



**Junior High Course Selection Guide
2023-2024**

JUNIOR HIGH COURSE SELECTION GUIDE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

High School Graduation Requirements	2
Class Of 2028 and Beyond	2
Junior High Course Levels	3
Accelerated Course Placement Criteria	3
7th Grade	3
8th Grade	4
Notification of Course Placement	4
Rising 7th Grade	4
Rising 8th Grade	4
Dropping and Adding Courses	5
Electives	5
Grades	6
Junior High Grading Scale	6
Academic Support Services	7
Course Selection Overview	8
Course Descriptions	10
Bible	10
English	10
History	10
Mathematics	11
Physical Education	11
Science	12
Other	13
Elective Options (7th Grade)	14
Elective Options (8th Grade)	14

High School Graduation Requirements

Class Of 2028 and Beyond

Course	College Prep Diploma	Honors Diploma
Bible	4.0	4.0
English	4.0	4.0
World Languages (same language)	1.0	2.0
Mathematics (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2 with Trig, and higher)	4.0	4.0
Science (Physics, Chemistry, Biology)	4.0	4.0
Social Studies (World History 2, US History 1, US History 2, Govt/ Econ)	4.0	4.0
Career Preparedness A	0.5	0.5
Career Preparedness B	0.5	0.5
Health	0.5	0.5
Fine Arts	1.0	1.0
Physical Education	1.0	1.0
Additional World Language or Fine Art	1.0	—
**Electives/Additional Credits	1.0	1.0
***Minimum required credits by diploma	26.5	26.5

**Additional courses/electives are offered in Fine Arts, World Languages, English, Mathematics, Physical Education, and Science.

***Students enrolled at BCS must meet all outlined course requirements by diploma category to be awarded that diploma.

Junior High Course Levels

College Preparatory - College Preparatory courses are designed to ensure that students have the necessary foundation to perform successfully in the typical college or university setting.

Accelerated – Accelerated courses are more rigorous, contain greater breadth and depth of content, and move at a faster pace than College Preparatory courses.

Please keep in mind that every course taught at BCS prepares students well for college. With regard to our core curriculum, the college preparatory (e.g grade level) courses are excellent, taught by dedicated teachers, and involve rigorous learning and assessment. Our accelerated courses move at a faster pace and teachers expect students to grasp concepts quickly and apply skills and knowledge to solve complex problems. Both types of courses serve students well. There is not a best path here for all students- *the best path is the right one for the learner, one that is challenging but not overwhelming*. Accelerated courses are not what every learner needs, and BCS is committed to serving and preparing every child with a great foundation for what lies ahead.

Accelerated Course Placement Criteria

Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee

The Junior High will follow the basic format of the High School's approach to placement in accelerated courses. Using the criteria below, the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee will approve, not approve, or (in the case of rising 8th grade students) designate a student as eligible to be reconsidered for approval at the end of the spring semester.

7th Grade

The Junior High offers accelerated course options for 7th grade students in Math (Accelerated Pre-Algebra and Accelerated Pre-Algebra Math Team), while all other core academic courses (including Math 7) are offered at the college prep level. Placement in the accelerated Math courses is determined by the Committee and is based on:

- 6th grade teacher feedback
- The student's performance in 6th Grade Math
- The student's score on a Math placement test given in Spring semester of 6th grade
- Standardized testing scores

Accelerated Math Appeal Process

Rising 7th grade students not approved for accelerated Math by the Committee may appeal in writing to the JH Principal for alternative level placement. The JH Principal will consider the appeal in conjunction with the Committee. The appeal process ends May 31st.

8th Grade

The Junior High offers accelerated course options for 8th grade students within the subjects of Math, English, Science, and World Language. Placement within these accelerated courses is determined by the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee. The Committee is dedicated to ensure each student is placed in the course that best fits his or her needs and prepares each student to be successful in the 8th grade. The Committee uses the following criteria to determine approval and placement for each student.

- Teacher recommendation
- Grades - Student grades help determine eligibility for consideration, but ***do not guarantee*** honors placement. To be *eligible* for consideration for accelerated courses, the *minimum* required semester grades (from the current and previous semester) are as follows:
 - College Prep to Accelerated
 - English - 90
 - Math - 95
 - Science - 90 (*Additionally, students must be approved for and enrolled in Accelerated Algebra 1 to be eligible for Accelerated Science 8 approval.*)
 - World Language (Accelerated Spanish 1 and French 1) - 90 in English and Math
- Exemplary behavior and attendance records
- Standardized test scores from the previous year(s)

Accelerated Course Reconsideration Basis for Rising 8th Grade Students

If the Committee designates a rising 8th grade student as eligible for reconsideration, the Committee will reevaluate the student's status at the end of the Spring semester to determine if the student met the requisite improvements for approval (grades, behavior, and/or attendance). No application or additional step is needed by the student.

Accelerated Course Appeal Process

Rising 8th grade students not approved or not designated as eligible for reconsideration by the Committee may appeal in writing to the JH Principal for alternative level placement. The JH Principal will consider the appeal in conjunction with the Committee. The appeal process ends May 31st.

Notification of Course Placement

Rising 7th Grade

Rising 7th grade students will receive a list of courses from the Upper School Registrar during the latter half of the Spring semester to be taken home, reviewed, and signed by parents. This course list will reflect the Math placement (college prep or accelerated) designated by the Junior High Accelerated Course Placement Committee. Students not recommended for accelerated Math by the Junior High Accelerated Course Placement Committee may appeal in writing to the JH Principal for alternative level placement. The JH Principal will consider the appeal in conjunction with the Accelerated Course Placement Committee. The appeal process ends May 31st.

Rising 8th Grade

The JH Counselor will meet with each *rising 8th grade student* in the spring semester to receive their elective course requests. During this time, the Counselor will notify the student if he or she was approved by the Committee for any of the accelerated course options or if the student was approved to be eligible for reconsideration at the end of the spring semester. As stated above, students not recommended or not designated as eligible for reconsideration by the Junior High Accelerated Course Placement Committee may appeal in writing to the JH Principal for alternative level placement. The JH Principal will consider the appeal in conjunction with the Accelerated Course Placement Committee. The appeal process ends May 31st.

A few important items to keep in mind:

1. All placements and subsequent scheduling of those courses will be based on the student's **continued acceptable** level of performance for the remainder of this academic year.
2. All placements **can and will** be changed if a student's performance proves to be contrary to the supporting information used in the accelerated placement decision making process.

Dropping and Adding Courses

Requests to drop/add a course may only be made during the scheduled time periods that are communicated to students and parents. In addition, it is important to note the following:

1. It is important for students to review their **full-year schedule at the beginning** of the academic year when there is more flexibility in accommodating changes that could affect the second semester.
2. It is the strong desire that a student's **full year academic courses** not be changed mid-year to another period to accommodate schedule changes, particularly for electives.
3. Students will remain in year-long courses for the entire academic year.

Electives

Elective courses are indicated below in the course descriptions. All 7th grade students will be required to take **Student Success** (year-long) and **Physical Education** (year-long). Therefore, 7th grade students will have the **option** of additionally choosing **one year-long** elective course **OR** they may choose **two semester-long** courses. All 8th grade students will be required to take **Health** (semester-long) and **Career Preparedness: Financial Stewardship** (semester-long) and **Physical Education** (year-long). Likewise, this means 8th grade students will also have the option of additionally choosing **one year-long** elective course **OR two semester-long** courses.

8th grade students have the opportunity to begin taking a world language as their elective course. Students who successfully complete this course will earn 1 high school World Language credit. They will be eligible to take French II or Spanish II in 9th grade should they choose to do so. Please note the following information when considering this option:

- Below are the high school world language requirements for graduation:
 - Briarwood College Prep Diploma: 1 World Language credit and 1 additional Fine Art credit, or 2 World Languages credits required
 - Briarwood Honors Diploma: 2 World Language credits required
- **Important to note:** The High School offers a "Spanish II Dual Enrollment" class option for students in the 10th-12th grade through Jefferson State Community College. **Students who take Accelerated Spanish 1 in 8th grade are not eligible to take Spanish II DE in the 9th grade** due to Jeff State's DE grade level requirement. If your student is interested in taking Spanish II DE, he/she will need to wait and take Spanish I in high school.
- Potential benefit of taking a world language in 8th grade:
 - Students are able to take high-level language classes (French/Spanish II, Honors French/Spanish III, Honors French/Spanish IV, AP...) sooner in their HS career.

Grades

Grading Policies

1. Courses are offered on either a semester or year-long basis.
2. Semester averages are calculated based on 90% semester grade and 10% final exam. (High School credit courses are calculated based on 80% semester grade and 20% final exam.)

Report Cards

Report cards will be posted at the end of each semester.

Incomplete Grades

1. Students who have not turned in all work by the end of the grading period will be given an Incomplete (INC), with three days to complete missing assignments.
2. Students may not take a semester exam in any subject if all work has not been completed. Failure to take the exam on time, without prior approval by the Principal, will result in a "0".

Exams

Final examinations will be given in most courses at the Junior High level at the end of each semester.

1. Students must take exams when they are scheduled. Permission to take exams at a date later than scheduled will only be granted in emergency situations.
2. If a student is ill and is unable to attend school, the parent must call the school office immediately.
3. All students in Junior High are required to take 1st and 2nd semester exams. The only Junior High students that are eligible to exempt from spring semester exams are those enrolled in Algebra 1 or a World Language course.

Junior High Grading Scale

A+	98-100
A	93-97
A-	90-92
B+	88-89
B	83-87
B-	80-82
C+	78-79
C	73-77
C-	70-72
D+	68-69
D	63-67
D-	60-62
F	59-Below

Academic Support Services

Believing all children are made in the image of God and called to be useful members of the Body of Christ, Briarwood Christian School is fully committed to serving students of families who desire a uniquely Christian education for their children. The established Academic Support Services Program enables the School to meet the diverse educational needs of each student while equipping the whole child for life from a Biblical perspective.

The following guidelines have been established to document a student's eligibility for the Academic Support Services Program, determine the appropriate placement in the program, and assess the need for specific accommodations in the student's academic plan:

- The diagnosis of a learning disability or the designation of other special needs does not necessarily establish eligibility for Academic Support Services or considerations at Briarwood Christian School.
- Documentation of prior services and consideration by other parties or agencies does not necessarily establish eligibility for Academic Support Services or considerations at Briarwood Christian School.

Documentation Guidelines

The following guidelines support the School's intention to provide the best education possible for each student.

- To be eligible to receive Academic Support Services, a student must have appropriate and current documentation indicating a need for special consideration. Current and appropriate documentation is defined as a full psychological evaluation within three years from the start of Academic Support Services consideration from a licensed psychologist or psychometrist. These evaluations should initially be presented to a staff member in the Academic Support Services Center or the Director of Counseling Services in the School Counseling Department.
- Briarwood's ASP Director will review documentation to determine if the disability has an adverse impact on the student's learning and will make the appropriate recommendations regarding eligibility, placement, and the availability of accommodations at BCS, to the prospective student's academic program.
- Distinction of Accommodation. BCS provides qualifying students with Accommodations, not Modifications. Accommodation does not reduce the required material to be learned and assessed, as a Modification would. Accommodation simply supports different learning styles by providing the appropriate accommodations such as extended time, preferential seating, etc.

Course Selection Overview

BIBLE	Credit	7	8
Bible 7		•	
Bible 8			•
ENGLISH	Credit	7	8
English 7		•	
English 8			•
Accelerated English 8			•
HISTORY	Credit	7	8
American History 7		•	
World History 1			•
MATHEMATICS	Credit	7	8
Math 7		•	
Accelerated Pre-Algebra 7		•	
Accelerated Pre-Algebra 7 Math Team		•	
Pre-Algebra 8			•
Accelerated Algebra 1	1		•
Accelerated Algebra 1 Math Team	1		•
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Credit	7	8
Boys PE 7 or Girls PE 7		•	
Boys PE 8 or Girls PE 8			•
Junior High Lion Guard		•	•
SCIENCE	Credit	7	8
Life Science 7		•	
Science 8			•
Accelerated Science 8			•

OTHER REQUIRED COURSES	Credit	7	8
Student Success (<i>required</i>)		•	
Health in Christian Perspective (<i>required</i>) ¹	.5		•
Career Preparedness B (<i>required</i>) ²	.5		•
ELECTIVES	Credit	7	8
Art 7		•	
Choir 7		•	
STEM 7		•	
Junior High Band		•	•
Drama		•	•
Yearbook		•	•
Art 8			•
Choir 8			•
Coding and Robotics 8			•
French 1	1		•
Spanish 1	1		•

¹ Health in Christian Perspective is part of each student's *High School Graduation Requirement*.

² Career Preparedness B is part of each student's *High School Graduation Requirement*.

Course Descriptions

Bible

Bible 7: Is God so real in your life that you are ready to live for Him and share with others about Him? In Bible 7 we will study the Big Story of the Bible in order to understand, live in and share the story of reality with our neighbors. This course is designed to help equip you with the understanding and “tools” to be an ambassador for Christ in today’s world. To that end, there will be a regular focus on real life examples of what it means to be a growing disciple of Christ.

Bible 8: Bible 8 is an introductory survey of the Old Testament from Creation to the dawn of the United Kingdom (Genesis-Ruth), focusing on the key facts, how these facts fit into the larger story of the Bible and ways God is calling us to respond to this story! It is designed to help students grow as a disciple of Christ as they develop a foundational understanding of God’s Word.

English

English 7: Students engage in grammar, literature, writing, and vocabulary. They read short stories, drama, poetry, and a novel, focusing on comprehension and literary elements (theme, simile, metaphor, etc.). They conduct brief research and compose narratives and expository pieces. Students are introduced to the five-paragraph essay.

English 8: Students engage in grammar, literature, writing, and vocabulary. They study the writing process and read short stories, drama, poetry, and a novel, focusing on literary elements (theme, simile, metaphor, etc.). They conduct a research project and compose an expository essay, a persuasive essay, and a literary analysis, writing multiple five-paragraph essays. They also engage in outside reading with books of their choice.

Accelerated English 8: Accelerated English 8: Students engage in grammar, literature, writing, and vocabulary. They read short stories, drama, poetry, and multiple novels, focusing on literary elements and literary analysis. They conduct research projects and compose an expository essay, a persuasive essay, and a literary analysis, writing multiple five-paragraph essays. Students examine character and story arcs, applying literature to their own lives. They also engage in outside reading with books of their choice. **Students must be approved by the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee to be placed in this course.*

History

American History 7: This class presents the history of the United States from a Christian, Biblical worldview perspective. This well-rounded program is designed to give students a deeper understanding of our nations’ history and explores the core American values of freedom, individualism, equality, and growth. This class allows students to become historians as they record current events and personal spiritual events weekly in a journal. The President’s Day Program, an interdisciplinary project, is a highlight of our year!

World History 1 (8th): World History 1 (8th) is a survey course covering the earliest civilizations like Egypt and Mesopotamia up to the Medieval period in Europe. The course emphasizes the importance of Israel and the Christian Church in the course of human history. Students will examine the biblical worldview themes of the Fall and Redemption--how mankind’s sin and Christ’s love have shaped the world since Adam’s sin. Students should expect: to read 5-10 pages per week; to take notes from lectures; and to do independent research for World Day.

Mathematics

Math 7: This course is designed to sharpen computational skills involving whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percent, signed numbers and simple geometric figures. There will be an introduction to Algebraic concepts and its structure. This class is a risk-free environment where students should feel safe to ask questions and obtain the extra help necessary to be successful. **This is the college preparatory math course for 7th grade.*

Accelerated Pre-Algebra 7: Pre-Algebra 7 is designed for students who have demonstrated an overall proficiency in math, exhibiting an ability to think abstractly and grasp concepts quickly. This course covers concepts dealing with the real number system, its properties and operations. Other topics to be introduced include: simplifying expressions, solving equations and inequalities, decimals, fractions, factors, exponents, ratios, proportions, percent, linear functions and graphing. This course also integrates algebra applications with geometry and teaches students to give a graphical representation for algebraic equations. **Students must be approved by the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee to be placed in this course.*

Accelerated Pre-Algebra 7 Math Team: This is an advanced course for students who are mathematically motivated to compete against other schools in the Southeast. The course is designed to strengthen analytical thinking. Students will be asked and encouraged to find patterns, make conjectures, and judge the validity of given conjectures. Topics covered are similar to Accelerated Pre - Alg. 7 above. **Students must be approved by the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee to be placed in this course.*

Pre-Algebra 8 - Math is a powerful tool with far-reaching applications in daily life and in future careers. In 8th Grade Pre-Algebra, students will learn new concepts as well as review all concepts studied in 7th Grade, taking these concepts to new levels in preparation for 9th Grade Algebra 1. **This is the college preparatory Math course for 8th grade. Students currently in Math 7 will automatically be enrolled in Pre-Algebra 8.*

Accelerated Algebra I (8th) - This course covers the high school Algebra I concepts but at a faster pace and goes more in depth. This course integrates algebra applications with geometry and teaches students to give a graphical representation for algebraic equations. The methods deployed to solve these equations develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, which should enable students to think logically, critically, creatively and to persevere in a way that glorifies God. **Students currently in Pre-Algebra in 7th grade will progress to Algebra I in 8th grade through the accelerated course approval process.*

Accelerated Algebra 1 Math Team (8th) - Algebra 1 Math Team is a fast-moving class designed for those students at the very top level of mathematical ability. Students are selected for this class based on their demonstrated ability in 7th grade math, their excellent work ethic, and their love for the discipline of mathematics. We add to the fun of learning lots of math by competing with other schools in math tournaments throughout the year. **Students currently in Pre-Algebra in 7th grade will progress to Algebra 1 or Algebra 1 Math Team in 8th grade based upon Committee approval.*

Physical Education

All students must be in a PE class. The exceptions may be the following sports of Dance, Cheer, Lion Guard, Boys and Girls basketball, and volleyball. If your coach chooses to practice during the school day, that practice period will replace your PE requirement.

Boys 7th: (year-long) Students will be introduced to the weight room and learn fundamental movement patterns through body weight exercises and functional training. They will also participate in competition, training and games that develop endurance and agility.

Boys 8th: (year-long) Students will continue development in the weight room and become more familiar with functional training to prepare students for highschool athletics. They will also participate in competition, training and games that develop endurance and agility.

Girls PE 7: (year-long) Students will be introduced to the weight room and learn fundamental movement patterns through body weight exercises and functional training.

Girls PE 8 - (year-long) Students will be introduced to the weight room and learn fundamental movement patterns through body weight exercises and functional training.

JH Lion Guard (year-long): (*Audition required*). Students in the JH Lion Guard will learn the basics of color guard. They will perform for JH pep rallies and athletic games. They will also compete in the Southeastern Color Guard Circuit during the Spring Semester. The JH Lion Guard will occasionally collaborate with the HS Lion Guard and JH/HS Bands for performance opportunities. Students may have the opportunity to travel alongside the BCS Bands. Students must audition in order to be admitted into the class and there is a fee involved if admitted into class.

Team Sports: (Prerequisite: Tryouts for all sports except Football, Cross Country, and Track; Junior High students do not receive a grade or credit for sports but may receive a grade if a school sport chooses to practice during the school day): Dance, Cheer, Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, and Volleyball coaches may choose to practice during the school day. If so, that year-long period will replace the required physical education course and will fulfill the physical education requirement.

Science

In science courses at BCS, students will be challenged to consider the relationship between God's revelation in Scripture and in nature. The goal is to gain confidence in God's truth, integrate truth into their scientific practice, discern differences in scientism, and be prepared to address future issues in STEM-related careers.

Life Science 7: Students will discover, through a variety of hands-on activities, what a cell is and therefore, what makes something living and how it is classified, photosynthesis and respiration, genetics and heredity, ecology, various human body systems, followed by a pig dissection. We build upon content learned in a unit and then experience the content in a creative, hands-on way.

Science 8: This course is designed to help you see the Creator through His stunning creation. We will introduce you to both Chemistry and Physics. In the first semester, we will take a "micro" view of the Chemistry of matter; and in the second semester, we will look at the Physical laws governing that matter in a "macro" view. Our most important objective is looking for the majesty of God in all that surrounds us! **This course is designed to prepare the student for Conceptual Physics and does not require the student to be currently enrolled in Algebra 1.*

Accelerated Science 8: This course is designed to help you see the Creator through His stunning creation. We will introduce you to both Chemistry and Physics. In the first semester, we will take a "micro" view of the Chemistry of matter; and in the second semester, we will look at the Physical laws governing that matter in a "macro" view. Our most important objective is looking for the majesty of God in all that surrounds us! **This course is designed to prepare the student for Honors Physics. Students must be enrolled in Algebra 1 in eighth grade and be approved by the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee to be placed in this class.*

Other

Student Success : (Year-long course; **Required**) This course is taken in the *7th grade* and is a combination of three quarter/semester electives previously offered in the Junior High: Study Skills, Computer, and Character Development. Combining the best aspects of these electives, this class will develop skills in the areas of typing, organization, taking notes, taking tests, asking questions in class, creating and giving presentations, and setting academic goals. Students will also learn how to apply Biblical character traits to everyday living through in-class projects & discussion. They will learn to dissect Scripture and apply it to their lives.

Health in Christian Perspective: (Semester-long course; 0.5 credit; **Graduation Requirement**):. This *8th grade* course seeks to encourage students to follow the example of Jesus Christ; just as Jesus “increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52), so are we to grow mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially. Topics covered from a Biblical worldview will encompass comprehensive health issues and focus on the application and mastery of developing health-enhancing skills.

Career Preparedness B: (Semester-long course; 0.5 credit; **Graduation Requirement**): The goal of this *8th grade course* is to build a biblical framework for personal Christian Financial Stewardship. This course seeks to address the following topics: (1) Biblical principle of stewardship; (2) managing finances and budgeting; (3) Giving, Saving and Investing(4) banking and financial institutions(5) credit and debt (6) risk management and insurance. Practically, this class will help students think about how to steward their resources by understanding budgets, bank accounts, insurance, and investments. Students will be challenged to formulate perspectives about stewardship, the ethics of money, mercy, poverty, and wealth.

Elective Options (7th Grade)

Art 7 (semester long): As Image-Bearers of God, the Supreme and Original Creator, we have the amazing ability to create beauty around us. You will enjoy learning and developing art skills in a fun and creative environment. You have the opportunity to work with a variety of art materials and challenge yourself as you grow in your skills. We will study past and current artists, using their work as inspiration for our own. This course involves working with mediums such as watercolor, collage, scratchboard, pen and ink, graphite pencils, yarn, and paint.

Choir 7 (year-long): Students in 7th grade Choir will learn the basics of choral performance, singing musical selection from multiple genres. They will perform in various settings, including but not limited to the Christmas Concert, Fine Arts Night, school performances, and other competitions. Students will have the opportunity to travel to fun locations for the spring competition trip and other small trips.

STEM 7 (semester-long): The 7th grade STEM course integrates the skills used in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math to solve real world problems. Students will develop their teamwork, collaboration, logical reasoning, and communication skills in a project-based learning environment. STEM is hands-on and project-based. Students will participate in projects such as: designing and building a foot orthotic; building and programming robots; an introduction to coding; building mousetrap cars, designing and building a ping-pong roll, etc.

Junior High Band (year-long): This large ensemble is a performance-based instrumental ensemble. The band performs at three major concerts per year as well as participating in concert band festivals and competitions. Students will have the opportunity to perform at pep rallies, sporting events, and other school functions to provide enthusiastic spirit and energy. No prior band experience is required.

Drama (year-long): This course introduces students to the basics of drama. Students will perform a play for an audience and put together a video skit. Students will learn about improvisation by playing games, which builds their confidence and teaches them how to think on their feet. Students will do work in pantomime, scripted scene work, and video production.

Yearbook (year-long): (*limited spaces available; application required.*) Students will learn how to navigate the software used to create the Junior High Yearbook. Students will work collaboratively to create page layouts and unity within the yearbook. Students will learn photography skills and must attend at least one school-sponsored event to capture pictures for their assigned yearbook page(s).

Elective Options (8th Grade)

Junior High Band (year-long): This large ensemble is a performance-based instrumental ensemble. The band performs at three major concerts per year as well as participating in concert band festivals and competitions. Students will have the opportunity to perform at pep rallies, sporting events, and other school functions to provide enthusiastic spirit and energy. No prior band experience is required.

Drama (year-long): In this course students will work on a mainstage production to be performed for a live audience. The class is designed for students who love performing and are interested in gaining confidence through acting and possibly singing and dance. There is a \$25.00 fee for costumes.

Yearbook (year-long): (*limited spaces available; application required*) Students will learn how to navigate the software used to create the Junior High Yearbook. Students will work collaboratively to create page layouts and unity within the yearbook. Students will learn photography skills and must attend at least one school-sponsored event to capture pictures for their assigned yearbook page(s).

Art 8 (This is a semester-long or year-long course): As Image-Bearers of God, the Supreme and Original Creator, we have the amazing ability to create beauty around us. 8th Grade art students will create paintings, develop drawing skills, and learn how to use other mediums in a fun and creative environment. We will study past and current artists, using their work as inspiration for our own. You will learn different techniques in artmaking and grow in your artistic ability. This course involves working with mediums such as graphite pencils, watercolor, oil pastels, tempera paint, graphic design, and acrylic paint.

Choir 8 (year-long): Students in 8th grade Choir will learn the basics of choral performance, singing musical selection from multiple genres. They will perform in various settings, including but not limited to the Christmas Concert, Fine Arts Night, school performances, and other competitions. Students will have the opportunity to travel to fun locations for the spring competition trip and other small trips.

Coding and Robotics 8 (semester long): This class includes introductory coding using HTML, Python, and Java, along with VEX IQ robotics where students will design, build, and code a robot.

Accelerated French I (year-long): French I will be offered, pending student interest, in 8th grade for *high school credit*. It is a rigorous, academically challenging, high school level course that will include weekly quizzes, tests, homework, projects, and various assignments. Limited spaces available. **Students must be approved by the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee to be placed in this course.*

Accelerated Spanish I (year-long): Spanish I will be offered to 8th grades for *high school credit*. Spanish I is a rigorous, academically challenging, high school level course that will include weekly quizzes, tests, homework, projects, and various assignments. Limited spaces available. **Students must be approved by the Junior High Accelerated Course Approval Committee to be placed in this course.*

Please note the following regarding the Accelerated World Language Electives:

- *The intent of these accelerated world language courses in 8th grade is to allow students to take multiple years of a world language in high school and is not intended to be their only world language course.*
- *The High School offers a “Spanish II Dual Enrollment” class option for students in the 10th-12th grade through Jefferson State Community College. **Students who take Accelerated Spanish 1 in 8th grade are not eligible to take Spanish II DE in the 9th grade** due to Jeff State’s DE grade level requirement. If your student is interested in taking Spanish II DE, he/she will need to wait and take Spanish I in high school.*