

American
School
of Dubai

MS
COURSE
CATALOG
2026-2027







The American School of Dubai is committed to assisting students to succeed in a robust program of study during their middle school years in preparation for the transition to high school. The program offers disciplinary courses in Mathematics, English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, World Languages, Physical and Health Education, Design & Innovation, Performing Arts, Islamic Education, Learning Support and Special Education.

MS Administration 2026-2027

Michael McMillan

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Susan Butler

MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL

MS Counselors 2026-2027

Courtney Beck

Mounir Corbin

Joi Silva

The American School of Dubai is committed to the protection, safety, and welfare of our students, and has adopted a Child Protection Policy that guides our professional practices for the students' safety and security.

Academic Program Overview

Our program is rooted in the ASD Mission, Values, and Attributes as we design learning experiences that allow students to explore academic knowledge while developing the skills and attributes that contribute to their holistic development.

MISSION~VALUES~ATTRIBUTES



Courses of Study

English Language Arts

Arabic Language Arts

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies

Physical and Health Education

World Languages

Performing Arts

Design and Innovation

Islamic and Arab Studies

Guided Study

Life Centered Education

Additional Programming

Advisory

In Advisory, students meet regularly in small, grade-level groups with a dedicated Advisory teacher. This time is intentionally designed to foster a positive, inclusive community while supporting self-awareness and personal growth, with space for joy and shared experiences along the way.

Advisors draw on research-based resources and structured programs to guide social-emotional learning and strengthen community bonds. In partnership with the Middle School Technology Integrator and Counselors, they also implement data-informed lessons tailored to the evolving needs of students, ensuring relevant, responsive support throughout the year.

Pursuits

The Pursuits period provides students with opportunities to pursue their passions and to find additional learning support. Teachers and students have the opportunity to offer short exploratory courses designed to provide ample choice for pursuing personal interests. All sessions are guided by a teacher. Each course meets once a week and lasts for approximately 6 weeks.

Community Flex

One day a week is intentionally set aside to bring the Middle School community together. This dedicated time may include whole-school assemblies, grade-level gatherings, special events, and House activities designed to strengthen connection and school spirit. It may also be used for important sessions such as Week Without Walls meetings.

When no event is scheduled, the student participates in Access (see below), ensuring this time remains purposeful and supportive of their learning experience.

Access

Once (or twice) a week, the student has the opportunity to schedule dedicated time for task completion and/or additional academic support. By default, the student begins in their small Advisory group and may book appointments with teachers through Google Calendar. Teachers may also request the student's attendance during an Access period.

If the student is not meeting with a specific teacher, they remain in the Advisory classroom and use the time intentionally to focus on individual needs, such as organization, task completion, communication, planning, or independent reading.



Core Courses

English Language Arts 6

DEPARTMENT: MS LANGUAGE ARTS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

English Language Arts 6 follows the *Common Core State Standards* to develop the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language use. Teachers use elements of the Writers and Readers Workshop approach to present content, give individualized instruction, and provide feedback for improvement. Students read, discuss, and analyze various forms of literature to become open-minded, engaged, and discerning readers. Students will use evidence of personal experiences, in-class readings, and independent research to compose writing assignments and participate in oral presentations and discussions. Students will use technology to enhance reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills. In addition, students will engage in independent reading, both at home and at school, to develop their reading skills and stamina.

English Language Arts 7

DEPARTMENT: MS LANGUAGE ARTS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7

English Language Arts 7 follows the *Common Core State Standards* to develop the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language use. Teachers use elements of the Writers and Readers Workshop approach to present content, give individualized instruction, and provide feedback for improvement. Students read, discuss, and analyze various forms of literature to become open-minded, engaged, and discerning readers. Students will use evidence of personal experiences, in-class readings, and independent research to compose writing assignments and participate in oral presentations and discussions. Students will use technology to enhance reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills. In addition, students will engage in independent reading, both at home and at school, to develop their reading skills and stamina.

English Language Arts 8

DEPARTMENT: MS LANGUAGE ARTS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8

English Language Arts 8 follows the *Common Core State Standards* to develop the areas of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language use. Teachers use elements of Writers and Readers Workshop approach to present content, give individualized instruction, and provide feedback for improvement. Students read, discuss, and analyze various forms of literature to become open-minded, engaged, and discerning readers. Students will use evidence of personal experiences, in-class readings, and independent research to compose writing assignments and participate in oral presentations and discussions. Students will use technology to enhance reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills. In addition, students will engage in independent reading, both at home and at school, to develop their reading skills and stamina.

Arabic Language Arts 6

DEPARTMENT: MS LANGUAGE ARTS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6
PREREQUISITE(S): As per KHDA, this course is required for all Arab passport holders.
A placement test is required for native or heritage Arab speakers.

Arabic Language Arts 6 follows the UAE Ministry of Education Standards for Arabic as a First Language. Students listen to, read, analyze, and discuss a variety of Arabic texts, incorporating reading comprehension strategies, such as making inferences and using context to determine meaning. As writers, they follow the writing process to express opinions, write information/explanatory texts and narratives, and sequence their ideas clearly. In speaking, students summarize the point a speaker makes and explain how each claim is supported by reasons and evidence. They use technology to enhance reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills. Based on individual language needs, students can receive targeted support across all language domains in a dedicated learning environment.

Arabic Language Arts 7

DEPARTMENT: MS LANGUAGE ARTS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7
PREREQUISITE(S): As per KHDA, this course is required for all Arab passport holders.
A placement test is required for native or heritage Arab speakers.

Arabic Language Arts 7 follows the UAE Ministry of Education Standards for Arabic as a First Language. Students listen to, read, analyze, and discuss a variety of Arabic texts, incorporating reading comprehension strategies, such as making inferences and using context to determine meaning. As writers, they follow the writing process to express opinions, write information/explanatory texts and narratives, and sequence their ideas clearly. In speaking, students summarize the point a speaker makes and explain how each claim is supported by reasons and evidence. They use technology to enhance reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills. Based on individual language needs, students can receive targeted support across all language domains in a dedicated learning environment.

Arabic Language Arts 8

DEPARTMENT: MS LANGUAGE ARTS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8
PREREQUISITE(S): As per KHDA, this course is required for all Arab passport holders.
A placement test is required for native or heritage Arab speakers.

Based on individual language needs, students can receive targeted support across all language domains in a dedicated learning environment.

Arabic Language Arts 8 follows the UAE Ministry of Education Standards to develop reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language use in Arabic. Teachers use the *Queen Rania Teachers Academy* Readers and Writers Workshop approach, which supports explicit instruction in reading strategies and writing processes, individualized instruction, and feedback for improvement. Students listen to, read, analyze, and discuss a variety of Arabic texts, incorporating reading comprehension strategies, such as comparing and contrasting and identifying perspectives. As writers, they follow the writing process to present their own point of view with increasing accuracy. In speaking, students paraphrase information presented in diverse media and formats. They use technology to enhance reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language skills.

Mathematics 6

DEPARTMENT: MS MATHEMATICS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

All Grade 6 students develop skills in the areas of concept and procedures, problem-solving and modeling, as well as communication and reasoning. Students develop these skills through concepts aligned with the *Common Core State Standards* for Mathematics in the areas of ratio concepts, numeracy with a focus on fractions, factors, and multiples, the rational number system, algebraic expressions, one-variable equations, and inequalities, analyzing the relationships between variables, area, surface area, and volume, distribution, and statistical variability.

Mathematics 7

DEPARTMENT: MS MATHEMATICS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7

All Grade 7 students develop skills in the areas of concepts and procedures, problem-solving and modeling, as well as communication and reasoning. Students develop these skills through concepts aligned with the *Common Core State Standards* for Mathematics in the areas of proportional relationships, operations with rational numbers, algebraic expressions and equations, 2D and 3D geometry, random sampling, and probability models.

Mathematics 8

DEPARTMENT: MS MATHEMATICS
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8

The Mathematics 8 course consists of units based on the *Common Core Standards* for Algebra, focusing on modeling with functions, linear and exponential functions, linear equations and inequalities in one variable, linear equations and inequalities in two variables, statistics, quadratic functions, and quadratic equations. Problem-solving and reasoning skills are emphasized throughout the course and assessed using math practice standards. Students also use technology including graphing calculators (on computers) and Desmos. Students who demonstrate mastery of all Mathematics 8 course content may be eligible to substitute Mathematics 8 for the Algebra I prerequisite in the ASD High School Mathematics course sequence.

Science 6

DEPARTMENT: MS SCIENCE
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

Science 6 explores a range of topics in physical, life, and earth sciences. Topics include matter, heat energy, ecology, geology, and the water cycle. Students use inquiry to investigate phenomena, incorporating science and engineering practices of the *Next Generation Science Standards*.

Students develop their ability to ask testable questions, construct models, design and conduct investigations, collect and analyze data, formulate explanations and scientific arguments, and obtain and communicate information. Learning in this course fosters a curiosity and love of science while equipping students with the necessary skills to formulate their investigations of real-world phenomena and design solutions for real-world engineering challenges.

Science 7

DEPARTMENT: MS SCIENCE
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7

Science 7 explores a range of topics in physical, life, and earth and space sciences, including energy, forces and motion, astronomy, waves, and biology. Students use inquiry to investigate phenomena, incorporating science and engineering practices of the *Next Generation Science Standards*. Students develop their ability to ask testable questions, construct models, design and conduct investigations, collect and analyze data, formulate explanations and scientific arguments, and obtain and communicate information. Learning in this course fosters a curiosity and love of science and equips students with the necessary skills to formulate investigations of real-world phenomena and design solutions for real-world engineering challenges.

Science 8

DEPARTMENT: MS SCIENCE
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8

Science 8 explores a range of topics in physical, life, and earth and space sciences, including chemistry, sustainability, evolution, and genetics. Students use inquiry to investigate phenomena, incorporating science and engineering practices of the *Next Generation Science Standards*. Students develop their ability to ask testable questions, construct models, design and conduct investigations, collect and analyze data, formulate explanations and scientific arguments, and obtain and communicate information. Learning in this course fosters a curiosity and love of science and equips students with the necessary skills to formulate investigations of real-world phenomena and design solutions for real-world engineering challenges.

Social Studies 6

DEPARTMENT: MS SOCIAL STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

Social Studies 6 is an integrated study of select civilizations of the ancient world using the social science lenses of economics, geography, history, and political science. Both physical and human geography are woven throughout each unit of study to build students' understanding of the connection between people and the Earth, as well as the economic, political, and social systems that humans created over time. Using the tools of a historian, students will gain an understanding of how these societies laid the foundation for modern culture as well as the impact they have on life today. Throughout the course, students will use a variety of research tools and presentation formats. The curriculum helps students recognize contributions made to society by different cultural, religious, and ethnic groups throughout time and how they are still relevant today.

Social Studies 7

DEPARTMENT: MS SOCIAL STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7

Social Studies 7 explores the disciplinary lenses of culture, civics, government, economics, geography, and history to make connections from the past to contemporary times. With a focus on the concepts of globalization, this study includes an examination of increased economic interdependence and the exchange of ideas, beliefs, innovations, and commodities. Students will analyze the conflicts that arise from differing points of view and ways nations have joined together for mutual progress. Using a skills-based, inquiry-based, and case study model, students will have the necessary skills and understandings that will lead to becoming better-informed, engaged, and globally competent citizens. By the end of this course, students will be able to answer the questions: How does understanding the past help us prepare for the future? And, where do we go from here?

Social Studies 8

DEPARTMENT: MS SOCIAL STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8

Social Studies 8 focuses on the development of inquiry skills, which include creating thought-provoking questions, researching and analyzing primary and secondary documents, determining and clearly communicating answers, and taking authentic and informed action. Students will focus on Identity and how that has played a role in their families' stories for the first half of the course. Additionally, students will explore the themes of Colonization, Revolution, and Government, Call to Action, and connecting U.S. history to broader world contexts.

Physical & Health Education 6

DEPARTMENT: MS PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

The Physical Education program develops the knowledge, skills, and attitude to lead an active, healthy lifestyle. The curriculum is made up of four strands: Health, Fitness, Sports, and Aquatics. Emphasis is placed primarily on character (effort, engagement, positive learning attitude, respect, and sportsmanship), teaching games for understanding, skills, and strategies.

Physical & Health Education 7

DEPARTMENT: MS PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7

The Physical Education program develops the knowledge, skills, and attitude to lead an active, healthy lifestyle. The curriculum is made up of four strands: Health, Fitness, Sports, and Aquatics. Emphasis is placed primarily on character (effort, engagement, positive learning attitude, respect, and sportsmanship), teaching games for understanding, skills, and strategies.

Physical & Health Education 8

DEPARTMENT: MS PHYSICAL & HEALTH EDUCATION
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8

The Physical Education program develops the knowledge, skills, and attitude to lead an active, healthy lifestyle. The curriculum is made up of four strands: Health, Fitness, Sports, and Aquatics. Emphasis is placed primarily on character (effort, engagement, positive learning attitude, respect, and sportsmanship), teaching games for understanding, skills, and strategies.



World Languages

Arabic Novice Mid

DEPARTMENT: MS WORLD LANGUAGES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8

Arabic Novice Mid introduces students to the Arabic language and Arab cultures in the UAE and around the world. Students communicate in spoken and written conversations, requesting and providing information by asking and answering simple questions, using a mixture of memorized words, phrases, and simple sentences. They present information about themselves, their interests, and activities, and identify basic facts in short informational and fictional texts that have supporting visuals. In cultural interactions, students can apply appropriate rehearsed behaviors and recognize culturally inappropriate behaviors in everyday situations.

Arabic, French, or Spanish Novice High

DEPARTMENT: MS WORLD LANGUAGES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *For Arabic only – Arabic Novice Mid*

The Novice High world language course introduces students to the Arabic, French, or Spanish language and cultures around the world. Students communicate in spontaneous spoken and written conversations about their lives and activities using a variety of memorized words, phrases, simple sentences, and questions. They provide information on familiar and everyday topics and identify the topic and some basic information in short informational and fictional texts. In cross-cultural interactions, students can interact at a survival level in some familiar everyday situations, using memorized language and showing basic cultural awareness.

Arabic, French, or Spanish Intermediate Low

DEPARTMENT: MS WORLD LANGUAGES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Arabic/French/Spanish Novice High*

The Intermediate Low world language course continues to develop language proficiency in Arabic, French, or Spanish and promotes an understanding of these cultures around the world. Students participate in spontaneous spoken and written conversations and make presentations about their lives, activities, and events, expressing their thoughts, interacting, and reacting on familiar topics, using simple sentences, and asking appropriate follow-up questions. They identify the topic and related information from simple sentences in short informational and fictional texts. In cross-cultural interactions, students can interact at a functional level in some familiar contexts.

Arabic, French, or Spanish Intermediate Mid Foundation

DEPARTMENT: MS WORLD LANGUAGES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Arabic/French/Spanish Intermediate Low*

The Intermediate Mid Foundation world language course continues to develop language proficiency in Arabic, French, or Spanish and promotes an understanding of these cultures around the world. Students exchange information in spoken and written conversations on familiar topics and can ask follow-up questions. They communicate about their lives, activities, events, and other social experiences using connected sentences. They identify the main idea and key information in short, straightforward informational and fictional texts. Students can compare products and practices related to everyday life and personal interests or studies in their own and other cultures.

Arabic, French, or Spanish Intermediate Mid

DEPARTMENT: MS WORLD LANGUAGES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Arabic/French/Spanish Intermediate Mid Foundation*

The Intermediate Mid world language course continues to develop language proficiency in Arabic, French, or Spanish and promotes an understanding of these cultures. Students exchange information in spoken and written conversations on familiar topics and some researched topics, and are able to create sentences and ask follow-up questions. They give presentations on researched topics using short paragraphs, often across various time frames. They identify the main idea and key information in short informational and fictional texts and conversations. Students recognize that significant differences in behaviors exist among cultures, use appropriate learned behaviors, and avoid socially unacceptable behavior.



Elective Courses

PERFORMING ARTS

Beginning Band

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8

The purpose of Beginning Band is to learn a new instrument, become a proficient musician on a chosen instrument, and establish a foundation of knowledge necessary to contribute to a performance ensemble. Instrument options include the flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, baritone, tuba, and a percussion instrument. The class will perform twice a year, namely during the Fall and Spring Concerts. Students will learn skills that last a lifetime, and the persistence of mastering an instrument reinforces the ideals of hard work, dedication, and passion.

Intermediate Band

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8

PREREQUISITE: *Beginning Band (or equivalent experience, assessment may be required)*

Intermediate Band continues the principles learned in the Beginning Band. Open to any Grade 6, Grade 7, or Grade 8 student with at least one year of experience, this ensemble provides ample opportunities for continued skill development, exciting performance opportunities, and lays the foundation of theoretical, historical, and compositional knowledge of music. The class will perform twice a year, namely during the Fall Concert and Spring Concerts. Students in this group are also eligible to audition to participate in the AMIS European Honor Band as well as our local MESAC Junior Fine Arts Festival.

Advanced Band

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8

PREREQUISITE: *Intermediate Band (or equivalent from another school or as approved)*

The Advanced Band is an exciting and often challenging group to be a part of. Open to Grade 7 or Grade 8 students with at least two years of experience and who have demonstrated a commitment and ability for an advanced ensemble, this group builds on the techniques learned in the Intermediate Band. The focus is on developing a high level of proficiency in playing an instrument within a performance-based setting. We will continue to emphasize theoretical, historical, and compositional knowledge of music through project-based units. The class will perform twice a year, namely during the Fall and Spring Concerts. Additionally, Advanced Band students are eligible to audition for the AMIS European Honor Band and participate in the local MESAC Junior Fine Arts Festival.

Choir 6

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

This performance-based course allows Grade 6 students to sing from many different genres, cultures, and periods in a supportive and fun atmosphere. While learning more about their voice and the way it's changing through adolescence, students will develop the skills and confidence needed to be a contributing member of a secondary choral ensemble. They will perform in two concerts a year, combined with other Middle School choir classes.

Boys Choir 7/8

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8

This class is offered for students in Grades 7 and 8. Previous experience in a choir is not required; it is just a love of singing. Each voice change process is unique and a little unpredictable, and in this environment, students can feel confident and supported through that process. Throughout the year, they explore a wide variety of

musical styles, developing a unified sound in two parts. In addition to performing as a group, students will sing with other Middle School choral ensembles for two concerts. They will also practice their music-reading skills over the course of the year, becoming more competent musicians as a result.

Girls Choir 7/8

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8

This class is offered for students in Grades 7 and 8. Previous experience in a choir is not required, just a love of singing. Students will build on their Grade 6 and 7 choral experiences in a combined-grade environment, working together, meeting new friends, and learning more about their own voices and power to make beautiful music. Throughout the year, students explore a wide variety of musical styles, developing a unified sound in two parts. In addition to performing as a group, students will sing with other Middle School choral ensembles for two concerts. They will also practice their music-reading skills over the course of the year, becoming more competent musicians as a result.

Beginning Orchestra

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8

The purpose of Beginning Orchestra is to become a proficient performer and establish the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute to an ensemble. Students will perform in the Fall and Spring Concerts with other Middle School ensembles. They will learn lifelong skills; the persistence required to master an instrument reinforces the ideals of hard work, dedication, and passion. Instruments include the violin, viola, cello, and bass. This course is specifically designed for new players of all ages.

Orchestra

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8

PREREQUISITE: *Beginning Orchestra (or equivalent from another school or as approved)*

The purpose of Orchestra is to become a proficient performer and establish the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute to an ensemble. Students will perform in the Fall and Winter concerts with other Middle School ensembles. Students will learn lifelong skills; the persistence required to master an instrument reinforces the ideals of hard work, dedication, and passion. Instruments include the violin, viola, cello, and bass. This course is designed for students who have completed a year in the Beginning Orchestra or for those who have prior playing experience (as approved by the teacher).

Dance 6

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 QUARTER

GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

Dance 6 gives students beginner dance skills while improving coordination, self-confidence, strength, flexibility, and creative ability. Students will choreograph and perform dance presentations in class as well as develop dance vocabulary, rhythm, and basic footwork. Also, students will learn about dances from around the world to better understand global cultures.

Dance 7

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS

LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER

GRADE LEVEL (S): 7

Dance 7 introduces students to various dance styles and provides an opportunity to acquire basic dance knowledge, develop skills, and appreciate different forms of dance. Students will choreograph and perform their own dances. No previous dance experience is required.

Dance 8

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8

Dance 8 allows students to refine their technique and develop skills as choreographers and performers. They apply creative and technical knowledge through various production and performance opportunities.

Drama 6

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS
LENGTH: 1 QUARTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

Drama 6 is an introduction to theater as an art form. This course focuses on the fundamentals of acting and theater. Emphasis is placed on participation, creativity, and a willingness to explore. The course objective is for students to gain confidence, discover creativity in themselves and in others, and grow through discussion and personal reflection.

Drama Exploration

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8

This course explores the fundamentals of acting and theater through three major units of study. Students learn the importance of the ensemble in theater, how to develop characters and relationships on stage, and the basics of theater production. Students will create, stage, and perform scripted pieces of theater. The course aims to build students' confidence, discover creativity in themselves and in others, and develop a lasting appreciation of theater.

Drama Production

DEPARTMENT: MS PERFORMING ARTS
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER (CAN BE REPEATED)
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Drama Exploration or equivalent from another school*

This course will take students deeper into their drama journey by giving them more ownership over their learning. Projects will be structured to allow a maximum amount of creative input, challenge students to go deeper into their character creation, and challenge their problem-solving skills. We will work together, through various performance and presentation opportunities, to put on a One-Act performance for an audience at the school. Students will also be challenged to create their own works and present them. Students may retake this class.

DESIGN AND INNOVATION

Visual Arts 6

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 QUARTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

Visual Arts 6 is an introductory course that emphasizes exploration, creative confidence, and foundational skill-building across design, art, technology, and media. They experiment with ideation, sketching, perspective, visual art, and digital techniques, media creation, while learning how ideas are shaped into meaningful learning experiences. Throughout the course, students complete exploratory projects, presented in a virtual gallery setting, and begin building their digital portfolio. Visual Arts 6 prepares students to understand the creative process, discover interests, and confidently enter future DI courses.

Visual Arts Core

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8

In this course, students explore creative problem-solving through the Design Thinking Cycle as they learn to empathize with a subject, generate original ideas, prototype solutions, and present their work with purpose. Students engage in both 2D and 3D creations, developing skills in drawing, painting, mixed media, and digital art to plan visual narratives, while also gaining hands-on experience in ceramics and sculpture using materials such as clay, wire, cardboard, and found objects. The course introduces foundational 3D design tools, including laser cutting and 3D printing, helping students translate ideas into physical form. By the end of the course, students will be confident documenting their creative process and presenting finished projects that communicate a clear and meaningful message.

Visual Arts Studio

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *2D Art Core, 3D Art Core or Visual Arts Core*

Visual Arts Studio is designed for students who have mastered the basics of 2D/3D Art and are ready for more creative independence. Building on the foundations of Visual Arts Core, this course functions as a "next level" experience where students take greater ownership of their artistic decisions. Students are challenged to select the materials and deepen their skills: 2D creation and 3D fabrication that best fit their specific ideas.

The curriculum shifts the focus from simply learning how to use tools to refining craftsmanship and developing a personal artistic voice. Students will dive deeper into the Design Thinking Cycle, moving beyond the initial prototype to practice the important skills of revision and polishing. The semester culminates in a final exhibition where students display their best work and articulate the stories behind their creative choices. This course can be repeated.

Falcon Studios Core

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8

Falcon Studios Core is a student-centered production course where students create media, content, and live experiences for the school community. As an introduction to Falcon Studios, students begin developing foundational skills in media creation, event production, and teamwork while working as part of a collaborative production team. Students engage in all stages of the production process, including pre-production, production, and post-production. Through hands-on projects, they build skills in planning, organization, communication, and creative problem-solving. Students who are self-directed, organized, and willing to take ownership of their learning will be most successful in this course.

Falcon Studios

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Falcon Studios Core*

Falcon Studios builds on the foundational skills developed in the core course, providing students with opportunities to take on greater responsibility and leadership within the production team. Students play an active role in leading projects, mentoring peers, and contributing to the creative direction of media and event productions for the school community.

In this course, students deepen their skills across the full production cycle—pre-production, production, and post-production—while developing advanced competencies in collaboration, decision-

making, and project management. Emphasis is placed on student leadership, initiative, and accountability as students take ownership of both individual and team-based productions.

Students who are motivated, organized, and eager to lead will thrive in this environment as they continue to grow their technical and collaborative skills within Falcon Studios.

Design and Innovation 6

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 QUARTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6

Design and Innovation 6 is an introductory course in which students explore design and innovation through storytelling, play, art principles, experimentation, and creative competition.

Students explore CAD & CAM, 3D printing, laser cutting, robotics, design thinking, and media production while working collaboratively to prototype ideas and build imaginative experiences.

Design and Innovation Core

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8

Design and Innovation Core helps students grow as confident designers and makers by developing both technical skills and creative problem-solving through the Design Thinking Cycle. Building on the exploration of Visual Arts 6, students gain hands-on experience with the tools and processes used by designers, engineers, and producers, including robotics, coding and computational thinking, game and interactive design, CAD, laser cutting, 3D printing, digital media creation, and rapid prototyping. The course teaches how to use these tools with purpose—testing ideas, iterating, and improving designs—so students can bring their own ideas to life with precision and independence. Through multiple projects and work samples, students build a strong foundation of skills and habits that prepare them for more advanced Studio work.

Design and Innovation Studio

DEPARTMENT: MS DESIGN AND INNOVATION
LENGTH: 1 SEMESTER
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Maker Design Core, Digital Design Core, or Design and Innovation Core*

Design and Innovation Studio is an advanced, project-driven course where students apply their technical and creative skills to real-world challenges for authentic audiences. Working collaboratively, students design and build complex prototypes, interactive games and installations, engineered systems, and entrepreneurial solutions using advanced robotics, coding, and fabrication tools. The course shifts from learning tools to using them strategically, as students manage longer design cycles, refine ideas through feedback, and document their process to professional standards. Studio projects are created with a public purpose lens in mind and often culminate in exhibitions, showcases, or community-facing experiences, allowing students to present and defend innovative, tangible solutions developed through the full design thinking process. This course can be repeated.

GUIDED STUDY

Guided Study 6/7/8

DEPARTMENT: MS LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Enrollment in Learning Support Services*

Guided Study is designed for students who benefit from Learning Support Services to address their identified learning needs. These needs are specific to the goals identified in the Individual Education Plan. During class time, students receive small-group or individualized instruction on specific skills to ensure they acquire the tools to be collaborative and successful lifelong learners. This class provides an opportunity to pre-teach and re-teach skills and concepts from students' classes. The primary aim of this course is to

develop resilient, well-equipped, and self-aware students. It provides a small-group environment to receive specially designed instruction in reading, writing, and math in a supportive environment. In addition, this course develops skills in self-advocacy, organization, and metacognition, while encouraging students to identify their strengths and individual learning needs.

LIFE CENTERED EDUCATION

Individualized Literacy Studies 6/7/8

DEPARTMENT: LIFE CENTERED EDUCATION
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Enrollment in Life Centered Education*

Individualized Literacy Studies encompasses reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language use to guide learners towards becoming stronger communicators. The course follows the *Common Core State Standards* for Literacy, in combination with each student's individualized learning goals which modify the curriculum to meet their specific learning needs. Instruction combines foundational phonics skills interventions at each student's current level, alongside rigorous comprehension of their current grade-level topics through access to modified texts and adaptations using technology resources with integrity. Individualized Literacy Studies seeks to broaden and strengthen every student's skills in Language Arts topics, while also developing connections across subject areas by using reading and writing as vehicles for learning content throughout the middle years.

Individualized Mathematics Studies 6/7/8

DEPARTMENT: LIFE CENTERED EDUCATION
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Enrollment in Life Centered Education*

Individualized Mathematics Studies provides the opportunity for students to explore many areas of math, which may include topics such as ratios, the number system, expressions, geometry, and statistics, based on the *Common Core State Standards* for Mathematics, in combination with each student's individualized learning goals which modify the curriculum to meet their specific learning needs. Students dive into hands-on and innovative explorations of the aforementioned topics through real-life applications of mathematical thinking such as estimations, money and budgeting, shapes and fractions, problem-solving, fluency with operations, and understanding of place value. Individualized Mathematics Studies meet every learner at their individualized level and foster excitement for mathematical problem-solving, resilience in critical thinking about math concepts, and excitement for exploration in today's modern society.

Individualized Science & Social Studies 6/7/8

DEPARTMENT: LIFE CENTERED EDUCATION
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8
PREREQUISITE(S): *Enrollment in Life Centered Education*

Individualized Science and Social Studies blends science, social studies, and literacy topics into an engaging interdisciplinary experience. Students explore biology, chemistry, physics, earth and space sciences, and/or culture, civics, government, economics, geography, and history, depending on their individual learning needs and interests. Learning is tailored through leveled reading, direct instruction, research projects, and hands-on activities. In science, students tackle real-world problems using the scientific method and following the progression of the *Next Generation Science Standards*. In social studies, students examine history and current events, fostering critical thinking and making connections between the past and the present. Modification of the curriculum to meet student's specific learning needs ensures instruction that is rigorous, accessible, and meaningful and prepares learners to contribute as responsible and compassionate community members.

Individualized Learning Strategies 6/7/8

DEPARTMENT: LIFE CENTERED EDUCATION

LENGTH: 1 YEAR

GRADE LEVEL (S): 6, 7, 8

PREREQUISITE(S): *Enrollment in Life Centered Education*

Individualized Learning Strategies is a course that uses specially designed instruction to meet individualized learning goals specific to each student's needs enrolled in the course, with a focus on excellence and academic rigor. Individualized Learning Strategies provide opportunities to support skills and content modified from subject area classes the students are enrolled in, on an as-needed basis. Individualized Learning Strategies is also an opportunity for instruction towards functional and life skills including organization, self-advocacy and confidence, responsibility, communication skills, and resilience. The overall aim of Individualized Learning Strategies is to foster the growth and success of lifelong learning for every student to attain their greatest level of independence.

Read then Highlight the

ميل - حديقة - شجرة - أشجار - سوق -
كرسي - غرفة معيشة - غرفة نوم -
فاز - غرفة ضيوف - ضيف - ضيوف -
منشفة - فوطاة - لونه - لونها - هذا
تناول الطعام - اجلس - أطبخ - يوجد -
بجانب - خلف - صحون - ثرج .

فوق - بجانب - على اليمين - على

Islamic and
Arab Studies

Islamic Education A & B 6

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6
LANGUAGE: ARABIC/ENGLISH

Islamic Education 6 explores key Islamic teachings through the Holy Quran and Hadith, mastering recitation and comprehension. Students will study the principles of faith, responsibility, and core Islamic values, applying them to daily life. Additionally, students will learn about the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and influential figures like Malek Ibn Anas and Lady Aisha, while addressing contemporary issues and fostering a sense of identity.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all Muslim students.

Islamic Education A & B 7

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7
LANGUAGE: ARABIC/ENGLISH

Islamic Education 7 explores core Islamic principles through the Holy Quran and Hadith, mastering recitation and understanding their meanings. Students will examine Islamic creed, values, and morals, focusing on their importance in personal behavior and community life. The curriculum also covers the jurisprudence of worship, insights from Prophet Muhammad's life (PBUH), and notable Islamic figures. Additionally, students will engage with contemporary issues through an Islamic lens, fostering identity and preparing to address societal challenges.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all Muslim students.

Islamic Education A & B 8

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8
LANGUAGE: ARABIC/ENGLISH

Islamic Education 8 explores divine revelation through the Holy Quran and Hadith, helping students master recitation and interpretation while applying key teachings. They will develop critical thinking skills, embody Islamic values, and learn the jurisprudence of worship. Additionally, students will study the life of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) for lessons in compassion and analyze contemporary issues through an Islamic lens.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all Muslim students.

Social Studies for Arabs 6

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6
LANGUAGE: ARABIC

This Social Studies course, taught in Arabic, introduces students to core concepts in social studies through an integrated exploration of communities, geography, history, and national identity. Key topics include human interaction with the environment, population and settlement patterns, early civilizations, and the cultural and historical foundations of the United Arab Emirates. Students also examine economic activities, shared values, and the role of citizenship in building cohesive societies. Through inquiry-based learning, students develop map skills, critical thinking, and a deeper understanding of how people and places are connected.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with an Arab passport.

Social Studies for Arabs 7

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7
LANGUAGE: ARABIC

This Social Studies course, taught in Arabic, deepens students' understanding of the Arab world and the United Arab Emirates through an integrated study of geography, history, society, and national identity. Key topics include the geography of the Arabian Peninsula, climate and natural resources, early Arab societies, cultural traditions, and patterns of settlement. Students also explore the modern UAE, examining national development, global connections, and shared values such as citizenship, belonging, and responsibility. Through inquiry-based learning, students strengthen critical thinking, map skills, and their understanding of how history and geography shape contemporary life.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with an Arab passport.

Social Studies for Arabs 8

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8
LANGUAGE: ARABIC

Grade 8 Social Studies for Arabs develops students' understanding of Arab and Islamic history alongside the United Arab Emirates' modern development and future aspirations. Students examine the rise of major Islamic states and the contributions of Arab-Islamic civilisation, exploring their political, cultural, and intellectual impact. The course also highlights leadership and national vision through the life and legacy of Sheikh Zayed, before tracing the UAE's transformation from a traditional society to a global leader in sustainability, space exploration, and the Islamic economy. Through historical inquiry and contemporary case studies, students strengthen their sense of identity, citizenship, and appreciation of the UAE's role in shaping the region and the world.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with an Arab passport.

Moral, Social and Cultural Education Grade 6

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

The Moral, Social and Cultural Studies course supports students' development as ethical individuals, informed global citizens, and active members of diverse communities. The curriculum integrates moral learning, social studies, and cultural understanding through age-appropriate inquiry and discussion, exploring themes such as equality and justice, health and wellbeing, historical perspectives, respect and tolerance, the growth of the UAE as a diverse society, and the role of government and citizenship. Students examine how individuals, communities, and nations make decisions, respond to change, and work toward fairness, well-being, and inclusion. The course is secular in approach, grounded in universal values such as responsibility, empathy, and respect, aligned with MOE requirements and ASD core values, and delivered through best-practice pedagogy that supports student well-being and thoughtful engagement with the world.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with a non-Arab passport.

Moral, Social and Cultural Education Grade 7

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

The Grade 7 Moral, Social and Cultural Studies course develops students' understanding of responsibility, ethical decision-making, global cultures, and interconnected societies. Students explore individual duties and moral obligations within families and communities, learning how values, rules, and responsibilities guide behaviour and decision-making. The course also focuses on personal safety, well-being, and risk assessment. Through regional studies of East Asia and South Asia, students examine geography, ancient civilisations, scientific and technological developments, cultural exchange, and historical change. Students investigate globalization, trade, communication, and the UAE's role in an increasingly interconnected world, alongside key concepts such as human needs, conflict, and cooperation. Throughout the course, learning is secular in approach, grounded in universal values such as responsibility, empathy, and respect, and delivered through age-appropriate, inquiry-based pedagogy aligned with MOE requirements and ASD core values.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with a non-Arab passport.

Moral, Social and Cultural Education Grade 8

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8
LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

The Grade 8 Moral, Social and Cultural Studies course deepens students' understanding of ethics, diversity, governance, and global history through the lens of communities, states, and societies. Students explore ethics in the context of communities, valuing diversity, social cohesion, and responsible citizenship in the UAE, while examining how tolerance, inclusion, and empathy strengthen societies. Through regional and historical studies including African civilisations, the Ottoman Empire, and North and South America, students investigate geography, culture, colonisation, governance, and movements toward independence. The course also examines consultative governance in the UAE, the role of ethics in state systems, and strategies for managing internal and external conflict. The course is secular in approach, grounded in universal values, aligned with MOE requirements and ASD core values, and delivered through age-appropriate, inquiry-based pedagogy.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with a non-Arab passport.

Moral Education 6

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 6
LANGUAGE: ARABIC

Moral Education 6 supports students in developing ethical understanding, personal responsibility, and well-being through a focus on equality, justice, health, and social cohesion. Students explore equality and fairness by examining distributive justice, the challenges of fairly sharing limited resources, and their own responsibility to act justly within classrooms, families, and communities. The course promotes healthy lifestyles by addressing physical and mental health, including nutrition, exercise, disease prevention, mental well-being, and the shared responsibility individuals and societies have in supporting health. Students also study how the United Arab Emirates has grown into a diverse and inclusive society, exploring cultural change, museums, and heritage as ways of understanding identity and belonging. Through learning about tolerance, diversity, and respectful coexistence,

students reflect on attitudes, social rules, and the role schools play in fostering inclusion. Throughout the course, learning is secular in approach, grounded in universal values such as fairness, empathy, responsibility, and care for self and others, and delivered through age-appropriate, reflective pedagogy aligned with MOE requirements and ASD core values.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with an Arab passport.

Moral Education 7

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 7
LANGUAGE: ARABIC

Moral Education Grade 7 focuses on developing students' sense of responsibility, ethical commitment, and informed decision-making in an increasingly interconnected and digital world. Students explore duties and responsibilities within families and society, including the roles of parents and children, and examine how ethical rules guide behaviour. The course supports students in making safe and responsible choices by addressing personal safety, responding to risk, first aid, and understanding crime. Students also investigate globalization, trade, travel, and communication, with a focus on the UAE's role in a globalized world and the opportunities and challenges this creates for individuals and societies. Key themes include human needs, the relationship between unmet needs and conflict, respect for the value of human life, and taking ethical action. The course further develops digital citizenship by examining online safety, privacy, responsible use of information, and the ethical implications of digital influence. Learning culminates in opportunities to apply ethics in action, connecting values to real-life situations through reflective and age-appropriate pedagogy aligned with MOE requirements and ASD core values.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with an Arab passport.

Moral Education 8

DEPARTMENT: ISLAMIC AND ARAB STUDIES
LENGTH: 1 YEAR
GRADE LEVEL (S): 8
LANGUAGE: ARABIC

Moral Education Grade 8 deepens students' understanding of ethics in the context of societies, diversity, governance, and conflict. Students explore the meaning of community and belonging, examine the roles and responsibilities of social groups in the UAE, and consider the importance of social cohesion in creating safe and inclusive societies. The course emphasises appreciation of diversity, helping students understand equality, tolerance, and empathy, and recognise how prejudice and discrimination can be challenged. Students study the development of consultative governance in the United Arab Emirates, including traditional and modern forms of participation, and examine ethics in the context of nations through laws, leadership, and systems of governance. The course also develops skills for managing internal and external conflict, promoting constructive dialogue, resolution, and responsible action. Learning culminates in opportunities for ethics in action, where students apply ethical understanding to real-world situations through reflective, age-appropriate pedagogy aligned with MOE requirements and ASD core values.

As per KHDA guidelines, this is a required course for all students registered with an Arab passport.



The American School of Dubai's mission is to challenge and inspire each student to achieve their dreams and to become a passionate learner prepared to adapt and contribute in a rapidly changing world.

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