



Concordia Junior High Elective Course Descriptions Fall 2017-2018

Period 1

Band - Mr. Peter Klemp (Period 1)

This course is the introductory course for full time ensemble playing. While continued emphasis is placed on the development of the individual player, a new focus is toward the growing ability toward ensemble playing. Balance, blend, intonation, and part independence are developed through performance of select pedagogical pieces. Instruction is also given in music theory and music literacy.

Orchestra - Mrs. Natalie Rehbein (Period 1)

This ensemble will allow students to use their musical talents to perform a wide variety of music for church services, concerts, and other events throughout the year. This course transitions students from mostly individual playing to more complex ensemble pieces. Focuses include tone, tuning, independent playing and sight reading.

¡Hola! Intro to Spanish - Mrs. Jen Abbott (Period 1 and 2)

Bienvenidos (welcome) to introductory Spanish! In this class, students will learn the basics including seasons, colors, and numbers, to prepare them for high school Spanish. We'll learn and practice vocabulary, beginning conversational phrases as well as study the cultures of Spanish speaking countries.

Graphic Design 1 - Ms. Alex Winters (Period 1)

This class will be an opportunity to dive into the basics of graphics. We will be exploring tools in Photoshop, illustrator and a few other Adobe programs. We will also be looking at the process of graphic design in the art world.

Who wants to be a Billionaire? - Mr. Mark Mueller (Period 1)

The American dream. Getting rich. Having more money than we can spend. Success. All of these ideas are prevalent today as they were in the days gone by. Why do we have so many

wealthy individuals in our country? The one word answer is CAPITALISM. In this course we will look at wealthy men and women from the past to the present. Our search will go from John D. Rockefeller to Mark Zuckerberg, from Henry Ford to Oprah Winfrey, and from Sam Walton to Bill Gates. When we look at these people we will need to analyze which of the 3 I's did these people use to become wealthy. The 3 I's are investment, innovation, and invention, all major components in Capitalism. After looking at how these people made their billions, we will then take a look and see if they left a positive/negative influence on society. Also during this class, we will be running a Stock Market Game. All the members of the class will receive "virtual money" to invest in the stock market. Through participation in this game, students will learn how the stock market works.

For Your Leisure - Ms. Michaela Curran (Period 1)

In this class, students will engage in a variety of leisure activities. These activities will range from playing team-building games, to working on DIY crafts/projects, to researching vacation destinations, to having free reading time, and the list goes on and on! Students will play traditional games like kickball and ultimate frisbee, but will learn new games as well. Students will have the opportunity to research active games to play, then teach this game to the class! Finally, each semester, students will lead a service project for a group or organization within the community.

Newspaper - Ms. Erin Cernik (Period 1)

What is news? What makes something newsworthy? How do I share it?

These are all questions that will be answered in the newspaper elective! Choose this elective and you will learn the ins and outs of newspaper writing, research what's going on in the world, and on a smaller scale, at Concordia, and share the latest and greatest with your peers! You will be given the chance to share your journalistic talent in a variety of formats – through social media, weekly broadcast videos shown during chapel, and a weekly newspaper printed *by* the Jr. High *for* the Jr. High. Finally, you will have the opportunity to have your questions answered by a real reporter working in the field, and work on a variety of other news related projects, such as current events, comic strips, and movie reviews.

Period 2

¡Hola! Intro to Spanish - Mrs. Jen Abbott (Period 1 and 2)

Bienvenidos (welcome) to introductory Spanish! In this class, students will learn the basics including seasons, colors, and numbers, to prepare them for high school Spanish. We'll learn and practice vocabulary, beginning conversational phrases as well as study the cultures of Spanish speaking countries.

#lifeskillz- Mr. Andy Jipp (Period 2)

The Life Skills class is designed to prepare junior high students for the daily responsibilities they face as they move through their teenage years. Learning life skills is an ongoing challenge, one

that brings new opportunities every day. Making wise, Christian-like decisions at this age is very important. Through the wide array of topics and the engaging discussions, this class will help students achieve their personal best in their personal life, handling relationships, goal setting and decision making. Other topics covered include: digital citizenship, bullying and knitting as well as nutrition, money management and careers!

The Wild, Wild West - Mr. Mark Mueller (Period 2)

From the time of its purchase in 1803, to the present fracking of oil in North Dakota, the West has been the land of promise. This course will take a look at the promise of the West over a 100-year time span. We will look at the exploration of the West, a feat of great significance because nobody really had a map of the area. Up to this point in time, all people had heard were tall tales of Woolly Mammoths, and Peruvian Llamas roaming about on the 820,000 square mile piece of property, called Louisiana. We will look at the Native Americans and their clash of cultures with the white settlers. We will see people coming to the West for religious freedom, to escape hard times in Europe, to restart their lives after the Civil War, and to get rich on gold and silver. There were cowboys, gunslingers, lawmen, and criminals found in the West, all trying to make their mark in history. There would be a railroad that would link the east to the west and forever make our country more united. This "Great Desert" as it was known will become one of the country's greatest treasures. This treasure will produce enough food products to feed our country and many other countries in the world.

3D Art - Ms. Alex Winters (Period 2)

This class will be a great way to explore several mediums including ceramics, paper mache, wire sculpture and so much more! We will be constantly using our creativity to problem solve and learn from different artists of all different cultures. Throughout the semester, this class will take a journey through the world of three dimensional art.

Mathletes Plus- Mrs. Joan Murray (Period 2)

Love to solve puzzles and problems? Love to play games? Ever dream of being an Olympian? This is your chance! This class will combine puzzle and problem solving, game playing and instruction to train you to become a Mathlete. This year we will be training for Math Olympiad contests. When you are not training for the competitions, you will be learning about mathematical topics such as Pascal's Triangle, The Golden Rectangle, Magic Squares, Platonic Solids and the Pigeonhole Principle. You will also learn to play games like Chess, Checkers, Battleship, Pente, Mastermind, Backgammon, Cribbage and various other card games.

Outrageous Acts of Science - Mr. Keaton Sturm (Period 2)

From social media into the classroom, we are surrounded by awesome science every single day. This class is set up to explore some of the many science demos, experiments, labs, and DIY's that catch our attention on social media that you should try at school!

Cook Well-Live Better - Mr. Tim Vogel (Period 2)

This class will involve student cooking, exploring healthy food choices, and discovering different cultures through food. Students will explore: where their food comes from, how to safely prepare food, how to read food labels, and how to make healthy food choices. Students will prepare snacks, appetizers, and meals with help from peers. Students will participate in a food lab project. During this project students will research foods from a foreign country and create recipes to share with the class!

Choir - Mrs. Natalie Rehbein (Period 2)

Choir focuses on the development of the vocal instrument through performance of choral music. Special emphasis is placed on the introduction of sight singing and ear training exercises, and the group will perform several times throughout the year.