

# ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

## YEAR COURSES

### AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) \*\*

**Course #:** 8252

**Prerequisite:** Screening by AVID committee

**Grade level:** 7 - 8

This course serves “students in the middle” who have academic potential but who have not previously succeeded in a “college prep” path. Students receive academic instruction, tutorial support, and motivational activities.

### Journalism \*\*

**Course #:** 1202

**Prerequisite:** Approval of Instructor (Application required)

**Grade level:** 7 - 8

The course encompasses the production of the school yearbook. The production of the yearbook begins in the early spring of each year when the staff of the ensuing year is selected. This is done through a process of interviewing and screening prospective students for editor and staff positions. During the year, production is geared for coverage of all school activities through the final deadline time in late March or April. While adhering to publisher deadlines, the yearbook completes that cycle of covering the history of one year of school life. Course includes production of the school newspaper.

### Marching Band/PE (Beginning and Intermediate levels available)

**Course #:** 6160/6161

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade level:** 7 - 8

This course offers students the opportunity to continue their study of standard woodwind, brass and percussion instruments, and to participate in band performances. Successful completion of this course qualifies students to progress to the high school band program. This course can take the place of Physical Education or be the students’ elective course.

### Spanish I

**Course #:** G5681

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade level** 7 - 12

This course consists of a series of linguistic activities and cultural topics, which enable the student to communicate about daily activities at a survival level. These activities are chosen for their personal significance to the students, thereby providing an aspect of spontaneity to the communication. At the end of this course, the student will be able to understand, speak, read, and write about high frequency expressions and phrases and make him/herself understood by the teacher.

### Spanish II

**Course #:** G5682

**Prerequisite:** Spanish I with “C” or better

**Grade level:** 7 - 12

This course consists of a series of linguistic activities and cultural topics, which enables the student to communicate about daily activities at a functional level. These activities are chosen for their personal significance to the students, thereby providing an aspect of spontaneity to the communication. At the end of this course, the student will be able to understand, speak, read and write about basic daily activities and make him/herself understood by a sympathetic native speaker.

### Reading

**Course #:** 1303

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade level:** 7 - 8

This class is designed for students who are reading below grade level. Students receive individualized instruction in reading comprehension, spelling, and vocabulary on computer software, as well as small group instruction, and independent reading time. Reading materials are high interest and each student reads books appropriate for their reading level. Progress is monitored regularly.

## SEMESTER COURSES

### Academic Success

**Course #:** 8251

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade level:** 7 - 8

The course is designed to assist and instruct students in basic skills, which are prerequisites to academic success, and personal adjustment in high school. The skills taught in this course form a foundation for successful schoolwork. In addition, the implementation of these techniques will have wide applicability in both college and career settings.

### Algebra Topics

**Course #:** 2305

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade level:** 8

This course will provide daily support for students enrolled in Algebra I and will be scheduled within the regular school day. Organizational skills, remediation and homework assistance for the students in their College Prep Algebra class will be the focus of the class. Regular attendance coupled with an emphasis on the use of the daily agenda and the notes taken in the Algebra class will be stressed for this support course. The homework assigned by the student’s current math teacher will be worked on each day. Some additional homework might be assigned for this elective class. The grade earned in the Algebra Topics elective will be a reflection of the student’s effort and will not represent mastery of concepts taught to fulfill the requirements of the Algebra I course.

### Pre Algebra Topics

**Course #:** 2301

**Prerequisite:** None

**Grade level:** 7

This course is designed to provide support for students enrolled in Pre Algebra or Pre Algebra Essentials. Organizational skills, remediation, and homework assistance on the homework assigned by the students’ Pre Algebra teacher will be the focus of the class.

**Intro to Multimedia****Prerequisite: None**

This is an elective introductory course designed for all students. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of multimedia production through introductory instruction in digital photography, digital photo and graphics manipulation, basic web page design using Front Page 2000, and multimedia presentation using PowerPoint 2000. Designed within this curriculum, students will also learn the basics of Microsoft Office 2000 – Word, Excel, and Publisher – as well as learn to navigate and research the Internet. Infused into the daily curriculum will be the basics of keyboarding while learning to increase your typing speed. Introduction to Multimedia is a prerequisite for Advanced Multimedia.

**Course #: 7251****Grade level: 7 - 8****Advanced Multimedia****Prerequisite: Introduction to Multimedia or teacher permission**

This course will explore more advanced functions of digital photography and photo editing; advanced web design and layout using Microsoft FrontPage 2000; and begin the basics of graphics animation using Macromedia Flash. The Internet will play an integral part of classroom instruction. Students will continue to increase their typing speed as well as their knowledge and practice of desktop publishing with Microsoft Word and Publisher throughout the semester.

**Course #: 7252****Grade level: 7 - 8****CE-SMART (Career Exploration of Science and Math****Applications to research and Technology)****Prerequisite: None**

This course delivers a contemporary curriculum of technology content, language arts and applied math and science inquiry through the balanced use of multimedia, video and hands-on activities. Integrated units include, Alternative Energy, CNC Router, Laser Technology, CAD, Electricity, Digital Music, Flight Technology, Forensic Science, Energy and Power, Materials Processing, Mechanics, Pneumatics, Research and Development, Robotics, Structural Engineering, and Virtual Architecture.

**Course #: 4202****Grade level: 7 - 8****Intro to Drama****Prerequisite: None**

This course is designed to introduce the student to the cultural heritage and artistic process of acting. The student's skill in expressing thought and feelings through both verbal and non-verbal means will be developed. Positive self-image and confidence are developed through the emphasis on a graduated sequence of success-oriented activities.

**Course #: 6072****Grade level: 7 - 8****Advanced Drama****Prerequisite: Introduction to Drama and /or permission of instructor**

This course is designed to refine the basic skills developed in "Intro to Drama." The intent is to develop within the student a positive self-concept, and an ability to perceive and interact successfully with others. There will be a greater emphasis on "in-class" performances.

**Course #: 6073****Grade level: 7 - 8****General Studio Art****Prerequisite: None**

A survey course that will expose the student to varied art forms, media, and techniques. This exposure will create a common core of knowledge, familiarize the student with his/her cultural heritage, develop and refine his/her sensibilities toward the arts and enable the student to express his/her own creativity and increase his/her capacity for problem solving.

**Course #: 6051****Grade level: 7 - 8****Advanced Art****Prerequisite: General Studio Art or teacher permission**

This advanced program in studio art is intended for highly motivated students who are seriously interested in art and the creation of their own portfolios.

**Course #: 6052****Grade level: 7 - 8****Leadership \*\*****Prerequisite: Approval of instructor (application required)**

Leadership class prepares students to participate effectively in student government. Students are provided learning experiences in areas of planning, implementation and evaluation of programs. Improved time management, goal setting, communication and organizational skills are stressed. Students gain insight into parliamentary procedure, California State law, and the education code and school finance. A basic objective of the course is to nurture student appreciation of the democratic process. Course may be repeated for credit.

**Course #: 8253****Grade level: 7 - 8****Peer Helping \*\*****Prerequisite: Approval of instructor (application required)**

This course is designed to foster responsibility, dependability, self-confidence, and social skills. Students are trained to serve as mediators to help students resolve conflict. This is aimed at fostering empathy and tolerance and being ready for positions of leadership.

**Course #: 8254****Grade level: 7 - 8****\*\* Requires an application to be completed by student.**

1/18/2008