

## **Elective Offerings at JFK Middle 2024-2025**

### **Art:**

**Exploring Two-Dimensional Art (Art 1) (N26/N27)** - Students explore media and techniques used to create a variety of 2-D artworks through developing drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage skills. Students practice, sketch, and manipulate the structural elements of art. Investigating artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provides a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and the consumption of art materials. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Advanced Art (ART 2 )(N30)**- Students refine techniques used to create a variety of two-dimensional (2-D) artworks through developing skills in drawing, painting, printmaking, and collage. Students manipulate the structural elements of art to promote creative risk-taking in 2-D artwork. Investigating artworks from Western and non-Western cultures provides a means for students to expand their understanding and appreciation of the role of art in global culture. Student artists use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and the consumption of art materials. (Open to grades 7 & 8 only - Application Required) (Annual)

**Advanced Historical Research(T11)** – Students will learn research and inquiry skills in this class. They will be able to build on their writing skills while further improving their vocabulary acquisition and critical thinking skills. (Open to grade 8 only) (Annual)

### **Book Club:**

**Book Club (T08)** - Book Clubs are designed to support socialization skills and sharpen memory and cognitive skills dually. Students become a part of a shared learning experience that is exciting and fun for them and their peers. (Open to grade 6 only) (Annual)

**Book Club Elective (ADVANCED ) (T10)** will consist of a chosen topic/theme explored through reading multiple relevant novels. The reading will be assigned as homework, and class time will be utilized for analysis and discussion. The quarter will finish with students writing an essay about exploring the concepts addressed. (FAST Levels 4 and 5 only - Grade 7 and 8 only) (Annual)

**Cheerleading (Application Required) (P19)**- In this class, you'll go beyond routine practice and delve deeper into the world of cheer. Expect challenging choreography and personalized coaching to unleash your full potential. You'll also collaborate with teammates to develop innovative routines, explore creative concepts, and boost your team's competitiveness. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Chess (S04)**- In the chess class elective, students will learn the game's phases and the opening, middle, and end of the game. Students will be introduced to strategies to trap and capture the opponent's King. Students will learn which pieces should be used at the appropriate time. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Choral Speaking (N24)** - Provides improvement in speech, especially in pitch, volume, and tone, as well as in diction, enunciation, rate and timing. Choral speaking also helps build student memory while promoting effective public speaking skills. Shy or withdrawn behaviors are quickly replaced with

exuberance and elevated confidence levels. This is a semester course that is coupled with a semester of Speech and Debate. (Open to all grades)

**Cooking (T12)** - Discover the joy of cooking with our hands-on classes! Learn essential skills, explore different cuisines, and enjoy creating tasty dishes. This is a semester course coupled with a semester of Gardening. (Open to all grades)

**Creative Writing (A46, A47, A48)** - This course aims to enable students to learn and use writing and language skills for creative expression in various literary forms. Emphasis will be on the development of a personal writing style. Students will learn writing for varied purposes and in varied genres, which may include personal and dramatic narratives, various poetic forms, plays and multimedia productions, multi-genre and creative nonfiction selections, and digital writing platforms. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Cricut Design Space and Crafting (N39)**- In the Cricut Design segment of this course, students explore various hands-on projects and allow students to turn their designs and ideas into real creations. Students get to use their creativity to create something new and unique. They can express themselves through their work and bring their ideas to life. Students have created t-shirts, greeting cards, stickers, personalized mugs, and more. In the Crafting Design segment of this course, students can unleash their creativity and express their happiness, love, and taste through art. This course will aid in nurturing complex skills and handcraft techniques such as crocheting, balloon art, knitting, and more. (Open to grade 6 only) (Annual)

**Drama classes (T03)** teach each student the basic principles of acting on stage. Students will be required to perform and also work backstage in this elective. Students will learn techniques that actors use that can help them with public speaking, personal growth, and stress anxiety relief. Get ready to shine!!! The spotlight is waiting. (Grades 7 and 8 only) (Annual)

**Film and Literacy (N28)**- Literacy through Film & Literature class gives students essential foundational skills to analyze, evaluate, access, and create media. Students learn the basics of cinematography, editing, script writing, movie making, and, most importantly, storytelling. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

#### **Foreign Language:**

**Beginning Middle Grades Spanish (X05)** - Mastering Spanish has become extremely important in today's world. In our Beginning Spanish class, students will learn how to communicate effectively. At the same time, we will have fun discovering the diverse cuisines and traditions of various countries. Get ready for a fun-filled learning adventure! (Open to grades 6 and 7 only) (Annual)

**FLVS Spanish 1 (HIGH SCHOOL COURSE) - (APPLICATION REQUIRED) (X02)** - Using the FLVS online platform, students will immerse themselves in the beauty of the Spanish language and the richness of its diverse cultures. In the Spanish I course, students will learn basic grammar and vocabulary skills to help build fluency and language proficiency. Students will explore the culture of Spanish-speaking countries through engaging interactive games, videos, and audio recordings and apply what they learn through written practice, listening, and speaking exercises. (Open to grades 7 and 8 only) (Annual)

**FLVS French 1 (HIGH SCHOOL COURSE) - (APPLICATION REQUIRED) (X03)** - Using the FLVS online platform, students will learn the basic French language. Students will be able to engage in short conversations in French, including greeting people, introducing themselves, and exchanging basic information with others about school, family, friends, food, shopping, house, activities, and the city.

Students will also explore the cultures of France and francophone Europe by learning about the geography, foods, celebrations, and traditions from each place. Bon Voyage! Enjoy the trip! (Open to grades 7 and 8 only) (Annual)

**FLVS American Sign Language 1 (HIGH SCHOOL COURSE) - (APPLICATION REQUIRED) (X04)**

Using the FLVS online platform, students will jump-start their American Sign Language journey by learning the basics of this visual language and exploring the Deaf culture. Students should prepare to broaden their communication concept through connections and comparisons to their culture and community. (Open to grades 7 and 8 only) (Annual)

**Root for Us (Gardening) (S03)** - The garden elective is designed to provide students hands-on experience in gardening and plant cultivation (mainly vegetables). The students are in a practical learning environment where they learn about various aspects of gardening, like soil preparation, planting, watering, and maintaining plants. The class also covers topics like square-foot gardening, companion planting, organic pest control methods, and a bit of nutritional education. Additionally, the students will be able to observe the growth and development of vegetables from seeds to harvest. Students in the gardening class will develop an appreciation and awareness of nature and the environment and the joy and wonder of growing their food. Additionally, our hands-on, active learning approach allows students to apply scientific concepts, problem-solving skills, and teamwork while connecting with nature. This is a semester course coupled with a semester of cooking. (Open to all grades)

**Graphic Design (N29)** - Get ready for an exciting journey where you will learn the basics of graphics design. Get ready to see your artistic flare come to life on a digital canvas. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Physical Education (P16/26, P17/27, P18/28)** - This course provides instruction and guidance to students on physical health, development, proper nutrition and sports participation. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Robotics/STEAM/Exploring Tech (T06)** - In the Exploration of Engineering and Technology and Exploration of Production and Technology courses, students actively participate in collaborative team projects centered around mechanical design. These projects span various subjects such as construction, motion planning, mobile mechanisms, kinematics, inverse kinematics, sensors, autonomous movement, programming, and flight. Additionally, students engage in hands-on coding experiences, utilizing RobotC to program their Vex IQ robot and Python to create their own video game. The primary goal of these classes is to demystify STEM fields and showcase that Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math can be both enjoyable and creative pursuits. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Latin Dance (T04)** - Our dance class welcomes passionate students who are eager to explore various genres and rhymes with dedication. Throughout this class, we'll delve into the cultural significance of dance, examining how it reflects the traditions of different countries. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Law Studies (L06, L07, L08)** - Are you interested in learning about law? In law studies, students learn how laws are made, how to debate, participate in mock trials, and review current legal investigations. Students also learn about interesting court cases like the Snapchat lawsuit, the Hershey v. Cadbury lawsuit, the McDonald's Coffee lawsuit, and more. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Office Aide (APPLICATION REQUIRED) (X01)** (Open to grades 7 and 8 only)

**Speech and Debate (N25)** classes will empower students to communicate and express their viewpoints more effectively. It will also help them organize and present skills needed to compete in district competitions, live debates, and real-world experiences beyond school. S & D can help students stimulate the intellectual growth necessary to achieve passing scores on district assessments. This is a semester course coupled with a semester of Choral Speaking. (Open to all grades)

**Sports History (P01)** - Sports History is more than just a class where we learn about sports. This is a class that explores creativity and the importance of sports. We explore how the love of sports can affect us physically, emotionally, and psychologically. In this class, we discover and express our love for sports in a fun and creative manner. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**Studies in Fashion (N40)** – Students will study the history of fashion to understand how it evolved over time. This class will explore creativity in fashion throughout history from European History to American History, from colonial times to Reconstruction. Students will have the opportunity to recreate some looks to associate historical events and how fashion played an important role throughout history in society. (Open to all grades) (Annual)

**TV Production and Journalism (N41)** - TV Production is a journalism-based class where students learn the ins and outs of putting on a daily production show. Students will learn to write, film, and edit the school's morning announcement show. (Grades 7 and 8 only) (Annual)

**Virtual Travel (T05)** - The virtual travel class will explore the world through the magic of technology, from the wonder of our national parks to the excitement of an African Safari. Students will learn how to plan their dream vacation, from the perfect hotel to the best places to eat. If you want to see the world and love adventure, this class is for you! Some topics to be covered include: Theme parks, best beaches, travel safety research, famous travel crime cases and crime statistics, eco-travel, camping, world's most expensive and unique hotels, camping, travel marketing- social media versus reality, Airbnb vs. hotel, Staycation with a possible field trip to a nice hotel, how travel has changed and what happened to travel agencies, Wonders of the world, best U.S cities to visit, European Cities, Asian Cities, Middle East, and Australia (Open to grade 6 only) (Annual)

**Students in the magnet MUST choose the options below as one of their choices (grade dependent):**

Grade 6 – Agriculture

Grade 7 – Explorations of Technology (Magnet)

Grade 8 – Learning Labs