

Lakeland Regional High School Freshmen Electives



- **Art I-** This course is truly for the beginner. This hands-on course introduces the students to a variety of tools, materials, and methods used in creative artwork. The elements of design are taught as students explore contemporary and traditional artists and how their work has impacted our lives and culture. Cultural perspectives will be explored and critiqued through lectures, exciting project work, multimedia experiences and field trips.
- **Band-**The Lancer Band is open to all students possessing skills on woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments. Students in Band study and perform music emphasizing the development of technical ability, characteristic tonality, and knowledge of phrasing. Band members may audition for Area, Region, and All State ensembles. This course meets during the school day. Students must participate in all scheduled concerts, festivals, competitions, ceremonies, parades and field performances as members of the Lakeland Marching and Concert Band. These required activities are an integral part of the total Band experience. Attendance is also required at Tuesday evening rehearsals and additional rehearsals as the Band Director deems necessary. Students may also participate in smaller ensembles offered each year. Upon graduation, students are prepared for membership in college level ensembles and community bands.
- **Ceramics & Sculpture-**Technique, form and content provide the basis for an introduction to ceramics and sculpture. Students of varying ability are encouraged to explore their own style. This course begins with clay hand building and wheel throwing techniques and moves on to clay modeling, casting, paper, plaster and wood sculpting. Students will learn the principles that go into sculpting and modeling both functional and decorative objects based upon art history. A mature approach to materials and tools is required for this course.
- **Classical Mythology-** This course is designed for students who wish to increase their knowledge of Classical mythology and its influence on Western culture. Students will explore the origins of the 12 Olympians as well as the lesser-known deities of the Greco-Roman world through the study of myths, tales of metamorphosis, and excerpts from the Iliad, Odyssey, and Aeneid, in order to learn how the Greeks and Romans saw their world. Students will also recognize the tremendous influence that Classical mythology has had on the Western world via exploration of art, literature, and cultural references. Knowledge of Latin or Greek is not required.
- **Concert Chorus-**The Concert Chorus, a vocal training ensemble allows for proficiency in the study and performance of standard choral literature from folk and popular songs to major choral works and Broadway show tunes. Concert Chorus is open to all students without audition. The course covers basic theory, harmony, sight-singing, vocal techniques, ear-training, and tone production. The Concert Chorus performs on three occasions during the school year: the Holiday Festival of Music (December); Winter Festival of Music (February); and the Annual Spring Chorus Concert (May). Performances are viewed as unique, culminating experiences, and are used as an assessment. Worksheets, tests, and vocal tapes are used to assess and evaluate student progress. Opportunities to participate in Region and All-State Choruses are available for accomplished students. An audition for the Lakeland Chorale and Chamber Singers is contingent upon current enrollment in the Concert Chorus class or two years prior enrollment.

- **Creative Writing I**-This course is designed for those students who are interested in language as a means of creative expression. Through the study of literary techniques and models, students will explore various forms of prose and poetry. In this writing workshop, students will be encouraged to develop an authentic voice as they experiment with a variety of narrative, dramatic and poetic forms. The only prerequisite is a desire to write.
- **Drafting & Design Technology**- This is an introduction to drafting and design. If you are interested in design, engineering, science, illustration or any field that requires you to be able to plan and communicate your ideas graphically, then this is the course for you. We'll teach you not only to draw the plans for items to be manufactured or constructed, but how to read machine drawings and blueprints and use computer assisted drafting systems. Problem-solving activities involving the application of conventional sketching, mechanical and CADD drawing will also be included.
- **Exploring Music**-This non-performance course is open to all students and will cover aspects of music theory, music history, and music in the theatre and cinema. Students will gain knowledge in reading rhythms, construction of scales, and basic elements of music. Students will also learn to identify eras of music and their composers.
- **Fashion Illustration and Design** – This introductory art course will teach students basic drawing techniques unique to the fashion industry. In addition students will develop the ability to communicate design ideas in a fashion sketch through garment details, silhouettes, and basic color theory. Students will study styles and trends, create style boards, and produce a collection of fashion designs. The history of fashion and its connection to current designers as well as the real life application of fashion as a career will be explored. Prior drawing experience is not necessary.
- **Foods & Nutrition**-This course will provide the students with the skills necessary to prepare healthy, nutritious meals & snacks while maintaining kitchen safety & sanitation standards. Basic cooking techniques, food science principles and nutrition are emphasized. Creativity, healthy choices and personal nutrition are encouraged in “hands-on lab” activities. Home/ family cooking, food history and career awareness are also explored in this course.
- **Graphic Novels**- In addition to developing an understanding of the elements of traditional text-based forms of literature such as point-of-view, narrative, characterization, conflict, setting, tone, and theme, this course will teach students how to blend additional complex visual components. Students interested in the literature of the course or the art aspect should consider taking it. The class will examine popular works as well as comic books.
- **Introduction to Business**- Introduction to Business will introduce students to the world of business and help prepare them for their economic roles of consumer, worker, and citizen. This course will serve as a background for understanding the private enterprise system, assist with consumer decision making, preparation for future employment, and help them to effectively perform their responsibilities as citizens. In addition, students will complete several projects which will allow application of the concepts they have learned in the course. All students enrolled in the course are eligible for participation in the Distributive Education Clubs of America.
- **Introduction to Humanities**- This course will introduce students to the development of language, literature, music, and technology within a historical framework. The course will follow a timeline

of human achievement, demonstrating the influence of cultural achievements on succeeding societal and linguistic developments. The Greco-Roman classical traditions inherited by the Western World will be emphasized. Any student interested in the University Program in Global Humanities must take this class as a required course.

- **Introduction to Technology**-Introduction to Technology will emphasize the design and problem solving process, the evolution of technology, and a systems approach to understanding technology. The areas of communications, manufacturing, and technical drawing will be explored through the application of problem solving activities (Technology Learning Activities) which will engage students in first-hand experiences with technology. Students will learn the impacts of technology on the individual and society.
- **Journalism I**-Journalism 1 allows students to develop creative talents in the area of journalistic writing through printed and electronic publications, and to explore careers in the field of journalism. In conjunction with production of The Lancer Ledger, students learn news writing and news gathering, editing, proofreading, interviewing, writing for web media, photography, and layout and design. Basic composition skills are required, and students will work on developing skills in all journalistic writing styles: editorial, feature, news and sports. Computer skills are developed as students learn to work professionally with industry standard design software for layout and graphics.
- **Keyboarding and Computer Essentials**-This course will provide proficiency in various software programs with an emphasis on information technology applications. Included will be touch keying skills, composing and formatting various types of documents and advanced skills in the Microsoft Office 2007 Suite. The goal is to provide hands-on training for students in the use of the computer as an effective tool in accessing, analyzing, organizing and retrieving information quickly and efficiently through real-life problem-solving activities.
- **Movement & Wellness Studies** – In this course students will be introduced to a broad array of topics within movement science and wellness studies. Though an introductory review of body systems and physiological concepts, students will gain an understanding and appreciation for the processes of the relationship between physical health and emotional wellness. Scientific studies, academic articles, and guest speakers will accompany these practices, to deepen the understanding of the connection between health and academic achievement. Career options related to orthopedics, exercise science, physical therapists, sports psychologists, nutritionists, fitness, and wellness, will be reviewed and explored giving students an informed exposure to potential areas of future employment.
- **Multimedia Presentations**-Multimedia Presentations will provide integration of text, sound, graphics, animations, and moving video to create knowledgeable and impressive presentations. Through extensive exploration in multimedia applications, students will learn to make informative and stimulating presentations. Students will develop the necessary skills and tools that can be applied to making successful presentations for the business world and college. Students will work with a variety of multimedia programs including: Adobe Premiere, Adobe Photoshop, PowerPoint, FrontPage and video and sound capture programs.

- **Music Technology**-This course is designed to acquaint students with various forms, styles, and techniques of the electronic music and recording industry. The course serves as an introductory hands-on lab experience, in which students learn through the use of Macintosh computers how to compose, sequence, and notate music. Students are instructed in the first half of the year on piano keyboard and given an introduction to MIDI, analog recording and editing, and electronic music vocabulary and history. Students are introduced, in the second half of the year, to advanced music sequencing and notation as well as introduction to psycho-acoustics, recording theory and practice, digital editing, Overture (notation software) and Studio Vision (digital sequencing).
- **Plays & Playwrights**-This elective course will provide a basic introduction to the varied aspects of plays, playwrights, and the art of drama. Students will study a brief history of the development of the dramatic form with a focus on major playwrights and innovations. Using Shakespeare's work as a bridge between play analysis and performance, students will experiment with a variety of dramatic forms, write scripts and perform their original work. This course is valuable for any student interested in gaining practice and a better understanding of communication techniques and/or the elements of dramatic literature.
- **Piano Lab**-This course is open to all students and requires no previous piano experience or musical background. Each student will be given an individualized program that will expand his/her musical development to a basic skill level determined after an initial interview. Music from all periods, including today's popular songs and rock, will be studied, and each student will learn to play a repertoire of music commensurate with his/her ability. Students will gain basic knowledge of music theory in key signatures, rhythm and chord progressions.
- **Print Media Production**- This course enables students to participate in the process of designing and producing a print media project- the school yearbook. The class will determine the theme, structure and flow of the yearbook and will edit layouts for continuity. Associated topics addressed will also include business aspects related to fundraising and financing of the current yearbook production, as well as inventory management associated with the ordering and distribution of the yearbook. The students will gain a multifaceted perspective of yearbook production and will be able to participate in each of the functions during the process.
- **Science Research 1-3 (UPAL)** - The purpose of this research course is to provide critical opportunities for interested and/or gifted students to understand the components of modern scientific research. Through this course students will engage in a mentored experience in research in the scientific disciplines. These goals are achieved through a close examination of the scientific discovery and communication processes and by "hands-on" involvement in carefully guided basic and applied research projects. The scientific development and encouragement of young scientists in this course is promoted and fostered through direct and frequent interactions between teachers, science research professionals and other program participants. This is a multiple-year program and college credit may be earned by submitting a science research portfolio to the AP College Board for review after a second year of successful completion.
- **Science Fiction in Literature & Film** – Students in this course will study novels, short stories, speculative nonfiction, and films that express the themes and content of science fiction. Through a survey of science fiction and film, students will explore how authors and filmmakers use the themes, imagery, characters, and style of science fiction to speculate about humanity's relationship to the universe, technology, and future in order to comment on trends in

contemporary society. At stake are the answers to significant cultural, economic, and ethical problems that are characteristic of our 21st century society.

- **SCRATCH Programming-** SCRATCH programming is a novice-level computer science course designed to introduce students to mathematical logic and programming structure using SCRATCH. The course will begin with mathematical logic and progress into creating algorithms to solve problems. The course will conclude with a short overview of more sophisticated languages i.e. Python, C++, Java etc... The course content will cover pertinent programming topics including loops, nested blocks, variables, if-then statements, logical operators, strings, and lists. These topics are explored in a user-friendly manner, ideal for beginning programmers. The development of individualized and group programming projects holds a high priority for this course.
- **Theatre Arts I** – This course will introduce students to the performing art of theatre with a focus on different aspects of the actor’s craft. Topics addressed will include: voice and movement, script analysis, improvisation, development of acting technique, and how to approach dramatic texts from a performance standpoint. The course will focus on the development of acting skills through scene study and individual monologue preparation. This course will help students develop the self-confidence and skills needed for all forms of oral communication. No prior acting experience required.
- **Video Production/Media Communications-**This course deals with the fundamentals of video and media communications. This course will cover such areas as television writing, scripting, storyboarding, basic performing techniques, set design, and video production through equipment use, and post production digital editing. Students will utilize the TV studio as well as a computer lab for the creation of stories, scripts, storyboards, and graphics. In addition, students will have an opportunity to produce programming which may be included in a school news show.