

Millcreek Junior High
2020 - 2021
7th Grade Course Descriptions

HONORS CLASSES

You must decide if an honors class is an appropriate fit for your child. To sign up for an honors class: (1) Circle the choice on your class choice form. (2) Read over and complete the honors application and turn it in with your class choice form.

ENGLISH

English 7
(4000) Year

Students will focus on writing, reading, and language skills via direct instruction and activities. There is a heavy emphasis on writing in this class and students will write for multiple purposes. Students will read grade level literature and make text-to-world and text-to-text connections, as well as focus on literary structure. In this class, students can expect to present work individually and in small groups. Critical thinking will be developed through research and analysis of literature and writing.

English 7 Honors
(4005) Year

In addition to all of the components of English 7, this class focuses on nonfiction and multi-genre writing with an emphasis on research and the writing process. The texts chosen for this class have a humanistic or multi-cultural focus. We will develop our critical thinking skills through research, discussion, and analysis. To sign up for this class, be sure to complete the honors application.

MATHEMATICS

Math 7
(5000) Year

This course covers the Utah core standards for seventh graders. Students will learn through differentiated instruction and blended learning with online programs such as Mathia and Aleks. Honors opportunities will be given to all students in this course and students will receive the Honors designation on their transcript if they choose to complete the honors opportunities offered throughout each term.

Grade 7 Mathematics Accelerated (Math 8)

(5010) Year

Students must qualify for the Accelerated 7th/8th Grade Math course by scoring in the 90th percentile or above on the quantitative portion of the CogAT exam. This course covers the Utah core standards for eighth graders. On this track, students can take AP Calculus in 11th grade, and AP Statistics in 12th grade.

SCIENCE

Integrated Science 7
(6000) Year

Students enter the wonderful world of Newton's laws: push and pull factors, collisions, and much more will be fully investigated. Next, students discover the mysteries of the earth's interior and how matter is cycled. Lastly, students learn about the unseen world of cells and genetic influences.

Integrated Science 7 Honors
(6001) Year

Students in this class cover subjects in greater depth and with more independence. Students learn to use science as a process of obtaining knowledge and analyzing outcomes based on observable evidence. Students will discuss topics at a deeper level, learn without scaffolding, and complete high-level projects during the elaboration phase of each unit. To sign up for this class, be sure to complete the honors application.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Foundation of Social Studies: Utah Studies (4500) Semester

Foundations of Social Studies/Utah Studies is the introductory course for social studies in Davis School District. Curricular content consists of key themes and concepts drawn from the social sciences of geography, history, economics, and government. This course focuses on the reading of both informational text and authentic or primary source material.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. 7 (1020) Semester

P.E. 7 is a required class for ALL students. Students learn to develop lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity and healthy lifestyles. They will improve flexibility, strength, agility, balance, speed and endurance. They will develop skills in volleyball, basketball, soccer, flag football, and other team sports. This class can be taken BOTH semesters for students who love P.E.

Basketball 7 (1020) Semester

This class is for the ultimate basketball fan! The course is for all levels of basketball players, from novice to advanced, who want to improve their skills. Students master essential skills through a variety of advanced drills used at the college and professional levels. Students play in a variety of tournament style basketball games (1:1, 2:2, 3:3, 5:5). Students also create their own competition shooting games for the class to compete in. Both boys and girls in 7th, 8th, and 9th grades are encouraged to enroll.

Fitness 7 (1020) Semester

This class is for all those who are looking for a fun class. This class will focus on various fitness activities such as yoga, circuit training, kick boxing, Zumba, and step aerobics! Students will have a 70's dress-up day at the end of the step aerobics routing (for all those who wish to participate). The class will be videotaped and everyone will have a great time watching the culmination of our efforts. The class will focus on the body, strengthening muscles (including the most important one – your heart!), getting toned, and having fun doing it. This course is open to everyone grades 7-9.

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION - CTE

College and Career Awareness (7050) Year

This is an exploratory Career and Technical Education (CTE) program, which includes study in three CTE content areas: Technology and Engineering/Agriculture/Information Technology, Business Education/ Marketing, and Family and Consumer Science/ Health Occupations. It is a required 7th grade class.

Creative Coding (7743) Semester

This course is designed to attract and reach a broad and diverse range of students, including those who may have never considered programming. Students learn how to code by working in a real software development environment to design, program and publish mobile apps and games. Learning to code by creating real products, students discover how to make amazing things and have an impact on their world.

Exploring Tech 1 (7810) Semester

This course is available to 7th and 8th grade students. This is an activity-oriented class that incorporates STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) principles throughout the course. The engineering design process is taught as the students explore technologies in communications, manufacturing, construction, transportation, and power and energy. This is a great class for a student considering engineering or a technical trade as a career. There is a lab fee for this class.

Keyboarding Applications (7552) Semester

Keyboarding skills are essential life skills for today's students. Junior high students need to type at least 30 words per minute consistently on a two-minute timing. If they cannot do this, they should take Keyboarding in the 7th or 8th grade. In this beginning, semester-long keyboarding class, the student will master touch operation on the computer keyboard. First term will focus on correct fingering by touch and good technique. Second term will focus on speed and accuracy as well as basic computer skills. There is a lab fee for this class.

FINE ARTS

Students are required to take at least one year (two semesters) of fine arts credit between 7th and 8th grade.

MUSIC

Band 1 Brass (2204) Year

The following instruments are played in this class: tuba, trombone, French horn, baritone and trumpet. Students will learn basic musicianship skills and theory concepts, such as major scales, basic notes, and rest values. All students participate in the Christmas and Spring Concerts. Tubas, baritones and French horns are available to rent from the school. This fee is to be paid during registration in the fall. There is a lab fee for this class. This is a full year course. Summer band takes place late July – Mid August.

Band 1 Percussion (2206) Year

Note names, note values, and rhythms are learned, using a mallet keyboard and shared drum practice pad. Two years of piano experience required. Entrance tests will be given on Thurs, March 5th at 4:00 p.m. in room 106 for seven slots. This is NOT a playing test, but a written theory test. There is a lab fee for this class. This is a full year course. Students in percussion will purchase their own drumsticks and mallets for the percussion instruments during the year. Summer band will take place from late July – mid August.

Band 1 Woodwinds (2205) Year

Students choose from the following woodwind instruments: oboe, bassoon, clarinet and flute. Students who desire to play the saxophone begin on the clarinet; and auditions are held in January for a few students who wish to switch to saxophone and/or bass clarinet. Oboe, bassoon and bass clarinets are available to rent from the school. Students that desire to play oboe or bassoon are highly encouraged to take private lessons. The rental fee is paid during registration in the fall. Students will learn basic musicianship skills and theory concepts such as major scales and basic note & rest values. All beginning students participate in the Christmas & Spring Concerts. There is a lab fee for this class. This is a full year course. Summer band camp takes place late July – Mid August.

Music Exploration/Beginning Choir (2316) Semester

Music Exploration is a choral singing class combined with general music. Students spend their time in this semester course exploring musical concepts like note values, pitch, rhythm, and music history (instruments, composers, and musical time periods). In addition to investigating music's history, culture and connection to the community around them, students begin applying their skills by learning to read and perform choral music and perform in a bell choir. Students in this course get to be a part of two choir concerts, one at the end of each term. There is a lab fee for this class.

Orchestra 1 (2405) Year

The following instruments are played in this class: violin, viola, cello and bass. Cellos and basses are available to rent from the school. This fee is paid during registration in the fall. Students should have had previous experience with their instrument prior to enrolling, through 6th grade orchestra or private lessons. Students with no prior experience may enroll but will need private lessons or extra practice outside of class and extra instruction in class to catch up. This course is designed to give students the skills to perform music levels 1-2. These levels include basic musicianship skills and theory concepts. All beginning orchestra students will participate in the Fall, Christmas and Spring concerts. There is a lab fee for this class.

VISUAL ARTS

Art Foundations 1 (2101) Semester

Students will have experiences creating art using a variety of media. They will become more fluent with the principles and elements of art. Students will grow in their abilities to create and appreciate art. This class is required before students take advanced art classes. There is a lab fee for this class.

2-D Art (2102) Semester Pre-requisite - Art 1

This course builds on the concepts taught in Art Foundations. Art projects focus on mediums such as charcoal, graphite, scratchboard, oil pastels, watercolors and more. Each year this semester-long course is taught, the projects are different. This enables students to take 2-D Art once as an 7th, 8th and 9th grader, if they wish. There is a lab fee for this class. Pre-requisite class is Art Foundations 1.

3-D Art (2104) Semester Pre-requisite - Art 1

This course builds on the concepts taught in Art Foundations. Projects focus on creating three-dimensional works of art using a variety of mediums (i.e. ceramics, jewelry, wire sculpture and more). Each year this semester-long course is taught, the projects are different. This enables students to take 3D Design once as a 7th, 8th, and 9th grader, if they wish. There is a lab fee for this class. Pre-requisite: Art Foundations 1.

ELECTIVES

Civics (4532) Semester

Introductory class on the basic principles of government and leadership. Students will explore the different types of government, economies, and branches of the government, political systems, and elections, as well as current local and world events. Students will be prepared for future government and citizen classes. Class will be discussion and lecture-based, with guest speakers and activities.

Creative Writing 1 (4335) Semester

Students will have the chance to flex their creative muscle as they discover, develop, and demonstrate skills related to writing. The attention is focused on different writing strategies, while writing everything from short stories to poetry. Near the end, students will experiment with a wide variety of genres to showcase students' own writing styles.

Film History (4255)

Students will explore the history of moving pictures and cinema from the emergence of cinema to the immergence of actualities, fiction-stories, silent films, and talking pictures. This course will focus on film from the 1890s to the 1960s and will cover various genres of film, technological devices, and cinema personalities. Lessons will include documentary excerpts, short films, and clips from full-length films that are rated G, PG, or Not-rated in compliance with district policies. There will be research, presentation, and discussion components within this course.

Spanish 1 (3110) Year

This course gives an intro to the Spanish Language and the many cultures in which Spanish is spoken. The students will participate in activities and do work in order to be at the Novice-Mid Level of Proficiency which is measured by ACTFL. By the end of the year, students will be able to use a limited number of words and phrases about basic actions and objects in Spanish. Students will also be able to understand basic questions about personal information in Spanish. Preference given to 8th graders. There is a lab fee for this class. *No state college in Utah requires a world language for entrance. However, The University of Utah highly encourages students to enter the university with 2 years of a foreign language. The state sponsored Regents' Scholarship requires two years of a foreign language in grades 9–12.*

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Resource

Only those students who qualify for Special Education Resource services take Resource classes. Resource classes are offered in the areas of Language Arts and Math. Students with IEP goals for social skills and/or study skills will have these services addressed during the school day, but it is not necessary to register for a specific class for these services. Both Language Arts and Math offer an applied class which mimics general education, teaching all of the grade level standards but with smaller class sizes and additional support in order to prepare them for a more inclusive educational setting. In addition, students with IEPs will be enrolled in a lab class associated with the academic core goals on their IEP. All students on an IEP will be enrolled in a lab class that pertains to their academic goals; however, enrollment in an applied class or the corresponding general education class will be determined by the IEP team and school counselors per the student's current academic scores and IEP goal achievement.

INTERVENTION CLASSES

Enriched Reading 7 (4230) Semester

This is an intervention reading class. Students will work on their comprehension skills using functional texts and novels. Students will read some works as a class, as well as outside reading. There is an emphasis on nonfiction text and understanding reading strategies. Students are placed in this class by counselors.

Read 180 (2 period class) (4225) Year

This course is designed to strengthen reading skills. Read 180 is a research-based reading intervention program designed to raise the reading levels and test scores of struggling readers. While strengthening these skills, the English core will also be addressed and taught. The class is divided into sections: whole group instruction, small group/individualized instruction, independent and modeled reading, and content-based reading. Students are placed in this class by counselors.

Study Skills (400) Semester

Students will be given this time to complete homework and study for their classes. Students are graded on class participation (working in class), planner usage, and assignment completion in ALL classes. Students are placed in this class by the counselors.