

KIS MS COURSE CATALOG

2021 - 2022 School Year

| ENGLISH | | | | | |
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| Course Title | Course # | Term | Grade(s) | Prerequisite | Major Topics |
| English 6 | 1006 | Year | 6 | N/A | Development of lifelong literacy skills and habits needed for in-depth reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Learning to apply strategies that proficient readers use before, during, and after reading and connect closely with different text genres by identifying and analyzing their features. |
| English 7 | 1007 | Year | 7 | N/A | Focus on refining skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language. Strong emphasis is placed on developing student's ability to identify, interpret, and use figurative language, symbolism, and imagery in order to understand and appreciate the deeper meaning of a text. |
| English 8 | 1008 | Year | 8 | N/A | Focus on extending skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening while developing specific skills pertaining to research, forming and supporting an education opinion, and critical thinking. Students will read a variety of texts in class, including novels, essays, first hand documents, and poetry. Technology-assisted assignments, projects, and presentations will reflect students' knowledge of integrated course topics and literary themes while strengthening |

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| | | | | | public speaking skills. |
| English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) | 1891 | Semester or Year | 6-8 | Teacher approval | <p>This course is designed for entering and/or beginning English language learners. Students will engage in intensive academic instruction that is designed to improve listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in English.</p> <p>This course does not take the place of an English course and is by teacher recommendation only.</p> |
| Literacy Lab | MS1005 | Semester or Year | 6-8 | Teacher approval | <p>Focus on further developing foundational literacy skills. Students will engage in small group work in targeted texts to increase reading accuracy, fluency, vocabulary, writing about reading, and comprehension.</p> <p>This course does not take the place of an English course and is by teacher recommendation only.</p> |
| MATH | | | | | |
| Math 6 | 1160 | Year | 6 | N/A | Designed to provide students with knowledge and skills to complete Common Core State Standards for grade 6. Concepts include measurement, numbers, ratios, statistics and data analysis, algebra, and geometry. |
| Math 6 Accelerated | 1161 | Year | 6 | N/A | Designed to provide students with knowledge and skills to complete Common Core State Standards for grade 6 and first half of grade 7. Focus of this course will be on solid conceptual understanding of numerical expressions, fractions, decimals, algebraic expressions, and equations. |

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| Math 7 | 1162 | Year | 7 | N/A | Designed to provide students with knowledge and skills to complete Common Core State Standards for grade 7. Topics include rational numbers, expressions and equations, inequalities, proportions and percents, geometry, circles, surface area, volume, probability, and statistics. |
| Math 7 Accelerated | 1163 | Year | 7 | N/A | Designed to provide students with knowledge and skills to complete Common Core State Standards for the second half of grade 7 and grade 8. Topics include algebraic expressions and equations, transformations, triangles, graphing and writing linear equations, systems of linear equations, functions, real numbers, the Pythagorean Theorem, volume, data analysis and displays, scientific notation, and probability. |
| Math 8 | 1164 | Year | 8 | N/A | Designed to provide students with knowledge and skills to complete Common Core State Standards for grade 8. In preparation for Algebra I, focus will be on transformations, system of linear equations, functions, the Pythagorean Theorem, volume, data analysis, and scientific notation. |
| Math Lab | 1169 | Semester or Year | 6-8 | N/A | Focus on further developing foundational skills in mathematics. Students will engage in small group work to reinforce and practice mathematical concepts. This course does not take the place of a mathematics class and is by teacher recommendation only. |
| Algebra I | MS1018 | Year | 8 | N/A | Designed to provide students an understanding of |

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| | | | | | algebra as a tool for thinking and communicating across all strands of mathematics. Topics include solving algebraic equations and expressions, factoring polynomials, applying fractions in ratios and proportions, solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, and solving quadratic equations. |
| PHYSICAL EDUCATION | | | | | |
| Physical Education 6 | 1076 | Year | 6 | N/A | Participation, teamwork, and positive sportsmanship will be emphasized during this course. Focus on developing fitness, skills, and strategies while gaining knowledge in lifetime activities, team building, sports, games, and health topics. |
| Physical Education 7 | 1071 | Year | 7 | N/A | Participation, teamwork, and positive sportsmanship will be emphasized during this course. Focus on developing fitness, skills, and strategies while gaining knowledge in lifetime activities, team building, sports, games, and health topics. |
| Physical Education 8 | 1072 | Year | 8 | N/A | Readiness, effort, and sportsmanship will be emphasized during this course. Focus on advancing skills and knowledge in invasion games, net and wall games, aquatics, fitness, and health topics. |
| SCIENCE | | | | | |
| Science 6 | 1026 | Year | 6 | N/A | In this integrated science course, students will be |

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| | | | | | introduced to concepts in physical, life, and earth science. The focus for this first year of middle school will be developing foundational understanding of science content, skill in science practices, and application of big ideas and concepts that cut across all science disciplines. Students will investigate energy and matter and how they flow through ecosystems, the atmosphere, and the geosphere. Additionally, students will study living things from the cell to the organism, and they will learn about the Earth, sun, and moon system. |
| Science 7 | 1027 | Year | 7 | N/A | In this integrated science course, students will continue to build knowledge of concepts in physical, life, and earth science. The focus for this second year of middle school will be to continue building foundational understanding of science concepts, skills in science practices, and application of big ideas and concepts that cut across the science disciplines. Students will investigate atoms and chemical interactions, how organisms use energy and food to live, and how organisms interact in ecosystems. Additionally, students will study energy transfer in physics, natural disasters, the nature of waves, and explore the solar system. |
| Science 8 | 1028 | Year | 8 | N/A | In this integrated science course, students will continue to build their knowledge of the chemical and physical world. Students will gain an understanding of the properties of matter, chemical bonding and interactions, sound and light waves, motion and forces, and the nature of scientific |

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| | | | | | inquiry and knowledge. |
| SOCIAL STUDIES | | | | | |
| Social Studies 6 | 1036 | Year | 6 | N/A | This course will answer the question, “Why is studying the past important to us today?” by focusing on Ancient Civilizations and making connections to modern day. With a focus on the historical development of early humans and ancient civilizations, taking into consideration the structures that supported those civilizations, this course will serve as an introductory course to the four disciplines of social studies: history, geography, economics, and civics. Students will work on making connections between past and present by analyzing change and continuity as well as cause and effect and by investigating the major themes of migration, organization, and development. As a result of this course, students will be able to: 1) analyze primary and secondary sources; 2) develop claims supported by evidence 3) make connections between geography and culture; and 4) develop comparing and contrasting skills. |
| Social Studies 7 | 1037 | Year | 7 | N/A | This course will answer the question, “In what ways does how we live today impact how people will live in the future?” With a focus on the areas of the environment, urbanization, and global collaboration, students will inquire into various sustainability topics throughout the year and will use the United Nations Sustainable Development |

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| | | | | | Goals as a springboard into a free inquiry project. Students will participate in the inquiry cycle, where they will develop a research question, gather and evaluate sources, apply disciplinary tools, and communicate their findings. They will continue to build on research skills, developing claims and counterclaims, analyzing data, and communicating findings. As a result of this course, students will be able to: 1) identify and analyze cause and effect; 2) develop claims and counterclaims; 3) gather applicable evidence from a variety of sources; and 4) create and Use various maps to support explanations and arguments. |
| Social Studies 8 | 1038 | Year | 8 | N/A | This course will answer the question, “How do I become a good citizen?” by focusing on 21st century citizenship skills. The course will cover social psychology moral development with an emphasis on the stages of morality popularized by Dr. Lawrence Kohlberg and will focus on how to make informed decisions by analyzing and assessing the credibility of sources. Students will discover different philosophies of leadership and the qualities of good leaders. Finally, students will learn how to make their voice heard by examining the American Civil Rights era and apply it to a social justice topic of their choice. As a result of this course, students will be able to 1) utilize primary and secondary sources and assess their credibility; 2) evaluate the concept of morality and |

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| | | | | | apply it to events throughout history and their lives, 3) write a coherent, well-researched opinion article; and 4) discover the steps and processes to make a positive change in the world. |
| WORLD LANGUAGE | | | | | |
| Chinese A | 1042 | Year | 6-7 | N/A | Introductory course to Chinese. Equivalent to first semester of Chinese I. Development of proficiency in areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Topics covered include introductions, nationalities, family, jobs and sports. |
| Chinese B | 1043 | Year | 6-8 | Chinese A or placement process | Equivalent to second semester of Chinese I. Development of proficiency in areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Topics covered include making appointments, hobbies, phone calls and shopping. |
| Chinese I | 1900 | Year | 8 | N/A | First-year language program designed to develop linguistic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing as well as knowledge of Chinese culture, history, and customs. |
| French A | 1039 | Year | 6-7 | N/A | Introductory course to French. Equivalent to first semester of French I. Development of proficiency in areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Topics covered include introductions, nationalities, school, and weather. |
| French B | 1063 | Year | 6-8 | French A or placement | Equivalent to second semester of French I. Development of proficiency in speaking, listening, |

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| | | | | process | reading, and writing. Topics covered include family, food, locations, and hobbies. |
| French I | 1905 | Year | 8 | N/A | First-year language program designed to develop linguistic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing as well as knowledge of Francophone culture, history, and customs. |
| Spanish A | 1044 | Year | 6-7 | N/A | Introductory course to Spanish. Equivalent to first semester of Spanish I. Development of proficiency in areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Topics covered include introductions, school, family, physical description and daily routine. |
| Spanish B | 1045 | Year | 6-8 | Spanish A or placement process | Equivalent to second semester of Spanish I. Development of proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Topics covered include the house, free time, and holidays. |
| Spanish I | 1907 | Year | 8 | N/A | First-year language program designed to develop linguistic proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing as well as knowledge of Hispanic culture, history, and customs. |
| ELECTIVES | | | | | |
| The 6th Grade Wheel | 1056 (Art and P&P) 1057 (Design and Comp) | Year | 6 | N/A | An introduction class consisting of four mini-classes that will be taken throughout the school year: Foundations of Art, Foundations of Computers, Foundations of Design Thinking, and Foundations of Presentation and Performance. |

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| Creative Writing | 1009 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Designed to extend to students opportunities to enhance their writing and language usage skills while pursuing fun and creative writing projects. Students will use the writing process and peer revision to unleash their talents as writers and pursue opportunities for publication. This course may be taken more than once. |
| Study Hall | 1882 | Semester and Year | 7-8 | N/A | Intended to meet the needs of students who seek a quiet environment to work independently on assignments. |
| ART | | | | | |
| Ceramics | 1073 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Designed to introduce students to a variety of sculptural and building techniques using clay. Students will have the opportunity to learn both handbuilding as well as wheel thrown pottery techniques, as well as a variety of glazing and surface design methods. |
| Fine Arts | 1058 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | This course is a semester-long elective that focuses on the traditional art mediums/materials such as Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, and Printmaking. Students will be challenged to expand their creativity while learning technical skills. They will learn how to paint with acrylic and watercolor, create a 3D form using either clay or paper, and screen print a t-shirt. Drawing will be done throughout the whole semester. |
| Visual Arts | 1159 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | This course is a semester-long elective that focuses on modern art mediums/materials such as |

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| | | | | | graphic design, photography, and STEM/sculpture. Students will also continue developing their drawing skills since it is one of the foundations of art. Students will learn how to navigate through Adobe Photoshop, take various types of photos, and use their engineering skills to create an artwork. |
| Art Illustrations | 1055 | Semester | 7-8 | Fine Arts or Visual Arts | Art Illustrations is a semester-long elective designed for students to create their own art portfolios through independent projects. Themes will be based on personal interests and students will choose which art material they want to concentrate on. This course challenges students to take control of their own learning, therefore, there is a prerequisite so that students come into this class with a foundational base of technical skills. |
| DESIGN THINKING | | | | | |
| Applied Robotics | 10062 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Focus on exploring how robots are used in everyday life and building robots to recreate and accomplish these tasks using LEGO EV3 sets. |
| Collaborative Engineering | 1067 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Focus on engineering and design to solve real-world issues using the design process of Empathize, Define, Create, Prototype, and Test. Using this process, students will explore all facets of engineering such as civil, computer, electrical, and mechanical and complete two individual projects and one group project. |

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| Creative Computing | 1064 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Introduction to various computing skill sets including Microsoft Excel and Adobe Photoshop. Students will learn how to perform complex calculations using spreadsheets, to model and print in 3D, to design a mobile phone application, and to manipulate and animate images. |
| Individual Engineering | 1068 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Focus on engineering and design to solve real-world issues using the design process of Empathize, Define, Create, Prototype, and Test. Using this process, students will complete two collaborative group projects. Students will use arduino mini-computers, 3D printers, and power tools to explore all facets of engineering such as civil, computer, electrical, and mechanical. |
| Physical Computing and Programming | 1104 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Focus on learning the fundamentals of Python programming language along with programming best practices. Students will learn how to represent and store data using Python data types and variables and how to use conditionals and loops to control the flow of programs. |
| Rover Robotics | 10061 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | Focus on creating and programming robots that move independently. Students will use LEGO EV3 mindstorms to create robots that move and can interact with each other. Students will participate in robot races, battle bots, and obstacle courses. |
| Yearbook | 1093 | Year | 7-8 | Application and teacher approval | Students in this course are responsible for the design and publication of the middle school yearbook. Students will take photographs of clubs, classes, and a variety of school events. Students will also learn basic photography skills and how to |

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| | | | | | properly use DSLR cameras. |
| PERFORMING ARTS | | | | | |
| Blue Harmony | 1079 | Year | 7-8 | Audition | Students must audition for this class. Repertoire will be more vocally and musically challenging. Students will continue their study of vocal technique, sight reading, and choral musicianship. A wide variety of repertoire will be presented at concerts throughout the year. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. |
| Boys Choir | 1080 | Year | 6-8 | N/A | This course is open to male students in grades 6-8. Students will learn the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, and choral musicianship and prepare a wide variety of repertoire that will be presented at concerts throughout the year. This repertoire will be drawn from different historical time periods and represent a variety of languages and cultures. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. |
| Drama I | 1090 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | This course is designed to introduce students to the basic fundamentals of drama. Students will develop their vocal and physical abilities through pantomime, improvisation, and performance. Students will practice these skills through dramatic activities, skits, monologues, and scene work. Students will be expected to perform in front of a variety of audiences. |
| Drama II | 1091 | Semester | 7-8 | Drama I | This course is designed to prepare students for performance in theatre arts. Students will build on existing performance skills learning in Drama I. This course will cover dramatic elements, actions, |

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| | | | | | movement, characterizations, vocal work, and theatrical performance. Students will be expected to perform in front of a variety of audiences. |
| Girls Choir | 1081 | Year | 6-8 | N/A | This course is open to female students in grades 6-8. Students will learn the basics of vocal technique, sight-reading, and choral musicianship and prepare a wide variety of repertoire that will be presented at concerts throughout the year. This repertoire will be drawn from different historical time periods and represent a variety of languages and cultures. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. |
| Introduction to Band | 1051 | Year | 6-8 | N/A | <p>This course is for students who have an interest in learning a band instrument but have no prior experience playing an instrument or reading music. With assistance from the teacher, students will choose a woodwind (flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, or saxophone) or brass instrument (trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, or tuba) on which they can naturally make a sound. Attendance at all performances is mandatory.</p> <p><i>Note: KIS owns a limited number of flutes, clarinets, and saxophones for student rental.</i></p> |
| Introduction to Percussion | 1103 | Year | 6-8 | N/A | This course is for students who have an interest in learning percussion instruments but have no prior experience playing or reading music. Emphasis will be on learning snare drum rudiments and playing the melodic percussion instruments |

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| | | | | | (xylophone, marimba, and glockenspiel). Priority will be given to students who have some piano playing experience. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. |
| Introduction to Strings | 1094 | Year | 6-8 | N/A | <p>This course is for students who have an interest in learning a string instrument but have no prior experience playing or reading music. With assistance from the teacher, students will choose the violin, viola, cello, or bass. Participation in all dress rehearsals, concerts, and festivals is mandatory.</p> <p><i>Note: KIS owns a limited number of violins, violas, cellos, and basses for student rental.</i></p> |
| Phoenix Band | 1203 | Year | 7-8 | Audition | <p>This course is for students who have at least six months of experience playing a woodwind (flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, or saxophone) or brass instrument (trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, or tuba) and reading music. Students who have completed one year of percussion are also eligible for this course. Attendance at all performances is mandatory.</p> <p><i>Note: KIS owns a limited number of flutes, clarinets, and saxophones for student rental.</i></p> |
| Phoenix Strings | 1085 | Year | 7-8 | Audition | Students must audition for this class. Students will focus on synthesizing previously learned concepts and skills into a musically proficient performance. |

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| | | | | | Students are expected to practice their instruments regularly outside of class. Participation in all dress rehearsals, concerts, and festivals is mandatory. |
| Stage Craft | 1098 | Semester | 7-8 | N/A | This course is dedicated to the hands-on techniques and procedures that make theatre run. Students will be introduced to various aspects of stagecraft including construction, props, stage management, make-up, and scene painting. |
| Symphonic Band | 1109 | Year | 6-8 | N/A | <p>This course is for students who have at least six months of experience playing a woodwind (flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, or saxophone) or brass instrument (trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, or tuba) and reading music. Students who have completed one year of percussion are also eligible for this course. Attendance at all performances is mandatory.</p> <p><i>Note: KIS owns a limited number of flutes, clarinets, and saxophones for student rental.</i></p> |
| Symphonic Strings | 1086 | Year | 6-8 | N/A | This course is for students who have at least six months of experience playing a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or bass) and reading music. Students will focus on synthesizing previously learned concepts and skills into a musically proficient performance. Students are expected to practice their instruments regularly outside of class. Participation in all dress rehearsals, concerts, and festivals is mandatory. |

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| | | | | | <p><i>Note: Students in Symphonic Strings are expected to rent or own their own string instrument.</i></p> |
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