

Percy Julian Middle School Eighth Grade Electives for 2009-2010



The following are course descriptions for elective classes next year. Please fill in the grid with your choices. We work

to schedule students into their top choices whenever possible. Often, combinations of certain choices are not possible due to schedule conflicts. Each student has 2 elective periods **plus** physical education. These may be filled with two full year classes or one full year and three trimester classes, or a combination of six trimester classes. During one of the elective periods students working below grade level in reading, writing and/or math will be assigned to Academic Support with their core teacher to improve skills in these areas. Students and parents will be notified of placement in this class prior to the beginning of school.

Trimester Courses

Applied Arts: This trimester course is a continuation of the 7th grade exploratory art class in wood, plastics, ceramics, and architectural design. *This class may be taken for 2 trimesters.*

Fine Arts: This trimester course is a continuation of the 7th grade exploratory art class in painting, drawing, and sculpture. *This class may be taken for 2 trimesters.*

Family & Consumer Science: This trimester course is a continuation of the 7th grade exploratory class in cooking, sewing, nutrition, and consumer economics. *This class may be taken for 2 trimesters.*

Career Modular Technology: This trimester course is offered to 7th and 8th graders interested in exploring various career choices using state of the art technology and simulated "real work" assignments. *This class may be taken for 2 trimesters.*

Piano Lab: This trimester course is offered to 7th and 8th graders interested in playing the piano. The class is available to all skill levels, including beginners. *This class may be taken for 2 trimesters.*

Writing Workshop: This trimester course is offered to 7th and 8th grade students who want to pursue creative writing, poetry, and publishing using a MacIntosh laptop. This is the place for students who love to write. *This class may be taken for 2 trimesters.*

Tech Today: This trimester course focuses on the technology skills that students will be using in today's society. Through the use of current multimedia applications, students create projects that use digital photos as well as digital video. Prior knowledge of editing digital media not required. Students also create projects, gather information, and collaborate with others using online resources. Class size is limited to twenty students per class, and includes both 7th & 8th graders. *Students may choose to take this class for 2 trimesters.*

Peer Tutoring: This trimester course is designed to give regular education students a chance to practice their skills in leadership, compassion, and understanding, while giving the students with special needs a chance to make a new friend, have a role model, and someone to demonstrate and practice social skills on an everyday basis. Some responsibilities include creating materials, demonstrating social skills, learning computer software, reflecting and learning about living with a disability. Students requesting this class must be exemplary school citizens and have the approval of their advisory teacher in order to register for this class.

Office Assisting: In this trimester class Office Assistants do a variety of clerical jobs in the school office including collecting attendance and deliveries. Students requesting this trimester class must be exemplary school citizens and have the approval of their advisory teacher in order to register for this class. This class is graded as pass or fail.

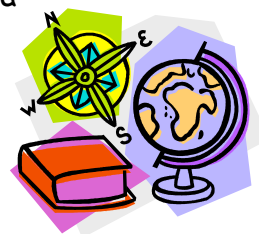
Year Long Courses

Spanish I: This full year course is offered to 7th and 8th grade students who wish to study Spanish at Julian. Topics include writing, reading, listening, and speaking.

Spanish II: This full year course requires Spanish I as a prerequisite or previous experience with the Spanish language. Students who were not enrolled in Spanish I as a seventh grader will need written recommendation from the Spanish I teacher.

French 1: This full year course is offered to 7th and 8th grade students who wish to study French at Julian. Topics include writing, reading, listening, and speaking.

French II: This full year course requires French I as a prerequisite or previous experience with the French language. Students who were not enrolled in French I as a seventh grader will need written recommendation from the French I teacher.



Chorus: Interested and talented singers may elect to join the Chorus for a full year. Chorus members rehearse daily and participate in evening performances throughout the school year. Students perform a variety of music covering a diverse range of both style and culture. Additional singing opportunities often become available to Chorus members throughout the year as well.

Band or Orchestra: Four courses are offered as full year offerings, three levels of band and one of orchestra. Instrumental music students will have daily practices and participate in evening performances. All orchestra students must have some previous experience with violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Band is available to all woodwind, brass, and percussion students. Any student who has not previously participated in band will need the band director's approval to enroll. Band level recommendations are received from the previous year's instructor.

GTD Elective: This is a problem based learning experience. Students who are academically talented and who want to focus on solving complex problems should consider this full year class. Math, Language Arts, Science and Social Studies skills will be incorporated into this class.

Virtual Classroom: Virtual Classroom is a full year tele-collaborative, experience. Students create projects, gather the information, collaborate with students around the world and publish on the web. Work outside the class period is required. Prior knowledge of web design not needed. The most important requirements for students are the ability to take responsibility for independent learning and a commitment to the success of the group. Parental permission to publish work and photos on the web is expected for all participants. Limited to twenty students per class; both 7th & 8th graders are included in each class.



**Percy Julian Middle School
Eighth Grade Electives for 2009-2010
Selection Sheet**

Student Name _____
(please print)

7th grade Team _____ **7th grade Advisor** _____

- You can choose two year-long classes (example: Band and Spanish).
- You can choose one year-long class and three trimester classes (example: Spanish, FACS, Applied Arts, Fine arts)
- You can choose six trimester classes (example: FACS, Piano Lab, Tech Today, Applied Arts, CMT, Writing Workshop)

	<u>Trimester 1</u>	<u>Trimester 2</u>	<u>Trimester 3</u>
EXAMPLE:	1. Spanish 1. Fine Arts	2. Spanish 2. FACS	3. Spanish (1 year) 3. Tech Today (3 Tri)
Choice 1			
Choice 2			

Alternate classes: _____

Advisor initial here to indicate approval of this student's choice of office assistant or peer tutor _____

Approval of Elective Choices

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Home Phone: _____ **Work Phone:** _____

Please return to your child's 7th grade advisory teacher by 3/26/09

