

FISHER MIDDLE SCHOOL



SOARING TO YOUR HIGHEST POTENTIAL

8th Grade

2023 - 2024 Enrichments

Dr. Maggy Hanna
Principal

Hugh Dwyer
Assistant Principal

Scott Sheplock
Assistant Principal

Erika Freeman
Dean of Students

Jennifer Citarella
Counselor

Altagracia Maldonado
Counselor

Joseph Zuccarello
Counselor



Band (full year, previous experience required)



Membership is open to all students who have successfully completed Grade 7 Band Class and/or teacher recommendation. This course introduces “comprehensive musicianship” through music performance of challenging and varied literature. In addition to the continued refinement of individual performance techniques, a greater emphasis will be placed on ensemble skills, music theory and musicianship. All students will attend a weekly group lesson. There are two required performances for this ensemble (winter concert and spring concert).

Choir (full year)

Any student interested in singing a variety of music from classical and folk to jazz and pop is invited to join Choir. Focus is also given to developing good singing technique, music theory, performance technique, and ear training. There are two required performances for this ensemble (winter concert and spring concert).



Orchestra (full year, previous experience required)



Membership is open to all students who have successfully completed Grade 7 Orchestra Class and/or teacher recommendation. This course introduces “comprehensive musicianship” through music performance of challenging and varied repertoire. Students will develop and polish technical skills related to their string instrument through a variety of literature. All students are required to attend a weekly group lesson. There are two required performances for this ensemble (winter concert and spring concert).

Honors Symphony Orchestra

Prerequisite: Audition: Teacher Recommendation

This is the advanced ensemble which is made up of students who have attained a high degree of proficiency on their instrument. Student’s selection to this class will be greatly influenced by the student's past record of personal discipline, dedication, sense of commitment and their ability to function as a member of a team. Elements of music are approached through exercises of increasing difficulty which present challenging, interesting, and enriching performances. All students will attend a weekly group lesson. All students are required to perform in all scheduled concerts. All students are required to be a member of their grade level band/orchestra to participate.



Music Technology



During the semester, students will learn about the science of sound and music. Students will also learn how to use editing program BandLab to create original music, and other projects such as podcasts. Students will also learn basic music theory for use with the Samsung M25 MIDI keyboard, which works directly with BandLab.

Exploring Musical Theatre

This class will explore famous Broadway musicals while students discover the people and processes involved in the production of a musical. Students will learn about the history of musicals, jobs in musical theatre, acting and stage terms and watch select famous musicals. Students will participate in acting exercises, improvisation, performing short scenes, as well as writing and starring in their own creations. This class is recommended for students who are considering participation in the Spring Musical at FMS.



Guitar I



This course is available to any student who completed Guitar I and would like to continue their study of the instrument. Students will gain a further understanding of music theory, music literacy, and more advanced guitar techniques.

Folktales-Myths-Legends

In this course, students will be exposed to wonderful stories about heroes and super heroes within folk tales, as well as mythological gods and goddesses throughout history. They will also be exposed to legends of monsters from different cultures. They will discuss why these stories stood the test of time. Students will have the opportunity to create their own hero or superhero tale. Some objectives are to identify the importance of these stories as well as common elements, differentiate the structure and purpose of selected myths and legends, explain the similarities between myths from different geographical regions, create an original myth, identify heroic qualities within gods and goddesses, and create a narrative myth of their own.

Coding 8

Students will continue to develop computational thinking skills and knowledge of coding concepts. In addition to learning about programming and algorithms, students build career awareness, recognize the role and impact of programming, and strengthen their digital skills.

Game Design

Students will work both collaboratively and independently to create digital and physical games. They will follow the design process to plan, prototype, evaluate, and improve upon games to create a final product.

2D Art

In this course, students will emphasize the Studio Habits of Mind to apply the elements of art and principles of design to create two-dimensional and digital works. Students will use their creative problem solving skills to create paintings, drawings, collages, and digital artwork and build upon and build upon previous art making skills and knowledge. They will apply a more complex understanding of art history, art appreciation, and art analysis.

Prerequisite: Exploring Art, 2D or 3D Art

3D Art

In this course, students will emphasize the Studio Habits of Mind to apply the elements of art and principles of design to create complex three-dimensional designs as well as larger-scale installations. Students will put their creativity to the test in this class when they build product models, clay and recycled sculptures, and transform the spaces around them. They will build on an understanding of art history, art appreciation, and art analysis.

Prerequisite: Exploring Art, 2D or 3D Art

Advanced Art

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation Required

This class is designed for the talented art students that wish to further expand their knowledge and techniques as artists. Students will focus more on drawing and painting from life through still life set ups as well as creative problem solving to express themselves as artists. There will be a high focus on using real life references to observe and draw/paint.

This class will concentrate on the technical aspect of creating photo realistic style art work (drawing and painting that looks real). This class requires students with an artistic talent, high motivation to draw and self-discipline. Students will continue to view and examine works of art that are currently being used in the industry today.

****All 8th Grade students must take one of the following World Language courses. ****

Spanish I - Part 2 (Full year)

This course is offered as part two of a two-part series. This course is designed for 8th grade students who completed Spanish 7th Grade - Part 1 with at least 80%. In this course students will continue to grow in their knowledge of Spanish across all four modalities of speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Students should expect to be actively engaged in language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL. The main focus of this course is to equip students with the knowledge and skills that they need to thrive in Spanish II at the high school level here in Ewing, and to be able to use the language effectively in daily life. Use of the target language is required and this rule will be strictly enforced.

Spanish I - Part 1B (Semester)

This course is designed for the students who completed Introduction to Spanish. Use of the target language in the four modalities of speaking, reading, writing, and listening will be required so

that students can begin their journey on the path to second language acquisition and proficiency. Students will continue their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in key areas of world language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Students master common vocabulary terms and phrases; comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns; initiate and continue simple conversations, and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, and generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and a limited range of grammar patterns. This class will provide students with a firm foundation in the language upon which they will build at the high school level.

French I - Part 2 (Full year)

This course is offered as part two of a two-part series. This course is designed for 8th grade students who completed French 7th Grade - Part 1 with at least 80%. In this course students will continue to grow in their knowledge of French across all four modalities of speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Students should expect to be actively engaged in language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL. The main focus of this course is to equip students with the knowledge and skills that they need to thrive in French II at the high school level here in Ewing, and to be able to use the language effectively in daily life. Use of the target language is required and this rule will be strictly enforced.

French I - Part 1B (Semester)

This course is designed for the students who completed Introduction to French. Use of the target language in the four modalities of speaking, reading, writing, and listening will be required so that students can begin their journey on the path to second language acquisition and proficiency. Students will continue their introduction to French with fundamental building blocks in key areas of world language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. Students master common vocabulary terms and phrases; comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns; initiate and continue simple conversations, and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, and generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and a limited range of grammar patterns. This class will provide students with a firm foundation in the language upon which they will build at the high school level.