



# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG 2025-2026





# INTRODUCTION

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Oxbridge Middle is a special place. Here, our outstanding teachers strive to create a nurturing environment where each student is supported by dedicated faculty, and the school feels like a home away from home. Our philosophy revolves around fostering deep connections with our students, understanding that their eagerness to learn and explore new horizons is pivotal to their growth and development.

Central to our approach is cultivating an inclusive atmosphere that fuels critical thinking, facilitates knowledge, and promotes self-confidence. This foundational support empowers our students to embark on a lifelong journey of learning driven by curiosity and determination. Our carefully curated curriculum, complemented by structured free time, catalyst for students to uncover their passions and purpose.

We balance our curriculum in each grade level, introducing students to various ideas and disciplines. This exposure is followed by guided choices, empowering students to explore subjects of personal interest while ensuring both depth and breadth within our educational framework.

For incoming sixth-graders, this means experiencing semesters of both Spanish and French, allowing them to discover their preferred language. It also means that they have a full year of arts instruction to introduce them to the plethora of opportunities available at Oxbridge Academy.

As students' progress to seventh and eighth grade, we give them choices while adding exposure to STEM curriculum and vital life skills such as personal finance, business management, leadership, and service initiatives.

At Oxbridge Middle, we provide a holistic education, equipping students with academic knowledge and instilling purpose, agility, and confidence, preparing them to lead with kindness, and act with courage.





## **GRADE 6**

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*Grade 6 curriculum sets the foundation and expectations for success in middle school and beyond. Students can explore an array of subject matter in a broad and deep custom curriculum.*



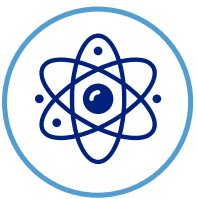
## HUMANITIES

An interdisciplinary approach to English and social studies.

### Ancient & Classical Humanities

Students engage in an interdisciplinary exploration of history and English, focusing on the ancient and classical world. They develop a deeper understanding of key historical events, cultural developments, and influential literary works from ancient civilizations through a combination of historical inquiry and literary analysis. Throughout the course, students hone writing and communication skills, practicing grammar usage, note-taking techniques, foundational essay writing, crafting thesis statements, and analyzing literary terms.

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## SCIENCE

### Middle School Earth & Space Science

Students explore earth and space sciences, aligning with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) to provide a comprehensive understanding of fundamental scientific concepts. Throughout the course, students delve into Space Systems, Earth's History, Interior and Surface Systems, Weather and Climate, and Human Impacts. With an emphasis on hands-on learning experiences, the curriculum prioritizes student engagement and the development of critical thinking skills. Through various scientific practices such as developing and utilizing models, analyzing data, posing questions, and planning investigations, students will demonstrate proficiency and deepen comprehension of key concepts in Earth and Space Science.

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## ESSENTIAL SKILLS

Root Words, Latin Phrases, Study Skills, and Technology

Essential Skills is a foundational course designed to equip students with the tools necessary for academic success. Through engaging activities and interactive learning experiences, students develop competencies in root words, Latin phrases, study skills, and technology. By exploring Latin and Greek root words and common Latin phrases, our sixth-graders gain comprehension skills, confidence, and vocabulary, expanding their ability to articulate and navigate their world. Students also gain practical technology skills, empowering them to navigate computer systems and software confidently. Additionally, this course offers insights into effective study methods tailored to individual learning styles, fostering academic excellence and preparing students to thrive.



# MATHEMATICS

**Note:** Math placement exams determine a student's initial course in math.

## Pre-Algebra A

This course lays the groundwork for success in Pre-Algebra B and beyond. With an emphasis on computation, this course provides students with the necessary tools to tackle more complex mathematical concepts in subsequent classes. The curriculum introduces students to equations and variables, enabling adequate understanding and manipulation of mathematical expressions. Mastery of these concepts instills the confidence and proficiency necessary for excelling in higher-level mathematics, setting the stage for deeper exploration of algebraic principles and problem-solving strategies in future coursework.

## Pre-Algebra B

This course is tailored to individual skill levels based on placement test results and prepares students for success in Algebra 1, aligning instruction with abilities. Building upon pre-algebra skills, the course offers a comprehensive review and expansion of key concepts, establishing a solid foundation for advanced mathematics. Students develop enhanced mathematical abilities through rigorous problem-solving applications and a deeper exploration of topics covered in Pre-Algebra A. Emphasizing the synthesis of existing skills; the course equips students with the readiness to tackle Algebra 1 with proficiency.

## Algebra 1

Algebra 1 is the cornerstone for all high school math courses, providing students with essential skills and concepts to navigate complex mathematical terrain. Throughout this course, students delve into topics like linear relationships, exponential and quadratic relationships, advanced functions and equations, and data analysis. Through rigorous problem-solving exercises and critical thinking challenges, students sharpen their mathematical reasoning skills and build a solid foundation for future academic success in mathematics and beyond.

## Geometry | Algebra 1 Required

This course will build upon the Algebra 1 curriculum and is essential to further instruction in Algebra 2, Precalculus, and beyond. This course develops geometric relationships and deductive strategies to solve a variety of real-world and mathematical problems. Geometry covers topics including but not limited to geometric structure, congruence, similarity, and measurement.

## Algebra 2 | Geometry Required - Honors Available with Dept. Approval

Algebra 2 is a continuation of the Algebra 1 curriculum and is critical for success in advanced math courses. Algebra 2 encompasses topics, including extensions of the properties of the real number system, linear and quadratic relations and inequalities, polynomials, radical and inverse functions, complex numbers, logarithmic and exponential functions, and rational functions. Students develop a deeper understanding of algebraic principles and enhance their problem-solving skills for more complex mathematical challenges.



## PERFORMING ARTS

The sixth-grade Performing Arts course introduces students to music fundamentals. Through comprehensive instruction, students engage with band instruments, receive vocal training, explore music theory, and participate in ensemble performances. The course utilizes hands-on learning, theoretical concepts, and educational music games to establish a strong musical foundation. Regardless of prior experience, students develop their musical abilities and appreciation, empowering them to pursue their interests in music with confidence and enthusiasm.

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## VISUAL ARTS

In sixth-grade Visual Arts, students explore the mediums of painting, drawing, sculpture, and ceramics. Throughout the course, students delve into art history, study renowned artists, and cultivate their creative expression through hands-on projects.

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## PE & HEALTH

The sixth-grade PE course aims to cultivate physical activity, health, and wellness in our students. Through activities and exercises, students refine fundamental movement skills, improve physical fitness, and grasp the significance of maintaining an active lifestyle. Emphasizing teamwork, sportsmanship, and personal accountability, the course introduces students to various sports and health-related topics in our health curriculum. By engaging in this course, students develop physical prowess and acquire essential life skills to lead a balanced and healthy lifestyle.

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## WORLD LANGUAGES

### One Semester of French AND Spanish

French and Spanish courses in sixth-grade each cover one semester and focus on introducing and exciting students about the fundamentals of a new language. Emphasis is placed on basic communication skills and building foundational understanding balanced with real-life applications and experiential opportunities. Students also explore cultural aspects and various themes related to each language studied.





## GRADE 7

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*Grade 7 builds on the foundation of the previous year, giving students additional autonomy in their studies and more exposure to all the opportunities provided by Oxbridge Academy.*



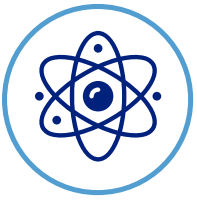
## HUMANITIES

An interdisciplinary approach to English and social studies.

### Medieval & Exploration

With a focus on the medieval period and then on exploration, students are immersed in the captivating narratives of medieval civilizations while investigating the enduring concept of exploration. Students build on the foundations learned in Humanities 6 by honing their writing and speaking skills through literary analysis, Harkness discussions, and close reading. Through historical inquiry and interdisciplinary analysis, students develop essential skills in critical thinking and empathy, fostering an understanding of both the medieval period and the broader implications of exploration across time and space.

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## SCIENCE

### Middle School Life Science

This course explores the marvels of life, aligning with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of biological concepts. Covering topics ranging from structure, function, and information processing to natural selection and adaptations, students embark on a journey through the intricacies of living organisms and ecosystems. This curriculum prioritizes inquiry-based learning experiences, empowering students to participate in planning and executing investigations. By employing scientific practices such as data analysis, model usage, and experimental design, students hone their critical thinking skills while deepening their comprehension of life sciences. Middle School Life Sciences fosters a passion for inquiry and discovery, equipping students with the knowledge and skills to navigate the complexities of the natural world with confidence and curiosity.

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## STEM EXPLORATION

This course is a year of exploration in various topics involving STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math). The topics covered include web development, java programming, game design with Scratch, 3D printing and computer-aided design, and beginning robotics with Vex. All of these topics utilize problem-solving skills, build on their mathematical understanding, and expose them to the wide array of options in the fields related to STEM.

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## PE & HEALTH

The seventh-grade PE curriculum offers students a holistic understanding of the intricate relationship between physical activity, personal health, and overall well-being. Through an integrated approach encompassing physical activities, health education, and practical life skills, students embark on a journey to explore vital aspects of fitness, nutrition, mental health, bullying, and personal safety. By engaging with diverse topics and hands-on experiences, students cultivate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential for fostering a balanced and healthy lifestyle.





# MATHEMATICS

**Note:** Math placement exams determine a student's initial course in math.

## Pre-Algebra A

This course lays the groundwork for success in Pre-Algebra B and beyond. With an emphasis on computation, this course provides students with the necessary tools to tackle more complex mathematical concepts in subsequent classes. The curriculum introduces students to equations and variables, enabling effective understanding and manipulation of mathematical expressions. Mastery of these concepts instills the confidence and proficiency necessary for excelling in higher-level mathematics, setting the stage for deeper exploration of algebraic principles and problem-solving strategies in future coursework.

## Pre-Algebra B

This course is tailored to individual skill levels based on placement test results and prepares students for success in Algebra 1, aligning instruction with abilities. Building upon existing pre-algebra skills, the course offers a comprehensive review and expansion of key concepts, establishing a solid foundation for advanced mathematics. Students develop enhanced mathematical abilities through rigorous problem-solving applications and a deeper exploration of topics covered in Pre-Algebra A. Emphasizing the synthesis of existing skills, the course equips students with the readiness to tackle Algebra 1 with proficiency.

## Algebra 1

Algebra 1 is the cornerstone for all upper school math courses, providing students with essential skills and concepts to navigate complex mathematical terrain. Throughout this course, students delve into topics like linear relationships, exponential and quadratic relationships, advanced functions and equations, and data analysis. Through rigorous problem-solving exercises and critical thinking challenges, students sharpen their mathematical reasoning skills and build a solid foundation for future academic success in mathematics and beyond.

## Geometry | Algebra 1 Required

This course builds upon the Algebra 1 curriculum and is essential to further instruction in Algebra 2, Precalculus, and beyond. The purpose of this course is to develop geometric relationships and deductive strategies used to solve a variety of real-world and mathematical problems. Geometry covers topics including but not limited to geometric structure, congruence, similarity, and measurement.

## Algebra 2 | Geometry Required - Honors Available with Dept. Approval

Algebra 2 is a continuation of the Algebra 1 curriculum and is critical for success in advanced math courses. Algebra 2 encompasses topics, including extensions of the properties of the real number system, linear and quadratic relations and inequalities, polynomials, radical and inverse functions, complex numbers, logarithmic and exponential functions, and rational functions. Students develop a deeper understanding of algebraic principles and enhance their problem-solving skills for more complex mathematical challenges.



## WORLD LANGUAGES

Choice of French A OR Spanish A for the full year.

The French A and Spanish A courses provide yearlong study options for new world language beginners. These courses introduce the fundamentals of French or Spanish, emphasizing retention and establishing a solid foundation in the chosen language. Themes explored in this course include salutations, school, leisure, and skills to navigate the complexities of the natural world with confidence and cultural aspects and various themes related to each language studied.



## GRADE 7 ARTS ELECTIVE

Choose one of the following Fine Arts electives for the full year:

### Visual Arts

In this immersive art course, students explore various mediums, including ceramics, printmaking, painting, drawing, and sculpture, through hands-on studio projects that develop technical skills and creative self-expression. Engaging with historical and contemporary artists, students gain an appreciation for significant artistic movements and styles as they analyze works, discuss themes, and discover how art intersects with culture and society. Enriching the classroom experience, the course includes an art field trip, enabling students to experience art exhibitions and public works in person.

### Music Exploration

The Music Exploration class offers a holistic journey into music, covering the basics of band instruments, vocal techniques, music theory, and ensemble performance. The course builds a strong foundation in music for students, enhancing their skills through practical instrument play, choral singing, and theoretical understanding, culminating in public performances. By the course's end, students have developed their musical abilities and appreciation, regardless of prior experience, and are poised to further explore their musical passions.

### Dance

This class is open to all levels of dancers. Students will learn ballet, jazz, and contemporary dance techniques. Students will have the opportunity to learn dances for performances and explore the creative process of dance composition.



## GRADE 8

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*Grade 8 challenges students to expand their horizons and engage with the world. Students can choose electives based on their passions, and take on service projects to prepare them for upper school and beyond.*





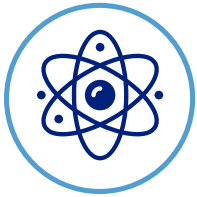
## HUMANITIES

An interdisciplinary approach to English and social studies.

### United States History

The eighth-grade Humanities class explores US history, delving into the rich tapestry of events, movements, and figures that have shaped the nation. Students analyze social, political, economic, and cultural factors that have influenced American society by examining key historical periods and themes from the colonial era to the present day. Students analyze social, political, economic, and cultural factors that have influenced American society. Throughout the course, students engage in interdisciplinary inquiry, critical analysis, and thoughtful discussion to develop an understanding of historical events and their impact on the American experience. With a strong foundation created in Humanities 6 and 7, students pivot to learning through Socratic seminars, longer essays, and close reading of images and literary texts. Through analysis, collaborative projects, and multimedia resources, students will cultivate skills in historical interpretation, critical thinking, and empathy.

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## SCIENCE

### Middle School Physical Science

The Physical Science course introduces students to the fundamentals of physical science, aligning with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) to provide a comprehensive understanding of the natural world. The curriculum encompasses topics including structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, forces and interactions, energy, and waves and electromagnetic radiation. Throughout the course, students engage in hands-on activities and investigations to develop an understanding of scientific practices including, developing and using models, planning and conducting investigations, analyzing and interpreting data, using mathematical and computational thinking, and constructing explanations. Students explore real-world applications of physical science concepts and develop solutions to engineering challenges, fostering creativity and critical thinking skills.

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## FINANCIAL LITERACY & BUSINESS

A one-semester introduction to personal finance, basic economics, and entrepreneurship.

This course introduces students to essential concepts in personal finance, basic economics, and entrepreneurship. Students develop an understanding of managing money, making informed economic decisions, and exploring the fundamentals of opening and operating a small business.

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## LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

A one-semester incubator for teamwork, communication, and empathy skills.

Through engaging debates, students learn to articulate their perspectives, understand diverse viewpoints, and advocate for meaningful solutions. Students explore the diverse needs of our community, developing a project that addresses real-world issues while honing their leadership abilities. Participants learn to lead with integrity and compassion through hands-on experiences, guest speakers, and collaborative projects.

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## WORLD LANGUAGES

Choice of French B OR Spanish B for the full year.

In the French B or Spanish B courses, students continue their language journey from their A-level language class, achieving greater levels of fluency and confidence in communicating. These courses build on existing skills, foster deeper comprehension, and enhance linguistic proficiency. Examples of themes explored are fashion, culture, and home/weekend activities.

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## PE & HEALTH

The eighth-grade PE course integrates physical activity with health education to promote holistic well-being. This course empowers students with the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to make informed health and physical fitness decisions. Through physical activities, health education, and personal reflection, students gain a more in-depth understanding of fitness, nutrition, mental health, growth and development, digital citizenship, drug awareness, and personal safety. Greater emphasis on health education prepares students for the ninth-grade Health & Wellness program.

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## **8TH GRADE ELECTIVE CHOICE**

Choose One Elective for the Full Year

### **Visual Arts**

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### **Music Exploration**

The Music Exploration class offers a holistic journey into music, covering the basics of band instruments, vocal techniques, music theory, and ensemble performance. The course builds a strong foundation in music for students, enhancing their skills through practical instrument play, choral singing, and theoretical understanding, culminating in public performances. By the course's end, students have developed their musical abilities and appreciation, regardless of prior experience, and are poised to explore their musical passions further.

### **Dance**

This class is open to all levels of dancers. Students learn ballet, jazz, and contemporary dance techniques. Students will have the opportunity to learn dances for performances and explore the creative process of dance composition.

### **STEM Robotics**

This course introduces students to basic programming and problem-solving strategies necessary to build a variety of robots. Topics include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, logic gates, and decision-making. Student-designed robots are programmed to compete in various courses and challenges. Students focus on the Engineering Design Process within the field of engineering. Students are introduced to the engineering profession, a common approach to solving engineering problems, and the engineering design process. Students explore the basics of blueprint design, interior design, landscaping design, coding, electronics, robotics, Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Inventor, and 3D Printing.



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