

2019-2020 Elective Course Catalog

The following are elective courses we will be offering at Wilson K-8 School for this school year. Elective classes will meet every day for a semester (unless otherwise indicated). Please read the class description carefully to decide which class/classes you would like to select. Some classes are a year commitment. 7th grade students will have 2 electives unless one of them is a year long class. 8th grade students will have 3 electives unless one of them is a year long class. While the school will try to accommodate your elective request(s), there are no guarantees. *(These classes are subject to change due to class enrollment numbers, staffing, etc.)*

**** ALL STUDENTS NEED TO TURN IN AN ELECTIVE SELECTION FORM.**

Advanced Art (only open to 8th Graders) – Year

Are you ready to try new and exciting art methods? Are you committed to art and want to grow in your artistic abilities? If you answered yes to all of these questions, Advanced Art is the class for you! Over the course of the year, you will be creating a portfolio of work with subject matter that is self-directed. As a class we will explore non-traditional art methods and materials, as well as using traditional materials in new ways. You must have taken art in 7th grade in order to be placed into this class. FEE \$ 30

Advanced Choir/Jazz - Year

This is Wilson's most advanced choir and will represent the school at a number of public events. It is a small performing ensemble made up of an elite group of 7th and 8th grade students. Space is limited! This choir focuses on music literacy, proper vocal production, advanced rhythms, advanced harmony, sight-reading, and performance behavior. Participation in concerts, festivals, and other events is required. Audition Required. Email sdevaney@amphi.com to schedule an audition over the summer. FEE - \$21

Announcement/Video Production - Semester

This class will be responsible for producing the daily announcements. Students will be learning the various jobs and responsibilities of putting together a news cast, which includes announcers, camera operators, teleprompt operator, and computer operators. They will cover school events, make commercials to show during the news and work on any other announcement related items. This class will focus on the "art" of video/film making. They will explore various filming and editing techniques to create movies and videos. Some of what they do may be used for the announcements as well. FEE - \$21

Art-II - Semester

Two Dimensional Class – Do you enjoy drawing? Always wanted to learn how to shade better? If so, then this is the class for you! Throughout the semester we explore the 2D mediums and a range of subject matter moving from abstract to representational. We look at drawing, painting, and even some print making. Hang on to your paintbrushes and pencils and get ready for a great semester. (8th grade students – This class will be different from what you created and learned in class last year!) FEE - \$30

Art-III - Semester

Three Dimensional Class – Do you like building? Love to get your hands dirty? Join 3D art and experience all the wonders of sculpture! From clay to papier-mâché, and lots in between, you have the opportunity for hands on building. Subject matter ranges from abstract to representational with many opportunities for exploration and subject choice. (8th grade students – This class will be different from what you created and learned in class last year!) FEE - \$30

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Athletic Conditioning/Weight Training - Year

The focus of this class is on strength training, cardio training, and muscle conditioning. It is designed for students interested in serious muscle toning or those planning on competing in high school level athletics. The course will include Pilates training, Tae Bo, muscle toning with bands and other conditioning exercises. Along with conditioning we will study the different muscle groups and the appropriate way to strengthen them. In addition this class will be an introduction to weight training. Proper training techniques will be taught and emphasized. Muscle groups, how they are used in relation to sports, and how to train them will be covered as well.

Chamber Ensemble - Year

This group is one of a kind. The Chamber Ensemble is the only Middle School full orchestra program in Arizona. It is a group comprised of band and orchestra instruments. The Chamber Ensemble has received high recognition for its outstanding musical presentations. It has received Superior and Excellent ratings and has taken first place at festivals in California for many years. All 7th and 8th grade students will be participating in the ABODA Festival, District Festivals, and a trip to Disneyland. Students will perform the finest quality selections. Here are some of the selections from past performances: Harry Potter, Fantasia (Sorcerer's Apprentice), and Pirates of the Caribbean. FEE - \$30

Computer Science (Programming) - Semester

Students in grades 7th and 8th will learn programming fundamentals through a fun, engaging, and creative curriculum. Students will use critical and computational thinking while they create hands-on projects that will challenge them to create an Ohm's law simulator, draw intricate patterns, program sprites to mimic line-following robots, create arcade-style games and more. Students will work with various programs to include Code.org, Scratch, and much more.

Forensic Science - Semester

Do you like CSI? Do you like Crime Scenes, Forensic and Criminal Investigations? Then your search is over – take Forensics! This one semester course will examine the science involved in solving crimes. Students will learn about examining evidence at a simulated crime scene. They will learn how to take fingerprints, examine DNA evidence, examine trace evidence, and blood evidence/blood splatter. Students will then solve crimes with this newly acquired knowledge. The role of criminologists at the crime scene will also be examined. FEE - \$21

Jazz Band - Year

This group is comprised of 7th and 8th grade students to be selected by Mr. Hill. Rehearsals are five days a week. The Jazz Band is comprised of a rhythm section that includes: 1 bass guitar, 1 standup bass, 1 electric guitar, 2 piano players, and 2 percussionists. The wind section included: trumpets, trombones, alto saxophones, tenor saxophones, and 1 baritone saxophone. The Jazz Band will be performing Jazz Combo, Swing, Bee Bop, Rock, Pop, and Stand Tunes. We will also be taking a trip to Disneyland and take part in a High School Jazz Festival each year. Come and be a part of the only true American Art Form there is. (Teacher recommendation required.) FEE - \$30

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Leadership – Semester

The focus of this class is on bringing out the “Leadership” potential in 7th and 8th grade students. Students will learn about teamwork, goal setting, and effective communication through the study of past and present leaders and collaborative group games. Throughout the course, students will discover their personal leadership skills while learning to work effectively with others. Students will also have an opportunity to plan events such as pep rallies, field day, and dances. Positive attitudes and the desire to make a difference are a must as we explore the world of leadership.

Math Lab – Year

A semester long class for upper level math students who are looking for extra time to complete their math assignments and/or want small group tutoring from the Algebra/Geometry teacher. Students may also work on the ALEKS program, make-up quizzes and exams, or work on homework.

Musical Theater - Year

Musical Theater is an intermediate/advanced performance class. It is an exploration of theater and music, including improvisation, singing, acting, and stage tech. Our spring musical is similar to Project Based Learning. The class will develop sets, costumes, props, stage direction, and choreography in a workshop environment. Student leadership is encouraged. You don't have to be an incredible singer to be successful in this class. Rehearsals and performances are required. FEE - \$21

Odyssey of the Mind - Year

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. Then they bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and world level. FEE - \$21

Show Choir/Concert - Year

Show Choir is a large intermediate mixed choir made up of 7th and 8th grade students. The choir will focus on developing essential music skills including sight-reading, proper singing technique, and how to work together to create a unified choral sound. This performing group will sing three-part music as well as show choir music with choreographed movement. The choir will perform at winter and spring concerts and some additional performances. (No audition required.) FEE - \$21

Spanish I - Year

Spanish I is a challenging High School level course. We follow the same curriculum as the students taking first year Spanish at IRHS. Students who successfully complete this class will earn one High School credit for the course and go straight to Spanish II when they enter High School. They will have also met one year of the two-year foreign language requirement for college entrance. What a deal! Spanish I is a very worthwhile and beneficial experience as we use the opportunities to explore the Mexican heritage that surrounds our community.

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STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math) - Semester

During the 1st quarter of this class, students will apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. In the second quarter students trace the history, development, and influence, of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. FEE - \$21

Student Aide - Semester

Student Aide gives the opportunity to become familiar with different aspects of school life. We use student aides in every area of the school. If you are interested in being a student aide please read the short description of each student aide position listed below and list it on the preference form.

- **Classroom Aide** - Students who work in the classroom help the teacher in many aspects of the day to day work that a teacher may need help with including but not limited to reading to students, correcting papers, help with art projects or science experiments, etc.
- **Classroom Reading Aide** – This student aide receives specific instruction on how to help an elementary student who is struggling with reading. They will receive tutor training then be partnered with elementary students that has been identified as needing a little extra help.
- **Classroom Math Aide** - This student aide receives specific instruction on how to help an elementary student who is struggling with math. They will receive tutor training then be partnered with an elementary student that has been identified as needing a little extra help.
- **Library Aide** - Working in the library introduces the many functions of the library. Students are taught how the computers work; they show other students how to find books or look up research materials, etc.
- **Office Aide** – By helping in the office, students learn the fundamentals of how to deal with the public (both in person and on the phone), filing, accounting, attendance, and general office work.

Study Hall - Semester

A semester long class which gives the busy student the opportunity to complete homework assignments or do quiet independent work such as reading during the school day.

Teen Court - Semester

Teen Court is an elective which will help teens learn about the court system. Students will be lawyers, bailiffs, probation officers and judges during trials of offenders here at school. Lawyers will write opening and closing arguments and will need to think on their feet in a trial setting. Judges and bailiffs will need to know the order of trial and the vocabulary used in a courtroom. The cases will be referred by teachers and the consequences are real. This class is for leaders, aspiring lawyers and courtroom personnel.