

Howell L. Watkins Middle School



Course Curriculum Guide (Electives)

SY22

Academic Electives for 8th Graders

African-American History (#2100340) (Grade 8) **This is a high school elective credit course**

The high school level African-American History course consists of the following content area strands: World History, American History, Geography, Humanities, Civics and Government. The primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of the chronological development of African Americans by examining the political, economic, social, religious, military and cultural events that affected the cultural group. Content will include, but is not limited to, West African heritage, the Middle Passage and Triangular Trade, the African Diaspora, significant turning points and trends in the development of African American culture and institutions, enslavement and emancipation, the Abolition, Black Nationalist, and Civil Rights movements, major historical figures and events in African-American history, and contemporary African-American affairs.

Holocaust (#2109430) (Grade 8) **This is a high school elective credit course**

The high school level Holocaust course consists of the following content area strands: American History, World History, Geography, Humanities, Civics and Government. The primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the examination of the events of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany. Content will include, but is not limited to, the examination of twentieth century pogroms and of twentieth century and twenty-first century genocides, investigation of human behavior during this period, and an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping.

Academic Intervention Electives Based on FSA Test Scores and ESE Services

M/J Intensive Reading (MC) (#1000010) (Grade 6, 7, or 8)

Students who score a level 1 or 2 on their FSA ELA will be automatically placed in Intensive Reading per District Policy

The purpose of this course is to provide instruction that enables students to accelerate the development of reading and writing skills and to strengthen those skills so they are able to successfully read and write middle grade level text independently. Instruction emphasizes reading comprehension, writing fluency, and vocabulary study through the use of a variety of literary and informational texts encompassing a broad range of text structures, genres, and levels of complexity. Texts used for instruction focus on a wide range of topics, including content-area information, in order to support students in meeting the knowledge and demands of increasingly complex text.

Learning Strategies: 6–8 (#7863090) (Grade 6, 7, or 8) *Students with IEPs will be placed in this course by the ESE department*

The purpose of this course is to enable students with disabilities to acquire and generalize strategies and skills across academic and community settings to achieve annual goals based on assessed needs and the student's individual educational plan (IEP). This course is designed for students with disabilities who need intensive individualized intervention in learning strategies. The course may address academic skill deficits enabling students to learn strategies to access the general curriculum and close educational gaps.

Unique Skills Independent Func.: 6–8 (#7863030) (Grade 6, 7, or 8)

Students with IEPs will be placed in this course by the ESE department

The purpose of this course is to enable students with disabilities to achieve independence in daily living activities in educational, home, and community settings to achieve annual goals based on assessed needs and the student's individual educational plan (IEP).

Arts - Visual Arts

M/J Visual Art 1 -0101100 (*Grades 6, 7, 8*) Students are introduced to the rigor and routine of the art production process including: planning, producing, and reflecting on art. With an emphasis on studio arts, students explore a wide range of 2D and 3D media, skills and techniques, as related to contemporary and historical art perspectives. Projects may include but not be limited to: drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, pottery, and sculpture. Students develop technical skills, foster their expressive abilities and employ the use of the elements of art throughout the production process.

M/J Visual Art 2 (#0101110) (*Grades 6, 7, 8*) Students investigate contemporary and historical art themes using 2D and 3D media, skills and techniques; while engaging in the art production process within a studio arts environment. Projects may include but are not limited to: drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, mixed media, pottery, and sculpture. Students create new meaning from various media formats, and communicate artistic ideas through the intentional use of the elements of art within their work. Students interpret meaning in their artwork and the artwork of others through discussion, on various artistic concepts, viewpoints, and themes; drawing their own conclusions and employing this knowledge both expressively and technically.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

Orientation to Career Clusters (#8000400) (*Grade 6*)

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 seventeen career clusters. This course is a compilation of modules for each of the seventeen career clusters and is designed to provide flexibility in course offerings.

Coding Fundamentals (#9009200) (*Grade 6*)

The purpose of this course is to assist Information Technology students in making informed decisions regarding their future academic and occupational goals and to provide information regarding careers in the career cluster. The content includes but is not limited to foundational knowledge and skills related to computer coding and software development

Digital Discoveries in Society (#9009600) (*Grade 7*)

(Must have taken Coding Fundamentals in Grade 6 to enroll)

Digital Discoveries in Society is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. In addition to fundamental computer information, the content includes but is not limited to digital technologies associated with problem solving, computer components, internet safety and ethics, web development, animations and games, basic programming techniques, and physical computing.

Computer Fundamentals (#9003410) (*Grade 8*)

*(Must have taken Digital Discoveries in Grade 7 to enroll) *This is a high school elective credit course**

This program offers a sequence of courses that focuses on computer application skills including computer hardware, software applications, web applications, computer programming, web page design and advanced web tools, systems support and maintenance, network concepts, relational database concepts, multimedia tools, cybersecurity ; extensive exploration of information technology careers; strategies for success including goal setting, study skills, organizing skills, learning styles, employability skills, and service learning; and core academic skills with a strong emphasis on effective communication skills.

Foreign Language - Spanish

M/J Spanish, Beginning (#0708000) Grade 6, 7) Spanish Beginning introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this **one-year** course.

M/J Spanish, Intermediate (#0708010) (Grade 6*, 7) **Native Spanish Speakers can enroll in this course as a 6th grader**

M/J Spanish Intermediate is a continuation of M/J Beginning Spanish. Students will expand their knowledge of the language and its culture. Students will be able to engage in basic listening and speaking activities. Basic skills in reading and writing, and culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this **one-year** course.

M/J Spanish, Advanced (#0708020) (Grade 7, 8)

M/J Spanish Advanced is a continuation of M/J Intermediate Spanish. Students apply their knowledge of the language and its culture. Students will be able to engage in listening and speaking activities, and demonstrate understanding of reading and writing selections on familiar topics. Culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this **one-year** course

Spanish 1 (#0708340) (Grade 8) **This is a high school elective credit course**

Spanish 1 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.

Media and Journalism

M/J Journalism 1 (#1006000) (Grade 7 or 8) The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media. Students will also help produce the school yearbook.

M/J Library Skills/Info Literacy (MC) (#1100000) (Grade 7 or 8)

This course covers the basics of information literacy utilizing the Florida FINDS (Focus, Investigate, Note, Develop, Score) research model. Search strategies, database and website evaluation, note taking and organization, citation formats in MLA (Modern Language Association) and APA (American Psychological Association), creation of presentation products (including the utilization of various software programs for the production of multimedia), and an understanding of the meta-cognitive reflection process is an integral part of this course.

M/J Peers as Partners in Learning (#1400025) (Grade 8) **This is a high school elective credit course**

This course is designed to provide reciprocal academic and social benefits to students with disabilities and their peers without disabilities. Students enrolled in the course will learn and apply knowledge and skilled practices in the areas of academic engagement, communication, social barriers, leadership, problem solving, and other disability-related topics such as historical perspectives, inclusion, Universal Design for Learning, person-first language, presumed competence, equitable services for students with disabilities, and media representation of diverse people.

Music Education - Band

M/J Keyboard 1 (#1301030) - Piano (Grades 6, 7, 8) Students with little or no prior experience develop fundamental piano techniques, learn to read music, apply basic music theory, and explore the role of keyboard music in history and culture. Beginning pianists explore musical creativity in the form of basic arranging and improvisation, and develop analytical listening and problem-solving skills. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J Band 1 (#1302000) (Grades 6 and 7) 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 may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may 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 an outside source.

M/J Band 2 (#1302010) (Grades 6*, 7, 8) **Must have completed Band 1 or prior band experience as determined by the band teacher** Students with previous band experience build on instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists expand their knowledge of music notation, music theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may 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 an outside source.

M/J Band 3 (#1302020) (Grades 7 and 8) **Must have completed Band 2 or specifically placed by the band teacher**

Students with previous band experience expand on their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of intermediate-level, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists extend their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

M/J Band 4 (#1302030) (Grades 7 and 8) **Must have completed Band 3 or specifically placed by the band teacher**

Students with considerable band experience strengthen their instrumental technique, music literacy, and aesthetic response through rehearsal, performance, and study of a variety of advanced, high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists refine their knowledge of music notation and theory, sound production, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may 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 an outside source.

Physical Education

M/J Fitness - Grade 6 (#1508000) (*For Students in Grade 6*) This fitness course is designed for 6th grade students and intended to be 18 weeks in length. 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.

M/J Comprehensive PE Grade 6/7 (#1508060) (*For Students in Grade 6*) This course is designed for 6th and 7th grade students and intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the development of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which includes, but is not limited to: Fitness Activities, Educational Gymnastics and Dance, and Team Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

M/J Team Sports - Grade 7 (#1508020) (*For Students in Grade 7*)

This course is designed for 7th grade students and is intended to be 18 weeks in length. The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to the success of this course.

M/J Comprehensive PE Grade 7/8 (#1508070) (*For Students in Grade 7*) The purpose of this course is to build on previously acquired knowledge, skills, and values necessary for the implementation and maintenance of a physically active lifestyle. The course content provides exposure to a variety of movement opportunities and experiences which include, but is not limited to: Outdoor Pursuits/Aquatics, Individual/Dual Sports and Alternative/Extreme Sports. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to student success in this course and in the development of a healthy and physically active lifestyle.

M/J Individual/Dual Sports - Grade 8 (#1508050) (*For Students in Grade 8*)

- Course Description Coming -

M/J Wellness Education Grade 8 (#1508080) (*For Students in Grade 8*) The Wellness Education course is to further develop the knowledge, skills and values to enhance healthy behaviors that influence lifestyle choices and student health and fitness. Students will realize the full benefit of this course when it is taught with an integral approach.