



Junior High Orientation Packet



Higher Independence



Course Descriptions

7th – 8th Grade

2014-2015

Grades 7 -8 Core Curriculum Requirements	Units of Credits
General Core	10.5
Required Courses	
Language Arts	2
Science	1.5
Mathematics	2
Social Studies	1.5
Arts: Visual Arts, Music, Dance, Theatre	1
Physical Education	1
Health Education	.5
Career & Technical Education, Life, Careers	1
Educational Technology	Optional
Library Media	Integrated in to subject areas
Community Service	10 hours per year



Discover Success in 7th grade: Every 7th grade student takes CTE Intro, a class that sets a strong foundation for preparing students to live and function as productive, self-aware adults. CTE functions as practical life skills in the Montessori Environment. Seventh grade students and their parents are introduced to the CRR-Planning process and the important role it plays in college planning.

Develop Exploration in 8th grade: by taking a few elective classes in Career and Technical Education (CTE), fine arts (art, music, and

drama), a world language, and students are given a diverse developmentally appropriate curriculum. The CCR-Planning process in 8th grade includes creating a 4-year plan for high school completion (9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade).

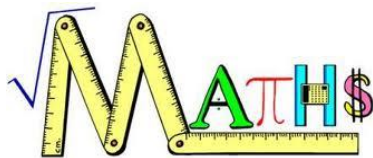
General Core

USOE requires students in grades 7-8 shall earn a minimum of 12 units of credit to be properly prepared for instruction in grades 9-12.



LANGUAGE ARTS

7th & 8th This course is designed to develop proficiency in the mechanics of writing, and word processing, standard usage and grammar, vocabulary, listening and speaking skills, dictionary skills and using the library, and reading strategies. Outside reading and writing will be required each trimester.



Math I: This course focuses on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

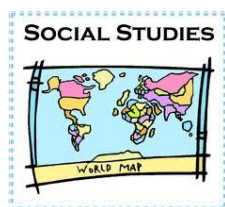
Math I Accelerated: Same as Math I with additional depth and breadth on existing topics. Director recommendation required.

Math II: The purpose of Mathematics II is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Students will use properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. The final unit in the course ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied.

Math II Accelerated: Same concepts will be covered as 8th Grade Mathematics with more Breadth and Depth given to the topics.



Integrated Science 7th & 8th: Seventh Grade and Eighth Grade Integrated Science focuses on the theme of structure. Physical, Earth, and Life science content are integrated in this course with two primary goals: (1) students will use science as a process of obtaining knowledge based on observable evidence, and (2) students will develop an understanding of structure as a general science concept common to all content areas. Hands-on, student centered activities with the student acting as the scientist is emphasized.



7th & 8th: Students will study the significant events, people, cultural diversity, and issues that have influenced the development of Utah. Basic social science skills will be reviewed and taught in greater depth. The course will focus on the development of higher-level thinking skills, geography, history, political science, cultural values, economics and social interaction.



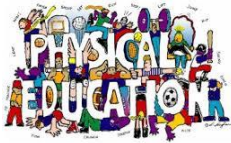
Practical Life 7th: Students will learn how to use computers, sewing machines, tools, cooking facilities, and will explore careers. It consists of one quarter each of **1) Business/Marketing 2) Technology Education 3) Family and Consumer Science 4) Careers.**

The business quarter will include computer spreadsheets, word-processing, slide-show presentations, marketing, and familiarize students with career opportunities in the business world. The Family and Consumer Science quarter will deal with consumer and occupational home economics in the areas of life skills, families, childcare, textiles, and food and nutrition. The technology quarter will introduce students to drafting, manufacturing, transportation, principles of flight, shop safety and construction, and careers in the technology areas. The Careers quarter will help students understand the importance of education and occupational decision making.

Practical Life 8th: Health and career readiness.



Health: The objective of this 8th grade course is enable students to explore strategies related to physical, mental and emotional health to enhance self-concept and relationships with others. Concepts such as nutrition, fitness, disease prevention, human development are addressed in order to promote and enhance healthy lifestyles.



PE: Beginning Team Sports Activities (Co-ed): Students will develop lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity and healthy lifestyles. Students will learn basic skills in physical fitness through team sports, co-educational activities, and individual sports. Components of fitness are introduced as well as social interaction and sportsmanship.

Tchoukball: Tchoukball is an international non-contact sport (aka slam ball) played between two teams utilizing ball trajectory, and offensive & defensive strategies.

Fun Fit Forever: Walk away from this class with the knowledge of how to establish your own personal fitness program. We will cover heart rate, intensity, and wellness and will participate in some recreational games such as dodge ball, kanjam, ultimate Frisbee, and more.

Archery: Learn the 11 steps of successful archery. Practice good technique in our indoor archery range.

La Crosse: Learn about La Crosse equipment, game rules, and learn game skills such as cradling, throwing, catching, and cool stick tricks.

Polynesian Exploration: Braid your own poi balls, learn how to swing them, play stick throwing games, and engage in exciting Polynesian games.

Social Dance: Learn California Western Swing, folk dances, line dancing and more! Numbers are dependent upon boy to girl ration.



Keyboarding: Master touch operation on a computer with good techniques with secondary emphasis on speed and accuracy. This is an important literacy skill that is not taught in high school. Future required courses have a prerequisite keyboarding speed of 35 wpm.



Spanish: This is the beginning course in the Spanish language. Emphasis is placed on learning to speak Spanish along with some work in reading and writing the language.



Beginning Instruments: Welcome to the world of a symphony where strings, brass, winds, and percussion meet. Explore the world of music with an instrument of your choice. Note: Students responsible to obtain instrument, MMA will not be providing instruments.

Performing Choir: Have you ever wanted to learn to sing like a rock star? Well now's your to join the fun in the MMA performing choir. Make friends and learn awesome music as you develop the skills to sing, perform, and how to move to the beat! Your confidence will soar as you learn the art of stage presence, vocal technique, and rhythm, as well as harmony, choreography, and the basics of music theory. Hope to see you there!



Auto Shop: Students will restore a classic car to auction at MMA's Annual Gala.



International Folklore: Find the beauty and diversity of folklore from around the world. These stories entertain while clearly showing what is important to the society.



Gardening: Students will start seeds in a greenhouse and grow plants.



Greek Mythology: Study the fascinating and entertaining lives of the gods, goddesses, heroes, and heroines of Greek mythology. Delve into the stories and art of these classics.



The Mentor Project: Become a mentor and work with students in our own elementary program, or work in the front office, or help grade papers. You will assist our teachers and younger learners in developing confidence in their subject matter, while you refine your leadership skills.



Entrepreneurship: the Student-run Business: In this course, students evaluate the concepts of going into business for themselves and working for or operating a small business. Emphasis is on the exploration of feasible ideas of products/services, research procedures, business financing, marketing strategies, and access to resources for starting a small business.

Students develop components of a business plan and evaluate startup requirements first-hand.

During the course of this elective, students will learn first-hand by running a school “store”; they will begin brainstorming and implement what merchandise they would like to sell, how to manage inventory and staffing, and setup and hours of operation.

Students will also learn how to keep track of finances as well as research laws and regulations regarding businesses. This may include obtaining food-handler permits as well as the possible need for governmental permits or licensing.

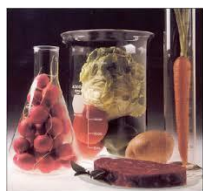


The Chemistry of Cosmetics

When most people hear the word cosmetics, they generally think of women’s makeup. However, the cosmetics industry creates and markets skin tonics, soaps, lotions, perfumes, and shampoos in addition to eye shadows, lipsticks, and mascaras.

Some things are thought of as being created only in some kind of factory, with secret ingredients, mechanisms, and formulas. In reality, the making of cosmetic products is not too difficult when armed with the knowledge of chemistry.

In this elective course students will look at the history of cosmetics and cosmetic making, the definition of and diversity of cosmetics and their application, basic chemistry and atomic theory, chemicals used in cosmetic product, and lastly students will be able to create their own recipes and cosmetic products.



Food Science

What makes bread rise? What makes food burn and turn black? If milk sits out, why does it sometimes turn rancid and sometimes turn to yummy yogurt? These are some of the questions that we will be answering in this elective course.

During the course, students will learn, utilize, and integrate principles from all the scientific disciplines including: biology, microbiology, physics, chemistry, and mycology. Students will get hands-on experience not only “making” food, but eating the fruits of their labors as well. Let us get together and enjoy learning and eating food!



Math lab Tues/Thurs

This elective class is offered as a support for all math classes and is a time dedicated to help students finish up math assignments/practice during school hours



Reading lab Mon/Wed/Fri

This class is for students who need additional instruction for core reading and comprehension strategies. In addition to decoding practice, we will read fun, popular books, stories, poems, and songs.



Community Service

Whether it is in-house or in the community students will be provided with opportunities to contribute service.