

Loyal Junior High School

8th Grade Registration



LOYAL JUNIOR HIGH 8TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English 8

First and Second Semester

Preparing students for their entrance into high school, English 8 explores grammar, analyzes literature, examines non-fiction, and helps develop higher-level thinking skills to purposefully promote investigation and discussion. Units for this course include writing and research, short stories and literary devices, vocabulary and grammar, novels and poetry.

Social Studies 8

First and Second Semester

The primary goal of this course is to present basic information students need for an understanding of their government - how it operates and their relationship to it. This course will prepare the students for the required Wisconsin Constitution Test for high school graduation.

Mathematics 8

First and Second Semester

This course is designed to apply students' understanding and knowledge of basic concepts (whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percent, and geometry) to elementary algebra concepts. The course focuses on the number system, expressions and equations, functions, geometry, and statistics and probability. The emphasis is on the application of each of these concepts and incorporates the use of problem solving to deepen understanding of each area of study.

Science 8

First and Second Semester

This course covers the foundations for Chemistry and Physics. Content will focus on modeling and the scientific method to determine the laws that govern the structure of atoms, how they bond and react, as well as the science behind heat & energy, light & sound, and forces and motion.

Applied Language Arts 8

One Semester

Reinforcing the content of English 8, Applied Language Arts 8 will ensure the students' confidence and promote preparedness upon entering high school English next year. Students will participate in analyzing poetry, writing both formally and creatively, studying multiple formats of informational, non-fiction texts, and reading and discussing a play and elements of drama.

Physical Education 8

All Year, Alternating Days

Physical Education 8 involves the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide a foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; teach the rules of games and sports; reinforce safe technique; and explore the relationship between physical education and health.

MUSIC OPTIONS

Band

Two days per week all year

Prerequisite: Completion of 7th Grade Band, audition or director permission

Students will continue to develop the playing skills that they learned in Elementary and Junior High Band. Proper tone production, musical expression and technical abilities will be emphasized. Each student will be exposed to a variety of music, ranging from the Renaissance and Baroque periods to Jazz and Modern styles. Students will study basic music theory concepts, historical context of the music and composers and will broaden their musical horizons.

Requirements: Attendance is required at all scheduled concerts and festivals. A schedule of performances will be distributed to students in the first week of class. Students will also be required to complete a music lesson component that will meet outside of class time. When the student's class schedule is void of a study hall, the director will arrange a lesson time. Students are expected to be in Band for the full year. Exceptions to this policy will be granted at the discretion of the Band director.

Chorus

Two days per week all year

Chorus is open to any student who likes music and enjoys singing. The student will have to take a singing test to show ability to perform the level of music used by chorus. The placement of voice quality in the proper vocal section is evaluated. Each member is exposed to a broad variety of music from the 15th and 16th century classical music to current pop music. Students will discuss historical content of the music and their composers, as well as studying the theory of music. The opportunity for students to increase their individual abilities is provided in solo and ensemble contests and perhaps a musical. The students also have the opportunity to become a member of the "Show Choir", a 16-20 member group consisting of the best voices within the choir chosen by audition to perform vocal jazz as well as pop rock literature with some dancing involved. Students are expected to be in Chorus for the full year. Exceptions to this policy will be granted at the discretion of the Chorus director.

General Music I

One day per week all year

General music is open to any student who wishes to gain an in-depth study of music theory and music history. The class is split into two halves; the first half concentrates on music theory and fundamentals including notes, rest, and musical symbol identification, and application as well as basic keyboard and piano skills. Computer application in these areas is also included.

The second half involves the study of music history from its early roots in man's development, to its modern day development and composers. Students will be asked to develop listening skills as well as a respect and understanding (appreciation) of different styles and composers. . Students are expected to be in General Music for the full year. Exceptions to this policy will be granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Exploratory Courses

Art

Nine Weeks

Students will expand their knowledge and apply the elements and principles of art and design in a variety of projects. Developing an artistic eye to create interesting compositions will be a primary focus in this class. Exploring artist styles through discussion and relation to projects will also be included. Students will create a variety of drawings, paintings, sculptural art pieces, etc. in this class.

Exploring Agriculture

Nine Weeks

Agriculture is an exciting and vast area of science that provides many challenges. In this fast-paced, hands-on course students will engage in many activities that will help provide a better understanding of agriculture. Topics that will be covered will most likely include: Wisconsin Agriculture commodities, horticulture, FFA, wildlife and natural resources.

Exploring Careers Through Technology

Nine Weeks

This course allows 8th grade students the opportunity to begin examining interests, abilities and aptitudes. Further, students will be able to learn about and research careers, post-secondary educational options, and employability skills, as well as setting educational and career goals. While gaining insight into the previous items, students will utilize technology programs create projects and presentations.

Family & Consumer Education

Nine Weeks

This is a course that gives students a taste of what Family and Consumer Education is all about. Students will have the opportunity to explore all aspects of FCE, including: cooking, sewing, nutrition, childcare, and much more. This hands-on class allows for creativity and fun while learning what it means to become a productive member of society.

Leadership

Nine Weeks

Students will explore the concept of leadership along with developing and improving their leadership skills. Students will evaluate how to be a leader within school activities as well as in the community. They will develop personal goals, a resume, and plan a community service project.

Exploring Finance

Nine Weeks

Research shows that 83% of teens admit that they don't know much about personal finance (Ramsey Solutions). This nine-week course is designed to introduce students to practical financial knowledge and skills that will help them understand vital financial concepts related to budgeting, saving, investing, banking, credit, debit, debt, and the importance of an emergency fund. The goal of this course is to give students the needed information to make sound financial decisions for life.

Exploring Spanish

Nine Weeks

Students will continue to explore the Spanish language in this nine-week class. We will review some of the basic vocabulary from Exploring Spanish 7, and then students will be introduced to vocabulary for parts of the body, family, personality traits, clothing, foods, sports, telling time, and favorite activities. They will be actively engaged in learning with puzzles, flashcards, interactive and fun games, songs, Youtube video clips, activities, and projects.

Technology Education

Nine Weeks

Students will be introduced to the three main areas of technology (Automotive, Construction & Manufacturing). We will introduce these Pathways that are offered here at LHS and guide them in their decision-making process.