



Westglades Middle School

2020 - 2021

Elective Course Offerings Guide

Grades 6 – 8

Mr. Matthew Bianchi, Principal

Principal's Message

Dear Students and Parents,

All 5th, 6th, and 7th grade students will be receiving course cards for the 2020 - 2021 school year. I urge all students and parents to take time to review these cards and discuss classes for next year. This discussion should take into account plans for high school and beyond as well. This *2020 - 2021 Course Offering Directory* will assist you in selecting your courses for the upcoming school year. We are very proud of our curriculum program and will continue to have high expectations while fostering a warm, caring, and safe environment to enhance learning for all.

We challenge you to set high expectations for yourself and follow it through with hard work and dedication. In doing this, you will ensure a bright future ahead.

Students will be placed appropriately into core classes using test scores, previous grades, and teacher recommendations. You will also see our elective offerings. Please review these offerings and choose the best that coincide with your plans and interests. We will try to provide your first and/or second choices. We believe that electives are a great way to motivate students through the middle school years.

Get involved! **Students** will benefit by joining our many extra-curricular activities. This is a great way for students to meet friends, enhance learning, and promote good citizenship/character. **Parents and guardians** are invited to stay involved in your students' education by joining our School Advisory Council (SAC), Volunteer Team (getinvolvedineducation.com), Parent Teacher Association, and School Advisory Forum (SAF). Faculty, staff, and administration are looking forward to a rewarding 2020 - 2021 for you.

If you have any questions, your grade level counselor can answer your questions. Please call our main line at 754-322-4800, and we will be glad to assist.

Respectfully,

Matthew Bianchi
Principal
Westglades Middle School

LEADERSHIP TEAM

ADMINISTRATION

MATTHEW BIANCHI, PRINCIPAL

SHAANTE COLLIE, 6TH GRADE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

SHARI SCHWARTZ, 7TH GRADE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

ERIC O'NEAL, 8TH GRADE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

CHRISTINE WILSON, GUIDANCE DIRECTOR, 7TH GRADE COUNSELOR

TAKEACEA MITCHELL – 6TH GRADE COUNSELOR

SUZANNE DESROSIERS – 8TH GRADE COUNSELOR

WMS ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

We believe the students' years at Westglades Middle School will provide them with successful and positive experiences. Students will encounter many opportunities for academic, physical, social, and emotional growth. They will not only enhance their present skills and abilities, but also be better prepared for success in the next grade as well as future endeavors. Course descriptions are listed alphabetically and are as follows:

Art I (7/8 Grade) – 01010100 2D Studio Art I

Art I is designed to help improve art skills such as drawing, collage, tempera painting, digital painting, copic marker, watercolor, and printmaking. Students will design artwork using a variety of media and techniques, develop students' creativity, self-expression, Elements of Art and Principles of Art. The content should include, but not be limited to the following-two dimensional media, digital painting and/or stop motion animation, imagery and visual language, critical thinking and analysis, historical and cultural perspectives, career opportunities.

Art II (8 Grade)

Art II is a continuation of Art I where we expand into the techniques of two dimensional and three dimensional works of art. Production activities may include drawing, ceramics, acrylic painting, copic marker, sculpture, print making, and digital painting. Art I in 7th grade a prerequisite for this course.

Band 1 (1st Year Band Students – 6/7/8 Grade) - 13020000

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills on wind or percussion instruments through the refinement and performance of middle/junior high band literature. The content should include: -technical skills -individual and ensemble techniques - music literacy -elements and characteristics of music -improvisation, composition, and arranging -performance analysis -role and influence of instrumental music and musicians -connections between music and other subject areas - instrument care and maintenance -responsible participation in music activities. This course generally requires students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day. Additional costs may be assessed for various enrichment activities.

Band II and III (2nd/3rd Year Band Students – 7/8 Grade)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop intermediate level to advanced level skills on wind or percussion instruments through the refinement and performance of middle/junior high band literature. The content should include: -technical skills -individual and ensemble techniques -music literacy -elements and characteristics of music -improvisation, composition, and arranging -performance analysis -role and influence of instrumental music and musicians -connections between music and other subject areas - instrument care and maintenance -responsible participation in music activities. This course generally requires students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day. Additional costs may be assessed for various enrichment activities.

Band IV (3rd Year Band Students – 8 Grade)

***High School Credit**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop high school level skills on wind or percussion instruments through the refinement and performance of middle/junior high band literature. The content should include: -technical skills -individual and ensemble techniques - music literacy -elements and characteristics of music -improvisation, composition, and arranging -performance analysis -role and influence of instrumental music and musicians -connections between music and other subject areas - instrument care and maintenance -responsible participation in music activities. This course generally requires students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day. Additional costs may be assessed for various enrichment activities.

Beginning Art (6 Grade) – 01010050 Exploring 2D Art

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to creative arts. Students will learn about the basic elements of art as well as work on improving their creativity and self-expression. Students will be introduced to color theory, art history, and visual observation skills. A variety of media will be utilized such as colored pencils, pastels, charcoal, watercolors, mixed media, etc.

Competitive Mathematics (6/7/8 Grade) – 1700000D Research I

This class offers opportunities for students willing to train for math counts competitions and future math Olympiads. The everyday curriculum will provide challenges beyond the middle school mathematics taught in a core mathematics classroom. The key components of this course emphasize strategic thinking, problem-solving and communication skills to aid in the development of a 21st century learner. Students will participate in SAT math preparation, mathematical project based learning and more.

CS Discoveries (8 Grade) – 9007610M Adv. IT Hon

*High School Credit

Computer Science Discoveries teaches the fundamentals of computer science. Within the course you will learn computer programming skills including how to write and read a language that communicates with machines. Students will build their own apps, websites, games and physical computing devices. Additional topics covered include coding, CSS/html, data collection and more.

Debate I (8 Grade) – 1007330M

*High School Credit

The objective of this course is to increase students' understanding of argument, critical thinking, and public speaking through a myriad of current event-related debate, speech, and interpretive activities. We will learn about and practice structured speeches with emphasis on verbal and nonverbal delivery skills (organization, projection, inflection, eye-contact, hand gestures, and more). Students will use a variety of means to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of course content. A foundation for effective argumentation and advocacy will be built by participating in mock debates and ultimately presenting one-research-based persuasive speech. As a result, many tools will be used to instruct students such as interactive activities, group and individual projects, group and individual performances, quizzes, and essays. Due to the Honors requirement, students in this course will also **BE REQUIRED** (and privileged) to attend competitive debate tournaments.

Drama 1 (6/7/8 Grade) – 04000000 Theatre I

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental knowledge and skills in the elements of theatre arts. This course should give students the opportunity to participate in acting, characterization, movement, vocal production, pantomime, improvisation, theatre terminology, dramatic literature, historical, cultural, and societal perspectives, technical theatre, playwriting, artistic discipline, audience etiquette, roles, and careers in theatre arts. This course provides a blended implementation of the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards and the Florida Standards.

Emerging Leaders (6/7/8 Grade) – 21040400 Emerg Leaders

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop knowledge of the history, customs, traditions and function of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) as well as to simulate an enthusiasm for scholarship as a foundation for higher citizenship and leadership goals. The course includes the development of basic leadership skills including leadership principles, values and attributes. Students also develop knowledge of self-control, citizenship, wellness and fitness. A study of the United States Constitution, Bill of Rights, responsibilities of United States citizens and the federal justice system is also provided.

Engineering Design I Honors (8 Grade) – 8600550M Intro to ENGR DES HON
*High School Credit/ Microsoft Office Specialist Certification

This high school honors course exposes students to: the design process, research and analysis, teamwork, communication methods, global and human impacts, engineering standards, and technical documentation. Students will employ engineering and scientific concepts in the solution of engineering design problems. In addition, they will learn to use industry recognized 3D modeling design software (Rhino and Mastercam) to design solutions to problems. Students will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions, document the process, and communicate the results. This course places a strong emphasis on manufacturing and fabrication, using 3-D computer software, tools, and machinery. This course satisfies the “practical art” requirement for graduation, and there is no End of Course (EOC) exam required. Students will take the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Excel Exam as a part of this course. Successful completion of Pre-Engineering, passing of the MOS PowerPoint exam, and teacher recommendation are pre-requisites for this class.

Finance I – Digital Info. Technology (8 Grade) – 8207310M Digital Info. Tech

*High School Credit/Microsoft Office Specialist Certification

The Finance and Business Technology high school credit course is designed to provide an overview of current business, finance, information systems and trends; to introduce students to the foundations required for today's business environments. Emphasis is placed on developing proficiency with computer applications, so that they may be used as communication tools for enhancing personal and workplace proficiency in an information-based society. The students will complete an 18-week Microsoft Office Excel instructional program as part of the class. Certification in Excel will be awarded upon successfully passing the Microsoft certification exam.

Foundations of Technology and Business (6 Grade) – 82005200 CPTR APPL BUS I

Students in this exploratory foundation course will engage in business, engineering, and robotic programming coursework. Utilizing a Virtual Enterprises curriculum, students will participate in various web-based activities that aid in the development of 21st century technology and business skills. Students will explore robotic programming utilizing fun, block-based programming languages like StarLogo Nova, Code.org and Scratch. Engineering concepts are introduced via hands-on building and construction activities. As a part of this course students will be offered the opportunity to earn IC3 digital literacy certification. This course provides a solid foundation for the Finance, Pre-engineering, and Robotics/CS academies (Career and Technical Education pathways offered in 7th and 8th grade).

Fundamentals of Finance (7 Grade) – 85404000

The purpose of this course is to assist students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the Finance career cluster. Fundamentals of Finance provides students with opportunities to become familiar with related careers and develop fundamental knowledge and skills in general economic systems, financial securities, banking concepts, credit, and consumer lending in the United States. Instruction in information systems and related electronic skills and software applications are also included. The class includes a Microsoft Office certification.

Independent Studies (7/8 Grade) – 1700000S Research I

This class provides a full period for students to work independently on various assignments as well as receive academic assistance from a teacher as needed. Computer access is readily available as well as monitored.

Introduction to Debate (6 Grade) – 10070000 Speech-Debate I

This is an introductory course designed to afford students the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of speech writing, public speaking, and debating. Students will increase their understanding of what it takes to construct an argumentative essay. They will be exposed to choosing a platform, researching their platform and participating in mock debates in support of their platform.

Introduction to Multimedia (6 Grade) – 10060000 Journ I

The Multimedia Communications course is an exciting computer project based course that will promote college and career skills. Students will use technology to create projects to include but not limited to TV commercials, short videos, quick report, daily live news, and informational videos.

Journalism I/Creative Writing (8 Grade) – 1006300M Journ I

*High School Credit/ Adobe InDesign Certification

The purpose of this is to prepare students for employment as writers and editors. This program provides a medium whereby the student will be given the opportunity for practical hands-on experiences that incorporate academic skills into a real life situation. The program familiarizes individuals with creative writing, script writing, graphic communications, desktop publishing, television production, photojournalism, and investigative reporting. A student-driven school newspaper will be created and distributed.

Multimedia Communications II (Grade 7/8) – 10060100 Journ II or 10060200 Journ III

The second year course in Exploring Multimedia Communications will enable students to continue applying their core curriculum knowledge of planning, organizing and using their skills to creatively make TV programming. Students will write different video scripts, shoot their videos and edit videos for sound and picture quality to match written scripts

Musical Theater & Production (6/7/8 Grade) – 04002000 Musical Theat I

The purpose of this course is for those who are interested in being a part of theatrical musical productions, either through performance or technical theatre. In addition to theatre productions, students might also be a part of different showcase nights. All cast and crew will be derived from within this class and every student will receive an assignment for the shows. Possible and probable areas of study will include: light design, set design/construction, sound design/implementation, performance theory, text analysis, voice and movement, make-up design and application, publicity and public relations endeavors, community outreach programs, etc. This class will include after school components (ie. rehearsals, performances, competitions etc.).

Orchestra I (1st Year Orchestra Students – 6/7/8 Grade) - 13020400

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills on string instruments through the refinement and performance of middle/junior high orchestra literature. The content should include: -technical skills-individual and ensemble techniques-music literacy-elements and characteristics of music-improvisation, composition, and arranging-performance analysis-role and influence of orchestral music and musicians connections between music and other subject areas, instrument care and maintenance responsible participation in music activities. This course generally requires students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day. Additional costs may be assessed for various enrichment activities.

Orchestra II and III (2nd/3rd Year Orchestra Students)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop intermediate to advanced skills on string instruments through the refinement and performance of middle/junior high orchestra literature. The content should include: -technical skills-individual and ensemble techniques-music literacy-elements and characteristics of music-improvisation, composition, and arranging-performance analysis-role and influence of orchestral music and musicians connections between music and other subjects, instrument care and maintenance responsible participation in music activities. This course generally requires students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day. Additional costs may be assessed for various enrichment activities.

Peer Counseling I and II (7/8 Grade) – 1400000 and 1400100

Peer counseling is a two year (prerequisite screening) curriculum designed to develop and enhance the health, safety and well-being of our students by focusing on peer education through a comprehensive program and curriculum that encompasses social and emotional skills and awareness, peer mediation, academic opportunity, student service and referral. Through classroom instruction, role-playing and skill building activities, peer counselors develop basic knowledge and life skills to help their peers with academic and individual concerns. This course is an elective class that provides a full range of services to students, the school and the zone through structured in-school and outreach activities. In addition to working with students individually and in groups, the peer counselors provide a variety of other services. They act as conflict mediators and peer tutors, assist special groups or students within the school and the zone, provide classroom presentations on teen issues, welcome new students and promote special violence and substance abuse prevention projects and initiatives.

Physical Education (6/7/8 Grade) – 15080700 or 1508070A Compre PE

The Physical Education Department is regarded as a vital and dynamic phase of every educational program. Our program provides opportunities for every individual so they can achieve their highest potential and learn the importance of making physical activity a lifelong pursuit. In our program the students will be introduced to cardiovascular, strength training, and flexibility activities, a variety of sports, games and the basic health components.

Pre-Engineering (Grade 7) – 86000200 Explor Technology

Pre-Engineering students at Westglades Middle will gain an opportunity to explore the area of communications technology and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) on our everyday lives. Strong Emphasis is placed upon the fundamentals of drafting using traditional and digital methodologies. Students will be immersed in 2-D and 3-D modeling and design techniques and tools. They will utilize and be exposed to a variety of digital formats and media, including industry recognized 2D (CAD) and 3D computer modeling software such as Rhino. Students have the opportunity for Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) industry certification exams as a part of this course. Successful completion of Foundations of Pre-Engineering and Finance, passing of the MOS Word exam, and teacher recommendation are pre-requisites for this class.

Robotics I (7th Grade) – 1700000A Research I

This course utilizes prior content knowledge gained from foundational Robotics .Students will deepen their understanding of engineering design principles, programming and physical computing . Students will work collaboratively in hands-on teams to design, build and implement S.T.E.M. based endeavors with autonomous and R.O.V. (Remotely Operated Vehicle) based robots. Additionally, students will have the opportunity to showcase their creations at various competitions within the community and at the District level.

Spanish 1 (7/8 Grade) – 0708340M

***High School Credit**

Spanish I introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities. Course Standards and Benchmarks are aligned to Florida Standards. Students may be placed in this course based off of their FSA Reading scores.

Spanish 2 (8 Grade) – 0708350M

***High School Credit**

Spanish II reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by the students in Spanish I. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish I. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language speaking people is continued. Course Standards and Benchmarks are aligned to Florida

Spanish Speakers I (7/8 Grade) – 0709300M

***High School Credit**

The purpose of this course is to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in their heritage language by reinforcing and acquiring skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including the fundamentals of Spanish grammar. Language Arts Standards are also included in this course to enable students to become literate in the Spanish language and gain a better understanding of the nature of their own language as well as other languages to be acquired. Course Standards and Benchmarks are aligned to Common Core Standards. The course content will reflect the cultural values of Spanish language cultures and societies.

PREREQUISITES: Placement Test

Spanish Speakers II (8 Grade) – 0709310M

***High School Credit**

The purpose of this course is to enable students whose heritage language is Spanish to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in their heritage language by reinforcing and acquiring skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing, including the fundamentals of Spanish grammar. Language Arts Standards are also included in this course to enable students to become literate in the Spanish language and gain a better understanding of the nature of their own language as well as other languages to be acquired. The course content will reflect the cultural values of Spanish language and societies.

Speech I (7 Grade) – 1007300M

***High School Credit**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the competitive speech events as sanctioned by the National Speech and Debate Association. Students will learn the basics of speech and debate competition and other necessary components such as tournament etiquette and performance strategies. We will be covering a vast amount of material in a short time. The content is rigorous. Students will use a variety of means to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of the content such as interactive activities, group and individual projects, as well as group and individual performances. Due to the high school credit, students in this course will be privileged and required to attend competitive debate tournaments

Tween Topics (6 Grade) – 17000006 Research I

Tween Topics is a course designed to develop and build character education by exposing students to decision-making, interpersonal communication and self- advocacy skills. The course addresses many aspects of a student's social, emotional, and school success in middle school, and throughout their lives. Through classroom instruction, role-playing and skill building activities, students develop personal responsibility and respect for others. The course includes topics of bullying, cyber safety, personal integrity, healthy living, and addresses skills students need to deal with the increasing complexity and responsibility in their lives.