

Westpine Course Descriptions 7-8 Grade



Beginning Band- Grade 6-8

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.

Intermediate Band- Grade 7-8

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.

Advanced Band- Grade 7-8

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 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.

Computers Year 1- Grade 6-8

Students will explore various programs in the Microsoft Office Suite in order to begin meeting competencies necessary for Industry certification

Computers Year 2- Grade 7-8

Students will explore various programs in the Microsoft Office Suite in order to begin meeting competencies necessary for Industry certification

Computers Year 3- Grade 7-8

Students will explore various programs in the Microsoft Office Suite in order to begin meeting competencies necessary for Industry certification

Peer Counseling- Grade 6-8

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop awareness of self and others. Emphasis will be on acquisition of basic skills for thoughtful planning, peer facilitation, effective communication and making healthy choices.

2-D Art- Grade 6-8

Students refine techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students manipulate the structural elements of art with increasing independence to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works.

High School 2-D Art*- Grade 8

Students experiment with the media and techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through the development of skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, and/or design. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art to improve mark making and/or the organizational principles of design in a composition from observation, research, and/or imagination. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work and that of their peers. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

Cambridge 2-D Art- Grade 6-8

Students will develop creative skills that will help with many aspects of their future learning and development. They will: Learn to see themselves as artists and become increasingly reflective and independent, develop the skills needed to express creative ideas and to communicate visually, and understand their place and the place of others in a creative, innovative and interconnected world. **This course supports progression to many other creative subjects at Cambridge Upper Secondary**

STEM/Robotics- Grade 6-8

The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore the area of robotics technology and its associated careers. Students will be given the opportunity to solve technological problems using a variety of tools, materials, processes and systems while gaining an understanding of the effects of robotics technology on our everyday lives

Physical Education- Grade 6-8

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.

Cambridge Physical Education- Grade 6-8

This subject is about learning to move and moving to learn. Learners develop skills through a wide variety of age-appropriate physical activities, including games, team sports, gymnastics and dance. As individuals and team members, they will: Increase confidence, moving with increasing control, fluency and variety, improve their understanding of concepts, rules, tactics, strategies and compositional ideas, participate in respectful and responsible ways, engaging appropriately and safely, improve knowledge and understanding of how physical education can contribute to a healthy and active lifestyle, and develop transferable skills promoting physical, cognitive and social development and become independent, critical and reflective movers and thinkers. Students develop creative skills that will help with many aspects of their future learning and development. **The course supports progression to the next stage of the Cambridge Pathway.**

Digital Media/Journalism- Grade 6-8

Students will learn to use a variety of digital media to relay relevant information to a variety of audiences. Students will learn to create and maintain website, conduct daily monitoring announcements, and create digital photographs and video.

Cambridge Global Perspectives- Grade 6-8

The program develops the skills of research, analysis, evaluation, reflection, collaboration and communication. It strengthens the links across English as a first or second language, mathematics, science and ICT Starters.

ICGSE Spanish I- Grade 6-8

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.

ICGSE Spanish II- Grade 7-8

Spanish 2 reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by the students in Spanish 1. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. *Prerequisite: Spanish II*

ICGSE Spanish III- Grade 8

Spanish 3 provides mastery and expansion of skills acquired by the students in Spanish 2. Specific content includes, but is not limited to, expansions of vocabulary and conversational skills through discussions of selected readings. Contemporary vocabulary stresses activities which are important to the everyday life of the target language-speaking people.

Leadership- Grade 7-8

The Leadership program is designed to provide students with ongoing support in the areas of conflict resolution, self-awareness, decision making, effective communication, problem solving, and more. It will also provide students with an opportunity to recover a previously failed course and remediate skills in order to advance to and excel in the next grade. Students can earn middle school credits in Math, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies.

JROTC- Grade 7-8

The JROTC program prepares participants for leadership roles by providing practical lessons that help them develop into active and engaged learners and leaders. Its purpose is to influence students to be self-reliant and motivated and to inspire them to be successful, productive citizens. The program promotes academic achievement, leadership development, character education, wellness, diversity, and leadership.