



Wilson Middle School LEARNING PATHWAYS 2021-2022

Wilson Middle School offers outstanding Learning Pathways for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Students are encouraged to explore various programs in order to learn about possible career pathways. Wilson students in grades 6th, 7th, and 8th are offered the following Learning Pathway classes:



Woodrow Wilson Middle School

Learning Pathways

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Biliteracy:

Intro to Armenian Language & Culture (6th-7th grades) (semester)-This Introductory class (in Armenian) follows the national and state standards for foreign language learning which include the following five areas: Connections, Communications, Comparisons, Cultures, and Communities. This class offers a foundation in approaches and techniques for the teaching of second or foreign languages from the perspective of linguistics and second language acquisition research. Students will begin to develop their Armenian proficiency through extensive interaction in the target language. In this first-year Armenian class, our general objectives are: (1) to gain beginning level proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Armenian and (2) to learn about the culture, history, and literature.

Intro to French Language & Culture (7th & 8th grades) (semester)-Fulfill your dream of learning French the "fun" way. Students are introduced to the French language and culture through games, interactive activities, skits, and songs. This low-pressure class has very little homework or formal testing, and is designed to focus on conversation and beginning reading. By the end of the course, students are able to hold conversations about a number of topics, and know many of the basics that will give them a head start if they continue to the next level of French. (offered based on enrollment)

Intro to Spanish Language & Culture (6th-7th grades) (semester)-This course introduces students to the Spanish language so that they can develop proficiency on a basic level. Language learning in this course will focus on understanding and learning to speak simple phrases, learning limited vocabulary and very basic grammatical structures. All language skills will be practiced: listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course also introduces students to the Spanish-speaking cultures of Spain, Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean and South America. Students will learn similarities and differences in values, attitudes and actions as they investigate different cultures through a wide variety of resources

(e.g., online resources, texts, videos). Students will also investigate specific topics related to cultural experiences. (offered based on enrollment)

Armenian 1-2 (8th grade only) (yearlong) Armenian 1 is an introduction to Armenian language. Students in this course will focus on listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will also learn Armenian vocabulary starting with greetings, phrases, numbers, and colors. By the end of this course, students will be expected to write complex sentences in Armenian while using adjectives, subject-verbs, articles, verbs, and proper conjugations. This course includes a broad series of lessons and activities that offer a variety of modalities for ultimate student engagement and content retention. Each unit contains a series of lessons that include introduction of content, virtual demonstration of that content, and repeated opportunity to practice that content, along with a quiz per lesson, exam per unit, and final exam at the end of the course. Students who successfully complete this course can take Armenian 3-4 in High School. (offered based on enrollment).

Spanish 1-2 (8th grade only) (yearlong)-Spanish 1 is an introduction to Spanish and focuses on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The primary purpose of the course is to prepare students to be college-ready, well-rounded global citizens who can communicate effectively in Spanish and are aware of the cultural influences of the Spanish and Latino heritage at home and abroad. Students in this course will learn Spanish phonemes and basic vocabulary including numbers, colors, and greetings. Students will be expected to master proper Spanish sentence constructions, articles and adjectives, subject-verb agreement, and regular and irregular verb conjugations. As part of the course, students will be provided opportunities to read, write, listen, and speak Spanish while they work towards becoming linguistically and culturally literate. This course includes a broad series of lessons and activities that offer a variety of modalities for ultimate student engagement and content retention. Each unit contains a series of lessons that include introduction of content, virtual demonstration of that content, and repeated opportunity to practice that content, along with a quiz per lesson, exam per unit, and final exam at the end of the course. Students who successfully complete this course can take Spanish 3-4 in High School. (offered based on enrollment).

Visual & Performing Arts:

Design Craft (6th grade art) (semester)- This is a class for students who want a good introduction to the foundations of creating art and learning to use a variety of mediums such as paint, pencil, colored pencil, and papier-mâché. Projects are designed to teach you how to create a successful art piece and have fun using your imagination to do it. This class will show you that you can draw even if you think you can't!

Exploring Art (7th grade art) (semester)- This class will introduce students to drawing, painting, papier-mâché, and a variety of art techniques that will train you to see and create artworks in a different way. It is open to all students and a great class for people interested in creating something wonderful out of a few supplies and your imagination. This class will show you that you can draw even if you think you can't!

Art Production (8th grade art) (semester)- This is a class for both the student who has not had art before and the student who has taken 7th grade art, but would like to improve his/her skills and learn something new. We work with colored pencil, paint, papier-mâché, and a variety of other mediums creating interesting, fun, and beautiful works of art. This class will show you that you can draw even if you think you can't!

Advanced Art (8th grade only) (yearlong)- This class is designed to introduce students to a more in-depth art experience by creating a number of fabulous and interesting works of art throughout the course of the year. We will go on a museum field trip, draw outside, paint on canvas, papier-mâché, and create many more projects. An optional sweatshirt is designed for members of this class. There is no prerequisite for this class – if you want to learn to create art you can take this class with approval from the teacher. (contact Ms. Sutphin at msutphin@quasd.net)

Drama (6th-8th grades) (semester)- In this introduction class, you will discover the definition of drama and the basic concepts of theater arts. This is a one semester class, No prior experience is necessary. This class is for students who want to improve their public speaking skills or be introduced to theater for the first time. We will use various creative drama techniques to build confidence and trust, stimulate imagination, movement, and role-play. Through theater games and activities, students will learn to lose inhibitions and gain trust in themselves as well as others in their groups. Students are required to attend at least one live theatrical presentation.

Theatre (Advanced Drama) (7th & 8th grades) (yearlong)-Calling all Thespians! This class is designed for the advanced students, who are familiar with the basic concepts of theater and theater production, who wish to move their exploration of acting to more advanced levels. It is open to 7th and 8th students who have successfully completed prior drama classes at Wilson Middle School or who earn a recommendation based on an audition with Mrs. Grigori. Auditions consist of a one-to-two minute monologue. Students will write and perform skits, improvisations, pantomimes, scenes, and plays. Stage management and stagecraft will be covered. We will study styles of acting and the history of the theater from the Greeks to Modern playwrights. You will participate in group and individual activities in body control, voice, diction, and pantomime. (contact Ms. Grigori at mgrigori@quasd.net)

Jr. Orchestra (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-(Beginning Strings): Instruments offered - Violin, viola, cello, and bass.

Concert Band (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-(Beginning Winds): Instruments offered - flute, oboe, clarinet, alto sax, tenor sax, bari sax, trumpet, french horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, percussion

Guitar (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-Students will learn to read standard notation, chord charts, and guitar tablature. Students will perform as an ensemble in two concerts during the year. This is a great class to take if you are interested in advancing to Stage band.

Choir (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-A performance class for students who love to sing and want to perform. All voice types are welcome to join this class! We perform a variety of music and learn to sing in harmony. If you are interested but a bit nervous about singing-this class is for you!

Introduction to Music (6th-8th grades) (semester)-Let's explore music! This class is designed for curious students who want to learn how music works, explore different styles, and create your own music. We will dive into learning the basics of music notation, music history, and use SoundTrap to make music. Students will be introduced into the technical details of music such as musical notation, intervals, basic harmony, meter and rhythm.

Exploring Music (6th-8th grades) (semester)-An exploration of music in various genres and applications. Discovering the origins of and learning how to listen to, describe, and perform different musical styles.

Audition Classes: Enrollment by audition based on teacher's professional judgment: (enrollment criteria include playing ability, audition strength, citizenship, attendance, and class needs).

Advanced Orchestra (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-For students who have had one year

experience playing at the middle school level or by audition only. Students should be able to read in multiple key signatures (including flats), majors and minors, have started vibrato, and have a basic understanding of shifting. [contact Mr. Graziani at dgraziani@gusd.net](mailto:dgraziani@gusd.net)

Wind Ensemble (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)- For students who have had one year experience playing at the middle school level or by audition only. Students should be able to read in multiple key signatures (majors and minors, sharps and flats). Flutes should be comfortable up to a high Eb, Trumpets should be able to play a high f, and clarinets should be comfortable playing above the break. [contact Mr. Graziani at dgraziani@gusd.net](mailto:dgraziani@gusd.net)

Advanced Choir (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-For confident singers with choir experience or for those who are passionate about singing! This choir travels during the year to perform locally and in festivals with other choirs around Southern California, including a trip to a local theme park! In this choir we will harmonize in two to four part harmonies, sing a-capella and collaborate with other performing groups on campus. [contact Mrs. O'Neal at roneal@gusd.net](mailto:roneal@gusd.net)

Stage Band (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-For students with intermediate experience playing modern (pop/rock) band instruments including: guitar, ukulele, electric guitar, electric bass, piano/keyboards or drums. Singers who are interested must audition with an instrument. Students will perform as a rock band as a class and in small groups. Students should be able to play major, minor, and seventh chords and read charts. This group performs regularly on campus and in the annual Battle of the Bands hosted by Wilson Music in the spring. Let's rock out! [contact Mrs. O'Neal at roneal@gusd.net](mailto:roneal@gusd.net)

Leadership

ASB/Student Government (7th & 8th grades) (yearlong)-The ASB Leadership class is an opportunity for students to gain experience in civic affairs, learn valuable leadership skills, and further the communication and the cooperation between students and the administration at Wilson. The class provides a forum for student voices and opinions through ASB meetings, class meetings, and online communication. ASB Leadership makes a positive contribution to school culture and school spirit through spirit weeks, dances, lunch activities, and the promotion of athletic events. Hours outside of class/school time are required. [Contact: Mr. de Bruijn at rdebruijn@gusd.net](mailto:rdebruijn@gusd.net)

Yearbook (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)-is a class that focuses on the design, photography and writing skills needed for creating a quality publication. The class produces the school yearbook that is distributed at the end of the year. Students will work together to document the year through pictures, interviews and copy writing. Yearbook staff is a great way to get involved and learn a lot while serving the school community. [Contact: Mr. Galfayan: ggalfayan@gusd.net](mailto:ggalfayan@gusd.net)

Career and Technical Education- (CTE)

Arts, Media and Entertainment

Computer & Multimedia Essentials (6th & 7th grades) (semester)-This class introduces computer basics and gives students the opportunity to create a variety of multimedia projects using the latest software and up-to-date equipment. This class will cover introductory skills in a variety of the CTE pathways. These pathway skills will include computer-based careers and trends, terminology, best practices, real-world applications, collaboration, problem solving, and leadership skills. This course

promotes skills that can be applied across the curriculum and offers preparation relevant to 21st century skills.

Introduction to Media and Digital Arts (7th & 8th grades) (yearlong)-

This class will teach students how to use the computer to publish their own original, creative digital documents and graphics. The basics of design elements, document layout and desktop graphic formats will be taught. Complementary computer hardware such as scanners and digital cameras, as well as the Internet as a research tool, will be utilized in this class. Students will create their own logos, brochures, greeting cards, and a variety of items for advertising and packaging. We will be using Adobe's Creative Cloud to learn Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator and the latest Adobe mobile apps to create on phones and tablets. Basic photography skills will also be covered.

Introduction to Photography (7th-8th grades) (yearlong)

This course introduces students to the basics of photography, including camera functions and photo composition. Students will learn what it takes to create a good photograph and how to improve the photographs they've taken. They will also begin working with their photographs using photo-editing software such as Adobe Photoshop, Lightroom and Pixlr. Through a variety of assigned projects, students will engage their creativity by photographing a range of subjects and learning to see the world through the lens of their cameras.

Engineering and Architecture

Exploring Coding and Robotics (6th-7th grades) (semester)-

in this class Students will learn the process of writing, testing, and running object-oriented computer code through HTML and Scratch in the context of application development. Interactive lessons allow students to work in class and at home with online access to all course materials. By the end of this course, students will have the tools with which to create their own applications. No previous experience with coding is required to be successful in this course.

Intro to Coding and Robotics (7th & 8th grades)(yearlong)-

This class introduces students to Coding & Robotics. It will explore the relations between science and technology. The program is designed to introduce students to basic concepts in robotics using HTML, CSS and JAVA . Course information will be tied to lab experiments where students will work in teams to build and test complex i-robots. Included in this instruction will be the historical development of robotics as a field, the importance of integrating sensors, effectors and controls, basic control, the key approaches to mobile robot control (reactive, behavior- based, and hybrid), and discussion of robot learning and multi-robot systems history. Students will work in small teams to research, design, program, and construct robotic devices in competitions amongst each other and other schools in the area. Integrated throughout the course are career preparation standards which include basic academic skills, communicating individual and team ideas, interpersonal skills, problem solving abilities, safety, technology, and employment literacy.

Advanced Coding and Robotics (7th & 8th grades) (yearlong)-

This class will allow students to explore the interaction of computer science and technology through nucleus robotics curriculum and Sphero robots. The program is designed to interest students in the field of robotics and motivate them to pursue advanced education in science and engineering. Computer programming is emphasized. Using student centered, hands-on, problem-based learning models, students work in small groups to design, program, and construct robotic devices used in small class competitions. Integrated throughout the course are skills such as communication, interpersonal skills, problem solving, and becoming literate in Google Digital Applied Skills. *****PREREQUISITE*** Introduction to Coding & Robotics.**

Immersive Media: This is a "Space Travel" themed course that creatively empowers students to become creators in the field of augmented and virtual reality. Students will practice digital storytelling, interactive experience creation, augmented reality design, and virtual reality design through four hands-on units and sustainability-themed projects.

Digital Product Innovations: Students will learn the basics of digital creation with graphic design, 3D modeling, and 3D printing through hands-on, guided activities. Students will then apply each technology concept to complete three meaningful sustainability projects of their choice. Each project follows the design-thinking cycle and leverages entrepreneurial principles

Smart Solutions: This is an adventure-themed course that employs superheroes to creatively empower students to become creators in the field of "smart" technology (those items that are connected to the internet or programmed to complete tasks). Students will practice storytelling, creating electrical circuits and devices, design thinking, game design, and coding through four hands-on units and sustainability-themed projects.

AI and Robotics (this should probably be taught second semester unless we are not requiring any prerequisites before taking the course. At the start of the school year a student would have only taken Immersive Media and Digital Product Innovations)

This is an environmental ocean voyage themed course that follows a group of researchers and scientists aboard the research vessel, New horizon on the SEAPLEX (Scripps Environmental Accumulation of Plastic Expedition) mission from the book "*Plastic, Ahoy!*" by Patricia Newman. Students will learn about Artificial Intelligence and robotics and how they can apply what they have learned to real-world scenarios. Students will also solve coding and robotics challenges by building and programming their own robots and microcontrollers with a variety of expansion kits through sustainability-themed projects.

Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation

Intro to Culinary Arts (7th & 8th grades) (semester)-In this class students get to eat what they make in this hands-on class, which equips students with skills for basic cooking and food preparation. Students work in collaborative teams to create a variety of food items in a fully equipped kitchen lab setting. Main areas of study include kitchen safety and sanitation, nutrition, following recipes, proper measuring and menu planning.

Culinary Arts 1-2 (8th grade) (yearlong)-This high school level class allows students to plan, prepare, and serve food in a variety of settings, such as monthly "Room Service" lunch delivery for teachers, concessions for afterschool activities, and various other events. Areas of study include principles of baking and food chemistry, cake and cookie decorating, culinary career exploration, foods from around the world, nutrition, and customer service. This class is geared for the student that has an interest in continuing with the culinary arts. Intro to Culinary is a prerequisite, and applicants must get approval from the Foods teacher to be considered for this program. Completion of this course will allow students to move on to Culinary 3-4 in High School. [contact Mrs. Orris at coms@agUSD.net](mailto:coms@agUSD.net)

Exploring Family & Consumer Science (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)- This class is an exploratory course that equips students with essential skills for living; including managing personal, family, and work responsibilities. Areas of study will include kitchen and home safety, basic food sanitation and preparation, goal setting and decision making, coping with conflicts, fashion and interior design, consumer

education and budgeting, and career exploration. The course will be mainly project based, and will include opportunities for hands-on experiences in the kitchen lab, teamwork and collaboration, and both individual and small group work. (offered based on enrollment)

Information and Communication Technologies

Intro to Applied Technology / GenYes (6th-8th grades) (yearlong)- This class is an advanced digital support class that operates, explores and maintains technology at Wilson. It is highly selective, requiring: A written application, demonstration of advanced technological skills, GPA and citizenship requirements, and an interview with approval from the teacher, counselors, and administrators. (contact Ms. Faieta at afaieta@gusd.net)