

Freshman Elective Course Descriptions

Freshman Seminar - The Freshman Seminar course is a transition course for ninth grade students to prepare them for success in the Knox County High Schools. By design, the course provides new high school students with an orientation experience where they learn more about their interests and aptitudes; learn important study, life, and professional skills; and develop their knowledge about postsecondary pathways for college and careers. A portion of the course is customized around the career pathways students can access in high school. Through a blended learning experience, students will explore careers and gain a better understanding about them. They will also learn about the courses in the pathway that lead to the different careers. Freshman Seminar allows students dedicated time to focus on their future, understand what it takes to be successful in high school, post secondary education, and in the workforce.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & LIFETIME WELLNESS

PE – Learn a variety of individual and dual sports, team sports, outdoor, and fitness activities.

Lifetime Wellness - Lifetime Wellness is a one-unit course required for graduation. The goal of Lifetime Wellness is for students to learn a lifelong process of positive lifestyle management that seeks to integrate the emotional, social, intellectual, and physical dimensions of self for a longer, more productive and higher quality of life.

JROTC – Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps

JROTC – Develop leadership skills, help young people become better citizens, build confidence, develop lifetime wellness skills, and patriotism. Two semesters of JROTC will satisfy both the 'Lifetime Wellness' and 'Physical Education' graduation requirements.

FINE ARTS

Female Chorus – Learn about singing, create our own arrangements, and learn basic sight-reading and piano skills. We have a lot of fun.

Male Chorus – Learn how to be a musical team. We learn about being confident manly singers. We learn basic piano and sight-reading skills. We have a lot of fun too.

Vocal Music/Mixed Chorus – Sing, learn to sight read, learn to play a vocal part on piano, learn about music, and deepen our understanding of music's connection to language and history. We also have a lot of fun. *Prerequisite: Female or Male Chorus*

Musical Theater – This course offers students the opportunity to study and perform in this genre. This is a production-based course designed to provide students with opportunities to participate in the varied aspects of a musical theater production. The course combines practical vocal training including diction and tone quality as well as the development of students as actors by instilling work ethic, time management and the importance of teamwork. Students will study the evolution of musical theater and develop an appreciation for this uniquely American art form. *Audition is Required.*

Visual Art 1 - Take a four part approach to learning about visual art through art-making, art history, and art criticism. We work in a variety of mediums like painting, drawing, pastels, charcoal, clay, and others.

General Music – Listen to all types of music, create instruments from common household items, participate in class debates on controversial music topics. Types of music we include in class are Broadway music, rock, jazz, folk, classical, and other popular music.

Development of Rock & Roll – Study the historical and cultural relationships between the development of American culture and society and developments in folk, classical, jazz, and other genres of popular music since the Civil War.

Beginning Band - Beginning Band is designed to give students the opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument from one of the brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument families. The students will be exposed to all instruments from each family and through teacher guidance will be allowed to learn the instrument of their choice or the instrument for which the student is best suited. Students will learn the basic elements of music as well as the proper way to play

their musical instrument. *There is no prerequisite for this class. This class may be repeated.*

Marching Band (Fall Semester Band) – A performance-based class open for all 9th–12th grade students with instrumental music experience. All levels of musicians can be successful in this class. The first half of the semester is spent learning the marching show to be performed at football games as well as competitions. Students are expected to attend band camp as well as after school rehearsals that will last through October. After football season is over, students will participate in a concert band style practice. There will be no after school rehearsals after October. Students who participate in marching band will also receive a ½ credit of PE.

Concert Band (Spring Semester Band) – A performance-based class open for all 9th-12th grade students with instrumental experience. All woodwind, brass, and percussion students are accepted. All levels of musicians can be successful in this class. Students will spend the first half of the semester working on concert music and preparing for Concert Festival. The second half of the semester will be focused on preparing for a Spring Concert and Graduation performances. There are no after school rehearsals for this class.

Color Guard/Band Flag Corp – Audition required.

Participation in after school activities is required for Female Chorus, Male Chorus, Mixed Chorus, Theater Arts, Musical Theater, Marching Band, and Concert Band.

WORLD LANGUAGE & HUMANITIES

French 1 & 2 – Interested in acquiring knowledge of the French language and culture? Learn vocabulary, grammar, and translation skills while studying the historical and cultural values of France. (**must be in Hon English 1 & must select both French 1 & 2**)

French 2 – Further develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills and the study of French literature and culture. **Prerequisite: French 1 in 8th Grade**

Spanish 2 – Further develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills and the study of Spanish literature and culture. **Prerequisite: Spanish 1 in 8th Grade**