



Course Descriptions 2021-2022

Title: Intro to STEM Pathways and Careers (1 high school credit)

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: None

This year-long course is offered to middle school students for high school credit and serves as a universal course elective for the LSU STEM Pathways as well as JUMPSTART 2.0. The course explores four main pathways of STEM education and possible careers in the fields of 1) Computing and Computer Science, 2) Pre-Engineering, 3) Digital Design and Emergent Media, and 4) Biomedical Sciences. The course exposes students to these overarching concepts:

- To expand awareness of various careers and occupational pathways related to STEM.
- To stimulate the understanding of higher order thinking processes such as the engineering design process, the scientific method, and computational thinking.
- To develop foundational knowledge and skills in the JumpStart pathways and careers as related to STEM, and utilize the knowledge and skills in their current educational setting.
- To increase interest in the four core areas of STEM related to this class through project-based activities that are also standards based.

Title: Survey Computer Science (1 high school credit)

Grade Level: 8

Fee: None

This one-year course can be taken in middle school for high school credit and counts as either a core course or as an elective course for the LSU Computing Pathway. It introduces the basics of computing using fun and engaging activities instead of formally describing the concepts. This course follows the framework of Big Ideas adopted in the AP Computer Science Principles (CSP) course, but it has more emphasis on exploration and experimentation, and less emphasis on problem-solving and formal analysis than a regular CSP course. To prepare students for the rigors of other courses in the Pathways, this course models ways to adopt a productive disposition that fosters creativity and perseverance, with a focus on developing students' interest in computing and identification with the computing professions.

Title: Keyboarding (0.5 high school credit)/ Keyboarding Applications (0.5 high school credit)

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: \$10

This course focuses on keyboarding and formatting skills most important for career success. Keyboarding and Keyboarding Applications will guide users from the basics of new-key learning to business documents using the commands of Microsoft® Word. Lessons are clearly focused on skill building, communication skills, proofreading activities, and document formatting. Emphasis will include the basics of document and word processing formats including business letters, memos, e-mails, tables, graphics, and newsletters.

Title: Digital Literacy

Grade Level: 6, 7

Fee: \$10

In this course, students will learn about effective and appropriate use of technology to discover, evaluate, create, and share information. They will also learn how to use the basic features of word processing, spreadsheet, and slide presentation software.

Title: Quest for Success (1 high school credit)

Grade Level: 8

Fee: \$10

Quest for Success is a career exploration course designed to prepare all Louisiana graduates for career and life success. This course will help students develop essential 21st century workforce skills (the ability to communicate, collaborate, and lead), explore new and exciting careers and industry sectors, and learn about themselves and their interests to successfully navigate high school, postsecondary education, and career pathways.

Title: Homeliving (Intro to Family and Consumer Science I)

Grade Level: 6

Fee: \$20

The purpose of this course is to prepare students to acquire knowledge and develop skills in one or more family and consumer science occupations and to acquaint students with the skills necessary to become independent and productive members of society. Students in this class will be required to complete projects in clothing and food production. Students will be exposed to the areas of personal and family living, wellness, nutrition and foods, financial management, living environments, and transferring school skills to life and work. Skills in mathematics, communication, science, technology, and personal and interpersonal relationships are reinforced in this course.

Title: Family and Consumer Science (1 high school credit)

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: \$20

In this class, students will gain knowledge and skills useful for the efficient and productive management of home and personal life. Units of study may include sewing, childcare, clothing care, cooking, nutrition, and careers in the food industry. There will also be an emphasis on food science and its application across the food industry.

Title: Art/ Intro to Drawing

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: \$10

This is a basic art class exploring the creative process using the elements and principles of design. Students will participate in hands-on activities that allow for personal growth and creative expression in art.

Title: Art Animation

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: \$20

Prerequisite: 2.0 GPA or higher for the 2020-2021 school year

Become a sculptor and filmmaker in this challenging course concentrating on stop motion clay animation. Students will write stories, illustrate storyboards, build sets, sculpt characters, and film one large project each semester. Students will study techniques used in claymation films such as *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, *Wallace & Gromit*, and *Chicken Run*.

Title: Choir

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: \$20 + uniform

This class provides students the opportunity to learn music theory, sight read, sing, and develop their voices. Choir students will perform on various outreach field trips, sing in front of the student body, compete in district festival, and prepare popular songs for the pop concert at the conclusion of the school year. Students will wear all black/white and closed-toe black dress shoes for formal performance events.

Title: Band

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: \$30; student must also rent or own an instrument. Rental fee from the district is \$25 per semester. Students will be placed in beginning or advanced band based on their previous middle school band experience. The beginning band class is the starting group for students interested in participating in the school band. In this class, students will select an instrument, learn to read and notate music, and learn how to read simple and complex rhythms. The advanced band course is intended to focus on the development of performance skills in preparation for concerts and competitions. The elements of more complex music theory and interpretation will be addressed, and a higher level of technical playing proficiency will be developed. All band students will participate in the school's annual winter and spring concerts. Additionally, students may perform in local community events. After-school rehearsals may be required prior to each performance. Students must pay a \$30 band fee and also must either provide their own personal instrument, rent an instrument from a music store, or rent an East Baton Rouge Parish School System instrument.

Title: Strings

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: Students must rent or own an instrument

Students will be placed in beginning or advanced strings based on their previous middle school orchestra experience. Membership in the beginning strings class is open to all students who wish to extend their knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of music by learning how to play a stringed instrument. Instruction in violin, viola, cello, and bass will be offered in this class. Guitar instruction will not be offered. The advanced strings course is intended to focus on the development of string orchestra performance skills in preparation for concerts and competitions. The elements of more complex music theory and interpretation will be addressed, and a higher level of technical playing proficiency will be developed. All students will perform in at least two concerts during the year. After-school rehearsals may be required prior to each concert.

Title: Music Appreciation

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: None

In this class, students will learn general information about music. Topics covered in this course will include music history and music theory. This course will dive into different musical genres and styles throughout history.

Title: Beginning Piano

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: \$20

Students will learn basic piano skills, scales, and simple songs. This course is intended for students with no previous piano experience.

Title: Musical Composition

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: None

In this course, students will learn to read, write, and understand music. Students will also compose music of different genres through various music writing apps.

Title: Speech/Drama I

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: for field trips as announced

Speech (fall semester): This class increases student knowledge about the speaking process. The course covers the purposes of public speaking, overcoming stage fright, topic selection, audience analysis, audience goals, and how to create and deliver different types of speeches. Students will research, cite, write, memorize, and give five major speeches throughout the semester.

Drama (spring semester): This class focuses on the development of personal resources, self-confidence, and the ability to work well with others. Students learn basic acting skills such as improvisation, characterization, and stage movement. Students will perform in two plays, write and perform an original play, and memorize and perform a monologue.

Title: Drama II

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: for field trips as announced

Prerequisite: Completion of Speech/Drama I

This course will strengthen the skills developed in Speech/Drama I (team work, movement, scene work) as well as include scene and play analysis and scene work including an emphasis on objectives, obstacles, and acting techniques.

Title: Debate

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: None

Students will learn the basics of debating, conduct research in preparation for debates, create arguments with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, argue their points of view respectfully, use critical thinking to gauge opposing viewpoints, and learn to think quickly in their rebuttals.

Title: Classical Myth Makers

Grade Level: 6, 7, 8

Fee: \$10

This course will explore the myths of the ancient Greeks and Romans through STEAM maker projects. We'll explore the ancient classical world of myth through science, technology, engineering, art, and math. This class utilizes hands-on maker lessons interwoven with storytelling, drama, movie making, and creativity. Why did Zeus throw thunderbolts? How did Mercury fly on winged sandals? Why did Athena get so angry at Arachne? We will learn about all the major Olympians (including Percy Jackson's dad), the Trojan War, and even the founding of Rome. Come discover how classical mythology is everywhere around us and why it's important for you to know it to understand your world! Students will take the National Mythology Exam in February.

Title: World Geography (1 high school credit)

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: None

Prerequisite: No grade lower than a B in previous year's Social Studies class

In World Geography, students will look at the physical geography of the world including land and water features. Students will also learn about the human geography of the world including how humans interact with their environment, positive and negative effects of human interaction on the environment, and actions taken to improve the environment. Students will also look at major cultural features of various countries to determine how culture has an impact on economics and politics. This is a project-based course.

Title: Physical Science (1 high school credit)

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: \$10

Prerequisite: Enrollment in a high school credit math course

This course focuses on the study of matter and its interactions; motion, stability, and forces; and energy, waves, and their applications. Students will participate in exciting problem-based/project-based labs in order to facilitate meaningful learning.

Title: Introduction to Coding

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: \$10

Prerequisite: Enrollment in pre-algebra (8th grade math) or any high school credit math course

No previous programming skills are required, but students should be comfortable managing files and using a computer and browser. Students are expected to be familiar with standard computer operations (e.g., login, cut & paste, email attachments, etc.). Students will learn computer programming basics. The course will include but not be limited to using the graphical program languages HTML, Scratch, Logo, Python, and JavaScript. Students will learn fundamental programming concepts such as variables, loops, conditional statements, and event handling. Students will have the opportunity to construct digital projects, create games, and create websites.

Title: Podcasting/Yearbook

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: \$20

Prerequisite: 3.0 GPA or higher for the 2020-2021 school year

This course will focus on producing the Glasgow Middle School yearbook and bi-weekly podcast. Students will be responsible for taking pictures and designing the layout of the yearbook. They will also be responsible for writing a script, recording interviews, editing, and producing a podcast. Experience in art, design, public speaking, drama, and multimedia editing are a plus for this class, but not required. Upon enrollment in the course, students will be presented with a behavior contract outlining behavior expectations. As members of the 2021-2022 Podcasting/Yearbook team, students will serve as representatives of the school and will need to adhere to behavior guidelines at all times.

Title: Anatomy and Physiology

Grade Level: 7, 8

Fee: \$10

This course aims to provide students an opportunity to explore and learn about the parts and functions of the human body. The students will be introduced to the organization of the human body from the simplest structures to more complex structures, as well as how the structures function to regulate body processes. The parts and functions of the different body systems will be discussed as well as what affects them and how to care for them. Students will also create models of the different human body systems and perform basic dissection.