

7th Grade Honors Course Information

Participation in honors level classes at the junior high level can help students prepare for more rigorous courses in high school. These high school advanced courses, in turn, can prepare students to do better on the ACT, SAT, or other college entrance exams, as well as to succeed in high school and college course work.

Honors English 7 is a course rich in discussion, challenging concepts, and exploration of ideas. The learning focus is on skills and content in reading fiction and informational texts. Additionally, students will expand and increase skills in argumentative, informational, and narrative writing. Students will also participate in collaborative learning, analyzing and evaluating texts and presentations, and lessons focused on the conventions of standard English. This course will go more in-depth on some activities, which will increase the pace and homework compared to traditional English.

Honors Integrated Science 7 will have additional requirements that go beyond the basic curriculum. The honors lessons will be set up in a separate Canvas module each term. After students finish the Canvas module for all four terms, the teacher will have the honors designation added to their transcript. It is an extension to the traditional integrated science 7 class. It is not taught as a separate class and is available to all students.

Junior High Honors Courses Indicators for Student Success

Please thoughtfully consider the following criteria as you are deciding about whether junior high honors level courses will provide the most appropriate learning environment for your child. Read over this form and discuss it with your child. Be confident that they can achieve at the level described. An honors student should meet the following criteria:

1. Typically, be performing at a 3 or 4 proficiency level on the end of level tests in a specific subject area before considering enrolling in an honors level course in that subject area.
2. Consistently earn an "A" or "B" (or a "3" for 6th graders) for the subject in which they desire to take an honors course.
3. Have a high level of interest and strong desire to be challenged in the subject in which they would like to take an honors course.
4. Consistently exhibit most of the characteristics described below.
5. Typically, reading and writing at or above grade level.

Learning/Intellectual Characteristics:

- Enjoys tasks that are more challenging than average
- Has a ready grasp of underlying principles, and can quickly make valid generalizations about events, people, and things
- Tries to understand complicated material by separating it into its respective parts
- Reasons things out
- Analyzes problems and considers alternatives
- Enjoys complex concepts and processes

Motivational/Affective Characteristics:

- Becomes absorbed and truly involved in certain topics or problems
- Needs little external motivation to follow through in work completion
- Often requires little direction from teachers
- Is highly self-motivated and persistent
- Has high expectations of self and others

When deciding whether to enroll a student in a particular subject area honors course, please consider the following subject specific characteristics:

Math/Science:

- Is interested in numerical analysis
- Has a good memory for storing main features of a problem and its solutions
- Reasons effectively and efficiently
- Organizes data and experiments to discover patterns or relationships
- Is flexible in solving problems

Social Studies/Language Arts:

- * Has advanced vocabulary for age or grade level
- * Reads a great deal; does not avoid difficult material
- * Enjoys language (verbal or written) communication; has advanced communication skills
- * Organizes ideas and sequences in preparation for speaking and writing
- * Likes to study and research in areas of interest