



2023-2024 Elective Course Descriptions

Yearlong Courses

Choir

In this year-long course, students build up their vocal technique for solo and group singing, as well as learn how to read and rehearse a variety of music. Students will find their voice by studying music from diverse backgrounds and cultures. Students

Band

In this year-long course, students choose an instrument of focus to learn how to read, rehearse, and perform a variety of music including classical, jazz, film scores, and more. Instruments may include flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, bells, bass, and drums. Students get performance, stage management, and leadership experience by performing at school and community events.

Spanish 1

In this year-long course, students will learn the basics of Spanish, explore the culture of the 21 Spanish-speaking countries, create cultural art and celebrate with traditional food and music.

Spanish 2*

**must have completed Spanish 1*

In this year-long course, students will use basic Spanish to create presentations, projects and continue to explore culture and create cultural art and foods of the 21 Spanish-speaking countries. This course prepares students to take Spanish 3-4 at the high school level.

World of Dance

If you want to learn to dance or if you are already a pro - this is the class for you! By joining this class you become a member of Parkway Academy's Hip Hop Dance Crew! You will learn the fundamentals of hip hop dance and choreography and perform at Parkway Academy's events throughout the year which is part of your class grade! Additionally, this class focuses on leadership, teamwork, and building positive peer relationships. Parkway Academy's Hip Hop Dance Crew also gets the opportunity to attend high school dance programs and performances. **No Experience Required*

Yearlong Courses - *application required*

ASB

ASB - Associated Student Body - is a leadership class where the ASB students learn leadership skills such as teamwork, scheduling, organizing events and activities on campus like our lunch activities, dress up days and dances. They also run the Student Store and the Game Room for students who earn the opportunity to go play during lunch.

Media

Through weekly school broadcasts, students learn the basics of video production including filming, sound, storyboards and screenplays. Staff members pitch, write, film and produce packages developing leadership and project management skills.

Yearbook

This class is designed to develop students' skills in yearbook production by providing experiences in all areas of yearbook production. Students learn basic principles of photography, design as well as develop skills that include writing copy, captions and headlines.

Trimester Courses

Art Career Explorations

Students will have the opportunity to explore three different art based careers - Set Design, where they will learn and construct their own maquette (or small model) of their set idea. Fashion Design, involving creating their own designs and lastly, Silk Screening techniques where they will create a one-color image that they will silkscreen onto a shirt or other fabric.

Art

In this course, students will learn about the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. They will learn about and use a variety of media, including clay, oil pastels, paint, charcoal, colored pencils, markers as well as learn about a few artists and styles throughout the trimester and create their own masterpieces.

Music

This is a trimester long course in which students learn the fundamentals of playing ukulele and guitar. Students will learn how to read melodies in standard notation, play chords, and how to play both as a soloist and within a group. Students will learn about influential composers and songwriters and even try their hand at writing their own melodies.

Design Innovations

Students will learn the Elements and Principles of Design, including photo editing and vector drawing. Throughout the course, students take on several design projects through the design process, ultimately culminating with a Shark Tank Design Competition.

Computer Science

CS Explorations is an introductory computer science course, based in the Scratch programming language, that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving and fun.

Energy and the Environment

Students are challenged to think big and toward the future as they explore sustainable solutions to our energy needs and investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the world. They will design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.

Marine Biology

Students will explore the variety of biodiversity in our Oceans. This class will include lab activities and will cover concepts related to the management of global marine food sources, Marine Habitat Conservation, and addressing the challenges of Climate Change.

Money Matters

Students will research a variety of careers and what it takes to get there. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the Stock Market Game by investing \$100,000 in a simulation with a team as well as explore a variety of financial literacy topics including insurance, inflation, mutual funds, and cryptocurrencies, and take part in an entrepreneurship project. Additionally, students will research various career pathways and what opportunities to look for in high school such as CTE programs, dual enrollment, AP and IB classes.

Data of Baseball

Learn to be a manager of a baseball team! Students will learn how to calculate baseball statistics, choose the best players, and create their own baseball team. Using the statistics of each player on your team, you will play several “fantasy” baseball games against other teams in class.

Exercise Science

In this course, students will be introduced to Exercise Science, where they will create their own exercise and nutrition plans, and expose them to the Sports Medicine/Health pathways that the Grossmont Union School District offers by visiting different facilities and job shadowing. Students will also have the opportunity to travel to the nearby YMCA for workouts and use our Pride room for circuit training.

Engineering Focus TBD

This class will engage students in the concepts of engineering. It will offer an introduction to engineering for students interested in the CTE pathway in engineering in the Grossmont High School District. Topic to be determined after the teacher is hired.