

2016-2017 Grade 8 Cycles

We are excited to offer a variety of cycle classes to our 8th grade students. Each cycle class is taken in a Marking Period, so students will only be enrolled in three of the cycle classes outlined below during their 8th grade year at HBW. Every student will be enrolled in Health for one marking period.

Below is a brief description of cycle options for 8th grade students. We will make every effort to guarantee that students are enrolled in at least 2 of their top 3 cycle choices.

Art

You continue to create artwork based on a variety of sources - art projects designed to communicate ideas, express feelings, portray action or movement are emphasized. You are trained in skills to extend your ability to solve problems or modify artistic statements. You are also encouraged to respect different styles and kinds of artwork, as well as become aware of criteria for judging your own and others' art.

Anthropology

Have you ever wondered why your body makes that little "jerk" before you fall asleep or why kids in the US eat cereal or pancakes for breakfast, but kids in Japan eat rice, miso soup and broiled fish? Maybe you've wondered how forensic scientists on shows like CSI figure out ailments from bones or have been curious as to why certain objects are called different names depending on the region of the US, like subs, hoagies, grinders, po' boys or heroes? Then Anthropology has the answer for you! The study of Anthropology combines both science and social studies to help explain not just the complexities of culture, but who we are and were as humans, both past and present. We'll learn about how social practices and patterns like music, dance, clothing, medicine, holidays, festivals and celebrations are different across world cultures. We'll also look at how humans have adapted to diverse environments and how human biology has been shaped over time. You'll understand how verbal and nonverbal language influences your social life, and how we can learn about past cultures through archaeology. Every day will be filled with new and fascinating facts that will enable you to not only travel the world from your classroom, but will help you understand and appreciate who you are as an individual.

Conspiracies and Mysteries in History

Conspiracies and Mysteries in History is a hands-on student-centered research-based class. We will explore some of the most interesting, controversial, and perplexing conspiracies and mysteries from around the world that professional historians are trying to solve today. During the ten-week course students will research, theorize, and discover materials to try and uncover an answer to whether or not a mystery is solvable, or if we can prove that a conspiracy is actually true, or if it just a fictional story. We will look at topics such as the JFK Assassination, D.B. Cooper, The Mystery of Oak Island, The Amber Room, The Knights Templar, and more.

Computer Science

Scratch Advanced – Take Scratch programming to the next level with more detailed animations, games, and interactive projects. In Scratch Advanced, students will expand on their computer science fundamentals by learning more in depth loops, variables, scrolling, and event actions.

Music

The 8th grade general music program introduces you to music of various cultures and time periods. A hands-on approach is utilized in teaching the fundamentals of music theory and performance through experience with keyboard, guitar, and music production software. You work individually or in small groups allowing for students with various experiences to be appropriately challenged.

National History Day

National History Day is an exciting research-based history course and competition. Students will explore some of the most interesting and diverse topics in history based upon a national theme each year. The research projects that students complete teach them the life skills of critical thinking and problem solving, research and reading skills, oral and written communications and presentation skills. National History Day gives students the opportunity to explore and learn about topics outside of the materials covered in a traditional social studies classroom.

Technology Engineering and Design

Technology, Engineering, and Design will introduce you to the processes and techniques that will enable you to take part in the design and construction of our engineered world. The class will focus on hands-on, minds-on learning experiences that lead to solving a design challenge.