



## **COURSE REQUESTS**

Hogg Middle School is an International Baccalaureate World School, and all of our students participate in the ***Middle Years Programme (MYP)***. The MYP aims to develop active learners and internationally minded young people who can empathize with others and pursue lives of purpose and meaning. The *programme* empowers students to consider a wide range of issues and ideas of significance locally, nationally and globally, which results in young people who are creative, critical and reflective thinkers.

Students are **REQUIRED** to take a class in each of the following subject groups: Design, Language Acquisition, Physical Education and Performing/Visual Arts. ***We will do our best to honor your requests and ask that you and your child be open-minded regarding their assigned classes.***

### **Design Elective (Choose one full year course.)**

- **College and Career Readiness (Grade 6 Only)**

Career development is a lifelong pursuit of answers to the questions: Who am I? Why am I here? What am I meant to do with my life? Students will explore educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a college and career readiness achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory software to explore college and career areas of personal interest. Students will use this information to explore educational and financial requirements for various colleges and a variety of chosen career paths.

- **Culinary Arts (Grades 6-8)**

In this course, students will learn all about how to stay safe and organized in the kitchen while whipping up tasty recipes from around the world! They will explore food's global connection as they learn about where our food comes from. Students will also gain hands-on gardening experience and use their harvested ingredients in the Cultivated Classroom.

- **Computer Power (Computer Coding, Grades 6-8)**

Computer Power is an introductory course for 6th - 8th grade students (mixed classes) that covering topics such as problem solving, programming, physical computing, user-centered design, and data, while inspiring students as they build their own websites, apps, games, and physical computing devices. Computer Power uses code.org for our curriculum guide and coursework.

- **Computer Concepts (Graphic Design, Grades 6-8)**

In this course, students will learn the use of digital software including Adobe InDesign during the introductory course, Adobe Photoshop during the advanced 2nd-year course, and Adobe Illustrator during the advanced 3rd-year course.



- **Principles of Applied Engineering (Grade 7 Only)**  
Principles of Applied Engineering is about researching, creating and designing. Students research past inventions, learn how to use CAD, create marketing campaigns for "new student robots", and when time permits, students build and code robots.
- **Principles of Informational Technology (Grade 8 Only)**  
Principles of Informational Technology is more about technology. Students learn how to manipulate cloud software such as Powtoon and websites that allow you to create your own website. Students also prep for job searches and interviewing as well as adding skills to their resume such as Microsoft Excel. The goal is to showcase their skills and talents on a website they create with hopes of continuing to add to it through high school so they will have a digital portfolio for college or job interviews.
- **Thinking Skills in Engineering (Grades 6-8)**  
Engineering students learn the basics of building design: construction budgeting, support engineering, scale reduction, conversion of 2D images into 3D structures, accurate measurement and making structures square, calculating roof pitch, figuring square footage, establishing a cost per square foot value, and basic building code implementation. To meet these goals students also learn how to use basic tools and their safe use (exacto knives, power drills and drill press, miter and band saws, soldering irons, air brushes), and model construction techniques to create scale models and real-world structures.

## Language Acquisition Elective

Language Acquisition at Hogg Middle School offers French, German and Spanish.

**6th Grade:** ALL students must take a ½ year introductory course in two of the languages.

**6th Graders should choose a different language class for each semester.**

- Choose two from the following three for 6<sup>th</sup> grade:
  - **French** - Beginning French (6th Grade 1/2 semester)
  - **German** - Beginning German (6th Grade 1/2 semester)
  - **Spanish** - Beginning Spanish (6th Grade 1/2 semester)
- Or One Full Year of **Spanish Language Arts** – Only for Dual Language and/or Native Speakers

**7th Grade:** Students select which (one) language they would like to take for the next two years. It does not have to be the language they took in 6th grade. A placement exam is required for placement in the Spanish Native Speakers course for 7th grade.

**8th Grade:** Students will continue with the same language they took in 7th grade. During this time, they will have the opportunity to earn one high school credit through foreign language, as well as earning college credit with a score of 3 to 5 on the Advanced Placement Exam (if applicable).

**7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders should choose one full year course from:**

- French
- German
- Spanish
- LOTE I or LOTE II (Native Speakers Only, requires prior approval from teacher)
- AP Spanish (Grade 8 Only, requires prior approval from teacher)



## Performing and Visual Arts Elective (Choose one full year course.)

Performing Arts courses include Band, Choir, Orchestra and Theatre.

- **Band (Grades 6-8)**

**Beginning Band:** Open to all 6th graders. 7th and 8th graders that would like to join the band need to talk to Mr. Sells if they are interested. Beginning Band does not require previous knowledge. It is recommended that students rent their own instruments from a music store (we have an instrument drive hosted by H&H Music each September), and the school does have a limited number of instruments available. Students may choose one of the following instruments: Flute, Clarinet, Alto Saxophone, Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba or Percussion. Students will learn how to read music and play their chosen instrument with a characteristic sound. Students will also learn how to play in a small and large ensemble and participate in 2 concerts.

**Concert Band:** A performing band open to returning Hogg Band students or students with previous instrumental knowledge. Students must audition for a spot and have passed the written band final from the previous year. Students in Concert Band will continue to expand their musical knowledge learned in Beginning Band, work on sight reading techniques, participate in Solo and Ensemble competition and perform in multiple concerts and contests. Concert Band members will also be eligible for the Spring Trip to San Antonio.

**Symphonic Band-** This top performing band at Hogg Middle School is only open by audition. Symphonic Band members will improve on knowledge gained in Concert Band, master sight reading techniques, perform at musical contests including UIL, Waltrip Festival and the South Texas Music Festival, perform in 3 Hogg Concerts, audition for the Region Band and participate in the Solo and Ensemble competition. All Symphonic Band members will be required to attend weekly one-hour sectionals after school. Symphonic Band members will also be eligible for the Spring Trip to San Antonio.

- **Choir (Grades 6-8)**

No prior experience necessary. Content focuses on basic theory, ear-training skills, and sight-reading music from a variety of periods and styles. Includes an introduction to traditional choir, show choir, musical theatre, and seasonal concerts. Music includes traditional, popular, and music theatre styles of music.

- **Orchestra (Grades 6-8)**

**Beginning Orchestra:** Open to all 6-8th graders; no prior experience necessary. Involves the following four main stringed instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, and Bass. Focuses on proper instrument posture, note reading, rhythms, developing intonation, rhythm, shifting, vibrato, bow technique, ensemble performance and sight-reading skills.

**Intermediate Orchestra:** Open to all 6-8th graders who can demonstrate a basic mastery of the basic skills necessary (students who have successfully completed beginning orchestra at Hogg advance to this level). Students learn advancing bow skills, dynamic differentiation, proper intonation, and ensemble playing.

**Chamber Orchestra:** Open primarily to 7th-8th graders who have successfully completed intermediate orchestra at Hogg. Students learn further advanced bow skills, part independence, proper intonation in extended positions, and polyphonic ensemble playing. This level occasionally competes.



- **Theatre (Grades 6-8)**

**Beginners Theatre:** is an entry-level, participation-based, performance course designed to help students gain self-confidence through the discipline of Theatre Arts. All students are required to participate in class and perform in groups and individually. This course will also assist students in developing effective writing skills. This class has two levels: A 6th grade beginner's level, and a mixed 7th and 8th grade level. No prerequisite is required.

**Intermediate Theatre:** Prerequisite: Grade of C or better in Beginners Theatre. This course is open to 7th grade students only and designed to give the student actor opportunity to continue developing acting and building self-confidence and characterizations. This course focuses on specific acting exercises and approaches that will expand and refine the actor's skills.

**Advanced Theatre:** is an audition-based class that will strengthen and enhance skills in ensemble work, movement, voice, scene and play analysis, playwriting, student directing, and musical theatre. Students will participate in theatre festivals (UIL competition) and experience live theatre. This course provides serious acting students the opportunity to continue their training in characterization, advanced improvisation, movement, auditioning, scene work, script analysis and interpretation and appreciation of the Art of Theatre. This class is open to 8th graders only. Prerequisite: Intermediate or similar Theatre class and a passing grade of C or better when that class was taken.

**Visual Arts:** The visual arts program offers students comprehensive art experiences with detailed explorations in the classics such as painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture and crafts.

- **Art (Grades 6-8)**

**6<sup>th</sup> Graders and 7<sup>th</sup> Graders**

In addition to gaining confidence and proficiency working with a variety of media, students learn about the history, culture, analysis, and interpretation of art. The aims of MYP arts are to encourage and enable students to create art, develop skills, engage in creative exploration, make connections, understand context, respond to art, reflect on art, and use art to deepen our understanding of the world.

**8<sup>th</sup> graders**

8<sup>th</sup> Graders can take Art 1 for High School credit. Students must pass the final exam to receive high school credit.

**Physical Education Elective (Choose one full year course.)**

- Dance
- Karate
- Squash
- Traditional (Single Gender) PE

**The four core classes (MYP or Vanguard/MYP) will be assigned by campus administration.**

- Language and Literature (English Language Arts)
- Individuals and Societies (History)
- Mathematics
- Science

