

8th Grade Elective Course Descriptions

JAAR800 ART I & II: Students will enhance their abilities in line drawings, pen and ink crosshatchings, color stippling, marker rendering, collage making, watercolor and pastel painting. The principles of art and elements of design will be emphasized. Art II is designed to complement Art I by continuing to enhance students' skills in line, value, and color drawings as well as painting and sculpture.

JAIT800 Industrial Tech I & II This course is designed to teach the basics in graphic communication, construction, manufacturing, and communication using problem solving, life management, & academic skills. Industrial Tech II explores the concepts, processes, and effects of various types of tech. Laboratory and computer-based activities allow students to discover and expand their own skills - from design to fabrication.

JALS800 Life Skills This course is an introduction to skills needed for success in life. This course may include nutrition as it relates to physical and mental health, kitchen safety-sanitation, eating disorders, weight control, money management, time management, self-esteem, decision-making, career exploration, and basic cooking skills. Additional units may include child development, interior design, cultural foods, personality traits, and community relations/service. Demonstrations, group activities, food labs, and cooperative learning experiences enhance the course. Clothing offers basic instruction in the areas of clothing construction, fabric arts, and hand and machine sewing techniques. Students will be required to sew at least one clothing item using a commercial pattern. Other areas of study may include elements & principles of design, color theory, fabric construction, grooming, wardrobe maintenance, cultural aspects of clothing, and career exploration.

JAST800 STEM I & II This course introduces students to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) experiences in a project-based environment and connects these experiences to the Arizona Mathematics Standards. Topics may include the use of computers in mathematical problem solving, technical writing and drawing, exploring and modeling linear and non-linear relationships, practical applications of systems of equations, applications of fluid power, data analysis and statistics, critical thinking and questioning skills, and introductory finance and project management.

JCDR850 Drama II This course expands on the concepts learned from DRAMA I. Major units include technical aspects of stage production, theatre direction, script writing, advanced acting, and improvisation.

FL109A Spanish I This course is a high school level course that will introduce the basics of Spanish language and culture. Students will build proficiency in the three modes of communication according to the Arizona and national standards: interpretive, interpersonal and presentational. Emphasis will be placed on real-world application of language skills. The concepts are taught through a variety of cultural themes, authentic resources and instructional techniques. Students will be expected to actively use their language skills each day to build proficiency - speaking, reading, writing and listening to authentic language.

JMU984 Intermediate Choir 8 This course is a study of intermediate music concepts: music reading skills with emphasis on solfège, vocal technique, and performance skills. No previous experience is required, and students will not be required to sing alone. The purpose of this course is to encourage students to have fun while studying different types of music, including traditional, musical theater, jazz, and popular styles, as well as music in foreign languages.

JMU950-5 Beginning Band or Beginning Orchestra 7/8 Beginning music is for students interested in learning to play an instrument for the first time or learning a new instrument. This course is a study of the basic elements of music, tone production, note reading and skill development. The String instrument choices include viola, cello, bass.

JMU830 Orchestra 8 Prerequisite: Previous orchestra experience required. This course is a continuation of intermediate scales, bowings, and techniques including fourth position, as well as chamber music ensemble experience. Performance attendance is required.

JMU850 Band 8 Prerequisite: Previous band experience. This course is a study of advanced fundamental technical development and large ensemble performance. The major topics covered in this class will be Band Method III and traditional and contemporary band music. Other features of this course are participation in school assembly programs and evening concerts.

JPE105 Beginning Dance/Racquet and Individual Sports This course covers one semester dance, yoga and aerobics. Dance will focus on guided dances, line-dances and basic terminology. Yoga will concentrate on the development of core muscle groups with an emphasis of stretching and relaxing the mind/body. Aerobics focus is cardio-respiratory fitness. Racquet and Individual Sports will for one semester. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with different individual and racquet sports activities.

JPE220 Weights I & II Students will gain the understanding of muscle development and stamina, through weightlifting techniques. The implementation of safety and terminology will help students learn how to develop a weight training program. Fitness training will be included. Students will be evaluated on their own improvement and ability to construct and follow an effective personal workout plan. The course includes activities that can be used for lifelong fitness and recreation. Students of all abilities and interests are welcome.

JPE240 Field and Team Sports This course provides each student with the opportunity to participate in activities consisting of skill development, lead up games, individual and team sports, as well as, lifetime activities. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with different sports activities. This course promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition.

JAVT800 Video Technology Students will create weekly video broadcasts that encompass a wide range of topics including important school news and other announcements, encouraging students to join clubs and athletic teams on campus, explain the importance and purpose of school rules and procedures, highlight student achievement, and provide a video record of major events that occur on campus.

JCYB900 Yearbook This course creates a 100+ page volume of junior high memories. Students in this class are people who are idea oriented, creative, original, cooperative and hardworking. Photographers, graphic artists, and budding writers are encouraged. Attendance at before school, after school, and lunch staff meetings will be required periodically.