

Wood Shop I - This is a project-based course in which students develop basic woodshop skills, demonstrate safety skills and basic skills in wood project construction. The students will use collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and communication daily. The course will focus on the concept of learning by doing and also follow STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) curriculum. The students will use Auto CAD software and AutoCAD Architectural. Due to the nature of this course, students must behave safely, be self directed, motivated and responsible. This class will also be an entry-level course for individuals who are interested in basic technical drawing. Through whole group, small group, individual instruction, research, hands-on activities, demonstrations and assessments the students will gain basic knowledge, skills and abilities that will allow them to be successful in the course. The students will develop freehand sketches, pictorial drawings and mechanical drafting techniques. Projects in this class will introduce students to the different aspects of technology taught in the technology department at Saline High School. Students will be evaluated through quizzes, tests, projects, daily classroom attendance, initiative and positive involvement.

Wood Shop II - Wood Shop II is a project-based course which builds on the successful completion of Wood Shop I. Throughout the process of designing and making large projects, participants will hone their wood working skills while developing new skills in designing and engineering, layout, creation of materials lists, cutting to size, and basic building procedures. Students need to be able to work and problem solve independently and be self-motivated to be successful in this class. We will discuss lumber selection and grain graphics, and students will have the opportunity to choose to work with many different types of wood. Finally, we'll explore surface preparation and options for finishing as they create projects of their choice.

PE - The physical education program at Saline Middle School is designed to provide you the opportunity to learn a variety of skills and activities and to promote living an active, healthy lifestyle. The PE class emphasizes teamwork, sportsmanship, effort, respect for others and personal responsibility. Some of the units covered in the PE elective are team sports such as volleyball, basketball, handball and hockey. You'll also get to participate in individual sports such as tennis, badminton, and track and field. For fun, you will play recreational activities like sha-ball, air force football and kickball, and fitness activities like flexibility, cardiovascular and agility training.

Lifetime Fitness - This alternative P.E. class is for the student who wants to be physically active in a non-traditional middle school physical education class which will focus on overall health and fitness with an emphasis on components such as cardiovascular fitness, muscular endurance/strength, flexibility, and coordination. Wellness concepts will also be a core component of class activities. There will be limited competitive and traditional team sports activities, but this class will still provide opportunities for collaboration and group projects. This class will focus more on individual goals and skills and fewer team sports and sport-specific skills. We will also explore a variety of fitness concepts and general wellness in greater depths. Available for 7th and 8th Grade Students.

ART - This course explores the use of both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional media such as drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, photography, and stop-motion animation. Students will utilize digital devices in the photography units, learn to use a viewfinder for composition, and apply techniques to create mixed-media artwork. Students will create a stop-motion animation film that encompasses story layout, shooting and editing. The development of problem solving skills, seeing and articulating art experiences and fostering the imagination of middle school art students is the primary goal of this course. Students will experience the joy of creating art, while gaining an understanding and appreciation of the historical cultural context in which art objects were created.

BAND - The band program is open to all students who play a wind or percussion instrument.. This class incorporates a variety of concerts including the Marching Demo, Collage Concert, Festival, parades and evening concerts. You will also have the opportunity to perform solos and ensembles at Solo and Ensemble Festival, as well as to audition for the All-State Honors Band. Students will explore different musical styles and create projects combining music, art and history. Activities and assignments are planned with the goal of improving individual and group performance skills and confidence. In this class you will improve your technique, range, sight-reading, ear training and ensemble rehearsal skills.

ORCHESTRA - The orchestra program is open to students who play violin, viola, cello or bass. This ensemble provides students with a variety of performing opportunities; including string orchestra, full orchestra, chamber ensembles, and solos. You will improve your technique, sight-reading as well as ensemble rehearsal skills. Students in the orchestra program will also learn music theory, explore different musical styles and create projects using music, art and history. You will get to perform in small ensembles with your friends and compose your own music. Orchestra students will participate in a variety of concerts such as the Collage Concert, Festival and String-Fling. You will get to perform solos and ensembles at Solo and Ensemble Festival as well as audition for the All State Honors Orchestra.

CHOIR - The seventh and eighth grade choirs are open to all students who have a love of singing. Singers progress from singing unison and two-part music to singing some pieces in three and four part-harmony. Choir members build on their skills in music reading and theory and the ability to blend the voice with others in the ensemble. Singers experience music in many different styles and languages and have great fun making new friends, moving and singing, and playing games. Highlights of the year include performing in at least three concerts, participation in District and State Choral festivals at locations around the State, Solo & Ensemble Festival, Collage Concert and a spring concert with a 3-year rotation of the themes: Pop Music, Musical Theater or Songs of Movie and Television. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for the State Honors Choirs and to sing at other events throughout the community.

DRAMA - Are you nervous about speaking in public? Are you shy and want to be more confident? Do you like being the center of attention? Are you looking for a class that lets you move around, try new things, express yourself, and have fun? Drama Class is for you. We will learn about acting through improvisation and scene work. We talk about the different aspects of a theater production including sets, costumes, props and others. We learn about how a play is created from a script and how we create characters and bring those characters to life. We will learn how to be comfortable in front of an audience, how to be confident and how to speak loudly and clearly so that everyone understands what we have to say. Drama teaches us how to be creative, how to work together and how to treat others with compassion and respect.

COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES - Are you interested in programming and computer science. Research shows that early exposure to computer science and programming is key to increasing tech efficacy and breaking down gender gaps in STEM fields. Students will work through the curriculum from code.org which is recommended for students from 6-10 grade. Students will focus on the following units: 1) Problem-Solving 2) Web Development 3) Animations and Games 4) The Design Process 5) Data and Society and 6) Physical Computing

COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES Year 2 - Continue your interest in coding and computer science. In this section, students will work to complete the code.org CS Discoveries curriculum. Students will review last year's favorite units and then work to complete the final two units: 5) Data and Society and 6) Physical Computing

MULTI MEDIA I - This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to dive into the world of digital photography, graphic design, and video production. The course will focus on teaching students the techniques and principles of these topics while giving them a chance to put their skills to use with fun, engaging course projects. Students will learn how to take eye-catching photos, create attractive digital designs, and produce high-quality videos. Students will use DSLR cameras, video camcorders, Mac computers, Adobe Creative Cloud Desktop Apps, and other necessary tools and equipment as part of the course. The course will also provide students an opportunity to work on the yearbook and video news show at an introductory level to allow them to apply the skills they learned and to give them a glimpse into the Multimedia I course.

MULTI MEDIA II - This second-year course is designed to build on the successful completion of Multimedia I. This is a journalism-based course in which the work that students complete will be published and broadcast to the Saline community. Students will produce the school's yearbook, manage the school's social media news feed, and broadcast the school's student video news show. Due to the high demand of the production cycle, students need to be trustworthy, reliable, self-directed, and responsible. Students need to be able to meet deadlines, work in collaborative teams, and complete tasks as necessary to help the team continue the tradition of creating award-winning publications.

WORLD LANGUAGES - The World Language Department is happy to offer the opportunity to middle school students to earn high school credit in French, German and Spanish. Students may earn one high school credit by successfully completing a 7th and 8th grade world language class.

FRENCH - Take French and learn the world's second most popular international language! During the first three weeks you will concentrate on conversational skills. You receive a French name and learn to count, greet friends, tell time and learn how to order food and beverages in a French cafe. This course continues with a grammatical approach to the language through the use of games, projects, skits, and individual as well as partner activities. You will have vocabulary and verb study, oral drills, practice in sentence structure, translation, and short cultural readings. There will also be cultural activities such as tasting French Food.

GERMAN - German is a fun, dynamic class where students learn to sprechen Deutsch through the four modalities of language learning: speaking, writing, listening and reading. Students are immersed in the German language right from the start and learn the basics like greeting friends, counting, spelling and talking about their own lives. This course prepares students to continue their German studies in high school and ultimately abroad with our partner school in Lindenberg Germany. Deutsch ist super. German is for you!

SPANISH - This elective course begins with conversation work in which students receive new Spanish names and learn such things as how to greet friends, how to count and how to tell time. Other class work involves vocabulary study, oral drills, grammar and sentence structure exercises, translation, and short cultural readings. Spanish songs and games are also used to improve pronunciation and to build vocabulary.