

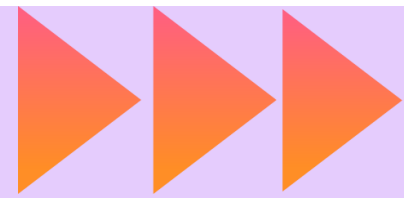
MIDDLE SCHOOL



A JOURNEY TO VISION 2030



ACADEMIC INFORMATION



MISD Grading System for Grades 7-8

The district middle schools use a numerical grading system.

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
F	Below 70

Enrollment

A student enrolling in the district for the first time must be accompanied by his/her parent(s) or legal guardian and must provide satisfactory evidence of required immunization, **proof of residence (utility bill or lease agreement)**, copy of birth certificate and social security card, and a withdrawal form from the previous school. To complete admission, the following demographic information is necessary: home address, home phone, mother's name, place of business and work phone, father's name, place of business and work phone, and a friend or relative's name and number in case of emergency.

A note to students entering MISD for the first time in grades 7-8:

The following is a conversion chart for students entering MISD for the first time in grades 7-8. This chart will be used if the previous school does not have a conversion chart of its own. MISD will use the conversion chart of the student's previous school if one is provided.

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
98	95	92	88	85	82	78	75	72	68	65	62	55

Middle School Schedule

MISD middle schools are organized on a traditional 8-period day.

Advanced Courses

A student may enter the advanced course sequence at the beginning of any semester/school year based upon his/her interest and identified potential. Identified potential may be determined by consulting with the student's subject-matter teacher.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



7th GRADE ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts

Course Number: 3101

This course covers grammar, literature, composition, vocabulary development and spelling. Development of reading skills, writing and language concepts are stressed. Students read a variety of literary and informational texts.

Advanced Language Arts

Course Number: 3121

Advanced students will expand their knowledge of advanced strategies in reading and writing using materials specifically selected for the advanced student. These skills are developed through Close reading, critical thinking, composition, vocabulary and grammar.

8th GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Language Arts

Course Number: 3201

This course covers grammar, literature, composition, vocabulary development and spelling. Students are introduced to a variety of literary forms in their wide reading of classic, contemporary and informational texts.

Advanced Language Arts

Course Number: 3221

Advanced Language Arts students will participate in an in-depth study of advanced strategies in reading and writing using materials specifically selected for the advanced students. These skills are developed through Close reading, critical thinking, composition, vocabulary and grammar. This course is designed to expose students the background knowledge and skills needed to be successful in the high school Advanced Placement program.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



7th GRADE SCIENCE

Science

Course Number: 4101

Seventh grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas by using the district core curriculum. Students will participate in activities such as inquiry lessons and lab activities, and guided research projects.

Advanced Science

Course Number: 4121

Advanced seventh grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas, and extends the district core curriculum by providing: Complex inquiry lessons and lab activities, independent projects with product differentiation, and scientific article analysis.

8th GRADE SCIENCE

Science

Course Number: 4201

Eighth grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas by using the district core curriculum. Students will participate in activities such as inquiry lessons and lab activities, and guided research projects.

Advanced Science

Course Number: 4221

Advanced eighth grade science will focus on the objectives prescribed by the State of Texas, and extends the district core curriculum by providing complex Inquiry lessons and lab activities, independent projects with product differentiation, and scientific article analysis.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



7th GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

Texas History

Course Number: 7101

Texas History students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Students examine the full scope of Texas history, including the cultures of Native Americans living in Texas prior to European exploration and the eras of mission-building, colonization, revolution, republic, and statehood. Students will be able to explain the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and examine the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens. Students will use primary and secondary sources to examine the rich and diverse cultural background of Texas

Advanced Texas History

Course Number: 7121

Advanced Texas History students study all of Texas history with an emphasis on using skills that will prepare them for success in future Advanced and AP classes. Students assess issues of change over time as a process. Analysis of primary and secondary sources will aid students in understanding the diversity of interpretations of history. Students will be responsible for reading outside of class.

8th GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

US History

Course Number: 7201

Early American History students study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. The content builds upon that from Grade 5 American History but provides more depth and breadth. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early Republic, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction.

Advanced US History

Course Number: 7221

Advanced Early American History students study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction in depth. This rigorous course will cultivate necessary habits of mind for success in high school AP courses, such as analysis and formulation of document-based essays. Students will be responsible for reading outside of class.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



A Note About Grade 7 & 8 Electives: It is important to know that this course description guide includes all courses that are offered in the Mansfield ISD. However, due to enrollment and teacher availability, **not every class will be offered every year at all campuses.**

REQUIRED ELECTIVES

PE/Athletics

Course Number: Varies

Course Length: Semester (1 year required) Grade 7 & 8

A minimum of two semesters of some form of physical education are required for all middle school students. Students may fulfill this requirement in either 7th or 8th grade. However, students are strongly encouraged to fulfill this requirement in 7th grade. See PE/Athletics section of course guide for complete details.

Career Pathways

Course Number: 8008

**Course Length: Semester
Grade 8**

Students will explore the array of high school courses available and their individual career interests as they prepare for their future in this semester course. The capstone event of this course is to create an initial four-year plan for high school.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Academic Competitions

Course Number: 3670

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

Students will learn to think “outside the box” while being exposed to a variety of general knowledge facts covering literature, history, philosophy, science, and sociology. Students will be given the opportunity to compete and gain from shared experiences and team-building.

AVID

Course Number: 1007/1008

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

The class prepares students in the academic middle for college eligibility and success. Students receive instruction in writing, inquiry, collaboration and reading strategies in addition to note-taking and organizational skills that are necessary for academic success. AVID students must enroll in at least one advanced course. Tutors are provided during AVID class to support student success in all courses. Pre-approval is required.

Innovative Communications

Course Number: 8720

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

Want to learn about how your brain works and how to work well with others through social and emotional learning? Students will use activities to build relationships, social skills, confidence, teamwork, and mindfulness THROUGH; Hands-on Activities Board Games, Puzzles

PSAT Prep

Course Number: 8710

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

PSAT Prep is an 8th grade test prep course available through invitation only. High achieving 7th grade students are invited to participate in this course for their 8th grade year based on several criteria, including, but not limited to, grades, teacher recommendations,

rigor of courses, student application, and conduct.

Intro to Creative Writing

Course Number: 3650

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

This course will focus on teaching students writing principles such as plot, structure, character, voice, dialogue, description, and point of view. These principles will be taught through several forms of creative expression through writing.

Foundation of Personal Finance

Course Number: 8715

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

This course is designed to inform students about financial decisions and the impact they have regarding a financially secure future lifestyle. Students will apply critical thinking skills and problem-solving skills to analyze decisions involving earning and spending.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



Language Exploration

Course Number: 1023

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

This course is designed to give students a taste of cultures beyond mainstream America. Various cultures will be studied and students will be introduced to basic vocabulary within a foreign language.

Leadership

Course Number:

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

This course is designed to develop communication skills, character traits, goal setting and decision-making skills which are incorporated by individual and group leadership and organizational activities

Skills for Living

Course Number : 1401

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

The course provides opportunities to explore family relationships and personal development, personal management, and planning for the future. Course content addresses positive self-image, nutrition and basic cooking skills, wellness, personal appearance and basic sewing skills, how to get along with others, decision making and child care practices.

Coding I

Course Number(s): 8009

Course Length: Semester each

Grade 7-8

Coding Basics will assist students in discovering their passion for coding, as well as help them determine courses for future career opportunities such as graphic design and video game development. Students will develop computer coding skills by learning languages such as Batch, Python, C# & XML, and HTML. Using these skills, students will create programs using reason and creativity.

Skills for Success

Course Number: 1509

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

This elective class is available to 7th and 8th grade students. The purpose of this course is designed to assist students in developing skills that are essential for academic success. Topics will include effective study habits, time management skills, goal setting, etc. Students will also receive instruction in writing, inquiry, collaboration and reading strategies in addition to note-taking and organizational skills that are necessary for academic success.

Student Council

Course Number: 9007

Course Length: Semester to Full Year

Grade 7-8

This course is designed for those who are currently student leaders/student council members. This course will develop students' leadership skills to function effectively as team members, responsible citizens, entrepreneurs, and productive workers in a global society. Pre-approval is required.

Technology Applications

Course Number: 9020

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

Students will utilize computers to learn a variety of technological units. This class is designed to provide students with a broad, exploratory experience with a variety of tools, materials, and processes associated with industry and technology.

Yearbook

Course Number: 8061

Course Length: Semester to Full Year

Grade 7-8

Students will explore the elements and processes necessary for producing his/her middle school's yearbook. Experience with typing, copy writing, and photography is helpful. Pre-approval is req

Newspaper

Course Number: 8602

Course Length: Semester to Full Year

Grade 7,8

This course is designed to assist students with the elements of developing a middle school newspaper. Students will gain such journalism skills as interviewing, writing, editing, photography, and visual design.

Student Assistant

Course Number: Approval Required

Course Length: Semester to Full Year

Grade 7-8

Students will help with routine non-confidential office duties, library duties, and/or clinic duties. Pre-approval is required.

Music Appreciation

Course Number: 1200

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

This class is designed to give students a basic understanding of music and to inspire an appreciation for music from a variety of genres and cultures. We will apply the elements of music to our favorite music, learn how to read and apply rhythmic notation, and investigate how music has changed throughout history.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

Art – Intro

Course Number: 1011

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

Students will have the opportunity to explore various elements of art: drawing, painting, perspective, shading, etc.

Art - Advanced

Course Number: 1022

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7,8

This is an elective class available for those students who have previously completed the introductory art class. This class offers a continuation of the exploration of essentials through projects. Teacher recommendation is required.

Art I – High School Credit

Course Number: 3100A/B

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 8

In this course students study design, drawing, painting, graphic arts, and art history. Other topics include work in clay, weaving and sculpture. Awareness and sensitivity to one's environment will be developed, along with inventive and imaginative expression through art materials and tools.

This course meets the fine arts high school graduation requirement. *Please be aware that this course will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA.*

Prerequisite: 7th grade Art, strict art teacher's recommendation, and a passing art portfolio.

Band – Concert

Course Number: 1139

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

Seventh and eighth grade band students are scheduled by musical ability, scholastic grades, and their conduct throughout the year. This band serves as the training ground for the Symphonic and Honors Band. These students will have the privilege of performing at pep rallies, concerts, Solo and Ensemble Festival, and one competition.

Band – Symphonic

Course Number: 1140

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

Seventh and eighth grade band students are scheduled by musical ability, scholastic grades, and their conduct throughout the year. This band **serves** as the training ground for Honors Band. Seventh and eighth grade students will enroll in this class by the strict recommendation of the Middle School and Intermediate directors. These students will have the privilege of performing at pep rallies, concerts, Solo and Ensemble Festival, and several competitions.

Band – Honors

Course Number: 1150

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

Seventh and eighth grade band students are scheduled by musical ability, scholastic grades, and their conduct throughout the year. Seventh and eighth grade students will enroll in this class by the strict recommendation of the Middle School directors. These students will have the privilege of performing at pep rallies, concerts, Solo and Ensemble Festival, and several competitions.

Intermediate & Advance Treble Choir

Course Number: 1222 & 1230

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

This course is for students who have auditioned and received approval from the choir director. Previous training is a must for this class. This choir is required to compete in all competitions. Each student must be disciplined and ready to learn many types of songs. Sight-reading helps the student to sing a song they have never heard before. Students will participate in multiple concerts and competitions. All contests are UIL sanctioned events and a student must be passing all classes in order to participate.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



Advance Treble Bass Choir

Course Number: 1250

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

This choir is scheduled by ability and recommendation from the choir director. Students will sing a variety of types of music along with sight-reading. Members of this choir will compete in UIL and participate in multiple performances.

Concert Choir

Course Number: 1212 & 1260

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

This choir is for the students who enjoy singing and performing. Students will sing a variety of types of music along with sight-reading. Members of this choir may compete and participate in three performances throughout the year. No audition is required to enroll in the course; however, audition will be required to determine which section the student will sing.

Orchestra

Course Number: 1175/1178

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

Students will learn proper instrument position and posture, note and rhythm reading skills, proper right and left-hand technique and proper rehearsal and concert etiquette.

Theater Arts I

Course Number: 1040

Course Length: Semester

Grade 7-8

This course stresses the expressive use of body and voice, along with aesthetic growth through appreciation of theatrical events. The course of study includes basic actor training, stage movement, and voice and diction including oral interpretation and characterization.

Theater Arts II

Course Number: 1041

Course Length: Year

Grade 8

This is an elective class available for those students who have previously completed Theater Arts I and has the theater teacher approval. This course is a more intensive study of the skills and concepts included in Theater Arts I. Advanced acting, make-up, improvisation, film and TV, puppetry, masks, and readers' theater may be topics of study. **Students will participate in the middle school UIL One Act Play.**

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT ELECTIVES

These classes are open to 8th graders only looking to accelerate their high school transcript and the grade earned in these courses will impact their overall GPA.

Professional Communications

Course Number: 8311

Course Length: Semester

Grade 8

In this course, the student will learn the process of communication for both public speaking and interpersonal communication. The opportunity will be given to become more aware of the self as a communicator and of the interaction in communication. The student will be able to deliver different types of speeches and will become more self-confident. **This course meets the one-half credit communication applications high school graduation requirement.** *Please be aware that this course will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA.*

Health

Course Number: 1030

Course Length: Semester

Grade 8

This course, a study of the physical, mental and emotional functions of the body, emphasizes teenage decisions concerning the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Units of fitness, safety, suicide prevention, paternity awareness, nutrition and first aid will be included. A unit on human growth and development will be included in this course. It will include units on the role of family, dating, human reproduction, and childbirth, sexually transmitted diseases, and the importance of decision making. **Parent permission is required for certain units.** *Please be aware that this course will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA.*

Dollars and Sense

Course Number: 1220

Course Length: Semester

Grade 8

This course focuses on decision-making skills related to money management. Students will plan a household budget, understand proper credit card use, balance a checkbook, and calculate interest accrued from loans.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



Gateway to Technology

Course Number: 8006 A/B

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 8

One semester of GTT explores Design, Modeling and Automation and the second semester explores Applied Science and Technology. Students see connections between hands-on projects and academic subjects such as math and science. The program focuses on showing students how to use engineering skills to solve everyday problems. An elective high school credit is given upon successful completion of this course. *Please be aware that this course will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA*

Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness

Course Number: 1513

Course Length: Semester

Grade 8

This laboratory course teaches students to make informed choices that promote nutrition and wellness throughout the life cycle. Instruction addresses nutritional needs of individuals, menu planning, special dietary needs, food costs and budgeting, food safety and sanitation procedures, food handling and basic food preparation procedures.

Principles of Arts, AV, Technology

Course Number: 1890CT

Course Length: Year

Grade 8

This course will introduce students to careers in video production and Video Game Design in the Arts, Audio/Visual Technology and Communications career cluster. Students will develop an understanding of the various and multifaceted career opportunities in this cluster and the knowledge, skills and educational requirements for those careers.

Web Communications

Course Number: 1854

Course Length: Semester

Grade 8

Students will acquire knowledge of web communications and technological operations and concepts. This is an exploratory course in web communications. The six strands include creativity and innovation; communication and collaboration; research and information fluency; critical thinking; problem solving, and decision making; digital citizenship; and technology operations and concepts.

Advanced Spanish I, II, III

Course Number: 1024/1027/1028

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 7-8

This course is for students who are native Spanish speakers or fluent in the Spanish language. In order to be eligible for placement in this course, students must perform satisfactorily on assessments of Spanish language proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students who successfully complete this course will receive high school credit for Spanish I, Advanced Spanish II, and Advanced Spanish III. *Please be aware that these courses will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA.*

Spanish I

Course Number: 1026A/B

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 8

The students will develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing Spanish. Students will explore various aspects of Hispanic culture, heritage, and peoples. Major emphasis is on conversational usage of Spanish in real-life situations. This is the same course that is offered at the high school level and high school credit is given. *Please be aware that this course will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA.*

AP Spanish IV

Course Number: 1029A/B

Course Length: Full Year

Grade 8

This course is for 8th grade students who are native Spanish speakers or fluent in the Spanish language. Students must have completed Advanced Spanish to enroll in this course. Students who successfully complete this course will receive high school credit for AP-Spanish IV and also have the opportunity to take the AP exam to gain college credit. *Please be aware that this course will become a permanent part of the student's high school transcript and will be factored into the student's overall high school grade average/GPA.*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



PHYSICAL EDUCATION / ATHLETICS

A Note About Grade 7 & 8 PE/Athletics: A minimum of two semesters of some form of physical education are required for all middle school students. Students may fulfill this requirement in either 7th or 8th grade. However, students are strongly encouraged to fulfill this requirement in 7th grade.

Athletics I & II

Course Numbers: 6101/6201 & 6104/6204

Grade 7-8

This class is for students who want to be on school sports teams. It substitutes for P. E. The following are requirements to be eligible for the athletics class: (1) parental permission; (2) coaches' recommendation (8th grade only); (3) completed and notarized physical and emergency form and a rule packet. Includes: Football, Volleyball, Basketball, Track, Cross Country, Golf, Swim, and Tennis.

Physical Education

Course Numbers: 6011/6012

Grade 7-8

Students will learn the proper way to run, exercise, stretch, etc. Activities include softball, volleyball, flag football, basketball, soccer, team handball, polo, and more. *Uniforms will be required as a portion of the student's grade for Physical Education class. The uniform may be purchase through the school or students may wear black shorts and a solid grey t-shirt.