



9th Grade Course Descriptions Catalog 2020-2021

Please review course information as you prepare and register for a full year of 8th grade. The classes you select are important to your educational program and success in school. Remember, there is a **\$10.00 fee** for making changes after your registration is returned. This does not apply to changes as a result of computer error or changes made as a result of testing or teacher recommendation.

Please review the "Jr. High Honors Courses Indicators for Student Success" and consider the criteria as you make a decision about whether or not an honors course is the most appropriate placement.

There will be no class changes made after 1st week of Semester 1 & Semester 2.

The State of Utah requires that 9th grade students must take all of the following classes:

- *English (Full Year)
- *Math (Full Year)
- *Science (Full Year)
- *Geography
- *P.E. (Semester – ½ Year)

High School Graduation Requirements	
Subject	# Credits
English	4.0
Social Studies	3.0
Mathematics	3.0
Science	3.0
Fine Arts	1.5
Career & Technical	1.0
Health Education	.5
P.E. & Fit for Life	1.5
Digital Studies	.5
Financial Literacy	.5
Electives	8.5
TOTAL	27.0

9th Grade Required Courses

ENGLISH (Full Year)

English 9:

This course helps students gain a greater facility with the language. Students will learn how to improve their writing through lessons based upon the writing process and the six traits of writing. As part of these traits, composition lessons will include the application of mechanics and grammar. Students will produce expository, narrative/descriptive, poetic, research, and workplace written work. Reading will focus on teaching students a variety of comprehension strategies and introducing them to a variety of functional, informal, and literary texts. They will also work on listening, viewing, and speaking skills. English 9 will enhance the skills and knowledge gained in English 8.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

English 9 – Honors:

This is an accelerated version of English 9. Reading materials will be more difficult and writing assignments will be more in depth. More reading and writing will be required in school and at home. This course is intended to prepare students to enter into the Honors English courses at the high school. Students in this course should be self-motivated and committed to work.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

MATHEMATICS (Full Year)

Secondary Mathematics I:

Students on this regular pathway will be prepared for Pre-Calculus, A.P. Statistics, or concurrent enrollment in their senior year.

The Secondary Mathematics I (9th grade core) will focus on developing a solid understanding of function and use that understanding to explore many examples of functions, including sequences. It will deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships and connect that understanding to exponential functions. It will build on prior experiences with data to develop formal methods of data analysis. Students will use properties and theorems involving congruent figures to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge. Algebraic and geometric ideas will be tied together. Success in this course may require 30 minutes or more of homework each night.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Secondary Mathematics I - Honors:

The Secondary Mathematics I Honors Course will cover all of the concepts in the Secondary Mathematics I course. Concepts will be explored in greater depth with increased use of contextual situations. In addition, it will include concepts dealing with vectors and quantities of vectors and matrix operations and their applications. This course will include elements that will prepare students to take Calculus in high school. This course will have increased rigor and advanced content that will challenge the minds of high ability students. Success in this course may require 30 minutes or more of homework each night.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Secondary Mathematics II - Honors:

Pre-requisite: Students that had Secondary I Honors in 8th grade.

The Secondary Mathematics II Honors Course will cover all of the concepts in the Secondary Mathematics II course. Concepts will be explored in greater depth with increased use of contextual situations. In addition, they will study complex numbers and their operations on the complex plane, solve systems of equations, prove and apply trigonometric identities, express conic sections algebraically, and solve problems using volume measurements. This course will include elements that will prepare students to take calculus in high school. This course will have increased rigor and advanced content that will challenge the minds of high ability students. Success in this course may require 30 minutes or more of homework each night.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

P.E. Skills & Techniques 9 (Semester – ½ Year):

Students taking P.E. in 9th grade will participate in many fitness activities including, but not limited to, team sports, running, calisthenics, weights, and cardiovascular exercises. Students will also be learning about the topic of nutrition. Students will be expected to participate daily and to demonstrate cooperation and good sportsmanship. Students will be encouraged to practice good personal hygiene and change into P.E. clothes each day. P.E. uniform shirts are a required class fee and cost \$10. You can purchase online or in the front office. You will provide your own uniform bottoms (red, black, or gray shorts or pants). Please pay by Aug. 1st for 1st semester and Dec. 1st for 2nd semester.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

SCIENCE (Full Year)

Biology:

The biology standards explore the patterns, processes, relationships, and the environment of living organisms. Students analyze data on the role of matter cycles and energy flow when organisms interact with their environment to explain how the stability and change of an ecosystem and biodiversity can be affected. Students investigate the structures and functions of living organisms needed in order to support necessary life functions. Students explore the cause and effect relationships of heredity, the role of DNA in gene expression and protein synthesis, and how gene expression can be altered by environmental and genetic causes. Students investigate how the mechanisms of genetic variation can lead to diversity within and among species and explain how the unity among species as well as the great diversity of species is a result of evolution by natural selection. Additionally, students design and evaluate solutions to problems that exist in these areas.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Earth and Space Science:

The Earth and space science standards investigate processes and mechanisms that have resulted in the formation of our Earth, galaxy, and universe. Students develop models to illustrate the life span of the Sun and the role of nuclear fusion releasing energy in the Sun's core. Students analyze and interpret data to construct an explanation for Earth's 4.6-billion-year history and explore changes to Earth's systems. Students develop and use a model of Earth's interior to describe the cycling of matter by thermal convection. Students plan and carry out an investigation on the properties of water to determine its effects on Earth materials. Students will be able to explain sustainable and natural resources and focus on responsible stewardship.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

SOCIAL STUDIES (Full Year)

World Geography:

Geography for Life will explore how to use geography as a tool to better understand the world in which we live. This course combines both physical and human geography following a five regions approach: North America, South America, Europe, Africa and Asia-Pacific. Studies will also include mapping skills, use of technology, and problem solving.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Human Geography - AP:

The purpose of the AP course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. The particular topics studied in an AP Human Geography course are based upon the following five college-level goals that build on the National Geography Standards developed in 1994. On successful completion of the course, the student should be able to: (1) Use and think about maps and spatial data (2) Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places (3) Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes (4) Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process (5) Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

9th Grade Electives

TEACHER ASSISTANT/PEER TUTOR

Counseling Assistant (Semester – ½ Year):

Pre-requisite: Must complete the form with a signature on back.

Counseling Aides provide an important service to the counseling center by helping students, teachers, administration, and the public. Aides will work in the counseling center and will be trained in office responsibilities and procedures. Students will learn office skills, information finding, organization skills, and public relations skills. Personal responsibility, flexibility, courtesy, and the ability to follow instructions and work independently are required. Being a Counseling Aide is excellent preparation for high school and for those interested in working in an office environment. This class gives elective credit but does not count in the GPA calculation. It is graded PASS or FAIL.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Library Media Skills (Semester – ½ Year):

Pre-requisite: Must complete the form with a signature on back.

Media Aides will work in the Library Media Center and will be trained in the responsibilities and procedures of the media center. Students will learn how information is organized, improve their research skills, and practice public relations skills. Media Aides will learn the use of the library computer system, become knowledgeable in the Dewey Decimal book classification system, and gain experience locating and using information from the Internet. Personal responsibility, flexibility, courtesy and the ability to follow instructions and work independently is required. This class gives elective credit and will give a letter grade and count in the GPA calculation.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Office Assistant (Semester – ½ Year):

Pre-requisite: Must have a 3.00 GPA and must complete the form with a signature on back.

Office Aides provide an important service to the school by helping students, teachers, administration, and the public. Aides will work in the school office and will be trained in office responsibilities and procedures. Students will learn office skills, information finding and organization skills, and public relations skills. Personal responsibility, flexibility, courtesy, and the ability to follow instructions and work independently are required. Being an Office Aide is excellent preparation for high school and for those interested in working in an office environment. This class gives elective credit but does not count in the GPA calculation. It is graded PASS or FAIL.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Peer Tutor (Semester – ½ Year):

Students, under the direction of the Special Education Teacher, will work one on one with the students with disabilities and help them with their schoolwork. Students will learn about disabilities, data collection, behavioral technology, instructional techniques and advocacy. Students that are selected need to be appropriate models of school and social communication skills. This class gives elective credit and will give a letter grade and count in the GPA.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Teacher Assistant (Semester – ½ Year):

Pre-requisite: Must complete the form with a signature on back.

Excellent attendance and grades are required. This class gives elective credit but does not count in the GPA. It is graded PASS or FAIL.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY

These classes will help meet the high school Career and Technical Education (CTE) graduation credit requirement.

Teaching as a Profession (Semester – ½ Year):

Learn more about yourself, how you learn, and how human development influences learning. Explore careers in education including teaching, school counseling, media services, or other education professions. Learn about the past, present, and future of education in the United States. Create an electronic portfolio that will continue throughout the Education and Training pathway.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Child Development (Semester – ½ Year):

In this class, we will learn about children and the activities they enjoy doing. Physical, mental, emotional, social, and moral development will be discussed. We will also be covering development from conception through age 5. A baby simulation is part of the learning experience. FCCLA may be an integral part of this course. Skills gained will be evaluated by the State of Utah Skills Competency Test.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Interior Design (Semester – ½ Year):

This course enables students to explore their creativity in the field of interior design. Identification of the elements and principles of design are emphasized. Other topics included are furniture arrangement basics, floor plan evaluation, area planning and careers. This course will strengthen comprehension of concepts and standards outlined in Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) education. FCCLA may be an integral part of this course. Skills gained will be evaluated by the State of Utah Skills Competency Test.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Apparel Design and Construction (Semester – ½ Year):

This creative course will introduce students to basic fashion design and construction skills. We will make pillows, duffel bags, pajamas, stuffed animals, and more. Skills in this class will also be used to make charity bears as a service project. After making the projects student will deliver them on a field trip to children in need. This is a great experience! Woods Cross doesn't offer sewing so take this class in 9th grade and receive .5 CTE credit towards high school graduation. The fee for this class will cover supplies, however if students want to purchase their own fabrics that's fine too.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Foods/Nutrition 1 (Semester – ½ Year):

This course is designed for students who are interested in understanding the principles of nutrition and in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Attention will be given to the selection and preparation of food. Areas of study include food safety, selection, use, care, and storage of equipment, MyPlate and the dietary guidelines, preparation techniques in preparing quick breads and grains, fruits and vegetables, milk and dairy foods, eggs, and pies. FCCLA may be an integral part of this course. Skills gained will be evaluated by the State of Utah Skills Competency Test
Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Engineering Principals 1 (Semester – ½ Year):

This course will introduce students to the highly skilled discipline of engineering. This includes learning about the Engineering Design Process, which is a systematic process used to help engineers develop ideas into usable products. Students will learn how to create detailed sketches for their ideas, which will then be used to create isometric and orthographic drawings that are utilized to communicate their ideas. They will then use these to build a prototype of one of their ideas. Students will also explore the field of Civil Engineering. They will learn how to use mathematical modeling in order to understand how truss systems work, and how water distribution systems work. Students will then use this understanding to build and test a water distribution model that represents a city's water distribution system.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Engineering Principals 2 (Semester – ½ Year):

Pre-requisite: None, though it is suggested that Engineering Principals 1 be completed first semester

This follow-up course to Engineering Principals 1 will introduce students to the engineering fields of automation, mechanics, robotics, and systems programming. They will learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, firmware programming, and computer control systems. Students will use their skills and knowledge to design, model, build, and program prototypes of their own designs of real-world systems.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Gaming Development Fundamentals (Semester – ½ Year):

Pre-requisite: Successful completion of Creative Coding class

This course is designed to provide students with knowledge and project-based experience of fundamental gaming development concepts in the field of computer game programming. These concepts include game design, scripting, creation of digital assets, graphic resources, animations, understanding the roles of hardware and software, problem solving, and critical thinking.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

3-D Graphics (Semester- ½ Year)

Pre-requisite: None

Design your dream home. Invent a robot. Create a world and digitally sculpt original characters. Learn about the history and various applications of 3D in several industries. Hands-on training with Paint 3D, Sketchup, and the powerful Blender and Adobe software. Bring your creations to life with a game engine or printed in 3D.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Digital Studies

Exploring Computer Science (Semester – ½ Year):

This course is designed to introduce students to the breadth of the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and approachable topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning specific software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus on the conceptual ideas of computing, and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. The goal of Exploring Computer Science is to develop in students and understanding of how computers, computer networks, and the internet work; the computational thinking practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming; and doing this within the context of programs that are relevant to the lives to today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as the capability and limits of computers, and societal and ethical issues. This course fulfills Davis School District's half-year (.5) Digital Studies graduation requirement.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

FINE ARTS

These class will help meet the high school fine arts graduation credit requirement.

Choir Level 3- Concert Choir

Pre-requisite: Must have taken a music class

Concert Choir is designed to further the skills and techniques learned in the Intermediate (8th grade) choir. Student will represent South Davis Jr. High through performances at school as well as district and community functions. Students will be required to perform in small groups as part of the grading process.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Choir Level 3- Madrigals- Advanced Auditioned Choir

Must audition- 8th and 9th grades only

Madrigals is a yearlong 32-person SATB auditioned choir. Interested students will take part in an audition in April of the previous school year. Students in Madrigals have a strong desire to progress in their musical development and perform at a consistently high standard. Madrigal members are music literate (they can sight read music at a high level of accuracy) and are able to hold their vocal part independently. Madrigals perform numerous times throughout the year, including concerts, assemblies, solo/ensemble festivals, the Davis District Choral Festival, and a choir tour.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Band (Full Year):

Students must have teacher approval and provide their own instrument. Students will be placed by the instructor depending on their musical experience and skill.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Orchestra (Full Year):

This course will provide further opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding of the arts. In addition to learning advanced string techniques, students have the opportunity to perform in various music festivals, including solo & ensemble, string orchestra, and full orchestra festivals. Students will be placed by the instructor depending on their musical skills and experience.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Art Foundations 2 (Semester – ½ Year):

This course is designed to provide further experience with the study and use of the elements and principles of art, assisting students in creative artistic expression. For 9th grade students who have not taken 2 art classes previously.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Studio Art (Semester – ½ Year):

Pre-requisite: Taking two of the following courses: Art 1, Art 2D, Art 3D, or Art 2

This is an honors course for art students interested in advance study in Art Foundations. Students will continue in the study and use of the elements and principles of art, with an emphasis on studio production, while using a variety of tools and materials.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Ceramics 1 (Semester- ½ Year):

This is a beginning ceramics class covering hand-building techniques, firing and glazing. Students will make clay art and functional pottery forms.

Fee set by Davis School District school board

Theatre Level 1 (Semester – ½ Year):

In this class, students will develop basic techniques of acting and gain a deeper appreciation of theatre as an art form. Students will explore various periods of theatre history through observation and performance. Students will be required to work in groups. The majority of the grade for this class is based on in-class participation and attendance.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Theatre Level 2 (Semester – ½ Year):

This course will only be available in Semester 2 of the school year. In this class, students will further develop skills learned in Theatre Level 1. In addition, students will learn more about auditioning, script evaluation, scenic/costume design, and character development. Student will be required to work in groups. This course is open to all students who have completed Theatre Level 1. The majority of the grade for this class is based on in-class participation and attendance.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES (Full Year)

French 1, Spanish 1:

Pre-requisite: B+ grade or better in English 8.

This course develops a functional use of the language on a beginning level in speaking, listening, reading and writing. It includes an introduction to the culture, geography, and history of the countries that speak this language. Students will learn common phrases, vocabulary and basic grammar through oral and written activities. Memorization, retention of memorized material, spelling, understanding of sentence structure, and a willingness to communicate orally in the classroom are necessary skills for learning a foreign language.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

French 2, Spanish 2:

Pre-requisite: C grade or better grade in French/Spanish 1.

This is a continuation of the first-year course. It develops the use of the target language to an advanced-beginner level through oral and written activities using extended vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure. Culture, geography, and history of the countries that speak the language are reinforced in this course.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

French 3, Spanish 3:

Pre-requisite: C grade or better grade in French/Spanish 2. This course will only be offered if there are enough students to fill the class.

This is a continuation of the second-year course and an honors level class. It develops further use of the language through oral and written activities using vocabulary, grammar and sentence structure. More emphasis will be placed on oral language use in the classroom. Students will be exposed to authentic language materials, situations, literature, art and activities.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

French 5 DLI Honors:

This course continues the development of speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. Narratives and dialogues are used to teach structure and vocabulary. Culture and geography of the native country are taught through viewing, listening, and reading selections. For dual immersion students only, and students will be prepared to take the AP French Language & Culture exam at the end of this course, if desired. **For dual immersion students only.**

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

French Culture and Media (Semester – ½ Year):

The Culture & Media course builds skills in cultural-linguistic competencies necessary for successful communication with native speakers. Students utilize media and authentic texts to learn about the diverse cultural products, practices, and perspectives of countries. The topics and tasks, along with careful support for students to reach proficiency targets, lead intentionally to the French AP Language & Culture course content. Must take class twice between 7,8, and 9 grades. **For dual immersion students only.**

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

LIA

Latinos in Action (Semester or Full Year):

This is a peer leadership class in which the students go to an elementary school to tutor.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Yearbook

Yearbook (Semester – ½ Year):

This course offers students a chance to expand their knowledge in technology, while engaging in the following course work: school yearbook production, web page creation, monthly student newsletter, and video production. Signing up for this class does not guarantee enrollment. Enrollment is determined by the teacher.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student Government (Full Year):

Students who are elected to office, under the direction of the Student Body Advisor, will be involved in leadership roles for the student body of South Davis Junior High School. Once elected, students will need to maintain their GPA and CPA (citizenship) as defined in the Constitution. (See student planner.) Student officers will be required to attend all functions of the school as defined. NOTE: This course is offered only as a before or after school class and/or during Plus Period.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

WRITING

Creative Writing 1(Semester – ½ Year):

Creative Writing is a class for students who ALREADY EXCEL IN WRITING and are ready to take their writing a step further. Creative Writing directs students to explore, expand upon, and improve their possibilities as creative writers using a wide variety of genres. Students will be expected to write and produce every class period.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Creative Writing 2 (Semester – ½ Year):

Prerequisite: Creative Writing 1

This course is to further the creative writing experience of the student. Students will have the opportunity to write longer pieces and to seek publication. Any student enrolling in this course must be able to work consistently, independently, and quietly.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

SOCIAL STUDIES

National Academic League (NAL) (Fall Semester only – ½ Year)

NAL is a course offered in the fall for students at South Davis Junior High. After completing this course, students will have a set of critical thinking skills that they can use in a variety of experiences throughout their curricular and extracurricular lives. Students will learn about the history of NAL and why it was established. Students will learn how to participate in NAL competitions. Students will work on teamwork skills. They will also learn how to distinguish their strengths and weaknesses in order to figure out how they can best help the team succeed. Students would learn some public speaking skills. This course is designed for those students who would like to participate in the school's NAL team during second and third quarters.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

Debate (Spring Semester only – ½ Year)

Debate is a course offered in the spring for students at South Davis Junior High. After completing this course, students will have a set of portable argumentation and advocacy skills that they can use in a variety of experiences throughout their curricular and extracurricular lives. Students will initially learn about and practice structured extemporaneous speeches with emphasis on verbal and nonverbal delivery skills (organization, projection, inflection, eye-contact, hand gestures, and more). Students will then build a foundation for effective argumentation and advocacy (claim/warrant/evidence) by participating in practice debates and ultimately presenting one research-based argumentative speech. This class is ultimately for students who want to explore debate and practice their public speaking skills. Students who participated in the NAL class would strongly be encouraged to take this course.

Fee set by Davis School District school board.

RELEASED TIME

Released Time – Seminary (Full Year):

No graduation credit will be given.

The Release Agreement required for Seminary is conducted outside of school at the students individual Ward. If you are taking seminary you must include it as one of your eight classes on the registration sheet.

****All school fees are subject to School Board Approval.

It is the policy of Davis School District and South Davis Junior High School to ensure that educational activities, employment, programs, and services be offered without regard to race, color, creed or religion, national origin, sex, age, or handicapped condition. If your child is an individual with a disability needing special assistance, please contact SDJH 504 coordinator at (801) 402-6400, and/or the District ADA Coordinator at (801) 402-5307