

Junior High Course Descriptions

English Courses

Language Arts 7

Students will participate in daily journal writing, novel studies, and composition. Students will complete two in-class novels and well as eight literature books completed independently through EBS. Compositions include narratives, business letters, informational essays, compare/contrast essays, and persuasive essays. Public speaking is also a part of the course.

Language Arts 8

Students will participate in daily journal writing, novel studies, and composition. Students will complete 4 in-class novels as well as eight literature books completed independently through EBS. Compositions include narratives, business letters, informational essays, and persuasive essays. Public speaking is also a part of the course.

Fine Arts Courses

Chorus 7 & 8

Junior high chorus is a group for students who like to sing and want to improve their sound, want to know more about reading music, and who want to explore different styles of music from classical and foreign songs to today's popular music. Students do not need to have "perfect" voices but should want to learn how to improve their singing. That is the only requirement.

Intermediate Band 7 & 8

This is a class for 7th and 8th graders wishing to continue learning about instrumental music. Students must have a basic understanding of how to play a traditional band instrument as well as how to read music. The class will prepare for and perform several concerts throughout the school year.

JH Music 7 & 8

This is a general music class. Students will learn various aspects of music, including, note reading, music notation, rhythm, instrument information and style differences.

Art 7 & 8

Junior High Art is a comprehensive study of art that is based mainly on studio work. Students work on a variety of projects that include drawing, painting, printmaking, weaving, and ceramics. There is also an introduction to art history and the art of different cultures around the world.

Mathematics Courses

Mathematics 7

The curriculum of this course will cover the Ohio Academic Content Standards using the Connected Math Program. The Connected Math Program includes a series of eight books, focusing on: coordinate planes, scale factors, comparing numbers, negative numbers, linear equations, geometry, probability, and data analysis. Throughout the course, teaching is directed to enhance critical thinking skills and problem solving methods while incorporating lessons to real-life situations.

Mathematics 8

One of the major goals of the program is to develop students' ability to solve problems in class, on assessments, in the context of real-world situations and outside the classroom. Students will explore five Academic Content Standards for Mathematics (developed by the Ohio Department of Education): Number, Number Sense and Operations, Measurement, Geometry and Spatial Sense, Patterns, Functions and Algebra; and Data Analysis and Probability. These Content Standards will develop mathematic skills the students need to be successful in school, the workplace, and in their daily life.

History Courses

U.S. History 8

A study of American History from early colonization to the Civil War. Along the way the following topics will be examined: foreign influence on North America, the American Revolution, the early American government, the forming of the Constitution, American Indian Policy, Manifest Destiny, sectionalism, and various social studies skills. Various activities will be completed throughout the year including independent research, simulations and computer-based learning.

World History 7

A study of World History from about 1000 B.C.E. to 1600 C.E. Along the way the following topics will be examined: early civilizations including those of Greece, Rome, China and Africa, feudalism, the Crusades, the Renaissance and the Reformation, and European exploration. Various activities will be completed throughout the year including independent research, simulations and computer-based learning.

Science Courses

Science 7

This course will cover all the 7th grade State of Ohio Academic content Standards in science in preparation for the 8th grade Ohio Achievement Assessment or O.A.A. Using scientific inquiry, scientific ways of knowing and science technology students will cover the topics of biogeochemical cycles in the lithosphere/ hydrosphere/atmosphere, weather, climate and climate zones, and weather related phenomenon, ecosystems, environmental issues, diversity of organisms, matter, and energy.

Earth and Physical Science 8

Topics taught in Science 8 Earth and Physical Science include all of the 6th, 7th and 8th grade indicators for Earth and Space science, physical Science as well as selected indicators for the Nature of Science.

Topics covered include properties and composition of matter, an introduction to chemistry, minerals, rock types, volcanoes, earthquakes, plate tectonics, mountain formation. Astronomy, meteorology, oceanography and topics in environmental science and energy.

Biology 8

Science 8 biology is an introductory course in junior high biology. Topics that will be taught will be all of the 6th, 7th and 8th grade indicators for life science as well as selected indicators for the nature of science.

Physical Education Course

Physical Education (Grades 7 & 8)

Students in Physical Education will learn skills in various sports and fitness programs during one semester in junior high. They will be instructed and then given a chance to gain mastery of motor skills required in order to participate in physical activities. Strength, flexibility, endurance, and coordination are emphasized through various strategies and different sports. Students are expected to dress and participate daily.

Being able to enjoy activities that students may participate in for the remainder of their lives is important as well as presenting methods of keeping their bodies and mind healthy.

Technology Courses

Keyboarding/Computer Technology

This course is intended to introduce students to the evolving world of Information Technology. Students will have the opportunity to explore computer software employed in the I.T. field in a computerized classroom setting. Students will be introduced to the following units of study: IT introduction, multimedia presentations, telecommunications and ethics, and IT in our lives. The class will emphasize hands-on learning, self-motivation, and career exploration.

In addition, students are introduced to basic keyboarding techniques through the use of Microsoft 4 Software. Approximately 6 weeks are used to cover the Alphabetic Keyboard.

S.N.A. P. (Skills Needed to Achieve and Perform) – 1 semester

This course is an elective for 7th and 8th graders. The course is based upon the book The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens written by Sean Covey. Skills that are needed in the 21st century are emphasized, such as building relationships, goal setting, creating good habits, making good choices, peer pressure, listening skills, having a winning attitude, and working cooperative.