

Elective Course Catalog

The following are elective courses we will be offering at Wilson K-8 School for the 2016-2017 school year. Elective classes will meet every day for a semester (unless otherwise indicated). Please read the class description carefully to decide which class/classes you would like to select. Some classes are a year commitment. 7th Graders will get 2 electives unless one of them is a year long class. 8th Graders will get 3 electives unless one of them is a year long class. While the office will try to accommodate your elective request, there are no guarantees. (These classes are subject to change due to class sign up numbers, staffing, etc.) **ALL STUDENTS NEED TO TURN IN AN ELECTIVE SELECTION FORM.**

Advanced Choir/Jazz - Year

This is Wilson's most advanced choir and will represent Wilson School at a number of public events. It is a small performing ensemble made up of an elite group of 7th and 8th graders. Space is limited! This choir moves quickly through developing essential music skills and focuses on music literacy, proper vocal production, advanced rhythms, advanced harmony, sight-reading, audition skills, and performance behavior. Participation in concerts, festivals, and other events is required. The difficulty of music and additional performances require an additional time commitment. Audition Required. Email bdignum@amphi.com to schedule an audition over the summer. FEE - \$21

Announcement/Video Production - Semester

This class will be responsible for producing the daily announcements. Students will be learning the various jobs and responsibilities of putting together a news cast, which includes announcers, camera operators, teleprompt operator, and computer operators. They will cover school events, make commercials to show during the news and work on any other announcement related items. This class will focus on the "art" of video/film making. They will explore various filming and editing techniques to create movies and videos. Some of what they do may be used for the announcements as well. FEE - \$21

Art-II - Semester

Two Dimensional Class – Do you enjoy drawing and painting? If so, this is the class for you. We will explore the different media associated with 2D art such as painting, drawing, collage, grid art, scratch board, printing and architectural design. (Attention 8th Graders – this is the same format and projects as last year. If you have already taken 2D art, you will want to take 3D art this year.) (Semester) FEE - \$30

Art-III - Semester

Three Dimensional Class – Do you like to make or build things and get a little messy? Three-dimensional art students will study clay, paper mache, celluclay, murals and plaster. (Attention 8th Graders – this is the same format and projects as last year. If you have already taken 3D art, you will want to take 2D art this year.) FEE - \$30

Athletic Conditioning/Weight Training - Year

The focus of this class is on strength training, cardio training, and muscle conditioning. It is designed for students interested in serious muscle toning or those planning on competing in high school level athletics. The course will include Pilates training, Tae Bo, muscle toning with bands and other conditioning exercises. Along with conditioning we will study the different muscle groups and the appropriate way to strengthen them. In addition this class will be an introduction to weight training. Proper training techniques will be taught and emphasized. Muscle groups, how they are used in relation to sports, and how to train them will be covered as well.

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Chamber Ensemble - Year

This group is one of a kind. The Chamber Ensemble is the only Jr. High Full Orchestra Program in Arizona. It is a group comprised of band and orchestra instruments. The Wilson Chamber Ensemble has received high recognition for its outstanding musical presentations, and has received Superior and Excellent ratings and has taken first place in festivals in California for 2 consecutive years. All 7th and 8th grade students will be participating in the ABODA Festival, District Festivals and a trip to Disneyland. Students will perform the finest quality selections such as: The Chronicles of Narnia, Harry Potter, Fantasia (Sorcerer's Apprentice), and Pirates of the Caribbean. FEE - \$30

Computer Science (Programming) - Semester

Students in grades 7 & 8 will learn programming fundamentals through a fun, engaging, and creative curriculum. Students will use critical and computational thinking while they create hands-on projects that will challenge them to create an Ohm's law simulator, draw intricate patterns, program sprites to mimic line-following robots, create arcade-style games and more.

Forensic Science - Semester

Do you like CSI? Do you like Crimes Scenes, Forensic and Criminal Investigations? Then your search is over – take Forensics! This one semester course will examine the science involved in solving crimes. Students will learn about examining evidence at a simulated crime scene. They will learn how to take fingerprints, examine DNA evidence, examine trace evidence, and blood evidence/blood splatter. Students will then solve crimes with this newly acquired knowledge. The role of criminologists at the crime scene will also be examined. FEE - \$21

Intro to Acting - Semester

Intro to Acting is a semester-long beginning drama course that focuses on the development of acting skills. Through the use of theatre games, improvisation, and scene study, students will discover that the art of acting involves imagination, taking chances, and having FUN! If you love to be on stage, this is the class for you! FEE-\$21

Jazz Band - Year

This group is comprised of 8th graders, and 7th grade students to be selected by Mr. Hill. Wilson Jazz Band takes place five days a week. The Jazz band is comprised of a Rhythm Section that includes: 1 Bass guitar, 1 Standup Bass, 1 electric Guitar, 2 Piano Players and 3 Percussionists. The wind section will include trumpets, trombones, Alto Saxophones, Tenor Saxophones and 1 Baritone Saxophone. The Jazz Band will be performing Jazz combo Music, Swing, Bee Bop, Rock, Pop and Movie Selections. We will also be taking a trip to Disneyland and take part in a high school jazz festival each year. Come and be a part of the only true American Art Form there is. FEE - \$30

Leadership – Semester

The focus of this class is on bringing out the “Leadership” potential in 7th and 8th graders at Wilson. Students will learn about teamwork, goal setting, and effective communication through the study of past and present leaders and collaborative group games. Throughout the course students will discover their personal leadership skills while learning to work effectively with others. Students will also get an opportunity to plan events such as Pep Rallies, Field Day, and dances. Positive attitudes and the desire to make a difference are a must as we explore the world of Leadership.

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Odyssey of the Mind - Year

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Team members apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. FEE - \$21

Show Choir/Concert - Year

Wilson Show Choir is a large intermediate mixed choir (boys and girls) made up of 7th and 8th graders. This choir will focus on developing essential music skills including sight-reading and audition training. Students will learn proper singing technique, how to read music and how to work together to create a unified choral sound. This performing group will sing traditional concert music as well as show choir music with choreographed movement. This choir will perform at winter and spring concerts and some additional performances. No Audition required. FEE - \$21

Spanish I - Year

Spanish I is a challenging high school level course. We follow the same curriculum as the students taking first year Spanish at IRHS. Students who successfully complete this class will earn one high school credit for the course and go straight to Spanish 2 when they enter high school. They will have also met one year of the two-year foreign language requirement for university entrance. What a deal! Spanish I is a very worthwhile and beneficial experience as we use the opportunities to explore the Mexican heritage that surrounds our community.

STEM (Science-Technology-Engineering-Math) - Semester

During the 1st quarter of this class students will apply the design process to solve problems and understand the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They work in teams to design a playground and furniture, capturing research and ideas in their engineering notebooks. Using Autodesk design software, students create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their innovative solutions. In the second quarter students trace the history, development, and influence, of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. FEE - \$21

Student Aide - Semester

Student Aide gives the opportunity to become familiar with different aspects of school life. We use student aides in every area of the school. If you are interested in being a student aide please read the short description of each student aide position listed below and list it on the preference form.

- **Classroom Aide** - Students who work in the classroom help the teacher in many aspects of the day to day work that a teacher may need help with including but not limited to reading to students, correcting papers, help with art projects or science experiments, etc.
- **Classroom Reading Aide** – This student aide receives specific instruction on how to help an elementary student who is struggling with reading. They will receive tutor training then be partnered with elementary students that has been identified as needing a little extra help.
- **Classroom Math Aide** - This student aide receives specific instruction on how to help an elementary student who is struggling with math. They will receive tutor training then be partnered with an elementary student that has been identified as needing a little extra help.
- **Library Aide** - Working in the library introduces the many functions of the library. Students are taught how the computers work; they show other students how to find books or look up research materials, etc.
- **Office Aide** – By helping in the office, students learn the fundamentals of how to deal with the public (both in person and on the phone), filing, accounting, attendance, and general office work.

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Study Hall - Semester

Study Hall – A semester long class which gives the busy student the opportunity to complete homework assignments or do quiet independent work such as reading during the school day.

Teen Court - Semester

Wilson Teen Court is an elective which will help teens learn about the court system. Students will be lawyers, bailiffs, probation officers and judges during trials of offenders here at school. Lawyers will write opening and closing arguments and will need to think on their feet in a trial setting. Judges and bailiffs will need to know the order of trial and the vocabulary used in a courtroom. The cases will be referred by teachers and the consequences are real. This class is for leaders, aspiring lawyers and courtroom personnel.

Theater Production - Year

Theatre Productions is an intermediate/ advanced performance class. It is an exploration of theatre through productions. Productions include one act plays, musicals, videos, etc. The areas of acting, singing, dancing, stage management, lighting, sound, makeup, stagecraft, and scenery will be emphasized. Rehearsals and performances are required. FEE - \$21