

8th Grade Year Long & Exploratory Course Descriptions

Advanced Band M

Code: **MUI103**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

The advanced band course is designed to acquaint students with advanced instrumental music skills. The content includes, but is not limited to, the following, the interpretation and analyzing of musical scores; the application of musical nuances in playing from a score; independent performance of all major and minor scales; advanced rhythm patterns; performance as a soloist and in small and large group ensembles; a variety of music repertoire, including style, periods, forms, electronic music; and intermediate to advanced level sight-reading exercises.

***AVID**

Code: **LAV101**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

AVID is a class for 7/8th graders who meet certain criteria, apply and are accepted into the program. AVID is a program whose goal is to see that students eventually enroll in college. AVID candidates may not have always been successful in school or they have struggled because of poor organizational skills. They are students who have ability and who now want to develop the skills and behavior needed to be successful in challenging classes with the goal of going to college after high school. AVID class and special tutors support the students. AVID students take a challenging mathematics level and are encouraged to take a foreign language.

Spanish I C (High School Credit)

Code: **FLS101C**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

The Spanish I course is designed to teach students to pronounce and discriminate between the various vowel and consonant sounds and respond to and to imitate authentic patterns of intonation, rhythm, and pronunciation. Students learn to give simple oral and written information by using appropriate learned vocabulary, word order and grammatical forms and to read silently and aloud with comprehension.

Spanish II C

Code: **FLS201C**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

The foreign language II is designed to provide activities, projects and experiences that enable students to appreciate and value the target language's culture. Students are also made aware of the value of foreign language study. Career opportunities are analyzed and students learn that the knowledge of a second language can be a useful tool in international, economic, and social situation.

German I C (High School Credit)

Code: **FLG101C**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

German I requires a strong commitment to vocabulary mastery. Students must be willing to practice at least 15 minutes every night.

German I will focus on developing speaking proficiency. (A grade of B or higher in Language Arts is recommended.)

German II C (High School Credit)

Code: **FLG201C**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

German II is designed to provide activities, projects and experiences that enable students to appreciate and value the target language's culture. Students are also made aware of the value of foreign language study. Career opportunities are analyzed and students learn that the knowledge of a second language can be a useful tool in international, economic, and social situation.

Read 180

Code: **RED205**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

Reading 180 is a program designed to improve reading achievement for students reading below grade level. Read 180 combines reading instruction with effective use of technology. It offers students an opportunity to achieve reading fluency through a combination of instructional, modeled, and independent reading components.

Creative Thinking (TAG)

Code: **AACE04**

Length of course: **1 Year (36 weeks)**

Creative Thinking is a yearlong course for identified talent pool (talented and gifted) students.

The course emphasizes research methods and the completion of investigations and projects based on individual interests. The course is designed to teach independence and organizational skills and to develop the higher-level thinking skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.

Family & Consumer Science AB

Code: **PTZ103**

Length of course: **18 weeks**

The home economics course is designed to provide students with basic skills needed in the home and as a basis for selection of future home economics courses. The course will acquaint students with laboratory safety, food preparation, basic nutrition, family relationships, housing and environmental resources, care giving for children and elderly, introduction to sewing machine, and basic sewing skills.

Music AB/Guitar I

Code: **MUS101**

Length of course: **18 weeks**

The guitar class is an introduction to the basic techniques, melodic and rhythmic concepts and patterns, practice skills and habits, and experiences in performing and sound practice habits. This course is offered to students in the 8th grade.

Art 8

Code: **ARA103**

Length of course: **18 weeks**

The Art 8 course is designed to develop essential art skills and to expand art experiences. This introduction to the elements and principals of design and art appreciation focuses on a variety of media including painting, drawing, sculpture, and printmaking.

Business Enterprise

Code: **PTB 102**

Length of course: **18 weeks**

Students learn some aspects of business by improving keyboarding skills, using Word, Excel, participating in the Stock Market Game, Street Law, introduction to accounting, and Desktop Publishing.

Computer Applications

Code: **PTI 103**

Length of course: **18 weeks**

This class is focused on learning the essential computer skills needed in a student's future. A hands-on approach is used to create word processing documents, spreadsheets, charts and presentations using Microsoft Office as well as practicing file management and improving keyboarding skills. Other programs that may be explored are Adobe Photoshop Elements, Inspirations, and Geometers Sketchpad.