

7th Grade Course Descriptions

2025 – 2026



Seventh grade students are assigned to a team of teachers for their core classes of English, geography, math, reading, and science. Students are required to take the following elective classes: art, computer, FCS I (family and consumer sciences), industrial technology, Language Discovery, physical education and Spanish. In addition, students will choose either band, music explorations, Honor Choir, or orchestra as their music class.

Athletic programs for seventh graders are Cross Country, Volleyball, Boys & Girls Basketball, Boys & Girls Soccer, Boys & Girls Track and Boys & Girls Wrestling.

ENGLISH Seventh grade English is a literature-based curriculum with required reading that includes short stories and several novels. Extensive vocabulary study is provided through the reading selections, as well as through Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes. Sentence structure and mechanics are also taught. In addition, students will work on a research paper in which appropriate sources are cited.

GEOGRAPHY This class is the study of physical and human geography. Students will study the physical aspects of Earth and learn important map skills. Students will analyze the various cultural aspects of different regions on earth, including government systems and economy. The focus will be for students to have an increased global awareness.

ACCEL MATH This class is for identified students. Students will create expressions and solve equations and inequalities to help them determine solutions related to real world situations. Students will use ratios, rates, proportions, percent and basic probability reasoning to make sense of mathematical situations. Students will gain a better understanding of integer and rational number operations (adding / subtracting / multiplying / dividing). Students will work with angle relationships and geometric formulas for perimeter, circumference, area, surface area and volume. **Accel Math 6 is a prerequisite for this class.**

MATH Seventh grade students will use the Eureka Math curriculum. Students will create expressions and solve equations and inequalities to help them determine solutions related to real world situations. Students will use ratios, rates, proportions, percent and basic probability reasoning to make sense of mathematical situations. Students will gain a better understanding of integer and rational number operations (adding / subtracting / multiplying / dividing). Students will work with angle relationships and geometric formulas for perimeter, circumference, area, surface area and volume.

READING This class focuses on teaching students appropriate and helpful strategies for the reading of both nonfiction and fictional texts. By learning, practicing, and independently demonstrating their mastery of reading comprehension strategies as well as elements of literature, students will improve their ability to fluently read and comprehend both nonfiction as well as fiction. Students will also work with vocabulary through the various reading selections.

SCIENCE Amplify Science is our resource for middle school science. The curriculum includes hands-on activities, print materials, and powerful digital tools to support online and offline learning. In each unit, students take on the role of a scientist or engineer to investigate a real-world problem. These problems provide relevant contexts through which students investigate phenomena. Students will engage in collaboration and discussion, and develop models or explanations in order to arrive at solutions. Topics covered include structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, interdependent relationships in ecosystems, matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems, earth systems, and history of earth.

ART Seventh grade students will develop their abilities to create works of art that are an effective means of communicating. Students will explore how they, as artists, use their visual senses to interpret what they see and manipulate materials to express ideas, develop themes, express beliefs and opinions.

BAND (Students perform in 3 concerts and turn in weekly practice time and recordings throughout the school year) The Silver Hawk Band Program strives to foster creativity, sensitivity, and community building through instrumental music. Seventh grade band continues to promote higher level thinking and helps develop organizational and social skills. Students learn to play wind and percussion instruments in both group and sectional settings. Students are encouraged to supply their own instrument as we have a limited number available to rent from the school. The **Tradition of Excellence Book 2** and reeds (if playing a reed instrument) are supplied by the student. Students should have a year of experience on their instrument to be successful in this class. All students are encouraged to attend our summer band camp the first week in August!

Choir
This performance-based class is for students who enjoy singing and want to develop their vocal skills while learning how to navigate their changing voices. Choir students are expected to actively participate by singing daily, learning proper vocal techniques, and working as an ensemble. Students will perform in concerts throughout the year, gaining confidence and experience in a supportive musical environment.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS & CAREER EXPLORATION This class is designed to improve keyboarding skills and introduce or refine computer application skills. Word processing, spreadsheets, presentation and Coding will be addressed. Students will match their career assessment results to the 16 career clusters, explore the occupations of their interests and match their results to the education and training required after high school. Students will be introduced to the Nebraska Career Readiness Standards.

FCS I This course provides students with opportunities for creative thinking and involvement in problem solving. Students participate in three 9-day module rotations that apply basic living skills, along with concepts, skills, and technology needed to solve real life problems. The modules encourage hands-on experiences, student responsibility, and cooperation. Areas of focus are foods and nutrition, basics of sewing, and family life.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY Students have the opportunity to explore three to four of the 18 level-one technology modules which include robots, lasers, computers, mechanical trainers, CAD programs, audio and video equipment and prototypes in real life simulations.

LANGUAGE DISCOVERY Students will be introduced to various languages and cultures around the world. Some of the language's students will cover are: German, French, English dialects, Mandarin, Japanese, and Italian. Students will be involved in a variety of learning activities and will be introduced to the importance of acknowledging other languages and cultures.

MUSIC EXPLORATIONS
This non-performance course introduces students to the fundamentals of music through group singing, music theory, music history, and music terminology. Students will also explore music technology, including basic music composition, sound mixing, and sound engineering. This class focuses on creativity and musical understanding without public performances.

ORCHESTRA (previous string experience is a prerequisite (6th grade orchestra, private lessons, etc.)
(Students are required to participate in 3 concerts throughout the school year)
Seventh grade orchestra students will continue developing technical and fundamental skills on their instruments through large group rehearsals and sectionals. Students should provide their own stringed instrument. Students who participate in Free/Reduced lunch are eligible for a free/reduced rate instrument through KPS based on availability. **Essential Elements for Strings Book 2** is used as a general reference. Students are required to complete weekly practice time and recordings throughout the year.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION Physical education is a required class which meets every other day. The class exposes students to a wide variety of activities which helps to provide the appropriate amount of vigorous physical activity

that is vital for the maintenance of good health and fitness. Physical fitness testing, team sports, recreational games, rhythms, aerobics, cardiovascular training, strength enhancement, and other activities emphasize teamwork, social development, and a positive self-image. In order to participate safely, students are required to dress in appropriate P.E. attire (e.g. T-shirt, shorts, and athletic shoes). **Padlocks are furnished. A \$5.00 fee will be charged if the lock is not returned at the end of the school year.**

SPANISH Students are introduced to a more detailed view of the Spanish language. Some of the topics students will cover are: greetings, alphabet, numbers, colors, weather, food, classroom objects, days, months, cultural aspects, and holidays. Hands-on activities will reinforce the importance of Spanish in our world.