

**HIGHLAND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
8TH GRADE 2018-2019  
ELECTIVE COURSES**

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**DRAMA I** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course is a study of the various aspects of the theatre. Major topics will include acting, movement, stage vocabulary, and oral speaking. Units of study will include pantomime, creative dramatics, monologues, scene work, oral interpretation, impromptu speaking, readers' theatre, variety show, and one act plays.

**DRAMA II\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Audition Only**

This course expands on the concepts learned from Drama I. Major units include: technical aspects of stage production, theatre direction, script writing, advanced acting, and improvisation.

**GIRLS CHOIR 8** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course is a study of intermediate music concepts: music reading skills with emphasis on solfège, vocal technique, and performance skills. No previous experience is required, and students will not be required to sing alone. The purpose of this course is to encourage students to have fun while studying different types of music, including traditional, musical theater, jazz, and popular styles, as well as music in foreign languages.

**BOYS CHOIR 7/8** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course is a study of beginning and intermediate music concepts: music reading skills with emphasis on solfège, vocal technique with focus on the boy's changing voice, and performance skills. No previous experience is required, and students will not be required to sing alone. The purpose of this course is to encourage students to have fun while studying different types of music, including traditional, musical theater, jazz, and popular styles, as well as music in foreign languages.

**BEGINNING BAND** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**RESTRICTED INSTRUMENTATION:** Students may choose from Clarinet, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, or Tuba. No Flutes, Saxophones, or Percussion (drums).

This course is a study of the basic elements of music tonal production and skill development that happens as a part of band 7. The major topics covered in this class will be Band Method I and concert preparation. This is for students interested in learning to play a band instrument for the first time or learning a new instrument. Students enrolled in the beginning band will continue their course of study in the intermediate band second semester.

**BAND 8\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Previous band experience**

This course is a study of advanced fundamental technical development and large ensemble performance. The major topics covered in this class will be Band Method III and traditional and contemporary band music. Other features of this course are participation in school assembly programs and evening concerts. This is for eighth grade students who have played their band instruments for more than a year.

**JAZZ BAND 8\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**RESTRICTED INSTRUMENTATION:** Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Piano, Electric Guitar, Bass Drums

**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation or audition. All jazz band students must be enrolled in another music course to be considered for this class. Advanced 7th graders may enter only by audition with the consent of the conductor.**

This course is a study of introductory jazz ensemble literature--traditional swing and contemporary pop styles. Students will also participate in school assembly programs and evening concerts. This is for students who play saxophone, trumpet, trombone, percussion, piano, and bass and are interested in auditioning for this select group.

**ORCHESTRA** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite:** Previous orchestra experience required. This course is a continuation of intermediate scales, bowings, and techniques including fourth position, as well as chamber music ensemble experience. Performance attendance is required.

**SPANISH IA** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course is a study of the skills necessary to gain a background in the Spanish language. The major topics covered will include speaking, oral comprehension, reading, writing, grammar and spelling. The course will also feature a study of social customs, as well as the historical background of the Spanish-speaking countries.

**SPANISH IB\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Spanish IA**

This course incorporates enhanced language acquisition using storytelling, reading, writing, and cultural activities allowing students to experience conversational language in context. PLEASE NOTE: Completion of Spanish IA and Spanish IB will prepare the student for entry into high school Spanish II as a freshman.

**YEARBOOK\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Completed ONLINE application and teacher recommendations.**

This class creates a 100+ page volume of junior high memories. Students in this class are people who are idea oriented, creative, original, and hardworking. Photographers, graphic artists, and budding writers are encouraged to apply. Competent writing skills and computer literacy are advantages. Students in this class will gain an understanding of layout design, desktop publishing, marketing, sales, interviewing, copy writing and editing, and photography. Students will work in groups where cooperation, responsibility and effort are a must. Attendance at before school, after school, and lunch staff meetings will be required periodically.

**NEWSPAPER/NEWS CREW\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Completed application and teacher recommendations.** This course incorporates basic concepts of beginning journalism including writing, editing and photography into a student publication.

**INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY I** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

Students will explore the concepts, processes, and effects of various types of technology. Laboratory and computer-based activities allow students to discover and expand their own skills - from design to fabrication. Blueprint drawing, Rockets, and CO2 Cars will be our main projects.

**INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY II\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Industrial Tech I**

This is an advanced course where students will continue to explore the concepts learned in Industrial Technology I. Students will create a new product, learn how to build it digitally in 3D, build it in our shop, or print it on our 3D printers, before finally creating marketing materials. Laboratory and computer based activities allow the students to discover and expand their skills for practical use in today's world.

**ADVANCED ROBOTICS\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Completed application, and Prerequisite: Ind. Tech I**

This is an advance course where students will explore the concepts and processes of visual communication through the use of technical

drawings, sketches and pictures to plan for and document the construction of a robot. Laboratory and computer based activities allow the students to discover and expand their skills for practical use in today's world.

**LIFE SKILLS** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course is an introduction to skills needed for success in life. In the course you will learn about nutrition, sewing and clothing construction, self-esteem, good decision making skills, good habits, career exploration, money and time management, personality development, families, child development, safety and sanitation, and basic cooking skills. The class is enhanced through demonstrations, group activities, sewing projects, food labs, guest speakers and cooperative learning experiences.

**ART I** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This class is designed to meet the needs of students who wish to develop their unique creativity through the use of art materials related to drawing, painting, and printmaking. Each lesson is taught by using the 'Elements of Design' as a reference and all students are graded based on meeting certain requirements and not on previous experience. Basic Art History as well as basic styles of are also studied and reinforced through class assignments. There is 'No Homework' so that all students can receive as much individualized instruction as needed to be successful while at the same time gaining experience with a wide range of art materials.

**STEM Exploration I** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course introduces students to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) experiences in a project-based environment. In STEM I, students explore the creative processes involved in invention and innovation. They learn how to function as a team and practice the engineering design process by participating in challenges such as designing a functioning prosthetic hand and creating a sustainable solution to a real world problem.

**YOGA FITNESS TRAINING** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course will introduce students to beginning yoga poses. Emphasis will be placed on awareness of technique, skill, flexibility, posture, history, knowledge, vocabulary, core strength, and aesthetics of each poses. Students will learn and apply components of health-related fitness. Cardiovascular conditioning will be taught on a regular basis.

**BEGINNING DANCE** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course will include an introduction to various dance styles. Emphasis will be placed on awareness of technique/skill, history, knowledge, improvisation, and aesthetics of each dance style. Students will participate and relate dance as a lifetime fitness and health-related activity.

**INTRO TO WEIGHT TRAINING** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course will introduce resistance training and include a variety of exercises, techniques and programs. Students will learn and apply health-related concepts, proper nutrition and physiology. Students will learn and demonstrate correct techniques of core lifts. Cardiovascular conditioning and individual fitness assessments will be included.

**INTRO TO SPORTS TRAINING** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course will implement sport-specific lifting, cardiovascular conditioning, and fitness programs to improve athletic performance and injury prevention. A health-related curriculum including nutrition, physiology and health concepts will be incorporated.

**UNIFIED PHYSICAL EDUCATION MENTOR \***  
1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Completed application and teacher recommendations.**

This course will provide opportunities for students with mental or physical disabilities to be partnered with typical students in a daily physical education class. This co-ed class matches boys and girls across grade levels to benefit all students involved.

**FIELD and TEAM SPORTS** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

This course will include a variety of indoor and outdoor team sports. Students will learn game rules, strategies and how team building encourages team work.

**STUDENT MENTORSHIP\*** 1 YEAR 1 CREDIT

**Prerequisite: Completed application and two teacher recommendations.**

This course will allow students to work with and teach personal management, leisure, vocational skills, social skills and academics to special needs students. This course is an extension of the Hurricane Heroes club.

**\*\*\*\*\*Choosing Your Classes for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade\*\*\*\*\***

**Important Dates**

- **January 29<sup>th</sup>– 30<sup>th</sup>**- 8th Grade registration presentations in Library through English classes. Infinite Campus portal open February 1<sup>st</sup>- Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> for registration online.
- **February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Course Summary Printouts are due back to your English Teacher. Must be signed by a parent. Registration must be complete.

**Important Information**

The following elective classes require an **application and teacher recommendations** that need to be completed and turned in before you are considered for the class.

- ✓ Yearbook- online application
- ✓ Newspaper
- ✓ Unified PE
- ✓ Advanced Robotics
- ✓ Student Mentorship

**Required/Core Classes**

- ❖ Your required/core classes will already automatically be entered into the Infinite Campus Portal for you.
- ❖ If you were in Honors classes this year you will automatically be rolled over into Honors 8 courses for next year.

**Electives**

- You do **not** need to turn in your orange **Course Selection Form**. That is a guide to help you choose your elective classes.
- **You must turn in a parent signed Course Summary Print out.**
- Students are not guaranteed elective choices; however, we will make every effort to give students their "requested" electives.
- Choose your electives wisely since there are **NO** elective changes if students receive their requested or alternate electives.
- **Choose TWO (2) Requested Classes and THREE (3) Alternate classes for electives.**

**Special Instructions for Electives**

- Pay attention to **Prerequisites** needed.
- Pay attention with classes followed by an asterisk (\*)
- Some electives require an **Application and Teacher recommendations with due dates.**
- **No Elective Changes!!!**