

Haskell STEM Academy 7th Grade Electives, 2020-21

Arts/Crafts: Course focuses on artistic perception, creative expression, design, composition, and color as well as cultural and historical contributions to art. Students will develop art skills using a variety of materials to create their own, unique art pieces. All skill levels are welcome!

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination): Year-long course. Application required. This nationally-recognized program supports student growth in personal habits, academic skills, and goal-setting. Focus is given to preparation for academic success at Haskell and beyond. College field trips included.

Band – Advanced: Year-long course. Recommendation required. This is the main performance band for middle school intended for students who have already been playing an instrument for one year or more. Students will prepare for 2-3 performances during the year.

Band – Beginning: This year-long course is intended for new musicians with little or no prior experience reading music or playing an instrument. Students may select and provide their own instrument, or choose from instruments available at the school. Students will prepare for 2-3 performances during the year.

Chorus: Students will sing in an organized vocal performance group that will perform at least once each semester. Students will learn vocal techniques, ear training, and reading of music. All skill levels are welcome. Course may be repeated for multiple semesters.

Drama: This introductory course includes group and individual activities in voice/diction, pantomime, script writing, character expression, and preparation for acting in an ensemble cast. Students will participate in a live performance each semester. Course may be repeated for multiple semesters.

Environmental Science & Engineering: A scientific study of the natural world and how it is influenced by people. This course will focus on environmental issues and will use the engineering process to solve real world problems. Students will gain skills in sustainability in and out of the classroom to understand the importance of their impact on the environment.

Foundations of Computer Science: This course offers an introduction to the JavaScript language and is ideal for beginning programmers. Students will learn basic JavaScript commands as well as how to create variables, functions, loops, and logic statements. The class will also address the more complex functionality of arrays and objects as the students explore the art of creating various computer games.

Foundations of Psychology: Students will learn the basics of psychology in a project based learning environment, including units on social psychology, abnormal psychology, clinical psychology, educational psychology, and developmental psychology. The course also addresses important questions facing middle school students today such as the effects of social media on children, cyber-bullying, and what psychological research says about how healthy habits are formed.

Leadership: Based upon 6th grade teacher recommendation, a small number of students will be selected to participate in the school ASB to plan school events.

Literacy Enrichment: This course supports English Learners and other low readers to develop the more advanced literacy skills needed in secondary education.

Math Academy 7: This course offers additional support, practice, and strategies for students to be successful in their assigned, grade-level math class.

Music Appreciation: Students will explore music in a variety of activities. Focus is given to basic music reading, varying musical styles, music history, music of different cultures, and music creation.

PLTW Automation & Robotics: Students will learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems using VEX Robotics materials and the ROBOTIC programming language. Students will acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork collaboration and innovation.