

JUNIOR HIGH COURSE DESCRIPTION FOR 2020-2021

HONOR CLASS CRITERIA

Students entering 7th grade are placed in either Math 7 or Pre-Algebra according to existing grades, standardized test score, and teacher recommendation.

To remain in an honors math class, once placed, a student must maintain a minimum 85% average for the year in that subject and the daily work average must also meet or exceed the overall average.

SCIENCE

Life Science (7th Grade): Science and Technology are in the headlines daily with new products, services, and applications. The expanding field of Biotechnology, in particular, continues to discover new benefits and solutions to global problems while at the same time presenting us with challenges and moral dilemmas. Our Life Science class will be sensitive to these modern trends as we pay close attention to traditional topics that include the history of science, methodology, apologetics, cytology, heredity, DNA, botany, zoology, anatomy & physiology, and environmental studies. We will show that, although many try to separate God and Science, they are inextricably bound together. When we look at the complexity, beauty, and balance of nature we can truly see the work of a Creator Who is not only mighty and powerful but also wise and good.

Space and Earth Science (8th Grade): This science course will be focused on studying the beauty and detail of God's creation, from the farthest reaches of space to the inner workings of the earth. We will be comparing the visual evidence that science provides about these phenomena and comparing this information with what scripture teaches, as well as what "modern science" tells us is correct and establish, using true science and God's Word, how the universe came into existence. Finally, as is the goal with any class, this course will be focused on creating thinkers, specifically scientific thinkers.

MATH

Math 7 (7th Grade): This course will cover the following concepts: Decimals and decimal patterns, statistics, basic algebra, fractions, percent, applying fractions, ratios and proportions, applying percent, probability, and geometry. Satisfactorily completing these concepts will prepare students for Pre-Algebra.

Pre-Algebra (7th-8th Grade): This course will cover the following concepts: Integers, rational numbers, real numbers and the Pythagorean Theorem, proportions, algebra and geometry, percent, probabilities, statistics, algebraic equations and inequalities, linear functions, nonlinear functions, and polynomials.

Prerequisite: Math 7 or Math 6 overall average of a minimum 85% with teacher recommendation and supporting standardized test score.

Algebra 1 Honors (8th Grade) HS Credit (1): This course begins with a review of the language and tools of algebra and builds a strong foundation of basic mathematical concepts including symbols of inclusion, order of operations, and number systems. Students will learn to evaluate algebraic expressions and solve equations with one or more variables. Algebra 1 will cover multiple concepts including: functions, patterns, analyzing linear equations, solving systems of linear equations, solving linear inequalities, polynomials, nonlinear functions, factoring, quadratic and exponential functions, radical expressions, and statistics and probability.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

ENGLISH

English 7 (7th Grade): This course is designed to further students' skills in all forms of communication: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. This is achieved through the study of writing, literature, grammar, and vocabulary. Instruction and practice in writing concentrate on a variety of writing modes (narrative, persuasive, expository, and reflective) and teach the conventions of Standard English: vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, and punctuation. Furthermore, the course incorporates a Christian perspective to strengthen a student's Christian worldview.

English 8 (8th Grade): This course is designed to further students' skills in all forms of communication: reading, writing, listening, and speaking. This is achieved through the study of writing, literature, grammar, and vocabulary. Instruction and practice in writing concentrate on a variety of writing modes (narrative, persuasive, expository, and reflective) and teach the conventions of Standard English: vocabulary, grammar, mechanics, and punctuation. Furthermore, the course incorporates a Christian perspective to strengthen a student's Christian worldview.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Civics (7th Grade): Students will gain and understanding of the origins and purposes of government, law, and the American political system. They will also be able to evaluate the roles, rights, and responsibilities of United States citizens. Students will also gain an understanding of contemporary issues in world affairs and be able to evaluate the role and impact of United States foreign policy.

US History (8th Grade): Students will be exploring the causes, course, and consequences of British settlement in the American colonies. Students will also demonstrate an understanding of the causes, course, and consequences of the American Revolution and the impact of the founding principles of our nation. Students will also be studying the domestic and international causes of westward expansion. Students will be examining the causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War and Reconstruction period.

BIBLE (duplicate course description for grade level denotes yearly rotation of subject matter)

Bible (7th Grade): This course will concentrate on the Life of Christ, as seen through the eyes of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Key emphases will include Jesus' teaching, Deity, life, ministry, death and resurrection, with application to the students' lives.

Bible (7th grade): This course will concentrate on the Life of Christ, as seen through the eyes of the Apostle John. The Book of John will be studied the whole year. Key emphases will include the uniqueness of John's Gospel, the Deity of Christ, and the life and ministry of Jesus, with application to students' lives.

Bible (8th Grade): This course will concentrate on the Life of Christ, as seen through the eyes of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Key emphases will include Jesus' teaching, Deity, life, ministry, death and resurrection, with application to the students' lives.

Bible (8th grade): This course will concentrate on the Life of Christ, as seen through the eyes of the Apostle John. The Book of John will be studied the whole year. Key emphases will include the uniqueness of John's Gospel, the Deity of Christ, and the life and ministry of Jesus, with application to students' lives.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Girls PE (7th-8th Grade): Throughout the course of the year, the class will learn, play, and develop the skills for a number of sports, games, and activities. Teamwork, perseverance, patience, and cooperation will play a major role in everyday activities and will be some characteristics that are hoped to be developed within each student. The sports that are commonly taught are: basketball, cooperative games, fitness testing, archery, speedball, volleyball, Frisbee golf, ultimate Frisbee, badminton, flag football, P.E. Olympics, soccer, dance, tchouckball, and tseg ball.

Boys PE (7th-8th Grade): Throughout the course of the year, the class will learn, play, and develop the skills for a number of sports, games, and activities. Teamwork, perseverance, patience, and cooperation will play a major role in everyday activities and will be some characteristics that are hoped to be developed within each student. The sports that are commonly taught are: basketball, cooperative games, fitness testing, archery, speedball, volleyball, Frisbee golf, ultimate Frisbee, badminton, flag football, P.E. Olympics, soccer, dance, tchouckball, and tseg ball.

ELECTIVES (Electives offered during the school year are based upon student interest and staff availability)

Art Appreciation (7th-8th Grade): The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop a basic knowledge of artistic expression and creativity through the use of two- and three-dimensional media, including the study of Art History and Culture. The content includes the use of a variety of art media and its creative processes, safe, effective, and appropriate use of tools, materials, and techniques. It will also include the use of visual language, critical thinking in defining artwork, and real-world connections.

Choir and Music Theory (7th-8th Grade): This class will introduce students to basic music theory, music history, and chorale singing. In addition to exploring various genres of music through singing, extensive time will be spent learning vocal technique, vocal exercises, reading sheet music, and singing as a group. This class will have opportunities for performance, both on and off campus.

Computer Application (7th-8th Grade): Technokids computer curriculum is a collection of theme-based technology projects designed to prepare students for the digital age and promote computer literacy. These projects are age-appropriate activities teaching students the following applications: Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Publisher and Microsoft Access from Microsoft Office 2010. The students will use Internet Explorer for research and learn how to use the internet safely. Furthermore, they will practice keyboarding skills using a typing program.

Keyboarding (7th-8th Grade): This course is designated to provide an opportunity for students to master the skill of entering alphabetic, numeric, and symbolic information on a keyboard using the touch method of keyboarding. Emphasis is placed on the development of speed and accuracy, proper techniques, and correct finger placement.

Theatre (7th-8th Grade): This course will provide an overview of some of the many components of Dry and Musical Theatre Arts: pantomime and mime; improvisation; introduction to basic acting skills of interpretation, voice, and movement; familiarization with acting terminology; basic technical aspects of scenic and light design; playwriting. Characterization and blocking will be explored through monologue and scene study (memorization required). This course seeks to glorify the Lord through the arts as a means of expressing our life with Christ and for Christ. Unit topics include: Auditions, Mime/Pantomime, Improvisation, Vocalization Techniques, Monologues, Characterization & Memorization, Scene Study, Blocking, Stage Business, Character Development, Technical aspects/Design Concepts, Playwriting, and Musical Performance Art (Original class production for BCS chapel service).

Robotics (7th-8th Grade): This course is designed to explore robotics, mechanical systems, electronics, and programming. This course is primarily a lab experience in which students will design, build, and program Lego Mindstorm EV3 robots. They will then use software to plan, test, and modify sequences of instructions from a variety of real life robotic behaviors. Students will gather and analyze data all designed to solve real world problems. Robotics is a very exciting, hands-on course designed to bring science, technology, engineering and math to life.

Robotics Competition (7th-8th Grade): This is the competition-based Robotics elective that encompasses an entire year. Students may take this elective in both 7th and 8th grade. In FIRST® LEGO® League, students are immersed in real-world science and technology challenges. Teams research and design their own solution to a current scientific question or problem while they also build and program autonomous robots using LEGO® MINDSTORMS® technology to perform a series of missions. They then compete on a themed table-top playing field at a regional competition. Along their journey, students develop critical-thinking and team-building skills, build STEM self-confidence, and gain valuable perspective on the importance of failure in the learning process. This competition will potentially require a few days throughout the year of Saturday commitment with minimal travel. Specific dates will be provided at the start of the school year when the schedule for competition is released.

Spanish 1 (8th Grade) HS Credit (1): In this course students will learn a second language through several learning methods and styles and be able to communicate to reach people for God. Students will learn greetings, verb conjugations, basic vocabulary, pronunciation and grammatical conjugation structures, developing beginning reading, and conversational ability.

Study Skills (7th-8th Grade): This course is designed to help students develop the study skills and organizational skills which will help them to become independent learners and thus help them to improve achievement. Areas that will be covered include: learning styles, time management, organizational skills, managing homework, note taking skills, and reading skills. Students will also learn how to study more effectively for the different subject areas as well as for different types of tests.