

Desert Hills
Middle School

2023-2024 Course Catalog



Desert Hills Middle School
936 E Desert Hills Dr
St. George, UT 84790

DESERT HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION

The selection of classes that fulfill your graduation requirements and provide a positive and worthwhile school/educational experience requires more than just a casual effort. As you prepare for registration you need to spend some time with your parents, perhaps your counselor, and maybe with some teachers in particular subjects about which you have questions. Once the classes are selected and the registration is completed, the entire school schedule will be built around your choices. **CHANGES IN YOUR SCHEDULE ARE DIFFICULT AND WILL BE DISCOURAGED. A \$10.00 class change will be charged.**

The following are guidelines and policies that will affect the selection of classes and the registration process.

1. You must register for 8 periods.
2. A unit of credit (1.0) represents a full year of study in any subject successfully completed. A half unit of credit (.5) represents one semester (one-half year) of study in any subject successfully completed.
3. Credit cannot be given for a duplicate course if you have already earned credit for it.
Exceptions: band, chorus, fitness (PE), yearbook, and resource classes.
4. Applications for Honors classes will be available and must be turned in by the designated deadline to be considered.

***Eligibility for honors classes will be based on 3.75 overall GPA, straight As in subject area, assessment data, and application turned in by deadline.**

YOU WILL NOT BE REGISTERED FOR A “BY APPLICATION” CLASS WITHOUT THE DESIGNATED REQUIREMENTS MET.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Washington County School District Board of Education to not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, or any other non-merit factor in its educational programs, activities, or employment practices as required by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1974, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Equal opportunity is a priority of the Washington County Board of Education. The Washington County School District is also committed to provide co-educational course programs including physical education and other athletic opportunities for both sexes as required by Title IX of the Educational Amendment of 1972. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504 may be referred to, Richard Holmes Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Washington County School District, 121 West Tabernacle, St. George, Utah 84770, (435) 673-3553, or to the office for Civil Rights, US Department of Education, 1961 South Street, Denver, Colorado 80294.

MINIMUM REQUIRED COURSES

Unless a student's Individual Educational Plan calls for a different arrangement, each student shall complete the following in **8th Grade:**

- Language Arts 8 (1)
- Math (1)
- Integrated Science 8 (1)
- US History I (1)
- Intermediate Fitness (1)
- Business Digital Literacy (.5)
- General Art (.5)
- Electives (2.5)

Unless a student's Individual Educational Plan calls for a different arrangement, each student will complete the following in **9th Grade:**

- Language Arts 9 (1)
- Math (1)
- Science (1)
- Geography for Life (.5)
- Physical Skills (.5)
- Business Office Specialist (.5) or Intro to Python 1 (.5)
- Electives (3.5)

Desert Hills High School Graduation Requirements

27 Credits

LANGUAGE ARTS

4 credits: LA 9, LA 10, LA 11, plus one

MATHEMATICS

3 credits: Secondary Math I or IH, Secondary Math II or IIH, plus one

SCIENCE

3 credits: 1 Life and 1 Physical, plus one

SOCIAL STUDIES

3 credits: Geography for Life, World Civilizations, U.S. History and U.S. Government plus additional SS electives to make 3.

FINE ARTS

1.5 credits from any of the following areas: Visual Arts, Music, Dance, or Theater

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

2 credits: Physical Skills 1, Fitness for Life, Health, plus one

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

1 credit from any of the following areas: Agriculture, Business, Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Science and Technology, Information Technology, Marketing, Technology and Engineering, Trade and Technical

DIGITAL STUDIES

.5 credit Business Office Specialist or Python

FINANCIAL LITERACY

.5 credit

ELECTIVE CREDIT

8.5 credits

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Resource

0000 Course Title: **Resource** Grade Level: 8-9
Credit: 1 Prerequisite: IEP
Course Description: This class is designed to accommodate students with exceptional needs who, according to federal guidelines, qualify for these services. Emphasis could fall in any of several academic skill areas according to IEP team decisions.

0000 Course Title: **Resource Study Skills** Grade Level: 8-9
Credit: 1 Prerequisite: IEP
Course Description: This course is designed to help resource students perform in their academic classes. It includes tutoring, monitoring, and advocating.

English as a Second Language (ESOL)

0721 Course Title: **ESOL A** Grade Level: 8-9
Credit: 1
Course Description: ESL classes are offered for students who are learning English as their second language. Along with the student's other academic subjects, students will learn the basics of the English language. Most ESL classes will be "sheltered," meaning the students will receive specialized instruction while integrated into regular classrooms.

Arts/Music/Theater

1160 Course Title: **General Art** Grade Level: 8
Credit: .5 Required
Course Description: This course is an extension of the elementary core with emphasis on creating art pieces using the principles and elements of art and design.

1190 Course Title: **High School Art Foundations** Grade Level: 9
Credit: .5
Course Description: Art Foundations II is a course designed to give students an overall view of Contemporary Art History through presentation and hands on assignments. This course will also cover the art job market, how to get into galleries and other professional development. Instruction will include drawing, painting, printmaking, art history, career coaching, and mixed media. **FEE \$20.00**

1210 Course Title: Printmaking I

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: Printmaking I is a labor-intensive class, but one which offers great rewards. Just think of a world without books, newspapers, illustrations, etc. Printmaking has made countless contributions to our society's growth and development. This course will introduce you to a variety of printmaking media and techniques. We will explore the methods of dry point, etched lines. Relief (woodcuts), and pronto plates. This history and vocabulary of printmaking will also be covered along with learning technical aspects. Development of subject matter and craftspersonship will also be addressed. **FEE \$20.00**

1220 Course Title: Drawing

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: Drawing will provide opportunities for students to expand their skills learned in General Art. Being a drawing based class we will work extensively with graphite and charcoal. Further mediums used include; linocut, woodcut, and dry point printmaking. Both black and white and color work will be made. **FEE \$20.00**

1630 Course Title: Chorus II

Grade Level: 8

Credit: 1

Course Description: This choir class will permit the student to further discover and develop talents in vocal music. This class will focus on good vocal music skills including range development and improving tone, intonation, vowel formation. It will also provide students tools to become familiar with basic music notation and sight-reading. Students will explore a wide variety of choral literature including two and three part Treble music and mixed music that will be performed. Through teamwork, the students will learn up to three-part harmonies and many pieces of literature. Students will experience the joys and satisfaction of performing in several concerts and festivals throughout the year. These various performances are an integral part of this class and student participation in these performances will be required. **FEE: \$20.00**

1632 Course Title: Chorus II Adv

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Grade 8 by Audition

Course Description: **This choir class is for all ninth grade students and may include a select number of eighth grade students (eighth grade students must receive approval by audition or screening). No audition is required for ninth grade students.** This class will enhance musicianship through preparation and performance of quality three and four-part Mixed Voice choral literature in a wide variety of styles and genres. Students will learn correct vocal technique, improve intonation, music reading skills, and understand stylistic differences in music literature. Students will experience the joys and satisfaction of performing in several concerts and festivals throughout the year. These various performances are an integral part of this class and student participation in these performances will be required.

FEE: \$20.00**1670 Course Title: Chorus II Treble**

Grade Level: 8/9

Credit: 1

by Audition

Course Description: This course is for a select number of auditioned eighth and ninth grade students who wish to develop their vocal skills in an advanced choral setting. This class will enhance musicianship through preparation and performance of quality three part (SSA) and four-part (SSAA) Voice choral literature, covering a wide variety of styles and genres. Students will learn correct vocal technique, improve intonation, music reading skills, and understand stylistic differences in music literature. Students will experience the joys and satisfaction of performing in several concerts and festivals throughout the year. These various performances are an integral part of this class and student participation in these performances will be required. **FEE: \$20.00**

1740 Course Title: Beginning Band and Orchestra

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course is for all eighth and ninth grade students who are interested in learning how to play a band or orchestra instrument. This is a beginner-level class where students will learn how to read music and learn the fundamentals of a specific brass, woodwind, percussion, or string instrument. No previous music experience is required. This course will be held during the first semester and is intended

to prepare students to join the regular band or orchestra class during the second semester. Students will experience the joy and satisfaction of performing at the DHMS band concert in December. This performance is an integral part of this class and student participation in this performance will be required. **FEE: \$20.00**

1750 Course Title: Band II Concert

Grade Level: 8

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: previous band

Course Description: This course is for all eighth grade students who have had previous experience in band. In this class, students will continue improving the musical abilities they have already learned in previous band classes. Students will learn correct technique, improve intonation, music reading skills, and understand stylistic differences in music literature. Students will experience the joys and satisfaction of performing in several concerts, festivals, and parades throughout the year. These various performances are an integral part of this class and student participation in these performances will be required. **FEE: \$20.00**

1751 Course Title: Band II Symphonic

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: previous band

Course Description: This course is for all ninth grade students who have had previous experience in band. This course provides opportunities for advancement and refinement of correct technique, intonation, music reading skills, and understanding stylistic differences in music literature. Students will experience the joys and satisfaction of performing in several concerts, festivals, and parades throughout the year. These various performances are an integral part of this class and student participation in these performances will be required. This class meets with the DHHS Concert Band at DHHS. **FEE: \$85.00**

1753 Course Title: Jazz Band

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: Can play an instrument: brass, woodwinds, strings, guitar, piano, and/or percussion.

Course Description: This course is for students who have an interest in learning to play contemporary jazz, swing, and rock styles. Class is at 7:00 AM every Monday and Wednesday **OR** Tuesday and Thursday (depending on previous experience). **FEE: \$20.00**

1754 Course Title: Band II Percussion

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: teacher approval

Course Description: This class is for eighth and ninth grade students with previous experience in percussion. In this class, students will continue improving the musical abilities they have already learned in previous band classes. Students will learn correct technique on mallet and percussive instruments, improve music reading skills, and understand stylistic differences in music literature. Students will experience the joys and satisfaction of performing in several concerts, festivals, and parades throughout the year. These various performances are an integral part of this class and student participation in these performances will be required. 9th Grade Percussion meets with the DHHS Percussion Class at DHHS.

FEE: \$20.00 + 25 (8th) \$85.00 + \$25.00 (9th)

1761 Course Title: Middle Orchestra Level 2

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: teacher approval

Course Description: This course will help students to continue to develop proficiency in playing string instruments. Emphasis will be placed on orchestral literature, style, performance, creativity, and appreciation of music. Larger instruments may be rented from the school. Required performances throughout the year include group performances at concerts and festivals and smaller chamber, ensemble and solo performances. **FEE \$20.00**

1910 Course Title: Dance II (Intro to Dance)

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Course Description: Intro to Dance explores movement as a creative art form. Student learning includes opportunities to develop kinesthetic awareness, proper body alignment, physical strength, flexibility, endurance, and care of the dance instrument while exploring improvisational and expressive movement and a variety of dance techniques. Dance elements and basic principles of composition are studied and practiced. Through dance ensemble work, students use creative and critical thinking skills to create and communicate meaning through dance movement. Through the study of dance in various cultures and historical periods, students broaden their understanding of dance as an art form. Students will explore a

variety of career opportunities in dance as well as connections with other art forms and subject areas. This class is open to all students interested in growing their knowledge in dance arts.

1950 Course Title: Theater Foundations I

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course introduces students to the basics of theater, history, play analysis, performance in pantomime, vocal interpretation, storytelling, and basic acting scenes. **FEE \$20.00**

1960 Course Title: Theater Foundations II

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Theater Foundations I and Teacher Approval

Course Description: This course builds on skills learned in Theater Foundations I. This course examines the discipline of acting through memorization, presentation of scenes and plays, an appreciation for the art of theatre and its disciplines are further developed. Successful completion of the class will give students a better understanding and appreciation of theater. **FEE \$20.00**

4260 Course Title: Film

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course examines the art and appreciation of film through examining, editing, and cinematography. The student will view numerous examples of film from historical selections up to modern day film through written critiques and class presentations. **FEE \$20.00**

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

2020DL Course Title: Business Digital Literacy

Grade Level: 8

Credit: .5

Required

Course Description: Embracing technology that is at our fingertips. Students will learn how a computer is built from the ground up. They will learn how to improve computer performance with various tools. (This is very helpful for their computers at home.) Students will be introduced to the digital era we live in and how to use it to maximize their education and future careers. Students will explore digital audio, video, and photography tools. Students will explore the internet, email, and the security and privacy issues they will face. Throughout the course students will be introduced to the growing number of information technology careers.

8409 Course Title: Sports and Outdoor Design 1

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: Students learn basic design and construction skills using technical fabrics to make projects for the outdoor/sports industry. The skills will introduce and prepare students for employment opportunities in the outdoor/sports industry. Projects could include: Hammocks, Outdoor Backpacks, Fanny Pack, and Bucket Hats, etc. **FEE: \$15.00**

8430 Course Title: FACS Exploration (Family and Consumer Science)

Grade Level: 8

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course provides students the opportunity to learn essential skills in the various career pathways related to family and consumer sciences (FACS). Students will explore and cultivate skills in food and nutrition sciences, childcare, interior design, clothing and textile construction, fashion design and merchandising, consumerism, entrepreneurship, family relationships, personal responsibility and career and job-related tasks. This course will strengthen comprehension of concepts and standards outlined in sciences, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. **FEE \$20.00**

0000 Course Title: Behavioral Health Introduction

Credit: .5

Grade Level: 9

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the Behavioral Health industry. Topics that will be introduced in this foundational level course include understanding self-concept, effective communication, health relationships, addictive behaviors, mental health disorders, and protective laws and rights of patients and practitioners.

*This course is not designed for the student to diagnose themselves, friends, or family. It is an introduction to the behavioral health career field only.

8475 Course Title: Sewing Construction & Textiles 1

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course introduces students to basic clothing design and construction skills. These skills prepare students for the exciting global clothing industry and entrepreneurial opportunities. Students will sew clothing and accessory projects. This course will strengthen comprehension of concepts and standards outlined in Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education. Student leadership and competitive events (FCCLA) may be integrated into this course. Lanyards, thread wallets, pajama pants, and bucket hat. **FEE: \$15.00**

8477 Course Title: Food and Nutrition I

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course is designed to focus on the science of food and nutrition. Experiences will include food safety and sanitation, culinary technology, food preparation and dietary analysis to develop a healthy life style with pathways to career readiness. Laboratory based experiences strengthen comprehension of concepts and standards outlined in sciences, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. Student leadership and competitive events (FCCLA) may be integrated into this course. **FEE: \$15.00**

8594 Course Title: Business Office Specialist

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Required or Alternate Python 1

Course Description: An introduction to computer application software (Microsoft Office 2016) that encompasses document processing and spreadsheets. An understanding of ethics and use of operating systems, information resources, and email is included. Skills will be demonstrated by creating a project for a different content area. **Students will have the opportunity to take the Microsoft Office Specialist Certification Exam for Word Core, Excel Core, and PowerPoint Core. Students will have the opportunity to apply for concurrent enrollment with Utah Tech University.**

*****All technology students** are required to wear safety glasses while working in the shop. Students may use provided safety glasses or bring their own from home. Those brought from home must meet current ANSI standards for safety glasses.

*****All elective technology education classes include required projects.** A lab fee of \$10 is assessed in these classes to help offset the cost of consumables and tooling. The lab fee must be paid before students are allowed to work on these projects. Students on fee waiver are not required to pay this fee.

8603 Course Title: Construction Technology

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: In this course, students will learn about and use construction technologies ranging from building techniques that have been in use for thousands of years to the cutting edge of modern structural engineering. Students will learn how structures are engineered to withstand the forces of nature, design their own dream home using architectural drafting software, build a realistic scale model of a house, and participate in a full-scale construction project. **FEE \$10**

8630 Course Title: Exploring Technology

Grade Level: 8

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the study of technology. Students who participate in this course will complete several project-based learning activities designed to expose them to a wide variety of technological systems, such as personal website, CO₂ Dragster, Mini Hydroponic Garden, Giant Clothespin Manufacturing, Pen turning on a lathe, Boomerang Construction & Flight, and more. **FEE \$10**

8633 Course Title: Engineering Technology

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: Engineering Technology is a foundational engineering design course that introduces basic problem-solving and documentation skills. Various aspects of engineering will be explored along

with technology's environmental, societal, political, and economic impacts on our world. By utilizing problem-solving skills, students. Hands-on group and individual projects such as: Model bridge building, Rocket Design and Aviation exploration, Game Design, Catapult engineering, etc. will be part of the learning in this course. **FEE \$10**

8645 Course Title: Manufacturing Technology

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Course Description: Manufacturing Technology introduces students to the technological systems associated with the transformation of raw materials into products of value to consumers, along with related occupations. Students will participate in several project-based learning activities to develop skills in various production techniques, such as lathe turning, plastic fabrication, metal fabrication, rapid prototyping, additional woodworking techniques, etc. Students will then apply these skills in a mass-production project to design, develop, produce, market, and sell a product of value. **FEE \$10**

8682 Course Title: Intro to Python 1

Grade Level: 9 Required or alternate BOS

Credit: .5

Grade Level: 8 Elective

Course Description: Python is a popular programming language with simple syntax (coding). This introductory course will jump-start your future as you learn how to code your own programs, apps, and simple console based games. Cod Lego EV3 robots with Python as part of your experience. This course is intended for students who have no programming experience, yet will still challenge those who have coded before.

8683 Course Title: Intro to Python 2

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: Intro to Python 1

Course Description: Intro to Python 2 is the 2nd course in Python which will increase your coding experience with console based gaming programming as well as apps. This class will serve as a prerequisite to taking the concurrent enrollment courses in programming at the high school level. Code the newest Lego EV3 robots with Python as part of your experience and participate in classroom competitions!

Foreign Language

4740 Course Title: Spanish I

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: no grade lower than 'C' in English

Course Description: Students may begin without the knowledge of foreign language. Through repetition and creative immersion activities, their expressions progress so they develop some flexibility with words and short phrases. A C grade or higher in English is required for this course.

4750 Course Title: Spanish II

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Course Description: This course is a continuation of Spanish I. More emphasis will be placed on oral practice. The areas of study will focus on verb use in the future tense and past tenses. The instructional format will be identical to that of Spanish I.

Healthy Lifestyles

1940 Course Title: Social Dance

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course teaches ballroom dance skills and appropriate social skills in a social setting. This class is designed for both ladies and gentlemen. A brief history is taught regarding folk dance and the basic skills for all dance as it applies to ballroom dancing. Dances taught include folk dance, line dance, waltz, cha-cha, foxtrot, tango and swing.

7650 Course Title: Intermediate Fitness

Grade Level: 8

Credit: 1

Required

Course Description: Students will develop positive attitudes regarding physical activity and healthy lifestyles during this time. The movement and fitness curriculum is based upon the assumptions that (1) skill development is on-going and progressive, (2) life-time activity attitudes are best internalized by continued practice, and (3) students need to incorporate principles of fitness into their daily lives. The program is a sequence of experiences in a number of activities that challenge all ability levels. It focuses on social interaction and cognitive learning as well as skill development with progressive levels of difficulty.

7706 Course Title: Physical Skills I

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Required

Course Description: This course develops participation skills and techniques in a variety of team and individual games and dance activities.

7750 Course Title: Aerobics/Dance

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course is designed to help students with little or no previous aerobics or dance experience better understand the challenging, rewarding and satisfying experience that these activities can bring. In this class, we focus on a variety of dance styles such as ballet, modern, jazz, and aerobic styles like Zumba, yoga, Pilates and cardio barre. This class allows the student to depend upon time, force and space and to relate them to the human body in order to move effectively and efficiently.

7770 Course Title: Body Toning

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course is designed to improve overall physical condition through circuit training, light weight training, flexibility exercises, and cardio exercises. The emphasis is on muscle toning and is not designed for students wishing to gain muscle bulk through heavy weight lifting.

7782 Course Title: Weight Training I

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course is designed to increase strength, speed, quickness, and agility. Through the use of weight training, flexibility exercises, and running, students increase their endurance and improve overall body conditioning.

7784 Course Title: Weight Training II

Grade Level: 8-9

Credit: .5

Course Description: This course is an intermediate level weight training course designed to continue teaching the proper techniques in lifting weights, strengthening the body, quickness and agility, and flexibility through exercising. This course is designed for students who have already completed the first weight training course.

Language Arts

4080 Course Title: Language Arts 8

Grade Level: 8

Credit: 1

Required

Course Description: This course is designed to continue the emphasis on written language skills from seventh grade. Students will review basic writing skills and extend those skills. Emphasis will be placed on writing a variety of paragraphs, reports, short stories, letters, poetry, and essays. Parts of speech, usage, spelling, vocabulary development, and writing mechanics will be taught within the writing context. Literature covered will include a variety of poetic forms, classic short stories, myths and legends, dramatic scripts, and novels.

4086 Course Title: Language Arts 8 Honors

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisite: application

Course Description: This course is designed for the college bound student who is willing to be challenged, who has a strong foundation in English, and who possesses a genuine love for reading, writing, and thinking. **Eligibility in an honors class is determined by assessment data, an application turned in by the deadline, a 3.75 overall GPA, and straight As in the subject area the prior year.**

4090 Course Title: Language Arts 9

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9

Required

Course Description: This English course develops language, comprehension (reading and listening), and composition (writing and speaking) skills. Students will continue their study of poetry, short stories, the novel and drama. Imaginative, descriptive, informative, and persuasive papers will be required in this course.

4095 Course Title: Language Arts 9 Honors

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: application

Course Description: This course is designed for the college bound student who is willing to be challenged, who has a strong foundation in English, and who possesses a genuine love for reading, writing, and thinking. **Eligibility in an honors class is determined by assessment data, an application turned in by the deadline, a 3.75 overall GPA, and straight As in the subject area the prior year.**

4172 Course Title: Literacy Skills

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8

By Referral

Course Description: This course is to help students enhance their reading and literacy skills in preparation for high school and college-level English classes.

4160 Course Title: Publications - Yearbook

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9

By application

Course Description: This course provides industry-like experience. Deadlines, agendas, leadership, and responsibility are demonstrated throughout this course. Students will engage in theme identification, cover design, writing, interviewing, photography, graphic editing and layout, and sales and promotion. Student leadership and teamwork are essential for success. Due to the demand and privilege Yearbook offers, students must maintain a 3.75 GPA or higher.

4171 Course Title: Reading for Pleasure

Credit: .5

Grade Level: 8-9

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

Course Description: Reading for Pleasure is a class for students who love to read and explore different genres through independent study. A student applying must enjoy reading and needs to have an A or B in his/her current English Language Arts class.

4150 Course Title: Journalism

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9

Prerequisite: application and teacher recommendations

Course Description: In this course, students will learn new writing skills, photography skills and the business operations of a digital newspaper. Students will gather information, organize ideas, and format stories. They will then edit and publish these stories to a digital platform. This course will also examine the historical development of journalism, including ethics and laws, as well as the role of journalism in society today. Students who take this course will be a part of the DHMS digital newspaper and be required to maintain a 3.75 GPA or higher as well as to meet strict deadlines.

4180 Course Title: Creative Writing I

Credit: .5

Grade Level: 8-9

Course Description: This course allows students the opportunity to develop creative writing skills beyond those taught in the language arts class. Students will learn to write a variety of genres such as narratives, mysteries, short stories, and poetry. Students will enhance the skills of peer editing, revising, and publishing.

4200 Course Title: Speech - Debate

Credit: .5

Grade Level: 8-9

Prerequisite: Teacher Approval

Speech and Debate is a course that covers a variety of styles of public speaking and formal debate. Through research and practice, students will become familiar with these styles through instruction, research, and practice.

Math

5808M Course Title: 8th Grade Mathematics

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8

Course Description: In 8th Grade Mathematics students will focus on formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bi-variate data with a linear equation, solving linear equations and systems of linear equations, grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence; and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

5808MH Course Title: 8th Grade Mathematics Honors

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: application, final grades, and assessment data

Grade Level: 8

Course Description: In 8th Grade Mathematics Honors, students will deepen their understanding about expressions and equations, including bi-variate with linear equations. They will deepen and extend their knowledge of linear equations and systems of equations, grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships. Students will analyze two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angles, similarity, congruence and the Pythagorean Theorem. Students in Honors will also explore 3D graphing and graph theory, apportionment, set theory and voting practices.

Eligibility in an honors class is determined by assessment data, an application turned in by the deadline, a 3.75 overall GPA, and straight As in the subject area the prior year.

5809M Course Title: Secondary Mathematics I-Algebra and Geometry

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 9

Course Description: Students in Secondary Mathematics I will deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomenon, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students will use properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge. Algebraic and geometric ideas are tied together. Students will experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

5809MH Course Title: Secondary Mathematics I Honors-Algebra, Geometry and Pre-Calculus Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: application, final grades, and assessment data

Course Description: Students in Secondary Mathematics I Honors will deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomenon, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students will use properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge. Algebraic and geometric ideas are tied together. Students will experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations. Honors students will represent quantities, model, and perform operations using vectors and use matrices to perform operations and solve problems.

Eligibility in an honors class is determined by assessment data, an application turned in by the deadline, a 3.75 overall GPA, and straight As in the subject area the prior year.

Science

3220 Course Title: Integrated Science 8

Credit: 1

Grade Level: 8

Required

Course Description: The eighth grade SEEd standards describe the constant interaction of matter and energy in nature. Students will explore how matter is arranged into either simple or complex substances.

The strands emphasize how substances store and transfer energy, which can cause them to interact physically and chemically, provide energy to living organisms, or be harnessed and used by humans. Matter and energy cycle and change in ecosystems through processes that occur during photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Additionally, substances that provide a benefit to organisms, including humans, are unevenly distributed on Earth due to geologic and atmospheric systems. Some resources form quickly, allowing them to be renewable, while other resources are nonrenewable. Evidence reveals that Earth's systems change and affect ecosystems and organisms in positive and negative ways.

3215 Course Title: Hon Integrated Science 8

Grade Level: 8

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: application

Course Description: The eighth grade SEEd standards describe the constant interaction of matter and energy in nature. Students will explore how matter is arranged into either simple or complex substances. The strands emphasize how substances store and transfer energy, which can cause them to interact physically and chemically, provide energy to living organisms, or be harnessed and used by humans. Matter and energy cycle and change in ecosystems through processes that occur during photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Additionally, substances that provide a benefit to organisms, including humans, are unevenly distributed on Earth due to geologic and atmospheric systems. Some resources form quickly, allowing them to be renewable, while other resources are nonrenewable. Evidence reveals that Earth's systems change and affect ecosystems and organisms in positive and negative ways. **Honors students will be required to do at least one extension activity per standard in order to receive credit for the course. Along with extra extension activities, honors work is expected to be more thorough, higher quality, and to be done with higher efficiency. Must have a 4.0 in 7th grade.**

3240 Course Title: Earth Science

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Required

Course Description: Earth Science covers the SEEd standards on a wide variety of topics, and challenges students to build models, construct explanations, analyze data, and design solutions. This course covers space, astronomy, the Sun, and stars, and then moves on to earth's history and processes. This includes subjects such as plate tectonics, the geologic time scale, hot spots, natural disasters, carbon cycling, and more. The atmosphere, geosphere, and hydrosphere are tied together and demonstrate the interconnectedness of earth as a planet, along with themes of natural resources, the environment, and sustainability. By the completion of the course, students will better understand the universe and world around them, and walk away with key skills for success in science. **FEE \$10.00**

3520 Course Title: Biology

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: application

Course Description: This course exposes students to a wide range of biological science topics in ecology, cell biology, genetics, diversity of life, and the structures and functions of organs in plants and animals. The development of reading, writing, and critical thinking skills in science will be emphasized. Students will acquire basic science skills through participation in various hands on activities and labs. **Eligibility is determined by assessment data, an application turned in by the deadline, a 3.75 overall GPA, and straight As in the subject area the prior year. Additionally, the student must be enrolled in an honors math class. FEE \$20.00**

Social Studies

6120 Course Title: United States History I

Grade Level: 8

Credit: 1

Required

Course Description: This course covers events and issues from the Age of Exploration through Reconstruction, emphasizing the 18th and 19th centuries. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to, age of exploration, colonization, Revolutionary War, Constitution and citizenship, nation building, western expansion, Civil War, and Reconstruction.

6200 Course Title: Geography for Life

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Required

Course Description: This course will focus on the study of the earth's surface and the processes that shape it, the connections between places, and the complex relationships between people and their environments. The geographic themes of location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, regions, and developing mapping skills will be used as we study North America, South America, and Europe.

6205 Course Title: Geography for Life Honors

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: application/teacher approval

Course Description: In the Honors Geography program there will be an emphasis placed on individual student activities and more of an in-depth study of a particular area or theme. Students will be encouraged to express their thoughts and ideas both verbally and in written form. This course is for students who are willing to be challenged and is an advanced course. The course will focus on the study of the earth's surface and the processes that shape it, the connections between places, and the complex relationships between people and their environments. The geographic themes of location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, regions, and developing mapping skills will be used as we study North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Pacific.

Eligibility in an honors class is determined by assessment data, an application turned in by the deadline, a 3.75 overall GPA, and straight As in the subject area the prior year and teacher approval.

6149 Course Title: AP Human Geography

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: application/teacher approval

Course Description: AP Human Geography introduces high school students to college-level introductory human geography or cultural geography. Students should be able to read college level texts and write grammatically correct, complete sentences.

The content is presented thematically rather than regionally and is organized around the main subfields of geography: economic geography, cultural geography, political geography and urban geography.

This course, as described by the AP College Board, introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socio economic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications.

The goal for the course is for students to become more geoliterate, more engaged in contemporary global issues and more informed about multicultural viewpoints.

AP Human Geography is a yearlong course and involves a lot of reading and working to complete all assignments. In the spring students can take an exam (for a fee) to try to earn college credit. ***Preparing for the exam takes a lot of outside preparation by the students in order to pass.*** A two-hour process involves answering multiple-choice questions and giving thought out written responses to three unknown questions. Trained professionals grade the exam. Scores range from 1 – 5. Students will need to achieve a score of 3 or higher to pass. **AP Test Fee**

Student Aide

6350 - 6352 Course Title: Student Aide for Teacher/Office/Media

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: application/front office/teacher approval

Course Description: In this class students will be assigned to work under the supervision of either a teacher or one of the general school staff as an assistant. They will be expected to do filing, duplication, and assisting in preparation of non-student and non-confidential records. They may be assigned to do other projects such as creating, preparing, and posting bulletin boards and making room and hall displays. Student aides are expected to be responsible individuals who can do their assigned tasks with a minimum of direct supervision. Student aides may be assigned as an Office Aide, Media Aide, or Teacher Aide.

STUDENTS MAY ONLY BE AN AIDE FOR ONE SEMESTER.

6358 Course Title: Peer Tutor

Grade Level: 9

Credit: .5

Prerequisite: application/teacher approval

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to bring peer tutors into the Self-Contained classroom to become friends with special education students, so when they meet up in the regular education class or school community, these students have a friend and model of how to interact with their same age peers. Peer tutors also teach learning strategies to special education students.

Air Force JROTC

3645 Course Title: Aerospace Science I

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 1

Course Description: Curriculum - Aerospace science comprises 40 percent of the curriculum, leadership education 40 percent, and health and wellness training 20 percent. All students who successfully complete AFJROTC classes are granted credit toward graduation. Classroom study includes the heritage of flight, principles of aircraft flight and navigation, human requirements of flight, development of aerospace power, aerospace vehicles, rocketry, space and technology programs, and the aerospace industry. Students are also introduced to military customs and courtesies, citizenship in the United States, first aid, wellness, health and fitness, basic drill and ceremonies, effective communications, management, human relations, and life after high school. All uniforms and curriculum materials are provided by the Air Force.

To reinforce what is learned in the classroom, cadets participate in many outside activities such as field trips to military bases, aerospace facilities and industries, museums, civilian airports and other areas related to aerospace education.

Many AFJROTC units complement the curriculum through the cooperation and resources of organizations such as NASA, the Civil Air Patrol, and the National Endowment for Financial Education.

Co-Curriculars - Cadets also participate in many different co-curricular activities such as parades, leadership laboratory activities, civilian air rifle marksmanship programs, drill team competitions, color and honor guards, military balls, and honorary academic groups. Additionally, science, technology, engineering and mathematics, commonly known as STEM concepts are taught in the AFJROTC classroom and practiced in very popular and critical co-curricular activities. STEM tools like classroom flight simulators, model rockets, and remote controlled (RC) aircraft have been used for years to enrich the learning opportunities and provide immersive learning / experiential learning tools that reinforce what is taught in the classroom. In 2014, AFJROTC added a fun and exciting STEM oriented activity by giving RC multicopters to a limited number of AFJROTC units. These hands-on teaching and learning tools are used to not only reinforce STEM learning objectives, but to enhance the program's aerospace science curriculum. This class is taught at Dixie High School and students are bussed from the DHHS parking lot. **FEE: \$20.00**

Release Time

0200 Course Title: Release Time

Grade Level: 9

Credit: 0

Course Description: Students in this course are released from public school for one period of religious instruction.

Desert Hills Middle School

The mission of Desert Hills Middle School is to ensure that all students gain essential academic knowledge and life skills.

We are committed to:

- Providing a safe and inviting learning environment*
- Making students and student learning the focus of our efforts*
- Involving parents and the community in the learning process*
- Using the Professional Learning Communities framework to improve instruction and student achievement in our classrooms.*

