

# OAK CREST MIDDLE SCHOOL

## ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

### YEAR COURSES

#### AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) \*\*

**Grade Level: 7 - 8**

#### **Prerequisite: Screening by AVID committee**

This is a course for students who are achieving low/middle level grades but with support can succeed in college preparatory classes. Students must be motivated, determined and ready to learn in a rigorous academic environment. This course is designed for students from low-income backgrounds, those who will be first generation college students or are under-represented at CSU or UC systems.

#### Journalism \*\*

**Grade Level: 7 – 8**

#### **Prerequisite: Consent of instructor**

The course encompasses the production of the school yearbook. The production of the yearbook begins in the early spring of each year when the staff of the ensuing year is selected. This is done through a process of interviewing and screening prospective students for editor and staff positions. During the year, production is geared for coverage of all school activities through the final deadline time in late March or April. While adhering to publisher deadlines, the yearbook completes that cycle of covering the history of one year of school life. Course includes production of the school newspaper.

#### Marching Band/PE

**Grade Level: 7 - 8**

#### **Prerequisite: None**

This course offers students the opportunity to continue their study of standard woodwind, brass and percussion instruments, and to participate in performances. Successful completion of this course qualifies students to progress to the high school band program. This course can take the place of Physical Education. Advanced marching band candidates must audition with the instructor.

#### Spanish I

**Grade Level: 7 -12**

#### **Prerequisite: None**

The course consists of a series of linguistic activities and cultural topics, which enable the student to communicate about daily activities at a survival level. These activities are chosen for their personal significance to the students, thereby providing an aspect of spontaneity to the communication. At the end of this course, the student will be able to understand, speak, read, and write about high frequency expressions and phrases and make him/herself understood by the instructor.

#### Spanish II

**Grade Level: 7 – 12**

#### **Prerequisite: Spanish I with “C” or better**

This course consists of a series of linguistic activities and cultural topics, which enables the student to communicate about daily activities at a functional level. These activities are chosen for their personal significance to the student, thereby providing an aspect of spontaneity to the communication. At the end of this course, the student will be able to understand, speak, read and write about basic daily activities and make him/herself understood by a sympathetic native speaker.

### SEMESTER COURSES

#### CE-SMART

**Grade Level: 7 – 8**

#### **(Career Exploration of Science and Math applications to research and Technology)**

#### **Prerequisite: None**

This course delivers a contemporary curriculum of technology content, language arts, applied math and science inquiry through the balanced use of multimedia, video and hands-on activities. Integrated units include, Alternative Energy, CNC Router, Laser Technology, CAD, Electricity, Digital Music, Flight Technology, Forensic Science, Energy and Power, Materials Processing, Mechanics, Pneumatics, Research and Development, Robotics, Structural Engineering, and Virtual Architecture.

#### General Studio Art

**Grade Level: 7 – 8**

#### **Prerequisite: None**

A survey course that will expose the student to varied art forms, media, and techniques. This exposure will create a common core of knowledge, familiarize the student with his/her cultural heritage, develop and refine his/her sensibilities toward the arts and enable the student to express hi/her own creativity and increase his/her capacity for problem solving.

**Intro to Multimedia****Grade Level: 7 – 8****Prerequisite: None**

This is an elective introductory course designed for all students. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of multimedia production through introductory instruction in digital photography, digital photo and graphics manipulation, basic web page design Front Page 2000, and multimedia presentation using PowerPoint 2000. Deigned within this curriculum, students will also learn the basics of Microsoft Office 2000 Word, Excel, and Publisher as well as learn to navigate and research the Internet. Infused into the daily curriculum will be the basics of keyboarding while learning to increase your typing speed. Introduction to Multimedia is a prerequisite for Advanced Multimedia.

**Intro to Drama****Grade Level: 7 – 8****Prerequisite: None**

This course is designed to introduce the student to the cultural heritage and artistic process of acting. The student's skill in expressing thought and feeling through both verbal and non-verbal means will be developed. Positive self-image and confidence are developed through the emphasis on a graduated sequence of success-oriented activities.

**Advanced Drama (Second semester only) \*\*****Grade Level: 7 – 8****Prerequisite: Introduction to Drama and/or permission of instructor**

This course is designed to refine the basic skills developed in "Intro to Drama". The intent is to develop within the student a positive self-concept, and an ability to perceive and interact successfully with others. There will be a greater emphasis on "in-class" performances.

**Leadership \*\*****Grade Level: 7 – 8****Prerequisite: Elected Officer or approval of instructor**

Leadership class prepares students to participate effectively in student government. Students are provided learning experiences in areas of planning, implementation and evaluation of programs. Improved time management, goal setting, communication and organizational skills are stressed. Students gain insight into parliamentary procedure, California State law, and the education code and school finance. A basic objective of the course is to nurture student appreciations of the democratic process. Course may be repeated for credit.

**Reading****Grade Level: 7 – 8**

This course provides support in reading, writing, speaking, and listening to assist students who scored Basic or below on the California Standard Test in English/Language Arts. Students are selected for this course by their counselor.

**TV Broadcasting \*\*****Grade Level: 7 – 8****Prerequisite: Approval of instructor**

Students experience the process of filmmaking and videography from inception of an idea to completion of a project on tape based on student video projects and professional films and videotapes.

**Cartooning****Prerequisite: None**

This course is to introduce and teach different techniques of drawing with variety of media. Students will generate a portfolio of different work using learned techniques. The cartooning section of this course will teach students the fundamentals of animation. Students will learn how to draw and analyze both political and leisure cartoons. A portion of this course will be taught in the computer lab where students will learn how to produce computer-generated comic strips.

**\*\* Requires an application to be completed by student**