

Kraemer Middle School- 7th Grade Elective Choices

Semester Exploratory Wheel will include a combination of any two of the following courses: Tech Lab 7, Art 7, Art Appreciation or Computer Applications. A donation for materials is appreciated.

Tech Lab 7 is designed to allow the students to explore various technologies and their impact on your daily life. The technology lab is made up of a lab area that has 18 modules. During the last 14 weeks of the course, the students will rotate through an orientation and 6 of the modules. The modules in the lab area have been created to provide you the opportunity to interact with robotic equipment, rocketry, a CNC mill, video and audio production equipment, and other technical equipment.

Art 7 is an introduction to the elements of Art and Principles of Design and a variety of materials. We start with a Colorwheel, then we study contour drawing and make a Watercolor Still life of a bowl of fruit. We will learn about positive and negative space in art and make an abstract drawing. We will continue with Printmaking and finish with a lesson based on Medieval Illuminations which is Foil Repousse'.

Art Appreciation is an overview of how we think and speak about art. First we learn the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design. Then we will make art that exemplifies these qualities. We will make a Color Collage, a Hand Line Drawing, a Value Scale, and a Non-objective Picture. We will study the work of various artists such as Marc Chagall, Frida Kahlo, Joan Miro, Henri Matisse and more.

Computer Applications: students will the practice correct operation of the computer hardware and learn and apply 4 software applications. Theses software applications (programs) are: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint. The students will demonstrate their proficiency in these applications by completing various projects. Examples of some these projects include: a resume, business letters, a newsletter, a brochure, a postcard, spreadsheets, a presentation, and designing a simple website.

Yearbook is a year long class in which students learn the business of producing a yearbook. Students will have the opportunity to learn photography, marketing, layout and design within a Visuals Arts context. Working with our online publisher, students will create the book, page by page using state of the art publishing software. Learning to market and sell our product is the final aspect of this class. Eligible students will be self starters with good communication skills and/or artistic ability. There will be some class assignments on evenings and weekends to photograph various school activities.

Spanish 1A is the first year of a 2 year commitment. Students complete the first ½ of Spanish 1 in 7th grade, and the 2nd ½ of Spanish 1 in 8th grade. This class introduces the Spanish language to students in the areas of reading, writing, and conversation.

Beginning Band is for students who have had little or no previous experience in instrumental music. Beginning band classes are composed of 7th and 8th graders who were recommended by the elementary band staff to repeat beginning band or for true beginners that have never been enrolled in an instrumental music class. Students will choose one of the five basic instruments for study: flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba or percussion.

Performing Band is for students with a minimum of 2 years experience and a recommendation for their elementary or beginning band teacher. The Performing Band forms the marching band during the first quarter of the school year. The marching band participates in the two local parades/band reviews and a performance at Disneyland or Knott's. During the second quarter, the performing band forms the concert Band. The concert band participates in a Winter Concert, the SCSBOA Concert Festival, the PYLUSD Area Festival, and up to four additional concert performances for the school and community.

Jazz Band is by audition only and meets '0' period. The class consists of 18-25 band members that are also members of a Performing Band class. Students must have a minimum of 2 years experience in music classes and/or private instruction. The jazz band consists of saxophones, trumpets, trombones, electric guitar, bass guitar, piano, drum set and auxiliary percussion. The band participates in most all of the concert band performances as well as additional performances: our elementary Jazz Band tour, Jazz concert with VHS and an additional performance at Disneyland or Knott's.

Percussions class is the performing band class for the student who plays drums/ percussion. It is for students with a minimum of 2 years experience and a recommendation for their elementary or beginning band teacher. Percussions class students are part of the marching band during the first quarter of the school year. The marching band participates in the two local parades/band reviews and a performance at Disneyland or Knott's. During the second quarter, the percussions class students are part of the concert Band. The concert band participates in a Winter Concert, the SCSBOA Concert Festival, the PYLUSD Area Festival, and up to four additional concert performances for the school and the community.

Beginning Orchestra is designed for the student who desires to learn the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Attention is focused on introductory music fundamentals, technical achievement, and acquisition of rehearsal and performance skills through exposure to a variety of literature. No prior orchestra experience is needed. Several performances outside of normal school hours are required as part of this course.

Intermediate Orchestra- Previous participation in orchestra for at least one year, and/or an audition for the conductor is required. Students in Intermediate Orchestra work on refining skills such as tone production, music reading, and accuracy of pitch. A variety of musical styles will be studied through the playing of orchestra literature. Several rehearsals and performances outside of normal school hours are required as a part of this course.

Advanced Orchestra- An audition with the orchestra conductor is required for enrollment in this course. Advanced Orchestra will build left-hand skills such as shifting and vibrato, as well as advanced bow techniques. An in depth study of musical styles will be realized through challenging orchestral literature. Several rehearsals and performances outside of normal school hours are required as part of this course.

Mixed Chorus is a great place for students who like to sing! This class performs 3-4 each year and sings a great variety of music while learning how to be better singers and more knowledgeable musicians.

Vocal Ensemble (Advanced Choir) are for experienced singers who are committed to learning challenging music for various performance settings. There are about 8-10 performances each year. A formal uniform and audition are required. Class will be held at Valencia High School.

Science Olympiad will explore the application of science curriculum to events modeled after the Science Olympiad competition. Student will gain knowledge and skills in a variety of topics, ranging from Astronomy and Anatomy to Bridge Building and Forensic Science. This class is separate from the after-school competition team.

AVID is a program designed to help underachieving middle and high school students prepare for and succeed in colleges and universities. Students in the program learn a system of note taking that helps them record, analyze and evaluate course concepts. AVID also provides students with academic study skills such as time management, textbook reading, and library research. AVID offers a rigorous program of instruction in academic "survival skills". Students participate in collaborative study groups or tutorials led by tutors who use skillful questioning to bring students to a higher level of understanding. Students are required to complete and submit an application for this class.

Peer Leadership is a 7th grade elective class. The class will develop leadership skills which will be applied while serving peers and the Kraemer community in activities that enhance our positive school climate. Members of the program will share responsibilities that include planning and implementing lunchtime activities, student recognition programs, and special events. Students selected to the program must be willing to give up portions of their time to serve the school community. Students are required to complete and submit an application for this class.

Kraemer Middle School- 8th Grade Electives Choices

Includes all electives listed for 7th grade, plus the following:

Semester Exploratory Wheel #1 consists of: Computer Applications and Technology. A donation for materials is appreciated.

Computer Applications: students will the practice correct operation of the computer hardware and learn and apply 4 software applications. Theses software applications (programs) are: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft PowerPoint. The students will demonstrate their proficiency in these applications by completing various projects. Examples of some these projects include: a resume, business letters, a newsletter, a brochure, a postcard, spreadsheets, a presentation and designing a simple website.

Technology Lab is a semester course is designed to allow the students to explore various technologies and their impact on their daily life. The technology lab is made up of a lab area that has 18 modules. During the last 14 weeks of the course, the students will rotate through an orientation and 6 of the modules. The modules in the lab area have been created to provide you the opportunity to interact with robotic equipment, rocketry, a CNC mill, video and audio production equipment, and other technical equipment.

Semester Exploratory Wheel #2 is a combination of two of the following courses: Art 8, Crafts, or Technology Lab. A donation for materials is appreciated.

Art 8 is an overview of various periods of art from Ancient Egypt, to modern times. We focus on drawing and painting. We draw an Egyptian Cartouche, a Greek Vase, and a "Stained Glass Window". We will paint a painting in the style of Van Gogh and a Pop Art painting in the style of Andy Warhol.

Crafts 8 In this class we look at cultures around the world. We will paint a Dot painting similar to the Australian Aborigines. We will make Coiled Baskets, Native American Papier Mache bowls, paper Molas (the Kuna Indians of Panama), rainsticks, and Yarn Paintings similar to the Huichol people of Mexico.

Technology Lab is a semester course is designed to allow the students to explore various technologies and their impact on their daily life. The technology lab is made up of a lab area that has 18 modules. During the last 14 weeks of the course, the students will rotate through an orientation and 6 of the modules. The modules in the lab area have been created to provide you the opportunity to interact with robotic equipment, rocketry, a CNC mill, video and audio production equipment, and other technical equipment.

Advanced Art is a year long class designed to be a more in-depth look at the various periods of art history and world cultures. This class is geared for students who have demonstrated a strong talent in art. All 7th grade students who have good citizenship marks (O's and S's only) are eligible to apply by showing Mrs. Blank examples of art that they have done previously. (Students who were in Mrs. Blank's class do not have to bring in examples of artwork.)

Spanish 1B is the second year of Spanish 1. Students complete the first ½ of Spanish 1 in 7th grade, and the 2nd ½ of Spanish 1 in 8th grade. This class continues teaching students the Spanish language in the areas of reading, listening, writing, and conversation.

Office Aide is a year-long elective where students help the Kraemer office staff with special projects, filing, delivering call slips, etc.

SERVE is an academic support class designed to assist students to work towards successful completion of the 8th grade. Resources will be provided that promote success both academically and socially. SERVE is based on the premise that certain students can benefit from a specialized method that will encourage and challenge them to respond to the needs that exist in their lives. The areas of need and support that students require have been identified as the following: Social, Emotional, Recreational, Vocation, Education.

Leadership

The Kraemer ASB Leadership Program serves the school as the student council while providing representation and activities for the entire student body. Six ASB Officers are elected into the class and 66 additional students are selected to the class through an application process and through teacher evaluation. The program instructs students on planning techniques, decision-making skills, problem solving, organizational skills, group dynamics, and principles of communication, budgeting and issues of public relations. It focuses on skill building, planning, implementation evaluation and experiential learning for the purpose of growing the individual students in the areas of respect, responsibility, service and initiative. An outgrowth of the program is the promotion and enhancement of a positive school climate. Responsibilities include planning lunchtime activities, dances, fundraising, recognition programs, special events and helping with the various programs of the school. Students selected to the program must be willing to give up portions of their time to serve the other students of the school.

Chinese 1 is designed to develop world language skills and to prepare students for living in a global society. Classroom instruction is designed to develop the ability to communicate in a second language by involving students in communicative tasks. Classroom instruction includes reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students will learn to converse and write during the first year. Students will learn Chinese in a contemporary cultural context.

Japanese 1 is designed to develop world language skills and to prepare students for living in a global society. Classroom instruction is designed to develop the ability to communicate in a second language by involving students in communicative tasks. Classroom instruction includes reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students will learn to converse and write (hiragana and katakana) during the first year. Students will learn Japanese in a contemporary cultural context.

French 1 is a one year course designed to develop foreign language skills and to prepare students for living in a global society. Classroom instruction is designed to develop the ability to communicate in a second language by involving students in communicative tasks. Classroom instruction includes listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills. Students will learn French in a contemporary cultural context.

Computer Tech 1A is a computer laboratory course. Students will use the computer for a variety of software applications and operation, additional computer information, computer trends, careers, and further educational opportunities. Students will select, combine, and apply appropriate software needed to function effectively in our rapidly changing technological, global society. Students will focus on advanced technology skills vital to business and industry, use technology to analyze and manage information and integrate software applications. Computer Technology is recommended for students who are preparing for college and/or a career in Technology.