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Middle School  
Course of Study  
2024-2025



EPISCOPAL  
COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

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# 2024-2025 MIDDLE SCHOOL Course of Study

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### Our Mission

Episcopal Collegiate School prepares students to live principled and fulfilling lives of leadership and service through the pursuit of academic and personal excellence in a challenging and supportive environment.

### Our Vision

To inspire life-long learning, citizenship, and excellence.

### Our Values

*Respect, Reverence, Responsibility*

Rooted in the Episcopal tradition and affirming people of all faiths, Episcopal Collegiate strives to develop in its students a respect for all persons, a reverence of God, and a sense of moral responsibility.

### Academic Standards

Episcopal Collegiate encourages students to become independent learners in an environment where high standards, personal responsibility, individual growth, and spiritual development are valued. Students develop strong skills of analysis and independent thought in courses that help them to understand the existing body of knowledge while also pushing them to imagine solutions to problems in a future that doesn't yet exist. They develop personal responsibility, an appreciation of difference, intellectual curiosity, self-awareness, and self-efficacy in a community where every person is valued as a child of God, worthy of dignity and respect.

### Minimum Course Enrollment

All students are required to enroll in seven courses per semester. Each student's advisor will provide guidance to help the student decide what the appropriate courses are for him or her. The Division Head will give final approval.

The School administration begins the scheduling process in the spring. A minimum enrollment is required before a course can be scheduled. The administration attempts to meet every student's request to the best of its abilities; however, the School will occasionally schedule a student into a course he or she did not choose due to scheduling conflicts.

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# Sixth Grade Curriculum

Course	Course Length
English 6	Full Year
Writing 6	Full Year
Mathematics 6 or Advanced Mathematics 6*	Full Year
Life Science 6	Full Year
World History 6: To 1500 CE	Full Year
Art 6	1 Quarter
Biblical Studies: Old Testament	1 Quarter
Choir 6	1 Quarter
Creative Drama 6	1 Quarter
Instrumental Music 6	1 Quarter
PE 6	1 Semester
Introduction to Romance Languages	1 Quarter

\* Advanced courses offered with Department Chair approval.

# Seventh Grade Curriculum

Course	Course Length
English 7	Full Year
Pre-Algebra or Advanced Pre-Algebra*	Full Year
Earth Science 7	Full Year
World History 7: 1500 CE to Present	Full Year
Biblical Studies: New Testament	1 Semester
Exploratory Design 7	1 Semester
PE/Health 7	1 Semester
Elective Choice	3 Semester Courses <b>OR</b> 1 Full Year and One Semester Course

## Elective Choice Options

See [Course Descriptions](#) for more information

Creative Writing 7	1 Semester
Art I	1 Semester
Art II**	1 Semester
Theatre I	1 Semester
Theatre II	1 Semester (Spring)
Episcopal Chorus	1 Year or 1 Semester (Fall)
Spanish I ***	1 Year
French I ***	1 Year
Orchestra	1 Year
Percussion Ensemble I	1 Year
MS Broadcast Journalism	1 Semester

\* Advanced courses offered with Instructor and Department Chair approval.

\*\* Art II may be taken twice during Middle School.

\*\*\* Both Spanish I and French I are Upper School courses; however, they do not count towards the World Language graduation requirement of two consecutive years of the same language in the Upper School. Instructor approval is required.

If a student takes Spanish I or French I as a 7th grader, they may continue with Spanish II/French II as an 8th grader in place of the required Latin I course with instructor approval.

Students in 8th grade may double in Latin and either Spanish or French if they have taken a Visual and Performing Art in 7th Grade.

# Eighth Grade Curriculum

Course	Course Length
English 8	Full Year
Algebra I or Advanced Algebra I*	Full Year
Physical Science 8	Full Year
History 8: US History and Arkansas History	Full Year
Latin I ***	Full Year
Exploratory Design 8	1 Semester
PE 8	1 Quarter
Study Hall	1 Quarter
Elective Choice	2 Semester Courses or 1 Full Year Course

## Elective Choice Options

See [Course Descriptions](#) for more information.

Creative Writing 8	1 Semester (Fall)
Art I	1 Semester
Art II**	1 Semester
Theatre I	1 Semester
Theatre II	1 Semester (Spring)
Episcopal Chorus	1 Year or 1 Semester (Fall)
Spanish I/II ***	1 Year
French I/II ***	1 Year
Orchestra	1 Year
Percussion Ensemble I	1 Year
Percussion Ensemble II	1 Year
MS Broadcast Journalism	1 Semester

\* Advanced courses offered with Department Chair approval.

\*\* Art II may be taken twice during Middle School.

\*\*\* If a student takes Spanish I or French I as a 7th grader, they may continue with Spanish II/French II as an 8th grader in place of the required Latin I course with instructor approval. World Language courses taken in the Middle School do not count toward the two consecutive years of the same language required in Upper School.

Students in 8th grade may double in Latin and either Spanish or French if they have taken a Visual and Performing Art in 7th Grade and have instructor approval.

# Middle School Course Descriptions

## English

Requirements: English 6, Writing 6, English 7, Writing 7, English 8

### ENGLISH 6

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 6

Time Allotment: 1 Year

In English 6, emphasis is placed on reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Students will read novels, short stories, and poetry for literal and interpretive comprehension and to gain a greater familiarity with basic literary elements. Students will learn to annotate purposefully to enhance close reading. Students will write in a variety of forms focusing on developing and expressing ideas with clarity, coherence, and textual evidence. Students will practice conventions of written English (grammar, punctuation, usage, and spelling) in the context of revising and editing pieces to submit for evaluation. Vocabulary study is based on literary terminology and words taken from the readings.

### ENGLISH 7

Prerequisites: English 6

Grade Level: 7

Time Allotment: 1 Year

In English 7, students will read literature from multiple genres to develop close reading skills and analytical techniques. Independent reading will also help students develop and practice comprehension skills. Students will continue to annotate purposefully to enhance close reading. Emphasis will be placed on integrating textual evidence and commentary to support claims made by the students as they analyze characters and plot elements in a variety of writing

activities based on their literature studies. Students will also have opportunities to write creative pieces. Grammar lessons will reinforce composition skills. Vocabulary study will be based on both literary terminology and words taken from reading selections.

### ENGLISH 8

Prerequisites: English 7

Grade Level: 8

Time Allotment: 1 Year

In English 8, the careful study of literature will bolster creative and analytical writing skills and abilities through a variety of researched writing projects and presentations, contextual grammar lessons, and vocabulary study. Students will read increasingly complex literature from multiple genres and cultures to further develop close reading skills, critical analysis of author purposes and language choices, and to improve their understanding of different perspectives. Independent reading will strengthen students' comprehension skills and encourage the joy of reading. Students will continue to annotate purposefully to enhance close reading.

### WRITING 6

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 6

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Writing 6 is designed to study the basic components of grammar, including the parts of speech, complements, verbs, clauses, and modifiers. Through purposeful writing, students will learn complex sentence structures, sentence combining, and more complicated rules of grammar. Writing assignments include well-developed paragraphs and multi-paragraph essays. Emphasis will be placed on the writing process, including

the skills of revising and editing. An integrated vocabulary study will enhance student writing, build reading comprehension, and strengthen overall verbal skills. This course coordinates with English 6.

### CREATIVE WRITING 7

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Creative Writing 7 introduces students to the creative side of literature by composing original works of prose, poetry, and drama. In a writing workshop atmosphere, students will explore the writing process, choose individual topics and themes to explore, and develop their own writer's voice. The semester course concludes with a digital portfolio in the style of a literary magazine.

### CREATIVE WRITING 8

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 8

Time Allotment: 1 Semester (Fall)

For those who love to write and those who simply want to explore new ideas, Middle School creative writing provides students in 8th grade with an opportunity to develop strong personal voices through the study and creation of multiple types of writing such as short stories, poetry, drama, and creative essays. Students will explore their own ideas and learn how to refine those ideas through genres they choose. Students will also become publishing pioneers by defining and creating a new student publication for the Middle School created completely by Middle School students.

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## History and Social Sciences

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Requirements: World History 6: To 1500 CE, World History 7: 1500 CE to Present, History 8: United States and Arkansas History

### **WORLD HISTORY 6: TO 1500 CE**

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 6  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

World History 6 helps students acquire an overview of the origins and development of humankind beginning with a foundation in prehistory and geography. Students begin with precursors to the earliest human societies and highlight significant cultural developments through the Middle Ages. Students also examine the ways that many aspects of society have evolved and the ways that many have remained constant. There is an emphasis on the significance of geography in the development of human adaptations, the elements of different civilizations, and cultural interactions.

### **WORLD HISTORY 7: 1500 CE TO PRESENT**

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 7  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Students in the seventh grade study the social, cultural, and technological changes that occurred across the globe from the late Middle Ages to the present. After reviewing the great civilizations of the medieval time period, students study the history of great civilizations that were developing concurrently throughout the world during early modern times. Five basic themes are introduced to help the students connect the material with their citizenship: commonality and diversity, conflict and cooperation, continuity and change, individualism and

interdependence, and interaction within different environments.

### **HISTORY 8: UNITED STATES AND ARKANSAS HISTORY**

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 8  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

United States and Arkansas History is a full-year course which integrates the history of Arkansas as it unfolds in the course of United States history. The study begins with the earliest settlements of indigenous people on this continent and continues to trace the development of the state and country to modern times. Included in the history are major events and people as well as the political history of Arkansas and the U.S. placed on reading, essay writing, critical and evaluative thinking skills, and interpretation.

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## Mathematics

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Requirements: Math 6, Pre-Algebra, Algebra I

### **MATHEMATICS 6**

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 6  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Mathematics 6 emphasizes number theory, rational numbers, algebraic reasoning, geometry, proportional reasoning, and statistics. Students are given the opportunity to apply the mathematics they are learning to real-world problems and activities.

### **ADVANCED MATHEMATICS 6**

Prerequisites: Department Chair Approval  
Grade Level: 6  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

This course emphasizes number theory, rational numbers, algebraic reasoning, geometry, proportional reasoning, and statistics. Students are given the opportunity to apply the mathematics

they are learning with real-world problems and activities. This course moves at a faster pace than in Mathematics 6 and students are challenged to think abstractly and solve more complex problems.

### **PRE-ALGEBRA**

Prerequisites: Mathematics 6  
Grade Level: 7  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

In this course, students cover many pre-algebra and geometry concepts. Emphasis is placed on algebraic ideas approached through investigations. This process encourages students to search for patterns and relationships in data, and to find ways to express these patterns in words and symbols. Pre-Algebra explores the mathematical concepts of variables, equations, systems, and linear relationships. Problem-solving skills are developed using graphical representations, word problems, comparisons of integer relationships, similarity, and three-dimensional measurements.

### **ADVANCED PRE-ALGEBRA**

Prerequisites: Mathematics 6 or Advanced Mathematics 6 and Department Chair Approval  
Grade Level: 7  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Like the Pre-Algebra course, this course covers many pre-algebra and geometry concepts. Emphasis is placed on algebraic ideas approached through investigations. This process encourages students to search for patterns and relationships in data, and to find ways to express these patterns in words and symbols. Pre-Algebra explores the mathematical concepts of variables, equations, systems, and linear relationships. Problem-solving skills are developed using graphical representations, word problems, comparisons of integer relationships, similarity, and three-dimensional

measurements. The Advanced Pre-Algebra course moves at a faster pace than Pre-Algebra. Students will be challenged to think more abstractly and to work more independently throughout the year. They will be asked to apply the Pre-Algebra concepts to more topics and to make connections between them.

### **ALGEBRA I**

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra

Grade Level: 8, 9

Time Allotment: 1 Year

This course focuses on the relationships between functions, graphs and tables as well as the use of functions to model real-world relationships. Algebra I studies linear functions. Students develop proficiency in writing and simplifying mathematical expressions, performing operations with polynomials, and solving both equations and inequalities. Algebra I also integrates geometry throughout the course.

### **ADVANCED ALGEBRA I**

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra or Advanced

Pre-Algebra and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 8, 9

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Like Algebra I, this course focuses on the relationships between functions, graphs and tables, as well as using functions to model real-world relationships. The functions studied in Advanced Algebra I include both linear and quadratic. Students develop proficiency in writing and simplifying mathematical expressions, performing operations with polynomials, and solving both equations and inequalities. Students are expected to apply concepts in this course, thus allowing them to cover more topics in preparation for Advanced Geometry and Advanced Algebra II.

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## Physical Education And Health

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Requirements: PE 6, PE/Health 7, PE 8

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 6

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

The objective of the one-semester required Physical Education course in the sixth grade is to emphasize all dimensions of wellness. The course is designed to promote the health benefits derived from vigorous musculoskeletal and cardio-respiratory activities. The course is designed to enhance movement and the quality of motor skills. The students will learn basic strategies in team sports to enhance personal and social behavior.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH 7**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

This course builds on the foundations of physical education to create a lifestyle of fitness and health. The course will emphasize life skills, including teamwork, health, strength and aerobic conditioning, team sports, and research relating to sports. Some of the activities by which these concepts will be achieved include: recreational activities, fitness and cardiovascular conditioning, strength conditioning, and a variety of games which prepare the student to participate in team sports.

The goal of the health portion of this course is to teach students how to lead an informed, healthy lifestyle and how to take an active role in their own physical, mental, and social health and in the health of others. Students are challenged to explore how all health concerns relate to other issues and how

to consider the legal, moral, and ethical ramifications of their decisions.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 8

Time Allotment: 1 Quarter

This course builds on the foundations of physical education learned in previous years while students take more leadership in their learning. The course will emphasize life skills including; teamwork, communication, self-awareness, and social skill through strength and aerobic conditioning activities as well as team and individual sports.

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## Religious Studies

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Requirements: Biblical Studies: Old

Testament & Biblical Studies: New

Testament

### **BIBLICAL STUDIES: OLD TESTAMENT**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 6

Time Allotment: 1 Quarter

The Sixth Grade Biblical Studies class will survey the Old Testament, beginning with Genesis and ending with a study of notable patriarchs and matriarchs. The class will also examine the book of Exodus from Moses and the Ten Commandments through the trials of the Israelites. Students will gain a practical understanding of God's influence on the people of the Old Testament and how that compares with our needs today.

### **BIBLICAL STUDIES: NEW TESTAMENT**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

In the seventh grade, students study the life and teachings of Jesus as found in the Gospels of the New Testament. General content and style will be studied, along with the culture,



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historical events, and religious beliefs relative to the era. The curriculum is also designed for continuing the development of Christian theological concepts, such as the Trinity, Incarnation, prayer, worship and the cycle of sin, judgment, and redemption.

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## Science

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Requirements: Life Science 6, Earth Science 7, Physical Science 8

### LIFE SCIENCE 6

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 6  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Life Science is the study of living things. Students will use the scientific method to study a variety of organisms through research, biological studies, and experimentation. Major units of study will include plants, animals (invertebrates and vertebrates), and human systems. A major goal is for students to appreciate both the amazing diversity and the interconnectedness of life on Earth.

### EARTH SCIENCE 7

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 7  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Earth Science focuses on the earth and sky as dynamic areas that interact with one another. Students delve into the fascinating world of volcanoes and earthquakes, study the earth's atmosphere, and discover why the ocean is more than just water. Geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy are featured in Earth Science.

### PHYSICAL SCIENCE 8

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 8  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Physical Science explores the worlds of chemistry and physics. Mysteries of the

world unfold as students experiment using everyday objects and substances. From the structure of atoms to the use of atomic energy, students enhance their understanding of the pure and applied physical sciences. Hands-on learning is emphasized through demonstration, simulation and laboratory experiences, leading to problem-solving by use of the scientific method.

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## Technology

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Requirements: Exploratory Design 7, Exploratory Design 8

### EXPLORATORY DESIGN 7

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 7  
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Exploratory Design 7 will engage students in interdisciplinary, real-world design and engineering challenges. During the semester students will work in a collaborative environment as part of a project team to develop skills in critical thinking, design thinking, project planning, listening, self-reflection and oral presentation.

### EXPLORATORY DESIGN 8

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 8  
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Exploratory Design 8 will engage students in interdisciplinary, real world design and engineering challenges. Project challenges will build on skills explored in Exploratory Design 7. During the semester students will work in a collaborative environment as part of a project team. Students will develop skills in critical thinking, design thinking, project planning, listening, self-reflection and oral presentation to meet project challenges.

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## Visual and Performing Arts

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Requirements: Art 6, Choir 6, Creative Drama 6, Instrumental Music 6, One additional semester of visual and performing arts in either 7th or 8th grade

### ART 6

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 6  
Time Allotment: 1 Quarter

Sixth grade art students will learn how to look at and analyze art with increasing confidence. The students will be introduced to drawing, painting, sculpture, and printmaking. They will explore traditional and non-traditional media. The students will create artwork inspired from cultural crafts and fine art. All assignments will focus on nurturing the students' creativity and their ability to express themselves nonverbally. The students will learn proper care and usage of art supplies, and they will become familiar with the art studio environment. Students will maintain a sketchbook throughout the course.

### ART I

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 7 – 8  
Time Allotment: 1 Semester

This one-semester course will focus on learning the key elements and principles of design in art. An emphasis will be placed on students taking ownership of their creativity, considering craftsmanship, and developing details in artwork. Work will be completed using traditional and non-traditional media and techniques. Students will write about art, present their artwork, and learn of art from other cultures and time periods. Students will be introduced to critique methods, including written, verbal, individual, and group formats. Students will maintain a sketchbook throughout the course.

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## **ART II**

Prerequisites: Art I

Grade Level: 7 – 8

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

This is a one-semester course offered to students who wish to hone the skills and techniques learned in Art I. Students will explore art making, art history, aesthetics, and art criticism. Students will further develop observational drawing skills. Students will work with a variety of traditional and non-traditional media including drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpture. A higher emphasis is placed on self-expression and self-guided experimentation. Pupils will become more capable in craftsmanship and details introduced in Art I and continue practicing a variety of critique methods. Students will also begin considering the topic of presentation of artworks. Students will maintain a sketchbook throughout the course. \*Students who wish to continue developing their art portfolios may take Art II twice during Middle School.

## **INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC 6**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 6

Time Allotment: 1 Quarter

Instrumental Music 6 is divided into two sections: violin/piano and percussion. Each section is approximately four and a half weeks in length.

In the violin/piano portion students will learn bow hold, violin hold, tuning, and fingering, as well as basic piano playing. Students will also receive instruction in reading/writing treble and bass clef, beginning music theory, and basic music terminology.

The percussion portion will introduce students to the world of percussion, not only through acquiring the ability to perform on the individual instruments of the percussion family, but through focused reading and research of

drumming and the percussion heritage of different cultures from around the world. Students will find themselves in many different scenarios: group instruction, percussion ensemble, clinic settings, master class meetings, and individual practice. All of these serve to provide the students with the best chance for processing the information that they are learning and improving their performance and understanding. Students will be given a foundation in music theory, including reading and writing music in the treble and bass clefs, rhythm studies, and basic music terminology.

## **ORCHESTRA**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7 – 8

Time Allotment: 1 Year

This course is for those students who have mastered the basic techniques involved in playing a string instrument and would like to further develop their playing ability. The music will become increasingly more difficult as the year progresses and as students work on advancing their techniques and sound. Orchestra members will perform regularly at concerts, chapel, competitions and special events.

## **PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE I**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7 – 8

Time Allotment: 1 Year

This course allows seventh or eighth grade students to study drumming and percussion while being part of a performing ensemble. This beginning percussion course will introduce students to snare drum and timpani, mallet and keyboard percussion, percussion ensemble, African drumming, and steel drums. Not only do the students study this music, they have the opportunity to perform the music on a daily basis in a variety of venues, including chapel performances, community events, school-sponsored

events, home football games, pep rallies, and the annual Percussion Ensemble concert. Students will continue their basic theory and musicianship studies.

## **PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE II**

Prerequisites: Percussion Ensemble I

Grade Level: 8

Time Allotment: 1 Year

Percussion Ensemble II puts into practice and further explores the skills and techniques acquired in Percussion Ensemble I. Students will acquire the knowledge and skills to play a greater number of the accessory percussion instruments including bass drum, cymbals, triangle, tambourine and timpani. In addition, the repertoire will increasingly feature one player per part, developing the student's ability to play independently of other instruments. Steel band and drum set studies will be further developed. As opposed to Percussion Ensemble I, Percussion Ensemble II classes will perform more frequently throughout the year, both on and off campus.

## **CHOIR 6**

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 6

Time Allotment: 1 Quarter

Sixth grade choir requires no previous musical experience. Students focus on music making, exploring the fundamentals of various styles of singing, and learning the vocabulary and notation of written music. Beginning choir offers students a chance to sing for the first time or give those who have sung before an opportunity to build on prior experiences. Participation in concerts is required. Students enrolled in sixth grade choir during the fall semester will perform either in the Fall Concert or Christmas Concert. Students enrolled in the sixth grade choir in the spring semester will perform in the Fine Arts Showcase or the Spring Pop Music Show.

## EPISCOPAL CHORUS

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7 – 8

Time Allotment: 1 Semester (Fall) or 1 Year

The Episcopal Collegiate Chorus provides students an opportunity to apply musical knowledge and to improve sight-reading ability through daily rehearsal. Students will gain a better understanding of the proper technique needed to extend range and improve tone quality. Competitive opportunities are also made available through this course. Chorus members perform studied literature at a variety of venues, including chapel, evening concerts, competitions, and special events.

## CREATIVE DRAMA 6

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 6

Time Allotment: 1 Quarter

Creative Drama 6 will immerse students in the process of theatrical playing. Students will explore improvisation, theatre games, and playmaking in ways that will develop skills in creativity, teamwork, humor, communication, and theatrical performance.

## THEATRE I

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7 – 8

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

Theatre I focuses on the acting and script-reading elements of theatre, while retaining elements of creative drama. The course culminates in a public performance of scenes from plays that students have read and prepared in class.

## THEATRE II

Prerequisites: Theatre I

Grade Level: 7 – 8

Time Allotment: 1 Semester (Spring)

Theatre II focuses on the playwriting, directing, and technical elements of theatre, while retaining elements of creative drama and acting. The course culminates in a public performance that students have written and directed throughout the semester.

## MS BROADCAST JOURNALISM

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7, 8

Time Allotment: 1 Semester

The Middle School Broadcast Journalism class introduces students to the fundamentals of broadcast and video production. Students engage in hands-on experiences as they learn the basics of broadcast journalism and develop skills in planning, organization, research, script writing, recording, video editing, interpersonal communication, team building, and media literacy. They will work individually, with partners, and in collaborative groups, producing various types of news stories.

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## World Languages

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Requirements: Introduction to Romance Languages, Latin I\*

- Students may take either Spanish I or French I in 7th grade as their elective course.
- Both Spanish I and French I are Upper School courses; however, they do not count towards the World Language graduation requirement of two consecutive years of the same language in the Upper School.
- If a student takes Spanish I or French I as a 7th grader, he may continue with Spanish II/French II as an 8th grader in place of the required Latin I course.
- If a student takes Spanish II/French

II as an 8th grader, she could then take Spanish III/French III as a 9th grader.

- Students in 8th grade may double in Latin and either Spanish or French if they have taken a Visual and Performing Art in 7th Grade and have instructor approval.

## FRENCH I

Prerequisites: None

Grade Level: 7 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

The goal in French is two-fold: first, to introduce students to essential grammar and vocabulary in the target language, and second, to create a connection with the francophone world through consistent study of and interaction with authentic cultural materials. The purpose of this is to form a bond between the students and the language, while giving them tools needed to interact and to communicate in France and other French-speaking regions of the world. Students will be exposed to the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing), and will be required to exercise them daily through oral and written activities.

## FRENCH II

Prerequisites: French I and Instructor Approval

Grade Level: 8 – 12

Time Allotment: 1 Year

This course will expand upon content and skills from French I. Students will continue to develop speaking, listening, reading and writing skills. More advanced grammatical structures and complex tenses, such as the past perfect and object pronouns, will be introduced. Grammar lessons will be reinforced through daily conversation practice and varied written activities. Francophone culture will continue to be explored, with a focus on France.

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## **LATIN I**

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 8 – 12  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Latin I establishes a firm foundation in vocabulary and grammar principles. Students develop comprehension through practice readings and translations. In addition, the course introduces students to the lasting connections of the Classical World to our own, in particular through exploring English derivations, mythology, and an overview of the social and political history of Ancient Rome. \*Students who take French I or Spanish I in 7th Grade may choose to take French II or Spanish II in 8th grade in place of the required Latin I course. Two consecutive years of the same language are required in Upper School.

## **SPANISH I**

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 7 – 12  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Spanish I is a novice-level course. Students use problem-solving and higher-order thinking skills to reason logically and think independently, while using the Spanish language in various practical and academic contexts with proper pronunciation, aural comprehension, vocabulary, and grammar skills. Additionally, they further appreciate the concept of living in a global community by exploring Spanish-speaking cultures and comparing them to their own and others around the world. Students practice Spanish in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication to develop listening, speaking, reading, writing, visual, and cultural skills. Students are immersed in Spanish in this course.

## **SPANISH II**

Prerequisites: Spanish I and Instructor Approval  
Grade Level: 8 – 12  
Time Allotment: 1 Year

Spanish II is a novice (mid to high) level course. Students use problem-solving and higher-order thinking skills to reason logically and think independently, while using the Spanish language in various practical and academic contexts with proper pronunciation, aural comprehension, vocabulary, and grammar skills. Additionally, they further appreciate the concept of living in a global community by exploring Spanish-speaking cultures and comparing them to their own and others around the world. Students continue to practice Spanish in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication to develop listening, speaking, reading, writing, visual, and cultural skills. Students are immersed in Spanish in this course.

## **INTRODUCTION TO ROMANCE LANGUAGES**

Prerequisites: None  
Grade Level: 6  
Time Allotment: 1 Quarter

This is a unique and engaging 6th-grade course designed to introduce students to the diverse family of Romance languages, particularly Latin, French, and Spanish. Students will understand and appreciate the importance of acquiring other languages and connecting to various cultural products, practices, and perspectives, fostering an appreciation for linguistic and cultural diversity. Additionally, by experiencing and practicing the foundations of Latin, French and Spanish, students will strengthen their first- and second-language skills in critical areas such as vocabulary acquisition, syntactical analysis, and phonetics.





**Jackson T. Stephens Campus**

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