

Math

MATH 7

Grade Level: 7 **Course Length:** Year **Credit Count:** 1 Middle School Math

Students will practice and improve their number sense, measure sense, and estimation skills. They will review and extend their arithmetic, calculator, and thinking skills by working with fractions, decimals, percents, large and small numbers, and negative numbers, variables, expressions, equations, graphing, and other algebra topics.

PRE-ALGEBRA

Grade Level: 7 - 8 **Course Length:** Year **Credit Count:** 1 Middle School Math

This course is designed to prepare students for success in an algebra course. The emphasis will be on continued development of pattern recognition, computational skills, elementary algebra topics, geometric relationships, problems solving and the use of technology.

ALGEBRA 1

Grade Level: 7 - 12 **Course Length:** Year **Credit Count:** 1 High School Math

(satisfies graduation requirement)

The course reviews and extends problem solving, data analysis, the use of technology (i.e., scientific calculator, graphing calculator, computer), the theory, use and understanding of the fundamental operations on real numbers, expressing quantitative statements in the language of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, polynomials, the use of rational expressions in equations, coordinate graphing, irrational numbers, solution of quadratic equations and related applications.

GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 9 - 12 **Course Length:** Year

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

This course is designed to prepare students for success in an algebra course. The emphasis will be on continued development of pattern recognition, computational skills, elementary algebra topics, geometric relationships, problems solving and the use of technology.

Science

BIOLOGICAL & CHEMICAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 7 - 8 **Course Length:** Year **Credit Count:** 1 Physical Science - .50 per semester Qtr.

1 - Biological Science provides an introduction to biology and the life sciences. In this class we

define the cell as the basic unit of life as we explore single cell microorganisms, and work our way through both the plant and animal kingdoms. As conditions permit projects will include hatching duck eggs and raising plants so we can see the changes that occur with growth and development.

Qtr. 2 - Chemical Science traces the development of chemistry through the early alchemists (transforming coins into gold) through the Bohr atom. We will study the periodic table, and come to understand its relationship to both the structure of the elements and their chemical properties. The relationship between life on earth and chemistry will be discussed, along with the role that chemistry might play in meeting our future energy needs in a sustainable manner.

Physical Science/Energy

Grade Level: 7 - 8 Course Length: Year Credit Count: 1 Physical Science .50 Per Semester You need to know this stuff! Physical Science will help you understand the world through the lens of science and help you communicate your results scientifically. The course uses an interactive notebook model which allows you to build strong organizational and study skills as you create your own textbook based on the course's topics. Semester 1 covers the science that rules your everyday life, called Newton's Laws. Also, you will learn what 'energy' really is and how it works for and against us. In case understanding your world isn't enough, we will also improve our knowledge of scientific measurements, research-based methods, and understanding scientific writing.

Social Studies

Ancient Civilizations

Grade Level: 7-8

This course provides an overview of the major civilizations of the ancient world. Students gain knowledge about the evolution of ancient societies from primitive agricultural communities to advanced civilizations. This course shows the relevance of ancient civilizations in today's world and triggers critical thinking by considering why civilizations developed where and when they did, why they became dominant, and why they declined. From rise to the fall of the greatest communities and their influence of world cultures, student experience interactive, relevant and comprehensive way to learn about the history that's shaped the world as it's seen today.

We The People

Grades 7-8

Welcome to We The People: The Citizen and the Constitution!

The purpose of this class is you to develop a more profound understanding and appreciation for the fundamental principles and values of our free society. What this class is about is the history of ideas. It is designed to help you understand the most important ideas of our constitutional system and how they were developed. It is intended to provide you with knowledge about how the Constitution came into existence, why it took the form it did, and how it has functioned for the past two hundred years. By gaining this understanding, you will be preparing yourselves for the responsibilities of citizenship.

8th Grade Seminar

Course Length: Semester

Credit: .50 English Seminar and .50 Social Studies Seminar

This class is Steller's introduction to Socratic Seminar. The course's readings will cover historical literature, some fiction, and philosophy. All of the reading will be done in class. Homework consists of writing responses to what we read in class. Students will learn and practice essay writing in addition to developing their group discussion and critical thinking skills. Acquiring new vocabulary from the readings will also be emphasized.

Language Arts

Mythology

Grade level: 7-8

$\frac{1}{2}$ English credit

In Mythology, students will study cultures from Greece, South America, and one more area they choose. We'll have reading, discussions, outdoor events, writing, and art to learn about the world.

Essay Composition

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Semester

Essay Composition is Steller's introductory writing course. We will focus on the building blocks of writing: plagiarism, sentence structure, grammar and mechanics, paragraph construction, as well as Narrative and Descriptive essays. We will be using a number of different activities to help writers of all levels advance their skills. An emphasis on writing as a process will be used throughout the course.

Credit Count: Writing

Multicultural Literature

Grade Level: 7-8

Students will read books and short stories from a variety of cultures both in America and worldwide. Students will explore the ideas from the readings through discussion and writing. They will also interact through various other activities.

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Recreational Reading

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Semester

Students who have a passion for literature of all types should sign up for this elective. Students will talk about good books with others who love to read, create projects to show off their books, and hear about new books they might like to read in the future.

Credit Count: Literature

Electives

SPANISH I

Grade Level: 7-12 Course Length: Year Credit Count: 1 World Language / Elective

¡Bienvenidos a todos! A fun introduction to the Spanish language and Spanish/Latin culture. You will have lots of fun learning to speak about yourself, your needs and what you like to do in a new language. Communication will be our emphasis.

SPANISH II

Grade Level: 8-12 Course Length: Year Credit Count: 1 World Language / Elective

¡Bienvenido a tu segundo año de español! Vamos a hablar y leer mucho. También, vamos a estudiar el pasado. This year we will talk about family, friends and vacations. We will read a short novel and perform skits and oral presentations.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE)

Grade Level: 7 - 12 Course Length: Semester Credit Count: .50 Physical Education

This Physical Education class will provide each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, team sports, and physical fitness activities. The students will receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities. The class will promote the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition.

DRAWING & DESIGN

Grade Level: 7 - 12 Course Length: Year Credit Count: .50 Elective Class Fee: \$25

Supplies: Students will also need to provide materials as instructed after the first day of class.

Introductory course to drawing materials (pastels, crayon, paint and mixed media, pencil, pen and ink, charcoal), drawing techniques such as contour, gesture, perspective, shading and design concepts. Studio course emphasizing the principles of composition, color theory, value and tonal studies. May be taken 4 times.

Digital Photo

Grades 7-12 Course Length: Semester Credit: Elective

Digital Art and Photography I is an exciting, fast paced course designed to expose students to a variety of digital art and photography projects. These projects will examine the following topics and much more: depth of field, portraiture, selective focus, composition, decisive moments, self-portraiture, and student choice. Students will discover tips for taking exceptional photographs, while learning strategies to manipulate their photos in digital art programs.

Furthermore, students will observe a variety of digital artists and photographers from around the world. At the end of this course students will gain a deeper understanding of contemporary digital art, as well as, photography by creating a portfolio of their digitally created artwork.

Introduction to Dance

Grades: 7-12 Credit: PE

Learn the basics of dance and body movement. Students will be introduced to various styles of dance including ballet, jazz, partner dance, and much more.