

MARCE HERZ MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEW ELECTIVE COURSES 2025-2026

If you would like to read about all our elective options, please go to our website: <https://www.washoeschools.net/herz>. On the left, choose “course catalogue” and then click “course catalogue”. Below are descriptions of our new electives for next school year.

AUDIO PRODUCTION

Ever wanted to create your own music? In this hands-on, project-based class, you'll explore music technology using programs like GarageBand, MuseScore, and other digital audio workstations to bring your ideas to life. You'll compose, mix, and produce your own tracks while learning about sound design and recording techniques. Plus, you may even have the chance to visit a professional recording studio and experience what it's like to be a real recording engineer!

FOUNDATIONS OF MUSIC THEORY

Have you ever wondered *why* music sounds the way it does? This class unlocks the secrets of how music works by exploring melody, harmony, rhythm, and structure. We'll analyze music from different time periods, cultures, and styles—classical, pop, jazz, film scores, and more! You'll also get hands-on experience with basic composition and songwriting, helping you build a solid foundation in music theory.

HISTORY OF ROCK 'N ROLL

Rock music didn't just appear out of nowhere—it evolved over time, shaped by the culture, technology, and artists of each generation. In this class, we'll dive into the past 100+ years of American music, exploring how blues, jazz, country, R&B, and other genres gave rise to rock and its many subgenres. From Elvis to The Beatles, from punk to grunge, and beyond, you'll discover the stories behind the music that changed the world.

HOME ECONOMICS

In this course, students will learn essential skills for everyday life. Topics include: goal setting and communication, nutrition and food safety, basic cooking, money management, and home maintenance. Students will practice budgeting, meal prep, and simple home tasks to build confidence and independence.

MYTHOLOGY

Want to explore exciting stories of gods, heroes, and epic adventures? In this class, you'll explore ancient myths from around the world including Greece, Rome, Egypt, and Norse legends. In the second semester, we'll dive into modern myths like Star Wars, Harry Potter, Comic Books and Percy Jackson. If you love adventure and discovering hidden meanings in your favorite stories, this class is for you!

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

This year long World Geography class helps students understand how the world's land, people, and cultures are connected. The main goal of this class is to help students learn more about the world outside of the United States. Another goal is to teach students how to read maps, including using things like scale, to find physical features (like mountains or rivers) and human-made features (like cities) in the U.S. and around the world. Lastly, the class will focus on understanding how different regions and belief systems are connected and how they shape people's cultural identity.