



GRADE 8 ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS & FEES FOR 2024-25

Art 8

Cost: \$20/semester

A large component of this course involves media through which we make thought visible in images. Students will focus on three major components of visual learning:

- Drawings – the ways we record visual information and discoveries
- Compositions – the ways images are put together to create meaning
- Encounters with art – where we meet and how we respond to visual imagery

CTF: Computer Science 8

Cost: \$15/semester

In this course students will develop an understanding of basic computer science concepts and programming languages to support their journey of becoming ethical and confident creators and consumers of digital technologies.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- computational thinking and problem solving
- block and text-based programming languages
- algorithms
- graphic design (eg: website or video game)
- artificial intelligence
- digital citizenship & literacy
- societal implications and impact of computer science concepts

CTF: Construction Technologies 8 (Required)

Cost: \$48/semester

Construction Technologies will help students to develop skills and attitudes related to the design and production process using a variety of materials and techniques. Through a series of building challenges, students will use problem solving skills and collaboration to explore different production methods and applications.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- safety procedures and processes
- material evaluation and selection
- sustainable building practices
- design and drafting
- hazard identification control
- worksite organization and project management



CTF: Creative Design and Production 8

Cost: \$15/semester

Through the Makerspace concept, students will create, innovate, and evaluate as they explore, create new products, or improve ones that already exist. The Creative Design and Production classroom will expose students to a variety of tools, materials, and concepts allowing them to bring their ideas to life. This course will also consider sustainability and reducing environmental impact through the re-purpose and re-use of materials where possible.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- composition
- materials options in physical art such as sculpture
- principles of visual marketing
- creative crafting principles and technologies
- production waste reduction
- sustainable building practices

CTF: Environmental Stewardship 8

Cost: \$40/semester

This course aims to foster an appreciation of the land by exploring sustainable practices to enhance ecosystem resilience and human well-being. Through Environmental Stewardship, students will examine the interactions between the environment and humans through participation in learning activities and CTF Challenges that focus on the outdoor environment.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- environmental stewardship initiatives (climate change, wetland management, ecosystem preservation., etc.)
- land-based literacy / environmental literacy
- **outdoor recreation activities**

CTF: Foods 8 (Required)

Cost: \$37/semester

Students will learn, understand, and experience kitchen basics such as safety, measurement, mixing, cutting, and recipe planning and preparation. This course concentrates on nutrition and preparation of simple recipes allowing students to develop basic skills in safe food handling, safe kitchen practices, and recipe planning and execution.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- safe work practices and environments
- hygiene and sanitation
- safe handling of kitchen tools and equipment



- working knowledge of a food preparation area
- planning and preparing of basic foods and baking
- execution of **basic baking recipes** (cookies, muffins, cakes, breads, etc.)
- using different methods to prepare meals
- creation and presentation of recipes
- the food industry and entrepreneurship

CTF: Graphic Arts 8

Cost: \$17/semester

Students will focus on the field of graphic arts in a variety of mediums and the idea of using their art for the purpose of communicating a thought, concept or message to an audience. Students will have the opportunity to create a portfolio showcasing their original creations and designs.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- digital art
- film creation
- animation
- **photography** and digital image manipulation
- 2D & 3D design
- cartooning, comic art and illustration

CTF: Leadership 8

Cost: \$10/semester

Students will plan for both personal and group leadership development and demonstrate effective teambuilding skills while participating as a member of a school-based leadership team. Students will develop a plan for their own personal growth as a member of a leadership team and examine the various behaviors, skills, and roles of team members that contribute to team effectiveness and a positive school culture.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- interpersonal skill development
- advocacy for change
- mentorship
- leading and supporting school activities
- school pride and culture

CTF: Recreational Fitness 8

Cost: \$40/semester

Recreational Fitness is a course designed to expose students to the benefits of being **“fit for life,”** and potential professions to help keep students engaged in the sport and wellness



industry. The course content includes basic fitness and training principles, sports safety, and lifetime leisure activities such as swimming, bowling, biking, running, racket sports and various outdoor pursuits. Recreational Fitness will encourage a healthy attitude combined with fair play and sportsmanship in recreational activities.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- athletic leadership initiatives – team dynamics, volunteering
- sports medicine – athletic injury prevention and management
- game creation and participation
- careers related to the recreation industry

CTF: The World of Food 8

Cost: \$40/semester

The World of Food is a project-based course that explores the unique facets of the food industry including but not limited to cultural significance, the role food plays in the global economy, and food as a form of entertainment. Students will be encouraged to expand upon their current food experiences to gain an appreciation of the significance that food plays in all areas of life and investigate careers that support and complement the food industry.

Areas of exploration and challenges may include:

- global food preparation and significance
- the entrepreneurial food industry
- food challenges for entertainment
- the interpersonal significance of food
- sustainable food practices

Instrumental Music 8

Cost: \$16/semester + instrument rental, if required

The Instrumental Music Program will help students to discover, develop and evaluate their talents and abilities relative to playing a musical instrument, and to establish and reinforce correct techniques and skills. Students will also explore the areas of listening to, reading, creating, and valuing music. This program will help students to develop competencies and to strive for excellence within the limits of their individual capabilities.

Note: If the instrument is rented through SouthPointe, cost will be \$50. If third-party rental, the cost will vary.