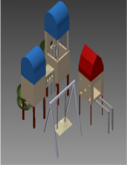


Hillcrest Middle School 2026-2027 8th Grade Related Arts Course Descriptions

	Title: Art 1 (Year) 4 (<i>High School Fine Arts Credit 1.0</i>) Description: This introductory course provides students with problem-solving experiences in two and three-dimensional media, stressing design elements (line, shape, form, value, color, space, and texture) and design principles (proportion, emphasis, harmony/unity, balance, rhythm/movement, contrast, repetition/ pattern, and variety). Emphasis is on the development of basic skills. PREREQUISITE: None
	Title: Art 8 (Semester) 2 Description: Students will refine their ability to communicate visually, manage a wide range of tools and materials, and achieve quality, style, and craftsmanship in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, and crafts. Students will have opportunities for evaluating and critiquing their own and other students' artwork as well as studying artists and analyzing their work.
	Title: Instrumental Band 1 Honors (Year) 4 (<i>High School Fine Arts Credit 1.0</i>) Description: This course is a continuation of Symphonic Band 7. The emphasis is on concert performance. Students receive small-group instruction and experience performing superior chamber music and wind band literature. Their program of study stresses the value of music as a leisure-time activity. Students may be offered opportunities for important leadership positions. PREREQUISITE: Any seventh-level Instrumental Music course and Instructor Approval
	Title: Band 8 (Year) 4 Description: This course is a continuation of Band 7 for brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. Advanced-level middle school literature will be studied. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and band techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts. PREREQUISITE: Band 7 or permission of instructor
	Title: Career Education (Semester) 2 Description: This course introduces the students to the careers that are available to them after their education. Students are given a chance to research and explore various careers as well as learn about the skills that are needed for a particular occupation. During this time, the students are also introduced to the career clusters that are used in the district. PREREQUISITE: None
	Title: Chorus 1 CP (Year) 4 (<i>High School Fine Arts Credit 1.0</i>) Description: This is a non-auditioned course open to all students. This course emphasizes the development of basic vocal techniques and skills including: good posture, tone quality, breath support, diction, and attack and release. Attention is given to the understanding and practice of basic elements of music including music reading skills. Students may have the opportunity to sing in foreign languages while studying a variety of styles of choral music. Vocal independence is emphasized in the performance opportunities that will be given. This is considered a beginning level class and students will have the opportunity to audition for advanced choral classes after completing Chorus 1.

Hillcrest Middle School 2026-2027 8th Grade Related Arts Course Descriptions

	Title: GTT8 AutoRobotics- (Semester) 2 Description: This class will use 3D modeling software and sketching techniques to introduce students to the product design process. Students will use the 3D modeling software along with a 3D printer to create objects that solve real-world problems. Students will learn sketching techniques and use geometry-based mathematics to aid in their computer modeling. *** GTT 8 AutoRobotics (ADVANCED SECTION) Students who have taken AutoRobotics will be able to get a teacher recommendation to be placed in an advanced section of this course. Students will be able to compete in robotics competitions.
	Title: GTT8 Computer Science for Innovators- (Semester) 2 Description: Throughout the unit, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development, allowing students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects.
	Title: Math Assistance (Year) 4 PREREQUISITE: Teacher Placement Description: This course offers students remediation and additional assistance in math skills in support of on-grade-level instruction in the regular math classroom.
	Title: Multimedia Basics 8 (Semester) 2 Description: This course covers basic multimedia concepts and applications utilizing text, graphics, animation, sound, video, and various multimedia applications in the design, development, and creation of multimedia presentations and publications in an interactive environment.
	Title: PE/Health 8 (Semester) 2 Description: Enrollment in this course fulfills the state law requiring 9 weeks of health education every year for all students in grades 6 - 8. Course content focuses on teaching students the information and the skills needed to become health literate, maintain and improve personal health, prevent disease, and reduce health-related risk behaviors as outlined in the SC Health and Safety Curriculum Standards. The course also focuses on evaluating, advocating, and coordinating valid resources and services to meet the needs of students, families, and communities. Course content areas include Personal Health and Wellness, Nutritional Choices, Mental Health, Preventing Injuries, Family Living, and Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs.
	Title: Peer Exploratory 8 (Semester) 2 PREREQUISITE: Teacher Recommendation Description: This course provides 8th-grade students the opportunity to pair with other students to provide cooperative learning in the exploratory setting. Students will be paired with a student(s) who requires additional support in a classroom setting.
	Title: Reading Assistance (Year) 4 PREREQUISITE: Teacher Placement Description: This course offers students remediation and additional assistance in reading skills in support of on-grade-level instruction in the regular Language Arts and/or Literature classroom.

Hillcrest Middle School 2026-2027 8th Grade Related Arts Course Descriptions

	Title: Spanish 1CP (Year) 4 (<i>High School Foreign Language Credit 1.0</i>) Description: This course prepares students to: perform interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communicative tasks within the novice high to intermediate low range on the ACTFL Proficiency scale; interpret, exchange, and present, information, concepts and ideas both within the classroom and beyond on a variety of topics including connections to other subject areas; and understand the relationship among the products, practices and perspectives of other cultures. In addition, students develop insight into their own language and culture.
	Title: Theater 1 (Year) 4 (<i>High School Fine Arts Credit 1.0</i>) Description: In this course, students will develop basic skills and techniques of set design, acting, and directing, and will participate in all aspects of a production. Intense study of a variety of plays and dramatic forms will be included. Students may be required to attend plays as assigned by the teacher/director. PREREQUISITE: Instructor Recommendation
	Title: Theatre 8th (Semester) 2 Description: This course is for students who are interested in improving their interpersonal communication skills and who wish to increase their confidence in delivering oral presentations. Instruction will encompass the dramatic skills required for oral interpretation of standards-based literature.
	Title: Orchestra/String 1 (Year) 4 (<i>High School Fine Arts Credit 1.0</i>) Description: This course is a supplementary experience for students with superior musical talents. This course emphasizes basic musicianship on individual strings or orchestra instruments. Students concentrate on developing technique, tone quality, range, and proper posture. Students receive concentrated instruction in performance techniques and have the opportunity to apply them through solo performance and chamber ensemble participation. PREREQUISITE: Instructor Recommendation
	Title: Strings 8 (Year) 4 Description: This course is a continuation of Strings 7 for violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Advanced-level middle school literature will be studied. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, and music as it relates to history and culture, and string techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts.
	Title: Yearbook 8th (Year) 4 Description: The main purpose of this class is to produce the yearbook for the school. In fulfilling this goal, many skills are introduced and/or developed. Organization, self-motivation, precise writing, and time management are major elements of this class. Computer skills, photography skills, and interpersonal skills are also key in the production of the yearbook. Students do not need to come into this class with these skills fully developed, but they do need to have the desire to develop them. PREREQUISITE: Teacher Recommendation and application process

Hillcrest Middle School 2026-2027 8th Grade Related Arts Course Descriptions

Students with IEPs who require the course below will be placed by a Special Education Teacher



Title: Literacy Lab – (Year)

Description: Literacy Lab is a standards-based specially-designed intensive comprehensive reading intervention program designed to improve skills and raise test scores. This heavily structured course consists of four individual parts: (1) whole class and (2) small group instruction meant to target specific reading, writing, grammar, and analysis skills, (3) independent reading, and (4) individualized computer literacy instruction in phonics, decoding, vocabulary, comprehension, and spelling. This course reinforces the application of the reading and writing process and continues to develop students' abilities to apply appropriate strategies and resources in a wide variety of situations.