

Fairfield Junior High School Course Descriptions

Grade 7 Classes

2023 - 2024

The following core classes fulfill requirements for 7th graders

4000

English 7: The objective of this course is to continue to refine the basic reading, writing, and language skills taught in elementary school. Students will be reading a class novel as well as multiple shorter texts such as short stories, articles, and poems. Students will be writing in several genres with an emphasis on the practical conventions of written communication: proper capitalization, spelling, punctuation, and grammar in the writing of sentences, paragraphs, and essays. An Honors Designation will be available to any student meeting requirements.

4225

Read 180: This course will be required for students who need help with basic reading skills as identified by academic testing data. Emphasis is placed on decoding, vocabulary, syntactic understanding and comprehension skills and strategies. The objective of this course is to enable students to read grade-level materials and texts fluently. A research-based reading program – *Read 180* – will be used to help students acquire these skills. *Students will be placed into this class based on reading proficiency test data.*

4225/4000

ESL English: ESL English is for students with limited English proficiency. The course is focused on helping students address concepts in the language arts core curriculum, as well as helping them better understand reading and writing in the English language. *Students will be placed in this course as determined by WIDA proficiency scores.*

5000

Math 7: The Grade 7 Mathematics instruction will focus on five critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale-drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three- dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples; (5) investigate chance processes and develop, use, and evaluate probability models. An Honors Designation will be available to any student meeting requirements.

OR

5010 (1st semester-H Accel Math 7) / 5110 (2nd Semester-H Accel Math 8)

Accelerated Math 7/Accelerated Math 8

This fast-paced course covers all of the 7th and 8th grade USBE standards in a single year! Students beginning the Junior High math pathway with this course will be prepared to take AP Calculus and AP Statistics in High School or Concurrent Enrollment after the successful completion of Secondary Math III Honors. 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.

Placement in this course is by invitation based on CogAT scores.

6000

Science 7: Seventh Grade Integrated Science is a foundation course which emphasizes basic science concepts with real-life applications. Topics of study include: forces and motion, Earth's environment, structure and function of life, reproduction and inheritance, and changes in species over time. Students will be taught to observe, inquire, question, formulate and test hypotheses, analyze data, report, and evaluate findings. The students, as scientists, should have hands-on, active experiences throughout the year. An Honors Designation will be available to any student meeting requirements.

4500

Utah Studies: The main objective of this course is to build critical thinking, problem solving, and participatory skills to become engaged citizens. Students will have the opportunity to participate in project and inquiry-based activities. Concepts will be explored through the use of Utah historical examples and current events. Literacy, historical thinking, and spatial skills will be developed through the study of concepts in the abstract and real-world. An Honors Designation will be available to any student meeting requirements.

7050

College and Career Awareness: This class allows students to utilize technology, develop beginning skills, and explore careers through activity-centered lessons. Students will explore concepts in business and marketing, family and consumer sciences, technology and engineering, agriculture, health science, and information technology. This course also provides information regarding additional courses and training related to each student's career field of interest.

1020

Fitness 7: This class helps students develop lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity and healthy lifestyles. Emphasis will be on skill development, fitness, and lifetime sports. Students will experience Lifetime Sports by going on **FUN** field trips! These field trips will include bowling, swimming, miniature golfing, and playing tennis!

7743

Creative Coding: Students will master touch operation on a computer keyboard and refresh their keyboarding skills. Students will learn how to code by working in various environments to design, program, and publish work. They will explore real-world problem-solving, acquire design and development skills, implement creations with Project-Based Learning and of course, learn to program. Learning to code by creating authentic artifacts, students engage with computer science as a medium for creativity, communication, problem solving and fun.

The following classes are FULL-YEAR electives

Band 1 (Fine Art)

Overall description: Want to learn an instrument? Beginning Band is a hand-on, exploratory class where you will learn an instrument of your choice! Band students will gain an understanding of how to read and interpret music, work as a unit, and express themselves through various means. This course is broken up into three sections in order to best serve the various instrumental needs and provide a more enriched classroom environment (see the class descriptions below to determine which course to register for based on instrument preference). Please note that home practice is required and expected for all classes. This is a course for anyone, regardless of previous experience. If you have previous music experience and are interested in joining Concert Band, please contact Mrs. Groneman for more information.

2204

Band 1 Brass: In this class, students will learn how to play either Trumpet, Trombone, or Baritone with the option to expand instrument selection to include French Horn and Tuba second semester. (For anyone interested in French Horn, it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that these students have previous music experience, and or be able to identify pitch matching.)

2205

Band 1 Woodwinds: In this class, students will learn how to play either Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, or Bassoon with the option to expand instrument selection to include Bass Clarinet and Saxophone second semester. (For anyone interested in Oboe, Bassoon, or Saxophone, it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that these students take private lessons.)

2206

Band 1 Percussion: This class prepares percussion players for concert percussion techniques. Mallet percussion and snare drum will be the core focus, with additional instruments added throughout the year. Two years of previous piano instruction is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. Interested 7th graders must complete an entrance test before being admitted to the class.

2210

Band 2 (Fine Art): Concert Band is an intermediate ensemble designed for students that have gained some instrumental proficiency, but who still want to develop their talents. In this ensemble students will expand their music abilities through performance, theory analysis, and personal connection. Students will not only learn various musical works, but will have a knowledge of major scales, arpeggios, and improv/composition skills. This ensemble has the potential to participate and or host various events, such as District Intermediate Band Festival, State Band Festival, and Solo and Ensemble.

Pre-requisite: Students must have completed Beginning Band (Brass, Percussion or Woodwind) or by audition only.

2214

Jazz Band: The Falcon Jazz Band is an advanced, audition-only ensemble. Auditions will be held during the first week of the new school year. Typical jazz instruments include: Saxophone (Alto, Tenor, Bari), Trumpet, Trombone, and Rhythm (Drum set, Piano, Bass, Guitar, Auxiliary Percussion, and Vocals). Additional instruments may be accepted by approval only. Students who participate in this ensemble will gain a knowledge of jazz history, improv, and various musical styles (jazz, blues, rock etc.). Students will be expected to prepare and perform solos or solo repertoire in class and at performances as a part of their music education. This ensemble meets before school 3 times a week (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) from 7:00-8:00am. starting the third week of school. Students interested in this class will be graded and given a ½ Fine Arts Credit. Performances include, School Assemblies, Elementary School Visits, District Jazz Festival, State Jazz Festival, and other community events. **The Falcon Jazz Band is open to all who choose to audition, and the top performers (regardless of grade) will be chosen.**

Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in another band ensemble for the school year and must complete an audition.

2405

Orchestra 1 (Fine Art): This course is for beginning musicians. Available instruments are violin, viola, cello and upright bass. Students will refine skills in playing, listening to, reading, creating and evaluating music, and will develop valuable life skills such as teamwork, goal-setting, proper social skills, personal responsibility and integrity. Sixth grade orchestra or private lesson experience highly recommended.

3130

Spanish for Spanish Speakers (Core Elective): This course is designed for students who already speak Spanish. This course will help students to be able to have the proficiency needed to take the AP test later in high school. Students will read and write daily to develop literacy in Spanish. They will learn the conventions of Spanish grammar and usage, increase vocabulary, read literary and informational texts in Spanish.

3232

H DLI French 3 (Core Elective): This course continues the development of speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills at the ACTFL intermediate-mid to intermediate-high proficiency levels. Culture and geography of the French-speaking world are taught through pre-college-level literary, cultural, and historical readings, films, and other media. Advanced grammar topics include the two major past tenses with extensive review of the present tense. Students should have above average scholastic aptitude to succeed in this course and enrollment in other honors-level courses is highly recommended.

Prerequisite: Passed DLI French Grade 6. For continuing Dual Language Immersion students only.

3790

Foreign Language Introduction to Spanish and French (Elective) This course will allow students to explore both French and Spanish as a second language. The course is a full year class which will teach French language and culture one semester and Spanish language and culture the other semester of the year. Students taking this course can move on to French 1 or Spanish 1 to expand their knowledge of the language.

The following classes are ONE SEMESTER electives

400

Study Skills: In this course you will learn how to get organized, the most beneficial ways to study and have time to use your new skills to complete homework and class assignments. This is a great course for students who are involved in extra-curricular activities who need more time to complete their studies, and for those who want to improve their skills as a student.

1020

Fit 7: This class helps students develop lifetime attitudes regarding physical activity and healthy lifestyles. Emphasis will be on skill development, fitness, and lifetime sports. The students will experience Lifetime Sports by going on **FUN** field trips! These field trips will include bowling, swimming, miniature golfing, and playing tennis!

2101

Art Foundation 1 (Fine Art): Explore the exciting world of art. This amazing class is an introductory art class that is required before enrolling in advanced art classes. Each student will have the opportunity to use a variety of materials such as drawing, painting and ceramics. Students will also develop a general knowledge and understanding of basic art terms, styles, skills, and techniques.

2102

Advanced Foundations 1A 2-D Art (Fine Art): This course is designed to provide an enhanced experience through traditional, two-dimensional art media. Emphasizing studio production as the application of the elements and principles of art are used to assist the student in expressing him/herself through the creation of works of art. In this course, traditional 2-D art media may include such things as drawing, painting, and/or printmaking. Students will learn to express themselves through individualized works of art.

Pre-requisite: Art Foundation 1.

2104

Advanced Foundations 1C 3-D Art (Fine Art): This popular course provides an overview and introduction to 3-Dimensional art. Students will have the opportunity to use a variety of materials for projects. They will learn how to use Paper Mache, create masks out of plaster, and create artwork out of clay.

Pre-requisite: Art Foundation 1

2304

Choir 1 Girls Choir Soprano/Alto: Beginning choir is an introduction to music and the beginning of vocal training. Students will learn the skills necessary to be a contributing member of a choir. Students will learn about and demonstrate proper singing skills and effective rehearsal habits. Students will learn how to read choral music, how to work in a group, how to develop personal vocal skills and much more. Students will participate in one concert and complete a Personal Music Project each term.

2305

Choir 1 Boys Choir Tenor/Bass: Beginning choir is an introduction to music and the beginning of vocal training. Students will learn the skills necessary to be a contributing member of a choir. Students will learn about and demonstrate proper singing skills and effective rehearsal habits. Students will learn how to read choral music, how work in a group, how to develop personal vocal skills and much more. Students will participate in one concert and complete a Personal Music Project each term.

2316

Music Exploration (Fine Art): Music Exploration is a semester long class that explores the journey music has taken across time. Students will study music and its effect on history, culture, and the individual. Additionally, students will focus on what role music plays in their life socially, emotionally, and aesthetically. Students will learn basic composition skills, music theory, and music structure. This class is not graded on musical abilities and is instead focused on studying music performances, ideas, and histories. Students will be expected to analyze music performances, as well as attend several music performances outside of class. 7th, 8th, and 9th grade welcome!

2502

Theater I (Fine Art): If you love being on stage, this is the place to start. This course is an introduction to the basic elements and disciplines involved in Theater, public speaking and musical performance. Activities include storytelling, poetry, musical theater, debate, pantomime, improvisation, relaxation, and dramatic performance.

4154

Literature Survey (Book Club) (Elective): This course can be taken in either the 7th or 8th grade year but not both. Students are expected to be reading on grade level or above according to their RI score. This class is tailored to students who enjoy reading and discussing literature. Strategies for reading comprehension and high-level literary discussion will be covered. Students will be required to read outside of class in preparation for classroom discussion. Books in a variety of genres and topics will be discussed.

6600

Hacking STEM: This STEM focused class is a true problem-solving course. You will delve into sensor development, coding and electronics as you engage in innovation and invention! If you are looking for some real relevant STEM experiences, this is it. This class will get you wondering about the world, making sense of how things work, and solving some hard problems in a collaborative, creative environment.

7775

Intro to Python 1: Python is a language with a simple syntax, and a powerful set of libraries. It is an interpreted language, with a rich programming environment, including a robust debugger and profiler. While it is easy for beginners to learn, it is widely used in many scientific areas for data exploration. This course is an introduction to the Python programming language for students without prior programming experience.

7810

Exploring Technology I (Technology): Exploring Technology is a comprehensive, action-based course that introduces students to the technological systems in areas such as: engineering, medicine/agriculture/biotechnology, energy/power/transportation, information/communications, manufacturing, and construction. Students will also develop problem-solving skills, improve career awareness, and relate technology to math and science. Emphasis is placed on broad exploration in cooperative and individualized activities in a 'hands-on' facility.

7811

Exploring Technology 2 (Technology): This is a comprehensive, action-based course that continues student's study of technology and its impact on society. Students will develop problem-solving skills, and build understanding of the relationship between science, technology, engineering and math. Students will explore engineering and several technology areas as they create models and prototypes using the engineering design process. *Pre-requisite: Exploring Technology 1*