

Ligon GT/AIG Basics Magnet Middle School

Course Description Guide - 2020/2021

General Studies & Core Subject Electives

General Studies	
Architectural Design (Q)	In this elective, you can exercise your interest in skills in the study of the principles of great architectural design, and the use of drawing instruments to draft floor and elevation plans, that you can then turn into 3-D models using various tools for visualization.
Beginning Chess (Q)	The game of chess, its backgrounds and origins. Opportunities for learning, play, and competition advance through the levels.
Brain Games (Q)	Create quiz-bowl and Jeopardy questions based on challenging logic and word puzzles that relate to the curriculum in any of your classes. Students create puzzles for other students to solve and participate in computer-created quiz bowls.
Film Analysis I (Q)	Through the study of various genres and time frames of film, students will analyze the connections between personal preference, objective view, and critical reference. Students will develop the ability to critically view a film, and relate connections that support that point of view.
Film Analysis II (Q)	This is an in-depth study of film that will take you into every aspect above in much greater detail, allowing for more hands-on experience with film creation. This course will use the movie, "The Day the Earth Stood Still" as a basis for the dynamic range of skills developed.
Future City (Q)	Do you ever wish you could create the perfect place to live? This exciting elective combines science, technology, engineering, and math challenges within a "hands-on" environment in which you can present your vision of a city of the future! Be ready to practice teamwork, communication, and problem solving in this challenging elective!
Menu Avenues (Q)	Using Michael Pollan's The Omnivore's Dilemma: Secret's Behind What You Eat (Youth Edition), and Nourish curriculum, students will analyze text and complete a variety of projects concerning the impact of their food choices. In addition to learning about their own personal food choices, students will examine issues of sustainability, research food cultures throughout the world, experience food choices available in their own communities, and study the impact of "food desserts" around the United States.
MSEN Pre College Program (Y)	This is an NC State collaborative program including the College of Education and the Friday Institute. This course is a STEM-enrichment program that provides students with experiences that will equip them to attend a four-year college/university to pursue majors in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. **Application required

Nanotechnology (Q)	Collaborate as junior engineer teams to solve real-world problems using the Engineering Design process while developing your communication skills. Design a wearable device that integrates C++ programming to monitor the health of humans or animals. Explore engineering fields, meet engineers from the field, and expand your understanding of the intersection of engineering and personal devices!
Odyssey of the Mind (S)	This is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Students apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They bring their solutions to competition on the local, state, and World level. Thousands of teams from throughout the U.S. and from about 25 other countries participate in the program. **Application/teacher recommendation required
Peer Helpers (Q)	This course trains students to be helping members of the school community at large. Skills included in this course include building character traits through authentic service activities, communicating to various small and large groups, and working as a liaison between students and staff. *Application/teacher recommendation required
Public Speaking & Debate (Q)	Write, deliver, classify and critique formal and informal speeches. Elective includes organization of material, voice projection, and persuasion of an audience, as well as panel discussion. Do you love to argue? Learn to do it constructively and persuasively! Learn to consider both sides of an issue. Writing, classifying, delivering, and critiquing speeches, as well as debating and panel discussions will be part of this elective. Argue your point-what could be more fun?
Robo-Lab (Q)	"You get to build really cool robots," says a sixth grade student! This elective provides students with hands-on opportunities to enhance STEM skills by using Lego blocks, gears, motors, and computer programming to build and problem solve.
Science Olympiad (S)	Science Olympiad is a premier science competition providing rigorous, standards-based science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) challenges.
Sign Language (Q)	This course is an introduction to sign language, the manual alphabet, and sign vocabulary of 300-400 words, as well as the history of signing. Students will gain an understanding of hearing impaired persons and acquire skills to communicate with the deaf and hearing impaired.
Student Council (Y)	Develop leadership skills and participate in the electoral process. The Student Council plans and implements school-wide activities to build school community and spirit. **Application required
Video Production I & II (Q)	Learn different aspects of how video is created and produced, and for what purposes. You will make cross-curricular links as you analyze connections to explain your personal view of something you create or that is peer created, and learn how to use an objective view to improve your work and the work of your team. Hands-on learning is blended with reflective opportunities to study for next steps in projects.
Video Production III (S)	This course combines the learning and skills from Video Production I & II electives and contains a Video News Production known as Ligon TV.

Language Arts	
Creative Writing (Q)	Express yourself! Through this course, you'll discover and refine a variety of writing styles that will allow your thoughts to come alive! Polish your writing and make it more effective, lively, descriptive, and cohesive. This course is for the undiscovered writer in all of us!
Folk Tales & Myths (Q)	Explore folktales and myths from Africa, Asia, and America. Critical thinking, reading comprehension, cultural differences, and an understanding of literary elements of myth forms are focused on in this elective.
Great Books (Q)	Reading and discussion, comprehension, logical and critical thinking processes, and literary interpretation will be taught through reading novels and/or short stories, and may use materials created by the Jr. Great Books Foundation.
Journalistic Reporting (Q)	Explore the major types of news formats from brief historical beginnings through our ever-changing, fast-paced mass-media news culture. Learn how to analyze, evaluate and create dynamic journalistic pieces.
Mystery & Suspense (Q)	What makes a reader hang on the edge of their seat? You'll be a master and have the answer to that question after taking this elective! Learn about the elements of mystery in literature, and apply these sneaky skills as you create your own suspenseful stories.
Poetry in Motion (Q)	Love poetry? Want to learn to love it? This elective is a student-centered approach to the art, beginning with a student created anthology "textbook", to be expanded with his or her own work. Student collaboration, artistic interpretation, non-competitive writing, and use of computer technology are incorporated.
Science Fiction (Q)	Picture the future and expand your appreciation for Sci Fi literature. Sci Fi in popular culture will be explored, and imaginative use of technology will be encouraged. Create an original story through process writing.
Short Stories (Q)	Read, view, and create short stories in this elective. Compare and contrast the short stories. Apply critical thinking, writing, reading, and speaking skills for evaluation, while increasing vocabulary skills.
Storytelling (Q)	Come learn how to turn your own personal experiences into engaging stories! Master the art of storytelling by learning the history and oral traditions from cultures around the world, and learn how to put your own "spin" on a classic fairy tale. Create a website to showcase your work by making your stories, fables, legends, myths, and folk tales come alive.
Studies in African American Literature (Q)	In this elective, you'll develop an appreciation for the contributions of African American writers to American literature, and how that literature reflects culture. You will experience multiple opportunities for discussion of the works you are reading, and opportunities for written reflection and evaluation of the authors you have read or discovered through this course.
Video Literature (Q)	Discover how film media has been used to depict different aspects of literature from the core subject areas of language arts, social studies, and science. Compare and contrast the "movie" and the "book" version of a story. See if you can identify the differences in technique in telling a story vs. "showing" a story-which do you prefer, and

	why? Be ready to put your discussion and analysis skills to the test as you participate in this high-interest, engaging elective!
Mathematics	
Fantasy Sports (Q)	Football, baseball, basketball, hockey, and our own "March Madness" love of the NCAA-How can the use of, understanding of, and FUN of numbers help you to enjoy these games to their fullest? Come and find out as you learn to manage your own "fantasy team"!
Financial Finesse (Q)	Learn what you need to know to get on a great financial path! The skills you learn in this elective will give you the "financial intelligence" you'll need to know to set yourself up for a healthy financial future. Use what you learn to manage the money you have now-allowance, small jobs-and the money you'll earn in the future. A fun, interactive way to learn about personal finance.
Geometric Construction (Q)	Stretch your problem-solving skills by applying geometric concepts to solve two-dimensional geometry challenges on concepts such as rays, polygons, triangles, angles, rectangles and circles by making line constructions. Symmetry, motion, closed figure study, congruence, and model making are also part of this elective. Maze creation and hands-on math projects challenges you to think in three dimensions. Solve 3-D challenges, create your own challenges for others to experience, and develop your ability to look at a problem in more than one way!
Math Art (Q)	Explore and enjoy math through art and puzzles. Work with tangrams, paper folding/origami, thread geometrics, and patterning as you advance your skills in geometry and logical thinking.
Math Counts (Q)	For students who have a special interest in mathematics and who wish to extend their problem-solving skills. Students use MATHCOUNTS materials provided by the Professional Engineers of North Carolina. Activities include speed drills, power drills, and simulated competitions. The emphasis is on developing and applying analytical skills to the solutions of complex problems. Both individual and team performance are developed. Students may have the opportunity to compete in local, regional, state, and national competitions. **Participation requires 6th & 7th graders to be enrolled in Math 7 Plus or higher, 8th graders need to be enrolled in Math 1 or higher.
Number Theory (Q)	Apply math skills in geometry, measurement, scale, and proportion to create a campus of 3-D pavilions designed to display a theme. Using real-world situations and Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences you will recognize your strengths and "show what you know"! Work cooperatively, present your project, and assess your own and your team's accomplishments. Topics may also include math development through history, bases other than ten, and magic squares.
Problem Solving through Strategic Games (Q)	Strengthening problem-solving and strategic skills through challenging strategic games. Backgammon, Monopoly, Checkers, Connect Four, and Life, among others, are some of the games used to enhance logic, mental math, and creativity. Social skills such as working through a challenge in an appropriate way are stressed as students learn the politics of good sportsmanship.

Science	
Animal Science - The Pet Vet (Q)	Come journey into the science of our most loved pets. Explore the habitats, adaptations, relationships, and care of mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, aquatic life, and insects. Learn the classification system scientists use to study these fascinating creatures. Conduct your own research using books, internet, and live animals. Discover animal careers and the challenges and joys they bring.
Forensics (Q)	Use experimentation and the scientific method to investigate the world around you using forensics technology. Apply laboratory techniques to support procedures, investigate “evidence”, analyze, and use these techniques to arrive at a conclusion.
Lab Busters (Q)	Urban legends or truth? How can you find out if what you hear about something happening is truth, a colorful hoax, or a little of both? Use the scientific process to discover whatever “myth” you choose to “bust”!
Mousetrap Cars (Q)	Linear, rotational, reciprocating, and oscillating motion learned through creating mousetrap cars and/or other wheeled vehicles. Analyze and predict the motion of objects, devices, and systems, understand the forces that act on them. Design/build/test a mousetrap racer. In-class competitions are part of this elective.
Principles of Flight (Q)	What does it take to be a pilot? Find out in this elective, where you’ll learn all about flight, aircraft, and the intricate web of air traffic control. Learn how to virtually planes and build higher-order thinking skills and sound reasoning by using Flight Simulator software.
Space Adventures (Q)	Study the history and mechanics of space exploration and travel through this hands-on elective. Who knows? Someday you may be the one to get humans to Mars!
Social Studies	
American Politics (Q)	Ramp up your understanding of the gradual development and the present-day workings of the American political system. See how important the history of political rights impact your current life.
Around the World in 45 Days (Q)	Create a travel agency so that you can craft travel experiences for your customers. Don't be fooled-you and your team will need to become geographic and cultural experts in order to create successful trips for your customers, ensuring continued business. Are you up to the challenge?
Big History (Q)	By sharing the big picture, and challenging students to look at the world from a variety of perspectives, students will have a more comprehensive understanding of how we got here, where we're going, and how we all fit in! Throughout this course, you will explore different scales of time and space, and view human history from new angles. This course is based on the Big History Project-an education initiative from Bill and Melinda Gates.
Create A Nation (Q)	Understand the 5 themes of geography and government structures by creating your own “ideal” of what a nation can be. Study nations and situations around the world to learn from others, while increasing your cultural knowledge. Human environment interaction impacts you every day-if you were given the chance, how could you make this better?
It's in the News (Q)	How aware are you? In-class competitions, information gathering, and scintillating

	conversation revolve around current events in this exciting elective. On-line news agencies, newspapers, magazines, and news stories are just some of the mediums that are used in the classroom to promote awareness and help build a 21st century learner.
Social Justice (Q)	Do you want to be the change you see in the world? The Social Justice elective will equip you with the knowledge to be a change agent in our current society. Through this course, you will learn about current and historical social justice, warriors, develop an understanding of social justice, and collaborate with peers to create real solutions to local social justice issues within our community.
Tar Heel Ghosts & Folklore (Q)	North Carolina is rich in folklore! Examine the ghost stories, urban legends, tall tales, and paranormal occurrences of NC! Investigate the rumored existence of unverified creatures of North Carolina, as well as the claims of famous mysteries and stories of reportedly paranormal NC sites. Learn how to explain the inexplicable!
Youth and the Law (Q)	How does the law affect you? Through “peer simulations” of trials, video examples, and guest speakers, you’ll get a taste of all the different aspects of the legal system. Learn about civil and criminal law, the court system, youth rights and responsibilities and consequences of actions or decisions.

Performing & Visual Arts Electives

Choral Electives	
Apprentice Chorus	Students will learn the basics of healthy vocal technique, ensemble skills and learn to read basic rhythmic and pitch notation. They will also learn note names, receive interval training and learn to sight read using the solfege system. They will perform unison and 2-part using a variety of choral literature.
Honors Chorus	The most advanced level of choral proficiency and performance; students must demonstrate mastery of intermediate levels of performance and knowledge during the audition process to become members of this group. Students will extend their development in vocal production and technique, interpretation, and reading; their ability to integrate and demonstrate mastery and use of rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre, tempo, dynamics and expression, and their use of form. Students will develop and demonstrate developmentally appropriate levels of vocal and harmonic skill, and extend their knowledge and performance of a wide and rigorous range of literature. **Audition required. 6th, 7th, 8th grade students.
Vocal Ensemble	Students will use the music reading skills learned in previous chorus classes and continue to expand their knowledge. They will demonstrate proficiency with compound meters, sight sing (keys C, F, G major) and in the relative minor keys (a, d, and e). Vocal technique, including breath control, posture, intonation and vowel formation, consonant articulation, balance, blend, and musicality. They will sing a variety of three and four part SSA Literature. Students in this course will be evaluated at the East #1 Choral Music Performance Adjudication where they will perform in the Grade V-VI music level. They will also participate in one national music adjudication, perform at six school concerts, and perform at a variety of local and state events throughout the year. **Audition required. 8th grade students

Instrument Electives	
<u>ORCHESTRA</u>	
Advanced Strings (Silver Strings - Level 4)	Designed for students with an advanced level of experience as well as for the beginner, this course instruction in strings (violin, viola, cello, & bass) includes the demonstration of correct posture, both right and left hand, selected scales and traditional repertoire. A variety of approaches are combined to engage students with different learning styles. The tasks of reading and writing of music are divided, as skills apart from performance. One mandatory evening performance per quarter. **Placement audition is <u>required</u>.
Apprentice Orchestra (Level 1)	Designed for students with modest level of experience as well as for the beginner, this course instruction in strings (violin, viola, cello, & bass) includes the demonstration of correct posture, both right and left hand, selected scales and traditional repertoire. A variety of approaches are combined to engage students with different learning styles. The tasks of reading and writing of music are divided, as skills apart from performance. One mandatory evening performance per quarter.
Guitar (Q)	This beginning level course will introduce the student to all of the fundamentals of playing this challenging stringed instrument. In addition, students will learn basic sight reading, and will be encouraged to engage in activities such as composing their own pieces, creation of small group ensembles for improvisation and performance of current, created, and improvised pieces, and participating in classroom performances.
Intermediate Strings (Concert Orchestra - Level 2) (Philharmonic - Level 3)	This course is for continuing students and is an in-depth study of varied and sophisticated music for string orchestra, (NC MENC grades "3-4" or beyond). Students will be instructed to "shift" positions as the repertoire requires. Students also study the historical significance of the works performed. Mandatory performances. **Audition or teacher recommendation required
<u>BAND</u>	
Beginning Band (Y) Brass: trumpet, trombone Woods: clarinet, flute	Students learn to play a brass, woodwind, or percussion instrument. Emphasis is on the acquisition of basic musical skills and systematic progress rather than performance; however, band classes perform several concert compositions. Performances required.
Concert Band (Y)	Auditioned Honor Ensemble Concert Band **Audition Required
Intermediate Band (Y)	Designed for 6th grade students who have had one or more years of band in elementary school or the equivalent. Emphasis is on refining basic skills learned previously and mastering technique. Performances required. **Prerequisite: Some band experience.
Jazz Band (Y)	Jazz Band is an auditioned honor ensemble providing students an opportunity to learn and perform music from four different styles (Swing, Rock, Ballad and Latin/Afro Cuban) in a "Big Band" setting. Students will also explore beginning concepts of jazz improvisation, knowledge of chords and jazz history. **Audition Required
Symphonic Band (Y)	Learn the fundamentals on an individual instrument. To perform as a band using elements of music such as style, dynamics, tempo, timbre, balance and blend and articulation. Learn to

	work together as a collaborative ensemble to achieve both individual and group success. **A Concert Band - for Ligon students with previous experience in Elementary or Middle School Band - director recommendation only)
Piano I & II (Q)	Students will learn to read the musical staff in treble and bass clefs, and basic rhythmic notation (whole, half, dotted half, quarter, dotted quarter, eighth, sixteenth) in 2/4, 3/4 and 4/4 meters. They will learn to match the letter names of the keys with the staff, and learn five finger patterns in the key of C, the key of G, and the corresponding I, IV, and V7 chords in each position. They will also play melodies in middle C position. Piano II follows if A in Piano I or 2 years of private lessons.
Dance Electives	
Ballet I (Q)	This course serves as the entry point into the dance department for all 6th graders. Students explore basic technique, improvisation, and composition as it relates to Ballet. A study of the contributions of early Ballet pioneers, the global nature of dance, and the relationship between dance and healthful living is included. Formal performance opportunities will not be given, however a Parent Observation Week is often held at the end of each quarter. This class is offered first quarter only and is open to all 6th grade students regardless of prior experience or training in dance.
Ballet II (Q)	Designed to continue the development of grace, strength and self-discipline in the field of ballet. The course will provide a more intensive study of ballet terminology, execution of steps, choreography and performance in the ballet style. Prerequisite: Ballet I
Best of Broadway (Q)	Learn the choreography standards of Broadway Musical Theatre! In this course you will study the choreographic techniques of such greats as Bob Fosse, Jerome Robbins, Gower Champion, Michael Bennett, Garth Fagan, Twyla Tharp, Susan Stroman, and others. You will learn and perform specific dances from a wide variety of shows – from A Chorus Line to Lion King. As you study the choreography you will develop your skills to pick up combinations and respond to the cues of directors which will enhance your audition skills. Additionally you will have an opportunity to create your own choreography in the musical theatre genre.
Choreography/Improvisation (Q)	In this course, students will study the elements of dance composition. They will use the language of dance to express and communicate through solo and small group compositions. They will gain the “tools” they need to become effective communicators through dance, by understanding and applying cross-curricular connections between music, visual arts, and related media. Working independently and collaboratively, they will develop their creativity and originality of expression through learning previously choreographed works by famous choreographers, as well as peer works, and through their own improvisations. Students will learn the role of concepts such as dimension, path, planes, shape, negative space, tension, relaxation, and more, and where and how the use of these techniques and/or concepts can be used to tell their dance story.
Contemporary Jazz/Hip-Hop (Q)	This hybrid jazz class teaches a non-traditional style of jazz to a generation that is experiencing its evolution. Students will study this new style of jazz by learning technique, performing and choreographing short contemporary pieces, and studying its dominance in the present day dance world. Knowledge of safe practices in dance and respect for other styles of jazz that have contributed to this style will also be part of this course.
Dance Ensemble (S)	This course is designed to challenge the experienced dancer who is not yet ready for dance

	company. It is open to seventh and eighth graders, although occasionally it is offered to sixth graders as well. Students explore advanced coursework in Modern Dance, Contemporary, Hip Hop and Choreography. Students occasionally work with a guest artist during second semester, and performance opportunities are provided. This class has more recently taken on the title "Ensemble" to define more of a performing concert practice similar to dance company. **Audition Required
Jazz I / II (Q)	This course serves as the entry point into the dance department for all 6th graders. Students explore basic technique, improvisation, and composition as it relates to Jazz. A study of the contributions of early Jazz pioneers, the global nature of dance, and the relationship between dance and healthful living is included. Formal performance opportunities will not be given, however a Parent Observation Week is often held at the end of each quarter. This class is offered second quarter only and is open to all 6th grade boys and girls regardless of prior experience or training in dance.
Ligon Dance Company (LDC) (Y)	In this course, students develop various techniques including stage presence, ensemble work and an understanding of the relationship between dancer and choreographer. Opportunities are given for performance in director selected dance styles such as Modern Dance, Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary, and student choreography. These students are the highest level dancers and are expected to develop skills in collaboration, leadership, and service to others through their dance opportunities in order to model 21st Century Learning Goals at the highest artistic level. **Audition Required
Modern I / II (Q)	This course serves as the entry point into the dance department for all 6th graders. Students explore basic technique, improvisation, and composition as it relates to Modern Dance. A study of the contributions of Modern dance pioneers, the global nature of dance, and the relationship between dance and healthful living is included. Formal performance opportunities will not be given, however a Parent Observation Week is often held at the end of each quarter. This class is offered first quarter only and is open to all 6th grade students regardless of prior experience or training in dance.
Tap I / II (Q)	This course serves as the entry point into the dance department for all 6th graders. Students explore basic technique, improvisation, and composition as it relates to Tap Dance. A study of the contributions of early Tap dance pioneers, the global nature of dance, and the relationship between dance and healthful living is included. Formal performance opportunities will not be given, however a Parent Observation Week is often held at the end of each quarter. This class is offered second quarter only and is open to all 6th grade boys and girls regardless of prior experience or training in dance.
Tapestry (Y)	Challenge yourself with advanced level tap technique. In this class, auditioned members learn and perform advanced tap techniques and rhythms from various tap styles. Students have the opportunity to fine-tune performance, improvisation and dance critiquing skills while learning to create, revise, and analyze choreography. Students will use advanced technical skills to perform a variety of teacher and student choreographed dances throughout the course of the year. 8th grade students will have the opportunity to choreograph and present a piece at the final performance. **Audition Required
Yoga & Flexibility (Q)	Designed for middle school students interested in gaining a better understanding of yoga as a way to increase flexibility and relaxation. Through this course students will be introduced yoga techniques, breathing exercises, as well as yoga sequence development. Students will be able to apply this knowledge to their everyday lives as an option to maintain their personal

	wellness.
Theatre Electives	
Acting I (Q)	In this course, students will explore characters and situations through their creative resources using theatre games and extended improvisational situations and prepared scripts. They begin to understand the proper use of voice and diction. This course includes an overview of the historical development of the actor's art.
Acting II (Q)	This course offers students the opportunity to develop acting skills at a more advanced level. Students are challenged to become disciplined in acting techniques and to go beyond the classroom to independently develop a working knowledge of acting. Accents and dialects are studies. Minimal memorization for a final scene is required. Prerequisite: Acting I with passing grade
Applause (Y)	Applause is an ensemble for our accelerated theatre students and stages multiple performances over the course of the school year. Designed for 7th grade students. **Audition consists of a prepared monologue.
Costume Design/Makeup (Q)	Learn how to make the show happen! Become a quasi-expert in the area of theatre design. This class will explore theatre costumes and make-up design. In this course students will learn about the role of the designer – most activities are hands-on and participation is expected – from make-up special effects to costume design projects – you will collaborate with your peers while learning to develop creative skills as a theatre designer.
Encore (Y)	This ensemble for our most advanced theatre students produces multiple full-length productions throughout the school year. Designed for 8th grade students. ** Audition consists of a prepared monologue and improvisation/cold readings.
Improvisation (Q)	In this course, you will explore improvisation techniques to develop skills in spontaneous acting. Students will learn to create scenes and situations through theatre games. Students will also learn the rules of improvisation through classroom exercises and cooperative learning styles.
Intro to Theatre (Q)	Learn the basics of all aspects of theatre production! In this course you will study acting, directing, design, and playwriting. Most activities are hands-on and participation every day is expected—from Greek Theatre to a behind the scenes look at The Lion King—you will collaborate and create multiple projects while learning to develop creative skills as a theatre artist.
Playwriting (Q)	Learn the craft of playwriting! In this course, you will study plot, characterization, theatricality, and other elements of the playwright's craft. You will examine great playwrights Arthur Miller, Henrik Ibsen, August Wilson, Anna Deavere Smith, Anton Chekhov, Wendy Wasserstein, Tennessee Williams, and others. The course functions as a playwriting workshop as students present exercises in class to be discussed by their peers. Utilizing techniques learned, students will begin work on a one-act play which will be featured in a staged reading performance at the end of the course.
Tech Theatre I (Q)	Learn the basic concepts of technical theatre, including stagecraft, lighting and sound. See how the backstage work makes the onstage magic happen!

Tech Theatre II (Q)	Continue the study of stagecraft with more hands on experience with scenic design and construction. An active course where students build the world of the play! Prerequisite: Tech Theatre I
Tech Theatre III (Q)	The real magic of theatre is created by the lighting and sound magicians...seeing and hearing is believing!! Learn to make it happen! Prerequisite: Tech Theatre II
Scenery, Lighting, & Sound Design (Q)	Learn how the magic of theatrical production is translated from ideas and concepts into three dimensional reality! If you can dream it – you can do it – in theatre! Prerequisite: Tech Theatre III
Visual Arts	
Advanced 2D portfolio (S)	This is a semester long class offered to help prepare 8th grade students for the portfolio process in High School. Students will assess and critique while creating studio projects to show breadth of study. In addition to producing pieces, students work through Google Classroom and Wix/Weebly to create online portfolios. Last year, 18 Ligon students presented their portfolios at Enloe and Broughton and were exempted from Art I to take Advanced Honors Art during their freshman year. Prerequisite: Two Visual Art courses with an A average.
Advanced 3D portfolio (S)	Advanced 3D design is for any student who has taken at least two 3D classes. They can be from any combination of Pottery I, Pottery II, Sculpture, or Mask Making. Students will be creating 3 dimensional projects that are more advanced and require advanced techniques learned in previous classes. Projects will be fewer in number but more detail oriented. Prerequisite: A C average or above in two previous 3D classes.
Carolina Crafts (Q)	Students will create crafts using techniques such as basketry, weaving and pottery techniques, along with their accompanying terminology.
Drawing I / II (Q)	Drawing I is a wonderful first choice for students who are interested in taking two-dimensional arts courses during middle school. This introductory course allows students to understand and apply drawing basics as related to elements of art Line, Shape, Value and Texture and through concepts of proportion and perspective. Drawing media utilized during this course includes but is not limited to drawing pencils, pen and ink, charcoal, conte crayon, oil pastel and mixed media. Students can expect to draw from life with still life and figure drawing as well as to incorporate mathematical principles for proportion, scale, and symmetry. Level 2 builds on this course.
Exploring Art through Fibers (Q)	This course will allow the student the opportunity to explore a wide variety of art processes that involve fabrics. Paper, cotton, and wool, among other types of fabrics, will be used to explore and create functional and decorative projects that connect to our everyday world. Techniques may include batik, tie-dying, papermaking, weaving, and silk painting.
Foundations of Art (Q)	Students are encouraged to take an exploratory approach to the creative process within this course. Throughout the quarter, the class is introduced to elements of art and principles of design in relation to the gamut of Visual Art – both two and three-dimensional units. The work of different artists and the value of the creative process will be stressed. Students will have an opportunity to work with a variety of different materials and processes. This class is a great foundation for any Visual Arts course.

Painting I / II (Q)	In this introduction to Painting, students will understand and apply the basics as related to elements of art Color, Value, Line and Shape. Painting media utilized during this course includes but is not limited to tempera, acrylic, oil, watercolor, and India ink. Students can expect to understand color theory before painting to assist with color relationships and mixing. Likewise, students will use value to appropriately apply hue and intensity. Level 2 builds on this course.
Pottery I / II (Q)	This course is an introduction to the versatile, organic material of clay. Students will build functional and decorative pots using traditional hand-building techniques, including pinch, coil, and slab. Pots will be glazed and fired in a kiln. Students will obtain an understanding of ceramics, specific vocabulary, and will study the ceramic traditions of different cultures. A study of local craft traditions will also be included. This course will develop the student's understanding of the ceramic process, its relationship to the earth sciences, and emphasize the traditional, historical, and contemporary uses of clay. Level 2 builds on this course.
Printmaking (Q)	Printmaking will be presented as a commercial form of Art through the creation of multiples. Students will learn how vital planning and the artistic process are in addition to the value of negative space while creating their printing plates. Element and Principle relationships will continue to be implemented into printmaking. Students will also be learning how to appropriately handle tools such as linoleum cutters, Xacto blades, the printing press, etc in order to maintain a safe working environment.
Sculpture I / II (Q)	This course is an introduction to the versatile, organic material of clay. Students will build functional and decorative pots using traditional hand-building techniques, including pinch, coil, and slab. Pots will be glazed and fired in a kiln. Students will obtain an understanding of ceramics, specific vocabulary, and will study the ceramic traditions of different cultures. A study of local craft traditions will also be included. This course will develop the student's understanding of the ceramic process, its relationship to the earth sciences, and emphasize the traditional, historical, and contemporary uses of clay. Level 2 builds on this course.

Career & Technical Education (CTE) Electives

Agriculture	
Environmental/Natural Resources (Q)	Topics of instruction include animal science, agricultural science and technology, plant science, agricultural issues, natural resources, food science, stewardship, consumer agriculture, and careers in agricultural science.
Exploring Agricultural Issues (Q)	Introduction to the industry of agriculture including topics related to agricultural science and technology, agricultural issues, food science, stewardship, consumer agriculture, and careers in agricultural science. FFA competitive events, community service, and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness skills through authentic experiences.
Exploring Animal & Plant Science (Q)	Agricultural Education is available to students who want to learn about the science, business, technology of plant and animal production, and/or about the environmental and natural resources systems.

Fundamentals of Biotechnology (Q)	This middle school course focuses on the agricultural and medical industry with emphasis on the relationship of science and technology that affects agriculture, medicine, and health care.
Business/Career	
Digital Literacy (Q)	This middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to allow students to learn digital literacy and computer knowledge, and document formatting skills.
Exploring Business & Entrepreneurship (Q)	This middle school course is designed to explore the nature of business, entrepreneurial skills, and to study related careers in fields such as financial services, information technology, marketing, office systems technology, public relations and promotion, and travel and tourism.
Keyboarding and Basic Word Processing (Q)	This middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to allow students to learn the touch method of keyboarding, basic word processing and document formatting skills.
Introduction to Office Productivity	This middle school course is composed of instructional modules designed to provide hands-on instruction using software common in the workplace.
Family & Consumer Science	*All courses have the ability to connect to the FCCLA program. Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) involves competitive events, community service and leadership activities provide the opportunity to apply essential standards and workplace readiness through authentic experiences.
Exploring Apparel and Interior Design (Q)	The modules that are covered in this course are: apparel, and interior design. Students are eligible to receive EverFi's Vault™ and the NC eFoodhandler™ certifications.
Exploring Interpersonal Relationship-Childcare (Q)	The modules that are covered in this course are: apparel, and interior design. Students are eligible to receive the American Red Cross® Babysitter certification
Exploring Nutrition and Wellness (Q)	This course includes topics from interpersonal relationships, nutrition and wellness. Learn the necessary safety techniques in the kitchen, how to make delicious foods from healthy ingredients, and how to play a supporting role in a kitchen setting.
Understand Personal Finance-Hospitality (Q)	The modules that are covered in this course are: personal finance and resource management, food service and hospitality. Students are eligible to receive EverFi's Vault™ and the NC eFoodhandler™ certifications.
Technology	
Design and Creativity (Q)	Through engaging activities and hands-on projects, students focus on understanding how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs.
Exploring Engineering and Design (Q)	This middle school course focuses on applying the design process in the invention or innovation of a new product, process, or system.
Exploring Technological Systems (Q)	This middle school course focuses on applying the design process in the invention or innovation of a new product, process, or system. Through engaging activities and hands-on projects, students focus on understanding how criteria, constraints, and processes affect

	designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs. Students develop skills in researching information, communicating design information, and reporting results.
Invention and Innovation (Q)	Through engaging activities and hands-on projects, students focus on understanding how criteria, constraints, and processes affect designs. Emphasis is placed on brainstorming, visualizing, modeling, testing, and refining designs.
Technology and Society (Q)	Students develop skills in researching information, communicating design information, and reporting results. Activities are structured to integrate physical and social sciences, mathematics, English language arts, and art.

Physical Education Electives

Archery (Q)	This course serves as a basic introduction to the bows and arrows of the sport. Students will develop proper and safe skills in target shooting and arrow retrieving, while also learning about the history, terminology, scoring, and equipment care for archery.
Badminton (Q)	Badminton is designed for the beginning student, but will be adjusted for all skill levels, so whether you've never played badminton, or you're an expert in getting the "birdy" over the net, you'll learn about the history, terminology, equipment, rules, safety, strategy, and scoring of this game! Play lead-up games, and participate in singles and doubles tournament play. Emphasis is placed on proper serving and game strokes.
Basketball I / II (Q)	All aspects of beginning to advanced basketball are explored in this class, providing students with opportunities to develop their game more fully. Learn the origins of the game as well as essential skills, as well as terminology, rules, strategy, safety, and game play. Upon completing the course, you will be able to explain and execute the basic aspects of the game of Basketball. Level II class will delve deeper into the aspects of the game and require students to peer teach to Level I students.
Bowling (Q)	This is an introductory course to the sport of bowling. Have fun learning about the history and development of the sport, as well as the terminology, safety, and scoring aspects. Proper skills and equipment aspects will be emphasized throughout. S-T-R-I-K-E!
Flag Football (Q)	This elective is the non-tackle version of football, and all its aspects! Participate in drills, learn proper football terminology, rules, strategy, safety, and basic physical conditioning. How did football develop? What is its background? What are the basic rule differences between grade school, college level, and professional football.? Upon completion of this class, you will be a knowledgeable observer, participant, or both!
Floor Hockey (Q)	Participate in Floor Hockey! This elective is designed for the beginning student, but will be modified for all skill levels within the class. While you're learning how to dribble, pass, shoot, and score, learn the history, terminology, game and safety rules, and game strategy!
Golf (Q)	FORE! Enjoy learning the history of golf, terminology, strokes, and the difference in those crazy hitting sticks golfers call "clubs", as well as all techniques used in hitting the golf ball for different distances. Learn how to judge your strength to achieve different distances and trajectories of the ball. Hole in One!

Health & PE (Q)	This course is designed for students to gain knowledge & adapt to healthy living.
Kickball (Q)	This course is designed for the beginning skilled student, however it can be modified for all skill levels. Learn how to pitch, catch, kick and throw the ball; learn all rules and regulations and all safety aspects of the game. A big part of kickball is strategy –come learn that and more in this elective.
Lacrosse I / II (Q)	Lacrosse-why is it named that way? Where does LAX come from? How can you become skilled in this dynamic, fast-paced game? Come find out more about the rules and regulations, safety and sportsmanship by taking this elective.
Personal Fitness (Q)	This interactive course will teach you life-long fitness skills, such as how to move properly through a set of movements designed to tone muscles, the importance of balancing aerobic activity with strength training, and how to create a personal routine that is tailored to your interests. Learn how to keep engaged, active, and healthy!
Rhythm & Ropes (Q)	This course is designed for students who are interested in improving their fitness levels by “moving to the beat”. Jumping rope and stepping are a major part of the class, but other rhythmic activities may be included on a smaller scale. Students will be expected to develop their own routines after studying the basics of these activities.
Soccer I / II (Q)	This course is designed for the beginning to advanced player so that they can develop their skills for soccer. These courses provide the students with opportunities to develop their game more fully. This class will cover all basic skills, terminology, rules, strategies, safety, and game play. Soccer level I will concentrate on skills, rules and basic game play. Soccer II will delve deeper into more advanced skills and strategies of game play. Students will be able to analyze their own skill progression as well as doing peer evaluations.
Softball (Q)	This course is designed for the beginning student, but can be adjusted for all skill levels. Softball course is to help students be able to throw, catch, track and hit a softball. The course will begin with terminology and history of the game of softball. Students will be taught the game and strategies of softball and will understand the correlation of physical fitness and playing the game.
Team Recreational Games (Q)	Learn the skills to more fully enjoy typical and not-so-typical recreational games! Games such as ping pong, badminton, paddle ball, horseshoes, kickball, pilo polo, bowling, tennis, and corn hole are just examples of the many types of games you and your team will experience.
Tennis I / II (Q)	This course is designed for the beginning student who is unfamiliar with the basic fundamentals of tennis. Besides skills, the student will be exposed to the history, terminology, equipment, scoring and safety aspects of the sport. Tennis level II will continue to build on those items while increasing the amount of rigor necessary for the student to gain greater proficiency and confidence in order to be competitive at a higher level, if desired.
Track & Field (Q)	This course is designed for the beginner but may be modified for all skill levels. Students will learn proper running techniques for long distance vs short distance sprints. Breathing techniques will be taught for all types of events. Proper throwing techniques for shot put and appropriate body positions and techniques for long jump will be presented to all students.
Volleyball I / II (Q)	In this course, students will begin to understand the intricacies of the game of volleyball and

	will be able to develop their skills so that they are comfortable in any level of class competition. The areas of history/game development, basic skills, terminology, rules, strategy, scoring, and safety will be explored. Volleyball level II will require students to display consistent and more complex skills.
World Games (Q)	Participate in a wide variety of games from different countries! Learn games that students from different world regions play competitively and recreationally. The historical and cultural background of the games, and the people who play them, will be an informative and interactive part of this engaging course!

Language Electives

Chinese IA (Y)	Want to join the 20% of the world's population that speaks Chinese? Try this introductory course to Chinese language and culture. Students study basic language structures and vocabulary and use them in listening, speaking, reading and writing activities at the beginning level.
French IA (Y)	This course is an introduction to the French language and culture. Students study basic grammatical structures and vocabulary and use them in listening, speaking, reading and writing activities at the beginning level.
German I (Y)	This course is an introduction to the German language and culture. Students study basic grammatical structures and vocabulary and use them in listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities at the beginning level.
Japanese IA (Y)	This course is an introduction to the Japanese language and culture. Students study basic grammatical structures and vocabulary and use them in listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities at the beginning level.
Spanish IA (Y)	Students study basic grammatical structures and vocabulary through activities involving listening, speaking, reading, and writing. An introduction to the Spanish language and culture.