

## 6-8th Grade Exploratory Course Offerings

At The Lincoln Academy scholars will graduate college and career ready. As part of their education, TLA scholars will be exposed to careers at each grade level. Each year, 6-8th grade scholars will have the opportunity to take four different exploratory courses that align with their Individualized Learning Plan. Scholars will select four exploratory courses plus two alternates. These courses will provide hands-on learning experiences and career exploration through different pathways. By taking these courses it will help guide scholars when picking what courses they would like to take in high school. Below are the course descriptions for all the exploratory courses.

### ***Broadcast***

Scholars will be introduced to the art of combining journalism and video. Scholars will research topics and provide reports in writing and speaking. They will have the opportunity to work with high school scholars to broadcast the school news.

### ***Ceramics***

Scholars will learn about the historical background, aesthetic traditions, and artistic properties of ceramics in this course. The scholar will acquire knowledge of form, volume, and space relationships when creating ceramic pieces.

### ***ChromeDepot***

Scholars will learn about computer equipment, terminology, and networking. Scholars will learn how to teardown and rebuild a Chromebook. They will help repair scholar devices. Computer ethics, careers, and job outlooks will be discussed in this course.

### ***Citizenship and Service***

This course provides classroom experiences that will help scholars become informed and responsible citizens, promotes self-reliance, discipline, and leadership.

### ***Culinary***

This course is designed to introduce culinary to scholars. Scholars will gain knowledge about food and nutrition. Scholars will work in groups preparing recipes and developing introductory food preparation skills. Essential skills will focus on kitchen safety and sanitation, lab procedures, and measuring techniques.

### ***CNC***

Scholars will be introduced to CNC equipment and learn how to use an XS Tech desktop CNC through this hands-on lab-based class. During the course, scholars will learn how to properly set up and operate a desktop CNC Mill. Scholars will learn how to program CNC CAM software to make custom parts. Scholars will also learn about manufacturing and engineering careers. NC3 (National Coalition of Certifications) curriculum will be taught in this course.



**Creative Writing**

Scholars will examine different genres of writing and the elements necessary to write stories, poetry, journal entries, as well as other works that encourage creativity and originality. Scholars will be exposed to a variety of authors, writing techniques, basic story elements, and peer feedback in an effort to improve and expand upon their writing skills. When possible, scholars will have the opportunity to share their work with their peers and communicate with published authors.

**Construction**

Scholars will begin to familiarize themselves in the Construction Lab learning about safety and how to use a variety of different hand and power tools. During the course, scholars will work with a team to design and create a custom project.

**Digital Art**

Scholars will learn how to use computer programs to produce digital art. Using digital tools in this course will increase scholar artistic development and creativity.

**Education**

This course will allow scholars to develop critical-thinking, collaborative, and time management skills. This class introduces scholars to the process of lesson planning, creating their own lesson plans, and having hands-on experiences teaching their lessons to other scholars. Scholars will teach lessons of their choice and be creative in the project creation process while working collaboratively with others in the classroom.

**Healthcare**

This course introduces middle school scholars to the exciting, dynamic world of health sciences. This industry is rapidly changing and in high demand for workers who can think critically to solve a range of health-related problems. Scholars will explore healthcare systems, legal and ethical issues, and basic healthcare skills.

**Hydroponics**

Scholars will learn about indoor farming by using our Flex Farms Hydroponic system. They will learn how to grow their food, study plants, learn about careers in agriculture, and operate the Fork Farm.

**Innovative Lab**

This course introduces scholars to makerspace. They will learn the importance of creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving while using the technology and equipment. Scholars will learn about safety, the design process, and computer-aided design. Scholars will learn how to use 3D printers, lasers, vinyl cutters, and design software that supports these machines.

**Makeup Artist**

Scholars will obtain skills and techniques in make-up application, sanitation, and business management. Cosmetology careers will be discussed and explored in this course.

**Metals Art**

This course is designed to familiarize scholars with basic and traditional metal techniques involved in designing and creating metal objects. Through the use of tools, machines, and materials scholars will learn the importance of the metalworking industry.



**Music Production**

This course provides scholars with an opportunity to learn and apply skills in music recording techniques and creating finished musical recordings.

**Robotics**

Scholars will learn how to use software to design, build and program robots. This course will help scholars develop essential skills, creativity, and critical thinking.

**Theater-**\*\*\**Can be taken once/year when in grades 6-9.*

Through activities involving movement, improv, storytelling, voice, and performance, scholars will learn the basics of theater and acting. Using their imaginations to make artistic choices, scholars will develop strategies to collaborate, memorize and problem solve.

**TLA Rocks-\*\*\*2 Quarters**

Scholars will be participating in a performance-based ensemble that incorporates the use of a musical instrument and/or voice playing contemporary music styles. (Instruments used in class may include those typically used in current music styles - rock, hip hop, jazz.) Scholars will need to provide their own music instrument. Musical literacy, technique, and ensemble skills will be built through creating, performing, responding, and connecting standards. Scholars will be expected to participate in a school performance of the ensemble at the conclusion of the course.

**Spanish**

This course offers scholars an overview of the Spanish language and culture. Scholars will learn basic vocabulary, basic expressions, and cultural information. Scholars will explore how the Spanish language and culture relates to English and other countries.

**Yearbook**

Scholars will be introduced to photography, design, and journalism in this course. They will have the opportunity to work with high school scholars to design and complete pages for the TLA yearbook.

**Yoga**

This course is designed to introduce scholars to basic postures, breathing techniques, and relaxation methods of yoga. By the end of the course, scholars will be able to perform their own yoga sequences so that they can continue incorporating yoga into their daily lives.

**3-D Modeling**

Scholars will learn how to 3D model using Fusion 360. 3D modeling is the root of the technology we offer here at TLA. Scholars need to know how to design, 3D model, create assemblies and animations within a 3D modeling software in order to properly utilize any of the technology we have in our labs. Whether scholars are using the 3D printer, laser, CNC, or router it all starts with 3D modeling.

\*\*\*Subject to change. Additional course offerings may be added based on hired staff expertise areas.

