

Grades 7 and 8

Actor's Workshop

Perform on stage! This course concentrates on developing acting skills through a variety of activities and exercises, both improvised and rehearsed. Students will work on characterization, physical and verbal expression, stage movement, and other facets of bringing a fictional character to life. The class concludes with each student performing a professional monologue and/or scene.

Animation

Learn to shoot stop-action animation and make your own movie. Students provide the material (clay, pen and paper, watercolors, etc.) and the story and script. We provide the lights, cameras, and computers for capturing and editing movies. Animated movies will be shown through a secured internet link.

Archery

Do more than just shoot arrows into hay bales. This course utilizes the school's archery range and will focus on the safety measures and skills needed to master this challenging sport. Each session ends with a skills contest.

Board Games Galore

Cartooning and Advanced Drawing

Develop drawing skills. Students will spend the first week exploring the techniques and skills of cartooning: creating characters, developing storylines, and layout. The second week will be spent building on foundational drawing techniques such as still-life, sketchbook, and observational drawing.

Ceramics

Fire up the kiln! A variety of methods will be introduced to give the student a wide range of possibilities with ceramics. Pinch, slab, and coil techniques will be explored to encourage inventive problem-solving to create pottery and sculptural forms. Several fired and glazed pieces will be the result. This course will meet each student's needs depending on previous experiences with clay.

Challenge Yourself

It will take teamwork, planning, listening, and compromise to complete the challenges of the Avery Coonley School adventure course. Students will test their bodies and minds as they work through new tasks on the low ropes course. No one gets left behind in this class as we strive to accomplish new heights together.

Dissecting

Cut and learn! This zoology course will teach young scientists the inner workings of animals from worms to frogs through a combination of dissections on the computer monitor and the laboratory table.

Elementary Chemistry

Explore the uses of chemistry in our everyday lives. In this introductory course, participants will experience such topics as the construction of a working battery, chromatography, and nucleation. Students will also engage in a series of lab investigations, which will include making Slime, Kinetic Sand, and Oobleck.

Fitness and Speed

Get fit and fast! Participants will work on both of these physical attributes while strengthening their cardio-vascular systems. An excellent class for the competitive athlete or for the person looking for a fun way to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

GO for Beginners

Learn the world's most popular board game. Invented 2,500 years ago Go (in Japan), Weiqi (in China), or Baduk (in Korea) is the oldest game that has been played continuously to the present day. Students will learn the rules and the basic strategies behind this fascinating game. Students will practice with Tesuji (clever play) puzzles, review games, and will apply the ancient proverb, "lose your first 50 games as quickly as possible." Students will need to register for a free account with an online go server to fully participate. *This class is for true beginners. Mr. Leesch is an enthusiastic student of the game but is an advanced beginner himself.

Guitar for Beginners

All great musicians were beginners at some time. Who knows what learning to play this popular instrument will do for any child? In ten short lessons, students will be taught basic fingering, fretting, and strumming, using an acoustic guitar. They will also receive individual instructions to help them progress more quickly with these skills. Classroom guitars will be available or bring your own acoustic guitar from home.

Great Debaters

Convince people to agree with your point of view. Students in this class will refine their skills in using logic and public speaking to develop oral arguments on debate topics ranging from historic contexts to current events. A great way to develop higher levels of thinking, to prepare for Forensics in high school, or to just be better at winning arguments with friends and family.

Hidden Universe

Through a series of hands-on lab activities, students will be exposed to both beginning and advanced observation techniques, using the standard light microscope. Students will participate in on-campus "field trips," where they will explore biological sample

gathering techniques, followed by direct examination under the microscope. Some topics of interest will include: Animal/ Plant Cells, pond water samples, polarized microscopy, micro-photography techniques, and more. Students will also have the opportunity to hatch and raise "Sea Monkeys," tracking their growth and development under the microscope, throughout the duration of the course.

Intro to Psych

Is the brain in charge of who you are and what you do? Begin to better understand human behavior by studying brain structure and brain chemistry. Learn how structure and chemistry affect a variety of areas, such as personality, motivation, cognition, consciousness, sensation and perception, memory, sleep, and language. A class designed to provide insight into what it means to be human.

Lights! Camera! Action! (Part 1) Lights! Camera! Action! (Part 2)

Perform on the big screen! This course serves as an introduction to the art of making films and videos. The first week will focus on learning the basic techniques of filmmaking, with students creating short silent movies. The second week will incorporate sound as well as working in a group process of telling a story in a sound movie. Final productions will be available for viewing via a secure link.

Note: LCA meets for two hours per day and is therefore priced as two courses.

Making a Music Video

Develop the next music video hit! From idea and conception to choreography and post-production, this course focuses on the creating of a music video. Team-taught by the ACS Director of Drama and an experienced choreographer educator, students will select one or more songs, write a script, act, shoot the video, and edit the final footage. Family and friends will be able to view the videos on a secured internet link.

Maneuvering Math

Engage in solving intriguing problems. Students will challenge themselves in thought-provoking skill practice, projects, games, and activities to increase their understanding of math.

Makerspace

Bring a city to life! Students will collaboratively select a city to recreate and then leverage the full capabilities of the ACS Makerspace to produce a scaled version complete with iconic buildings, roadways, people, and, of course, city noise and lights. These budding architects will lay out their structures using CAD software and fabricate them using a combination of 3D printing, laser cutting and other tools. After customizing their structures with paints and markers, they will add various electronic components to bring this project to life.

National Park Art

Creatively capture the wondrous lands and animals from our United States National Parks. Art and science-based, this class is packed with art projects using paint, papers, pastels, maps, photographs, and print-made images. Curious collage ideas and varied natural materials encourage unique eye-catching creations.

Orienteering

Solve problems using the mind and body through the sport of orienteering. Students will solve problems by reading maps and using compasses and GPS devices while participating in treasure hunts, geocaching, and even an adventure race in the Maple Grove Forest Preserve (adjacent to the ACS campus). As they become more confident with their orienteering skills, the challenges will grow in complexity. They will create their own maps and courses for other students to follow. This class provides opportunities to develop skills in critical thinking, communication, and working in small groups while enjoying the great outdoors.

Photography

Develop your photography skills as the students are introduced to the art of the camera and darkroom techniques. This course will include such concepts as photograms, pinhole cameras, photo composition, and the chemistry needed to obtain aesthetic results. The course is limited to ten students, so early sign-up is crucial. Note: Cameras will be provided. There will be an additional \$20.00 fee for film and processing.

Phun With Physics

Can gravity be overcome? Find out in this exciting and fun introduction to physics. Using a hands-on approach, students will study the laws that govern aspects of the physical world such as gravity, electricity, and motion.

Pickleball

Ping-pong on the court. Players use an enlarged paddle to volley an enlarged ball over a net set on the gym floor while developing their eye/hand coordination and agility. This is a great game for all ages with skills that are also used in tennis.

Plan New Worlds

Become problem solvers and problem seekers. This class combines a creative problem-solving model and Bloom's taxonomy of the levels of thinking to provide students with a systemic approach to evaluate and act when faced with difficulties. Hypothetical problems may include but are not limited to, issues related to weightlessness, transportation, space colonies, robots, and the environment, which will help students gain new insights into the possibilities and challenges of the future while practicing valuable problem-solving skills that can be used in real life situations.

Podcasting

Share interest, share knowledge, share music, share anything: PODCAST! This class will teach students the basics of podcasting as they plan, research, script, and record their

own digital broadcasting program. Podcasts will be uploaded throughout the session to our own Blogspot website.

Robotics

Design, build and program a vehicular robot using the LEGO Mindstorm EV3 kit. Students will learn how to use programming software to power their robot in order to complete challenges. Logic, creativity, problem-solving, STEM, and teamwork skills are evident during robot missions throughout the session.

Take a Chance

Learn the math that helps us make decisions in an uncertain world. Through experiments and data analysis, students will learn how to predict outcomes, determine rational costs, and interpret statistical information. Students will learn why Vegas and lotteries are poor economic choices, how sports teams make decisions about plays and players, and how to simulate the outcomes of random events. Topics covered will include counting techniques, simple and compound probability, and expected value.

Theater Sports

Whose line is it? This class emphasizes the building of skills in improvisational theater. Through theater games and drama exercises, students will learn to "act on their feet" and generate characters, situations, dialogue, and assorted ideas and themes generated on the spur of the moment. Students' experiences in the art of writing-directing and acting without prior planning will culminate in an improv performance.

Volleyball

Bump, set, spike! Add serving, and students are playing a very popular game filled with skill and strategy. This course is designed to have students work on basic skills and rules, so players of any ability can have fun and improve on the court.

WACS Newsroom

Join the WACS news team and report on breaking news and special reports at Avery Coonley. Students will concentrate on writing news stories for newscasters, reporting on various happenings, and highlighting individuals. The class will also focus on creating an interesting documentary about life at the ACS Summer Program. Students will have the opportunity to participate in all facets of the team, from writing and reporting to shooting and editing.

7th and 8th Grade

Session 1	9:00
Board Games Galore	
Makerspace	
Photography	
Podcasting	

Session 1	10:00
Animation	
Elementary Chemisrty	
Go For Beginners	

Session 1	11:00
Fitness & Speed	
Guitar for Beginners	
Orienteering	
Take A Chance	

Session 1	12:30
Lights! Camera! Action!	

Session 2	9:00
Actor's Workshop	
Ceramics	
Intro to Pysch	
Pickleball	

Session 2	10:00
Archery	
Dissecting	
Making a Music Video	
Robotics	

Session 2	11:00
Hidden Universe	
National Park Art	
Plan New Worlds	

Session 3	9:00
Cartooning and Advanced Drawing	
Challenge Yourself	
Phun with Physics	
Theater Sports	

Session 3	10:00
Great Debaters	
Maneuvering Math	
WACS Newsroom	

Session 3	11:00
Makerspace	
Robotics	
Volleyball	

Session 3	12:30
Lights! Camera! Action!	