Marietta city schools
A Georgia Charter System

Marietta Middle Course Catalog

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Marietta City Schools (MCS) is pleased to offer a wide range of courses at the middle-school level. Each of these courses is designed to provide students with appropriate academic challenge within the context of a supportive, caring environment. All courses at Marietta Sixth Grade Academy and Marietta Middle School follow the rigorous expectations of the Georgia Standards of Excellence and adhere to the international standards of the Middle Years Programme of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Organization. This course catalog is designed for parents and students to provide curriculum information about the current course offerings.

To The Student:
Many courses you take in the middle school years are required by the state of Georgia and MCS. Some classes are designated as electives. This course catalog will assist you in detailing your required and optional academic classes.

To The Parent:
You are a critical component in your child's academic success. In this way, it is important for you both to understand the academic requirements and expectations of your child's classes and to assist in making decisions about academic placements. Toward this end, you are encouraged to familiarize yourself with this curriculum guide. Counselors, teachers, and administrators at the schools are always available to discuss specific concerns with you if you have any questions about any specific classes or about your child's schedule.

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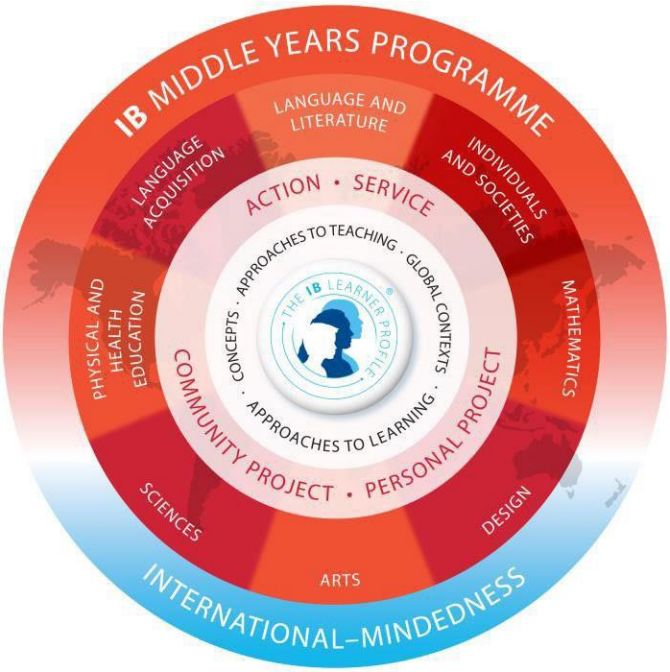
IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) Overview

All students at MSGA and MMS participate in the Middle Years Programme (MYP). The MYP is a framework designed by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IB) to help sixth through tenth graders develop the knowledge, understanding, attitudes, and skills necessary to participate fully and responsibly in a changing world. MYP connects students' learning in the eight subject areas to the world by using Global Contexts and concept- and inquiry-based instruction. The MYP framework seeks to develop IB Learners who are international-minded and who contribute actively and purposefully to change the world.



In the program model for the MYP, the first ring around the student at the center describes the features of the program that help students develop disciplinary (and interdisciplinary) understanding.

- **Approaches to learning** (ATL) – demonstrating a commitment to approaches to learning is a key component of the MYP for developing skills for learning
- **Approaches to teaching** – emphasizing MYP pedagogy, including collaborative learning through inquiry.
- **Concepts** – highlighting a concept-based curriculum.
- **Global contexts** – showing how learning best takes place in context.

The second ring describes some important outcomes of the program.

- **Inquiry-based learning** may result in **student-initiated action**, which may involve service within the community.
- The MYP culminates in the **personal project** or the **community project**.

The third ring describes the MYP's broad and balanced curriculum

- The MYP organizes teaching and learning through **eight subject groups**: language and literature, language acquisition, individuals and societies, sciences, mathematics, arts, physical and health education, and design.
- The distinction between subject groups blurs to indicate the **interdisciplinary** nature of the MYP. The subject area groups are connected through global context and key concepts.

IB MYP Grading & Achievement Levels

Teachers design instructional units according to the Georgia Standards of Excellence and align them to MYP objectives. MYP Assessments are based on holistic learning and IB standards.

In order to provide the student with guidance, teachers provide an IB MYP rubric to students when MYP assessments are given. Each subject area has specific assessment tasks and related MYP criteria. Each criterion is assessed in each course at least 2 times each year. Achievement Levels are determined based on performance on the total score of all MYP criteria for each subject area and are assigned using guidelines provided by the International Baccalaureate.

MYP final grades accompany the 4th quarter report card. These grades give feedback on student performance on various assessment tasks that measure student mastery of MYP objectives and GA Standards of Excellence content. MYP feedback is not part of a student's cumulative academic average.

MYP Final Achievement Level Descriptors

Level 1	Produces work of very limited quality. Conveys many significant misunderstandings or lacks understanding of most concepts and contexts. Very rarely demonstrates critical or creative thinking. Very inflexible, rarely using knowledge or skills.
Level 2	Produces work of limited quality. Expresses misunderstandings or significant gaps in understanding for many concepts and contexts. Infrequently demonstrates critical or creative thinking. Generally inflexible in the use of knowledge and skills, infrequently applying knowledge and skills.
Level 3	Produces work of an acceptable quality. Communicates basic understanding of many concepts and contexts, with occasionally significant misunderstandings or gaps. Begins to demonstrate some basic critical and creative thinking. Is often inflexible in the use of knowledge and skills, requiring support even in familiar classroom situations.
Level 4	Produces good-quality work. Communicates basic understanding of most concepts and contexts with few misunderstandings and minor gaps. Often demonstrates basic critical and creative thinking. Uses knowledge and skills with some flexibility in familiar classroom situations, but requires support in unfamiliar situations.
Level 5	Produces generally high-quality work. Communicates secure understanding of concepts and contexts. Demonstrates critical and creative thinking, sometimes with sophistication. Uses knowledge and skills in familiar classroom and real-world situations and, with support, some unfamiliar real-world situations.
Level 6	Produces high-quality, occasionally innovative work. Communicates extensive understanding of concepts and contexts. Demonstrates critical and creative thinking, frequently with sophistication. Uses knowledge and skills in familiar and unfamiliar classroom and real-world situations, often with independence.
Level 7	Produces high quality, frequently innovative work. Communicates comprehensive, nuanced understanding of concepts and contexts. Consistently demonstrates sophisticated critical and creative thinking. Frequently transfers knowledge and skills with independence and expertise in a variety of complex classroom and real-world situations.

MMS Bell Schedule

Period	
Arrival	7:15 – 7:40 am Breakfast and Launch *7:40- Transition to first period
1st	7:45-8:30 am *Submit Daily attendance by 7:50 AM each morning
2nd	8:35 – 9:20 am
3rd	9:25 – 10:10 am
4th	10:15 – 11:00 am
5th	11:05 – 11:50 am
6th	11:55 am – 12:40 pm
7th	12:45 – 1:30 pm
8th	1:35 – 2:30 pm

Placement Criteria for Grades 6, 7, and 8

Final Grade and all Achievement Scores must be met for initial placement.

Final
November 2025

Marietta Middle School 8th Grade Placement Criteria				
Current Course	**Final Grade**	**Achievement Score(s)**	**Recommended Course**	**Notes**
Accelerated Math 7/8	≥ 80% in Math	NA – Accelerated Math 7/8 required	Carnegie Honors Algebra: Concepts and Connections *	A Gifted/Advanced Content High School course with a required End of Course Test.
Honors Math 7	≥ 80% in Math	Math MAP ≥ 65% NPR **or** Math EOG ≥ Proficient	Carnegie Enhanced Algebra: Concepts and Connections* or Honors Math 8	
Math 7	NA	NA	Math 8	
Honors Science 7	≥ 80% in both Science and Math	Math MAP ≥ 80% NPR and Reading MAP ≥ 80%	Carnegie Physical Science*	A Gifted/Advanced Content High School course with a required End of Grade Test.
Honors Science 7	≥ 80% in Science	Math Map ≥ 65% NPR and Reading MAP ≥ 65%	Honors Science 8 (for students who do not meet the criteria for Carnegie Physical Science)	.
Science 7	NA	NA	Science 8	
Honors ELA 7	≥ 80% in ELA	Reading MAP ≥ 80% NPR **and** **ELA EOG = Proficient or Distinguished	Carnegie Enhanced Literature and Composition I*	A Gifted/Advanced Content High School course with a required End of Grade Test.
Honors ELA 7	≥ 80% in ELA	Reading MAP ≥ 65% NPR **or** **ELA EOG = Proficient	Honors ELA 8*	A Gifted/Advanced Content course.
ELA 7	NA	NA	ELA 8	
Carnegie World Geography	≥ 80% in SS	Reading MAP ≥ 65% NPR	Honors SS 8*	A Gifted/Advanced Content course.
Social Studies 7	NA	NA	SS 8	

*Gifted probationary status will be in effect for all students who do not maintain an average ≥ 80%.

**Due to the implementation of new state-wide ELA standards, the EOG scores will not be received in time for student placement considerations for the 2026-2027 school year.

Placement in one of the other Accelerated/Honors courses is subject to meeting the placement criteria. Students working above grade level may submit a waiver to be considered for placement in an Honors or Accelerated course. Scheduling is contingent upon course availability and assessment scores.

Placement Criteria for Grades 6, 7, and 8

Final Grade and all Achievement Scores must be met for initial placement.

Final
November 2025

World Language Placement Criteria				
Current Course	**Final Grade**	**Achievement Score(s)**	**Recommended Course**	**Notes**
Spanish or French 6	≥ 80%	Reading MAP ≥ 80% NPR	Carnegie Spanish/French I AB*	A high school content course worth 1.0 credit.
	≤ 79%	Reading MAP ≤ 79% NPR	Spanish or French 7	
Spanish or French 7	≥ 80%	Reading MAP ≥ 80% NPR	Carnegie Spanish/French I AB*	A high school content course worth 1.0 credit.
	≤ 79%	Reading MAP ≤ 79% NPR	Spanish or French 8	
Spanish/French IAB	≥ 70%	NA	Carnegie Spanish/French IIAB*	A high school content course worth 1.0 credit.
	≤ 70%	NA	Carnegie Spanish/French I AB*	A high school content course worth 1.0 credit.

Placement Criteria for Grades 6, 7, and 8

Final Grade and all Achievement Scores must be met for initial placement.

Final
November 2025

Fine Arts Elective Options

Marietta Sixth Grade Academy Placement Criteria	
General Interest	Advanced Study Options
Art 6	NA
Band 6	NA
Chorus 6	Advanced Chorus 6 (placement by audition only)
Orchestra 6	NA
Theatre 6	Advanced Theatre 6 (placement by audition only)
General Music 6	NA

All general interest Fine Arts courses are offered to students at MSGA. Placement in a requested general interest Fine Arts course is subject to availability.

MSGA and MMS Gifted Academic Elective Options

Course Name	Gifted Identified Students	Notes
Gifted Resource 6 Gifted Resource 7 Gifted Resource 8	Students who are currently identified as Gifted have the option of choosing the Gifted Resource class in lieu of PE or World Language	For Gifted level learners only

Marietta Middle School Placement Criteria			
Area	Elective Choice (no audition required)	Advanced Study Options (audition or portfolio submission required)	Notes:
Art		Advanced Art 7	
		Carnegie Visual Arts/Comprehensive I	A high school content course worth 1.0 credit.
Band	Beginning Band 7 and 8		
		Intermediate Band 7 and 8	
		Advanced Band 7 and 8	
Chorus	Beginning Chorus 7 and 8		
		Intermediate Chorus 7 and 8	
		Advanced Chorus 7 and 8	
Orchestra	Beginning Orchestra 7 and 8		
		Intermediate Orchestra 7 and 8	
Theatre		Advanced Theatre 7	
		Carnegie Theatre Arts/Acting I	A high school content course worth 1.0 credit.

MMS offers a variety of general interest Fine Arts courses on the Exploratory Wheel. The courses listed in the table above in the Advanced Study Options column require an audition/submission of work for placement.

Marietta Middle School Course Offerings

MYP Subject Area Courses

- English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- World Language
- Health and Physical Education

Support Courses:

- Reading Connections
- Math Connections

Elective Courses:

** Students may be required to audition for the class. After school performances are required.*

- Band*

- Chorus*
- Orchestra*
- Advanced Theatre Arts*
- Advanced Studio Visual Arts*
- Carnegie Visual Arts-Comprehensive I*
- Carnegie Theatre Arts-Acting I*

Exploratory Courses:

Exploratory courses meet every day for 9 weeks.

- Visual Arts
- Drama
- Career Management/Career Discovery
- Media Arts
- Music Technology
- Foundations of Computer Programming

High School Courses:

*Students taking these courses need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is **NOT** included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.*

- French/Spanish I
- French/Spanish II (8th grade only)
- Enhanced Literature and Composition I (8th grade only)
- AC Physical Science (8th grade only)
- Enhanced Algebra: Concepts and Connections (8th grade only)
- Honors Algebra: Concepts and Connections (8th grade only)
- Honors World Geography (7th grade only)
- Carnegie Visual Arts-Comprehensive I (8th grade only)
- Carnegie Theatre Arts-Acting I (8th grade only)

Course Descriptions

English Language Arts

English Language Arts 7
This course takes a genre-based approach, emphasizing the appreciation of written and spoken language as well as media and technology for expressive, informational, argumentative, critical, and literary purposes. Students will write across a range of genres while strengthening their skills in composition, editing, and proofreading. Opportunities for oral presentations and dramatic interpretation will deepen their understanding of language and communication. Students will also analyze the influence of media images, texts, and sounds. The central focus of the course is purposeful and reflective reading, enabling students to interpret, comprehend, and extend their understanding of an author's intent and meaning. Through close reading, they will learn to identify an author's perspective and examine the facts and details that shape it.

Honors English Language Arts 7
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix
This course offers an accelerated, rigorous exploration of literature, language, and media through a genre-based approach. Students will engage with complex texts and diverse genres to deepen their understanding of expressive, informational, argumentative, critical, and literary purposes. Honors students will produce advanced writing, demonstrating refined composition, editing, and proofreading skills, while also participating in sophisticated oral presentations, debates, and dramatic interpretations. Emphasis is placed on close reading, critical analysis, and research-based writing to interpret and evaluate an author's craft, perspective, and purpose. Independent projects and extended learning opportunities will challenge students to think critically, synthesize ideas, and apply higher-order reasoning across texts and media.

English Language Arts 8
This course is designed for high-achieving learners and emphasizes a challenging curriculum that integrates diverse texts and genres. Instruction will engage students in deep analysis and critical evaluation of complex literature, informational texts, and multimedia sources. Through rigorous reading, discussion, and writing experiences, students will examine social, cultural, and historical issues, drawing connections between global events, human experiences, and their own lives. Units of study will incorporate novels, short stories, poetry, art, music, and nontraditional texts to cultivate interpretive and analytical skills. Emphasis will be placed on literary analysis, research-based writing, academic discourse, and advanced language study, with opportunities for differentiation and enrichment to support intellectual growth.

Honors Language Arts 8
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix

This course is designed for a rigorous and enriched literary experience. Students will engage in intensive literary analysis, critical evaluation of complex texts, and research-based writing that demands higher-order thinking and independent inquiry. Instruction emphasizes advanced academic discourse, cross-textual analysis, and connections between literature, culture, history, and contemporary global issues. Through the study of novels, short stories, poetry, art, music, and multimedia texts, students will refine their analytical, interpretive, and writing skills while pursuing enrichment opportunities that challenge their creativity and intellectual curiosity.

Enhanced Literature and Composition I

Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

This course is designed for 8th grade students who have mastered Grade 7 English Language Arts standards and are seeking a rigorous option that combines the expectations of 8th grade ELA with those of high school Literature and Composition I. Students will interpret, analyze, construct, and design texts across multiple genres and modes within real-world, academic, and disciplinary contexts while continuing to build mastery of language and discipline-specific practices. The course prepares students for federal assessment requirements, including the Grade 8 End-of-Grade Georgia Milestones, and aligns with both Georgia's 8th and 9th grade ELA standards. Enhanced Literature and Composition I is a core (c) course and serves as an equivalent substitute for the required (r) Literature and Composition I course.

English Language Arts for English Learners, Grades 7, 8

This course is specifically for students who qualify for intensive, intermediate, and advanced English Learner services.

This course focuses on writing across the standards of English Language Arts, Science, Math, and Social Studies. The domains of reading, listening, and speaking are integrated in the writing process to help students develop both active and critical writing skills. For the beginning course, the suggested English proficiency level of the student is 1-2. For the intermediate and advanced course, the suggested proficiency level is 3-4.

Reading Connections 7, 8

Students are enrolled in this class when available standardized test scores and data indicate need for additional support. This course is supplemental to the student's ELA Grade 7 or 8 course.

This course focuses on thoughtful and purposeful reading necessary for a student to interpret, comprehend, and extend understanding of the author's intent and meaning. Specifically, it reviews and scaffolds basic, research-based reading strategies that support effective reading comprehension (e.g., summarizing, making predictions, identifying connections). The course also supports vocabulary development and phonemic awareness. Students enroll in this course when their standardized test scores warrant extra support with prerequisite reading skills. This course is supplemental to the regular language arts class.

Mathematics

Math 7
Students are presented with mathematical scenarios, word problems, activities and projects which focus on key math concepts including operations with rational numbers, algebraic expressions and equations, ratios and proportional reasoning, surface area and volume, statistical inferences, and probability. These concepts are taught through the standards for mathematical practice which give students the opportunity to solve problems, reason, make connections, and communicate in mathematics.

Honors Math 7
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix

This course combines the foundational support of the guaranteed viable curriculum, Savvas, with enhanced common learning experiences including robust tasks carefully selected to ensure students extend and refine their knowledge as well as think in complex ways to apply their knowledge and skills. Additional instructional resources and strategies use relevant inquiry to engage students in critical and creative thinking, along with problem-solving strategies to support authentic advanced learning.

Accelerated Math 7/8
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix

This course is an accelerated course in which students learn and apply three units of instruction for Math 7, as well as all of the concepts for Math 8 in preparation for the Carnegie Honors Algebra I, or Carnegie Accelerated Algebra I/Geometry A course offerings in grade 8. This acceleration of content prepares students to reach the highest level of IB mathematics during their high school career. Instructional time moves at an accelerated pace with a focus on five critical areas: problem-solving, inferencing, reasoning, concepts, and analyzing. Students will demonstrate understanding and mastery of key math concepts through individual and collaborative group projects while beginning to make connections to higher level mathematics.

Math 8
In Grade 8, instructional time should regularly incorporate the 8 Mathematical Practices, the Framework for Statistical Reasoning, and the Mathematical Modeling Framework through four big ideas of content: (1) numerical reasoning, (2) functional & graphical reasoning, (3) patterning and algebraic reasoning, and (4) geometric and spatial reasoning. Much of the Grade 8 mathematics curriculum focuses on functions and linear relationships as building blocks to algebra and geometry. In this course, students will create, interpret, solve, and graph linear equations and inequalities in one variable, analyze the connections between proportional and non-proportional lines and equations, extend their knowledge of numerical reasoning and real numbers to include irrational numbers, develop an understanding of the properties of exponents, perform operations with numbers expressed in scientific notation, apply their geometric and spatial reasoning to interpret and solve problems involving the Pythagorean Theorem.

Honors Math 8
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix

This course combines the foundational support of the guaranteed viable curriculum, Savvas, with enhanced common learning experiences including robust tasks carefully selected to ensure students extend and refine their knowledge as well as think in complex ways to apply their knowledge and skills. Additional instructional resources and strategies use relevant inquiry to engage students in critical and creative thinking, along with problem-solving strategies to support authentic advanced learning.

Carnegie Enhanced Algebra: Concepts and Connections for Eighth Graders
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

This course is a blend of Grade 8 content standards with Algebra: Concepts and Connections standards. This course awards high school credit to 8th grade students. Teaching components for the course include the 8 Mathematical Practices, the Framework for Statistical Reasoning, and the Mathematical Modeling Framework. Foundational support of the guaranteed viable curriculum, Savvas, with enhanced learning experiences ensure students extend and refine their knowledge as well as think in complex ways to apply their knowledge and skills. Additional instructional resources and strategies for the course promote relevant inquiry, critical and creative thinking, and problem-solving strategies to support authentic advanced learning.

Carnegie Honors Algebra: Concepts and Connections for Eighth Graders
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

This course awards high school credit to 8th grade students and is the first course in a sequence of three high school courses. Students will apply their algebraic and geometric reasoning skills to make sense of problems involving algebra, geometry, bivariate data, and statistics. Foundational support of the guaranteed viable curriculum, Savvas, with enhanced learning experiences ensure students extend and refine their knowledge as well as think in complex ways to apply their knowledge and skills. Additional instructional resources and strategies for the course promote relevant inquiry, critical and creative thinking, and problem-solving strategies to support authentic advanced learning.

Math Connections 7, 8
Prerequisite: Students are enrolled in this class when available standardized test scores and data indicate need for additional support. This course is supplemental to the student's grade-level Math course.

Students will learn and apply evidenced-based strategies to improve fundamental math skills and concepts, math fluency, math vocabulary, and problem solving. Students will work in whole group, small group, and independent settings. Through the use of the CRA model, students will work to develop skills needed to reason abstractly and quantitatively as well as visually demonstrate math concepts, solve problems, articulate reasoning, make connections, and communicate in mathematics. This course is supplemental and does not take the place of regular grade-level math.

Science

Science 7

This course provides an overview of Life Science concepts encompassing anatomy (study of human body systems and the interactions between them), cell biology (study of cell structures and functions), ecology (study of the relationships among/between organisms and their environments), evolution (study of the process of natural selection), genetics (study of genes and the inheritance of traits), and zoology (study of the diversity and classification of living organisms into six kingdoms).

The curriculum continues the use of the three-dimensional science instruction (Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts) through the exploration and investigation of natural scientific phenomena. Students develop their conceptual understanding of Life Science through the application of and engagement in science and engineering practices.

Honors Science 7

Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix

This course provides an overview of Life Science concepts encompassing anatomy (study of human body systems and the interactions between them), cell biology (study of cell structures and functions), ecology (study of the relationships among/between organisms and their environments), evolution (study of the process of natural selection), genetics (study of genes and the inheritance of traits), and zoology (study of the diversity and classification of living organisms into six kingdoms).

The honors course offers a unique opportunity to carry out an experimental design research Capstone Project in order to devise and innovate a solution for a real-world problem anchored in an Ecosystems Improvement theme that has both a global and local impact. Embedded learning experiences use the IB MYP Design Cycle to connect real-life opportunities through phenomena-based, 3D science. Learning opportunities will include experiences and collaboration with expert partners. Discovery Education high school level resources will be folded into the course to prepare and preview students for their high school Honors Biology coursework in 9th grade.

Science 8

This course provides an overview of Physical Science concepts, encompassing elements of both physics and chemistry. Topics include the nature and conservation of matter, conservation of energy and energy transformations, characteristics of motion (velocity and acceleration), the impact of forces on motion, electromagnetic and mechanical waves, and gravitational, electric, and magnetic fields.

The curriculum continues the use of the three-dimensional science instruction (Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts) through the exploration and investigation of natural scientific phenomena. Students develop their conceptual understanding of Physical Science through the application of and engagement in science and engineering practices.

Honors Science 8

Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix

This course offers a unique opportunity to carry out an experimental or engineering design research Capstone Project in order to devise innovate solution for real-world problems. Problem-solving is anchored in an Aviation theme having global and local impacts. Students experience learning using the IB MYP Design Cycle to connect real life opportunities through phenomena-based, 3D science. Learning opportunities include experiences and collaboration with expert partners. Discovery Education high school level resources are used in the course to prepare students for high school Physical Science, Physics, and Chemistry courses.

Carnegie Physical Science Advanced

Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

This course offers a unique opportunity for 8th grade students to earn a high school Science Carnegie credit. Concepts such as the conceptualization of the structure of atoms, motion and forces, the conservation of energy and matter, wave behavior, electricity, and the relationship between electricity and magnetism are studies of focus. Students will investigate physical science concepts through embedded learning experiences using the IB MYP Design Cycle to connect real life opportunities through phenomena-based, 3D science. Learning opportunities will include experiences and collaboration with expert partners. Discovery Education high school level resources will be folded into the course to prepare students for high school Physics and Chemistry.

Social Studies

Social Studies 7

Seventh grade students continue with the World Area Studies course through investigating the geography, culture, history, government and economics of the Middle East, Africa, and Asia. Learning experiences follow the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Social Studies. These experiences are rooted in inquiry and include individual and cooperative projects, reading and writing across the curriculum, vocabulary studies, integration of current events and continuing to apply map, globe and information processing skills.

Honors Social Studies World Geography 7

Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

This course prepares and previews high school level coursework by earning Carnegie credit for the Honors World Geography elective course. The course extends student learning from Honors Social Studies Grade 6 with emphasis on human activities in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, and Canada. Instruction will provide opportunities for students to explore their prior learning to maximize and expand their knowledge through the use of inquiry, cooperative learning, large and small group discussions, hands-on-activities, and technology integration.

Georgia Studies 8

This course includes in-depth study of Georgia's geography, history, government and economics. U.S. historical events are included to ensure students understand Georgia's role in the history of the United States. Learning experiences include inquiry-based independent and group projects, reading and writing across the curriculum, vocabulary studies, current events and integration of map, globe and information processing skills.

Honors Georgia Studies 8

P*rerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix.*

This course focuses on Georgia's' geographical, historical, governmental, and economical systems. While the four strands are interwoven, ample opportunity is provided for in-depth study of each system to assure understanding of Georgia's role in the United States. These experiences are rooted in inquiry and include individual and cooperative projects, reading and writing across the curriculum, vocabulary studies, and integration of technology. Students continue to apply geographic and information processing skills following the inquiry-based model of instruction. Learning experiences follow the Georgia Standards of Excellence for Social Studies.

World Languages

French – Grade 7

French 7 focuses on the introduction of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. This course will introduce the student to listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the target language. This course will provide the student with basic vocabulary and sentence structure. An introduction to geography, history and culture of the language will also be included.

French – Grade 8

French 8 focuses on the introduction of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. This course will introduce the student to listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the target language. This course will provide the student with basic vocabulary and sentence structure. An introduction to geography, history and culture of the language will also be included.

French I

Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

The French language course focuses on the development of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. It assumes that the students have minimal or no prior knowledge of the language and culture. The major means of communication between students and instructors will be in the French. Students learn basic vocabulary and conversational phrases, and they study conjugation of verbs, construction of basic sentences, and syntax of French grammar. This course is a Carnegie-level class that strictly adheres to the content and pacing of the French class at Marietta High School. At the end of this course, students have earned high school-level credit.

French II – Grade 8

Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

Students continue the build on fundamental building blocks in four key areas of language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Students master common vocabulary terms and phrases; comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns; instigate and continue simple conversations, and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts; generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and a limited range of grammar patterns; analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries; and regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions. This course strictly adheres to the content and pacing of the French 2 class at Marietta High School. At the end of this course, students have earned high school-level credit.

Spanish – Grade 7
Spanish 7 focuses on the introduction of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. This course will introduce the student to listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the target language. This course will provide the student with basic vocabulary and sentence structure. An introduction to geography, history and culture of the language will also be included.

Spanish – Grade 8
Spanish 8 focuses on the introduction of communicative competence in the target language and understanding of the culture(s) of the people who speak the language. This course will introduce the student to listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the target language. This course will provide the student with basic vocabulary and sentence structure. An introduction to geography, history and culture of the language will also be included.

Spanish I
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

Students will attain fundamental proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening comprehension skills in Spanish. Vocabulary and concepts include all topics listed in the course description for Spanish – Grade 6, as well as regular and irregular verb conjugation and sentence construction. Additionally, students will learn about the traditions, geography and customs of Spanish speaking countries. This course strictly adheres to the content and pacing of the Spanish I class at Marietta High School. Successful completion of this course earns High School/Carnegie credit.

Spanish II – Grade 8
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

Students continue the build on fundamental building blocks in four key areas of language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Students master common vocabulary terms and phrases; comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns; instigate and continue simple conversations, and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts; generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and a limited range of grammar patterns; analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries; and regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions. This course strictly adheres to the content and pacing of the Spanish 2 class at Marietta High School. At the end of this course, students have earned high school-level credit.

Visual & Performing Arts

Visual Arts 7 & 8
Visual Arts will culture a foundation in the basic elements of visual arts such as color theory, mixed media, colored pencil and graphite drawing, watercolor, acrylic and tempera painting, sculpture, ceramics and art history. This course introduces creative thinking, self-reflection, and hands-on art production. Visual Arts will make real world connections as well as introductions to STEAM (inter-curricular lessons). This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.

Advanced Studio Visual Arts 7
This course will encompass the following topics: art awareness, art criticism, art history, ceramics, drawing, painting, multi-media and sculpture. This course is a yearlong course for art students with further opportunities to grow their talents through individualized study.

Carnegie Visual Arts/Comprehensive I for Eighth Graders
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

This course provides eighth grade students the opportunity to earn a Fine Arts Carnegie credit. Students must be enrolled in the course for the full year and complete all requirements for the course in order to receive High School credit. This course is a prerequisite for upper-level art courses at Marietta High School. Placement in course is based on a portfolio submission.

Intermediate Band 7 & 8
This course focuses on the development, continuation, and expansion of basic skills developed the previous year that are necessary for effective instrumental music performance. Students are encouraged to participate in solo and ensemble festivals, district honor bands, and private lessons. Students are expected to practice daily, attend after school rehearsals, and participate in other co-curricular events. Students will have at least one major performance each semester that will occur outside the school day; performances are required.

Advanced Band Grades 7 & 8
This course is the middle school's most advanced performing ensembles for wind and percussion instrumentalists. This year-long course introduces "comprehensive musicianship" through music performance of challenging and varied literature. In addition to continued refinement of individual performance skills, greater emphasis is placed on ensemble performance skills. Students are encouraged to participate in solo and ensemble festivals, district honor bands, and private lessons. Students will continue to develop their knowledge of music theory, begin to analyze and evaluate music, and use critical thinking skills to make refinements in their performance. Individual and ensemble performance skills will be expanded through musical expression and technical accuracy. Students are expected to practice daily, attend after school rehearsals, and participate in other co-curricular events. Students will have at least one major performance each semester that will occur outside the school day; performances are required.

Intermediate Chorus 7 & 8
Seventh and eighth grade intermediate chorus is designed for beginning and developing level singers. Students will learn basic sight reading using the Kodaly method with an emphasis on developing listening skills, tone production, singing technique as well as performance skills. This is a performance-based class that will include three concerts outside the regular school day and one beginning level adjudication during the school day.

Advanced Chorus 7 & 8
Seventh and eighth grade enhanced chorus is for students who show a proficiency in the area of choral music. Students are admitted to the class based on an audition. This class will focus on developing ensemble skills at an advanced level, singing repertoire of increased difficulty and challenging students to become independent musicians. Students in this class are encouraged to audition for district and state honor chorus. Students will participate in a minimum of 4 performances outside of the regular school day, and LGPE adjudication, holiday/spring tour and community events.

Drama 7 & 8
Students begin their course study by learning to incorporate sensory and emotional experiences and observation techniques into presentational theatre activities. They apply vocal and movement techniques appropriate to theatre activities and presentations. The students learn beginning technical theatre skills, such as lighting and staging. Students also begin performing in local school productions and participate in drama club activities and workshops to enhance drama skills. Students study the art of improvisation, monologues and dialogues, storytelling, fairy tales, and fables. This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.

Advanced Theatre Arts 7
Theatre arts students in the seventh grade incorporate sensory and emotional experiences and observation techniques into presentational theatre activities. They apply vocal and movement techniques appropriate to their theatre activities and presentations. The students learn beginning technical theatre skills, such as lighting and staging design. Students study the art of improvisation, monologues and dialogues, storytelling, fairy tales, and fables; as well as script writing and how to be a reflective yet respectful audience member. Students may perform in local district wide school productions and participate in outside activities and workshops to enhance theatre attributes needed for the next level. Students in this group will represent MMS at local, state, and national events throughout the school year.

Advanced Theatre Arts 8
Theatre Arts students in the eighth grade continue to apply ensemble skills through pantomime, improvisation, and acting. They design and create simple scenery, costumes, props, lighting, sound, music and/or makeup for theatrical presentation. Students also use research skills (or Ethnography) as needed to gather resources for a final presentation. Students begin to create original scripts and adapt appropriate literature into scripted material for presentation. Students in this group will represent MMS at local, state, and national events throughout the school year.

Carnegie Theater Arts/Acting I for Eighth Graders
Prerequisite: Students must meet entrance criteria indicated by the placement matrix. This course earns Carnegie Unit credit. Students taking this course need to be aware that while the credit counts toward graduation, the grade is NOT included in the high school Grade Point Average (GPA). Students may not decline credit for these courses, and students will not be allowed to retake the course at the high school if credit is earned.

This course provides eighth grade students the opportunity to earn a Fine Arts Carnegie credit. Students must be enrolled in the course for the full year and complete all requirements for the course to receive High School credit. Entry into this performance-based course is by audition-only and allows students hands-on practical application of the Acting I curriculum. This course is a prerequisite for upper-level theater courses at Marietta High School.

Intermediate Orchestra 7 & 8
This course is a continuation of beginning orchestra and provides continued instruction of string technique and development of basic skills necessary for effective instrumental music performance in music literature. This course focuses on musicianship and provides increasingly challenging performance opportunities that allow students to grow and develop the skills necessary to be a successful lifelong learner of music. Students are encouraged to participate in solo and ensemble festivals, district honor orchestra, and private lessons.
Students are expected to practice daily, attend after-school rehearsals, and participate in other co-curricular events. Students will have at least one major performance each semester that will occur outside the school day; performances are required.

Physical Education & Health

Health and Physical Education 7
Students perform complex combinations of movement specific to game, sport, rhythms, and/or physical activity settings. Specialized skills are adapted to meet the requirements of increasingly complex strategies. Students understand the origins and causes of diseases, including the relationship between family history and certain health risks. Students can discern relationships among all components of health and wellness and appropriately use consumer information.

Health and Physical Education 8
Students perform mature movement patterns and sequences that demonstrate the ability to use complex or specialized skills and tactics. Students integrate a variety of health concepts, skills, and behaviors to plan for their personal health goals. These include the prevention of disease and chemical addiction for the promotion of a healthy lifestyle.

Design

Career Discovery 7
Career Discovery is a seventh grade exploratory course. The goal of this course is to promote essential skills and knowledge students need to apply self-assessments and decision-making skills while examining career concentrations and pathways. This course will expose students to positive work ethics, the importance of educational achievement, and the impact of societal issues on career choices. These essential components are necessary for educational and career planning success. In this course, middle school students will gain an understanding of career program concentrations and career pathways offerings in Georgia. This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.

Career Management 8
Career Management is an eighth grade exploratory course. The goal of this course is to promote essential knowledge, skills and attitudes students need to make key decisions about career options, high school curricular offerings relating to a pathway of their choice, and postsecondary and workforce opportunities. Instructional focus will address interpersonal skills, management skills, employability skills, self-awareness, educational and career planning. This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.

Foundations of Computer Programming 7 & 8
This course will provide an exploratory foundation in computer programming. Through integrated instructional activities, students will have opportunities to apply employability skills and to research possible career options in the information technology area. They will also complete many hands-on activities to build a strong foundation in computer coding. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared for the following pathways upon entering high school: Internet of Things, Programming, and Computer Science. This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.

MYP Design 7 & 8
MYP Design is an exploratory course. This course is designed to introduce students to the world of invention and innovation along with the Engineering Design Process. Students will examine the impacts of invention and innovation on society and solve problems through research, design, and experimentation in one or more of the areas of Engineering and Technology. Students will work individually and in groups to investigate solutions to technological problems, using research, data collection, design, prototype development, and working models. This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.

Media Arts 7 & 8
Media Arts is a seventh and eighth grade exploratory course. The Media Arts curriculum continues increasing students' critical thinking abilities, creativity and curiosity. Students will gain the tools to appreciate the multiplicity of creative, cultural and historical perspectives in visual media. Students develop their unique creative skills thru technology by exploring multiple platforms, such as animation, broadcast, film, graphic design/illustration, photography, and web design. This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.

Music Technology 7 & 8
Music Technology is an exploratory course. Students will learn and expand the concepts of music technology, and its use in current music production methods. This exploratory course meets every day for nine weeks.