

DANBURY 7th & 8th Grade

2020-21 ELECTIVE COURSE OFFERINGS

ART

Art & Design 7 / 8

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 1 semester

Content: Fulfills middle school fine arts requirement (Integrated Arts), this is a 2 year looping program.

Students study the elements of line, shape, form, color, texture, space and principles of design - the rules that govern how the elements are organized in a composition. This course includes a variety of media and connections to art history, cultures and artists and provides a vocabulary and foundation for students to discuss and evaluate their own, along with peer work, in a supportive atmosphere.

Studio Art & Design I (High School Credit)

Grade Level: 7-8

Credit: ½ each semester

Length of Course: all year

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation & Successful Completion of Art 7 and/or 8

Content: Explore a variety of exciting opportunities and materials to gain knowledge about the art making process. Learn to think conceptually and realize potential as a creative and critical thinker in order to meet the challenges of 21st century living. Explore personal interests while developing skills in the areas, of drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, sculpture, and digital media. Course content includes art production, art appreciation, and studies in visual culture.

MUSIC

Middle School Choir

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: all year

Content: A variety of vocal music is rehearsed throughout the year. Music reading, vocal production, basic music theory, and music history are all part of this course. Participation in all performances, concerts, and rehearsals are required in this course. Concerts include the Christmas and Spring concerts, as well as other performances as announced. Students in Middle School Choir may also be selected to participate in the Ohio Music Education Association's District 2 Junior High Festival Choir and/or the Junior High Solo & Ensemble Adjudicated Event.

Instrumental Music-Band (High School Credit)

Grades Level: 7- 8

Credit: ½ each semester

Content: A variety of band music is rehearsed throughout the year. Music reading, technique of individual instrument playing, proper tone quality, basic music theory, music history, and marching are all part of this course. Participation in all performances (including varsity football games), concerts, and rehearsals (including those held in the summer prior to the start of school and announced in May) are required in this course. Students perform on marching band instruments during the first quarter of the year and learn to march. Concerts include the Christmas and Spring concerts, as well as other performances as announced. Additional voluntary opportunities include Pep Band (performing at home HS basketball games), and the Stage Band which performs at the Cabaret show. Students in Middle School may also be selected to participate in the Ohio Music Education Association's District 2 Junior High Festival Band and/or the Junior High Solo & Ensemble Adjudicated Event. Since these students are members on the HS 7-12 Band, they are eligible to earn a varsity letter as early as their seventh grade year if they meet the necessary criteria.

TECHNOLOGY

Computer 7 (Required and automatically put in student's schedule.)

Grade Level: 7

Length of Course: 1 semester

Content: This is a continuation of skills presented in Computer 6. A large portion of this semester course is focused on appropriate and safe use of technology and utilization of Schoology, our school learning management system. Some of the additional topics included utilization of different options within Google Drive a review of keyboarding skills, basic computer usage and troubleshooting, writing for a digital audience, academic search and citation skills, exploration of several web-based presentation programs, and maintaining a positive digital footprint.

Computer 8 (Required and automatically put in student's schedule.)

Grade Level: 8

Length of Course: 1 semester

Content: This is a continuation of skills presented in Computer 7. The focus this year is on utilization of technology in the students' academic and personal lives. Topics include use of spreadsheets, a keyboarding review, how to respond appropriately to online discussions, media literacy, and graphic design.

Computer Science PWA (formerly Computer Science 1)

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 1 semester

Content: Ever wonder how webpages and animated games work? Explore and create simple webpages from scratch and code your own animations and games while learning about the basic functions of a computer and how programmers utilize the problem solving process to create the products we use every day.

Computer Science ADP (formerly Computer Science 2)

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 1 semester

Content: Phone apps are everywhere. Create several apps while learning the process the programmers follow to create their end result. Then move on to programming external devices to flash, make noise and report information.

Lead IT

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 1 semester

Content: Do you love technology and helping others with their technology? With this class, you will continue to develop your knowledge and skills in both hardware and software. Once you have demonstrated your mastery in an area, you will help students and staff with creating, troubleshooting and/or repairing technology. Find the areas of technology you are interested in and work with others to create and maintain technology projects within the school. This is where you start to become part of Danbury's student tech team.

WORLD LANGUAGE

Spanish 1 (High School Credit)

Grade Level: 8

Prerequisite: 8th Grade Students Only – must have a B average or higher in current English class and Principal approval

Credit: ½ each semester

Content: This course introduces students to many aspects of Spanish language and Hispanic culture. Students will gain the foundational skills that will enable them to begin to speak, listen, read and write in basic Spanish. Additional emphasis will be placed on the development of 21st century technology skills and classroom-to-career connections.

ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

Improv I

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Improv will be a high-spirited and energy course that explores what improv is and how it helps improve public speaking. Students learn how to be active listeners, work out differences among a team, be open to new ideas, and think on their feet. Students will work through a variety of scenes, create imaginary worlds, and re-enact their own version of popular shows.

Improv II

*Students do *not* need to take Improv I to take Improv II.

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Improv II explores the essential pillars of improv. Students will work through a variety of scenes and create imaginary worlds based upon selected settings and characters. This course will keep students on their toes and inject fun into the day!

Author's Club

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Author's Club will focus on reading and writing. For reading, students will read Best-Selling Books. If a movie is available, students will be able to compare the two. In addition to this, students will be able to write short stories through a variety of formats, such as individual writing and team writing.

Intro to Anatomy & Physiology 1 / Intro to Anatomy & Physiology 2

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks (each part)

Content: Intro to Anatomy & Physiology is a 7th/8th grade laboratory-based course that investigates the structure and function of various organisms. The goal of this course is to prepare students with introductory skills necessary to be successful in future science classes in college and possible medical fields. Topics covered will include the basic organization of the body and major body systems of each organism. Students will engage in hands-on dissections, learning basic anatomical terminology and proper dissection techniques. Students will be responsible for proper use of lab equipment and demonstrate correct lab safety procedure at all times.

Part 1 (9 weeks) will cover the basic dissection of the earthworm, clam, crayfish, and the grasshopper.

Part 2 (9 weeks) will cover the basic dissection of the sea star, perch, and the frog.

Successful completion of part 1 is a requirement to take part 2.

Logic and Strategy Games

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: This class will use board games and card games to help teach logical thought process and strategy. Students will learn more complex card games such as Pinochle, Bid Euchre, Rummy, and Canasta. Board games include but are not limited to chess, Risk, Blockus, and Sequence. Competition and social interaction are bonuses of this course.

Mental and Physical Wellness

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Mental and physical wellness will focus on helping students discover ways to develop better mental and physical health. Students will understand stress reduction techniques, participate in physical workouts doing yoga, and research and prepare healthy snacks and or meals.

Board Game Design

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Students during the first half of the class will play a variety of different style board games in order to gain a better background in board games through their evaluation and analyzation of game play and mechanics. During the second half of the class students will work individually or in groups design their own board games.

1980s Film Studies

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Students will evaluate seven to eight of the most influential movies from the 1980s according to polls from the Danbury Local school staff and Mr. Wicks' selections of cult classic films. Students will analyze themes, story, character development, and other elements that make each one "great" and to conclude the course by presenting to the class which movie is the "Greatest 80s movie, ever?"

1990s Film Studies

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Students will evaluate seven to eight of the most influential movies from the 1990s according to polls from the Danbury Local school staff and Mr. Wicks' selections of cult classic films. Students will analyze themes, story, character development, and other elements that make each one "great" and to conclude the course by presenting to the class which movie is the "Greatest 90s movie, ever?"

Financial Literacy

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: "A penny saved is a penny earned," is what Ben Franklin once wrote in his book *Poor Richard's Almanac*. Students will explore the many ways people can make money and manage your finances so that you are able to manage debt, play the stock market, or possibly develop the entrepreneurial spirit of creating your own business. How can you prepare for your financial future? Together we can find out.

Future Teachers

Grade Level: 7-8

Length of Course: 9 weeks

Content: Have you ever wanted to explore the world of teaching? Are you thinking of teaching as a possible career? This class will focus on helping students plan and prepare lessons, learn teaching styles and techniques, and work with teachers to assist or teach lessons under their guidance. Students will learn about the emotional needs of young children. Students will also learn how to execute engaging, age appropriate lessons.