



Lester Middle School Course Descriptions 6th Grade 2012-2013

6th grade Semester Classes

PE: Instructional activities are designed to further develop students' movement and physical fitness. Students participate in a variety of sports and other physical activities.

Art: Students will explore the elements and principles of art and design and learn techniques in drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, and crafts.

6th grade Semester Classes (Quarter Each)

Asian Culture: This course will explore the **Japanese Culture** and introduce the basics of the Japanese language during **one quarter** and will explore the **Chinese Culture** and introduce the basics of the Chinese language during **the other quarter**.

Study Skills: Note taking techniques, organizational skills, test taking tips, learning a variety of study techniques, fostering the ability to work with team members and independently, time organization and the importance of responsibility are some of the learning strategies that will be reinforced.

Computer Applications: Technology introduced may include word processing, spreadsheets, data base, Internet, e-communication, graphics, presentation and publications applications.

Year Long Elective Classes

Beginning Band: Students are introduced to basic music techniques. Instrumental musical activities are practiced, good habits are instilled when playing and caring for instruments. Students will learn to sight read instrumental music independently and in-group ensemble.

Chorus: Provides students the following vocal musical learning experiences: Learning the beginning and basic fundamentals of sight-reading vocal music, distinguishing and singing two and three-part music, singing with ensembles and chorus, studying intonation, singing a cappella, singing with keyboard and other instrumental accompaniment, and singing in public performances and musical productions.

String Ensemble: The string ensemble course is designed to acquaint students with beginning to advanced instrumental music skills. Students will learn to sight read instrumental music independently and in-group ensemble to include violin, viola, cello and bass.

AVID: (Advancement Via Individual Determination) Language based course where academic survival skills, such as time management, note taking, textbook reading, research, test taking and study skills are taught. The goal is to prepare AVID students to be successful in college. Students applying must have a teacher recommendation and testing scores in the 50th percentile or higher in Math, Language and Reading. Parents and students must commit to a full year. AVID is not recommended for those who are PCSing before May. Not all middle schools offer 6th grade AVID.

For detailed description of courses go to DODEA's course description website:
<http://www.dodea.edu/curriculum/courses.cfm>