

DuBose Middle School
2019-2020



8th Grade Fine Arts
Course Guide



DuBose Middle School

Orchestra/Strings CP (Full year)

In 8th grade Orchestra, students continue developing their performance skills in individual and group settings on one of the four orchestral string instruments - violin, viola, cello, or bass. Students continue learning a varied repertoire of music, including classical, folk, jazz, movie music, and other popular favorites. Students focus on reading written music notation as well as developing strong aural/listening skills. Students will make connections with the other arts disciplines, as well as disciplines outside of the arts, as they learn about music history and the cultural influences of the music they play. Students will explore music composition as they create melodies of their own. Performance opportunities include two annual concerts and community and school-wide events. 8th grade strings classes are intended as continuing level classes for students who have completed one year of string music in 6th & 7th grade. Students will need to have an instrument for orchestra class. Students who successfully complete 8th grade orchestra will have the opportunity to audition for orchestra in high school. For more information, please contact Aaron McLaughlin at aamclaughlin@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Symphonic Band I CP

The Symphonic Band class is a year-long course reserved for students in their third year of playing their instrument. This is an advanced level ensemble made up of woodwinds and brass. These students meet collectively as a full wind band as well as split into homogenous groupings depending on the curriculum. Students in this class must have successfully completed the 7th grade Beginner Band class or the 7th Concert Band class in order to be a member of this ensemble. This class is designed as a continuation of each students' beginner/intermediate band experience. Students will be exploring more advanced instrumental techniques and musical concepts while furthering their development of sound quality, rhythmic understanding and ensemble technique. For more information regarding the band program, feel free to contact Allison Whisnant or Claire Bogdan at dubosebands@gmail.com, or check out the website at <https://www.dubosebands.org/>.

Chamber Music/Jazz Band/Percussion

The chamber music class is a year-long class reserved for advanced students in their third year of playing their instrument on either a wind or percussion instrument. Students in this class must have successfully completed their 7th grade year of band in order to be considered for this course and wind players (not percussion) must also be enrolled in the 8th grade Symphonic Band class. The class is designed to develop skills in chamber, jazz and percussion ensemble literature. For more information regarding the band program, feel free to contact Allison Whisnant or Claire Bogdan at dubosebands@gmail.com, or check out the website at <https://www.dubosebands.org/>.

Piano I CP

A continuation of 8th grade piano. Piano students who complete both 7th and 8th grade year-long piano are eligible for a high school fine arts credit before they leave middle school. They are given the opportunity to perform on the piano a varied repertoire of music on a most advanced level offered at DuBose. As a part of the music learning process, they will develop the ability and skills to read, notate, analyze, and evaluate music. Students hone techniques specific to playing the piano. At the conclusion of the course, students will have played several solos, and participated in at least one ensemble (duet, etc.). They will know about half of the major and minor scales, worked on a variety of technical exercises, and played in recitals. They will be given the opportunity to perform in the SCMEA Piano Festival. Please contact Wayne Helmly at whelmly@dorchester2.k12.sc.us

Piano (Semester)

Piano students are given the opportunity to perform on the piano a varied repertoire of music. As a part of the music learning process, they will develop the ability and skills to read, notate, analyze, and evaluate music. Students hone techniques specific to playing the piano. At the conclusion of the course, students leave knowing how to play familiar songs from both modern and historical periods. Examples include "Merrily We Roll Along," "Jingle Bells," and "Ode to Joy". Connections between music, math, language arts, and social studies are explored. For more information, please contact Wayne Helmly at whelmly@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.



DuBose Middle School

Gateway to Technology (Full year)

Automation/Robotics and Medical Detectives - The Automation and Robotics curriculum allows students to explore the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more. The Project Lead the Way "Medical Detectives" program was designed specifically for middle school students to engage interest and promote enrollment in the biomedical programs offered at the high school level. The Medical Detectives program allows students to take the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene." They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health. For information, please contact Tammy Pye at tapye@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Gateway to Technology (Semester)

Project Lead the Way- Gateway to Technology (GTT) programs are designed to engage students in activities that not only build knowledge and skills in areas including computer science, engineering, and biomedical science, but also empower students to develop essential skills such as problem solving, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration, and perseverance. GTT programs are designed for students who are interested in pursuing an engineering, biomedical, and/or mechatronics path at the high school level, and require a strong math and science foundation. The Design and Modeling curriculum engages students in the engineering process to generate concepts, and design and build solutions to real world problems. Students will use CAD software to create 3-D images for printing and work in collaborative groups to present their solutions outside of the classroom. For information, please contact Tammy Pye at tapye@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Dance I CP

In Dance I CP, students will continue refining the fundamentals of dance technique along with learning more advanced technique and choreography. Students will continue to study classical ballet along with contemporary ballet, jazz (various styles), and modern-contemporary dance and be proficient in the vocabulary for each genre. More complex choreography will be learned in both large and small group settings, and possibly solo choreography. At the advanced dance level, students will spend more time focusing on choreographic principles and learn how to create a full length piece of choreography. By the end of this course, students will be able to create and perform their own dances. Several on and off campus performance opportunities are available. Students will need appropriate dance attire, ballet slippers, and jazz shoes for this class (usually around \$15-\$20 each). Students are also encouraged to participate in an annual fundraiser to help cover costume and performance funds. Advanced Dance 7 is a prerequisite for this course. For more information, please contact Jolene Parker at joparker@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Dance (Semester)

In Dance class, students will be introduced to the fundamentals of dance technique. Students will study classical ballet, jazz, and modern-contemporary dance and understand the vocabulary, technique, and history of each genre. Basic concepts that will be covered include body alignment, articulation of movements, increasing range of motion/flexibility, syncopated rhythms, and balance. Choreography will be learned and performance opportunities are available. Global/cultural dance will also be studied to enrich the choreography repertoire and core academic curriculum. At the beginning dance level, students will be introduced to elements of dance, choreographic tools, and principles of design so that they begin to understand the choreography process. For those students who excel in dance, advanced dance classes are available in 7th and 8th grade. Students will need appropriate dance attire and ballet slippers for this class (usually around \$15-\$20). Students are also encouraged to participate in an annual fundraiser to help cover costume and performance funds. For more information, please contact Jolene Parker at joparker@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.



DuBose Middle School

Visual Arts (Semester) and Visual Arts I CP

In Visual Arts, students are introduced to the elements of art and principles of design while developing drawing skills and painting techniques. Studio experiences in the classroom will give students opportunities to use a variety of media (pencil, pen, ink, charcoal, pastel, watercolor, tempera paint, clay and digital technology) while developing the student's individual style and creative problem solving skills. Students will demonstrate their ability to respond, analyze, and interpret their own artwork, and the work of others, through discussions and critiques. For more information, please contact Linda Rowan at lrowan@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Chorus (Semester) and Chorus I CP

In Chorus, students are given the opportunity to sing a varied repertoire of music. As a part of the music learning process, they will develop the ability and skills to read, notate, analyze, and evaluate music. Students also learn to make connections between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts. A multi-cultural approach to music is embedded in the course. Students understand music in relation to history, other cultures, and languages. At the conclusion of the course, students will have had the opportunity to develop leadership skills, vocal techniques and abilities, as well as a global, multicultural approach to the musical art form. For more information, please contact Rebecca Weatherby at rweatherby@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Steel Band (Full Year)

In Steel Band, students learn to perform with characteristic tone, appropriate technique, and expression on the various instruments within the modern steel band: lead pan, double tenor, double seconds, triple guitars, bass pan, and engine room (non-pitched percussion). This course also gives students the opportunity to gain knowledge of analysis, structure, form, and the musical elements within a given composition, as well as applying the understanding of these concepts to creating music. Students learn a varied repertoire of music from different cultures, including styles such as reggae, samba, cha-cha, rock, jazz, calypso, and soca. Students will demonstrate strong fundamental skills in music literacy, including interpretation of symbols and terms commonly found in music theory. Connections to other arts disciplines and content areas are common in this course as students study music from different cultures such as Jamaica, Brazil, Cuba, United States, and Trinidad. Performance opportunities will include a public concert at the end of each semester, as well as numerous off-campus performances throughout the year. For more information, please contact Mike Greer at mgreer@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

Steel Band I CP (Full year)

In Steel Band I CP, students learn to perform with characteristic tone, appropriate technique, and expression on the various instruments within the modern steel band: lead pan, double tenor, double seconds, triple guitars, bass pan, and engine room (non-pitched percussion). This course also gives students the opportunity to gain knowledge of analysis, structure, form, and the musical elements within a given composition, as well as applying the understanding of these concepts to creating music. Students learn a varied repertoire of music from different cultures, including styles such as reggae, samba, cha-cha, rock, jazz, calypso, and soca. Students will demonstrate strong fundamental skills in music literacy, including interpretation of symbols and terms commonly found in music theory. Connections to other arts disciplines and content areas are common in this course as students study music from different cultures such as Jamaica, Brazil, Cuba, United States, and Trinidad. Performance opportunities will include a public concert at the end of each semester, as well as numerous off-campus performances throughout the year. For more information, please contact Mike Greer at mgreer@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.

IT Fundamentals (Full year)

The IT Fundamentals course is designed to prepare the student to take the CompTIA IT Fundamentals certification exam. Instruction includes IT literacy, environmental and safety concepts, operating systems, software, hardware, networking, alternative technologies, security, and computational thinking. Students utilize the skills and qualities of the S.C. Profile of the Graduate to analyze and solve problems within the IT industry. For more information, please contact Mr. Shabeldeen at omshabeldeen@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.



DuBose Middle School

Physical Education/Health (semester)

In Physical Education, students learn many movement forms, and how to apply kinesthetic concepts and principles to the refinement of their motor skills. Students learn basic rules and skills in activities such as volleyball, soccer, team handball, bowling, archery, ultimate Frisbee, and other exciting activities. At the conclusion of the course, students will have had the opportunity to learn cooperation, teamwork, good sportsmanship, and improved social skills. They also gain knowledge of basic health, respect toward others, and an understanding for differences among people in physical activity settings. For information, please contact Alan Bridges at rbridges@dorchester2.k12.sc.us, Bethany Smith at betsmith@dorchester2.k12.sc.us, or Larin Childress at lchildress@dorchester2.k12.sc.us.