

Warren Woods Middle School

Course Selection

EIGHTH GRADE

Core Academic Classes

LANGUAGE ARTS (FULL YEAR) Mandatory

This curriculum uses the various aspects of language. Reading, speaking, listening, grammar, usage, and mechanics are taught through different writing techniques. Spelling and vocabulary development are integrated to provide clarity of ideas. Literature is included as a model for writing styles, as well as reading enrichment.

ADVANCE LANGUAGE ARTS (FULL YEAR) BY RECOMMENDATION

This is an advanced language arts course. Students must be recommended for this course by their 7th grade language arts teacher as well meet a set minimum score on their Spring NWEA.

SOCIAL STUDIES (FULL YEAR) Mandatory

This course teaches students about the birth and growth of our nation and the significant events that shaped our history from the Revolution Era through the year 1898. The study of American history is completed in tenth grade.

MATHEMATICS II (FULL YEAR) Mandatory

Topics covered in this course include linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, polynomial operations, data analysis, and systems of equations, factoring, rational expressions, and problem solving.

ALGEBRA I (FULL YEAR) BY RECOMMENDATION

This is an advanced math course that is offered for high school credit. Students must be recommended for this course by their 7th grade math teacher as well as pass an entrance exam and meet a set minimum score on their Spring NWEA. The students will study first-degree equations, verbal problems, polynomial operations, factoring, fractional expressions, and quadratics.

SCIENCE (FULL YEAR) Mandatory

Students will examine solar system motion and explain how stars produce energy through fusion. Our sun will be compared to other stars within the Milky Way galaxy. Students will be able to describe watersheds and how human interaction affects the environment. The class will learn about weather patterns and how to predict storm activity. During the second half of the year, the focus will shift to ecosystems and common ecological relationships between and among species.

ADVISORY (FULL YEAR) Mandatory

Advisory provides the eighth grade student with insight into careers. It also deals with relationships between peers and with others, substance abuse, violence prevention, and decision-making. During this year, transition to high school also is addressed. Students also work on goal-setting and career exploration.

Year-Long Elective Classes

SYMPHONIC BAND (FULL YEAR)

Eighth grade students continue to work on expanding their musical ability and knowledge. Performance opportunities are the same mentioned for the Cadet Band. The Concert Band has traditionally gone on an overnight trip to destinations such as Lansing or Mackinac Island.

SPANISH II (FULL YEAR)

This course is for students who took Spanish I in the seventh grade and have passed the proficiency exam. Students will continue their study of the Spanish language and culture. Students will have the opportunity to take a proficiency exam and earn a second world language credit. Students must have the teacher's approval and signature to sign up for this course.

Quarter Elective Class Options

ALL AROUND ART (10 WEEKS)

Students will study the elements of art and principles of design, which are the building blocks the all art is made of. Students will learn about the lives, inspirations and artistic qualities of famous artists throughout history. This course allows students to develop their creative ideas and interests with more involved and complex projects that involve a variety of materials.

AMERICAN POP CULTURE (10 WEEKS)

Students will be able to explain different aspects of American pop culture and compare them to different generations in American history. We will consider how these things have changed over the course of time and how they connect to the history of our country.

FILM CRITIS (10 WEEKS)

This course serves as an introduction to various genres of films. Students view a collection of movies and explore how they are similar and different. Student also participate in writing reviews of the different movies they watch using the concept of a writing workshop, where they share their writing samples with peers in order to give and receive feedback.

GAME OF LIFE (10 WEEKS)

Students will focus on developing life skills through the teaching of functional academics and daily living skills. Students practice and learn about the process of applying for employment, skills necessary to maintain and excel at work, daily living skills including budgeting, simple food preparation, and household management.

MATH LAB (10 WEEKS)

Math Lab is available for all 8th graders to provide extra exposure to math concepts outside the traditional Math 8/Algebra I classroom. Students will continue to build upon their current math skills and practice applying those skills in real world situations.

NEWS MEDIA (10 WEEKS)

Students participate in all steps involved in publishing a school yearbook and newspaper. Students learn the basic elements of yearbook creation including: writing articles, layout, design, copyrighting, editing and photography. The publication is created using computer software and is published for student distribution. This course will also focus on informational writing for journalism purposes. Students will learn the processes needed in planning and presenting informative news stories

PERSONAL FITNESS/TEAM SPORTS AND GAMES (10 WEEKS)

This class will focus on the development of individual physical fitness through the use of the fitness center and a variety of indoor and outdoor team sport activities. A battery of tests, recommended by the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Fitness for Youth, are administered.

ROBOTICS (10 WEEKS)

In this "Hands On" class, students will be using the Lego Mindstorms EV3 Kit. This introductory course will have student build robot models and program the robots. Several different robots will be constructed throughout the course along with different programming challenges.

SOCIAL JUSTICE (10 WEEKS)

In Social Justice we explore three specific topics that have shaped our world and that are currently changing the landscape of our world. Women's rights, genocide, and racism are the three topics we encounter. We dive into each of the topics to understand their historical relevance as well as their impact on current events. In this class you will get a better understanding of the world around you and a better understanding of the world you will one day inherit

YOU BE THE JUDGE (10 WEEKS)

In You Be the Judge students begin learning about our country's legal system. The functions of different participants, like judge, prosecute, defense attorneys and juries are explored.

All of the courses listed may not be offered depending on student interest and staff availability

For information regarding online learning opportunities please refer to the Warren Woods Public Schools website.