

# **Early Light Academy**

## **8th Grade Course Catalog 2022-2023**

**.5 = one semester or half a year course**

**1.0 = a full-year course**

### **Social Sciences Requirement**

#### **U.S. History 8 (1.0)**

This course covers events and issues from the Age of Exploration through post-Civil War Reconstruction and the Westward movement, emphasizing the 18th and 19th centuries. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to exploration, colonization, the Revolutionary War, Constitutional issues, nation building, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Westward movement.

### **Language Arts Requirement**

#### **Language Arts 8 (Full Year)**

This course, based on the 8th Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for grade-level instruction reading comprehension, writing, methods of inquiry, and the processes, skills, and strategies for effective communication. The course will provide an opportunity for students to learn the differences and similarities between different forms of writing (argumentative, informational, narrative). Students will also be reading and analyzing a variety of texts from fiction to nonfiction.

#### **Language Arts 8 Honors (Full Year)**

*Prerequisite: Application required and available online*

This course, based on the 8th Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for students who qualify for more advanced instruction in reading comprehension, writing, methods of inquiry, and the processes, skills, and strategies for effective communication. The course will provide an opportunity for students to learn the differences and similarities between different forms of writing (argumentative, informational, narrative). Students will also be reading and analyzing a variety of texts from fiction to nonfiction.

### **Math Requirements (Full Year Math and Full Year Lab)**

## 8th Grade Mathematics (1.0)

In 8th Grade Mathematics, students will cover these topics:

- Real number operations (Exponents, roots and scientific notation)
- Manipulating and solving multi-step one variable equations
- Formulating bivariate data (meaning an equation with 2 variables) into a linear equation and solving linear equations/systems of linear equations.
- Using functions to describe quantitative relationships.
- Analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angles, similarity, and congruence.
- Understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.
- Finding the volume and surface area of cylinders, cones & spheres.
- Analyzing scatter plots and determine data distributions.

## 8th Grade Mathematics Honors (1.0)

*Prerequisite: Application required*

The Honors course covers all the material of the above faster which allows other topics to be covered (e.g., 3D graphing and graph theory, fair division and apportionment, sets, and voting theory).

## Secondary Math I (1.0)

*Prerequisite: 8th Grade Mathematics or placement test*

The fundamental purpose of Secondary Math I is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, organized into units, deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Secondary Math 1 uses properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. The final unit in the course ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

## Secondary Math I Honors (1.0)

*Prerequisite: 8th Grade Mathematics or placement test. Application required and available online.*

Secondary Math I Honors covers additional concepts in more depth than the Secondary Math I course.

### **8th Grade Math Lab (1.0)**

All Math 8 or Math 8 Honors students are assigned a Math Lab. The lab covers additional material and reinforces the concepts introduced in the Math 8 / Math 8 Honors classes.

### **Secondary Math I Lab (1.0)**

This is the companion class to the secondary math classes and allows students a deeper exploration of the curriculum. This class will run similarly to the secondary math classes as students will continue to work through Secondary Math I or II curriculum during this course.

## **Science Requirements (Full Year Science and Full Year Lab)**

### **Integrated Science 8 (1.0)**

The eighth grade science course focuses on science and engineering as a way to practice science in a classroom setting. It is a tour through many topics in science. We will explore how matter is arranged into either simple or complex substances. We emphasize how substances store and transfer energy, which can cause them to interact physically and chemically, provide energy to living organisms, or be harnessed and used by humans. We take a look at how matter and energy cycle and change in ecosystems through processes that occur during photosynthesis and cellular respiration. Additionally, we consider the way that substances that provide a benefit to organisms, including humans, are unevenly distributed on Earth, due to geologic and atmospheric systems. Some resources form quickly, allowing them to be renewable, while other resources are nonrenewable. We examine evidence which reveals that Earth's systems change and affect ecosystems and organisms in positive and negative ways.

### **Science Lab (1.0)**

This class is embedded within Integrated Science 8. With science held daily, this portion of the class integrates the experiments and hands-on activities that occur as a part of the science class. This is a required part of science in 8th grade.

## **CTE Requirement**

### **Digital Literacy (0.5)**

Students learn the skills necessary to use computers comfortably, while improving learning, productivity, and performance. This course offers a thorough introduction to computers, networks, and computer peripherals such as printers, digital cameras, and more, including

understanding an operating system, working on a laptop versus a desktop, printing and understanding five traits that almost all applications share. In addition, basic procedures with software applications, email, the Internet and Internet security, privacy, and ethics are covered.

### **Physical Education Requirement**

#### **8th Grade Intermediate Fitness (0.50)**

This is a physical education course with emphasis on skills, knowledge, and participation in a variety of team sports, conditioning, and recreational activities. This will be a co-ed class.

### **Health Requirement**

**Health I (0.5)** This course develops the skills needed to improve the quality of life by helping students to cope with and solve problems, develop positive self-image, and make healthy decisions. The students will explore positive lifestyles, disease prevention, emergency procedures, media literacy, and alcohol and drug abuse prevention. This will be a co-ed class.

### **PHOENIX Advisory – Leadership/Homeroom**

#### **Phoenix Advisory (0.25) - Required**

\$ Fee required

Students will earn elective credit for this course. Students attend this class Monday thru Thursday. It covers character education and leadership. Some of the curriculum that may be used: Leader in Me, Love and Logic, Suite 360, and Resilience curriculum. This is a required course at ELA. Students will have the same advisory teacher from 7th through 9th grade.

### **Possible Required Course Based on Reading Level**

#### **Reading 8 Course (0.5 or 1.0) 8th**

*Recommended Prerequisite: Instructor approval*

This course, based on the 8th Grade Utah Secondary Literacy (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for students requiring basic instruction with targeted intervention in reading comprehension, vocabulary, and reading skills, to assist striving readers with literary, informational, and functional texts. This class will also focus on the study and organizational skills necessary for success in the Junior High atmosphere.

## ***ELECTIVE COURSES***

### **Fine Arts Electives- at least .5 is Required for All 8th Graders**

#### **Tenor/Bass Choir I** (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

Don't miss out on Tenor/Bass Choir! This class will be packed with energy and FUN! Yes, choir is FUN! We will sing songs from all over the world, from Bach to Rock! We will build powerful, amazing, healthy voices that can't be stopped! You will not have another class like it!

#### **Treble Choir I** (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

ELA's Treble Choir is an amazing opportunity for ELA girls to kick it up a notch! We will work to create amazing, strong, healthy voices and great musicianship! You are not going to want to miss signing up for this class!

#### **Choir II Spotlights** (1.0) 8th & 9th Coed

*Prerequisite: Choir I Preferred*

\$ Fee required

If you want to be involved in an amazing advanced class, this is a must for your schedule! In Spotlight Singers we study the care and cultivation of a beautiful vocal tone, aesthetic sensitivity, increasing the ability to read music, building technical vocal skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Spotlights consistently earns superior ratings at our festival and attends the State Festival in the spring.

#### **Theatre II** (0.5 or 1.0) 8th

\$ Fee required

In this class, students will improve their acting prowess through the study of advanced improv, musical theatre, play production, POW! (Phoenix Original Works) and more!

#### **Intermediate Stage Crew** (0.5) 8th & 9th

*Prerequisite: Attend Tech Olympics the January of the school year prior*

\$ Fee required

In this class, you will learn the art of technical theatre (lights, sound, costumes, stage management, etc.). Prepare to work hard and have the time of your life! No after school hours are required.

### **Advanced Running Crew (1.0) 8th & 9th**

*Prerequisite: Attend Tech Olympics the January of the school year prior*

\$ Fee required

In this class, you will continue to learn the art of technical theatre (lights, sound, costumes, stage management, etc.). ELA Crew will be running all technical events happening in the theatre areas of ELA. Ten hours of crewing outside of class are required each quarter for this class.

Prepare to work hard and have the time of your life!

### **Orchestra I- Beginning (1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th**

\$ Fee required

Are you ready to make some great music with your peers? This course is for students who are interested in playing the violin, viola, cello, or upright bass and have less than 1 year of experience. One pianist will be admitted into the ensemble, but must audition with the instructor before signing up for the class. There are evening performances outside of class that are part of this course. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument for use at home and school is required.

### **Orchestra II- Intermediate (1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th**

\$ Fee required

This ensemble is for students who have played the violin, viola, cello, or upright bass in Orchestra 1 or Elementary Orchestra or have studied privately for at least a year. Students who have not taken Orchestra 1 will need to complete a brief audition with the instructor to make sure placement is appropriate. One pianist will be admitted into the ensemble, but must audition with the instructor before signing up for the class. There are evening performances outside of class that are part of this course. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument for use at home and school is required.

### **Ukulele (0.5)-Semester 1 Only, 7th, 8th, & 9th**

\$ Fee required

Want to learn an instrument that you can take almost anywhere? This course is for students who are interested in playing the ukulele. We will learn to play chords, various strumming patterns, fingerpicking, ensemble playing, and how to accompany ourselves while we sing. Help is also given for those who want to write their own songs. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument and tuner for use at home and school is required. This class can only be taken one time.

### **Guitar** (0.5)-Semester 2 Only, 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This class, created for beginning guitarists, invites you to come and stretch your budding musical talents! We will cover basic chords, strumming patterns, fingerpicking, ensemble playing, and how to accompany ourselves while we sing. Help is also given for those who want to write their own songs. This is a great next step after learning ukulele. Acoustic instruments only. Practice time outside of school is required. An instrument, picks, and tuner for use at home and school is required. Capos are encouraged but not required. This class can only be taken one time.

### **Drawing I** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This class will provide students with basic art skills and techniques across a variety of drawing media. It will also provide art experiences that will develop visual competence, expertise of skills in two-dimensional art in value and in color, and awareness of historical art movements.

### **Drawing II** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

*Prerequisite of Drawing 1 required or permission from instructor with advanced portfolio review.*

\$ Fee required

This class will build upon the roots of Drawing 1. Students will push the creative and technical components of making a drawing with emphasis on line, form, space, composition, value, color, time, and design. Students will widen their understanding of different mediums and begin to understand how they might be introduced into their own personal work. This class consists of drawing projects, class projects, class critiques, daily drawing and one on one direction.

### **Painting 1** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This class is a basic studio course in the media and techniques of painting. Activity will emphasize the study of color, structure, creativity and aesthetic values in general. A command of techniques and materials, both traditional and experimental, will be taught.

### **Photography I** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This course covers basic concepts and practice in digital photography. The course is designed around the use of cell phone photography. Access to a camera at home is required to complete the work outside of class. There are no cameras available for check out. The course covers Composition Rules such as Leading Lines, Rule of Thirds, and Contrast. Students will also learn and experiment with several of the major photographic styles including: Portraiture, Still Life,

Landscape, Abstract, and Documentary/Photojournalism. The last unit of the course is a brief introduction to the use of DSLR cameras and the use of manual camera controls. **No repeats**

### **Photography II** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

*Prerequisite: Photography 1*

This course builds upon skills learned in Photography 1. The course is designed around the use of DSLR cameras. Access to a personal DSLR camera is strongly recommended. Limited cameras are available for check out. Students will learn basic Photoshop skills, differences in file formats, and will become proficient in manual camera controls. Students will use these skills to experiment and approach artistic problems creatively. Projects will focus on prompt based work so students can express their unique artistic voice. **No repeats**

### **CTE/Computer Tech Electives**

### **Photo III/Photojournalism** (0.5 or 1.0) 8th & 9th

*Prerequisite: Photography 1 and/or 2*

The course is designed around the use of DSLR cameras. Access to a personal DSLR camera is strongly recommended. Limited cameras are available for check out. Apply the photography skills you gained in Photography 1 and 2 to take portraits and action photos for the yearbook.. We will tell the story of ELA's students, athletics, events, and culture in stunning images. We will also complete advanced photography projects and create a portfolio of work as well as building upon the Photoshop skills learned previously to complete more advanced photo manipulation.

**This class is repeatable**

### **Media Arts/Phoenix Feed** (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

In this course students will learn basic video production skills including script writing, video recording, studio lighting, and basic video editing, etc. They will use these skills to create the weekly school news video, The Phoenix Feed. **This class is repeatable**

### **Yearbook/Graphic Design** (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This course will teach students basic journalism skills such as but not limited to: note-taking, planning, interviewing, story writing, editing, etc. They will also learn team building and leadership skills while collaborating on various yearbook projects. Graphic Design skills will be taught in order to create a visually strong presentation of our school's memories. Students will learn basic principles of design, color theory, and digital calligraphy. Lastly, they will learn basic life skills such as meeting deadlines, writing skills, and social skills.



### **Robotics Technology (0.5) 8th, 9th**

\$ 10 Fee required: *Programming experience preferred.*

An introductory course focused on robotics technologies and what it means to be living in an automated world. Students will gain an understanding of how robotics impact the environment, society, and the economy. Students will develop a foundation in essential abilities and attitudes in connection with math and science skills that will in turn expand their opportunities in the world of automation. Students will be introduced to software design, coding structures and creating computer programs for a robot to perform physical tasks.

### **Creative Coding (0.5) 7th & 8th**

Creative coding is an introductory computer science course that empowers students to create authentic artifacts and engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving, and fun. We will start by exploring computer science as a way humans try to solve problems. We will then learn to create using the programming languages that power the internet as well as those that power games and animations. **No repeats**

### **Computer Science Principles (1.0) 8th & 9th**

*Prerequisite: Creative Coding with a 2.0 or above or teacher approval for 8th grade students*

Computer Science Principles seeks to broaden participation in computing and computer science. The course places emphasis on the principles of computer science rather than just programming. Big ideas and concepts include: (1) Computing is a creative activity. (2) Abstraction reduces information and detail to facilitate relevant concepts. (3) Data and information facilitate the creation of knowledge. (4) Algorithms are used to develop and express solutions to computational problems. (5) Programming enables problem solving, human expression, and creation of knowledge. (6) The internet pervades modern computing. (7) Computing has global impacts. \*This class does fulfill the graduation requirements for high school science, CTE or digital studies if taken in the 9th grade. Wait to take this in 9th grade if graduation credit is desired. **No Repeats**

## **Physical Education Electives**

### **Group Sports (0.5) 7th, 8th & 9th**

This course is designed to practice skills needed for a variety of sports which require group participation and cooperation. Some sports might include basketball, soccer, volleyball, hockey and many more.

### **Kickboxing (0.5) 7th, 8th & 9th**

Kickboxing is a group fitness class that combines martial arts techniques with fast-paced cardio. A basic boxing workout that involves a combination of punches and kicks performed at a quick pace to boxing bags and pads. You will learn proper form for the famous jab, hooks, crosses, uppercuts, back kicks, front kicks and more.

### **Weight Training** (0.5) 7th, 8th & 9th

This course is designed as an introduction to proper weightlifting techniques and includes the development of individual programs that develop body tone, muscle strength, and physical conditioning.

### **Total Body Fitness** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This class is a total body aerobic and strength conditioning workout. This interval-based class combines full-body strength training with high-intensity cardio bursts designed to tone your body, improve your endurance, and clear your mind before you start your busy day! This class includes circuit training and stretching for a complete workout. All levels are welcome!

### **Yoga** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This class introduces foundational yoga postures, teaches you how to breathe, and helps you feel more comfortable in the yoga practice. Students will be introduced to yoga postures through step-by-step verbal description and demonstration. Emphasis is placed on student understanding, safety, and stability within each pose. This class will help you relax the physical body while helping to quiet the mind and calm the nervous system. Leave relaxed, content, and ready to take on the day! Open to students of all levels.

## **Other Electives**

### **Creative Writing** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This course is designed as an introduction into the world of creative writing. We will discuss the different types of creative writing as well as what it takes to get published. Students will write multiple short stories, as well as other forms of creative writing (poems, screenplays, biographies). This class is for those who are interested in developing their writing skills as a creative outlet.

### **Journalism** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This course is designed as an introduction into the world of journalism and print. We will discuss the different types of journalism, as well as get hands-on experience by producing an

on-campus digital newsletter each month. Students will work together to decide what theme each month's newsletter will be. Students will also interview, write, and edit each article.

### **French A/B** (0.5 or 1.0) 7th, 8th, & 9th

\$ Fee required

This is an introductory course to the French language and culture. Primary emphasis is given to the development of basic skills in listening and speaking. Students are given reading, speaking, and writing practice in controlled situations. Students will be taught about various francophone cultures and create projects that demonstrate the similarities and differences between our own culture. They will also obtain a basic vocabulary and familiarity with how the French language works and differs from our own as well as how it has influenced the English language. **This course is meant to prepare students for French I at the highschool level and will count as an elective credit. Each semester will have different content and can be taken in whatever order is needed.**

### **Spanish I** (1.0) 8th & 9th

\$ Fee required

In Spanish 1 students will be introduced to reading, writing, speaking and comprehending Spanish. Students will experience the latin culture and language through interactive games, songs and cultural activities.

### **World Languages** (0.5) 7th & 8th

This course is designed to allow 7th and 8th grade students to have exposure to a variety of world languages, including Spanish, Italian, French, and German. Through this multilingual experience, students will recognize similarities and differences in spoken language, learn basic expressions, vocabulary, and become more aware of world history and its impact on language. Through these experiences students will be able to identify which languages they may be interested in studying further at either ELA or at the High School level.

### **Humanities Through Film** (0.5) 7th, 8th, & 9th

This course will examine current and historical events through the medium of film. Students will learn about key events that have helped to shape the world in which we live and examine how these events are depicted through movies. A film list will be published and given to students at the beginning of each semester. This course will be a one semester elective, but it will be offered during both semesters of the year.

### **Peer Mentor** (0.5 or 1.0) 8th & 9th

*Application and approval needed*

Peer Mentoring is designed for students who wish to enrich their learning experience through the process of assisting other students in mastering course content. Students who apply for this course are pre-screened according to their academic proficiency and attitudes toward the mentoring process. Additionally, students selected to participate in this course are expected to maintain a high level of conduct and develop/demonstrate effective communication and interpersonal skills, along with basic teaching strategies. Qualified students are assigned to a content specific class to help the teacher with tutoring services. Peer mentors will be fully trained on peer mentoring skills, rules and procedures, data collection, and other teaching skills.

### **Student Aide (0.5) 8th & 9th**

8th graders will be placed if there are still spots AFTER 9th graders have had a chance to sign up. Students do not select the teacher.

A student aide is a helper to a teacher or other staff member. Duties will vary including making copies, assisting other students, organizing or any errands needed by teachers. Students must have good attendance and be on time because a teacher is counting on you to be there. Successful student aides are patient, responsible, and kind. Students may have written reflections throughout their course, in addition to being an aide. This course is pass/fail. A pass earns credit , but does NOT count in the GPA. **Students are limited to being an aide only one semester to allow them to explore our many electives. Do not sign up unless you are willing to assist any teacher.**