



Junior High School Course Handbook 2023-2024

Van Wyck Junior High School
Wappingers Junior High School
Grades 7 & 8



WAPPINGER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mission

*The Mission Of The Wappingers Central School District Is To **Empower** All Of Our Students With The Competencies And Confidence To **Challenge** Themselves, To Pursue Their Passions, And To Realize Their Potential While **Growing** As Responsible Members Of Their Community.*

WAPPINGERS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Core Values

We believe that:

- Active and continuous learning is essential for individuals and communities to flourish.
- Embracing diversity in all its forms enriches the human experience.
- Everyone can realize their potential and when they do, both they and the community thrive.
- The health and quality of a community are dependent on the responsible contributions of all its members.
- The collaboration needed for meaningful change is built on honesty, trust and respect.

• **Wappingers Central School District** •

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2022-23

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TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

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Wappingers Junior High School298-5200
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COURSE OVERVIEW

Junior High School	
Core Content Areas	
English Language Arts Social Studies Mathematics Science Languages Other Than English (LOTE)	
Grade 7	Grade 8
10 Week Semester Courses	10 Week Semester Courses
Art	Art
Clothing	Health
Computer Applications	Microsoft Office (½ credit toward HS Graduation/CTE Pathway)
Health	Music
Music	Resource Management
Technology	
Odd/Even Day Courses	Odd/Even Day Courses
Physical Education (PE)	Physical Education (PE)
Performance Groups	Performance Groups
Study Hall	Technology
	Project-Based ELA/Math



ART 7

Code F092 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

This required course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential Fine Arts program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal artistic talents. In seventh grade, students meet with an art specialist for one full quarter. Our arts educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- **The elements of art with concentration on shape, space and form**
 - One-point perspective
 - Two-point perspective
- **The principles of design with concentration on pattern, rhythm and movement to make art**
- **The use of subject matter and/or theme in art**
 - Symbolism
 - Cultural subjects
 - Personal subjects
- **Two- and three-dimensional artwork**
 - Use of a variety of art materials, processes, mediums and techniques to make works of art
- **Cultural and Historical content in artwork**
 - Twentieth Century art movements
 - Escher
 - Riley
 - Connections between the arts and other disciplines
 - Community and internet resources
- **Careers**
 - Opportunities for further study in the Fine Arts
 - Community opportunities
 - Cultural institutions
- **Art Appreciation**
 - Techniques of art criticism
 - Respect for the creative process
 - Local cultural institutions

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the art grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in artwork, written critical analysis of artwork, sketchbook, portfolio, and other assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts, see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cia/arts>.

ART 8

Code F192 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

This required course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential Fine Arts program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal artistic talents. In eighth grade, students meet with an art specialist for one full quarter. Our arts educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- **The elements of art with concentration on line, value and color**
 - Two- and three-dimensional artwork
 - Value and depth
 - Color theory
- **The principles of design with concentration on balance, contrast, emphasis and unity**
- **The use of subject matter and/or theme in art**
 - Abstract (objective and subjective)
 - Representational
 - Connections between art and other disciplines
- **Two- and three-dimensional artwork**
 - Use of a variety of art materials, processes, mediums and techniques to make works of art
- **Cultural and Historical content in artwork**
 - Twentieth Century art movements
 - Calder
 - Matisse
 - Functions of art
 - Research and use of resource materials
 - Connections between the arts and other disciplines
- **Careers**
 - How artists work in art-based careers
- **Art Appreciation**
 - Application of the techniques of art criticism
 - Responding to art in written and verbal critiques
 - Local cultural institutions

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the art grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in artwork, written critical analysis of artwork, sketchbook, portfolio, and other assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts, see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cia/arts>.



COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Code: 007 10 weeks

Prerequisite: None

Computer Applications is offered as an exploratory course to ensure that all students become knowledgeable about common software programs and online tools. These programs will benefit students in higher education and business. The Computer Applications course addresses the ISTE (International Society of Technology in Education) national standards for middle school students. In addition, students will learn about Internet Safety; the importance of avoiding plagiarism; the different guidelines for citing works; and the concepts of intellectual property and copyright laws.

Students will become familiar with the Google platform including Google Docs, Google Slides, and Google Sites. In addition, students will develop an understanding of graphic design, technology safety (laws), plagiarism, intellectual property/copyright, coding and blogging. Students will develop their keyboarding skills, conduct Internet research to prepare reports, learn how to complete work cited, and evaluate web pages. Students will prepare presentations on various topics to practice public speaking.

Assessment: Students will be assessed in several ways to address the various learning styles of the students. Calculations of grades in this class will be based on tests, worksheets, quizzes, hands-on projects and class participation. For a complete list of the ISTE Standards for Students visit <http://www.iste.org/standards/nets-for-students.aspx>

MICROSOFT OFFICE

Code: B545JR 20 weeks (8) (1/2 credit) (Rank weight 1.00)

Prerequisite: None

Required course for CTE Pathway (Career Technical Education)
Endorsement on High School Diploma

Description: This high school course will be offered to Grade 8 students to allow them to earn ½ credit to graduation while learning key skills to support all of your coursework. This ½ credit course will take you beyond the learning that you received at the K-7 level. You will begin learning appropriate keyboarding skills before transitioning to the skills that will help you manage your own documents or a small office efficiently and effectively. After learning to overcome annoying issues in formatting Word documents like ruler tabs, numbered lists, page numbers, and tables, you will learn to set up business cards and do a mail merge. You will learn the basics of spreadsheet software including sorting, formulas, conditional formats, and graphing. You will do projects that integrate all of these products with each other and display the information in PowerPoint.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS – GRADES 7 AND 8

The study of English Language Arts in Grades 7 and 8 is focused around the New York State Learning Standards along with the guidelines and standards established by the International Reading Association and the National Council of Teachers of English. The study of English Language Arts is the foundation for study in all other curricular areas. Grade 7 and 8 students continue to develop skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and viewing. The extent to which these skills are developed can influence an individual's ability to become an independent learner. Through the study of diverse literature and texts, students will strengthen their reading skills and understanding of the world. They will also continue to develop their ability to communicate effectively through written and oral language.



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7

Code E141 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Grade 7 ELA builds along the developmental continuum of skills and strategies previously studied. More complex materials as well as more sophisticated writing skills are required.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Literature**
 - Short stories
 - Drama
 - Poetry
 - Independent Reading
 - Essays
 - Non-fiction: Omnivore's Dilemma
 - Novels may include: *Bearstone, A Christmas Carol, The Cay, Adventures of Tom Sawyer (H), Homecoming (H)*
- **Literary Terms and Devices**
 - Characterization
 - Plot
 - Point of View
 - Theme
 - Conflict
 - Symbolism
 - Imagery
 - Flashback
 - Irony
 - Dialogue
 - Setting
 - Figurative language
 - Idiom
 - Moral
- **Reading Skills and Strategies**
 - Predicting
 - Using context clues
 - Making inferences
 - Making connections
 - Cause and effect
 - Summarizing
 - Sequencing
 - Drawing conclusions
 - Discovering the main idea
 - Making generalizations
 - Compare and contrast
- **Critical Thinking Skills**
 - Making judgments
 - Analyzing
 - Speculating
 - Interpreting
 - Expressing opinions
- **Research and Study Skills**
- **Writing**
 - Writing Process
 - Responding to literature
 - Narrative
 - Argumentative
 - Informational
 - Six trait writing
- **Listening, Speaking, and Viewing**
- **Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling**

Assessment: In Grade 7 all students take the New York State ELA 7 Exam in the spring. A district-wide departmental final writing assignment is facilitated at the end of the school year.

For additional information on the Next Generation Learning Standards, please see:
www.engageny.org

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 7 HONORS

Code E161 Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement in the Honors program for Grade 7 is by application. The selection process takes place at the end of the third semester of grade 6. English Language Arts and Social Studies are blocked for the purpose of teaming. The students are evaluated in such areas as attendance, participation, motivation, reading and writing ability as well as the skills necessary to analyze and solve problems.

Note: Honors classes generally incorporate more reading, writing and discussion and at a higher level; use more challenging instructional materials and take more challenging tests throughout the year as well as a different final exam.

Grade 7 ELA Honors builds along the developmental continuum of skills and strategies previously studied. More complex materials as well as more sophisticated writing skills are required.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Literature**
 - Short stories
 - Drama
 - Poetry
 - Independent Reading
 - Essays
 - Non-fiction: Omnivore's Dilemma
 - Novels may include: *Bearstone, A Christmas Carol, The Cay, Adventures of Tom Sawyer (H), Homecoming (H)*
- **Literary Terms and Devices**
 - Characterization
 - Plot
 - Point of View
 - Theme
 - Conflict
 - Symbolism
 - Imagery
 - Flashback
 - Irony
 - Dialogue
 - Setting
 - Figurative language
 - Idiom
 - Moral
- **Reading Skills and Strategies**
 - Predicting
 - Using context clues
 - Making inferences
 - Making connections
 - Cause and effect
 - Summarizing
 - Sequencing
 - Drawing conclusions
 - Discovering the main idea
 - Making generalizations
 - Compare and contrast
- **Critical Thinking Skills**
 - Making judgments
 - Analyzing
 - Speculating
 - Interpreting
 - Expressing opinions



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

• Research and Study Skills

• Writing

- Writing Process
- Narrative
- Informational
- Responding to literature
- Argumentative
- Six trait writing

• Listening, Speaking, and Viewing

• Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

Assessment: In Grade 7 Honors, all students take the New York State ELA 7 Exam in the spring. A district-wide departmental final project is facilitated at the end of the school year. The departmental final writing assessment counts as 20% of the student's overall grade.

For additional information on the Next Generation Learning Standards, please see:

www.engageny.org

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8

Code E241 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Grade 8 ELA builds along the developmental continuum of skills and strategies previously studied. More complex materials as well as more sophisticated writing skills are required.

Areas of Study Include:

• Literature

- Short stories
- Poetry
- Essays
- Drama
- Independent Reading
- Non-fiction
- Novels may include: *8 Plus One (H)*, *The Watson's Go to Birmingham, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, The Diary of Anne Frank, Anne Frank Remembered (H), The Merchant of Venice or A Midsummer Night's Dream (H), The Graduation of Jake Moon, Across Five Aprils, Dicey's Song, The Red Pony, The Contender, The Hunger Games*

Literary Terms and Devices

- Characterization
- Point of View
- Conflict
- Imagery
- Irony
- Setting
- Idiom
- Dynamic characters
- Connotation
- Foreshadowing
- Plot
- Theme
- Symbolism
- Flashback
- Dialogue
- Figurative language
- Moral
- Static characters
- Denotation

• Reading Skills and Strategies

- Predicting
- Making inferences
- Cause and effect
- Sequencing
- Discovering the main idea
- Compare and contrast
- Author's Purpose
- Using context clues
- Making connections
- Summarizing
- Drawing conclusions
- Making generalizations
- Paraphrasing

• Critical Thinking Skills

- Making judgments
- Speculating
- Expressing opinions
- Analyzing
- Interpreting

• Research and Study Skills

• Writing

- Writing Process
- Narrative
- Informational
- Responding to literature
- Argumentative
- Six trait writing

• Listening, Speaking and Viewing

• Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling

Assessment: In Grade 8 all students take the New York State ELA 8 Exam in the spring. A district-wide departmental final project is facilitated at the end of the school year. The departmental final assessment counts as 20% of the student's overall grade.

For additional information on the Next Generation Learning Standards, please see:

www.engageny.org

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 8 HONORS

Code E261 Full Year

Prerequisite: Completion of Grade 7 ELA Honors with a final average of at least 85% and the recommendation of the Grade 7 ELA and Social Studies teachers.

Note: Honors classes generally incorporate more reading, writing and discussion and at a higher level; use more challenging instructional materials and take more challenging tests throughout the year as well as a different final exam.

Grade 8 ELA Honors builds along the developmental continuum of skills and strategies previously studied. More complex materials as well as more sophisticated writing skills are required.

Areas of Study Include:

• Literature

- Short stories
- Poetry
- Non-fiction
- Novels may include: *8 Plus One (H)*, *The Watson's Go to Birmingham, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, The Diary of Anne Frank, Anne Frank Remembered (H), The Merchant of Venice or A Midsummer Night's Dream (H), The Graduation of Jake Moon, Across Five Aprils, Dicey's Song, The Red Pony, The Contender, The Hunger Games*
- Essays
- Drama

• Literary Terms and Devices

- Characterization
- Point of View
- Conflict
- Imagery
- Irony
- Setting
- Idiom
- Dynamic characters
- Connotation
- Foreshadowing
- Plot
- Theme
- Symbolism
- Flashback
- Dialogue
- Figurative language
- Moral
- Static characters
- Denotation

• Reading Skills and Strategies

- Predicting
- Making inferences
- Cause and effect
- Sequencing
- Discovering the main idea
- Compare and contrast
- Using context clues
- Making connections
- Summarizing
- Drawing conclusions
- Making generalizations
- Paraphrasing



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

- **Critical Thinking Skills**

- Making judgments
- Analyzing
- Speculating
- Interpreting
- Expressing opinions

- **Research and Study Skills**

- **Writing**

- Writing Process
- Responding to literature
- Narrative
- Argumentative
- Informational
- Six trait writing

- **Listening, Speaking, and Viewing**

- **Grammar, Vocabulary, and Spelling**

Assessment: In Grade 8 Honors, all students take the New York State ELA 8 Exam in the spring. A district-wide departmental final project is facilitated at the end of the school year. The departmental final writing assessment counts as 20% of the student's overall grade.

For additional information on the Next Generation Learning Standards, please see:
www.engageny.org

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES (AIS)

The Board of Regents adopted revisions to the Commissioner of Education's regulation requiring school districts to provide academic intervention services to students who score below New York State's designated performance level on state assessments and/or who are at risk of not achieving the state learning standards. Students who meet the eligibility requirements for AIS are scheduled to attend.

ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE (ENL)

In accordance with NYS Education Department regulations, all new students registering in the Wappingers Central School District are screened for English language proficiency and, if necessary, tested with the Language Assessment Battery – Revised (NYSITELL). Students who test as Commanding do not need ENL services. Students who test at the Entering, Emerging, Transitioning and Expanding levels are considered Limited English Proficient (LEP) or English Language Learners (ELLs). Students who test at the Entering and Emerging levels are assigned two ENL classes every day. Students at the Expanding level are assigned one ENL class every day.

NOTE: ENL is offered at Wappingers Junior High School only. Van Wyck Junior High School students who require ENL attend Wappingers Junior High School.

ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE

Code: **G603 - 604 Full Year (No Credit)**

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

General areas are listed below. The actual content and level of instruction change based on the needs of the individual students in class.

- **Conversation skills**
- **Vocabulary development**
- **Grammar**
- **Reading comprehension**
- **Writing improvement**
- **Cultural awareness**

Assessment: As required under SED regulations, all ENL students take the New York State English as a NEW Language Test (NYSESLAT) in May of each school year. In order to test out of ENL, students must test as Commanding. Students who test as Entering, Emerging, Transitioning and Expanding will continue to be assigned ENL classes as indicated above.

LEP/ELL students must meet the same graduation and diploma requirements as all other students.

For more information about the New York State Learning Standards for ENL, see:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/bilinged>

For more information about ENL requirements, testing and other resources, see:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/bilinged>



FAMILY and CONSUMER SCIENCES

CLOTHING MANAGEMENT – GRADE 7

Code H100 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- Clothing communication
- Styles and functions of clothing through history
- Merchandizing in clothing
- Fashion, fads and trends
- Advertising and marketing
- Care and handling of clothing
- Use of sewing equipment (hand and sewing machine)
- Following directions
- Cooperation skills

NOTE: This course is one of the 3 quarters mandated by the State in the area of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The Family and Consumer Sciences courses are based on the understanding that the ability to reason, to think critically and creatively, and to reflect on one's actions, will empower students to act responsibly toward themselves, their families, their peers and the community at large. This skills-based course offers an opportunity for students to apply decision-making, problem-solving and management processes to the area of clothing. The goal is for the students to develop the knowledge and skills needed to use process skills in practical, real-life situations.

Assessment: Based on laboratory experiences, projects, group work, research, homework, tests and quizzes.

For a complete review of the NYS Family & Consumer Sciences Standards, see:

<http://emsc33.nysed.gov/ciai/pe/pub/hpefcle.pdf>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for middle level Family & Consumer Sciences, see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/cte/facse/>

NUTRITION MANAGEMENT (FOODS) – GRADE 7

Code H196 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- Nutrition education
- Safe food handling techniques
- Kitchen safety
- Study of food customs in many different cultures
- Advertising
- Small kitchen appliances
- Food guide pyramid

NOTE: This course is one of the 3 quarters mandated by the State in the area of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The Family and Consumer Sciences courses are based on the understanding that the ability to reason, to think critically and

creatively, and to reflect on one's actions, will empower students to act responsibly toward themselves, their families, their peers and the community at large. This skills-based course offers all students opportunities to read, write and compute in the context of real life situations that are relevant to their age groups. While working in this setting, students can acquire and demonstrate communication, leadership, critical and creative thinking, as well as management skills that can be applied universally now and in the future.

Assessment: Based on laboratory experiences, projects, group work, research, homework, tests and quizzes.

For a complete review of the NYS Family & Consumer Sciences Standards, see:

<http://emsc33.nysed.gov/ciai/pe/pub/hpefcle.pdf>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for middle level Family & Consumer Sciences, see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/cte/facse/>

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (CAREER SKILLS) – GRADE 8

Code H175 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- Decision making
- Problem solving
- Work ethics
- Career planning
- Entrepreneurship
- Personal and family resource management

NOTE: This course is one of the 3 quarters mandated by the State in the area of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The Family and Consumer Sciences courses are based on the understanding that the ability to reason, to think critically and creatively, and to reflect on one's actions, will empower students to act responsibly toward themselves, their families, their peers and the community at large. This course offers an opportunity for students to understand their role as family members, consumers, as well as understand their future roles as home managers and wage earners. The students practice managing resources such as time, talent, energy and money in order to achieve goals for themselves, family, work and community.

Assessment: Based on laboratory experiences, projects, group work, research, homework, tests and quizzes.

For a complete review of the NYS Family & Consumer Sciences Standards, see:

<http://emsc33.nysed.gov/ciai/pe/pub/hpefcle.pdf>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for middle level Family & Consumer Sciences, see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/cte/facse/>



FOREIGN LANGUAGE

FRENCH 7

Code L115 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This is an entry-level course. This course is for students who have not taken foreign language previously. Grade 7 French is equivalent to the first half of high school level I French.

This course is intended as a first experience in the target language and prepares students to meet the NYS Education Department's Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Checkpoint A proficiency level. Students learn to speak and understand the language using basic vocabulary within the context of everyday situations, use grammatical structures within the context of topics, and work with vocabulary lists, original dialogues, notes and letters related to the topics.

Areas of Study Include:

- Personal Identification
- Family Life
- Education
- House and home
- Leisure
- Meal taking/food and drink

SKILLS

- Socializing
- Providing and obtaining information
- Expressing personal feelings
- Persuasion

Assessment: A Department final exam will be administered in June. The final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.

For a complete review of the NYS Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English (LOTE) see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lote/pub/lotelea.pdf>

For a complete core curriculum for LOTE see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/publote.html>

ITALIAN 7

Code L315 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This is an entry-level course. This course is for students who have not taken foreign language previously. Grade 7 Italian is equivalent to the first half of high school level I Italian.

This course is intended as a first experience in the target language and prepares students to meet the NYS Education Department's Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Checkpoint A proficiency level. Students learn to speak and understand the language using basic vocabulary within the context of everyday situations, use grammatical structures within the context of topics, and work with vocabulary lists, original dialogues, notes and letters related to the topics.

Areas of Study Include:

- Personal Identification
- Family Life
- Education

- House and home
- Meal taking/food and drink
- Physical Environment

SKILLS

- Socializing
- Providing and obtaining information
- Expressing personal feelings
- Persuasion

Assessment: A Department final exam will be administered in June. The final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.

For a complete review of the NYS Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English (LOTE), see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lote/pub/lotelea.pdf>

For a complete core curriculum for LOTE see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/publote.html>

SPANISH 7

Code L515 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This is an entry-level course. This course is for students who have not taken foreign language previously. Grade 7 Spanish is equivalent to the first half of high school level I Spanish.

This course is intended as a first experience in the target language and prepares students to meet the NYS Education Department's Languages Other Than English (LOTE) Checkpoint A proficiency level. Students learn to speak and understand the language using basic vocabulary within the context of everyday situations, use grammatical structures within the context of topics, and work with vocabulary lists, original dialogues, notes and letters related to the topics.

Areas of Study Include:

- Personal Identification
- Family Life
- Education
- House and home
- Leisure
- Community neighborhood
- Meal taking/food and drink

SKILLS

- Socializing
- Providing and obtaining information
- Expressing personal feelings
- Persuasion

Assessment: A Department final exam will be administered in June. The final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.

For a complete review of the NYS Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English (LOTE), see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lote/pub/lotelea.pdf>

For a complete core curriculum for LOTE see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/publote.html>



FOREIGN LANGUAGE

FRENCH 8

Code L116 Full Year (1 high school credit*)(rank weight 1.0)

Prerequisite: French 7.

French 8 is equivalent to the second half of high school level I French.

Students continue to work on speaking and understanding the language using basic vocabulary within the context of everyday situations, using grammatical structures within the context of the topics, and working with vocabulary lists, original dialogues, notes and letters related to the topics.

Areas of Study Include:

- Physical environment
- Travel
- Health and welfare
- Earning a living
- Public and private services
- Services
- Current events
- Personal ID advanced
- House and home
- Food and meal taking
- Community and neighborhood
- Shopping
- Leisure
- Professions

SKILLS

- Socializing
- Providing and obtaining information
- Expressing personal feelings
- Persuasion

Assessment: Students in grade 8 foreign language take a District Second Language Proficiency Exam in June. The Proficiency Exam is also the final exam for the course, which counts as 20% of the final course average.

*Students must pass the Proficiency Exam in order to earn one high school credit in foreign language, which is the minimum requirement for graduation. Passing the course alone does not earn the credit. Students who pass the Proficiency Exam can continue on to level 2 language in high school. Note: This course does not qualify for NCAA credit.

For a complete review of the NYS Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English (LOTE), see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lotepub/lotelea.pdf>

For a complete core curriculum for LOTE see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/publote.html>

ITALIAN 8

Code L316 Full Year (1 high school credit*)(rank weight 1.0)

Prerequisite: Italian 7.

Italian 8 is equivalent to the second half of high school level I Italian.

Students continue to work on speaking and understanding the language using basic vocabulary within the context of everyday situations, using grammatical structures within the context of the topics, and working with vocabulary lists, original dialogues, notes and letters related to the topics.

Areas of Study Include:

- Travel
- Health and welfare
- Earning a living
- Public and private services
- Services-repairs
- Current events
- Community and neighborhood
- Shopping
- Leisure

SKILLS

- Socializing
- Providing and obtaining information
- Expressing personal feelings
- Persuasion

Assessment: Students in grade 8 foreign language take a District Second Language Proficiency Exam in June. The Proficiency Exam is also the final exam for the course, which counts as 20% of the final course average.

*Students must pass the Proficiency Exam in order to earn one high school credit in foreign language, which is the minimum requirement for graduation. Passing the course alone does not earn the credit. Students who pass the Proficiency Exam can continue on to level 2 language in high school. Note: This course does not qualify for NCAA credit.

For a complete review of the NYS Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English (LOTE), see: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lotepub/lotelea.pdf>

For a complete core curriculum for LOTE see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/publote.html>



FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SPANISH 8

Code L516 Full Year (1 high school credit*) (rank weight 1.0)

Prerequisite: Spanish 7.

Spanish 8 is equivalent to the second half of high school level I Spanish.

Students continue to work on speaking and understanding the language using basic vocabulary within the context of everyday situations, using grammatical structures within the context of the topics, and working with vocabulary lists, original dialogues, notes and letters related to the topics.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Physical environment**
- **Travel**
- **Health and welfare**
- **Earning a living/Public and private services**
- **Services**
- **Current events**
- **Shopping/clothing**
- **Leisure/Movies and TV**

SKILLS

- **Socializing**
- **Providing and obtaining information**
- **Expressing personal feelings**
- **Persuasion**

Assessment: Students in grade 8 foreign language take a District Second Language Proficiency Exam in June. The Proficiency Exam is also the final exam for the course, which counts as 20% of the final course average.

*Students must pass the Proficiency Exam in order to earn one high school credit in foreign language, which is the minimum requirement for graduation. Passing the course alone does not earn the credit. Students who pass the Proficiency Exam can continue on to level 2 language in high school. Note: This course does not qualify for NCAA credit.

For a complete review of the NYS Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English (LOTE), see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/lotepub/lotelea.pdf>

For a complete core curriculum for LOTE see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/publote.html>



HEALTH

HEALTH EDUCATION – GRADE 7

Code J141 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- Wellness
- Nutrition
- Chronic Diseases
- Alcohol
- AIDS/HIV
- Tobacco
- Decision-making
- Self-image
- Bullying
- Hygiene

Note: This course is State mandated. 7th grade Health will instill in students the knowledge and skills to examine alternatives and make responsible health-related decisions. Students will draw upon knowledge from areas of biology, psychology, the environment, as well as social, physical and medical sciences to help learn how to prevent and manage health related issues.

Assessment: Based on projects, homework, quizzes, tests and article reviews.

For a complete review of the NYS Health Standards, see:
<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/rss/mle/health.htm>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for middle level Health Education, see:
<http://emsc33.nysed.gov/guides/health/partI.pdf>

HEALTH EDUCATION – GRADE 8

Code J241 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- Mental health
- Communicable diseases
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- HIV/AIDS
- Drugs
- At-risk behaviors

Note: This course is State mandated.

8th grade Health is the study of life skills that allows students to succeed in school and in the community by promoting their personal health and development. This class will be building upon the 7th grade curriculum and exploring some new issues with greater depth and discussion.

Assessment: Based on projects, homework, quizzes, tests and article reviews.

For a complete review of the NYS Health Standards, see:
<http://emsc33.nysed.gov/guides/health/partI.pdf>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for middle level Health Education, see:
<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/rss/mle/health.htm>



MATHEMATICS

MATH 7

Code M141 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- **Ratios and Proportional Relationships**
 - Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems.
- **The Number System**
 - Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers.
- **Expressions and Equations**
 - Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions.
 - Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.
- **Geometry**
 - Draw, construct and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them.
 - Solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume.
- **Statistics and Probability**
 - Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population.
 - Draw informal comparative inferences about two populations.
 - Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models.

Assessment: Math 7 students will take the NYS Math Assessment in the spring, and a district-wide mid-term and final exam.

Honors Math 7

Code M161 Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement in the Honors program is by application. The selection process takes place at the end of the third quarter of grade 6. Mathematics and Science are blocked for teaming purposes. In order to qualify for Honors Mathematics, students must meet the criteria and be accepted for both the Mathematics Honors and Science Honors programs.

Note: The junior high school Honors program is rigorous and demanding. Students are expected to meet and maintain high standards of performance in Honors courses. The program is comprehensive in scope and sequence and accelerated in pace of instruction.

Mathematics Honors is an accelerated study of mathematics. Seventh grade Honors combines two years of mathematics (Math 7 and Math 8) into one year of Math 7H.

Math 7 Honors is for students who have excelled and demonstrated a firm grasp of concepts and skills and standards in sixth grade mathematics and science.

The students must display a high degree of interest in math and science, be motivated and self-directed, easily understand new concepts and principles, and display a high level of problem-solving skills.

Students who are not meeting the criteria at any time during the school year will be reviewed for possible removal from the Honors program.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Ratios and Proportional Relationships**
 - Analyze proportional relationships and use them to solve real-world and mathematical problems.
- **The Number System**
 - Apply and extend previous understandings of operations with fractions to add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers.
- **Expressions and Equations**
 - Use properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions.
 - Solve real-life and mathematical problems using numerical and algebraic expressions and equations.
- **Geometry**
 - Draw, construct and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them.
 - Solve real-life and mathematical problems involving angle measure, area, surface area, and volume.
- **Statistics and Probability**
 - Use random sampling to draw inferences about a population.
 - Draw informal comparative inferences about two populations.
 - Investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models.
- **The Number System**
 - Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers.
- **Expressions and Equations**
 - Work with radicals and integer exponents.
 - Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.
 - Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations.
- **Functions**
 - Define, evaluate, and compare functions.
 - Use functions to model relationships between quantities.
- **Geometry**
 - Understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software.
 - Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
 - Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones and spheres.
- **Statistics and Probability**
 - Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.

Assessment: Math 7H students will take a district-wide exam at the end of the 2nd quarter, the NYS Math Assessment in the spring, and a district-wide final exam in June.



MATHEMATICS

MATH 8

Code M241 Full Year

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Math 7

Areas of Study Include:

- **The Number System**
 - Know that there are numbers that are not rational, and approximate them by rational numbers.
- **Expressions and Equations**
 - Work with radicals and integer exponents.
 - Understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.
 - Analyze and solve linear equations and pairs of simultaneous linear equations.
- **Functions**
 - Define, evaluate, and compare functions.
 - Use functions to model relationships between quantities.
- **Geometry**
 - Understand congruence and similarity using physical models, transparencies, or geometry software.
 - Understand and apply the Pythagorean Theorem.
 - Solve real-world and mathematical problems involving volume of cylinders, cones and spheres.
- **Statistics and Probability**
 - Investigate patterns of association in bivariate data.

Assessment: Math 8 students will take the NYS Math Assessment in the spring, and a district-wide mid-term and final exam.

ALGEBRA HONORS

Code M371 Full Year (1 high school credit) Rank weight 1.05

Prerequisite: Completion of Math 7 Honors at the mastery level

Note: Algebra students will take the NYS Algebra Regents Examination in June. This Regents exam will be the final examination for the course.

The junior high school Honors program is rigorous and demanding. Students are expected to meet and maintain high standards of performance in Honors courses. The program is comprehensive in scope and sequence and accelerated in pace of instruction.

Mathematics Honors is an accelerated study of mathematics. Students apply for entrance and are accepted to the program prior to entering 7th grade. At that time they must meet the entrance criteria for both mathematics honors and science honors. However, these programs are not linked at the 8th grade level and thus students may be enrolled in either one or both programs.

In the eighth-grade mathematics honors course, students study ninth grade mathematics topics at an advanced level in preparation for the NYS Algebra Regents Examination. Successful completion of this course earns students one high school credit.

Students who are not meeting the criteria at any time during the school year will be reviewed for possible removal from the Honors program.

Entry to the Mathematics Honors program in grades other than 7th grade is under special circumstances only and may require summer study. Parents should contact the District Director for further information.

Areas of Study Include:

Broad topic include:

- **Relations between quantities and reasoning with equations and their graphs**
- **Descriptive statistics**
- **Linear and exponential functions**
- **Polynomial and quadratic expressions,**
- **Equations and functions**
- **A synthesis of modeling with equations and functions**

Assessment: Students will take the NYS Algebra Regents Examination in June. This Regents exam will be the final examination for the course and will count as 20% of the final course average.



MUSIC

BAND 7

Code N071 Full Year

Prerequisite: Band 6 or equivalent

This elective course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential instrumental music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In seventh grade, students meet with an instrumental music specialist for the ensemble classes and the rotational lesson group classes throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the concerts and rehearsals that may be held after school hours. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Instrument performance technique**
- **Music symbols**
- **Band literature from various historical periods and cultures**
- **Musicality in performance**
- **Rehearsal techniques**
- **Performance and audience etiquette**
- **Careers**

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/arts/>

BAND 8

Code N171 Full Year

Prerequisite: Band 7 or equivalent

This elective course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential instrumental music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In eighth grade, students meet with an instrumental music specialist for the ensemble classes and the rotational lesson group classes throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the concerts and rehearsals that may be held after school hours. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Instrument performance technique**
- **Music symbols**
- **Band literature from various historical periods and cultures**
- **Musicality in performance**
- **Rehearsal techniques**
- **Performance and audience etiquette**
- **Careers**

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/arts/>

CHORUS 7

Code N075 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This elective course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential vocal music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In seventh grade, students meet with a vocal music specialist throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the concerts and rehearsals that may be held after school hours. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Vocal production and maintenance**
- **Diction and pronunciation**
- **Music reading**
- **Choral ensemble skills and techniques**
- **Music from different cultures and time periods**
- **World music**
- **Choral repertoire, including:**
 - African tradition
 - NYSSMA level 2
 - A cappella
 - Songs in languages other than English
 - Songs in triple meter
- **Performance and audience etiquette**
- **Careers**

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/arts/>



MUSIC

CHORUS 8

Code N175 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

This elective course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential vocal music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In eighth grade, students meet with a vocal music specialist throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the concerts and rehearsals that may be held after school hours. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- Vocal production and maintenance
- Diction and pronunciation
- Music reading
- Choral ensemble skills and techniques
- Music from different cultures and time periods
- World music
- Choral repertoire, including:
 - Jazz or popular ballad tradition
 - NYSSMA level 3
 - Songs in irregular meter
 - Songs in languages other than English
- Performance and audience etiquette
- Careers

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cia/arts/>

ORCHESTRA 7

Code N076 Full Year

Prerequisite: Orchestra 6 or equivalent

This elective course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential instrumental music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In seventh grade, students meet with an instrumental music specialist for the ensemble classes and the rotational lesson group classes throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the concerts and rehearsals that may be held after school hours. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- Instrument performance technique
- Music symbols
- String ensemble literature from various historical periods and cultures
- Musicality in performance
- Rehearsal techniques
- Performance and audience etiquette
- Careers

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cia/arts/>

ORCHESTRA 8

Code N176 Full Year

Prerequisite: Orchestra 7 or equivalent

This elective course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential instrumental music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In eighth grade, students meet with an instrumental music specialist for the ensemble classes and the rotational lesson group classes throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the concerts and rehearsals that may be held after school hours. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- Instrument performance technique
- Music symbols
- String ensemble literature from various historical periods and cultures
- Musicality in performance
- Rehearsal techniques
- Performance and audience etiquette
- Careers

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cia/arts/>



MUSIC

MUSIC 7

Code N093 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

This required course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential general music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In seventh grade, students who are not in a performing ensemble meet with a music specialist for one full quarter. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Basic music signs and terms**
 - Duration, rhythm, meter, tempo and dynamics
 - Treble clef initiation
 - Rhythmic dictation
- **World music**
 - African music
- **Elements of Music**
 - Melody and melodic contour
 - Harmonic textures
- **Formal organization of music**
 - Repetition and contrast
- **Singing**
 - Songs from foreign countries
- **Group performance**
 - Rhythmic ostinatos
 - Rhythmic improvisation
 - Critical analysis
- **Careers**
- **Performance and audience etiquette**

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/arts/>

MUSIC 8

Code N099 Ten Weeks

Prerequisite: None

This required course of study is part of the comprehensive, sequential general music program that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. Students will acquire knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the artistic, cultural and intellectual accomplishments of our civilizations while developing skills to express personal musical talents. In eighth grade, students who are not in a performing ensemble meet with a music specialist for one full quarter. Our music educators have used the New York State Education Department's publication "Learning Standards for the Arts" to design the curriculum.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Basic music signs and terms**
 - Syncopation
 - Swinging eighth notes
 - Melodic dictation
- **World music**
 - Jazz
- **Elements of Music**
 - Compose and perform melodic phrases
- **Harmony**
 - I, IV and V chords
- **Formal organization of music**
 - Twelve-bar blues
- **Singing**
 - Jazz styles
- **Group performance**
 - Melodies
 - Keyboard melodies
 - Melodic improvisation
 - Critical analysis
- **Careers**
- **Performance and audience etiquette**

Assessment: Student evaluation is reflected in the music grade, a composite of a student's participation and achievement in assignments and assessments. The grade may be derived from objective and subjective teacher evaluations and observations, including the student's demonstration of criteria-based skills and techniques in performance and home assignments.

For the complete NYS Learning Standards for the Arts see:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/arts/>



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 7

Code P143 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- Motor/movement skills
- Personal fitness/wellness
- Personal living skills
- Development of skills in problem-solving, cooperation and teamwork
- Structured game rules/strategies combining individual and team skills

Note: This course is State mandated.

Physical education is based upon the acquisition of knowledge and skills as a foundation for engaging in physical activity. The mission of physical education is to enable all students to sustain regular, lifelong physical activity as a foundation for a healthy, productive, and fulfilling life. The goal is to assist each student in the development of the attitudes, skills, and knowledge of movement that will result in a lifetime of participation in physical activity.

Assessment: Assessment is based on quizzes, exams, participation, effort, demonstrated skill on topics being covered quarterly.

For a complete review of the NYS learning standards, see:
<http://eservices.nysed.gov/vls/subjectAreaHome.do?standardAreaID=4&contentID=11>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for middle level Physical Education, see:
<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/rss/mle/clphysed.htm>

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – GRADE 8

Code P243 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- Motor/movement skills
- Personal fitness/wellness
- Personal living skills
- Development of skills in problem-solving, cooperation and teamwork
- Structured game rules/strategies combining individual and team skills

Note: This course is State mandated.

Physical education is a sequential educational program based on physical activities that promote the development of skills and knowledge that begins at the elementary level and continues through high school. This course continues the refinement of skills and knowledge learned in earlier grades. The mission of physical education is to enable all students to sustain regular, lifelong physical activity as a foundation for a healthy, productive, and fulfilling life. The goal is to assist each student in the development of the attitudes, skills, and knowledge of movement that will result in a lifetime of participation in physical activity.

Assessment: Assessment is based on quizzes, exams, participation, effort, demonstrated skill on topics being covered quarterly.

For a complete review of the NYS learning standards, see:
<http://eservices.nysed.gov/vls/subjectAreaHome.do?standardAreaID=4&contentID=11>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for middle level Physical Education, see:
<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/rss/mle/clphysed.htm>



SCIENCE

SCIENCE 7

Code S141 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- **Introduction to Life Science**
 - Laboratory Protocols
 - Graphing
 - Scientific Method
 - Metric System
- **Characteristics of Living Things**
- **Microscope**
- **Cells**
 - Structure and Function
 - Cell Theory
 - Cell Processes
 - Cell Reproduction
- **Viruses**
- **Classification**
 - Dichotomous Keys
 - Kingdoms
 - Bacteria and Fungi
 - Protist
 - Plant
 - Animal
 - (Vertebrate vs. Invertebrate)
- **Human Body Organization**
 - Skeletal and Muscular System
 - Digestive System
 - Circulatory System
 - Respiratory and Excretory System
 - Nervous and Endocrine System
 - Reproductive System
 - Immune System
- **Genetics**
 - Heredity
 - DNA
- **Adaptations Over Time**
- **Plants**
- **Ecology**

Assessment: All students do the following for their final assessment, Lab Exam and Content Exam

SCIENCE 7 HONORS

Code S161 Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement in the Honors program is by application. The selection process takes place at the end of the third quarter of grade 6. Science and Mathematics are blocked for teaming purposes.

In order to qualify for Science honors, students must meet the criteria and be accepted for **both** the Science Honors and Mathematics Honors programs.

Note: The junior high school Honors program is rigorous and demanding. Students are expected to meet and maintain high standards of performance in Honors courses. The program is comprehensive in scope and sequence and accelerated in pace of instruction.

Science Honors is an accelerated study of science. Seventh grade honors combines two years of science (Science 7 & 8) into one year of Science 7H.

Science 7 Honors is for students who have excelled and demonstrated a firm grasp of concept and skills in sixth grade science and mathematics. The students must display a high degree of interest in science and math, be motivated and self-directed, easily understand new concepts and principles, and demonstrate a high level of problem-solving skills.

Students who do not meet the above criteria at any time during the school year will be reviewed for possible removal from the Honors program.



SCIENCE

Areas of Study Include:

LIFE SCIENCE

- **Introduction to Life Science**
 - Laboratory Protocols
 - Graphing
 - Scientific Method
 - Metric System
- **Characteristics of Living Things**
- **Microscope**
- **Cells**
 - Structure and Function
 - Cell Theory
 - Cell Processes
 - Cell Reproduction
- **Viruses**
- **Classification**
 - Dichotomous Keys
 - Kingdoms
 - Bacteria and Fungi
 - Protist
 - Plant
 - Animal Kingdom
- **Human Body Organization**
 - Skeletal and Muscular System
 - Digestive System
 - Circulatory System
 - Respiratory and Excretory System
 - Nervous and Endocrine System
 - Reproductive System
 - Immune System
- **Genetics**
 - Heredity
 - DNA
- **Evolution**
- **Plants**
- **Ecology**

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

- **General Properties of Matter**
 - Mass and Weight
 - Volume and Density
- **Physical and Chemical Changes**
 - Phases of Matter and Phase Changes
 - Chemical Properties and Changes
- **Classes of Matter**
 - Elements, Compounds and Mixtures
- **Atoms**
 - Atomic Theory
 - Atomic Structure
- **Periodic Table**
 - History and Design
 - Trends and Patterns
- **Atomic Bonding**
 - Ionic, Covalent and Metallic
- **Chemical Reactions**
 - Chemical Equations
 - Types of Reactions

- **Physics of Motion**
 - Newton's Laws of Motion
- **Physics of Energy**
 - Energy forms and changes

Assessment: All students do the following for their final assessment, Lab Exams, 2 Content Exams- Life Science and Physical Science

SCIENCE 8

Code S241 Full Year

Prerequisite: Completion of Science 7.

Lab Process Skills

- Measurement, Safety, Scientific Tools
- Observation & Inferences
- Scientific Method & Graphing
- Metric System
- Mass, Volume & Density

Chemistry

- Classification of Matter (Element, Compound, Mixtures)
- Properties of Matter (Chemical vs. Physical)
- Phase Changes
- Atoms, Atomic Structure & Periodic Table
- Interactions of Matter
- Chemical Reactions
- Reaction Rates & Energy
- Solutions, Acids & Bases
- Nuclear Changes & radioactivity

Physics

- **Energy**
 - Potential & Kinetic Energy
 - Forms of Energy
 - Work & Conservation of Energy
- **Heat**
 - Phases of Matter
 - Phase Changes
 - Heat Transfer
- **Waves**
 - Types of Waves
 - Parts of a wave, Amplitude, Frequency, & wave lengths
 - Behavior of Waves
 - Reflection/Refractions/Diffraction
 - Resonance
- **Sound & Light**
 - Sound waves/Intensity & Loudness
 - Pitch & Frequency
 - Light-Reflection vs. Refraction
 - Mirrors, Lenses & the Eye
 - Light & Color
- **Electricity**
 - Magnetism
 - Electromagnetic Radiation
 - Renewable vs. Non renewable Energy Sources
- **Motion**
 - Motion/Speed/Velocity/Graphing/Acceleration
 - Forces & Friction



SCIENCE

- Laws of Motion & Gravity
- Conservation of Matter/Energy
- Newton's Laws
- Simple Machines

Earth Science

- Minerals & Rocks
- Earth's History
- Mapping
- **Processes that Change Earth's Surface**
 - Weathering & Soil
 - Erosion/Deposition
 - Landforms
 - Earthquakes
 - Structure of Earth
 - Continental Drift & Plate Tectonics
- **Weather & Climate**
 - Atmosphere
 - Elements of weather & instruments
 - Weather Maps
 - Greenhouse Effect/Global Warming
 - Ozone Problem
 - Factors affecting climate
- **Astronomy**
 - Earth Motions, Time & seasons
 - The Solar System
 - The Moon, Moon Phases, Eclipses & Tides
 - Structure & Origin of Universe
 - Stars & Life Cycle of Stars

Assessment: All students take the New York State Grade 8 Science Test. This assessment is made up of four parts (A, B, C, D). These include a hands-on lab practical and a content-based written test. They will take a district final exam.

THE PHYSICAL SETTING EARTH SCIENCE

Code S361 Full Year 1 credit Rank weight 1.05

Prerequisite: Completion of Science 7 Honors at the mastery level.

Note: Earth Science students will take the NYS Earths Science Regents Examination in June. This Regent exam will be the final examination for the course.

The junior high school Honors program is rigorous and demanding. Students are expected to meet and maintain high standards of performance in Honors courses. The program is comprehensive in scope and sequence and accelerated in pace of instruction.

Science Honors is an accelerated study of Science. Students apply for entrance and are accepted to the program prior to entering 7th grade. At that time they must meet the entrance criteria for

both mathematics honors and science honors. However, these programs are not linked at the 8th grade level and so students may be enrolled either one or both programs.

In the eighth grade science honors course, students study science topics at an advanced level in preparation for the NYS Earth Science Regents Examination. Successful completion of this course earns students one high school credit.

Students who are not meeting the criteria at any time during the school year will be reviewed for possible removal from the Honors program.

Entry to the Science Honors program in grades other than 7th grade is under special circumstances only and may require summer study. Parents should contract the District Director for Science and Technology for further information.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Planet Earth**
 - Shape of the Earth
 - Structure of Earth
 - Locating Positions on Earth
 - Latitude/Longitude
 - Drawing isolines, topographic maps, gradient and profiles
 - Terrestrial Navigation – Polaris Minerals, Rocks and Resources
 - Define and identify minerals using minerals physical properties
 - Identify and classify rocks
 - Understand and utilize rock cycle
 - Recognize renewable and non-renewable resources and understand their use and management
- **The Dynamic Crust**
 - Locate plate boundaries, earthquake zones, volcanoes and mountain chains
 - Analyze P and S wave arrival time data to locate epicenters and determine origin times
 - Describe the internal structure of the earth
 - Recognize evidences of continental drift, plate tectonics, seafloor spreading, and crustal movement
 - Understand the driving force of plate tectonics
 - Understand the different types of plate boundaries
 - Earthquake and volcano preparedness
- **Weathering, Erosion, Deposition and Landscapes**
 - Distinguish between two types of weathering, the conditions under which they occur and describe examples of each
 - Factors that affect rate of weathering, deposition and erosion
 - Formation and conservation of soils
 - Difference between transported and residual soils
 - Compare the agents of erosions and their effects on the Earth's surface
 - NYS erosional history and development of landscape features
 - Glaciers and coastal features



SCIENCE

- **Interpreting Earth's History**

- Reconstructing geologic past using principal of uniformitarianism, superposition, correlation, original horizontality, cross cutting relationships, unconformities and fossil evidence (index fossils)
- Geologic time scale
- Evolution of life
- Relative and Absolute dating
- Radioactive Dating
- Origin and change of the atmosphere

- **Properties of the Atmosphere**

- Structure of the atmosphere
- Air pressure and factors that affects it
- Humidity and factors that affect it
- Relative humidity and Dew point
- Wind and factors that affect it
- Sea breeze and Land breeze
- Jet Stream and Coriolis Effect
- Formation of clouds and types of precipitation
- Relator of weather variables

- **Weather Systems**

- Energy in the atmosphere
- Plot and interpret station models
- Air masses
- High and low pressure and weather associated with each
- Identify, explain and forecast major weather systems using weather maps
- Compare and contrast severe weather storms: Tornadoes, Hurricanes and Thunderstorms
- Severe weather preparedness

- **The Water Cycle and Climates**

- Hydrologic cycle
- Explain the relationship of porosity, permeability, and capillarity to ground water
- Factors that affect storage and movement of groundwater
- Watersheds, and how they are used and affected by people
- How heat energy travels: conduction, convection and radiation
- Angle, reflection and duration of insolation and how they are affected
- Greenhouse effect
- Climates and factors that affect climate

- **The Earth in Space**

- Motions of celestial objects
- Heliocentric and Geocentric models
- Apparent motions of the sun
- Reason for the seasons
- Latitude and angle of the sun
- Duration of daylight

- **Beyond Planet Earth**

- Phases of the moon
- Eclipses of the moon and sun
- Angular diameter of celestial objects
- Tides
- Geometry of orbits
- Gravitational forces
- Solar System data and evolution of stars
- Evolution of the solar system: red shift and blue shift
- Asteroids, Meteors, and Comets

- **Environmental Awareness**

- Technology effects on the environment
- Pollution
- Managing resources

Assessment: All Earth Science students who complete the required 1200 minutes of labs with satisfactory laboratory reports on file will take the two part Physical Setting Earth Science Regents Exam in June.

For the complete NYS Core Curriculum for Physical Setting/Earth Science, see:

<http://www.emscd.gov/ciai/pub/earthsci.pdf>



SOCIAL STUDIES

The New York State Learning Standards for Social Studies include the study of the History of the United States and New York; World History; Geography; Economics; and Civics, Citizenship and Government. Social Studies content in grades 7 and 8 is based on these five New York State Social Studies Learning Standards and focuses on a chronologically organized study of United States and New York State history. The course content is divided into 11 units, tracing the human experience in the U.S. from pre-Columbian times to the present, and tying political, geographic, economic and social trends in the U.S. to parallel trends and time frames in New York State history.



GRADE 7 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY

Code D147 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- **The People of the “New World” prior to 1500 and European Contact**
- **European Exploration and Colonization of the Americas**
- **A Nation is Created – the American Revolution and the formation of the United States**
- **Experiments in Government– the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution**
- **Life in the New Nation**
- **Division: the Civil War**

Assessment: A Department final exam based on the content, concepts and themes in this curriculum and modeled after the NYS Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test will be administered in June. The final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.

GRADE 7 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY – HONORS

Code D167 Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement in the Honors program is by application. The selection process takes place at the end of the third semester of grade 6. Social Studies and English Language Arts (ELA) are blocked for teaming purposes - in order to qualify for Honors, the student must meet the criteria in both Social Studies and ELA. Students are evaluated by their grade 6 teachers in areas such as attendance, attitude, participation, reading, writing, ability to analyze and solve problems, etc.

Note: Honors classes generally incorporate more reading, writing and discussion and at a higher level; use more challenging instructional materials; and take more challenging tests throughout the year and a different final exam. Students who are not meeting the criteria at any time during the school year will be reviewed for possible removal from the Honors program.

Areas of Study Include:

- **The People of the “New World” prior to 1500 and European Contact**
- **European Exploration and Colonization of the Americas**
- **A Nation is Created – the American Revolution and the formation of the United States**
- **Experiments in Government– the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution**
- **Life in the New Nation**
- **Division: the Civil War**

Assessment: A Department final exam based on the content, concepts and themes in this curriculum and modeled after the NYS Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test will be administered in June. The final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.



SOCIAL STUDIES

GRADE 8 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY

Code D247 Full Year

Prerequisite: Completion of Grade 7 United States and New York State History with a final average of at least 65%.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Reunion and Reconstruction after the Civil War**
- **The U.S. becomes an Industrial Society**
- **The expansion of the U.S. as an Independent Nation in an Increasingly Interdependent World; World War I**
- **The U.S. Between the Wars**
- **The U.S. Assumes Worldwide Responsibilities; World War II**
- **The Changing Nature of the American People from World War II to the Present; Prosperity, Optimism, the Cold War**

Assessment: All grade 8 students take the NYS Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test and a Department final exam in June. The writing portions of the NYS Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test (short-answer “constructed response questions” and a document-based essay) are counted as 25% of the Department final exam. The Department final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.

GRADE 8 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY – HONORS

Code D267 Full Year

Prerequisite: I. Completion of Grade 7 Honors Social Studies with a final average of at least 85%, and the recommendation of the Grade 7 teachers. A student who was not in Grade 7 Honors may apply for Grade 8 Honors. Criteria include a grade 7 average of at least 90% in both Social Studies and ELA. Students are evaluated by their grade 7 teachers in areas such as attendance, attitude, participation, reading, writing, ability to analyze and solve problems, etc.

Note: Honors classes generally incorporate more reading, writing and discussion and at a higher level; use more challenging instructional materials; and take more challenging tests throughout the year and a different final exam.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Reunion and Reconstruction after the Civil War**
- **The U.S. becomes an Industrial Society**
- **The expansion of the U.S. as an Independent Nation in an Increasingly Interdependent World; World War I**
- **The U.S. Between the Wars**
- **The U.S. Assumes Worldwide Responsibilities; World War II**
- **The Changing Nature of the American People from World War II to the Present; Prosperity, Optimism, the Cold War**



TECHNOLOGY

TECHNOLOGY 7

Code T095 Half Year

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- **Measurement**
 - Standard/English (Review)
 - Metric
 - Measurement Activities
- **Safety**
 - General Safety
 - Machine Safety
 - Safety Testing and Evaluation
- **Engineering**
 - Principles of Engineering
 - Structures
 - Scales and Measurement
 - Bridge Design and Construction
 - Testing and Evaluation
- **Transportation**
 - New and Emerging Technology
 - Aerospace Technology
 - Newton's Laws
 - Aerodynamics
 - Construction
 - Testing of Projects
- **Manufacturing**
 - Craft vs. Mass Production
 - Advertising
 - Machine Safety
 - Manufacturing Process
 - Production Product Run
- **Problem Solving**
 - Problem Solving Method
 - Implementation of Problem Solving on Project-based Work
 - Evaluation of Project
 - Re-Design and Testing
- **Categories of Technology**
 - Technology History
 - Categories of Technology
 - Technology Project (I-Movie, PowerPoint, Poster, Report)
 - Residential Wiring

Assessment: Based on lab experiences, projects, homework, tests and quizzes.

For further information on the NYS core curriculum for Technology Education, see:

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/pub/pubmst.html>

TECHNOLOGY 8

Code T195 Full Year (meets every other day)

Prerequisite: Completion of Technology 7

This course is designed to be taught through activities using “design and construct” experiences.

Areas of Study Include

- **Safety**
 - General Shop & Laboratory
 - Machine
 - Tool
- **Measurement**
 - Standard/English
 - Tolerance to 1/16th
- **Materials Processing (Wood)**
 - Crosscutting/Ripping
 - Drilling
 - Relief Cutting
 - Routing
 - Sanding
 - Sound Measurement Frequency & Decibels
- **Project Based Learning**
 - Technical Lettering
 - Technical Drawing
 - Measurement & Layout
 - Project Processing
- **Transportation**
 - History of American Automobiles
 - Model Race Car
 - Engineering Design Process
 - Orthographic/Isometric Projections
 - Aerodynamics
 - Construction
 - Finishing
 - Testing of projects
- **Welding**
 - Gas Metal Arc Welding GMAW
 - Shielded Metal Arc Welding SMAW
 - Welding Joints
 - Burn degrees and effects on the body
 - Shielding gas mixtures, pressures and operational safety
 - Arc Ray Radiation
 - Protective wear and respiratory fume extraction
 - Gauge, metal thickness and control settings
 - Wire Speed, Voltage, and Penetration
 - Welding Bead Techniques

Assessment: Based on lab experiences, projects, homework, tests, quizzes and safety.

NYS Core Curriculum for Technology Education see

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/cte/technology/>



