

MAPLETON JR. HIGH
8th Grade Course Descriptions 2022-2023

REQUIRED CLASSES

Languages Arts

English 8

Full Year / 1.0 Language Arts Credit

This is a well-rounded course focusing on the basic communication skills: reading, writing, speaking, listening and especially thinking. Students will enhance and practice these skills by studying units in literature, vocabulary, grammar, and writing.

Social Studies

U.S. History

Full Year / 1.0 Social Studies Credit

The students will be introduced to a study of U.S. History from colonization up to and including the present. The course will focus on the "Epic of America," the history and economic development of the country. The course will include a unit of study on the process and Constitution. The student's responsibility to the law will be emphasized.

Science

Integrated Science 8

Full Year / 1.0 Science Credit - **\$10.00 Fee Required**

This is a foundation course which emphasizes the broad perspective of science rather than the specific, theoretical details. The topics covered in this class will show the constant interaction of matter and energy in nature. This includes how matter is arranged into either simple or complex substances, how substances store and transfer energy, processes that provide energy to living organisms, and natural resources that can be harnessed and used by humans.

Mathematics

8th Grade Mathematics

Full Year / 1.0 Mathematics Credit

Students will focus on formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

Health

Health 8

Semester / .5 Health Credit

This course will provide opportunities for students to develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for practicing lifelong, health-enhancing behaviors as they participate in classroom activities, assignments and discussions. The following topics will be covered throughout the course: Nutrition and Fitness, Development of a Healthy Self, Substance Abuse Prevention, Developing Healthy Relationships, Disease Prevention, Personal Safety, and Human Development.

Physical Education

Physical Education / Boys or Girls

Semester / .5 PE Credit - **\$10.00 Fee required (includes t-shirt)**

This course continues to develop participation skills and techniques in a variety of team and individual games and dance activities with emphasis on leadership, courtesy, respect, and fairness. The course also provides aerobic instruction and activity to improve and maintain physical fitness.

FULL YEAR ELECTIVE CLASSES

Men's Chorus

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit – **Fee required**

This class is open to any 8th or 9th grade young man that loves to sing. No audition is required. We will learn choral habits and sight-reading skills. Students will perform at 4 concerts (Half Year performs twice). Full Year and Half Year options are available.

Bella Voce (Chorus III; Full year women's chorus)

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit – **Fee required (Choir Fee/Uniform Fee)**

This is a beginning to intermediate level choir for 8th and 9th grade female singers. Sight Reading skills and high quality vocal production will continue to be improved upon. Concert attire will be issued to each student. This is a full year performing class.

Band II (Woodwind/Brass)

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit – **Fee required** **Prerequisite: Band I (or equivalent)**

Intended for students in their 2nd year of playing woodwind and brass instruments. Opportunities for performance include music festivals (music performance assessments) in the spring. Students who play larger instruments may rent from the school for \$100.00.

Band III (Woodwind/Brass/Percussion)

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee required** **Prerequisite: Band I & II (or equivalent)**

Full band, accelerated music course with opportunity for performance at music festivals (music performance assessments) during the spring. Students who play larger instruments may rent from the school for \$150.00.

Percussion I

Full Year / 1.0 Credit – **Fee Required Instrument Maintenance and Rental Fee Required**

Intended for students in their 1st (beginning) or 2nd year of playing percussion. Opportunities for performance include band concerts, percussion concerts, percussion/music festivals (music performance assessments).

Percussion II

Full Year / 1.0 Credit – **Fee Required Instrument Maintenance and Rental Fee Required - Prerequisite: Percussion I**

Intended for students in their 3rd year of playing percussion (2nd year with teacher permission). Opportunities for performance include band concerts, percussion concerts, percussion/music festivals (music performance assessments).

Orchestra I (Beginning)

Full Year / 1.0 Credit - **Fee Required**

This course is for students who want to play the violin, viola, cello and string bass. No previous experience is required, only a desire to learn how to play a string instrument. Viola, cello and bass instruments may be rented from the school for a \$150.00/year fee. Violins must be rented or purchased from a local music store.

Orchestra II (Intermediate)

Full Year / 1.0 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee Required Prerequisite: Orchestra I**

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Orchestra - This course will expand musicianship skills on the violin, viola, cello and string bass through the third year of development. Viola, cello and bass instruments may be rented from the school for \$150.00/year fee. Violins must be rented or purchased from a local music store.

Orchestra III (Advanced)

Full Year/1.0 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee required Prerequisite: Orchestra II or Teachers permission**

This course will expand musicianship skills on the violin, viola, cello and string bass through the fourth year of development. Viola, cello and bass instruments may be rented from the school for \$150.00/year fee. Violins must be rented or purchased from a local music store.

Spanish I

Full Year / 1.0 Foreign Language Credit- **Grade 8 & 9**

Special emphasis is placed on conversational speaking, presentation (written and spoken) and comprehension (reading and listening). Gaining basic language skills and vocabulary acquisition are the major focus of the class.

HALF YEAR ELECTIVE

Men's Chorus

Half Year / .5 Fine Arts - **Fee required**

This class is open to any 8th or 9th grade young man that loves to sing. No audition is required. We will learn choral habits and sight-reading skills. Students will perform at 4 concerts (Half Year performs twice). Full Year and Half Year options are available.

Women's Chorus

Half Year / .5 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee required**

This class is open to any 8th or 9th grade young lady that loves to sing. No audition is required. We will learn choral habits and sight-reading skills. Students will perform at 4 concerts (Half Year performs twice). Full Year and Half Year options are available.

Beginning Band I

Half Year / .5 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee required**

This course is for students who want to start learning a band instrument (oboe, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trombone, euphonium, tuba, and trumpet.) Students will also learn how to read music. Current music students can also sign up for this course if they want to learn how to play another instrument. Students may rent instruments from the school if needed for \$150.00. Students may also take a second semester of this course if desired.

Music Appreciation / Independent Study

Half Year / .5 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee required**

This course is for current music students, (band, orchestra, choir) who would like to have more time to practice and study on their own in the middle of their day. Students will be able to use practice rooms and school facilities to improve their music. Students will also be given access to a mentor teacher for advice and guidance.

Introduction to Fine Arts

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit- **Fee required (Grade 8 Only)**

Art is life! Intro to Art is a discovery class. The student will study materials, techniques and concepts of both traditional and modern fine arts and crafts. Students will be introduced to the concepts of line, shape, form, color, value texture and space by creating and analyzing art projects.

Art Foundations I

Semester / .5 Fine arts Credit - **Fee required (Grade 8 & 9)**

In Art Foundations 1, students focus on further developing art skills, by being able to communicate and create projects using the elements of art (shape, line, color, texture, value, form and space). The projects will include sculpture, drawing, and painting. Art history, both academic and contemporary will be discussed through the class. It is highly recommended that students have previously taken an art class.

3 Dimensional Design

Semester / .5 Fine arts Credit- **Fee required**

Students will go on a historical journey of the design elements: balance, emphasis, movement, pattern, proportion, variety, unity and rhythm. Students will also start their own journey through design with hands-on application of imaginative projects in art composition, interior design, fashion design, and design for the stage and film arts.

Painting

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit- **Fee required**

This studio class encourages experimentation with various painting mediums. Basic and advanced techniques will be taught and assessed. Color theory, art history, and composition will be incorporated as well. It is expected that students taking this course are comfortable in basic drawing and mark making skills. It is highly recommended that students have previously taken an art class.

Drawing

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit -- **Fee required**

Drawing 1 is designed to help students to improve their drawing skills, including in areas such as proportions, texture, edges, value or shading. A variety of drawing surfaces and drawing tools will be experimented. Principles of perspective will be introduced. Also expressive and creative drawing processes will be explored. This course is intended to include both traditional academic and contemporary approaches to drawing. Students are expected to be self-driven and motivated. It is highly recommended that students have previously taken an art class.

Musical Theatre

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee Required**

Musical Theatre is an advanced performance class, though all 8th and 9th graders are welcome to sign up! We focus on developing skills in singing, acting, and dancing, and combining these skills into musical theatre scenes. Students are also introduced to proper audition technique and will receive audition coaching. We explore musical theatre history throughout the semester and prepare a musical revue to be performed for families.

Disney Music Magic (Film & Media Art)

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee required**

This brand-new class will explore the music that makes Disney movies so magical! Students will learn about various Disney composers, explore how composers and animators work together to create a soundtrack, and analyze the music used in films such as Up, Coco, The Avengers, The Nightmare Before Christmas, and many more! Open to all 8th and 9th grade students.

Theater Foundations (Drama II)

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit - **\$15.00 Fee required**

Drama II continues to build upon the performance skills learned in Drama I, though all students are welcome. Students develop skills in script-writing, improvisation, and character development and are introduced to Radio Drama, Stage Combat, Greek Theatre, and Shakespearean works. We also learn how to critique live theatre productions. Students will prepare and perform a class play at the end of the semester.

Technical Theatre / Set Design & Construction Tech

Semester / .5 Fine Arts Credit - **Fee required**

Students in this class will learn the essentials of designing, creating, and running a theatrical performance. They will have practice in set construction, sound, lighting, and in practical stage crew experience. All students learn safety and pass a safety exam.

Literature and Film I

Semester / .5 Elective Credit

This class will focus on film as literature and the analysis of film as a mode of presenting complex ideas. We will look at the tools filmmakers use to present their ideas, as well as their ability to adapt and modify themes using these tools. This class will involve reading, watching, writing, and presenting as we study films.

Dance Conditioning 1

Semester/ .5 P.E. Elective Credit – **Fee required**

This class is a one semester class for the beginning-intermediate students with no previous dance experience required. Students will learn basic dance skills in technique, flexibility and all genres of Jazz dance. Various dance styles will be taught including – Jazz, Hip-Hop, Contemporary/Lyrical and others. Students will have an opportunity to perform at school assemblies and an end-of-semester program. Grading is based on participation.

Dance Company B

2nd Semester ONLY / .5 P.E. Elective Credit (*9th grade only*) – **Fee Required**

Prerequisite: Previous dance experience AND Teacher Approval ONLY (Audition)

This is an Auditioned Class and requires approval from the teacher. There is NOT a selection spot on the registration form. If you would like to be considered and register for Dance Company, you will need to select Dance Conditioning 1 on the registration form and then audition for Dance Company. Those who audition and are selected for the team will be automatically placed into the class by the school counselors. Auditions for Dance Company will occur in the spring (prior to the start of the school year).

Dance Company B is a one semester class for the intermediate-advance dancers who have previous dance experience and have auditioned for this class/team. Students will enhance their intermediate-advance dance skills in technique, flexibility, performance and knowledge of all genres of the Jazz dance style. Styles taught will include Hip-Hop, Contemporary, Jazz and others. Students will have multiple opportunities to perform at school assemblies, basketball games, various concerts and an end-of-semester showcase. Grading is based on participation and completion of the class. A class outfit(s) will be purchased for the performances.

Body Conditioning (Girls)

Semester / .5 Elective Credit- **\$10.00 Fee required**

Students will learn the foundations of fitness in a hands on class that will include learning through working hard and developing their own ideas of fitness. This class will be student driven through their desire to learn different concepts about working out and reaching their fitness potential. This class will be a HIGHLY active class and students will be required to work out every class period. We will explore several different fitness areas including cardio training, cross fit, yoga, pilates, Zumba, weight training and students interests. This class may not be used to replace Participation Skills which is required for High School graduation.

Exploring FACS C - Clothing

Semester / .5 CTE Credit - **\$15.00 Fee required**

The goal in this class is to create a love for sewing in each student. Girls and boys are encouraged to take this class. Students will learn how to operate the sewing machine and be introduced to sewing tools, a sewing pattern, and then complete construction techniques in a variety of fun projects. Projects include: drawstring backpack, chef or diva aprons, knit pencil skirts for girls and knit shirts for guys, interior design unit, and fun "Design a Bag" challenge for our entrepreneurship unit. We usually do a service sewing project too.

Exploring FACS A - Foods and Clothing Combo

Semester / .5 CTE Credit - **\$15.00 Fee required**

This course is a combination course that includes one term of the Exploring FACS C curriculum and one term of the Exploring FACS F curriculum together making a one-semester course (half year). This course allows students to participate in BOTH Foods and Clothing in one class.

Exploring Marketing & Business

Semester / .5 CTE Credit - **\$15.00 Fee required**

Have you ever tasted chocolate economics, or invested money in the stock market? Maybe you would like to swim with the Sharks on Shark Tank. All of these adventures await students in this fun course that will introduce them to the great world of business and marketing. Students will learn about economics as they play a weeklong Monopoly game, trade global chocolate and candy, and play The Price is Right. All students will use Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Publisher in easy-to-learn academic and business situations. Furthermore, each student will compete in a stock market game with other students by investing \$100,000 in various corporations over three months. Students will also learn about the importance of money and financial literacy in order to develop their own personal financial skills at a young age.

Exploring Technology I / Intro to Robotics

Semester / .5 CTE Credit - **\$15.00 Fee required**

The purpose of this course is to have the students increase their technology knowledge and be more aware of the technology around them and in their future. Hands-on activities carry students into the learning of many scientific and technological concepts. The students will be given multiple opportunities to develop and display problem solving skills. A sample of some activities contained within this course are: **programming robots, racing** air propelled vehicles, computer aided drawing, manufacturing a product made with power tools or hand tools. Material Expense is based on student choices. Average expense for multiple activities is approximately \$5.