



FSUS Middle School

Elective Course Descriptions

Performing/Fine Arts Electives

Beginning Band M/J Band 1 13020000

Students with little or no instrumental experience develop foundational instrumental technique, foundational music literacy, and aesthetic musical awareness through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality band literature. Instrumentalists work on the fundamentals of music notation, sound production, instrument care and maintenance, and personal and group rehearsal strategies. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

Garnet Band/Music Techniques 1 1305500 (HS Credit)

Students in this entry-level class focus on the development of musical and technical skills on a specific instrument or voice through etudes, scales, and selected music literature. Through problem-solving, critical thinking, and reflection, students develop the physical and cognitive skills to be more disciplined performers. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course, if used for an instrumental class, may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

Gold Band/Instrumental Ensemble 1 1302460 (HS Credit)

Students with little or no experience in an instrumental ensemble develop basic musicianship and ensemble performance skills through the study of basic, high-quality music in diverse styles. Student musicians focus on building foundational music techniques, music literacy, listening skills, and aesthetic awareness. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

Beginning Orchestra M/J Orchestra 1 1302040

Students who have little or no experience on violin, viola, cello, bass, or harp explore high-quality music literature written or transcribed for string orchestra. Study includes the development of foundational instrumental ensemble techniques, performance skills, music literacy, and aesthetic awareness. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.



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Garnet Orchestra M/J Orchestra 2 1302050

Students who have some previous orchestral experience focus on the development of instrumental technique, musical literacy, performance skills, and increasing aesthetic awareness through study, rehearsal, and performance of a variety of high-quality orchestra literature. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

Gold Orchestra/Orchestra 1 1202360 (HS Credit)

Students who have little or no orchestral experience study and perform high-quality beginning orchestra literature of diverse times and styles. Rehearsals focus on the development of critical listening skills, rudimentary string techniques, music literacy, ensemble skills, and aesthetic awareness. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J Vocal Ensemble 1 Boys/Girls 1303100

Students with little or no choral experience develop beginning vocal technique and skills, critical and creative thinking skills, and an appreciation of music from around the world and through time. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J Vocal Ensemble 2 & 3 Boys/Girls 1303110

Students build on previous choral experience to expand vocal, technical, musical, and ensemble skills through rehearsal, performance, and study of high-quality choral literature. Singers focus on increasing knowledge of music theory, music literacy, and aesthetic response. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J Exploring Music Performance 1301090 6th and 7th Grade

Students explore the essential elements of 20th- and 21st-century music in America (e.g., jazz, rock, soul, blues) and global cultures (e.g., Latin, Bollywood, European, Asian, world drumming). Students reflect on the significance of social influences and historical events on the development of music. Participants focus on the creation, use, and performance of music; and the modes of listening, distributing, and gaining access to music. Public performances may serve as a resource for specific instructional goals. Students may be expected to attend one or more performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.



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M/J Exploring 2D Art 0101005 (6th Grade)

Students investigate a wide range of media and techniques, from both an historical and contemporary perspective, as they engage in the art-making processes of creating two-dimensional works, which may include drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Student artists reflect on their own artwork and that of others through critical analysis to achieve artistic goals related to craftsmanship, technique, and application of 21st-century skills. Opportunities are provided for creative decision-making in the context of the structural elements of art and the organizational principles of design. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

M/J Exploring 3D Art 0101035 (6th Grade)

Students learn to translate their two-dimensional skills into three-dimensional forms through the exploration of natural, abstract, and synthetic sculptural forms using materials that may include, but are not limited to, clay, plaster, and mixed media for creative expression. These student artists develop perceptual, creative, technical, and problem-solving skills in a sculptural context as they design and produce works of art with personal expression. Students in M/J Exploring Three-Dimensional Art focus on use of safety procedures for process, media, and techniques. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

M/J 2-D Studio Art 1 0101010 (7th and 8th Grade)

Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provide a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

M/J 2-D Studio Art 2 0101020 (7th and 8th Grade-Teacher recommendation only)

Students refine techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students manipulate the structural elements of art to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork. Investigation of artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provides a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

M/J 3-D Studio Art 1 0101040 (7th and 8th Grade)

Students begin an exploration of the structural elements of art used when creating 3-D forms. Additive and subtractive processes are used to manipulate and construct sculptural or ceramic forms in media that may include, but are not limited to clay, wood, plaster, found objects, and paper maché, with consideration of the workability, durability, cost, and toxicity of the media used. Student artists examine the effects of attention to detail, size, position, overlapping, visual pattern, and texture, and these considerations will be reflected in the surface and



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structural qualities of completed art forms. Students in the 3-D art studio focus on use of safety procedures for process, media, and techniques. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

M/J 3-D Studio Art 2 0101050 (8th Grade Teacher recommendation only)

Students explore spatial relationships to create utilitarian forms or aesthetic structures. This course may include, but is not limited to, content in green or environmental design, sculpture, or ceramics. Students will examine subordinate and dominant components and implied line, and the processes and techniques for substitution may include draped, molded, or soft forms. Craftsmanship and quality are reflected in the surface and structural qualities of the completed art forms. Students in the 3-D art studio focus on use of safety procedures for process, media, and techniques. Students use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and consumption of art materials.

M/J Theatre 1 0400200 (7th and 8th Grade)

Student's coursework focuses on, but is not limited to, basic acting, basic vocal performance, basic dance/movement, non-dance movement, and staging, which transfer readily to musical theatre literature. Students will survey the current trends in musical theatre by studying representative literature. Students will explore the unique staging and technical demands of musicals in contrast to non-musical plays. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

M/J Theatre 2 0400205 (7th and 8th Grade)

Student's coursework focuses on, but is not limited to, acting, vocal performance, dance/movement, and staging, which transfer readily to musical theatre literature. Students will survey the evolution of music in theatre from ancient Greece to modern Broadway through a humanities approach and with representative, age appropriate literature. They will learn to analyze the structures, stories and settings of musical theatre exemplars to understand how those components serve the story. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside of the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

World Language

M/J Beginning Spanish (0708000) (6th and 7th Grade only)

M/J Beginning Spanish introduces students to the target language and its culture. Students will learn beginning skills in listening and speaking and an introduction to basic skills in reading and writing. Also, culture, connections, comparisons, and communities are included in this **one-year** course.



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Spanish 1 0708340 HS Credit-FAST ELA Level 3 or higher required (7th and 8th Grade only)

Spanish 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop communicative skills in all 3 modes of communication and cross-cultural understanding. Emphasis is placed on proficient communication in the language. An introduction to reading and writing is included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.

Spanish 2 0708350 HS Credit

Spanish 2 reinforces the fundamental skills acquired by students in Spanish 1. The course develops increased listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as well as cultural awareness. Specific content to be covered is a continuation of listening and oral skills acquired in Spanish 1. Reading and writing receive more emphasis, while oral communication remains the primary objective. The cultural survey of the target language-speaking people is continued. **Prerequisite-Passed Spanish 1.**

Latin 1 0706300 HS Credit- FAST ELA Level 3 or higher required (7th and 8th Grade Only)

Latin 1 introduces students to the target language and its culture. The student will develop a thorough understanding of the written language as well as of the influence the language and culture has had on other world languages, culture, government, arts and laws. Emphasis is placed on proficient understanding in the reading of the language. An introduction to writing is also included as well as culture, connections, comparisons, and communities.

Media, Journalism & Technology

M/J Journalism 1 1006000 (6th, 7th and 8th Grade)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to develop knowledge of journalism history, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.

M/J Journalism 2 1006010 (7th and 8th Grade)

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop skills in the production of journalism across print, multimedia, web, and broadcast/radio platforms and to become aware of journalism history, careers, ethics use, and management techniques related to the production of journalistic media.



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M/J Speech and Debate 1007000 (1st Semester) M/J Creative Writing 1 1009040 (2nd Semester) (6th grade)

- **Speech and Debate:** The purpose of this course is to develop students' beginning awareness, understanding, and application of language arts as it applies to oral communication concepts and strategies in a variety of given settings. Students will participate in the Tropicana Speech Contest.
- **Creative Writing:** The purpose of this course is to enable students to learn and use writing and language skills for creative expression in a variety of literary forms. Emphasis will be on development of a personal writing style.

Stem Electives

M/J STEM ADV 2002200 (Math/Science Teacher approval (7th Grade)

This course is an integrated Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) course for middle school students. M/J STEM Physical Science integrates standards from science, mathematics, and English/Language Arts (ELA) through the application to STEM problem solving using physical science knowledge and science and engineering practices.

M/J Computer Science Discoveries (02000000) Coding (7th grade)

The course focuses on the visible aspects of computing and computer science and encourages students to see where computer science exists around them and how they can engage with it as a tool for exploration and expression. Centering on the immediately observable and personally applicable elements of computer science, the course asks students to look outward and explore the impact of computer science on society. Students should see how a thorough student-centered design process produces a better application, how data is used to address problems that affect large numbers of people, and how physical computing with circuit boards allows computers to collect, input and return output in a variety of ways.

Digital Information Technology 8207310 HS Credit

This course is designed to provide a basic overview of current business and information systems and trends, and to introduce students to fundamental skills required for today's business and academic environments. Emphasis is placed on developing fundamental computer skills. The intention of this course is to prepare students to be successful both personally and professionally in an information based society. Digital Information Technology includes the exploration and use of: databases, the internet, spreadsheets, presentation applications, management of personal information and email, word processing and document manipulation, HTML, web page design, and the integration of these programs using software that meets industry standards.



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Experimental Science 1 Honors 2002340 8th Grade Only HS Credit

Laboratory investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures are an integral part of this course. The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) recommends that at the high school level, all students should be in the science lab or field, collecting data every week. School laboratory investigations (labs) are defined by the National Research Council (NRC) as an experience in the laboratory, classroom, or the field that provides students with opportunities to interact directly with natural phenomena or with data collected by others using tools, materials, data collection techniques, and models (NRC, 2006, p. 3). Laboratory investigations in the high school classroom should help all students develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work, as well as the skills to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)-Industry Certification

Culinary 1 (8800510) 8th Grade Only HS Credit

The Culinary program offers a sequence of courses that provides coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare for further education and careers in the Hospitality & Tourism career cluster; provides technical skill proficiency, and includes competency-based applied learning that contributes to the academic knowledge, higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupation-specific skills, and knowledge of all aspects of the Hospitality & Tourism career cluster. Upon completion of this course students will have the opportunity to gain **Serv-Safe**, a Career and Technical Education certification.

Commercial Art Technology (8718000) 8th Grade Only HS Credit

The purpose of this program is to prepare students for employment as artists and related workers, illustrators, and commercial designers. The content includes, but is not limited to, basic art skills, lettering skills, preparation of layouts and illustrations, preparation of camera ready paste-up, and development of specialized skills. **Photoshop certification.**

Gaming & Simulation Foundation 8208110 8th Grade Only HS Credit

This course is designed to provide an introduction to game and simulation concepts and careers, the impact game and simulation has on society and industry, and basic game/simulation design concepts such as rule design, play mechanics, and media integration. This course compares and contrasts games and simulations, key development methodologies and tools, careers, and industry-related information. This course also covers strategies, processes, and methods for conceptualizing a game or simulation application; storyboarding techniques; and development tools.