



**EAU CLAIRE**  
AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

# 2012-2013

## Middle School Course Catalog Grade 8

*The mission of the Eau Claire Area School District is to educate our children in partnership with the family and the community to live responsible, fulfilling lives in a rapidly changing world.*

An electronic version of this course catalog is available at:  
[http://www.ecasd.k12.wi.us/teachinglearning/coa\\_tl\\_secondary\\_middleschool\\_coursecatalogs.cfm](http://www.ecasd.k12.wi.us/teachinglearning/coa_tl_secondary_middleschool_coursecatalogs.cfm)

*If you would like language assistance to interpret these materials, please call your child's school, or 852-3555.*

*Yog koj xav tau tsab ntawv nov txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu xov tooj rau koj tus menyuam lub tsev kawm ntawv/852-3555.*

*Si Ud. le gustaría ayuda para interpretar el idioma de estos materiales, por favor llame Ud. a la escuela de su hijo o hija, o 852-3555.*

## **Non-Discrimination Policy**

The Eau Claire Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation or disability.

All Eau Claire Area School District Career & Technical Education program and classes are offered to students regardless of their sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status or parental status, sexual orientation or disability.

## Specialized Programs

- **Alternate Programming:** The Eau Claire Area School District provides academic support for students with additional educational needs. For example, *READ 180* is a comprehensive reading intervention program proven to meet the needs of struggling readers. The program directly addresses individual needs through differentiated instruction, adaptive and instructional software, high-interest literature and non-fiction, and direct instruction in reading, writing, and vocabulary skills. Read 180 is delivered for 90 minutes a day for identified students. Eau Claire Area School District's Secondary Literacy Coordinator is Melissa Olson (852-4710, [molson2@ecasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:molson2@ecasd.k12.wi.us) ).
- **English Language Learners:** Students who speak a language other than English at home may qualify for English Language Learner (ELL) support. For additional information on ELL services, you may contact the district English Language Learners Resource Teacher, Kristen Gundry, at 852-3071 or [kgundry@ecasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:kgundry@ecasd.k12.wi.us) . You may also contact district bilingual helpline at 715-852-3555.
- **Gifted Education:** The Eau Claire Area School District provides for the special learning needs of students who exhibit gifted behavior in any of the following areas: General Intellectual Ability, Specific Academic Ability, Artistic Ability (including art, music, drama), Leadership Ability, and Creative Ability.

Students are assessed for appropriate math, science, and language arts placement during their middle school years. Students who qualify for acceleration should contact their counselor or gifted resource teacher for further information.

Gifted Education Resource Teachers are available to provide the following services: development of enrichment activities with the classroom teacher, development of appropriate programming for students whose learning needs do not match the "age lock step pattern" of school, assistance for classroom teachers in differentiating curriculum for gifted students, assistance in planning "job shadowing" or "mentor" experiences, direct services to students (i.e., counseling, differentiated education plans).

Eau Claire Area School District's Gifted Education Coordinator is Pam Cernocky (852-5132, [pcernocky1@ecasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:pcernocky1@ecasd.k12.wi.us)).

- **Special Education:** Special education services may be delivered in a general or special education environment; or a combination of these options. Individual Educational Plans (IEP) are designed to meet the student's educational needs with accommodations and/or modifications. Course selection decisions are made based on the student's IEP. Most special education courses parallel traditional core academic offerings, but some are significantly modified in content and focus. See your school counselor or IEP manager for more information. You may also contact the district Director of Special Education and Student Services, Robyn Criego, at 852-3074 or [rcriego@ecasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:rcriego@ecasd.k12.wi.us) .

**GRADE EIGHT**  
**COURSE OFFERINGS**

Each eighth grade student will have a schedule similar to the one listed below:

1	period of English	daily – all year
1	period of Mathematics	daily – all year
1	period of Science	daily – all year
1	period of Social Studies	daily – all year
1	period of: Family & Consumer Sciences 8	daily – one semester
	Technology & Engineering 8	daily – one semester
1	period of: Physical Education	alternate days – all year
	Electives	alternate days – all year
1	period of Electives:	daily – all year

Elective(s): See course descriptions for elective options.

## Grade 8 Required Courses

**8100**      **English 8**      Grade 8      Required      Year

In English 8, students develop reading, writing, listening, and small-group skills. Through such methods as Reader/Writer Workshop, reader response, and the writing process; students become independent readers, writers, and critical thinkers. Units in science fiction, mythology, classics, poetry, mass media, and literary themes are taught throughout the year.

**8200**      **Math 8**      Grade 8      Required      Year

The curriculum will incorporate the problem solving settings of "Connected Mathematics," which emphasizes deep understanding of mathematics and its uses. The goal is to encourage higher-level thinking and problem-solving. The units will explore gathering data to make predictions, functions and modeling, rational and irrational numbers, equivalent expressions, The Pythagorean Theorem, as well as linear, exponential, and quadratic relationships. Instruction emphasizes inquiry and reasoning using manipulatives and technology; both remediation and enrichment are provided to meet individual needs.

**8400**      **Science 8**      Grade 8      Required      Year

Eighth grade science is a full year of physical science including units on motion, forces, work, sound, light, heat, energy, and chemistry. Students will also conduct investigations using the scientific method, problem solving techniques, and critical thinking skills. All of these skills will be used in a laboratory setting. Much time is devoted to experimenting, but the students are also expected to do supplemental work to assist them in understanding the ideas developed through lab work. In addition, students will use technology as a tool to collect data and communicate conceptual understanding.

**8300**      **Social Studies 8**      Grade 8      Required      Year

This course explores the history of the United States by developing six major themes that capture some of the central elements of the story of our country. These themes are: Migration/Exploration, Independence and Political Traditions, Internal Strife, Developing Society and Culture, U.S. in the World, and Economic and Technological Development. These themes are chronologically developed and are organized around key generalizations, questions, and concepts. This course is an important foundation for the development of participatory citizenship. U.S. History continues in ninth grade from 1929 to the present.

<b>Grade 8 Required Courses</b>
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<b>8650</b>	<b>Family &amp; Consumer Sciences 8</b>	Grade 8	Required	Semester
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FACS 8 is a semester course that provides students the opportunity to learn essential life skills. Students will utilize food preparation labs and learn about healthy food choices. Cooperation and problem solving are evaluated during all lab experiences. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will explore the world of work and will use the website, WISCareers to enhance high school course planning and post secondary goal setting. Other topics include family relationships, employability skills, housing and design, consumer and financial skills, creative fabric projects, child development, and consumer and financial smarts.

<b>8700</b>	<b>Physical Education 8</b>	Grade 8	Required	Year - Alternate Days
				<b>OR</b>
				Semester

The eighth grade curriculum provides opportunities for students to develop lifetime leisure activities. Emphasis is placed on individual sports. Emphasis is also placed on participation and skill development of all students regardless of ability level. Teamwork, cooperation, healthy competition, fitness, and effort are also stressed at this level. A physical education shirt purchased from the school is required.

<b>8640</b>	<b>Gateway To Technology (GTT)</b>	Grade 8	Required	Semester
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This course has two units. The first unit, Design and Modeling, uses solid modeling software (a sophisticated mathematical technique for representing solid objects) as part of the design process. Utilizing this design approach, students learn how design influences their lives. Students also learn sketching techniques and use descriptive geometry as a component of design, measurement and computer modeling. Students brainstorm, research, develop ideas, create models, test and evaluate design ideas and communicate solutions. In the second unit, Automation and Robotics, students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork collaboration and innovation. This course is part of the **Project Lead The Way** program.

<b>Grade 8 Music Electives</b>
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<b>8900</b>	<b>Band 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Year - Alternate Days
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Band 8 requires that students have previous band experience. Concerts, parades, and solo festivals are a few of the experiences students will have. In addition, students may have the opportunity to participate in band clinics and perform in various ensembles such as jazz band, flute choir, clarinet choir, etc. Summer lessons are expected unless other arrangements have been made with the band instructor. Participation in performances will constitute part of the student's grade. This course has a dress code for all performances. A band shirt purchased from the school is required.

<b>8910</b>	<b>Chorus 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Year - Alternate Days
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Eighth grade chorus offers students who have an interest and ability in singing an opportunity to sing a more challenging level of choral music. Much of the rehearsals will deal with further developing singing technique and music reading skills. Classroom activities will culminate in the performance of a wide variety of styles of music in three and four part harmony. Opportunities may be available for singing solos and performing in local and district solo festivals, as well as singing in various ensembles (trios, quartets, octets, triple trios, show choirs, honors groups, etc.) Participation in performances will constitute part of the student's grade. This course has a dress code for all performances. A chorus shirt purchased from the school is required at DeLong and Northstar only.

<b>8920</b>	<b>Exploring Music 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Year – Alternate Days
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Exploring Music 8 will be divided between "Music and Culture Here and There" and "Creativity in Music Through Technology." Students will learn about the functions of music in people's lives, music in the local community, and music in everyday life. Projects of composition and recording music using software and MIDI keyboards will be another focus.

<b>8930</b>	<b>Orchestra 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Year - Alternate Days
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Orchestra 8 requires previous string experience. Students will perform in concerts and in the solo and ensemble festival. Students will continue the study of music at a more advanced level, building on the skills learned in previous years. Participation in concerts will constitute part of the student's grade. This course has a dress code for all performances. An orchestra shirt purchased from the school is required at DeLong and Northstar only.

## Grade 8 World Language Electives

<b>8500</b>	<b>French 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Year
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*Prerequisite: Successful completion of French 7*

This course is a continuation of French 7. Students will continue to develop their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. More advanced grammatical forms and expanded vocabulary are presented. Cultural studies will again be presented throughout the course.

<b>8510</b>	<b>German 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Year
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*Prerequisite: Successful completion of German 7*

This course is a continuation of German 7. Students will continue to develop their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. More advanced grammatical forms and expanded vocabulary are presented. Cultural studies will again be presented throughout the course.

<b>8520</b>	<b>Spanish 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Year
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*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 7*

This course is a continuation of Spanish 7. Students will continue to develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. More advanced grammatical forms and expanded vocabulary are presented. Cultural studies will again be presented throughout the course.

## Grade 8 Electives

<b>8810</b>	<b>Art &amp; Design</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Semester
<p>This course introduces students to new art experiences as well as builds on concepts and skills learned in previous art classes. This class combines both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional art. Examples of 2-dimensional experiences may include the following: drawing, painting, tessellation design, etching, and paper arts. Examples of 3-dimensional experiences may include the following: metal making, ceramics, sculpture, and environmental and packaging design. Students will also be introduced to various artists, art styles, art careers, and world cultures. Different themes may include: multi-culturalism, human proportion, information design, and visual culture; as well as additive and subtractive sculpting techniques. Art materials and techniques may include: acrylic and watercolor paints, clay, glazes, metals, plaster, carving foams, and the use of art software, such as Adobe PhotoShop Elements.</p>				
<b>8830</b>	<b>Business Exploration</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Semester
<p>Have fun and explore business concepts as you create and run a business. Develop products and/or services; market your business through the development of a website, commercials, and print media; experience selling; and keep financial records. Use word processing, desktop publishing, spreadsheet, database, presentation, digital imaging, Internet, and web page applications; and discover how cooperation, leadership, and good decision-making skills are keys to business success. In addition, research the impact education, skills, and career choice have on your financial future.</p>				
<b>8840</b>	<b>Engineering &amp; Design</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Semester
<p>Students will investigate the designed world by creating projects and completing activities in the areas of: material, manufacturing, construction, communication, transportation, energy, and biological technologies.</p>				
<b>8850</b>	<b>FACS-Expo</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Semester
<p>FACS EXPO is a class that uses the foods and textiles labs to explore creative cooking, fun fabrics and managing your money. Some of the units of study/ projects may include; The iron chef cooking competition, ultimate smoothie challenge, recipe creation, cooking world cuisines, textile dyeing, fabric weaving, sewing recycled materials, machine embroidery, and tips for you and your money. This is a class for students that enjoy hands on activities and opportunities to explore their creativity.</p>				
<b>8820</b>	<b>Health 8</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Semester
<p>This course builds on the foundation of knowledge and life skills learned in both the 6th and 7th grade required health classes. It gives students a very relevant, interactive, fun, and exciting opportunity to not only think about the many decisions they will make; but also to learn more about those issues so that good decisions can be made! This is a great place for self-reflection and discovery promoting an excellent transition as students move from middle to high school.</p>				
<b>8860</b>	<b>Lamination Process – DeLong only</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Semester
<p>This course provides students with an exploratory experience that includes planning, gluing, layout, forming, and shaping of laminated materials. Students may choose to make large projects or small projects. Students can make complex projects like bows, lamps, skateboards, or canoe paddles; or they can make small projects such as salad forks and spoons, bats, bowls, jewelry, and bread boards. Students will acquire knowledge and develop working skills centered on the construction of laminated materials. Students will use epoxy glue, plastics, woods, and other materials suitable for lamination.</p>				
<b>8870</b>	<b>Recreational Activities</b>	Grade 8	Elective	Semester
<p>This class will give students the opportunity to participate in many outdoor/indoor physical activities. Students will learn individual lifetime fitness skills as well as an appreciation for the outdoors. The class will also work on developing leadership skills, positive self-esteem, critical thinking skills, problem-solving skills, and working in diverse situations through an extension of physical education. We will explore the possible opportunity of a field trip at the end of the course.</p>				