

Westpine Middle School

Electives Course Descriptions (6th Grade)



Beginning Band

(#13020000)

Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. *Students will be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from the school or an outside source.*

Business Computers/CTACE

(#82002200)

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 Business, Management, and Administration career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to instruction in introductory keyboarding, introductory word processing, introductory electronic presentation, introductory computer hardware, introductory Internet, and soft skills for business applications. Students will explore various programs in the Microsoft Office Suite in order to begin meeting competencies necessary for Industry certification.

Leadership

(1700000L)

Students will develop strong learning skills, build confidence in working with peers and adults, complete course recovery if needed, and receive academic support.

Peer Counseling

(#14000000)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop awareness of self and others. Emphasis will be on acquisition of basic skills for thoughtful planning, peer facilitation, effective communication and making healthy choices. The content includes peer facilitating, human needs, self-awareness and expression, peer pressure, peer and family relationships, conflict resolution, goal setting, social skills, active listening, personal choices, healthy lifestyles and effects of stress.

Art

(#01010100)

Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

STEM/Robotics

(#1700000S)

Construct, build and propel yourself through the exciting hands-on STEM adventure! Students will utilize Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics to complete project based tasks, some including the creation and programming of robots.

Physical Education (#15080000)

The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to become healthy and physically active for a lifetime. This course addresses both the health and skill-related components of physical fitness, which are critical for students' success.

Speech/Debate (10070250)

The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. The content should include, but not be limited to, the following: learning and practicing a variety of speech formats, learning and demonstrating appropriate formal and informal public speaking techniques for audience, purpose, and occasion. Eye contact and body movements, voice register and choices of language, Using research and writing skills to support selected topics and points of view, across a range of disciplines, using a range of sources, including digital collaboration amongst peers, especially during the drafting and practicing stages.

JROTC (1700000E)

Students will focus on academic study while learning the disciplines of marching, presenting the colors of the American flag, and physical fitness.

Journalism/Digital Media (#17000001)

Students will learn to use a variety of digital media to relay relevant information to a variety of audiences. Students will learn to create and maintain websites, conduct daily monitoring announcements, and create digital photographs and video.

Cambridge Lower Secondary Physical Education (#15011400)

Physical education is a vital part of a balanced school curriculum. Regular exercise improves physical and mental health and there is growing evidence that it improves academic performance across the curriculum. Establishing good patterns of exercise in lower secondary school provides learners with the foundation of an active and healthy lifestyle.

Cambridge Lower Secondary Global Perspectives (#17002000)

Global Perspectives is based on skills rather than on specific content. Learners develop research, thinking, reasoning and communication skills.

Cambridge Lower Secondary Art & Design (#01010100)

Art & Design gives learners a platform to express themselves, sparking imagination, creativity and developing transferable skills. Students explore and push boundaries to become reflective, critical and decisive thinkers. They learn how to articulate personal responses to their experiences.

Speech I (non-honors credit) (#1007300M)

The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as they apply to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. Students in this course will compete in speech and debate tournaments.

Cambridge IGCSE Spanish 1 – Foreign Language (honors credit) (#0708340M)

This course is designed for students who are learning Spanish as a foreign language. The aim is to develop an ability to use the language effectively for practical communication. The course is based on the linked language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing, and these are built on as learners' progress through their studies.