elegant: Students build machines with Lego blocks, gears, and motors; then they connect those machines with wires and an interface box to computer that speaks a dialect of Logo. Using a few simple commands, motors are turned on and off and their direction reversed. Thinking skills and logical problem solving are emphasized.

Satellites, Computers, and Mapping

Satellites, Computers, and Mapping is an interdisciplinary course that is designed to show students how satellites and remote sensing are used to solve problems. A variety of tools, including the Internet, Geographic Information System (GIS), and Global Positioning System (GPS), will be explored as students analyze, interpret, and generate their own hypothesis and use critical thinking skills to solve their problems.

Web Design I

Students will use the Internet and the most current research tools to gather information, which relates to their academic interests, hobbies, or personal strengths. They will also use this information to create research reports or electronic portfolios, using word processors, HTML editors, and a variety of graphic tools. The final product will be suitable for posting on the World Wide Web as a resource for other students.

Web Design II

Students will briefly review the basic skills of building web pages before investigating the Principles of Design as they pertain to Web Design. Students will also learn the basics of the web building software Dream Weaver. The students will learn about the principles and apply them to the pages they design as projects in the class.

Visual Arts

Advanced Design/Advanced Art

Prerequisite: *Brush Off, Drawing I, or a student portfolio* This course emphasizes the use of the principles and elements of design to achieve a strong composition. Advanced color theory includes work with tempera, watercolor marker, crayon and pastels. Students will explore the use of many drawings and printmaking materials. **Teacher Permission**

Brush Off, The (Painting)

Students study color theory and experiment with the various brush strokes, control of the brush, and use of water-based paints in developing a composition. Art History is incorporated.

Carolina Crafts

Crafts of the Carolinas are introduced in this course, and the students may be involved in the making of such crafts as stitchery, appliqué, jewelry, basketry, and pottery. A study of local craftsmen is a part of this course.

Commercial Art

In this course, students learn the major techniques of commercial art such as designing layouts and cover designs. Posters and advertisements are produced. Cut paper, folded, hand drawn, and original lettering styles are incorporated into the overall commercial process.

Drawing

In Drawing, students experience the fascinating process of sketching on paper what they see in the mind's eye. They are instructed in a variety of drawing techniques and enjoy increasing success as their confidence develops. They work with lines, shapes, and basic principles of perspective.

Printmaking

The principles and applications of printmaking are taught with emphasis placed on positive and negative spaces. Printmaking methods may include cardboard, linoleum or wood blocks, and stencil or screening processes.

Sculpture

Students use a wide variety of media such as paper, wood, clay, plaster, paper mache, cardboard, foam and plastic. Art history is incorporated and explored as well as individual expression.

Performing Arts

Dance

Beginning Tap I/II

Students will be taught the basics of tap technique. Music used includes current pop, clean hip-hop, Motown, Broadway, and other classics. The students will have the opportunity to continue Advanced Tap the following semester at the teacher's discretion.

Advanced Tap III/IV

Students with tap experience may sign up for Advanced Tap at the teacher's discretion. Students will continue to build on tap steps learned in Beginning Tap and will learn advanced steps including, Time-Steps, Wings, and Pull Backs.

Dance Around The World

Students learn different cultural dances from around the world. Students learn the traditional dances of each culture and complete choreography projects using the traditional dances and modern influences. Cultures to be studied include African, Hawaiian, Indian, Mexican, Pilipino, and others. This is an excellent class for the experienced dancer looking for something different or the student that is new to dance.

Dance Performance/Ensemble -Yearlong

Pre-requisite: Audition and teacher recommendation. In this course, students develop various performance techniques including stage presence, ensemble work, and understanding of the role of dance to choreographer. Opportunities are given for performance in teacher selected dance style (modern dance, ballet, jazz, and/or tap), and student choreography. Students experience the elements of production: costume design, publicity, lighting, and set design. Schools may choose to establish a performance company. ***Open only to seventh and eighth grades students who have auditioned.***

Introductory Dance

This is an exploratory movement class for the student who has never had a dance class. Students experience various dance forms including modern, ballet, jazz, and folk while building strength, flexibility, and coordination. This course also builds an appreciation for dance as an art form.

Jazz Dance

In Jazz Dance, students are trained in the classic styles, as well as, the current dance trends. Dance students learn about dance as a form of artistic expression and fitness. Dancers are taught the correct and safe ways to move their bodies for strength and wellness. Music is current pop, clean hip-hop, Motown, and other classics. All levels of experience and ability are successfully combined and challenged through differentiated instruction and student choreography projects.

Ballet I (Lyrical Ballet)

In Lyrical Ballet, students will be taught basic ballet terminology and movements fused with jazz and modern. This is not a "strict" type of ballet. There are not ballet barres. Music used is slower, current pop, Motown, Broadway, and others. This is an emotional, beautiful type of dance. All levels of experience and ability are successfully combined and challenged through differentiated instruction and student choreography projects.

Modern Dance I

In this, course students explore basic improvisation and composition as it relates to modern dance. They will also learn about the skills of the early pioneers of modern dance.

Music in Motion

At last! A class that you can move around in! A class where you can make noise! A class that lets you create your own music! This course will open your mind to new possibilities for your own personal performance in dance and singing. This elective will incorporate pop music, folk music, ethnic music and students very own compositions to create unique versions of performance and style projects.

Swing Dance

The learner will gain skills to enhance his or her physical, cultural, emotional, and social abilities. The learner will move towards an understanding to the extent of how the US shared in problems of WWII and will judge the significance of social, economic, and political changes since 1945 and draw conclusions about the effect on contemporary life.

Instrumental Music

Advanced Strings

This course is an in-depth study of varied and sophisticated music for intermediate and advanced students. Students in this course constitute a major performing group that included strings, winds and percussion.

Beginning Band

Students learn to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Emphasis is on the acquisition of basic musical skills and systematic progress rather than performance; however, band classes perform several concert compositions.

Beginning Strings

This first-year instruction in strings (violin, viola, and cello) includes correct holding position, bow grip, selected major and minor scales, and rhythm studies. Appropriate musical terms, dynamic markings, and the parts and care of stringed instruments are emphasized. Beginning string classes prepare a number of concert selections, which are performed, for an audience.

Concert Band

An in-depth study of varied and sophisticated music for intermediate and advanced students are the focus of this performing group. *String instruments are not included in this band.*

Guitar I and II

Technical drills, scales studies, finger chords and sight-reading exercises are used in the teaching of this class. Performance opportunities during recital times.

Intermediate Band

Technical drills, scale studies, rhythm, and sight-reading exercises are used to advance the students' skill, knowledge, and reading ability in music. A wide variety of band literature is studied to give them experience in various musical styles. Performances are presented to other groups.

Intermediate Strings

Prerequisite: Beginning Strings or private lessons. At this level, students continue to master scales and technical studies. Extended ranges, shifting, and further study of good string tone and intonation are emphasized. Style and interpretation are discussed extensively. Performance opportunities with a string orchestra are a significant part of this program.

Jazz/Rock Band

This course is a study of all styles of jazz and rock. Students in this course constitute a major performing group of intermediate and advanced players.

Piano Lab

This course is designed to introduce students to piano playing who have little or no previous experience. It is also designed for the more advanced student. It guides them through the skills of music reading, scales, chords, and performance of piano literature at appropriate levels

Percussion Ensemble

Percussion ensemble will be offered to any interested student that has had at least one year of music training. Students must be able to read music and count simple rhythms with basic notation such as whole notes, half notes, quarter and eighth notes. Percussion ensemble uses many instruments such as snare drum, bass drum, tenor drum, marimba, xylophone, bells and assorted other instruments. Piano players will find the xylophone and bells easy to play! You do not have to purchase an instrument to take this class. Now's your chance to experience all of those percussion instruments that you have always wanted to get your hands on to beat, bang, and shake!!! This class is a semester long elective and will be offered both semesters. You can take this class both semesters, if space permits.

Vocal Music

Concert Chorus

This course is designed for the large performing group, whose members have a strong grasp of middle level choral music, a broadened base of performance experience, and a design to explore more advanced literature. Previous experience at the intermediate level or evidence of competency at the intermediate level is required.

Honors Chorus

This course is for an auditioned group of outstanding seventh and/or eighth graders who demonstrate a high level of mastery of choral music at the middle school level and wish to continue at an accelerated rate. This group presents many performances in and outside the school system, and demonstrates excellence in choral achievement.

Beginning Chorus

This course is an introduction to vocal music, which provides students the opportunity to learn some skills while exploring various musical sources and styles. Much emphasis is placed on providing a positive musical experience to students through class activities.

Vocal Exploration

This course is a quarter introduction to vocal music. It provides students to explore the possibilities of vocal music while exploring various musical sources and styles.

Drama

Acting I

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of acting. Students will explore characters and situations through the use of theater games and improvisational exercises, pantomime and oral interpretation. They will also explore the historical development of the actor's art. Pre-requisite: Introduction to Theatre or Drama Teacher's Approval.

Acting II

Prerequisite: Acting I. This course offers students a chance to develop acting skills at a more advanced level. Students are challenged to become disciplined in acting techniques and to go beyond the classroom to independently develop a working knowledge of acting.

Costumes, Makeup, Props, Publicity, Stage Management

Students learn to design and construct costumes, makeup and props. Students also learn the ins and outs of stage management and publicity for the theatre. Students are encouraged to participate in the productions of the Carnage Players

Drama Production/The Carnage Players

Drama Production is an intensive study of the art of acting. Students will also look at other aspects involved in the production process of theater such as stage management, student directing. **After-school rehearsals and weekend performances are required for this course. Pre-requisite: Audition Only**

Introduction to Theatre

This course is designed to introduce students to the world of the theatre. The student will learn about some of the history of the theatre as well as study various acting styles and techniques. Course experiences include an overview of dramatic techniques and explorations in the areas of pantomime, dialogue, monologue, improvisation, voice/diction, and role-playing, as well as makeup, costume design, set design and construction and lighting.

Technical Theatre

In this course, students conduct an intensive study of the technical processes necessary for theatre productions, including make-up, costume design, set design and construction, lighting, script analysis, casting, and directing. An after-school practicum is an important aspect of this course. Students use their studies to design present actual productions.

Stagehand Studio

A class designed for students who are interested in designing and constructing sets, lights and sound. An after-school practicum is an important aspect of this course. Students use their studies to design present actual productions.

General Studies

Media Assistant

On request of the Media Center staff, after meeting academic and behavioral requirements, a student may sign up as a media assistant. A student may sign up as media assistant only at the request of the Media Center staff, and only after meeting academic and behavioral requirements. Duties may include shelving books, assisting classes with checking materials in and out, and completing other tasks necessary to the library. Additional review in alphabetizing and the Dewey Decimal System may also be required. **Must meet media center's requirements. Please see a Media Specialist for permission.**

Foreign Language

French MS - I

This course is an introduction to the French language and culture. Students study basic grammatical structures and vocabulary and use them in listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities at the beginning level. Topics include the alphabet, accent marks, greetings, classroom objects, numbers, colors, the calendar, weather expressions, telling time, gender and plurals, subject pronouns, present and simple future tense of common regular and irregular verbs, the family, clothing, parts of the body, interrogative words, negative expressions, prepositions, agreement of nouns and adjectives, possessive adjectives, common idioms, and contractions.

French MS - II

Prerequisite: French MS - I or prior experience with teacher/counselor recommendation Students review topics covered in French MS - I while continuing their study of more complex grammatical structures and vocabulary through activities involving listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Grammatical topics include the present tense and passé' compose' of regular verbs and common irregular verbs, articles, possession, demonstrative adjectives, interrogative adjectives, negative expressions, phrases using two verbs, imperatives, emphatic pronouns, irregular adjectives, placement of adjectives, object pronouns, reflexive verbs, comparatives and superlatives, giving directions, animals, shopping, the house, transportation, directional words, occupations, and countries of the world. **Students completing this course successfully may be able to move into French II at the high school level.**

French MS - III

Prerequisite: French MS - II or prior experience with teacher/counselor recommendation. Students review topics previously taught in French MS – I and refine their skills in all areas of language acquisition. Grammatical topics include adverbs, prepositions following verbs, object pronouns, dictionary skills, sequence of tenses, subjunctive mood, imperfect tense, conditional tense, future tense, the phone, medical words, hobbies and games, expressing an opinion, the car, traveling, sports, and menus and restaurants. Students completing this course successfully **may be able to** move into **French II or III** at the high school.

German MS - I

This course is an introduction to the German language and culture. Students study basic grammatical structures and vocabulary and use them in listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities at the beginning level. Topics include the greetings, classroom objects, numbers, colors, the calendar, weather expressions, telling time, family and pets, food and drink, clothing, sports and leisure, the house and furniture, transportation, pronouns, present tense of verbs, word order, formation of plurals, forming questions and question words, nominative and accusative case, coordinating conjunctions, modal verbs, and possessive adjectives.

German MS - II

Prerequisite: German MS – I or prior experience with teacher/counselor recommendation. Students review topics covered in *German MS - I* while continuing their study of more complex grammatical structures and vocabulary through activities involving listening, speaking, and writing. Topics include commands, accusative prepositions, dative prepositions, future tense, transportation, parts of the body, the perfect tense, indirect questions adjective ending, and comparison of adjectives, and comparison of adjectives. ***Students completing this course successfully may be able to move into German II at the high school.***

German MS - III

Prerequisite: German MS - II or prior experience with teacher/counselor recommendation. Students review topics previously taught in *German MS I and II* and refine their skills in all areas of language acquisition. Grammatical topics include doubtful prepositions, narrative past tense, adjective endings, dependent clauses, and subordinating conjunctions. ***Students completing this course successfully may be able to move into German II or III at the high school.***

Japanese MS - I

The students study the five chief areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and culture. They also work with the Katakana and Hiragana syllabifies for reading and writing. **MAJOR SKILL OBJECTIVES:** 1) Build basic vocabulary and language skills, 2) Understand the contemporary culture of Japan, and 3) Compare Japanese culture with Western culture.

Japanese MS – II/III

Prerequisite: Japanese MS - I. This is a continuation of Japanese I and continues to emphasize spoken and written communication through drill practice and conversation to promote facility with pronunciation, intonation, and smoothness of expressions. The Romanized section of the text explains grammar and facilitates oral proficiency, while the Hiragana section teaches the basic syllabify used in the reading and writing of Japanese. A segment of culture study is incorporated into each unit of study, including the opportunity for each student to do research on an area of individual interest. Students completing this course successfully ***may be able to move into Japanese II*** at the high school.

Spanish MS - I

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language and culture. Students study basic grammatical structures and vocabulary and use them in listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities at the beginning level. Topics include the alphabet, accent marks, greetings, classroom objects, numbers, colors, the calendar, weather expressions, telling time, the city, animals, foods, the family, parts of the body, clothing, sports, subject pronouns, possession, agreement of nouns and adjectives, present tense of regular verbs, forming questions, prepositions, and possessive adjectives. ***Students must have prior approval of language arts teacher from elementary school or middle school***

Spanish II

Prerequisite: Spanish I Students review topics in Spanish I while continuing their study of more complex grammatical structures and vocabulary through activities involving listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students completing this course successfully ***may be able to move into Spanish II*** at the high school.

Spanish III

Prerequisite: Spanish II Students review topics previously taught in Spanish I and II and refine their skills in all areas of language acquisition. Grammatical topics include commands, double objects pronouns, future tense, time expressions, writing narratives, phone usage, clothing, holiday, art, household expressions, medical vocabulary, the car, etc. Students completing this course successfully ***may be able to move into Spanish II or III*** at the high school.

Career and Technical Education

Architectural Design

This course provides opportunities for the student to learn principles of good architectural design and the use of drawing instruments while planning and drawing original floor plans and elevations. Architectural software will also be used.

Child Care

Explore how young children grow and develop. Special emphasis will be placed on learning activities, discipline techniques, safety precautions, and nutrition appropriate for the infant, toddler and preschooler. Students will gain confidence and competence in caring for young children. Each student will create a "Bag of Tricks" to take with him/her on a babysitting job.

Creative Cuisine

Develop basic cooking skills while learning about nutrition. Special emphasis will be placed on equipment identification, kitchen safety, cooking methods and table setting. Students will prepare and serve a variety of foods while gaining confidence in the kitchen.

Digital Photography

Basic photography is done through the eyes of a digital camera. Basic editing software will be demonstrated in this course.

Exploring Career Decisions

This course is designed to provide an orientation to the world of work. Experiences are designed to introduce students to the technical nature of today's world and the role of productive workers. Activities enable students to increase self-awareness and make wise educational and occupational decisions as they plan for careers. The formal career development planning process often begins with this course.

Exploring Life Skills

Students learn life management skills by exploring career-related opportunities and the productive use of skills in the workplace. Social, human relations, and communication skills are emphasized, along with factors that influence personality, self-concept, and personal image. Students plan snacks and meals for personal and family wellness. Students further explore resource management, nutrition and wellness, personal and social responsibility, and fashion and appearance.

Exploring Technology

This course introduces basic technological principles, processes, and skills such as safety, design, problem solving, team decision-making, and information gathering. Students explore sketching, technical drawing, computer assisted graphics, computer-aid design, and electronic devices. Emphasis is on technical fields and occupations.

Housing and Interior Design

Students will design bedroom model. The bedroom model project will utilize the basic elements and principles of design, with emphasis on color, wall and window treatments, flooring, accessories and furniture arrangement. ***Students will need to purchase materials for this class.. Enrollment 12-22***

Sewing I and II Students will be requested to provide their own sewing supplies (i.e. fabric, thread, etc.) for both Sewing I and II.

Sewing I – Students will develop basic sewing skills while learning the proper use of the sewing machine and other equipment. A minimum of two sewing projects will be constructed by students.

Sewing II- Prerequisite- Sewing I - This class allows students to continue developing their sewing skills by constructing a minimum of three sewing projects.

Physical Education

Adapted Physical Education

This physical education course is designed for exceptional students who are unable to participate successfully in the regular program.

Archery

This course is designed for the beginning archery student who is unfamiliar with, or who is interested in learning to shoot the bow and arrow. This level provides a basic introduction to the history, terminology, safety, and care of archery equipment. ***Space is limited to 16 participants.***

Basketball

This course is designed for the beginning student who is interested in learning the fundamentals of basketball.

Bowling

This course is designed for the beginning bowler. Proper technique, scoring and etiquette are stressed.

Personal Fitness

This course is designed for students interested in an overall fitness program. Components of the President's Physical Fitness Test are incorporated.

Flag Football

This course is designed for the beginning student who is unfamiliar with, or interested in, learning the fundamentals of flag football.

Individual Recreational Games

Games played one on one against each other or with one clear winner at the end of the game. Games may include carom, mancala, connect four, chess, checkers, countdown, darts, Frisbee golf, four square, jacks, knockout, LCR, tic, tac, toe, and even some one on one basketball. Games may be indoor or outdoor.

Magnet Floor Hockey

Basic skills will include controlling, passing, and shooting in this beginning level floor hockey elective. Offensive and defensive positioning will be covered. Drills, relays, and lead-up games, as well as team situation are part of the elective.

Lifetime Sports

Sports that can be played for one's entire life. Games may include archery, badminton, board games, bowling, golf horseshoes, roller-skating, shuffleboard, tennis, and volleyball. Games may be indoor or outdoor.

Net Games

Games played across a net. Games include 3-week units of volleyball, tennis, and table tennis/badminton. Basic beginner skill development is stressed.

New Games

These are games you may not be familiar with at all. Most are played in a team format. Some are variations of an old, better-known game. Games may include angleball, basketball variations, football variations, Frisbee games, volleyball variations, and others.

Soccer (indoor)

This course is designed for the beginning student who is unfamiliar with, or interested in, learning the fundamental of soccer. This particular class is an indoor class.

Soccer (outdoor)

This course is designed for the beginning student who is unfamiliar with, or interested in, learning the fundamental of soccer.

Softball

This course is designed for the beginning student who is unfamiliar with, or interested in, learning the fundamentals of softball. At this level, students are introduced to the history, terminology, safety, equipment, scoring, and basic skills of softball.

Sports Variety

Three-week units of basketball, flag football, softball, volleyball, or soccer.

Team Recreational Games

Recreational or lead up games to the actual sport. Games may include floor hockey, indoor soccer, indoor softball, kickball, lacrosse, and sideline basketball.

Volleyball

This course is designed for the beginning student who is unfamiliar with, or interested in, learning the fundamentals of volleyball.

Weight Training 1

This course is designed for the beginning student who is unfamiliar with, or interested in, basic total body conditioning and maintenance. At this level, students are introduced to the history, terminology, special equipment, and safety of weight training. After a personal evaluation of physical condition level by the instructor, students are placed on individual programs that develop muscular strength, toning and endurance, and cardiovascular endurance. *Space is limited to 16 participants.*

Weight Training 2

Prerequisite: Weight Training 1 This course is designed for the intermediate student who is interested in increasing his/her personal physical condition. After a brief review of history, terminology, special equipment and safety, students continue on individual programs established in Weight Training 1. Concentration may be on more specific muscle groups with a periodic increase in weight and chart upgrading. Students learn how to design individual programs and keep a daily written log of improvement. *Space is limited to 16 participants.*