

Ball Junior High 8th Grade Elective Course Descriptions 2019-2020

Red = Updates

0110-Art 1: year-long course

In this year-long class you will learn how to draw and paint and improve your art skills. You will create, learn about different types of art, and build sculptures. If you love art, or are interested in learning how to be a better artist, this is the class for you.

0120*- Art 2 (Prerequisite: Grade of "C" or better in Art 1, or Ms. Leon's signature of approval): year-long course

This class is a year-long advanced art class. You will draw, paint and learn advanced art skills, develop your own art style and learn how to use a variety of art materials. If you want to spend part of your day learning, making art, and having fun, this is the class for you.

4100-Band 1: year-long course

Learning to play an instrument is not only fun, but can help you get better at reading and math. In band there will be opportunities to participate in concerts and field trips. After being introduced to all the band instruments, students will choose one and learn to play. No experience is necessary and there are a limited number of school-owned instruments available to students at little or no cost. Students who want to excel, should take this in 7th grade. Don't wait until 8th grade.

4110*-Intermediate Band 2 (Mr. Kraus's signature of approval): year-long course

This course is for students with experience playing a band instrument and who would like to continue their musical studies at school. There will be opportunities to perform in concerts and go on field trips.

4120*-Advanced Band 3 (Mr. Kraus's signature of approval): year-long course

This course is for band students who have shown outstanding progress and want to continue to develop their musical skills to the best of their ability. Our Award winning Advanced Band is a fine ensemble and will have opportunities to perform in the community, take field trips, and perform at Disneyland.

4130*-Jazz Ensemble (Mr. Kraus's signature of approval): year-long course

This course is for band students who have shown outstanding progress and want to develop their musical skills to the best of their ability. Our Award winning Jazz Band is a fine ensemble. There will be opportunities for field trips and performances at local elementary schools and jazz festivals.

4010-Beginning Choir 1: year-long course

Students will be instructed in basic musicianship and fundamental vocal techniques using introductory singing materials. No prior experience in singing is required, but enthusiasm and willingness to try new things is encouraged. Students can explore music together in a group setting, singing some music that they may know and some music and techniques that they are learning for the first time. Students will sing both unison music and music with simple harmonies. This is a performing group, and as such, attendance at all rehearsals and performances are required.

4020*-Intermediate Choir 2 (Mrs. Welling's signature of approval): year-long course

This is the second level of choir and students are required to pass a simple audition to participate. No prior experience is necessary, although it is helpful, but enthusiasm and willingness to try new things is encouraged. Students almost always sing music with harmonies. This is a performing group, and as such, attendance at all rehearsals and performances are required. Students will also be expected to be positive representatives of choir and Ball Junior High at school performances.

4030*-Advanced Choir 3 (Mrs. Welling's signature of approval): year-long course

This is the highest level of choir at Ball Junior High and students are required to pass a more complex audition to participate, including pitch matching and reading music. Prior experience singing is highly recommended. Students always sing music with either three or four-part harmonies. This is a performing group which includes boys and girls singing together, and as attendance at all rehearsals and performances are required. This group has the largest number of performances of all the choirs on campus. Students will be expected to be positive representatives of choir, Ball Junior High, and the AUHSD in school and community performances.

1420-Drama 1: year-long course

In this class you will learn to play many improvisation games that will help you become a better speaker and presenter. If you are shy, don't worry! No experience needed! We will work together to help you become more confident and comfortable speaking to a group of people! Students will also participate in Theatre productions and perform in an assembly!

0808*-Computer Science Discoveries (Prerequisite: "C" or better in Business Technology or Mr. Mundi's signature of approval): year-long course



This CODE.ORG created class will teach you about APP development, Webpage design with html, and Video Game creation. If you want to learn how to be a great coder and want to make your own APP, this is the class for you. Successfully completing this class allows you to take AP Computer Science at Loara in the 9th grade!

1415*-Memory Book: year-long course (Mr. Mundi's signature of approval)

In this class, students will prepare and produce the school yearbook. Students learn to budget expenses, plan the book, create the layouts and artwork, and take photographs.

1041-Home Economics: year-long course

The culinary elective provides real-world experience and opportunities to learn in our kitchens. Join us if you have an interest in creating the best smoothie, enjoy working with mystery ingredients that can challenge your creativity, and want to develop the skills to become the next master junior chef. Our design component will be involved in developing your own logo and designing and implementing a theme for a food truck.

1425*- Drama 2 (Ms. Montgomery's signature of approval): year-long course

Those of you who have theatre experience, come and learn more about acting, directing, staging, and design. This class will work together to create performances for assemblies and at lunch. You will have the opportunity to attend Theatre festivals and participate in productions!

4600-MESA ^{does not need} (Mrs. Hoos' signature of approval): year-long course



MESA is a year-long, project-based class designed to push the limits of your thinking and help you practice attention to detail, patience, and perseverance. Be prepared to work with a team to think, try, fail, try again, and overcome challenges like true engineers. This class promotes and empowers students to engage in creative thinking to solve real problems faced by civil, mechanical, aeronautical, and computer engineers. If you enjoy a challenge and competition, then MESA is the class for you. Scan the code to see some of our projects!

3020-Essentials of Technology (Mrs. Hoos' signature of approval): year-long course

Laser Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship: This course explores phases of industrial technology: from idea, to CAD drawing to manufacturing, marketing and selling. Drafting skills, safety, hand tool and machine use will be reviewed and developed. Materials used will include wood, glass, plastics and leather. Students will gain an overview of running a small business, developing skills that will help them make informed decisions as a consumer and possibly lead to career pathways in design, engineering, manufacturing and/or entrepreneurship.

2165-Spanish 1P (for non-Spanish speakers): year-long course

Students will develop proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and understanding the Spanish language and its related cultures at the appropriate levels. Participation is required in all classroom activities as well as individual work outside of class. All course work is aligned with the California Content Standards Framework for Foreign Languages, English Arts Standards and Common Core.

2167-Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1P: year-long course

This class is for students who already speak the Spanish language. A major emphasis will be placed on Spanish literacy. Students will experience extensive study in reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. This class counts toward one year of the college/university requirement for foreign language and will also help the student to work toward the "Seal of Bi-literacy" for the AUHSD.

2172*-Spanish for Spanish Speakers 2P (Prerequisite: "C" or better in Spanish 1 for Spanish Speakers): year-long course

In this course there will be an emphasis on reading comprehension and improving writing ability. Students will build on their language skills and cultural awareness using different forms of literary expression from the Spanish-speaking world. Extensive listening and speaking practice in Spanish, and systematic contact with Latin culture. Emphasis on vocabulary, pronunciation, intonation, and comprehension. Students will build up skills developed in Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1P.

or Mrs. Flores-Smith's signature of approval

4629-AVID 8: year-long course

AVID is designed to encourage organization and good study habits. These skills will enable AVID students to perform at a higher level and they will have a smoother transition into higher education. We take field trips several times a year. If you are looking to boost your academic skills while having fun, AVID is the class for you!

Prerequisite for aide course: Parent, Teacher, Student signed curriculum letter, required GPA, and satisfactory attendance, effort, and citizenship. You may only have one aide course in your schedule.

4930*-Teacher's Aide (Requires minimum 2.0 TGPA from 7th grade): year-long course

4935*-Office Aide (Requires minimum 2.0 TGPA from 7th grade): year-long course

4945*-Library Aide (Requires minimum 2.0 TGPA from 7th grade): year-long course

4940*-Campus Aide (Requires minimum 2.0 TGPA from 7th grade): year-long course

ADDITIONAL COURSE REQUIRING AN APPLICATION / INTERVIEW:

4660-Student Government/ASB (Mr. Rodriguez's signature of approval): year-long course

Students will engage in the development of their leadership skills by participating in the planning and execution of various on campus activities, which include: dances, lunch activities, food drives, appreciation weeks, and more. If you are interested in learning how to lead and impact the campus in the most positive ways, then this is for you!