

FHSD

Middle School

Enrollment Guide

8th Grade

**Francis Howell
School District**



LEARNING TOGETHER

2021 – 2022

Francis Howell School District
4545 Central School Road
St. Charles, MO 63304
636-851-4000

FRANCIS HOWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE ENROLLMENT GUIDE 2021-2022

EIGHTH GRADE COURSE SELECTIONS

The middle school day consists of seven courses. Five of the courses are required. The following five full-year courses are required of all eighth grade students:

1. English Language Arts 8 or Pre-Advanced Placement English Language Arts 8
2. Math 8, Algebra I, or Geometry - Algebra I and Geometry will count for G.P.A. and credit on student's high school transcript.
3. Physical Science 8 or Physical Science 9th Grade. Physical Science 9th Grade will count for G.P.A. and credit on the student's high school transcript.
4. US History 8
5. Physical Education and Health 8

This leaves two periods in a normal day to complete the student's schedule. This can be accomplished by selecting one of the following options A, B, or C:

- A. Select two year-long electives.
- B. Select one year-long elective and two semester-long electives.
- C. Select four semester-long electives.

NOTE: In order for a student to achieve their greatest potential academically and socially, a student may be placed in a Reading Intervention, MATH 180, or a support class. This course will take the place of options A, B, or C. Parents will be notified by letter before the end of the year if their student has been placed in one of these courses.

Year-Long Electives

Must register for both semesters

- | | | |
|----|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Beginning Band | Sem 1 7871331 and Sem 2 7871332 |
| 2. | Band 8 | Sem 1 0871101 and Sem 2 0871102 |
| 3. | Choir 8 | Sem 1 0871201 and Sem 2 0871202 |
| 4. | <u>French I-this course will count for G.P.A. and credit on high school transcript</u> | Sem 1 0616001 and Sem 2 0616002 |
| 5. | <u>Spanish I-this course will count for G.P.A. and credit on high school transcript</u> | Sem 1 0616501 and Sem 2 0616502 |
| 6. | <u>German I-this course will count for G.P.A. and credit on high school transcript</u> | Sem 1 0616251 and Sem 2 0616252 |
| 7. | SPECTRA (Must Qualify) | Sem 1 0873001 and Sem 2 0873002 |

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Amended 02-02-21 – In-Person or Virtual preference

Semester-Long Electives

1.	Art 8	0871003
2.	Family and Consumer Sciences 8A*	0871503
3.	Family and Consumer Sciences 8B*	0871603
4.	Industrial Technology 8	0872003
5.	Music Production & Technology 8	0872201
6.	Speech and Drama 8	0872403
7.	Innovative Technology Design 8	0872113
8.1.	Technological Systems 8 (Engineering by Design) **	0872023
8.2.	App/Automation/Robo (Barnwell only)**	0872123

*Family and Consumer Sciences 8A and 8B are stand-alone courses that can be taken in any order.

**8.1 Bryan, FH Middle, Hollenbeck and Saeger

**8.2 Barnwell only

NEW REQUIREMENT THIS YEAR: Must select preference for instruction for next school year as an alternate: In-Person or Virtual

HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS EARNED WHILE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Students who successfully complete a high school course while in middle school will have the course recorded on their high school transcript for G.P.A. and credit notation. These courses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Algebra I
- B. Geometry
- C. Physical Science 9th Grade
- D. French 1
- E. German 1
- F. Spanish 1

SCHEDULE CHANGE POLICY FOR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

Please make your choices of courses for next year very carefully. ONCE THE ENROLLMENT PROCESS HAS BEEN COMPLETED, STUDENT-INITIATED SCHEDULE CHANGES WILL BE CONSIDERED ONLY WITH PRINCIPAL APPROVAL. Parents are requested to review their student's course requests prior to the completion of enrollment.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE ENROLLMENT GUIDE
2021-2022
8TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This course is designed to ensure college and career readiness by providing students with the opportunity to volume read and volume write through the workshop model in order to explore enduring understandings that characterize the literature they read. Fiction categories will include short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. Non-fiction categories will include auto/biography, essays/speeches, newspapers/magazines, print/electronic resources and poetry. They will also demonstrate their comprehension of these understandings by writing formally and informally - including argumentative, narrative, and informational writing - with an emphasis on the development of writing, formats, and thesis development with support.

Students will further develop active listening skills and practice effective speaking skills incorporating media and/or technology. Students will expand information literacy skills by planning research, gathering and evaluating information, taking notes, and documenting sources.

PRE-ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8

This course is designed for students to engage in studies that have a greater degree of differentiated instruction and self-direction than the regular communication arts course and ensure college and career readiness. It is intentionally vertically aligned with/to the Pre-AP and AP courses taught at the high school level.

Students will explore - through specific genres of fiction, non-fiction, and media - enduring understandings that characterize the literature they read with increased focus on analysis, synthesis, and evaluation. Students will read deliberately and thoroughly, taking time to understand a work's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in literary form. Careful attention to textual detail will provide a foundation for interpretation.

Students will demonstrate the ability to write formally and informally - including reflective/creative, argumentative, and analytical writing, with an emphasis on the development of various formats of Writing. Writing instruction will include attention to developing and organizing ideas in clear, coherent, and persuasive language; a study of the elements of style; and attention to precision and correctness.

Students will use and analyze media in oral and visual presentations. They will also continue to develop research skills and the citing of sources in MLA format.

Students must meet a select criteria to be placed in this course. This course is not a prerequisite for high school Pre-AP or AP courses, nor does it automatically qualify a student for those courses.

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MATH 8

This course is designed to provide students with a strong foundation and conceptual understanding in real-life problem solving. The focus is on four critical areas: 1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations that involve exponential properties; 2) modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; 3) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; 4) analyzing two-and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

ALGEBRA I

Algebra I is the first course in a four-year sequence of college preparatory mathematics. This course aims to deepen and extend student understanding built in previous courses by focusing on developing fluency with solving linear equations, inequalities, and systems. These skills are extended to solving quadratic equations, exploring linear, quadratic, and exponential functions graphically, numerically, symbolically, and as sequences, and by using regression techniques to analyze the fit of models to distributions of data. Algebra I students will use problem-solving strategies, questioning, investigating, analyzing critically, gathering and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments justifying their thinking.

Students who meet the criteria will be notified. This course will count towards the student's high school G.P.A. and credit will be awarded to their high school transcript. Students must successfully complete Pre-Algebra as a prerequisite for this course.

GEOMETRY

This course aims to formalize and extend the geometry that students have learned in previous courses. It does this by focusing on establishing triangle congruence criteria using rigid motions and formal constructions and building a formal understanding of similarity based on dilations and proportional reasoning. It also helps students develop the concepts of formal proof, explore the properties of two-and three-dimensional objects, work within the rectangular coordinate system to verify geometric relationships and prove basic theorems about circles. Students also use the language of set theory to compute and interpret probabilities for compound events. Geometry students will use problem-solving strategies, questioning, investigating, analyzing critically, gathering and constructing evidence, and communicating rigorous arguments justifying their thinking.

Students who meet the criteria will be notified. This course will count towards the student's high school G.P.A. and credit will be awarded to their high school transcript. Students must successfully complete Algebra as a prerequisite for this course.

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PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8

This course will allow students to investigate and apply scientific processes through inquiry, research, and hands-on activities. Students will have the opportunity to use technology and experimentation in the study of the following areas: scientific inquiry, process skills, properties of matter, forms of energy: light, sound, heat, and electricity and magnetism, energy and transformations, force and motion, Newton's Laws, work and simple machines, and the history and scientists that have contributed to these areas of study.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE 9TH GRADE

Prerequisite: Students must meet a select criteria to be placed in this course. Students who meet the criteria will be notified. This course will count towards the student's high school G.P.A. and credit will be awarded on their high school transcript.

Physical Science 9th Grade is an introductory course in which students use science and engineering practices and cross cutting concepts to investigate and understand the principles that govern the physical and chemical systems of the universe including energy, force and motion, and the properties and interactions of matter. This course serves as a foundation for the study of other sciences. Physical Science 9th Grade is a rigorous course that combines Physical Science 8 and Physical Science 9th Grade into one year of study.

U.S. HISTORY 8

Students will study the United States history from Native American cultures through the American Civil War. Topics covered include European exploration, the colonial period, the American Revolution, the U.S. Constitution, westward expansion, reform movement, and the Civil War. By its very nature, this course will be a people's history of the United States, allowing for extensive exploration of the vast multicultural nature of our country.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH - 8

The physical education portion of this course promotes the use of specialized skill in sports and fitness activities. Emphasis is on applying movement concepts and principles to real-life situations. The knowledge of rules and game strategies is developed through participation. Students will accept responsibility for their own personal fitness and pursue lifelong physical activity to meet their own needs.

The health portion of the curriculum is designed to increase student understanding about diseases of the body, personal well-being, and social well-being throughout the year. Students will be able to make responsible healthy decisions to improve and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

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SEMESTER-LONG ELECTIVES

ART 8

0871003

This course is designed to expand and build upon learning experiences developed in the 6th and 7th grade Exploratory Art courses. However, an Explo course is not a prerequisite. Students will create, respond to, present, and connect their ideas visually and verbally in traditional and new media. Creativity and aesthetic thinking skills will be developed for real world applications. Students will have opportunities to explore diversity and innovation by demonstrating a willingness to experiment and take risks and to pursue meanings that emerge in the art-making process. Media may include graphite, pastels, paint, or clay. Growth will be measured through active participation, studio work and portfolio production.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES 8A

0871503

This course is designed to include Nutrition and Wellness and Consumer Education. Discover Family and Consumer Sciences through experiences in food preparation and nutrition. Students will learn the basics about preparing a variety of foods. Meal management skills and use of kitchen tools and equipment will also be taught. Consumer and personal finance are also included thus laying the foundation for good money and resource management.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES 8B

0871603

This course is designed to include sewing, interior design, and child development. Sewing machine equipment use and project construction are featured in this course. There will also be an introduction to interior design using the principles and elements of design. Child development includes teaching students how children develop and how to interact appropriately with children at various ages and stages.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY 8

0872003

This course is designed for hands-on project construction and problem solving activities. This semester course is spent in the traditional shop setting where students construct a variety of projects. While making these projects students will investigate material, design and planning processes, safety, measurement, and tool applications. Students will also practice (and utilize) math and science concepts that apply to the technological processes being taught. Student evaluation is a combination of tests and project construction.

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MUSIC PRODUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY 8

0872201

This course is designed to investigate music production in a more in-depth manner, allowing students to develop or build upon previous skills to produce more sophisticated compositions (see 7th grade course description). Differentiating to multiple skill levels, students will examine composition, songwriting, and recording to create, present and perform works through various multimedia projects, such as combining audio with images or creating a podcast. Students will continue to expand their knowledge of basic musical concepts, and apply them to technology-based projects.

SPEECH AND DRAMA 8

0872403

This course is designed to improve the students' abilities to present themselves in front of an audience through oral reports, class presentations, and class discussions. Students will learn drama, speaking, and listening skills. Topics include types of communication, acting, public speaking, mass media, electronic communication and performance production. Speech and Drama 8 performances teach presentation techniques for persuasive speeches, pantomimes, improvisations, skits and scenes. The students' training will develop critical and creative thinking ability. Techniques taught in Speech and Drama 8 are beneficial in many core classes.

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY DESIGN 8

0872113

This course is designed to investigate activities in a more in-depth manner to problem solve, create, explore current social trends and career awareness. Activities will include coding, web design, and advanced 3D modeling. This course will prepare students for high school and beyond who want to advance themselves in technology skills.

TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS 8 (ENGINEERING BY DESIGN)

0872023

This course is designed to teach students how technological systems work together to solve problems and capture opportunities. A system can be as small as two components working together (technical system/device level) or can contain millions of interacting devices (user system/network level). We often break down the macrosystems into less complicated microsystems in order to understand the entire system better. However, technology is becoming more integrated, and systems are becoming more and more dependent upon each other than ever before. Electronic systems are interacting with natural (i.e., biological) systems as humans use more and more monitoring devices for medical reasons. Electrical systems are interacting with mechanical and fluid power systems as manufacturing establishments become more and more automated. This course will give students a general background on the different types of systems, but will concentrate more on the connections between these systems.

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YEAR-LONG ELECTIVES

BEGINNING BAND

7871331 Semester 1
7871332 Semester 2

This course is designed for any middle school student without previous band experience. Students will work with others to learn how to play an instrument and perform in at least two concerts during the school year. Through the exploration of a new instrument, students will learn how to read and perform music, and will develop lifelong skills such as responsibility, personal goal-setting, and teamwork. Contact the school's band director if you have questions about instrument selection and how to sign up.

BAND 8

(Previous band and/or private lessons and teacher approval required.)

0871101 Semester 1
0871102 Semester 2

This course is designed as a performance course comprised of students who have had at least two years of instruction and have attained an average or above level of proficiency on their instrument. These students have developed a good background in rhythms, music reading and playing fundamentals necessary for performing more advanced material. Class work will include reviewing, reinforcing and expanding music fundamentals and techniques through concert literature and instrumental method books. All bands will perform at least two concerts during the school year.

CHOIR 8

0871201 Semester 1
0871202 Semester 2

This course is designed as a performance course where techniques of tone production, posture, diction, breathing, and intonation will be emphasized and the ability to match pitch is recommended. In addition, reading of pitches, rhythms, and score markings will be a significant portion of the class. Part singing, musicianship qualities of interpretation, style, dynamics, phrasing, balance, and group consciousness will be introduced. Music will include unison and two, three, and four part harmony. Students will be evaluated on singing ability, active class participation, written work, tests, and participation in concerts. Students are expected to perform in at least two concerts during the school year. Special concert attire may be required by the instructor.

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FRENCH I

0616001 Semester 1
0616002 Semester 2

This course is designed to introduce the student to the fundamentals of this language. Emphasis will be placed on acquisition of vocabulary and grammar through reading, writing, speaking and listening. The study of the people, culture, customs, and geography of French speaking countries will be integrated throughout the course. To be eligible to enroll in the level 5 Advanced Placement French class in 12th grade, students **MUST** enroll in French 1 in 8th grade. This course will count towards the student's high school G.P.A. and credit will be awarded on their high school transcript.

GERMAN I

0616251 Semester 1
0616252 Semester 2

This course is designed to introduce the student to the fundamentals of this language. Emphasis will be placed on acquisition of vocabulary and grammar through reading, writing, speaking and listening. The study of the people, culture, customs, and geography of German speaking countries will be integrated throughout the course. To be eligible to enroll in the level 5 Advanced Placement German class in 12th grade, students **MUST** enroll in German 1 in 8th grade. This course will count towards the student's high school G.P.A. and credit will be awarded on their high school transcript.

SPANISH I

0616501 Semester 1
0616502 Semester 2

This course is designed to introduce the student to the fundamentals of this language. Emphasis will be placed on acquisition of vocabulary and grammar through reading, writing, speaking and listening. The study of the people, culture, customs, and geography of Spanish speaking countries will be integrated throughout the course. To be eligible to enroll in the level 5 Advanced Placement Spanish class in 12th grade, students **MUST** enroll in Spanish 1 in 8th grade. This course will count towards the student's high school G.P.A. and credit will be awarded on their high school transcript.

SPECTRA (for those enrolled in gifted program)

0873001 Semester 1
0873002 Semester 2

This course is designed as an elective course for middle school students in the gifted program. Students further develop and refine communication, collaboration, creative thinking, and critical thinking. Students learn how the U.S. legal system works culminating in a mock trial. Students will study Psychology (the brain and human behavior) and advertising strategies present in the media. The course will also address those social and emotional needs that are common in gifted adolescents. After completing 8th grade, students are expected to be autonomous learners and take ownership in their education.

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ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES
(ESOL) PROGRAM**

The ESOL program at the middle school level supports English Learners (ELs) acquiring skills to communicate effectively in English in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and presenting. Students study curriculum-based content while focusing on English language learning. Students who qualify for ESOL services may receive ESOL instruction and support based on their needs. Students attend regular content area classes with their age-appropriate peers.

ESOL Support

This class is designed to help English Learners to improve their academic language skills. Students will receive direct instruction in the structures of writing, reading strategies, and vocabulary building, as well as their listening and speaking skills. The ESOL teacher collaborates with regular classroom teachers to also provide academic support and homework help for the English Learner to be successful while acquiring proficiency in English.

**MISSOURI COURSE ACCESS PROGRAM
(MOCAP)**

The Francis Howell School District participates in the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP). Because virtual instruction can be an effective education option for some students, there may be courses available either through a district-provided virtual option or through the Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP). More information about virtual courses can be found on our website at: <https://goo.gl/TmFoSu>. Students and their parent(s)/guardian(s) should meet with their counselor if interested in MOCAP courses.