

Course List – Rising 8th Grade

YEARLONG ELECTIVE

IF A STUDENT SELECTS AND IS SCHEDULED FOR A YEARLONG COURSE, THE EXPECTATION IS THAT THE STUDENT WILL REMAIN IN THIS COURSE FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR.

Advanced Band

Prerequisite: Intermediate Band

Technical drills, scale studies, rhythm studies, and sight reading exercises are used to advance the student's skills, knowledge, and reading ability in music. A wide variety of band literature is studied to give the students experience in various musical styles. Students should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

Spanish I MS

Prerequisite: Beginning Spanish

This course continues the study of the Spanish language and culture, refining grammatical and vocabulary topics. Major topics include the rooms in a house, making comparisons, the superlative, stem changing verbs, affirmative commands, the present progressive tense, clothing, demonstrative adjectives, and the preterit of verbs. Students who complete this course successfully and who pass the exit exam (worth 20% of the overall grade) may take Spanish II at the high school level.

SEMESTER ELECTIVES

Concert Chorus

Students will continue to apply correct singing technique, study vocal health issues and various elements of musical expression through developmentally appropriate and historic vocal literature. Students will use traditional notation in order to learn music, and to respond correctly to conductors' gestures both in rehearsal and public performance. Students in this class may be asked to represent the school in public performances and should anticipate some after-school practices and evening performances.

Computer Science Discoveries

Computer Science Discoveries (CS Discoveries) is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. Computer Science Discoveries takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as programming, physical computing, HTML/CSS, and data. The course inspires students as they build their own websites, apps, games, and physical computing devices.

Dance 2 (no prerequisite required)

Students will further develop their modern dance technique skills through a rigorous, class with more complicated performance and choreographic projects. Students should anticipate some after school practices and evening performances.

Exploring Apparel & Interior Design

This 18 week middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to explore basic Family and Consumer Sciences foundations and skill sets. The modules that are covered in this course are: personal finance and resource management, food service and hospitality, apparel, and interior design. Students are eligible to receive EverFi's Vault™ and the NC eFoodhandler™ certifications. English language arts and mathematics are reinforced. Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) competitive events, community service and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness through authentic experiences.

Exploring Business & Entrepreneurship

Prerequisite: Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing

This middle school course is designed to explore how economic systems impact business and principles of business and personal finance. Emphasis is on using the computer while studying applications in these areas, along with problem solving and thinking skills. This course contributes to the development of a career development plan. English language arts, mathematics, and social studies are reinforced. Work based learning strategies appropriate for this course include service learning and job shadowing. Apprenticeship and cooperative education are not available for this course. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

Exploring Healthcare

Students will explore key concepts and foundational knowledge for in demand, allied health professions to enhance interest in the Health Science Education pathway.

Exploring Personal Characteristics and Careers

This middle school course provides an orientation to the world of work. Emphasis is placed on self-awareness, understanding the world of work, and the career planning process. Based on the National Career Development Guidelines, skills learned in this course include, but are not limited to, communication, personal management, and teamwork. English language arts are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include business/industry field trips and job shadowing. Student participation in Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.

Technological Issues and Impacts

This middle school course focuses on students' understanding how technological systems work together to solve problems and capture opportunities. As technology becomes more integrated and systems become dependent upon each other, this course gives students a general background on the different types of systems, with specific concentration on the connections between these systems. Art, English language arts, mathematics and science are reinforced. Work-based learning strategies appropriate for this course include mentorship, school-based enterprise, service learning, and job shadowing. Apprenticeship and cooperative education are not available for this course. Technology Student Association (TSA) competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences. This course also looks at technology issues and impacts.

Visual Composition I

Students will engage in deep study of the elements and principles of art centered on the curriculum set forth in the North Carolina Essential Standards for Visual Art. Two and three-dimensional techniques will be taught using a variety of media. Students explore various cultures, art history and learn to think and write critically about master work as well as their own.