

Hauser Junior High School
2009-2010
8th Grade Encore Course Descriptions

World Language (year-long) – Elizabeth Morris, Lynn Janik, Katie Moroney

Spanish and French are offered at Hauser. Students will cover the equivalent of one year of high school world language during two years of study at the middle school level (both 7th and 8th grades). Registration is done one year at a time. If a student takes world language during 7th grade, he/she is not required to continue during 8th grade; however, students are expected to complete the year for which they are registered. As this is a two-year program, only students who have successfully completed 7th grade world language may continue in 8th grade. At the end of two years of middle school study, students may take a proficiency exam administered by the world language department at RBHS. Based on these test results, students may be placed in second year world language during their freshman year if they attend RBHS.

Students who take a world language at Hauser will be enrolled in a trimester reading class. Those who do not elect to study a world language will be registered for a year-long reading class. Students who would benefit from intensive reading instruction are advised to defer world language instruction until high school.

TRIMESTER ENCORE COURSES

Animal Science, Invertebrate Studies – Jodi Bauer

In this section of Animal Science, students will focus on studying the groups of animals that lack a backbone. Major areas of focus will be on the increasing complexity of the animals as we move from the most basic (sponges) to the most complicated (echinodermata). Students will view, handle, and dissect animals from these vastly different groups. Another part of Animal Science will be learning proper care techniques for the live animals in our classroom.

Animal Science, Vertebrate Studies – Jodi Bauer

In this section of Animal Science, students will focus on studying the groups of animals that possess a backbone. Major areas of focus will be on the differences in body structures and body systems. Students will explore animals from these groups by viewing live and preserved specimens, dissection, and models. While exploring these differences, students will learn proper care techniques for the live animals in our classroom.

Consumer Education – Harry Kannry

Today's consumers must be informed. Students will learn how to apply basic economic principles to spending decisions. Units in this course will explore making decisions, making money, banking services, economics and facts of Illinois, buying and leasing a car, and advertising and marketing techniques. The course will conclude with a simulation in economic survival.

Dance Techniques – Laura Lynch

Do you like to dance? Whether experienced or not, you can learn to move! Students will explore dance styles, technique, and history in a group setting.

Digital Mania – TBD

Join this class to explore all types of digital media. We will work with digital images, video, and sound. Build podcasts in GarageBand using your own sound recordings. Edit your sound and add sound effects and music. We will also experiment with still and video cameras to create our own video and still image libraries for use in projects.

Drama – Dave Mason

Students will be introduced to the history, acting techniques, and literature of some of the greatest plays ever written. Starting with the ancient Greeks, students will read and discuss the elements of plot set forth by Aristotle thousands of years ago and how plot and character still follow Aristotle's ideas. Emphasis will be placed on the plays of William Shakespeare, but the majority of the class will be spent in the memorization and presentation of scenes from modern plays and the learning of the techniques that support good acting. Students who took this course in 7th grade may *not* repeat it in 8th grade.

Hauser Media – Karina Koncius

This class will create, manage, edit, and publish the student newspaper, *Paw Prints*. Students will also produce video coverage of Hauser events. Having experienced the Hauser culture for two years, 8th grade students are uniquely qualified to document our important events in video and print formats. Students will be given the chance to leave their *Paw Print* on future Hauser classes.

Microsoft ® Office Suite Introduction – Harry Kannry

Students will explore Microsoft ® Office Suite. Modules will be offered in Word Basic, Excel, and PowerPoint. Interdisciplinary projects will align with multiple subject areas. This course will also include refresher work in keyboarding.

Music Composition and Technology – Laura Lynch

It's time to make some music! Students will learn composing and listening skills using software such as GarageBand, iMovie, iWeb, and Keynote. Join us in multi-media music-making.

Outdoor Leadership – TBD

Participate in adventure-based activities such as team building and group games! Organized experiential education will be done both indoors and outdoors. The purposes of Outdoor Leadership are for students to learn to work together, rely on each other, develop leadership skills, and communicate effectively.

Painting – Harjit Singh

Using different media (acrylics, watercolors, etc.), students will learn how to mix colors, create interesting compositions, and develop their own personal style of painting. If you love to paint and draw, this class will teach you how to turn your drawings into paintings.

Reading Workshop – Katie Moroney

Join Reading Workshop to develop critical thinking and comprehension abilities by discussing books with your peers. Students will learn and practice reading strategies in a setting that mirrors the authentic world of readers and writers.

Sculpture – Harjit Singh

For a three-dimensional approach to art, join sculpture class where you will work with plaster, clay, and newspaper. Explore contemporary and traditional techniques used in cultures around the world. This class will have an emphasis on ceramic hand building.

Vocal Techniques and Musical Theater Workshop – Laura Lynch

Singing, dancing, acting! This class will introduce students to solo and ensemble singing through a variety of music. Students will perform in vocal solos and duets along with group musical theater pieces. No experience necessary!

World Percussion – Brian Collins

Explore the world of drums and percussion. Students will have the opportunity to learn about world cultures and art forms through performance in African hand drum circles, Latin percussion, and Steel Drum Band.

Writing Workshop – Katie Moroney

Are you a creative writer? Are you interested in sharing your talents with other writers? Writing workshop will give you the opportunity to work on creative pieces of writing such as the short story and poetry. Using a workshop approach, students will aid each other in the writing process, including brainstorming, drafting, revising, and editing. By the end of the workshop, all students will have published pieces of their work in a variety of mediums.