

Middle School Course Description Guide 2016-2017



In its efforts to promote nondiscrimination, Crowley ISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.



Department of
Curriculum and Instruction

Dear Students and Parents:

Crowley Independent School District is committed to providing opportunities for students that allow them to prepare for post-secondary readiness in both college and careers. This course description guide has been developed to provide information so you can plan a course for your child to take advantage of the programs and course offerings in our school district.

Students are encouraged to select courses that will provide them with the opportunities to enter the job market with skills for a successful career and be able to successfully gain admission to the college of their choice.

Please review the requirements for graduation and course descriptions to help plan your child's course selections. If you have questions concerning choices for your student, please contact the campus counseling office for assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eduardo Hernandez
Chief Instruction Officer

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ACADEMIC AND GENERAL INFORMATION

CISD GRADING SYSTEM FOR GRADES 7-8

The district middle schools use a weighted numerical grading system.

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	Below 70

ENROLLMENT

A student enrolling in the district for the first time must be accompanied by his/her parent(s) or legal guardian and must provide satisfactory evidence of required immunization, proof of residency (*acceptable*: utility bill or lease agreement), copy of birth certificate and social security card, and a withdrawal form from the previous school. To complete admission, the following demographic information is necessary: home address, home phone, mother's name, place of business and work phone, father's name, place of business and work phone, and a friend or relative's name and number in case of emergency.

For students entering CISD for the first time in grades 7-8:

The following conversion chart shall be used to enter transfer grades if the previous school does not have a conversion chart. CISD will use the conversion chart of the student's previous school if one is provided.

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
98	95	92	88	85	82	78	75	72	70	60

Students transferring from unaccredited schools or homeschooling shall be individually assessed. Please see the campus counselor.

Middle School Schedule

CISD middle schools are organized on a traditional 8-period day.

Pre-Advanced Placement

A student may enter the Pre-Advanced Placement course sequence at the beginning of any semester/school year based upon his/her interested and identified potential.

ELECTIVE COURSES

In addition to required state courses, students must choose other courses to complete their schedules and their graduation plan.

GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM

The Gifted and Talented (GATE) Program within the Crowley Independent School District is an integral part of the district's fundamental commitment to meet the individual needs of all students. The school district is dedicated to the development of each student's talents and abilities. In the seventh through eighth grade, gifted students are served through advanced courses.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Special Education courses are offered to assist eligible students in both academic and nonacademic areas. Graduation may be the successful completion of all curriculum requirements and satisfactory performance on the secondary exit-level assessment instrument, or it may be the successful completion of an individualized education program (IEP) and the criteria for graduating pursuant to an IEP. A student with disabilities may graduate by completing the same program required of non-disabled students or by completing the requirements of his/her IEP and meeting the criteria set forth by the commissioner in 19 T.A.C. 89.1070.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL)

All students who enroll in this school district will complete a home language survey. If this survey indicates that a language other than English is spoken

in the home or is spoken by the student, the student must be referred to the ESOL teacher for evaluation. Tests will be administered and students who are found to be limited English proficient (LEP) and are immigrants to the United States may enroll in ESOL classes. These classes are offered on the middle school campuses. The focus of ESOL classes is on intensive development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English.

STAAR - END OF COURSE ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

STAAR is the state's student testing program. Over the course of the student's school career, students will be tested in the core subject areas- reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. The STAAR tests for grades 3-8 will cover the same subjects and grade levels as the previous testing, the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).

PSAT 8

This test measures skills students need to be on track for success in college and careers.

Graduation Plans Class of 2018 and Beyond



GRADUATION PLAN

FOUNDATION GRADUATION PLAN

4 ENGLISH
ENGLISH I, II, III
ADV ENGLISH

3 MATHEMATICS
ALGEBRA I,
GEOMETRY,
ALGEBRA II

3 SOCIAL STUDIES

3 SCIENCE

2 FOREIGN LANGUAGE

1 PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1 FINE ARTS

5 ELECTIVES
4 IN ENDORSEMENT
AREA

22 CREDITS



ENDORSEMENT

4 ADDITIONAL CREDITS IN ONE AREA
ACCORDING TO ENDORSEMENT/DISTINGUISHED
REQUIREMENTS

S.T.E.M.

- MATHEMATICS
- SCIENCE
- COMPUTER SCIENCE
- PRE-ENGINEERING
- BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

- POWER, STRUCTURE & TECHNICAL SYSTEMS
- PLANT SYSTEMS
- ANIMAL SYSTEMS
- NATURAL RESOURCE SYSTEMS
- ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY
- INTERIOR DESIGN
- ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
- CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY
- GRAPHIC DESIGN
- AUDIO & VIDEO TECHNOLOGY
- COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
- FASHION DESIGN
- BUSINESS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT
- FINANCE
- MARKETING
- JOURNALISM
- SPEECH & DEBATE
- CULINARY ARTS
- COMPUTER SOFTWARE DESIGN & PROGRAMMING
- COMPUTER TECHNICAN & NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR
- WEB & DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

- FINE ARTS
- LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH
- SOCIAL STUDIES

PUBLIC SERVICES

- COUNSELING AND MENTAL HEALTH
- EDUCATION & TRAINING
- HEALTH SCIENCE PHARMACY TECHNICIAN
- HEALTH SCIENCE PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN
- CHILD DEVELOPMENT
- COSMETOLOGY
- LAW ENFORCEMENT
- FIREFIGHTER
- JROTC
- GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

MULTIDISCIPLINARY

4 CREDITS = 26

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

ONE
ENDORSEMENT

FOUR CREDITS IN
SCIENCE
(FOUNDATION
REQUIREMENTS +
ONE SCIENCE)

FOUR CREDITS IN
MATH
INCLUDING
ALGEBRA II
(FOUNDATION
REQUIREMENTS +
ONE MATH)

ELIGIBLE FOR
AUTOMATIC
ADMISSION TO TEXAS
PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES
IF RANKED IN THE TOP
10% OF THEIR CLASS
(EXCEPT UT – AUSTIN)

+

=

ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING 7

Course # 01070100

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 7

1 year

This program for seventh graders is designed to give the students a solid foundation in English. Composition, literature, and grammar are studied throughout the year in both independent and integrated units. In composition, the focus is on the writing skills necessary for effective communication. The literature section allows the students to discuss and study poetry, a novel, selected short stories, and folk literature. Grammar units concentrate on the basic parts of speech, parts of the sentence, capitalization, and punctuation. Overall, this program provides a well-rounded and in-depth look at language arts.

PRE-AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING 7

Course # 01070175

Recommended Prerequisite: Sixth grade ELAR average of 90 or higher and Level II or III on STAAR Reading.
Grade Placement 7

1 year

Grade 7 students follow the same scope and sequence as students in the regular English language arts and reading class and will focus on the same units of study; however, students will have opportunities to expand and enrich the study through depth and complexity of assignments, problem solving, simulations, and independent research as appropriate.

READING LAB 7

Course # 01070500

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 7

1 year

This course will be required for any student who did not meet expectations on the sixth grade STAAR Reading. *THIS WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF ONE SEVENTH-GRADE ELECTIVE.*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING 8

Course # 01080100

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 8

1 year

This program is designed to emphasize the oral and written communication skills of all students. The general areas include extensive writing for a variety of audiences and purposes, language usage and expression (written and oral), and literature appreciation and analysis. All of these areas are designed to prepare the student for language arts in the high school and improve their test scores in the language arts areas.

PRE-AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS AND READING 8

Course # 01080175

Recommended Prerequisite: Seventh grade ELAR average of 90 or higher and Level II or III on STAAR Reading. See cautionary note in the Pre-AP section, page 5.
Grade Placement 8

1 year

Follows the same scope and sequence as students in the regular English language arts and reading class and will focus on the same units of study; however, Pre-AP students will have opportunities to expand and enrich the study through depth and complexity of assignments, problem solving, simulations, and independent research as appropriate. Students should have strong reading skills since this course involves reading in depth.

READING LAB 8

Course # 01080500

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 8

1 year

This course will be required for any student who did not meet expectations on the seventh grade STAAR Reading. *THIS WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF ONE EIGHTH-GRADE ELECTIVE.*

MATHEMATICS

MATHEMATICS 7

Course # 02070100

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 7

1 year

Seventh grade mathematics focuses on the study of the concepts and skills associated with the understanding of the place-value system, numbers and the basic operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) with fractions and decimals. Students will study problem solving techniques, measurement concepts using both metric and customary units, exponents, properties and relationships of geometric shapes, the representation of numbers including integers on a line and pairs of numbers on a coordinate plane, probability, and the use of computing devices. Emphasis is placed on acquiring problem solving skills, fractions, understanding the properties or relationships of geometric shapes, algebraic reasoning and proportionality. This course will include the appropriate graphing technology.

PRE-AP MATHEMATICS 7

Course # 02070175

Recommended Prerequisite: Sixth grade Math average of 90 or higher and score of Level II or III on STAAR Math.
Grade Placement 7

1 year

Pre-AP seventh grade mathematics includes an in-depth, rigorous study of topics in seventh grade with extension 8th Grade TEKS. Emphasis is placed on operations with rational numbers, algebraic reasoning, geometry, financial literacy and proportional relationships. This course will include the appropriate use of graphing technology. If student have interest in pursuing an endorsement in Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering, Mathematics, or Computer Science, they are encouraged to take this course.

MATHEMATICS 8

Course # 02080100

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 8

1 year

Is a pre-algebra course that pursues a deeper and more extensive development of numbers, fractions, and decimals. New skills are developed in integers, percents proportion, metric and customary measurement, and probability and statistics. The broad area of geometry is investigated through vocabulary, construction, perimeter, area, surface area, and volume. A major emphasis carried through all studies is problem solving from an algebraic stand point and cooperative learning.

PRE-AP ALGEBRA I

Course # 02220175

Recommended Prerequisite: Pre-AP Math 6 or 7 average of 90 or higher or earn 90% on Credit by Exam for 8th grade Math and score Level II or III on STAAR Math. *See cautionary note in the Pre-AP section, page 5*
Grade Placement 8

1 CREDIT

This course will emphasize the study of linear functions. Students will use functions to represent, model, analyze, and interpret relationships in problem situations. Topics include graphing, solving equations and inequalities, and systems of linear equations. Quadratic and nonlinear functions will be introduced. This course grants high school credit. The grade of this course is calculated into a student's Grade Point Average (GPA) and will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript. Students should take Pre-AP Algebra I if they are going to pursue endorsements in Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering, Mathematics, or Computer Science. This course is an advanced academics course and the students will receive weighted credits in GPA calculation.

MATH ENRICHMENT 7

Course # M0007E20

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 7

1 year

Each enrichment course will be designed to support and enhance the content of the student's math class.

MATH ENRICHMENT 8

Course # M0008E20

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 8

1 semester

Each enrichment course will be designed to support and enhance the content of the student's math class.

SCIENCE

SCIENCE 7

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 7

Course # 03070100

1 year

A coordinated class that covers the life, earth and physical sciences. Safe lab practices and use of the scientific methods are used in the many labs. Subjects covered include matter, periodic table, force in motion, work and machines, biology in living organisms, genetics, environmental interactions, and earth, and sun, and moon.

PRE-AP SCIENCE 7

Recommended Prerequisite: Sixth grade Science average of 90 or higher and score of Level II or III on 5th grade STAAR Science.
Grade Placement 7

Course # 03070175

1 year

This is an accelerated course in science for those who desire a more challenging curriculum. It follows the same scope and sequence as the regular Science 7

SCIENCE 8

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 8

Course # 03080100

1 year

Is a developmentally appropriate laboratory/field/ lecture course coordinating instruction in biology, chemistry, physics, and earth/space science. The earth/space science unit introduces students to the study of the composition, structure, and processes of the earth, its geologic history, and its place in the universe. The four major branches of earth science that will be presented are geology, meteorology, oceanography and astronomy.

PRE-AP SCIENCE 8

Recommended Prerequisite: Seventh grade Science average of 90 or higher and score of Level II or III on 5th grade STAAR Science. See cautionary note in the Pre-AP section, page 5.
Grade Placement 8

Course # 03080175

1 year

Follows the same curriculum as Science 8, at a faster pace and more in depth. This course will require greater time, effort, and commitment by the student.

SCIENCE ENRICHMENT

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 8

Course # M0008E10

1 semester

Will be required for all 8th grade students. **Each enrichment course will be designed to support and enhance the content of the student's science class. This course will be paired with Math Enrichment.**

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIAL STUDIES 7 (TEXAS HISTORY)

Prerequisite : None
Grade Placement 7

Course # 04070100

1 year

This course is a study of the history, geography, and development of the state of Texas from pre-historic years to the present. It emphasizes such concepts as the geographic makeup of Texas, its cultural diversity, its fight for independence and statehood, and its government.

PRE-AP TEXAS HISTORY

Course # 04070175

Recommended Prerequisite: Sixth grade Social Studies average of 90 or higher, score of Level II or III on 6th grade STAAR Reading and 4th grade Writing Essay score of 2 or higher.**Grade Placement 7****1 year**

Students follow the same scope and sequence as students in the regular Texas History class and will focus on the same units of study; however, students will have opportunities to expand and enrich the study of the history of Texas through depth and complexity of assignments, problem solving, simulations, and independent research as appropriate. Students should have strong reading skills since this course involves reading in depth.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 (AMERICAN HISTORY)

Course # 04080100

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 8****1 year**

This course is a study of the development of the United States of America beginning with pre-historic America through the Civil War and Reconstruction period. It emphasizes such themes as democracy, constitutional government, geography, cultural diversity, economic development, and individual responsibility. Students should have strong reading skills since this course involves reading in depth.

PRE-AP AMERICAN HISTORY

Course # 04080175

Suggested Prerequisite: Seventh grade Texas History average of 90 or higher, Score Level II or II on 7th grade STAAR Reading and 7th grade STAAR Writing Essay score of 2 or higher. *See cautionary note in the Pre-AP section, page 5.***Grade Placement 8****1 year**

This Pre-AP course will follow the same topics of study that are contained in the regular Grade 8 curriculum including the history, geography, government, and economics of the United States from the early Colonial Period through the Reconstruction Period. Pre-AP students will focus on unit topics and concepts in greater depth and complexity and on the analysis of historical trends and principles.

REQUIRED ELECTIVES**PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7**

Course # 08070100 (M), 08071100 (F)

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 7****1 year**

Many different activities make up the physical education program. Included in these activities are volleyball, soccer, flag football, softball, basketball, gym hockey, gym bowling, weightlifting, aerobics/slimnastics, and badminton. Students interested in Athletic competition will have scheduled opportunities to try-out for athletic teams. Before/after school and weekend participation is required for athletic participation, as well as a physical examination, and extra expense may also be involved. *MAY SUBSTITUTE ATHLETICS FOR 7TH GRADE PE.*

COMMUNICATION THROUGH WRITING

Course # 01070800

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 7****1 semester**

Communication makes the world go round. In school and in your personal life, effective communication is something that every person can achieve. Good communication and good articulation brings self-confidence. In this course students will develop skills for writing in a variety of areas such as researching topics and writing essays, reports or proposals, writing with voice and style for many audiences, writing persuasively in preparation for speeches, as well as writing for scientific reports. *This course is paired with Tech Apps Writing.*

TECH APPS WRITING

Course # 01070850

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 7****1 semester**

Through the combined study of technology applications and written expression, students make informed decisions for written communication by understanding current and emerging technologies, including technology systems, appropriate digital tools, and personal learning networks. The students will use technology skills to apply communication skills in various digital formats. As competent researchers and responsible digital citizens, students use creative and computational thinking to solve problems and communicate. Additionally, in this course, students will use decision-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning through technology. Students will use interest inventory software or other tools to explore areas of personal interest and will use this information to explore educational requirements for a variety of chosen career paths. *This course is paired with Communication Through Writing.*

HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVES CREDIT

These courses grant high school credit. The grade of the course is calculated into the student's Grade Point Average (GPA) and will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript.

Career & Technical Education

DOLLARS AND SENSE

Course # 07223230

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 8

½ CREDIT

This course focuses on consumer practices and responsibilities, the money management process, decision-making skills, impact of technology, and preparation for human services careers. Students are encouraged to participate in career and technical student organizations and other leadership organizations.

MONEY MATTERS

Course # 07222420

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 8

½ CREDIT

Students will investigate global economics with emphasis on the free enterprise system and its impact on consumers and businesses. Students apply critical-thinking skills to analyze financial options based on current and projected economic factors. Students will gain knowledge and skills necessary to set long-term financial goals based on those options. Students will determine methods of achieving long-term financial goals through investment, tax planning, asset allocation, risk management, retirement planning, and estate planning.

LIFETIME NUTRITION & WELLNESS

Course # 07223280

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 8

½ CREDIT

This laboratory course allows students to use principles of lifetime wellness and nutrition to help them make informed choices that promote wellness as well as pursue careers related to **hospitality and tourism, education and training, human services, and health sciences**. Students are encouraged to participate in extended learning experiences such as career and technical student organizations and other leadership or extracurricular organizations.

DIGITAL & INTERACTIVE MEDIA

Course # 07224820

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 8

½ CREDIT

Through the study of digital and interactive media and its application in information technology, students will analyze and assess current and emerging technologies, while designing and creating multimedia projects that address customer needs and resolve a problem.

INTERPERSONAL STUDIES

Course # 07223225

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 8

½ CREDIT

This course examines how the relationships between individuals and among family members significantly affect the quality of life. Students use knowledge and skills in family studies and human development to enhance personal development, foster quality relationships, promote wellness of family members, manage adult roles, and pursue careers related to counseling and mental health services.

CREATIVE WRITING

Course # 01229700

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 8

½ CREDIT

This course, an elective composition course, provides individual instruction for the motivated writer in an intensive writers' workshop environment. Strategies and activities include practice with and examination of a variety of genres including short stories and poetry, development of peer and self-editing techniques and numerous opportunities to publish. This writing course is designed especially to challenge the imagination and creativity of the student by encouraging spontaneity of expression. This course is an advanced academics course and students will receive weighted credit in GPA calculation.

HEALTH

Course # 08220100

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 8****½ CREDIT**

Is a study of the concepts and skills that foster individual personal health and safety, interaction between individuals, and the skills that affect the well-being of people collectively. Areas of study include mental and social health, body systems, nutrition, fitness, life stages, drugs, diseases, safety, and first aid. *This course is paired with another elective from the High School Electives Credit list.*

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY 1: DESIGN, MODELING & ROBOTICS

Course # 07086000

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 7-8****½ CREDIT**

This course is an activities-oriented, hands-on class designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. The course uses solid modeling software (a sophisticated mathematical technique for representing solid objects) as part of the design process. Utilizing this design approach, students understand how design influences their lives. Students also learn sketching techniques and use descriptive geometry as a component of design, measurement, and computer modeling. Students brainstorm, research, develop ideas, create models, test and evaluate design ideas and communicate solutions. Students also learn the fundamentals of robotics and trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration and innovation. If students plan to pursue Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering High School Endorsement, they are encouraged to take this course.

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY 2: APPLIED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Course # 07086001

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 7-8****½ CREDIT**

This course is an activities-oriented, hands-on class designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. In this course, students will explore the science of electricity, behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices through hands-on projects. Students will acquire knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity in our lives. If students plan to pursue an Architecture, Interior Design, Construction Technology, Information Technology, Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering, or Computer Science High School Endorsement, they are encouraged to take this course. *This course is pending CISD board approval.*

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY 3: ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, AND FLIGHT

Course # 07086002

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 8****½ CREDIT**

This course is an activities-oriented, hands-on class designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. In this course, students will use a robust robotics platform to design, build, and program a solution to solve an existing problem. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration and innovation. If students plan to pursue an Architecture, Computer Science, Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering, or Science High School Endorsement, they are encouraged to take this course. *This course is pending CISD board approval.*

GATEWAY TO TECHNOLOGY 4: ARCHITECTURE AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Course # 07086003

Prerequisite : None**Grade Placement 7-8****½ CREDIT**

This course is an activities-oriented, hands-on class designed to challenge and engage the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students. This course will focus on architectural basics including sustainable systems and green technology. Additionally, the course content will cover biomedical systems including the human body system and inquiry of human disease and infection. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration and innovation. If students plan to pursue an Architecture, Interior Design, Construction Technology, Project Lead the Way Pre-Engineering, or Health Science High School Endorsement, they are encouraged to take this course.

SPANISH I

Course # 05224100

Recommended Prerequisite : 7th grade English Language Arts and Reading grade of 90 or above**Grade Placement 8****1 CREDIT**

Spanish I in the eighth grade is designed for those students who will pursue AP Spanish Language and Literature in high school. This course has a strong emphasis on listening and speaking. However, reading and writing are quickly introduced. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to understand and carry on simple conversations based on greeting, introduction, family, home, school, daily routine, shopping, etc. They should know the basic elements of grammar and be able to read and write what they can say. Note: Students will have other opportunities to earn graduation credit in a language other than English.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ELECTIVE CREDIT

FINE ARTS

ART 7 OR 8

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 7 or 8

Course # 06070100 (7), 06080100 (8)

1 year

Includes art studies in drawing, color theory, sculpting, ceramics, crafts, and textiles. There is an overall concentration in each unit on creative expression and the use of your imagination throughout the semester course.

ADVANCED ART 8

Prerequisite : Art 7

Grade Placement 8

Course # 06080200

1 year

Students will design, develop and create original art works and further develop the various media skills they acquired in 7th grade art. Students could use the knowledge they gained through creating art works to understand aesthetic values, and to be able to participate in class discussions. Students will investigate information about artists, art heritage and art history. This course is limited to 28 students approved by the art teacher. This is a year-long course. Art skills, enthusiasm for art, a prerequisite of Art 7, art grades and citizenship of the students are used in consideration for approval.

BEGINNING BAND

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 7 or 8

Course # 06070400

1 year

This class is for students who have never been in band or have never played a band instrument. This class meets every day as a regular class. There will be occasional after-school rehearsals in preparation for semester concerts. Instruments chosen during this first year will be the instrument the students will continue on during middle school and through high school. The exceptions would be oboe and bassoon, as they will be expected to learn a second instrument for marching band in high school. The financial obligations of student instruments are the responsibility of the student's parents/guardians. This elective is a full-year course.

BAND

Prerequisite: one or more consecutive years in band immediately prior to their current grade.

Grade Placement 7 or 8

Course # 06080500

1 year

This class is for students who have had one or more consecutive years in band immediately prior to their current grade. Switching instruments after beginning band is not allowed. This class meets every day as a regular class. There will be extra-curricular performances, semester concerts and competitions for groups and individuals. There will also be occasional after-school rehearsals in preparation for the semester concerts and competitions. The financial obligations of student instruments are the responsibility of the student's parents/guardians. This elective is a full-year course.

CHOIR 7 & 8

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 7 or 8

Course # 06070700 (7), 06080700 (8)

1 year

Is a non-auditioned vocal music organization. These students perform in four or more concerts a year. Students have the opportunity to audition for Region VII Honor Choir and UIL Solo/Ensemble contests. The choirs also compete in UIL Contest/Sight Reading and other festivals. The class focuses on music reading skills and vocal production. The choir also does community activities and public performances. If scheduling permits, our choral philosophy supports a class for boys; however, both girls and boys perform together.

THEATER 7 OR 8

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 7 or 8

Course # 06070900 (7), 06080900 (8)

1 year

Is a one year course with total emphasis on communication. During the first semester, students concentrate on listening skills, developing self-esteem, group communication and public speaking. The second semester will find students working on oral interpretation, pantomime, improvisation, and play production, as well as UIL preparation.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)

EXPLORATORY SPANISH

Course # 05220100

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 year

This course is an introduction to Spanish and will introduce students to the Spanish language through the development of basic language skills: listening, reading, writing, and speaking. This is accomplished through the use of target language by the teacher and the student, discovery readings, and authentic listening passages. This is not a high school credit course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ATHLETICS

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8

Course # 08080100 (M), 08081100 (F)

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 8

1 year

Is a continuation of 7th grade physical education (volleyball, soccer, flag football, softball, basketball, gym hockey, gym bowling, weightlifting, aerobics/slimnastics, and badminton) with increased emphasis on physical fitness and cardiovascular endurance activities.

ATHLETICS 7/8

Course # 08073500 (7M), 08074500 (7F), 08083500 (8M), 08084500 (8F)

Prerequisite : Tryout and selection as well as A PHYSICAL EXAM and GRADE ELIGIBILITY are required

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 year

The boys' athletic program includes football, basketball, and track, while the girls' athletic program consists of volleyball, basketball, and track. Both boys and girls may choose to participate in Cross Country in the fall semester. When not participating in the sport, all other athletes will be in an off-season program of physical conditioning and other related sports activities. Participation in athletics requires physical coordination, self-discipline, dedication. Athletes compete against other schools in games, tournaments, and meets. Before/after school participation is required, and extra expense may also be involved. **Students enrolled in the Athletics class are expected to try out for at least two sports including Track**

TENNIS TEAM

Prerequisite : A PHYSICAL EXAM and GRADE ELIGIBILITY are required.

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 year

Is offered as an after school program. Parents will pick up students after the practice. Students will follow University Interscholastic Rules for competition and eligibility. Tennis competition season takes place in the fall and spring. The student is responsible for supplying his/her equipment and workout apparel.

JUNIOR CADET CORPS

Course # JUNIOR CADET CORPS 7 - 10070805 JUNIOR CADET CORPS 8 - 10080805

Prerequisite : A PHYSICAL EXAM and GRADE ELIGIBILITY are required.

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 year

This program is designed to prepare middle school students for responsible leadership roles while making them aware of their rights and privileges as American citizens. The curriculum will include strategies to help students with communication skills, enhance social and ethical values, promote character development and physical fitness, and help develop an "appreciation of teamwork through instruction in drill and ceremonies."

OTHER ELECTIVES

AVID -7/8 -

Course # 10079000 (7), 10089070 (8)

Prerequisite: Application and selection

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 year

AVID stands for Advancement via Individual Determination: AVID 8 is a preparation for the ninth- through twelfth-grade system to prepare students in the academic middle — B, C, and even D students — who have the desire to go to college and the willingness to work hard. These are students who are capable of completing rigorous curriculum but are falling short of their potential. Typically, they will be the first in their families to attend college. AVID pulls these students out of unchallenging courses and puts them on the college track: acceleration instead of remediation.

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC SPEAKING

Course # 01070900 (7), 01080900 (8)

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 semester

Communication is an integral part of our society, our culture, and our academic lives. Students should develop effective communication to prepare for social and civic interactions and professional roles. To become a competent communicator, each student will develop and apply skills in using oral language, nonverbal communication, and listening skills in interpersonal, groups, academic, and public contexts. This course is a great pair for Teen Leadership.

EXPLORING CAREERS

Course # 07070800

Prerequisite : None

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 semester

The career development process is unique to every person and evolves throughout one's life. Students will use decision-making and problem-solving skills for college and career planning. Students will explore valid, reliable educational and career information to learn more about themselves and their interests and abilities. Students integrate skills from academic subjects, information technology, and interpersonal communication to make informed decisions. This course is designed to guide students through the process of investigation and in the development of a college and career achievement plan. Students will use interest inventory software or other tools to explore areas of personal interest. Students will use this information to explore educational requirements for a variety of chosen career paths.

LIBRARY/OFFICE STUDENT AIDE 8

Course # 11080100

Prerequisite: Application and interview

Grade Placement 8

1 year

Is based on approval after application and/or interview with the student. It involves assisting in the office or library. Students assist with duties that relate to the individual they work for as an aide. Grades, citizenship, and enthusiasm of the students are used in consideration for approval. Limited enrollment

TEEN LEADERSHIP

Course # 10079600 (7), 10089600 (8)

Prerequisite: Application and selection

Grade Placement 7 or 8

1 semester

Students in the Teen Leadership program develop leadership, professional, and business skills. They learn to develop a healthy self-concept, healthy relationships, communications skills, an understanding of personal image, and an understanding of the effects of peer pressure and develop skills to counter-act these effects. They also learn to understand the concept of personal responsibility, parenting and citizenship. They develop understandings of Emotional Intelligences and the skills it measures, which include self-awareness, self-control, self-motivation, and social skills. This course is a great pair for Introduction to Public Speaking.