

MERRYHILL MIDTOWN
MIDDLE SCHOOL

ELECTIVE COURSE BOOKLET

2024-25:SECOND TRIMESTER



Secondary courses provide students with opportunities to explore a variety of different topics which are taught by their core and specialty teachers. Each course runs for one trimester, unless otherwise indicated, and is held twice a week. Students will take two secondary courses each trimester.

Over the course of the year in 6th-8th grade, students will need to participate in 3 electives which meet the following requirements: 1 PE course, 1 arts course (art, music, design) and 1 technology course. The remaining 3 courses are student choice.

From the choices available, students should pick their top three choices in both the Elective A and Elective B blocks. Requirements can be met at any point during the year. Students will earn letter grades in all elective courses. Students will be placed in electives on a first come first served basis. Using the descriptions below, have your student select their preferences using the google link.

Second Trimester Secondary Courses

COURSE A SELECTIONS T,Th	
PE <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>PE</i>	With the help of Merryhill’s talented physical education staff, students will build and apply movement skills, participate in activities to improve physical fitness, and explore a variety of health topics. PE uniform and dress out required.
Drawing People <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>Arts</i>	In this class you will improve your skills for drawing people. Draw realistic face and body proportions. Bring personality into your drawings by working on expressions, posture, and movement. Have fun practicing your drawing skills while creating artistic projects with people as the theme.
Student Council* <small>Will only be placed in class if you are elected into office</small>	Student council officers are responsible for planning and executing a variety of student activities including dances, rallies, spirit week, community service, and more. The officers will run meetings and plan events. This course requires independent workers with a desire to get involved in the school community. If you run for office and are elected you will be placed in this class. Students in this class will have opportunities to audit classes that support being an officer.
Beginner Ukulele <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>Arts</i>	Have you been wanting to learn to play an instrument, but didn't know where to start? Do you love the sound of the ukulele every time you hear it? Have you already started learning to play the ukulele, but wish you didn't have to play alone? This class will help all budding musical artists in learning how to play the ukulele.
M2News <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>Tech</i>	Have you ever wanted to pursue a career in newscasting or journalism? With the help of Merryhill’s talented tech team, our Midtown middle schoolers will create short news pieces on events around the campus, participate in the Monday Morning Mustang announcements, and work in tandem with the yearbook team to collect school photos. Student council members will also audit this class at various times during the trimester.

COURSE A SELECTIONS

T, Th

<p>Midtown Production <i>Fulfills requirement: Tech</i></p>	<p>All the world has photos at its fingertips. This class will help support the yearbook squad in taking pictures for the yearbook, learning and mastering photo editing, and starting to work with graphic design for posters and flyers for the campus and more! Students will also take on other forms of media, such as drone footage and clip editing skills. Students will also learn the basics of assisting Miss Caraballo with different tech needs around campus with staff and students.</p>
<p>Book Club <i>Fulfills requirement: Arts</i></p>	<p>In this elective, we'll explore the themes of loss, grief, identity, and the enduring bonds of family in the novel <i>Clay When you Land</i>. Through discussions, writing prompts, and creative activities, we'll delve into the characters' experiences and analyze the author's craft. Students will work together with the teacher to work through this book throughout the trimester.</p>
<p>Frisbee Sports <i>Fulfills requirement: PE</i></p>	<p>Do you know how to throw a frisbee? If you do, then you are on your way to understanding all of the types of sports that use Frisbees including disc golf, ultimate frisbee, can jam and more! Students in this sport will perfect their skills in frisbee throwing and learn different kinds of frisbee games.</p>
<p>Introduction to Relief Printing <i>Fulfills requirement: Arts</i></p>	<p>Block printing is a relief printing technique that uses a carved material, such as linoleum or rubber to transfer ink onto fabric or paper. The block serves as a stamp, with the final product resulting in a mirror image of the carving. Block prints can range from small images intended to be repeated in a pattern to large works of art that require a large printing press to print. Students will be creating block prints using a variety of techniques. Elective Cost: \$25</p>

COURSE B SELECTIONS

W, F

<p>Strength and Conditioning <i>Fulfills requirement: PE</i></p>	<p>This class is designed for students who are looking for a more hands on understanding of what it takes to improve one's strength and overall conditioning. This class will cover the basics of strength training, cardiorespiratory endurance training, in addition to touching on the importance of proper nutrition, hydration, and sleep.</p>
<p>Makerspace 2.0 <i>Fulfills requirement: Tech</i></p>	<p>The joys of design lab return to the middle school landscape. From using the 3D pens to create unique designs, to cutting and adhering cardboard to build structures based off of a design plan, students will relive the glory days of elementary Design Lab with a middle school twist. Elective Cost: \$25</p>
<p>Origami <i>Fulfills requirement: Arts</i></p>	<p>In this class you will improve your skills in origami and 3-D paper creations. Use your paper skills to create gifts, mobiles, cards, tiny paper sculptures and more. Challenge yourself to learn more complicated origami skills as well as getting creative and inventing your own ideas.</p>
<p>Intro to Theater <i>Fulfills requirement: Arts</i></p>	<p>Do you like to act? Express yourself? Go crazy in an organized fashion? This class will teach monologues, screenwriting, improv, and much more. Students will practice their acting skills to the fullest in this fun class. Remember, this class requires active participation!</p>

COURSE B SELECTIONS

W, F

<p>Midtown Mentors <i>Application Based</i> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>Tech</i></p>	<p>The Mustang Mentor program is designed to encourage student leadership through the mentoring of elementary school students within the area of technology. Students applying for this elective will work closely with the technology team on the campus. Hours for this elective can be considered to constitute for service hours for applications for NJHS. To be considered for this elective, please complete the application as well as sign up using the elective selection link. APPLICATION</p>
<p>High School Prep</p>	<p>For many middle school students, high school entrance exams are right around the corner. Much as 6th Grade success is designed to support students during middle school, this course is rooted around applying for high school. From tackling analogies to understanding test strategies and time management, this course is designed to give students a leg up! This course is for 7th and 8th grade students, with priority given to 8th graders.</p>
<p>Coloring and Meditation</p>	<p>Did you know coloring can potentially reduce stress and increase focus? This class will utilize adult coloring books to help students relax as well as teaching students mindfulness and meditation activities to help release stress and prepare students for their day.</p>
<p>Model Making <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>Arts</i></p>	<p>In this art technical course themed around Science Fiction models and terrain, students will be introduced to the world of miniatures and model-making! Common in board game and tabletop gaming experiences, miniatures and models allow gamers to immerse themselves into games in a way that promotes creativity and artistic expression utilizing a series of technical skills. From painting styles ranging from washing and dry-brushing to designing, modeling, and creating three-dimensional modular terrains, students will be recording their progress and creating a digital portfolio of their work and skills. A lab fee of \$25 is required, as students will be taking home their completed terrains and painted miniatures at the end of the course. Elective Cost: \$25</p>
<p>Basketball Conditioning <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>PE</i></p>	<p>Dribble, Shoot, Score! This class is designed for students who want to learn more about Basketball and playing, or for students who are considering entering the Merryhill basketball program in the Winter. Students will practice fundamentals, learn new skills, and scrimmage for games.</p>