

Apex Middle School Electives

Career Explorations I .5 credit

Discover where your career interests, strengths, and abilities lie before high school! Career Explorations I gives 7th and 8th grade students an inside look at jobs in health, hospitality, tourism, human services, and consumer services. During the semester, students learn about specific work-related tasks that are involved in each of these career paths as they study the importance of work and how it helps us.

Ultimately, Career Explorations I gives middle school students a taste of several career paths and prepares them to choose high school Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses that dive deeper into their field of interest.

Career Explorations II .5 credit

Discover technology-laden career fields with Career Explorations II. This online elective helps middle school students choose high school Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses that dive deeper into their professional interests, strengths, and abilities. Throughout the semester, 7th and 8th grade students receive an inside look at jobs involving computers, computer support, agriculture, natural resources, and STEM.

Career Explorations II also give students a taste of what Ignitia's high school computer courses offer. It is an ideal class for students who want to explore the possibility of a technology-based profession, as well as those who know that a career in technology is the path they plan to pursue.

Note: Career Explorations I is **not** a prerequisite for Career Explorations II.

Keyboarding and Applications 1 credit

This year-long, online elective for 7th and 8th grade students (6th grade students who receive prior approval from administration may enroll) equips students with fundamental computer skills. Throughout the course, students practice proper keyboarding technique and communication skills as they study various computer operating systems and learn to use word processing programs and presentation software.

Students who wish to enroll in Keyboarding and Applications must have presentation software available. Apex Christian Academy recommends Apache OpenOffice, which is available for free via a download. 6th grade students who receive prior approval from administration may enroll in Keyboarding and Applications.

Health Quest .5 credit

Equip students for healthy living! Health Quest is a health and wellness elective designed for upper elementary/middle school students. One semester in length, Health Quest helps teach the importance of personal hygiene and fitness methods, as well as personal and ecological stewardship. Step-by-step lessons for grades 5-8 in this online course include illustrations, exercise techniques, and activities to engage students and build comprehension.

Lessons include topics such as body framework and systems, mental and social health, nutrients and metabolism, physical fitness, good eating habits, emergency care, diseases and prevention. A section helps students understand the use and misuse of drugs, alcoholism, and smoking. This course offers practical preparation for high school health education and promotes lifelong healthy practices. Course units contain quizzes and tests to evaluate progress and student mastery.

Principles of Coding .5 credit

Discover the fundamental concepts of computer programming with this semester-long career course for students in grades 7 and 8. Throughout the semester, students learn how particular programming concepts work and put them into practice using a platform called Scratch.

This hands-on course requires a lot of critical thinking as students design, write, and troubleshoot computer programs. By the end of the semester, students gain the skills they need to write programs in Scratch that show a presentation, run a simple video game, run a simulation, and design graphics.

Civics .5 credit

Today's students are tomorrow's voters. Teach citizenship responsibilities with Civics! Exploring the many facets of America's government, this one-semester elective covers the history and structure of government, political leadership roles, and worldwide politics, as well as federal, state, and local governments.

Lessons cover the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the three branches of America's government, the election process, economics, comparative governments, and individual freedoms. This course encourages students in grades 8-12 to understand the present system in America by looking at the past. Course units contain quizzes and tests to evaluate progress and student mastery.

Beginner Spanish .5 credit

This is an introductory course to the Spanish language. Basic vocabulary and proper pronunciation is taught in this semester-long course for students in grades 5-8.

Spanish I/French I 1 credit

In foreign language I, students in grades 9-12 (8th grade students who receive prior approval from administration may enroll) accompany fictional characters and go on trips to nine foreign-speaking countries. While traveling through this course students learn the basics of verb conjugation in the indicative and subjunctive moods, direct and indirect objects, demonstrative pronouns and adjectives, adjective placement, and other grammatical items.

Vocabulary words in this course are presented in situational daily usage such as describing emotions, eating, travel, health, safety, education, hobbies, family, and other life areas and events. Cultural differences and similarities are also examined. This course contains quizzes and tests to evaluate progress and student mastery. Projects are included.

Note: Beginner Spanish or French is **not** a prerequisite for Spanish I or French I.