

# Sharpstown High School Course Catalog

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## Career and Technology Education

*Sharpstown offers four pathways based on career interests. These are Agriculture, Animation, Audio/Video Production, and Health Science. Choose one of the introductory courses described below to get started!*

### **Principles of Agriculture**

This course is an introductory class that prepares students for other classes in agriculture, food, and natural resources. The emphasis is on plant science as well as career opportunities, personal development, globalization, industry standards, details, practices, and expectations. Learn to grow and use the campus as a vegetive canvas. This is the first course in the Agriculture pathway.

### **Digital Media**

Students will gain the opportunity to learn what Digital Media is and its uses. Students will understand how Digital Media is created, & technology used in digital media while increasing their knowledge & understanding of how media plays a big part in their lives, and in every career and industry. This course is the first course in the Animation pathway.

### **Video Game Design**

This course introduces students to the primary concepts of video game design and examines how gamers interact with games. Students will play, analyze, and create games in order to build an extensive vocabulary about video game culture, theory, and design. Students will learn what defines a “game” and the mechanics and rules from traditional board games, sports games, and party games. Students will explore career-related roles including art and character design, animation, storytelling, digital media creation and coding basics to help design paper-based and online games. This course can also be used as the first course in the Animation pathway.

### **Principles of Arts, Audio Video Technology and Communications**

These courses introduce animation and video production. In *Principles*, students will learn the basics of computer navigation, digital composition, and design principles. After taking *Principles*, students will choose to continue either in a video production-focused pathway.

### **Principles of Health Science**

The Principles of Health Science course provides students with an introduction to careers in healthcare and explores the education and training needed to obtain specific healthcare degrees. Students will gain insight into the functionality of the teamwork environment now utilized in the field of healthcare.

This course strives to enhance the student’s ability to successfully secure employment or pursue advanced education in healthcare. Even though there is not a certification associated with this course, Principles of Health Science is considered an eligibility requirement for entry into many certification courses in the Health Science Program of Study.

## Fine Arts

*All students must earn at least one full credit of Fine Arts in order to graduate. Choose one of the following introductory courses based on what interests you.*

## **Art 1**

Art I is an introductory course where you will learn basic skills such as: the elements of art, basic drawing skills, modern art styles, and work with a wide variety of media. Some of the projects in Art 1 include: Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Watercolor, Clay, and Paper mache.

## **Band 1**

This class offers the band experience at the beginning level. The instruments taught are flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, tuba, and percussion. No experience necessary – only the desire to play an instrument. The music topics introduced are reading music, music notation, basic music theory, as well as learning how to play the instrument. The students will present a Winter and Spring Concert.

## **Choir 1**

This course is designed to help students achieve greater vocal independence, confidence, inner hearing, and quality tonal production. Students will study a variety of musical styles in diverse languages and time periods. Students work as an ensemble to perform and share music with friends, family, and the community. Students also participate in UIL events such as Region Choir, All State choir, Concert and Sightreading as well as actively participate in Broadway musical productions in association with the Theater department.

## **Dance Wellness**

Dance Wellness is a field of study and practice that is concerned with the well-being and health of a dancer. This class offers a focus on rest, nutrition, alignment, hydration, and movement to improve longevity, reduce the risks of injury, and enhance performance. Dance wellness (or dance movement therapy) is also a valuable offering of furthered education after high school. All dance wellness programs share the philosophy that the mind, emotions and the body are integrated. This class supports an individual along the path of personal wellness and self-discovery by providing activities that enable the exploration of the link between one's mind, emotions and body through creative explorations. Students will learn about the nonverbal expressiveness of their actions and the importance of their breath and how to better utilize it. This class allows for dancing outside the studio, in nature when the weather best permits it, and gives the students a chance to reconnect with themselves and with the planet.

## **Dance and Media Communications I**

As new media technology becomes an increasingly integral part of the theater and dance experience, students will investigate a wide range of questions about the possibilities of media in live performance. How can live camera feeds be used on stage? What different personalities and perspectives does new media technology offer on stage? How can live performers relate to and interact with live feed and previously recorded material? How do video, live sampled audio, projected text and other forms of media help tell stories on stage? Students explore these questions through hands-on experience in class, workshops (or dance labs), and performance, both at the high school and beyond. This focus is creating dance artists with an ability to learn and create “screendance” or “dance on film.”

## **Piano 1**

This course is for students who wish to learn to play piano in a group setting. Little to no experience is required as the course starts with training in basic skills. Students should be able to play simple melodies with a left-hand chorded accompaniment by the end of the first nine weeks of the course and continue their studies with intermediate level music on the piano by the end of the year.

## **Technical Theater 1**

In Technical Theatre I, students will learn the basic application of technical theatre to a show. This includes building scenic elements, making props, learning basic sewing skills, how to hang and focus a light, as well as

creating a sound scape. This class is best for students who do not want to perform, but would like to learn the back stage world of theatre.

### **Theatre Arts I**

In Theatre Arts I, students will learn all about theatre. Improvisation, ensemble activities, vocal work, movement, acting, and exploring plays. This class is perfect for students who want to learn how to act or have already taken a theatre class in middle school.

### **Theatre Production 1**

In Theatre Production class, students rehearse for the fall plays, musicals, UIL One Act Play contest, and our Spring Musical. This class is for students wanting to act and work backstage. Students in this class will also stay after school for rehearsals. Student roles include acting, singing, dancing, lights, sound, costumes, marketing, props, and more. To join this class, students must Audition/Interview with directors.

## **Physical Education and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp (JROTC)**

*At least one full credit of Physical Education is required for graduation. If you are an athlete, participation in a sport can count if you get the coach's approval. Choose one of the options below:*

### **Foundations of Personal Fitness**

The purpose of this course is to motivate students to achieve lifetime personal fitness with an emphasis on the health-related components of physical fitness. The concept of wellness, or striving to reach optimal levels of health, is the corner stone of this course and is exemplified by one of the course objectives: students designing their own personal fitness program as a way to develop the skills necessary to become fit and achieve some degree of fitness within the course.

### **JROTC 1**

JROTC is designed to teach high school students the value of citizenship, leadership, service to the community, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment while instilling in them self-esteem, teamwork, and self-discipline. Its focus is reflected in its mission statement, "To motivate young people to be better citizens." It prepares high school students for responsible leadership roles while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as American citizens.

### **Marching Band 1 (Band Director Approval Required)**

All members of the Sharpstown High School Wind Ensemble and Concert Band are members of the SHS Marching Band. The marching band is most active during the fall semester. The marching band performs at Sharpstown HS football games, parades, pep rallies, public events, and other exciting group events. The marching band can also help students earn the required physical education credits. Prior experience playing an instrument is required.

### **Athletics (Coach Approval Required)**

If you play a sport and are planning to, or have already, tried out to be on the Sharpstown team, you can earn credit for physical education. Sharpstown offers Basketball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Baseball, Golf, and Volleyball. You must obtain approval of the coach to participate in Athletics.