



ST. FRANCIS JUNIOR HIGH

Grade 7 Investigative Options 2026-27

Course: Canva Skills

Teacher: Hannah Couture

Description: Students will explore the many tools and possibilities made available through the platform Canva which will help them to enhance their ability to communicate important information through slide decks, videos, posters, and more in visually appealing and compelling ways.

Cost: No cost

Course: Instrumental Music (Band)

Teacher: Chris Hartman

Description: This course provides opportunities for grade 8/9 students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through learning to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Study includes the care and cultivation of a beautiful tone, the ability to read music, the building of technical skills, team spirit, and responsible rehearsal habits. Students will study many styles of music and perform before live audiences in several concerts throughout the year. Previous musical experience is beneficial but not required. **Keep in mind that you sign up for this option for the entire semester (4 months). You then can sign up again for the second semester in order to stay in band for the whole year. Think of this as a developmental option during investigative option time.**

****Note:** Students are required to rent or otherwise obtain an instrument if they do not already have their own.

Cost: \$50

Course: Cardboard Boats

Teacher: Chelsey Hinger

Description: Students will work in groups to design, plan and build cardboard boat prototypes. We will test the prototypes with an afternoon at the pool. The best prototypes will go on to represent St. Francis at the Regional boat race at the U of L.

Cost: \$15

Course: Cinematic Exploration

Teacher: Hannah Couture

Description: Students will explore cinematic techniques and conduct thorough examinations of how they come together to create excellence in film.

Cost: No cost

Course: Construction Tech: Intro to Metalwork

Teacher: Jason Roberts

Description: The students will use various methods of cutting, joining and shaping metal to complete projects with sheet metal, producing items they can take home and use.

Cost: \$50

Course: Construction Tech: Intro to Woodwork

Teacher: Jason Roberts

Description: Students will explore different methods of joining, cutting and shaping wood through a variety of projects.

Cost: \$50

Course: Crafts and Creativity

Teacher: Kristen Laurie

Description: Crafts & Creativity is a hands-on option where students will explore a new craft each week. From clay creations and bracelet making to origami, painting, and other DIY projects, students will have the opportunity to express their creativity, learn new techniques, and create unique handmade items

Cost: \$8

Course: Crime Scene Investigation

Teacher: Brooklyn Kowalchuk

Description: Do you have what it takes to crack the case? Work alongside your team to investigate mysterious crimes, examine evidence, interview suspects, solve puzzles, and uncover hidden clues. Every case is different, and only the best detectives will solve the mystery before time runs out!

Cost: No cost

Course: From Old to New

Teacher: Winston Day Chief

Description: Students will be given the opportunity and the freedom to choose their own projects to restore from old to new in a way that represents them. Projects could include painting stools, decorating mirrors and mason jars and any other projects that they may be interested in restoring. Students will be asked to bring in some old items to restore in class.

Cost: No cost

Course: Games and Puzzles

Teacher: Jared Sandham

Description: Games are a part of what bonds people to one another. With many combinations of dice, cards, and boards, students can have fun in this class by sitting with each other to play games and grow a broader understanding of games by learning about their historic origins. This class blends teamwork, strategic thinking, and numeracy skills to deliver an exciting experience with the aim of learning a new game that can be enjoyed outside of the classroom too!

Cost: No cost

Course: Indigenous Art

Teacher: Winston Day Chief

Description: Welcome to Indigenous Art! This class allows students through a respectful manner to explore the rich and diverse world of Indigenous art. Through hands-on activities and a look at the traditions of the art form, students will gain a deeper appreciation for Indigenous traditions, techniques, and the cultural significance behind the art forms

Cost: \$10

Course: Introduction to Gaming Concepts

Teacher: Winston Day Chief

Description: Discover the exciting world of gaming beyond simply playing! In Introduction to Gaming Concepts, students will explore the fundamentals of video games and the growing world of esports. They will learn about teamwork, communication, sportsmanship, strategy, game design, online safety, and healthy gaming habits while participating in a variety of gaming activities and challenges.

Cost: \$40

Course: Jr. Astronomer

Teacher: Chelsey Hinger

Description: In Jr. Astronomer, students will explore celestial bodies, such as planets, stars, galaxies, and beyond. Through engaging discussions, and hands-on activities, they will delve into topics like the solar system, the life cycle of stars, the mysteries of black holes, and the exploration of space.

Cost: No cost

Course: Jr. Crochet

Teacher: Hannah Couture

Description: New and experienced crocheters alike will have the chance to create gifts for their loved one with their own hands. Whether students have experience crocheting and are learning to challenge themselves, or are brand new to the craft there will be opportunities to learn new stitches and create using patterns that produce quick and satisfying results.

Cost: \$10

Course: Jr. Global Mythologies

Teacher: Hannah Couture

Description: Students will explore the history, legacy, and stories of mythological systems from cultures around the world and throughout history, learning these stories, analyzing them, and creatively adding and responding to them.

Cost: No cost

Course: Mindfulness

Teacher: Kristen Laurie

Description: Looking for a fun, relaxing option? In this class, we'll explore activities that help you recharge, reduce stress, and focus on your well-being. From creating vision boards and planting to meditation, crafts, and other mindful activities, you'll have the chance to be creative, connect with others, and learn simple habits that support a healthy mind and body.

Cost: \$8

Course: Paper Crafts

Teacher: Chelsey Hinger

Description: Students will explore the exciting art of paper crafting and unleash their creativity through a variety of engaging projects. From origami and paper sculptures to pop-up card making, students will learn different techniques and develop their artistic skills using the versatile medium of paper.

Cost: \$5

Course: Podcasting

Teacher: Jared Sandham

Description: Students will explore podcasting and how they can share their own personal interests with the format. We will work on examining different styles of podcasting, dissecting the strengths and limitations of podcasts, integrating current events into podcasting, and eventually create a script that will become students' own. This class is made to encourage students to grow skills such as critical thinking, teamwork, and communication.

Cost: No cost

Course: Saiyihpiyit

Teacher: Domes

Description: Saiyihpiyit' is a Blackfoot word meaning to dance out. In this Investigative Option, students will gain confidence using their voices in multiple ways. They will learn traditional Blackfoot drumming and singing from Sheldon Day Chief as well as participate in a variety of activities advocating for what they believe in and gain leadership skills.

Cost: No cost

Course: Self Care

Teacher: Kristen Laurie

Description: Self Care is a hands-on option focused on personal wellness, confidence, and healthy habits. Students will learn about hygiene, skincare, makeup basics, and overall well-being through activities that support self-care routines and positive self-image.

Cost: \$20

Course: Strategy Games

Teacher: Winston Day Chief

Description: Challenge your mind while having fun! In Strategy Games, students will play a variety of individual and team-based games that develop critical thinking, communication, problem-solving, and decision-making skills. Students will learn to plan ahead, adapt their strategies, work collaboratively, and demonstrate good sportsmanship while enjoying friendly competition. This course encourages creativity, teamwork, and strategic thinking in an engaging and active environment.

Cost: No cost

Course: Survivor Academy

Teacher: Brooklyn Kowalchuk

Description: Outwit. Outplay. Outlast. Join a tribe and compete in a season-long adventure where every class brings a brand-new challenge. No two days are the same as your tribe tackles exciting missions that test teamwork, creativity, strategy, problem-solving, and communication. Earn points, unlock rewards, and battle your way to becoming the ultimate Survivor champions!

Cost: No cost

Course: Wind Powered-Transport

Teacher: Chelsey Hinger

Description: In this investigative option, your team will create a company, and in the various roles presented, you will work collaboratively to design a wind-powered vehicle that carries 10 marbles, travels 5 meters using a single fixed wind source, includes an onboard gear/pulley train, and stays within a \$1,000,000 budget.

Cost: No cost

Course: Worldwide Wonder

Teacher: Jared Sandham

Description: Cultures around the world all have different things for us to ponder. How were the wonders of the world made? How did certain foods get so diverse? Along with many questions such as these, this class will showcase different cultures and geographies to provide insights into various civilizations around the globe. Students will develop skills related to research, presenting, and recognizing diversity of cultures.

Cost: \$5