

7TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CORE CLASSES - Required

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7th The seventh grade English/Language Arts course provides a balance of reading, writing, speaking, listening and language skills essential for success in the 21st Century. The seventh grade teaches essential comprehension skills and strategies while students read closely and cite evidence from grade-level fiction and nonfiction to support an analysis of what the materials say. The seventh grade writing curriculum follows the Writer's Workshop model where students progress through the writing process as they plan, draft, revise, edit, and publish their writing. These writing types include arguments, informative/explanatory texts and narratives. Students will also be required to write short research projects using MLA format. They will develop the skills to draw upon and write about evidence from literary and informational texts and they will learn how to give formal presentations and develop a range of broadly useful oral communication and interpersonal skills. Texts: *The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* by Mildred D. Taylor Additional pieces (essays, short stories, poems, etc.)

STEM 7th This course will be exploring how science, technology, engineering, and math work together in real world applications. Seventh grade STEM focuses on design, planning and creation to complete projects as the primary assessment. The emphasis will be learning to solve problems using engineering design processes, tools, materials, machines, computers and software applications. Some of the projects we will work on include a Rube Goldberg Machine, Tiny Houses, The Island Project, wind-powered or battery-powered cars, and Lego Robotics.

SCIENCE 7th The 7th grade curriculum focuses on three main disciplines in science as well as developing a better understanding of the scientific processes. Physical science: forms and transfer of energy-waves, light and sound. Earth systems: composition, processes and history. Life science: cells, genetic variation and evolutionary relationships among organisms in terms of anatomical structures and appearance.

MATH 7th Module 1: Thinking Proportionally builds upon students' prior experiences with ratios and proportional relationships. Students identify and describe proportional and non-proportional situations. Students then use strategies to solve proportion and percent problems. Module 2: Operating with Signed Numbers develops an understanding of operating with positive and negative numbers. Students then solve real-world and mathematical problems involving positive and negative rational numbers. Module 3: Reasoning Algebraically has students writing equations and inequalities for problem situations, creating tables of values, graphing problem situations, and making connections across the representations. Module 4: Analyzing Populations and Probabilities builds on students experiences with measures of center, the five number summary, plots of numerical data, and proportional reasoning to draw comparative inferences between two populations. Module 5: Constructing and Measuring investigates types of angle relationships and then uses those relationships to write and solve equations for unknown values in a figure.

SOCIAL STUDIES 7th The 7th grade social studies course is focused on the Eastern Hemisphere. We start the year with a look at what makes a civilization and then move on to types of government. Our first civilization we will

study is Mesopotamia. Then we will study Egypt, Israel, and Ancient Greece. That will bring us to the end of the first semester. During the second semester we will study Ancient Rome, India, China, Japan, Medieval Europe, and Africa. Throughout the year we will also be discussing the five main religions which are: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. We will also look at current events throughout the world. Students will read primary and secondary documents and focus on writing skills. Students will also learn how to research and use critical thinking skills.

DAY 1 ELECTIVES

FIN020 SCULPTURE In this class, students will work with multiple materials to create 3D works of art. Using a variety of materials and resources students will create projects based on their interests. The primary focus of this class is repurposing and recycling objects and materials to create contemporary sculptures.

FOR011 INTRO to SPANISH 7th-grade students will begin to communicate in the target language through interpersonal speaking and writing, presentational speaking and writing and interpretive reading and listening. Students will learn basic greetings, vocabulary, grammar structures, and verb conjugations. They will practice basic conversations in Spanish about what they want, need, plan and know how to do, as well as describe people, places, and events.

FOR100 INTRO TO AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 7th-grade students will learn basic ASL communication. The course includes sign vocabulary, fingerspelling, numbers, and expressive and receptive signing activities as well as the history of ASL and becoming knowledgeable about aspects of Deaf Culture which is an integral part of meaningful language use.

PHY021 RECREATIONAL SPORTS & FITNESS This 7th grade class provides each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, lead up games, team sports, individual sports and physical fitness activities. The students receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities. The students will also have opportunities to become involved in lifelong physical activities through individual sport units. This program promotes the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, team-building skills and friendly competition. Students are required to change out into physical activity clothing for this class.

PHY101A ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, & OTHER DRUGS This course will provide students an opportunity to analyze the physical, social and emotional effects of substance abuse as it relates to specific issues encountered by today's youth. Students will learn about risks, and the short and long term health effects. Topics covered in the class include: drugs and your body, types of drugs, the laws, statistics, physical, social and emotional consequences and refusal skills.

PHY101B HUMAN GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT This course is a study of the development of the individual from conception through adulthood. The focus is on biological, social, emotional, and intellectual aspects across the lifespan, and individual application is emphasized

SCI451 COLORADO OUTDOORS This class will introduce students to activities available to them in their home state. Activities such as camping, hiking, skiing and more. We will explore Greeley's water and how each of us

can help in the conservation effort right at home. We will also learn about Colorado's wildlife and our interaction with them in the Colorado outdoors.

DAY 2 ELECTIVES

FIN021 THE ECONOMICS OF ART In this class, students will learn what it takes to be a working professional Artist in our ever-changing world. Students will create a mini-society where they will budget money, pay for materials, sell artwork, and work cooperatively with a group to create a successful art business.

FIN212 DRAMA This 7th-grade drama course is designed to inspire the student who wishes to develop a love and appreciation of the theatre. Classes are structured to provide the student with a basis in theatre skills, to offer a creative outlet, and to produce well-rounded performers. Students will gain confidence in presenting in front of an audience and will learn how to deal with vocal qualities and nervous habits.

LAN023 SEVEN HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEENS Do you need motivation to live up to your full potential? Do you display leadership abilities and need help polishing up your skills? This course teaches youth to take responsibility for their actions, prioritize, communicate and listen effectively, have a positive attitude, work well with others, and more!

PHY020 INCEPTION OF SPORT This 7th-grade physical education class will focus on the foundations, skills, and rules of sport. Students will learn about different types of sports and then have the opportunity to work in groups to create and then teach their created sport to peers.

PHY020S LEISURE AND RECREATIONAL SPORTS In this 7th-grade physical education class students will learn to participate in activities chosen for pleasure, relaxation, or other emotional satisfaction. Examples of activities during this semester are shuffleboard, golf, and badminton.

PHY102 DEALING WITH SOCIAL PRESSURES This class will provide students with the knowledge of skills necessary to confront health-related issues, specifically social health topics that students will be faced with during the middle school years and beyond. Topics covered include but are not limited to; developing healthy peer and family relationships, communication skills, refusal skills, handling peer pressure, and resolving conflicts.

PHY102S SOCIAL & EMOTIONAL HEALTH The goal of this class is to enable students with the ability to make choices that will have a positive impact on their social and emotional health. Topics covered include but are not limited to; understanding emotions, stress management, coping with loss, mental and emotional disorders, and suicide prevention.

TEC020 COMPUTER APPLICATIONS This class will expand on Microsoft Excel from prior knowledge. We will work on increasing their keyboarding skills and expand the coding skills. We will also introduce them to beginning architectural drawing. The architectural drawing will range from simple birdhouse drawings to measuring and drawing classrooms. Students will be taught how to draw different size structures to an appropriate scale.

****MATH or READING ENRICHMENT** Students enrolled in this course will receive intense, skills-based

instruction in math or reading elements expected to be mastered at each grade level. Only students who are required or recommended for intervention or acceleration will be placed in these classes.

MUSIC

MUS202 BULLDOG SINGERS The Bulldog Singers are open to all students - no matter how well you sing. We believe everyone can sing, it's just a matter of how much training or work you're willing to put into it - just like building your skills in soccer, football, art, or band. Singers are rarely asked to sing by themselves (don't believe me? Ask a current choir student!). There are 4-5 concerts throughout the school year and students will learn songs from musicals, pop, and classical songs, and even sing in different languages! Also, you CAN be in band/art/PE AND in the Bulldog Singers! There are additional opportunities that are not required but only available to students who are Bulldog Singers - like going on field trips to sing at UNC Choir Festivals and 7th graders can audition for the Colorado Middle School All-State Choirs (if you stay in the Bulldog Singers in 8th Grade, you can audition to sing with Singing Valentines).

MUS020 ADVANCED BAND

This band, made up of wind and percussion instruments, is designed for students who have already begun learning an instrument. Students will build on musical skills they learned in 6th grade while developing their technique on their instruments. This is a year-long course in which students perform at least 4 concerts. If students are interested in joining and have not played in a band before, they need to be enrolled in private lessons to ensure they will catch up with the rest of the band.