

# Springville Junior High

## 8th Grade Class Descriptions

### Required Classes

#### **English 8 (40803-4J)**

Full Year/ 1.0 Language Arts Credit

Focuses on effective reading, writing, and communication skills. Students will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts as a class, in groups, and individually. Students will produce a variety of writing projects including argument, informational, and narrative essays, as well as creative projects.

#### **Math 8 (51333J-4J)**

Full Year/1.0 Mathematics Credit

Students will focus on formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

#### **OR Secondary Math 1 Honors (52313J-4J)**

Full Year/1.0 Mathematics Credit

Students in Secondary Mathematics I will deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomenon, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students will use properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge. Algebraic and geometric ideas are tied together. Students will experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

#### **Integrated Science (32423J-4J)**

Full Year/1.0 Science Credit, \$5 Fee Required

This is a foundation course which emphasizes the broad perspective of science rather than the specific, theoretical details. The topics covered in this class will include: chemical and physical change, food webs, photosynthesis and respiration, force, motion, energy and rocks and minerals.

#### **U.S. History (61203J-4J)**

Full Year/1.0 Social Studies Credit

United States History I includes events and issues in United States history from the Age of Exploration through Reconstruction, emphasizing the 18th and 19th centuries. Topics include, but are not limited to, American Indian life, European exploration and colonization, the Revolutionary War, constitutional issues, nation building, expansion, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. The standards can be taught either chronologically or thematically, but are organized into chronological periods. Periodization is an organizational tool historians use to make connections and draw distinctions. Periods are flexible ways of making meaning, and may overlap chronologically. Students will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of each period's key historic, geographic, economic, and civic concepts by applying those concepts to complete cognitively rigorous tasks. Whenever possible, students will be expected to make connections between historically significant events and current issues, helping to deepen their understanding of the context and complexity of civic life and preparing them for civic engagement.

**Health 8 (71012J)**

Semester/.5 Health Credit

In this course, students will gain knowledge and skills necessary for making healthy lifestyle choices. Major topics include mental and emotional health, nutrition and fitness, substance abuse, safety, disease prevention, and human development.

**Physical Education (77272J)**

Semester/.5 Physical Education Credit

This course is an all-inclusive activity based class that allows students to experience a wide range of physical activities and skills. The class promotes lifelong fitness so students know how to participate in the designed activities as they get older. Activities and skills are designed to build confidence and enhance enjoyment for lifelong fitness and activity. Activities offered include, but are not limited to: weight lifting, aerobic activities, golf, disc golf, land paddling, badminton, pickleball, archery, and many other games and sports.

**Career and Technical Education Electives**  
**(Students must choose at least one CTE class)**

**Exploring Computer Science (87342J)**

Semester/.5 Career Technology Education Credit

Exploring Computer Science is designed to introduce students to the field of coding & computer science through an exploration of the modern computer, its applications, and uses. The course focuses on the conceptual ideas of computing and helps students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. Using an interactive development environment students will learn the building blocks to design, program, and publish games or applications.

**Exploring Technology (86302J)**

Semester/.5 Career Technology Education Credit

Exploring Technology is an action-based educational course that introduces students to the technological systems of many areas, such as: energy-power, information and communications, transportation, manufacturing, and construction. The curriculum is designed around exploration of these systems and their impacts on society. Students will also develop problem-solving skills, improve career awareness for the College and Career Readiness (CCR) development, and relate technology to math and science. Emphasis is placed on broad exploration in cooperative and individualized activities rather than project and skill development.

**Exploring Family & Consumer Science: Sewing (84712J)**

Semester/.5 Career Technology Education Credit, \$10 Fee Required

This class is for the apparel design student in mind. Each student will be introduced to basic sewing construction preparation, sewing vocabulary and technique with various types of sewing equipment. This class offers a variety of projects including a designer pillowcase and accessory bag, nylon gym or travel bag, reversible chef apron, pajama pants and DIY mystery project of your choosing. You will be able to participate in a short unit in Color and Interior Design and Designer Day. No previous experience is needed.

**Exploring Family & Consumer Science: Foods (84722J)**

Semester/.5 Career Technology Education Credit, \$10 Fee Required

This class is designed for students who are in the beginning stages of understanding nutrition and food preparation. Throughout this class students will learn and apply basic principles of food and kitchen safety, personal wellness, and food preparation.

**Exploring Agriculture (81162J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

Ever wondered how we get the food and clothes that we use every day? This course is designed to give you an introduction to agriculture, personal and leadership development, and teach you about the animal science, food science, plant science and natural resource science industries. A variety of hands-on lessons will give you the opportunity to dig in and explore these areas!

**Other Elective Classes****Art Foundations 1A (11912J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$10 Fee Required

This is an introductory course to the elements and principles, (the tools for making art). Students will have the opportunity to explore the basics in a variety of mediums and have hands- on creative experiences individually and collaboratively to foster appreciation, creative thinking and problem solving skills. **This class is a prerequisite for all other art classes.**

**Art Foundations 1B (11914J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$10 Fee Required

This is an optional extension following Art Foundations 1A, designed for beginning students who have taken Art Foundations 1A, and want to continue taking art. New mediums, projects, and experiences will better prepare students who enjoy art making, and plan to take Drawing, and/or Sculpture.

**Sculpture/3D-Design (11402J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$10 Fee Required

This studio class encourages experimentation with sculpture through various sculpting mediums. Basic and advanced sculpting techniques will be taught along with creative processes used when rendering a 3D sculpture from start to finish. Form, composition, and proper use of tools and materials will be incorporated into the class. Students taking the course are expected to have experience in basic drawing and mark making skills.

**Drawing (10552J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$10 Fee Required

This is an advanced art course designed to teach students good drawing habits and practices. Students will learn how to follow various art processes when planning and creating designs. Each student will also learn how to build an art portfolio and learn how to create an artistic piece from start to finish while documenting their process. Students are expected to have already achieved an intermediate level of drawing and passed Art Foundations 1A to participate in this class since many projects will be self guided. This class is geared towards preparing students for more advanced high school and college courses.

**Drama 2 (19602J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$10 Fee Required

This is a performance based class. We build on your skills in voice, movement, and creating a character. We focus on musical theatre, improving auditions, performing scenes and monologues, theatre history, stage combat, realistic and natural acting, and performing a one act play. We conclude all drama classes with an after school performance for the parents. *If you have taken Drama 1 it will help you during this class, but it is not required.*

**Tech Theater (19402J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$10 Fee Required

In Tech Theater we learn to design and run the technical performance of a theater production. We communicate ideas, moods, and feelings through technical theater methods. These methods include stage management, set design, lighting design, sound effects, scene painting, property management, costume design, and technical abilities to support these functions. A lot of this class is designing, building, and running the theater productions in the school.

**Tech Theater 2 (19462J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$10 Fee Required

In Tech Theater 2 we focus on in-depth projects for aspects of technical performance of a theater production. The aspects you choose from for your projects include stage management, set design, lighting design, sound effects, scene painting, property management, costume design, and technical abilities to support these functions above. A lot of this class is designing, building, and running the theater productions in the school.

**Women's Chorus/Chorus 2 (18722-0J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit or Full Year/1.0 Fine Arts Credit, \$20 or \$35 Fee Required

This class is open to all 8th & 9th grade girls. No audition is required. The class will focus on building strong musicianship, vocal and sight-singing skills. Students will sing in two and three-part vocal harmony as well as learn healthy singing habits. Members will perform often in concerts and festivals. A choir uniform is required.

**Men's Chorus (18762J)**

Semester/.5 Fine Arts Credit, \$20 Fee Required

This class is open to all 8th & 9th grade boys. No audition is required. The class will focus on building strong musicianship, vocal and sight-singing skills. Students will sing in two and three-part vocal harmony as well as learn healthy singing habits. Members will perform often in concerts and festivals. A choir uniform is required.

**Master Singers/Chorus 3 (18730J)**

Full Year/1.0 Fine Arts Credit, \$35 Fee Required, Audition Required

This class will focus on creating outstanding performances. The choir sings in four-part harmony. Students will continue to learn healthy singing habits, sight singing skills, and basic music notation skills. The choir will represent Springville Jr. High in festivals, concerts and performances throughout the year. A choir uniform is required.

**Band 2 (16740J)**

Full Year/1.0 Fine Arts Credit, \$20 Fee Required, Instrument Rental Fee (if applicable): \$100/year

Prerequisite: Prior Band Experience or Teacher Approval

All students who have had a successful band experience in the previous year may enroll. All students must demonstrate the citizenship skills necessary to belong to an exemplary musical group. Emphasis is placed upon developing playing skills and increasing musicianship.

**Orchestra 2 (17720J)**

Full Year/1.0 Fine Arts Credit, \$20 Fee Required, Instrument Rental Fee (if applicable): \$100/year

Prerequisite: Prior Orchestra Experience or Teacher Approval

This course expands musicianship skills on a stringed instrument through the third and fourth year of development. Emphasis will be placed on tone production, intonation, rhythm, technique, and musical interpretation and expression. There is a fee for students renting a school viola, cello, or bass.

**Spanish 1 (49003-4J)**

Full Year/1.0 Foreign Language Credit

This beginning class emphasizes language acquisition through the use of comprehensible input. Proficiency is the goal. All four modalities will be used. Students will listen, read, write, and speak Spanish in class and are encouraged to practice outside of class. Students will use stories, songs, film, articles, art, legends, and history (all in Spanish) throughout the year to aid in their quest to become proficient in Spanish.

**Spanish for Native Speakers (49473J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

This class is designed for students who speak Spanish as their first language and wish to improve their literacy skills in Spanish. The class will enable students to develop, maintain, and enhance proficiency in Spanish by providing them the opportunity to listen, speak, read and write in a variety of contexts. The course will also allow students to explore the cultures of the Hispanic world.

**Spanish 4 DLI Honors (49443-4J)****Chinese 4 DLI Honors (49763-4J)**

Full Year/1.0 Credit, \$25 Fee Required

This course continues the development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Narratives and dialogues are used to teach structure and vocabulary. Culture and geography of the native country are taught through reading selections. Required literacy course for dual immersion students only.

**DLI Spanish Culture and Media (49492/3-4J)****DLI Chinese Culture and Media (49782/3-4J)**

Semester or Full-Year Elective Credit

This course builds skills in cultural-linguistic competencies necessary for successful communication with native speakers (reading, writing, speaking and listening). Students utilize media and authentic texts to discuss the diverse cultural products, practices and perspectives of the Spanish or Chinese-speaking world. The Culture and Media class is composed of four modules taught in the four semesters of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. They are independent of each other and do not need to be taken in sequence. For dual immersion students only.

**Creative Writing (42102J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

This class is for those who enjoy writing stories, poems, children's books, and writing in multiple genres. It is a writer's workshop format with plenty of time for creating, collaborating, sharing, and publishing. Grading is based on participation, genre and grammar conventions, and writing completion.

**Reading for Enjoyment (44502J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

This class is for students who love reading, want more time to read independently, or have the hope of renewing their love of books. This is not a remedial or reading skills class; however, it is a class where students get to interact and process the texts they are reading through a variety of engaging activities. Students are encouraged to read from differing genres and will have the opportunity to share and discuss these books with other students. The intention of this class is to get students to talk about books (and everything about them), which gives students the opportunity to add good reads to their reading list.

**Film Studies (11682J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

This class is for students who enjoy stories, whether they are reading or watching movies. This course is divided into three units: film elements, the Hero's Journey, and adaptation. Students will learn the basic elements of film, and analyze the choices made by directors, screen writers, and actors in the film making process. Assignments include: pitching ideas for movie adaptations, writing movie reviews, and analyzing movies.

**Speech (19862J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

This hands-on class will empower students as they learn the lifelong skill of communicating wisely and effectively for different purposes and settings. Students will enjoy participating in a variety of creative exercises and problem-solving activities meant to strengthen their communication skills and gain confidence for gathering information and presenting. Students will prepare and, after plenty of practice, deliver various types of speeches, such as debates, character sketches, and oral readings, in a positive environment focused on improvement.

**PE Exploration (77172J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit

This course is a continuation of regular PE. Students are given additional opportunities to experience a variety of games and sports and discover enjoyable activities to build confidence and enhance lifelong fitness.

**Peer Tutor (05002J)**

Semester/.5 Elective Credit, Application Required

This course is designed for junior high school students to assist students in the special education program. It is a unique learning experience in which peer tutors will have daily opportunities to develop positive attitudes and relationships with students with disabilities. Peer tutors will tutor students with disabilities in academics, personal management, money, job skills, social skills, behavior, and other life skills. Peer tutors will be positive role models, and advocates for each student in the special education program. This is an extraordinary opportunity for the peer tutors and for the special education students they will be working with.

**Latinos in Action (05013-4J)**

Full Year/1.0 Elective Credit, Application Required

In this class, bilingual students help tutor elementary school children in reading and writing. Students teach academic skills, and model responsibility, caring, self-discipline, and hard work. As part of the class, students will receive training in leadership, teaching methods, mentoring, job skills, and college preparation.

**Yearbook (45500J)**

Full Year/1.0 Elective Credit, Application Required

Want to take your Instagramming to the next level? This year-long course is designed to develop skills in recording memories as students produce the yearbook, write articles for the school website, and produce posts for the school's social media. Students research happenings in our school by interviewing other students, faculty, and staff, taking pictures, and sharing those findings through publication. Students with an interest or ability in computer skills, creative writing, journalism, photography, art, or layout design are encouraged to select this elective. Students should have good organizational skills, be reliable, able to work in groups, take direction, and have the ability to work independently. An application is required.