

2024-2025
Middle School
Curriculum Guide



Mission

Fort Worth Christian is a Christ-centered, college preparatory school where every student is known, loved, and valued, taught excellence in and out of the classroom, and empowered by a biblical worldview.

Vision

It is our prayer that every student and graduate of Fort Worth Christian is empowered for a lifetime of faith, service, and leadership for Christ.

Values

The following values define the cultural behaviors and attitudes for which we aspire and seek to recognize and celebrate in our Cardinal students and staff at Fort Worth Christian. Claiming our salvation by grace, we acknowledge the full exhibition of these values is only possible by the Spirit of God. We honor the Word of God and find these values consistent with Scripture, both in the consistent love of God but also seen in the lives of individuals who serve the Lord.

F - Faithful in Christ

W - Wise in Many Ways

C - Caring Towards Others

C - Courageous Leadership

A - Always Learning & Growing

R - Respect for God, Self, Others, Creation

D - Distinctive by Design

S - Spirit of Joyful Service

Accreditation and Affiliations

Fort Worth Christian School is a member of CESA (Council of Educational Standards and Accountability, <http://www.cesaschools.org>) and the Texas Private School Association. We are an accredited member of Cognia (formerly known as AdvancED) and the National Christian Schools Association.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

Course Load

The standard course load for middle school students is six classes (Bible, English, Enrichment, Math, Science, Social Studies) in addition to an Athletic period.

Grade Point Average

A student's unweighted grade point average is calculated based on a 100.0 scale.

Numerical Grade	Letter Grade
90-100	A
87-89	B+
80-86	B
77-79	C+
70-76	C
65-69	D
0-64	F

Elective Courses receive a mark of E - Exceptional, S-Solid, N - Not meeting standard, U - Unacceptable

Grading Procedures

The following grading policies apply to the calculation of grades in Middle School:

- Extra Credit assignments are not assigned
- No grade curves
- The highest grade a student can earn on an assignment is 100
- No retakes for tests

Grade 6:

Quarter 1 = 50% of semester grade

Quarter 2 = 50% of semester grade

10 Minor (Daily) Assignments (min) with the lowest grade dropped at the end the quarter.

2-3 Major Assignments (Test / Paper / Project). Tests can be cumulative.

Late assignments are accepted the following day for a maximum credit of 70% in 6th grade.

Grades 7 and 8:

Quarter 1 = 42.5 % of semester grade

Quarter 2 = 42.5 % of semester grade

Semester Exam = 15% of semester grade

10 Minor (Daily) Assignments (min) with the lowest grade dropped at the end the quarter.

2-3 Major Assignments (Test / Paper / Project). Tests can be cumulative.

Late assignments are accepted the following day for a maximum credit of 50% in 7th grade

No Late assignments are accepted in 8th grade

Homework Policy

Homework enhances a student's preparation for school and college while improving a student's mastery of a specific subject. Homework should be meaningful and assigned with a specific learning objective in mind.

On average, homework can vary in length. However, the middle school adheres to the guideline of an average of 10 minutes of homework per night per grade level. This equates to the following amount of homework taking place outside of the school day: 6th grade: 60 minutes, 7th grade: 70 minutes, and 8th grade: 80 minutes.

Note: On the night before a major test or in preparation for the completion of a major project, a student may spend more time.

Homework will not be assigned to be completed exclusively during a holiday and due on the first day back from a holiday. This includes Fall Break, Thanksgiving Break, Christmas Break, Spring Break, and Easter Break.

Withdrawal Policy

Schedule permitting, a course can be added or dropped in the first 10 school days of a semester with nothing about the course appearing on a student's report card or transcript. Any course dropped after 10 school days will receive a "W" or "WF" on the report card and transcript.

DISCOVER U

Discover U Term: (During Upper School Service Week - end of 3rd Quarter)

Discover U is an integrated, signature curriculum for 8th Grade students to explore and discover more about themselves (identity) and others (belonging), develop and practice 21st-century skills (social-emotional, communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity) as well as character and integrity such as grit, resilience, curiosity, teamwork, and leadership. Students will begin to connect Imago Dei (they were uniquely made in the image of God) with Missio Dei (they were made in this unique way for a specific purpose).

The focus of Discover U will include topics such as: discovering potential job and career fits, understanding how to conduct a job search/college search, college planning, and understanding paying for college and financial aid. In addition, grade 8 students will have lessons on how to transition to upper school successfully, as well as various opportunities to visit and hear from school administrators, college counselors, teachers, and guest speakers.

GRADE LEVEL TRIPS (Educational & Experiential Travel Opportunities)

FWC provides students with opportunities for learning outside the classroom. Sixth graders travel to Sky Ranch to learn team-building skills and participate in a variety of outdoor activities. Seventh graders travel to Big Bend National Park. This outdoor camping experience provides a valuable bonding experience and memorable education in nature. Eighth graders travel to Washington, D.C., to visit our Nation's Capital and enhance their study of American History. Band, Choir, & Orchestra students travel & participate in both local and out-of-town Music Festivals, providing musicians with valuable performance feedback, memorable travel experiences, and opportunities to perform in venues otherwise unavailable to them.

HOUSE SYSTEM

Every student in the middle school belongs to a house. The house system builds a culture and atmosphere within the Middle School that promotes faith, service, leadership, and wisdom. It creates a positive environment that promotes self-discipline and positive behavior while maintaining student accountability. It also creates opportunities for instructional staff to disciple small groups of students.

- There are four houses that are based on our mission, vision, and values - Faith, Leadership, Service, and Wisdom.
- Students remain in their house from 6th through 8th grade which allows them to create comradery with their fellow housemates and staff members.
- All siblings are in the same house.
- Each house elects a house leader. These leaders form the House Council and are charged with inspiring, encouraging, and promoting values around the school.
- A group of students lead their houses and make decisions as a committee for any house-related issue.

- House meetings give opportunities for members to come together for mentor chats and team building.
- House rallies are days when all students compete for points in friendly competitions.

WORLDVIEW AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

All classes are taught from a Biblical worldview. Students attend chapel daily and also are enrolled in a Bible class each year. Opportunities for service learning exist throughout the year. We recognize that all of one's life should be lived to bring honor to God. All activities are viewed with a Christian perspective, whether in Bible class, on the playing field, or serving in our local community. Our desire is to equip students to develop a framework that allows them to see, describe, and participate in a reality where Christ shapes their desires, assumptions, and habits.

Athletics/Pre-Athletics

Competitive athletics are offered to all seventh and eighth-grade students. Students enrolling in athletics will have the opportunity to participate in one or more of our competitive sports. Boys' sports include football, cross-country, basketball, soccer, baseball, and track & field. Girls' sports include volleyball, cross-country, basketball, soccer, softball, and track & field. All students MUST have an annual sports physical to participate in the athletic program.

FALL sports opportunities are as follows:

Cross Country: (no cuts)

Football: (no cuts)

Volleyball: (cuts depending on the number of participants).

Cheer: (no cuts) Practice attendance is required and is held outside of school hours.

WINTER sports opportunities are as follows:

Boys & Girls Soccer: (no cuts)

Boys & Girls Basketball: (cuts depending on the number of participants).

SHAPE: (Starting Habits to Attain Physical Excellence) is required for any student not participating in soccer or basketball. Two options are available.

- SHAPE Training- will focus more on physical development, with an emphasis on weight training, agility, endurance, and speed development.
- SHAPE Health and Wellness- will focus more on a lifetime of fitness, including a written component as well as flexibility, diet, and exercise.

Swim: The swim season consists of one middle school swim meet, and practices are on your own and not during the athletic period.

Cheer: (no cuts) Practice attendance is required and is held outside of school hours.

SPRING sports opportunities are as follows:

Track and Field: (no cuts)

Baseball/Softball: (cuts depending on the number of participants).

Cheer: (no cuts) Tryouts occur in the spring semester for the following school year.

Note: If student-athletes are interested in participating in two or more sports during a season, our coaches are available to discuss the most effective ways to accommodate this. For further details, please reach out to our Athletic Department.

ALL Sixth Grade students will take Pre-Athletics (Sports Performance)

within their academic day. Students will dress out each day in athletic attire.

- Emphasis on general fitness, agility, and movement
- Introduction to Strength Training
- Learning to compete within the confines of a team
- Sport-specific skill development

6th Grade Core Classes

Bible 6

Year Long

This course will be a walkthrough of the Old Testament with emphasis on the meta-narrative (big story) of scripture. The focus of the course is on how we approach God and what God is up to in history and in the present.

English 6

Year Long

English in sixth grade emphasizes the ability to incorporate the knowledge of grammar basics into writing. Students begin with an intensive review of parts of speech, usage, and mechanics. Writing for a purpose provides practice of these skills and produces examples of descriptive, persuasive, analytical, and informative writing. Students learn to follow the steps of the writing process and utilize peer and teacher evaluation to revise their writing. In addition, there will continue to be a focus on reading, emphasizing learning strategies to improve reading rate, fluency, word meaning, and comprehension. Instruction includes summarizing, making inferences and generalizations, determining main ideas, using context clues, making predictions, and setting a purpose before reading. These skills are practiced in a variety of genres including short stories, poems, novels, plays, and informational material. In addition, students identify literary elements in texts and work on vocabulary development.

World Geography 6

Year Long

Students will cover the five themes of geography and social studies while learning landform terminology, cardinal direction, relative and absolute location, time zones, and map skills. Students will learn about continent and ocean resources around the world, and how they impact the people who inhabit these areas. The history and culture of regions around the world will be studied and compared to western culture. Various tools such as textbooks, lectures, Google Earth, atlas/maps, video, presentations, and music will be used for exploring the world. One of the main themes of this class is that the more that people know about the world that God created, the better equipped they will be to improve it.

Math 6

Year Long

The primary focal points for Math in sixth grade are using ratios to describe proportional relationships involving integers, geometry, measurement, probability, and adding and subtracting decimals and fractions. More specifically, students will represent and use whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and integers in a variety of equivalent forms. Students will add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals and fractions to solve problems and justify answers. Students will use letters as variables in mathematical expressions to describe how one quantity changes when a related quantity changes or "proportionality". Letters (variables) will be used to represent unknowns in equations. Angles, polygons, and circles will be described using geometric vocabulary. Coordinate geometry will identify the location of two dimensions. Experimental and theoretical probability will be used to make

predictions. Data will be analyzed using statistical representation. Students will solve multi-step problems using a plan and appropriate problem-solving strategies and communicate about mathematics through informal mathematical language. Logical reasoning will be used to make conjectures and verify conclusions.

Earth Science 6-Year *Long*

Earth Science is a multidisciplinary science that draws from the sciences of geology, oceanography, and meteorology. Earth Science deals with the physical parts of the Earth and the atmosphere. In this course, students will spend time in class conducting laboratory investigations, using scientific methods for investigations, and making informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem-solving.

Directed Studies

Year Long

The Directed Studies class supports students in the completion of academic tasks assigned in their regular scheduled classes. This class allows students time to bring general education assignment questions to class in order to support assignment completion. This differs from a homework center/study hall in that students receive periodic direct instruction in their organization, learning, and study strategies, as well as counseling in self-advocacy. Through this class, students are provided the opportunity to work with their Learning Specialist on a consistent basis, to support Individual Learning Plan goals and ensure academic success.

Students in this course must be enrolled in the Cardinal Learning Center (additional fee)

7th Grade Core Classes

Bible 7

Year Long

Life of Christ in 7th grade seeks to build upon the story and mission of God covered in the 6th grade curriculum by asking this question: Who is Jesus? Students will be asked to dive into the four gospel accounts in the hope that they are able to answer this question for themselves. The goal of this course is to show the students how Jesus fits into the story of God, to establish unity and connection between the students and Christ who was both God and man, and to empower the students to see themselves as fellow participants in the mission of God who are being transformed by the same Spirit that strengthened Jesus.

English 7

Year Long

Students study a variety of literature both in class and independently. The major reading selections encompass a wide variety of classic and contemporary texts. Students are challenged with each reading to find truth and a Biblical worldview. They are additionally challenged to understand how this can be applied to their own life story. In addition, students focus on written compositions, grammar components, and spelling and vocabulary enrichment. A majority of their writing concentrates on writing formal essays with an emphasis on developing thesis statements, organizing sentences, topic sentences, and supporting details. Computers are used in the classroom for writing assignments and research projects. Grammar study includes a review of the eight parts of speech and progresses to the study of more complex sentence structure through the use of adjectives, adverbs, and noun clauses in their writing while stressing usage and mechanics as well.

Math 7

Year Long

The primary focus of seventh grade Math is to prepare students to be successful in Pre-Algebra. Students will work on integers and algebra concepts, the Pythagorean Theorem, proportions, similarity, and percent. In addition, students will analyze geometric concepts involving symmetry, the coordinate plane, area, and volume. Students will also solve equations and inequalities and find the slope of lines. Finally, students will be able to compute the mean, median, mode, and range of a set of numbers. Experimental and theoretical probability will be used in order to make predictions based on the resulting data.

Math 7 Advanced

Year Long

******Students in this course have qualified by meeting performance measures in several areas. Students who have met the criteria will be offered an invitation to take this class. Their progress will be monitored to ensure appropriate placement and a successful math path at Fort Worth Christian School.

Students who qualify for Math 7 Advanced in seventh grade demonstrate readiness for a faster pace of math instruction, including a compacted and in-depth study of pre-algebraic strategies. Concepts to be mastered during the class include solving two-step equations, factoring monomials, using proportions to solve real-world

problems, and solving real-life problems involving discount and interest. Additionally, students will graph linear equations and write the equation of a line in the y-intercept form. Students will also use geometric thinking in order to find the missing root of a triangle, use the distance formula to determine lengths on a coordinate plane as well as calculate the area, perimeter and/or circumference, surface area, and volume of appropriate geometric figures.

6th Grade Requirements to be accepted into Math 7 Advanced:

Final Grade Average - 90+, MAP Math Score - 230+, Pre-Algebra Readiness

Assessment - 15/30, Teacher recommendation

Life Science 7

Year Long

Life Science deals exclusively with living things. In this introductory biology course, students begin with classifications of living things and an introduction to basic botany. This is followed by an in-depth study of cells and their functions. In the spring students focus heavily on heredity and genetics. The students end the year by exploring the anatomy and physiology of the human body and how all the systems work together to maintain life. Lab experiences applying to all concepts are an integral part of this course.

Texas History 7

Year Long

Seventh-grade Texas History is a comprehensive study of the state of Texas from its beginnings to the present. Students will learn about Texas in greater depth and rigor than in grade four. The rich and culturally diverse background of Texas is examined through the eras, including the Native Americans, European exploration through mission and settlement, colonization, revolution, and statehood. Students regularly incorporate geography and critical thinking skills, interact with primary sources, and collaborate with peers by creating and giving presentations.

Directed Studies

Year Long

The Directed Studies class supports students in the completion of academic tasks assigned in their regular scheduled classes. This class allows students time to bring general education assignment questions to class in order to support assignment completion. This differs from a homework center/study hall in that students receive periodic direct instruction in their organization, learning, and study strategies, as well as counseling in self-advocacy. Through this class, students are provided the opportunity to work with their Learning Specialist on a consistent basis, to support Individual Learning Plan goals and ensure academic success.

Students in this course must be enrolled in the Cardinal Learning Center (additional fee)

8th Grade Core Classes

American History 8

Year Long

American History in eighth grade focuses on the time period from Columbus until the Civil War and Reconstruction. Students learn with online text, multimedia presentations, debates, current events, projects, and tests. Classroom discussion includes lessons we learn from history and how to apply them to our current world. Students will also gain an appreciation for the sacrifices and hardships others have endured that resulted in privileges we take for granted today.

Bible 8

Year Long

Acts and Beyond is the culmination of God's story taught and told to the students throughout their Middle School experience. It builds upon the story and mission of God taught in 6th grade, extends the idea of imago dei that is shown in the person of Christ during 7th grade, and invites the students to look at how the first Christians responded to the good news while contemplating their role in continuing God's mission as Christ-followers today. The goal of this course is to equip students coming out of our middle school with a strong understanding of how they fit into God's metanarrative and to prepare them to live out that purpose by identifying what they are passionate about and viewing that passion through the lens of Christ's life.

English 8

Year Long

Grade 8 English concentrates on analytical writing with an emphasis on developing structure in formal writing. Students apply grammar rules and components as well as expand sentences to include more information. Computers are used for a variety of writing assignments, research, and projects. Socratic seminars are used as a tool to analyze text, encourage discovery, and communicate with others who have differing views. A variety of literature, such as contemporary, historical, and classical fiction as well as nonfiction, are all used to introduce, reinforce, and master literary elements. Students are challenged with each reading to find truth and a Biblical worldview. They are additionally challenged to understand how this can be applied to their own life story.

Pre-Algebra

Year Long

The primary focus of Pre-Algebra is to prepare students to be successful in Algebra I. Concepts to be mastered during the class include solving two-step equations, factoring monomials, using proportions to solve real-world problems, and solving real-life problems involving discount and interest. Additionally, students will graph linear equations and write the equation of a line in the slope-intercept form. Students will also use geometric thinking in order to find the missing root of a triangle, use the distance formula to determine lengths on a coordinate plane as well as calculate the area, perimeter and/or circumference, surface area, and volume of appropriate geometric figures.

Physical Science 8

Year Long

Physical Science is an inquiry-based learning class. Physical Science combines strong, in-depth coverage of physics and chemistry with abundant hands-on activities. This course uses data collecting, graphing skills, and the scientific process to reinforce basic scientific knowledge. Laboratory investigations are the heart of this course, which help develop the student's ability to apply these learned skills in everyday life.

Upper School Credit Courses

The following three courses are available only to 8th grade students for Upper School credit. Please note the requirements for these courses.

Algebra I (Upper School Math credit)

Year Long

Note: This is an Upper School course, and beginning with the Class of 2028, the final grade will be averaged into a student's Upper School Grade Point Average.

In Eighth Grade Algebra I, students will continue to build and apply basic understandings developed in the K-7 curriculum, develop symbolic reasoning, and learn to demonstrate a fuller understanding of the concepts behind the skills. Students will learn the skills required to manipulate symbols in order to solve problems and use the necessary algebraic skills required to simplify algebraic expressions and solve equations and inequalities in problem situations. Students will formulate equations, inequalities, and systems of equations and inequalities as they explore linear, quadratic, and exponential functions. Students will employ a variety of methods to solve these functions and apply their properties, including graphing the solutions and factoring their simplified forms.

Pre-Algebra Requirements to be admitted to Algebra I:

Final Grade Average - 87+

MAP Math Score - 235+

Algebra Readiness Assessment - 15/30

Advanced Art 8 - (Upper School Fine Arts Credit)

Zero Period from 7:30 am-8:15 am.

Prerequisite - 90% cumulative average, portfolio review/audition

Year Long

Note: This is an Upper School course, and beginning with the Class of 2028 the final grade will be averaged into a student's Upper School Grade Point Average.

Advanced Art (equivalent to Art I at the Upper School) is designed to expose students to a variety of 2D and 3D mediums with an emphasis on the elements of art and principles of design. Students will explore a variety of mediums including, but not limited to drawing, pastel, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, glass fusion, and digitally generated art.

Latin I - (Upper School Foreign Language Credit)

Zero Period from 7:30 am-8:15 am.

Prerequisite - 90% cumulative average

Year Long

Note: This is an Upper School course, and beginning with the Class of 2028 the final

grade will be averaged into a student's Upper School Grade Point Average.
Latin I is designed as an introduction to the basic structure and vocabulary of the Latin language. Students will develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Development of basic vocabulary and English derivatives will be emphasized. Classical culture and the history during the period of the kings will be introduced as well.

Spanish I - (Upper School Foreign Language credit)

Zero Period from 7:30 am-8:15 am.

Prerequisite: 90% cumulative average

Year Long

Note: This is an Upper School course, and beginning with the Class of 2028 the final grade will be averaged into a student's Upper School Grade Point Average.

This course is designed as an introduction to the basic structure and vocabulary of the Spanish language. Students begin to develop skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Emphasis is placed on the development of basic vocabulary and linguistic practice. Hispanic literature and culture will be introduced.

Directed Studies

Year Long

The Directed Studies class supports students in the completion of academic tasks assigned in their regular scheduled classes. This class allows students time to bring general education assignment questions to class in order to support assignment completion. This differs from a homework center/study hall in that students receive periodic direct instruction in their organization, learning, and study strategies, as well as counseling in self-advocacy. Through this class, students are provided the opportunity to work with their Learning Specialist on a consistent basis, to support Individual Learning Plan goals and ensure academic success.

Students in this course must be enrolled in the Cardinal Learning Center (additional fee)

Enrichment Courses

Students selecting Band, Choir, or Strings will participate in that course for the entire year.

Advanced Band

Enrollment: Open to 7th and 8th-grade students

Prerequisite: *Must have at least 1 full year of experience in band.*

Year Long

Advanced Band incorporates the study of selected music from various periods with a focus on excellence in performance level. Consideration is given to intermediate skill levels of breath control, tone production, tonguing, phrasing, intonation, and skills to perform with an ensemble. Depending on proven skill sets, potential, and invitation, most band members will perform with the FWC Cardinal Marching Band. Students will perform formal concerts and participate in a spring music festival as part of a large group ensemble. Band members may also compete in a solo or ensemble as well as an audition to be a part of the TPSMEA Middle School Honor Band. The review and application of music notation with an instrument and the use of musical attributes used to make music "musical" with instruments are taught and applied in the classroom and expected to be practiced outside the classroom.

Intermediate Band

Enrollment: Open to 6th-grade students

Year Long

Intermediate Band incorporates the study of selected music from various periods with a focus on excellence in performance level. Consideration is given to introductory level fundamentals of breath control, tone production, tonguing, phrasing, intonation, and skills to perform with an ensemble. Band members participate in formal concerts and a spring music festival as part of a large group ensemble and may also participate in a solo or ensemble. The review and application of music notation with an instrument and the use of musical attributes used to make music "musical" with instruments are taught and applied in the classroom and expected to be practiced outside the classroom.

Advanced Choir

Enrollment: Open to 7th and 8th-grade students

Prerequisite: *Must have at least 1 full year of experience in choir.*

Year Long

This course is designed to encourage the development of vocal performance in an ensemble setting with an emphasis on choir foundations such as sight-reading, solfege, Curwen hand signs, audition, harmony, 2pt-3pt music, some choreography may be utilized depending on the material selected as well as a basic introduction to music theory. Song selections range from contemporary to classical pieces, allowing the student to experience all styles of music. Choir students will participate in formal and informal performances/concerts in various settings throughout the year, including a Veterans Day field trip, TAPPS/TPSMEA ensemble contests, a Fall recital, and a Spring Music Festival, as well as other performance opportunities. Students may also participate in TAPPS/TPSMEA solo contests and audition for the TPSMEA MS Honor Choir.

Intermediate Choir

Enrollment: Open to 6th-grade students

Year Long

This course is designed to encourage the development of vocal performance in an ensemble setting with an emphasis on choral tone, vowel structure, breath support, and performance music. 2 part music is our primary repertoire type with some choreography depending on the material selected. Song selections range from contemporary to classical pieces, allowing the student to experience all styles of music. Choir students will participate in formal and informal performances/concerts in various settings throughout the year, including TPSMEA Honor Choir, a Veterans Day field trip, a Fall recital and a Spring Music Festival, TAPPS/TPSMEA ensemble contests as well as other performance opportunities. Students may also participate in TAPPS/TPSMEA solo contests.

Advanced Orchestra

Enrollment: Open to 7th and 8th-grade students

Prerequisite: *Must have at least 1 full year of experience in orchestra.*

Year Long

This course is for students in grades 7 and 8. Students will continue to build their knowledge of notes on all strings, rhythms, and playing techniques. Skills learned will culminate in several performances throughout the year, including music of different styles and time periods. Opportunities to play solos will be offered at least once a year. Students are graded on participation, mastery of stated skills, and proficiency in assigned pieces.

Intermediate Orchestra

Enrollment: Open to 6th-grade students

Year Long

This course is for students in grade 6. Students will continue to build on what was learned in Beginning Orchestra, such as continued note ranges on all strings, basic rhythms, and playing techniques. Skills learned will culminate in several performances throughout the year, including music of different styles and time periods. Students are graded on participation, mastery of stated skills, and proficiency in assigned pieces.

7th and 8th grade Students who do NOT select Band, Choir, or Orchestra will enroll in two of the following semester courses:

Visual Art 6

One Semester

Art is designed to teach students the elements and principles of design. Students will start with the basics and build upon each lesson, learning how to apply their knowledge to all types of art and mediums. This class is open to all types of learners, helping improve critical thinking and visual awareness. Various types of media will be available to the students, allowing them to channel their creativity and energy in a focused and productive manner.

Performing Arts Appreciation 6

One Semester

This activity-oriented course is designed to give students experiences with a wide variety of speaking situations. Techniques will be taught to control speaking anxiety, the fundamentals of physical and vocal delivery skills, the use of language and gestures, the importance of listening skills, effective memorization practices, and how to effectively structure and organize information to present to a variety of audiences. Students will also learn about the role of communication in our lives. Additionally, students will be introduced to aspects of Theatre Arts to foster their enjoyment, participation, and appreciation of the process, as well as recognize how theater can be a powerful tool for communication in the world today.

Art 7 8

Enrollment: Open to 7th and 8th grade students

One Semester

Art is designed to teach students the elements and principles of design. Students will start with the basics and build upon each lesson, learning how to apply their knowledge to all types of art and mediums. This class is open to all types of learners and helps improve critical thinking and visual awareness. Various types of media will be available to the students, allowing them to channel their creativity and energy in a focused and productive manner.

Advanced 8th Grade Art

Year Long

Students are selected through teacher recommendations, interviews, and portfolio review. Once a student passes this course they receive one Upper School Fine Arts credit.

The curriculum is identical to that of Upper School Art One. Students are introduced to a variety of 2D and 3D applications, media, and art appreciation during the first portion of the school year. The students are immersed in independent study during a portion of the second semester when they are given the opportunity to find their passion in the media and subject matter of their choosing.

Intermediate Theater

Enrollment: Open to 7th and 8th students

One Semester

This semester-long activity-oriented course is designed to give students an opportunity to participate in a theatrical production. The goal is to allow students to gain experience in various aspects of theater to foster their enjoyment, participation, and appreciation of the process, as well as recognize how theater can be a powerful tool for communication in the world today. Units of study will include: Intro to Theater, Auditioning, Ensemble Work, Performance Skills, Acting Skills, Improvisation, Characterization, Memorization, Set Design, Technical Design & Application. The culmination of the course will be a One Act Play performance.

Advanced Theater (8th Grade Students)

Prerequisite: *At least one-semester experience in theater*

One Semester

This semester-long activity-oriented course is designed to give students an opportunity to participate in a theatrical production. The goal is to allow students to gain experience in various aspects of theater to foster their enjoyment, participation, and appreciation of the process as well as recognize how theater can be a powerful tool for communication in the world today. Units of study will include: Intro to Theater, Auditioning, Ensemble Work, Performance Skills, Acting Skills, Improvisation, Characterization, Memorization, Set Design, Technical Design & Application. The culmination of the course will be a One Act Play performance.

Home Economics

Enrollment: Open to 7th and 8th grade students

One Semester

Students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of hospitality, sewing, home maintenance and repairs, health, cooking, baking, and more. We will explore elements of sewing, food and nutrition, food preparation and handling, as well as the proper use of kitchen tools and equipment. Students will also learn about other concepts, such as personal development, & consumer decisions. Students in the course will also examine basic life skills that will prepare them to become contributing citizens of the community.

Multimedia and Technology

Enrollment: Open to 7th and 8th-grade students

One Semester

This project-based, hands-on learning class will focus on using media to tell good stories from a Christ-centered perspective. Authentic projects will include school marketing assignments, media for chapel, media for Middle School hallway screen, video and podcast creation, and more. Students will learn introductory-level coding and robotics. Students will evaluate and analyze content created from a redemptive lens.

Leadership and Communication

Enrollment: Open to 8th Grade - offered if interest*

Full-year course equipping students to explore and engage in Biblical leadership traits that allow them to impact their communities. The second semester focuses more on the communication skills necessary to listen, dialogue, and collaborate effectively.