

7th Grade Abbreviated Elective Course Description Guide, 2025-2026

Required Electives

Money Matters: This course focuses on preparing students to meet the challenges of managing one's finances in the 21st century. Students will get the opportunity to explore careers in a variety of fields and disciplines and understand the necessary skills to navigate life with financial responsibility.

Wildcats 101: This course focuses on the development of individual and interpersonal leadership skills, personal efficacy, teamwork, motivation, goal setting, communication, and collaboration. Students will identify and develop core leadership competencies and critically examine the relationship between personality and leadership styles.

Adventures in Reading: Students will read multiple genres and bring books to life through student collaboration.

Art I: In Art I, you experiment while learning more about the Elements and Principles of Art and how they work together to make a more cohesive art piece. You will be creating fun projects while building your knowledge of art history and vocabulary. You will use various styles, techniques, and mediums such as paint, chalk pastels, oil pastels, and different 3D mediums.

Creative Technologies: Students will learn how to use digital broadcasting and videography through computers and other forms of technology; as well as basic computer fundamentals and proper typing technique while exploring the uses and functionality of Microsoft Office Suite, Google Drive, and animation.

Drama I: In this beginning course of theater, students are introduced to an overview of drama. Basic acting and stage terms are incorporated through a series of activities and simple presentations. The student will identify responsibilities involved in a variety of dramatic presentations.

Family & Consumer Science (FACS): Students will participate in personal development, life and career skills, food safety and sanitation, and basic food preparation.

Journalism/Newspaper: Students will produce and distribute the school newspaper and be introduced to a wide spectrum of journalism.

LEAP Into A New Era: Students will explore, build, create, and develop real world engineering designs to problem solve and provide solutions to authentic challenges.

Library Aide: Library Aide tasks will include, but are not limited to shelving books, straightening book shelves, checking books in and out, unpacking and processing new books, making deliveries, copying, cutting things out, and helping with bulletin boards/special displays. An application is required for consideration of this position.

Nutrition and Wellness: This class is designed for students who have an interest in learning the basics of nutrition and how food affects the body. It will provide students with knowledge and skills to make health-promoting decisions. The class addresses the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health.

Office Aide: Office aides are responsible for completing office tasks such as delivering items to students/teachers, filing, stuffing envelopes, giving new students tours, and other assigned duties from the front office. An application is required.

Photography: Students will be introduced to the basics of photography, parts of a camera, and proper photo composition. They will complete projects over different photographic styles and subjects, and work with photo editing software.

Piano: This course is for students who do not know how to play the piano and would like to learn. Students will learn proper counting rhythms and reading notes in order to actually play and make music with the piano.

Physical Education (PE): In this class, you will be exposed to lifelong fitness activities that will benefit your health and well-being. Throughout the year, students will have the opportunity to participate in team sports, recreational activities, cardiovascular endurance training, strength development, and flexibility exercises.

Spanish I: Introduction to conversation, grammar and basic knowledge of Spanish culture.

Speech/Debate I: This introductory class empowers students to find their own voice as they study communication, organization, and presentation skills. Students engage in a variety of speech formats including informative, persuasive, and demonstrative. They will also learn the basics of debate, the different formats used, and participate in lively class debates.

Sports History: Students will gain historical knowledge about the origins and development of various sports in the United States as well as worldwide. They will look at social, cultural, economic, and intellectual concepts through the chronological history of sports.

Stagecraft: This introductory course covers the basic use and design of sets, costumes, lighting, make-up, props, sound, and special effects in theater. This class is for the student who wants to learn about what happens behind the scenes.

STEM/Design & Modeling: Students will be introduced to the design process in order to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives.

STEM Medical Detectives: This course is the perfect introduction to health-related fields. Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a “crime scene”. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

STEM/Robotics: Students will trace the history, development, and influence of automation robotics.

Strength Training: Student athletes will be learning the basic foundations of weight training.

Vocal: Students develop skills to sing correctly and learn the basics of good musicianship through a variety of music. No previous experience required.

Yearbook: This is a year long elective class, and students must fill out an application and be selected to join the class. Students will be responsible for designing, photographing, editing, and writing the school yearbook. Students will aid in scheduling and conducting all school photo days including individuals, sports, and clubs. Yearbook staff applications will be available in the office.

8th Grade Abbreviated Elective Course Description Guide, 2025-2026

Adventures in Reading: Students will read multiple genres and bring books to life through student collaboration.

Agriculture Education: This course is an introductory course designed to expose students to different opportunities available through FFA and the agriculture industry. Students will gain knowledge in animal science, plant science, land science, leadership skills, public speaking, FFA opportunities, and agricultural mechanics. Instruction and student learning will occur through lectures, student projects, group discussions, hands on experiences and FFA experiences.

Ancient Empires: This course studies ancient empires, their militaries, and their rise and fall. This class will concentrate on the military and how it was affected by social, technological, and economic trends of the times.

Art I: In Art I, you experiment while learning more about the Elements and Principles of Art and how they work together to make a more cohesive art piece. You will be creating fun projects while building your knowledge of art history and vocabulary. You will use various styles, techniques, and mediums such as paint, chalk pastels, oil pastels, and different 3D mediums.

Art II: After taking Art I you can enroll in Art II. Students will continue to build and apply learned skills as you create new art projects using a variety of techniques including painting, drawing, printmaking, clay sculpture, and other forms of fine art. The course is a studio style class.

Creative Technologies: Students will learn how to use digital broadcasting and videography through computers and other forms of technology; as well as basic computer fundamentals and proper typing technique while exploring the uses and functionality of Microsoft Office Suite, Google Drive and animation.

Drama I: In this beginning course of theater, students are introduced to an overview of drama. Basic acting and stage terms are incorporated through a series of activities and simple presentations. The student will identify responsibilities involved in a variety of dramatic presentations.

Drama II: Students who have taken Drama I are eligible to take this course. This course emphasizes the development of acting skills, play analysis, play production, historical and social impact of theater as an art form, and theater as a profession. This course will provide a natural progression into further studies in drama at the high school level.

Family & Consumer Science (FACS): Students will participate in personal development, life and career skills, food safety and sanitation, and basic food preparation.

Journalism/Newspaper: Students will produce and distribute the school newspaper and be introduced to a wide spectrum of journalism.

Journeys in Film: Students will go on a voyage through the magical world of film and its process. Some topics covered are: stages of production, crew positions, script writing, theme, genre, editing, sound, and production design.

LEAP Into A New Era: Students will explore, build, create, and develop real world engineering designs to problem solve and provide solutions to authentic challenges. Examples of designs include but are not limited to: agricultural designs with current supply/demand challenges transportation designs to address community needs healthcare design post pandemic.

Library Aide: Library Aide tasks will include, but are not limited to shelving books, straightening book shelves, checking books in and out, unpacking and processing new books, making deliveries, copying, cutting things out, and helping with bulletin boards/special displays. An application is required for consideration of this position.

Military History: Students will have the opportunity to study military history with a focus on each branch of service. Studies will include major battles as well as what military life is like from the start of basic training to life while deployed. This course will allow students to gain an insight as to what military life would be like on active duty as well as the National Guard and Reserve.

Nutrition & Wellness: This class is designed for students who have an interest in learning the basics of nutrition and how food affects the body. It will provide students with the knowledge and skills to make health-promoting decisions. The class addresses the physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual dimensions of health.

Office Aide: Office aides are responsible for completing office tasks such as delivering items to students/teachers, filing, stuffing

envelopes, giving new students tours, and other assigned duties from the front office. An application is required.

PE: In this class you will be exposed to lifelong fitness activities that will benefit your health and well-being. Throughout the year, students will have the opportunity to participate in team sports, recreational activities, cardiovascular endurance training, strength development and flexibility exercises.

Photography: Students will be introduced to the basics of photography, parts of a camera, and proper photo composition. They will complete projects over different photographic styles and subjects, and work with photo editing software.

Piano: This course is for students who do not know how to play the piano and would like to learn. Students will learn proper counting rhythms and reading notes in order to actually play and make music with the piano.

Spanish I: Introduction to conversation, grammar and basic knowledge of Spanish culture.

Spanish II: A continuation of Spanish I with more emphasis on oral and written work.

Speech/Debate I: This introductory class empowers students to find their own voice as they study communication, organization and presentation skills. Students will engage in a variety of speech formats including informative, persuasive, and demonstrative. They will also learn the basics of debate, the different formats used, and participate in lively class debates.

Speech/Debate II: Students who have taken Speech/Debate I are eligible to take this course. This class will build upon what the student learned in Speech/Debate I. They will continue to advance their communication and presentation skills. The student will also continue to develop their debate skills through more advanced debate topics.

Sports History: Students will gain historical knowledge about the origins and development of various sports in America as well as worldwide. They will look at social, cultural, economic, and intellectual concepts through the chronological history of sports.

Stagecraft: This introductory course covers the basic use and design of sets, costumes, lighting, make-up, props, sound, and special effects in theater. This class is for the student who wants to learn what happens behind the scenes.

STEM/Design & Modeling: Students will be introduced to the design process in order to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on our lives.

STEM/Medical Detectives: This course is an introduction to health-related fields. Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene". They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health.

STEM/Robotics: Students will trace the history, development, and influence of automation robotics.

Strength Training: Student athletes will learn the basic foundations of weight training.

Vocal: Students develop skills to sing correctly and learn the basics of good musicianship through a variety of music.

Wildcat Buddy: A Wildcat Buddy provides peer collaboration to students who need assistance in the classroom. An application is required.

Yearbook: This is a year long elective class, and students must fill out an application and be selected to join the class. Students will be responsible for designing, photographing, editing, and writing the school yearbook. Students will aid in scheduling and conducting all school photo days including individuals, sports, and clubs. Yearbook staff applications will be available in the office.