



Course Description Book 2023-2024

3100 West 41st Street
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
Phone: 605-988-0546

OUR MISSION....

... to form a community of faith and learning by promoting a Catholic way of life through Gospel values and academic excellence.

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Bishop O’Gorman Catholic Schools is a juridically constituted entity responsible to the Bishop of the Sioux Falls Diocese and contracted with the consortium of Sioux Falls parishes whose pastors and lay representatives serve as members of the board of trustees in order to assure appropriate oversight and support. Bishop O’Gorman Catholic Schools are committed to the full human and spiritual development of students by promoting excellence in all academic and co-curricular areas. Bishop O’Gorman Catholic Schools integrates a community of faith and a community of learners in which all persons are valued and regarded with dignity. The purposes of Bishop O’Gorman Catholic Schools are to help students achieve spiritual, intellectual and cultural literacy and synthesize faith and life from which students learn to penetrate the world with the life of the Gospel.

O'GORMAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

GRADE 7

Core Courses

Theology
English Language Arts
Life Science
World Geography
Mathematics
Health/Physical Education (1 Semester)
Technology (1 Quarter)
Automation and Robotics (1 Quarter)

Exploratory Courses

Art (1 Quarter)
Literature (1 Quarter)
Exploring Music (1 Quarter)
World Language (1 Quarter)

Enriched Courses

Enriched English Language Arts
Pre-Algebra

Academic Service Courses

Foundations Math
Math Plus
English Language Arts Plus

Elective Courses

Band
Choir
Orchestra

GRADE 8

Core Courses

Theology
English Language Arts
Physical Science
U.S. History
Pre-Algebra
Health/Physical Education (1 Semester)
Technology (1 Semester)

*Exploratory Courses

Art (1 Quarter)
Literature (1 Quarter)
Introduction to Speech and Debate (1 Quarter)
Intro to Business and Entrepreneurship (1 Quarter)

*If a student is Spanish I, German I, or Latin I they will not be enrolled in any of the Grade 8 Exploratory Classes

Enriched Courses

Algebra I (High School Credit)
Enriched English Language Arts
Spanish I (High School Credit)
German I (High School Credit)
Latin I (High School Credit)

Academic Service Courses

English Language Arts Plus
Foundations Math
Pre-Algebra Plus

Elective Courses

Band
Choir
Orchestra

SEVENTH GRADE COURSES

THE101: 7TH GRADE THEOLOGY

Students will gain an understanding of God's existence through scripture, logic, critical reasoning, discussion, and reflection. Students will specifically study the natural and divine revelation, the creeds, the incarnation, and God's creation of the world. Students will explore what Catholics believe and the role sacraments and prayer play in the participation in the church.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 7th grade students

ELA101: 7TH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, especially the fundamental critical language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Regular practice with essential skills of grammar, vocabulary, and composition will provide students with the opportunity to grow as skilled readers and writers. Through the study of various literary genres (short story, poetry, novel, drama, and non-fiction) of varying degrees of rigor, students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills through in-class and independent reading that are required for success in college, career, and life. Students will write for a variety of purposes and audiences with emphasis placed on planning, researching, analyzing, and revising works of increasing levels of complexity. Technology is used thoughtfully to enhance literacy skills.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 7th grade students

SCI101: 7TH GRADE LIFE SCIENCE

In this life science course, students examine living systems, their interactions, and interdependence. Areas of study include inquiry-based investigations involving plants, animals, microorganisms, genetics, ecology, and the effects of humans interacting with the environment. There is an emphasis on problem solving skills and the application of science to real world situations.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 7th grade students

SST101: 7TH GRADE WORLD GEOGRAPHY

This course focuses on map skills and the major themes of geography with an emphasis on the Western Hemisphere. Students will examine different cultures and study the physical, human, and political geography of this area.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 7th grade students

MTH101: 7TH GRADE MATH

As students review and fine tune their computational skills, they will shift their focus more toward communication, problem solving, and modeling relationships. This is a comprehensive course meant to begin the foundation necessary for advanced mathematics and to provide basic mathematical skills for daily living. Areas of study include:

- Decimals and Integers
- Algebraic Expressions—working with variables to write, model, evaluate, and simplify expressions
- Number Theory (Greatest Common Factor, Least Common Multiple, Prime & Composite, and Patterns)
- Fractions, Ratios, and Proportions
- Problem Solving and Percents
- Geometric Identification and Relationships
- Geometry and Measurement (perimeter, area, and volume formulas)
- Introduction to Algebra (solving one and two step equations)
- Probability and Statistics

Year long course, meets every day, required of 7th grade students (unless student is in pre-algebra or algebra)

PEH101 & HEA101: 7TH GRADE HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The physical education program offers a wide variety of activities to assist students in developing interests and skills. The goal is to provide enjoyable activities in which the students can meet with success. Individual, team, lifetime, and fitness units are offered. The lessons focus on participation, fundamentals, sportsmanship, motor skills, and student interaction.

The 7th grade health class is the beginning course of a two course program designed to give students a better awareness of the effect their choices have on themselves and the people around them. Emphasis is on overall wellness, healthy decision making, refusal skills, and peer pressure.

Semester long courses, PE meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; Health meets Tuesday and Thursday, required of 7th grade students

CMP101: 7TH GRADE TECHNOLOGY

Technology is designed to teach and reinforce proper keyboarding skills and posture. Additionally, students will learn how to utilize touch typing skills and use the Internet effectively, safely, and legally in order to create documents and spreadsheets. There is a strong emphasis on digital citizenship and ethical responsibility in regard to technology.

Quarter long course, meets every day, required of 7th grade students

ARB101: 7TH GRADE AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS

Students examine STEM and its relationship to the development and influence of robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, and computer programming. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms.

Quarter long course, meets every day, required of 7th grade students

SEVENTH GRADE EXPLORATORY COURSES

ART101: 7TH GRADE ART

Students are taught and encouraged to use the elements of art to complete original, expressive art works. Students are encouraged to use their creative ideas and thoughts and to execute them in their works through specific content within their assignments. Students develop their ability to make critical judgments about art and to understand and appreciate the influences of art from other time and cultures. Students will explore the style and influence of specific artists to help them find their own expressive style.

Quarter long course, meets every day

LIT101: 7TH GRADE LITERATURE

In this literature course, a student develops his/her vocabulary, comprehension skills, and ability to interpret and evaluate written material. Students read and discuss contemporary novels and respond in writing through literary analyses and text dependent questions.

Quarter long course, meets every day

MSC101: 7TH GRADE EXPLORING MUSIC

This is an exploratory course with the purpose of exposing students to a study of music history and the various types and styles of music. The students are also introduced to the different notes associated with music. They will also spend time identifying why they like or dislike different styles of music.

Quarter long course, meets every day

FLA101: 7TH GRADE WORLD LANGUAGE

This is an exploratory course with the purpose of exposing students to the language and culture of various countries including Spanish-speaking, Latin-speaking, and German-speaking countries. This class will introduce students to the study of world language. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammar for Spanish, Latin, and German as well as the alphabet and numbers. They will also be introduced to the culture of each country. The purpose of this class is to help students become familiar with the study of a foreign language and to help them in their decision of which language they might choose to study in the future.

Quarter long course, meets every day

SEVENTH GRADE ENRICHED COURSES

ELA102: 7TH GRADE ENRICHED LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, especially the fundamental critical language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Regular practice with essential skills of grammar, vocabulary, and composition will provide students with the opportunity to grow as skilled readers and writers. Through the study of various literary genres (short story, poetry, novel, drama, and non-fiction) of varying degrees of rigor, students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills through in-class and independent reading that are required for success in college, career, and life. Students will write for a variety of purposes and audiences with emphasis placed on planning, researching, analyzing, and revising works of increasing levels of complexity. Technology is used thoughtfully to enhance literacy skills. Students enrolled in this class score above average in reading, language, and writing skills and have been recommended for the course. Rigor, workload, and pace are increased, and there is an expectation for above average individual responsibility.

Year long course, meets every day, must qualify for entry

MTH102: 7TH GRADE PRE-ALGEBRA

Pre-algebra is a preparatory class for Algebra. It is designed for the 7th grade student with above average skills in arithmetic and problem solving, who has been recommended for the class. The course introduces the language of algebra and emphasizes practical applications and problem solving. It provides a strong foundation for advanced mathematics. The overall rigor and the amount and depth of daily assignments are high. Areas of study include:

- Integers and Expressions
- Solving Equations
- Decimals and Equations
- Number Theory
- Rational Numbers and Expressions
- Ratios, Proportions, and Percent
- Equations and Inequalities
- Algebra in Geometry and Measurement
- Area and Volume Formula
- Probability
- Graphing in the coordinate plane

Year long course, meets every day, must qualify for entry

SEVENTH GRADE ACADEMIC SERVICE COURSES

MTH100: 7TH GRADE FOUNDATIONS MATH

This small group class is for 7th graders who have not mastered the skills necessary to be successful in a regular grade level math class. Individual goals and objectives will be developed for students in this class based on their present math level. Multi-sensory techniques will be utilized along with an alternative math curriculum.

Year long course, meets every day

MTHPLS100: 7TH GRADE MATH PLUS

Math Plus is taught by the Academic Service Department and will be supplementary to the Seventh Grade Math Class. The purpose of Math Plus is to provide further instruction and help with the daily lessons taught in the Seventh Grade Math Class in order for them to be more successful at grade level math. This class will take place during the lunch study hall period.

Year long course, meets every day

ELAPLS100: 7TH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS PLUS

Language Arts Plus is taught by the Academic Service Department. The purpose of Language Arts Plus is to provide further instruction in the areas of grammar, reading, and writing. Students in the Language Arts Plus class will utilize an on-line adaptive diagnostic and instruction program known as Read 180. This program effectively determines where each individual student is performing by accurately identifying areas of strength and challenge. Lessons are then tailored to each individual student in order to meet targeted individual needs. Students enrolled in the 7th Grade Language Arts Plus class will not take the exploratory wheel.

SEVENTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

BND101: 7TH GRADE BAND

Seventh Grade Band is an optional class, open to any seventh grade student. Seventh Grade Band has an ensemble that meets alternately two or three times a week. All band students have a fifteen minute lesson each week. Attendance is required at all concerts. This course teaches intermediate and advanced musical concepts. It is a building program and a continuation from elementary school. Suggested proficiency is one to two years playing experience. The band rehearsals concentrate on larger performance skills and works to improve overall ensemble sound. Students will work on improving their rhythm, technique, and style.

Year long course, meets every other day, available to 7th grade students as an option to a daily Study Hall

CHO101: 7TH GRADE CHORUS

Seventh Grade Chorus is an optional class, open to any seventh grade student. Seventh Grade Chorus meets alternately two or three times per week. Concerts and extra rehearsals to prepare for concerts happen outside of the school day. For grading purposes, all music students are required to exhibit their musical knowledge through public performance and participation in class activities and rehearsal. Attendance is required at all concerts

Year long course, meets every other day, available to 7th grade students as an option to a daily Study Hall

ORC101: 7TH GRADE ORCHESTRA

Seventh Grade Orchestra is an optional class open to any seventh grade student. Seventh Grade Orchestra has an ensemble that meets two to three times a week. Concerts and extra rehearsals to prepare for concerts happen outside of the school day. All orchestra students have a fifteen minute lesson each week. Attendance is required at all concerts. This course teaches intermediate and advanced musical concepts. It is a building program and a continuation from elementary school. Suggested proficiency is one to two years playing experience. The orchestra rehearsals concentrate on larger performance skills and works to improve overall ensemble sound. Students will work on improving their rhythm, technique, and style.

Year long course, meets every other day, available to 7th grade students as an option to a daily Study Hall or the exploratory wheel.

- *If a student takes orchestra and is also in band and/or choir, orchestra will replace their exploratory wheel*
- *If a student takes orchestra and is not in band and/or choir, orchestra will replace their full period study hall every day.*

EIGHTH GRADE COURSES

THE201: 8TH GRADE THEOLOGY

This course is centered around ethics and relationships. This is a fundamental course that teaches the importance of forming healthy and ethical relationships including study of human dignity and sexuality.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 8th grade students

ELA201: 8TH GRADE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, especially the fundamental critical language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Regular practice with essential skills of grammar, vocabulary, and composition will provide students with the opportunity to grow as skilled readers and writers. Through the study of various literary genres (short story, poetry, novel, drama, and non-fiction) of varying degrees of rigor, students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills through in-class and independent reading that are required for success in college, career, and life. Students will write for a variety of purposes and audiences with emphasis placed on planning, researching, analyzing, and revising works of increasing levels of complexity. Technology is used thoughtfully to enhance literacy skills.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 8th grade students

SCI201: 8TH GRADE PHYSICAL SCIENCE

An introductory course in Chemistry and Physics. The course provides preparation for success in all upper level science courses. Topics covered include: Nature of Science - the metric system and scientific method; Chemistry - properties of matter, atomic theory, Periodic Table structure, chemical bonding, compounds and solutions, structure of matter, chemical reactions, and balancing equation; Physics – uniform motion, forces, momentum, work, energy, heat, waves, light, sound, electricity and magnetism.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 8th grade students

SST201: 8TH GRADE UNITED STATES HISTORY

This course concentrates on the period of time from the Revolutionary War to the post-Civil War era. This course is designed to help the student foster critical thinking skills, as well as acquire basic knowledge of the history of the American nation. Incorporated into the history class are other related disciplines such as civics, economics, current events, and geography.

Year long course, meets every day, required of 8th grade students

MTH201: 8TH GRADE PRE-ALGEBRA

In this course, instructional time is focused on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. Units of study include:

- ☒ Integers and Expressions
- ☒ Solving Equations
- ☒ Decimals and Equations
- ☒ Number Theory
- ☒ Rational Numbers and Expressions
- ☒ Ratios, Proportions, and Percent
- ☒ Equations and Inequalities
- ☒ Algebra in Geometry and Measurement
- ☒ Area and Volume Formula
- ☒ Probability
- ☒ Graphing in the coordinate plane

Year long course, meets every day, required of 8th grade students (unless student is in algebra)

PEH201 & HEA201: 8TH GRADE PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

The physical education program offers a wide variety of activities to assist students in developing interests and skills. The goal is to provide enjoyable activities in which the students can meet with success. Individual, team, lifetime, and fitness units are offered. The lessons focus on participation, fundamentals, sportsmanship, motor skills, and student interaction.

The 8th grade health class is the second course of a two course program designed to give students a better awareness of the effect their choices have on themselves and the people around them. Emphasis is on healthy decision making and overall wellness including the study of the body systems, disease prevention, personal fitness, and nutrition.

Semester long courses, PE meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; Health meets Tuesday and Thursday, required of 8th grade students

CMP201: 8TH GRADE TECHNOLOGY

8th grade technology is a class intended to develop and enhance understanding of technical systems and applications by utilizing hands-on and virtual learning environments. The curriculum for this course is designed to support student growth in creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking as students focus on the Microsoft Suite. Current internet and technology topics will be incorporated throughout the semester.

Semester long course, required of 8th grade students

EIGHTH GRADE EXPLORATORY COURSES

ART201: 8TH GRADE ART

Students are taught and encouraged to use the elements of art to complete original, expressive art works. Students are encouraged to use their creative ideas and thoughts and to execute them in their works through specific content within their assignments. Sketch books are kept throughout the quarter to help encourage creativity & build basic drawing skills. Students evaluate art throughout history.

Quarter long course, meets every day

LIT201: 8TH GRADE LITERATURE

In this literature course, a student develops his/her vocabulary, comprehension skills, and ability to interpret and evaluate written material. Students read and discuss contemporary novels and respond in writing through literary analyses and text dependent questions.

Quarter long course, meets every day

SPE201: 8TH GRADE INTRODUCTION TO SPEECH AND DEBATE

The class is designed to introduce students to the principles of public speaking and debate. Students learn how to construct arguments, support them with sound evidence, and analyze opposing viewpoints. Students will learn literacy skills including critical thinking, topic selection, research competence and application, reading comprehension, argument literacy, evidence evaluation, summarization, outlining, public speaking, writing composition, and listening.

Quarter long course, meets every day

BUS201: 8TH GRADE INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This class brings ideas to life through experiential learning, executed in real-world scenarios. The course utilizes a curriculum and program called Empowered. Empowered engages students in learning the foundational principles of an entrepreneurial mindset. The lessons presented in the class are intended to be interactive and hands-on. As part of the culminating activity for the quarter, students create their own business and sell items at "Market Day."

Quarter long course, meets every day

EIGHTH GRADE ENRICHED COURSES

ELA202: 8TH GRADE ENRICHED ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Students will demonstrate increasing sophistication in all aspects of language use, especially the fundamental critical language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Regular practice with essential skills of grammar, vocabulary, and composition will provide students with the opportunity to grow as skilled readers and writers. Through the study of various literary genres (short story, poetry, novel, drama, and non-fiction), students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills through in-class and independent reading that are required for success in college, career, and life. Students will write for a variety of purposes and audiences with emphasis placed on planning, researching, analyzing, and revising works of increasing levels of complexity. Students enrolled in this class score above average in reading, language, and writing skills and have been recommended for the course. Rigor, workload, and pace are increased, and there is an expectation for above average individual responsibility.

Year long course, meets every day, must qualify for entry

***MTH202: ALGEBRA I**

Algebra I is the standard high school course for those students who have successfully completed the Pre-Algebra course or have shown exceptional mathematical ability. This course covers aspects of algebra and trigonometry. Students will learn a variety of methods to solve basic and complex linear equations, linear inequalities, systems of linear equations, and how to graph these functions. Students will apply these topics to real-life situations as they learn problem-solving techniques. In addition to these topics, students in Algebra I will cover additional concepts including performing operations on polynomials, factoring polynomials, graphing quadratic equations, using the Quadratic Formula and performing operations on rational expressions. There is a high level of numerical, graphical, and algebraic thinking of students enrolled in this fast-paced course. The overall rigor and the amount of depth of daily assignments are high.

Year long course, meets every day, must qualify for entry

***FLA202: SPANISH I, *FLA203: GERMAN I, *FLA204 LATIN I**

These level 1 high school courses introduce students to the culture and language of either the Spanish, German, or Latin speaking world. Students will engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, and exchange opinions on themes such as sports, hobbies, foods, school-life, family, clothing, the house, community, and staying healthy. Teaching and learning methods will actively engage students in a variety of activities, which focus on balancing the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing and collaboration.

Year long course, meets every day, must qualify for entry; Students who participate in these courses do not qualify for the 8th grade exploratory wheel

***High School Credit Before Grade 9**

Bishop O’Gorman Catholic Schools have received a waiver from the State Department of Education to teach Algebra I, Geometry, Spanish I, German I, and Latin I in 8th grade. To receive high school credit, students must take the semester final exam. After the exam, students can choose either **(a)** to receive high school credit for the course (will receive the grade earned each semester, and the grade will be figured into the high school grade point average and class rank) or **(b)** not to receive high school credit (the course will be annotated on the high school transcript with a P (Pass), and will receive no credit).

EIGHTH GRADE ACADEMIC SERVICE COURSES

MTH200 --8TH GRADE FOUNDATIONS MATH

This smaller group, slower paced class is for 8th graders who are below grade level in math skills and/or are not successful in a regular classroom setting. The class is designed to assist them in working toward mastery of the content standards for their grade level. Placement is based on past math performance, standardized test results and teacher recommendation.

Year long course, meets every day

MTHPLS200: 8TH GRADE PRE-ALGEBRA PLUS

Pre-Algebra Plus is taught by the Academic Service Department and will be supplementary to the Eighth Grade Pre-Algebra Class. The purpose of Pre-Algebra Plus is to provide further instruction and help with the daily lessons taught in the Eighth Grade Pre-Algebra Class in order for them to be more successful at grade level math. This class will take place during the lunch study hall period.

Year long course, meets every day

ELAPLS200: 8TH GRADE LANGUAGE ARTS PLUS

English Language Arts Plus is taught by the Academic Service Department. The purpose of Language Arts Plus is to provide further instruction in the areas of grammar, reading, and writing. Students in the Language Arts Plus class will utilize an online adaptive diagnostic and instruction program known as READ180. This program effectively determines where each individual student is performing by accurately identifying areas of strength and challenge. Lessons are then tailored to each individual student in order to meet targeted individual needs. Students enrolled in the 8th Grade Language Arts Plus class will not take the exploratory wheel, German I, or Spanish I

Year long course, meets every day

EIGHTH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

BND201: 8TH GRADE BAND

Eighth Grade Band is an optional class, open to any eighth grade student. Each grade level has an ensemble that meets alternately two or three times a week. All band students have a fifteen minute lesson each week. Attendance is required at all concerts. This course teaches intermediate and advanced musical concepts. It is a building program and a continuation from elementary school. Suggested proficiency is one to two years playing experience. The band concentrates on larger performance skills and works to improve overall ensemble sound. Students will work on improving their rhythm, technique, and style.

Year long course, meets every other day, available to 8th grade students as an option to a daily Study Hall

CHO201: 8TH GRADE CHORUS

Eighth Grade Chorus is an optional class, open to any seventh grade student. Eighth Grade Chorus meets alternately two or three times per week. Concerts and extra rehearsals to prepare for concerts happen outside of the school day. For grading purposes, all music students are required to exhibit their musical knowledge through public performance and participation in class activities and rehearsal. Attendance is required at all concerts

Year long course, meets every other day, available to 8th grade students as an option to a daily Study Hall

ORC201: 8TH GRADE ORCHESTRA

Eighth Grade Orchestra is an optional class open to any eighth grade student. This course has an ensemble that meets two to three times a week. Concerts and extra rehearsals to prepare for concerts happen outside of the school day. All orchestra students have a fifteen minute lesson each week. Attendance is required at all concerts. This course teaches intermediate and advanced musical concepts. It is a building program and a continuation from elementary school. Suggested proficiency is one to two years playing experience. The orchestra rehearsals concentrate on larger performance skills and works to improve overall ensemble sound. Students will work on improving their rhythm, technique, and style.

Year long course, meets every other day, available to 8th grade students as an option to a daily Study Hall or the exploratory wheel, German I, or Spanish I.

- *If a student takes orchestra and is also in band and/or choir, orchestra will replace their exploratory wheel, German I, or Spanish I.*
- *If a student takes orchestra and is not in band and/or choir, orchestra will replace their full period study hall every day.*