



2022-2023
7th Grade Course Description

Mark Enis, Principal
April West-McIntosh, Asst. Principal
Landon Morse, Asst. Principal
Christy Jordan, Asst. Principal
Dr. Riddle-Lead Counselor
Mrs. Ganaway-7th Grade Counselor
Mrs. Vuncannon-8th Grade Counselor

Dear Prospective Eighth Grade Students / Parents / Guardians,

The subject selection and registration material were prepared to assist you in making informed choices regarding course selections for the eighth grade school year. Students should work with their current teachers to evaluate their fundamental skills and goals. The course descriptions should be used to select the most appropriate classes to continue academic development while at Tupelo Middle School.

Tupelo Middle School offers advanced classes designed for students who demonstrate maturity, self-motivation, strong study skills, high aptitude, strong work habits, and consistent academic excellence. Advanced courses should be selected if the student meets the prerequisites and plans to take advanced courses at Tupelo High School.

DISCLAIMER

This document is subject to change due to staffing, academic needs, and course offerings.

7TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 2022/2023

REQUIRED COURSES

1. **7TH LANGUAGE ARTS** (SDE# 230101) will concentrate on vocabulary, critical thinking, and writing skills. Students study different genres of literature and read at least one extended text every nine weeks. Vocabulary work will be enriched through lessons. Additionally, students write informative, narrative, and argumentative essays.

7TH ADVANCED LANGUAGE ARTS* (SDE # 230101) will concentrate on vocabulary, critical thinking and writing skills, advanced literary selections, and analytical reading skills. Reading selections will include the classics, as well as some more contemporary works from recent authors. Additionally, students will write informative, narrative, and argumentative essays.

Recommended prerequisites for Advanced Language Arts: score 4 or 5 on MAAP, score 4 or 5 on district Common assessments, 85 or above final average, reading comprehension on or above grade level based on iReady results, and teacher recommendation.

2. **7TH MATH** (SDE# 270101) focuses on four critical areas: (1) developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

7TH CCR Compacted Math* (SDE#270401-one Carnegie unit) includes the content for grade 7 and also focuses on three critical areas from Grade 8: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three- dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence. Students must have the maturity to complete homework and study nightly and use organizational skills.

Recommended prerequisites for 7th CCR Compacted Math: Score of 4 or 5 on MAAP, score 4 or 5 on district Common assessments, 85 or above final average, on or above grade level based on math iReady results, and teacher recommendation.

3. **7TH SCIENCE** (SDE# 409907) will focus on the **2018 Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards for Science**. There are three strands that will be explored: **Life Science, Physical Science, Earth, and Space Science**. The inquiry strand involving the ability to ask

questions, make observations, conduct experiments, measure, gather data, solve problems; and communicate the results of the experiment will now be embedded throughout the other three strands.

4. **7TH UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1877** (SDE# 450804) will focus on the 2018 Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards for History. This required **core** course covers major events and historical themes from the pre-Columbian era through Reconstruction in various forms from Canvas checks, major grade assessments, artistic assignments, comprehensive readings, and major grade projects. There is an emphasis on both historical knowledge and social studies skills. The rights and responsibilities of United States citizens are stressed throughout the course.

5. **CYBER FOUNDATIONS I**: Students will earn a Carnegie unit for high school graduation upon completion of the course. Students will be introduced to various computer science and technology concepts and career exploration throughout the year. Students will use Google Classroom, Haiku, typing.com, Career Cruising, and code.org. Some examples of content are digital citizenship, keyboarding, technology applications, problem-solving, and programming (HTML and block coding).

ELECTIVE COURSES

6. **7TH ART LAB** (SDE# 500701) is the Middle-Level III program of study that defines what students should know and be able to do at the end of the 7th-grade art program. In visual arts, students respond to life experiences with both two and three-dimensional solutions. Students continue to learn the language of art, interpret visual symbols, and involve technology in their design processes. This program involves creating critical analysis, history, aesthetics, and connections among the visual arts, other content areas, and everyday life. Middle-Level III builds on the knowledge, concepts, and skills of the 6th grade Middle-Level II course.

7TH CERAMICS-In this course, students will explore the histories, uses, vocabulary, and methods of working with ceramics in both functional and representational forms. Each student will create several pieces throughout the year using multistep processes that have been perfected over the course of our human history. As one of the oldest and most versatile materials, humanity has used clay to create with since the dawn of our civilization and is still using it today. This course adheres to visual art state standards and requires a B average or above to attend.

7TH JUNIOR VARSITY BAND*** (SDE# 500903) **is for those 7th-grade students enrolled in the band during their 6th-grade year. The students/parents should already have obtained an instrument and maintained any reeds, valve oil, mallets, sticks, and method book for this class.** This course provides instruction in both individual and ensemble instrumental performance. Concert band techniques will be taught. The students will perform in concerts and

solo/ensemble festivals. **Attendance at these activities is part of the course requirements and will be graded.** This course is geared toward students' continued participation in band throughout their middle school and high school years. Inclusion in public performances is performance and participation based. Students must pass off performance pieces before being included in public performances. There will be approximately six after school rehearsals. These rehearsals will be scheduled at the beginning of the first and third terms. **(See MHSAA note)**

7TH COLOR GUARD (competitive): Students will receive instruction on the flag, rifle, and saber and thoroughly explore the fundamental principles of each piece of equipment on a high level. Students will also study fundamental dance and body principles. There is a fee associated with this class (\$400 for new members, \$300 for returning members); however, fundraising opportunities will be available to help cover the cost of the fee. Students may participate in band and Color Guard; therefore, students currently enrolled in the band may NOT withdraw from the band to participate in Color Guard. **Prerequisite: Audition and three teacher recommendations.**

8. **7TH CHORAL MUSIC***** (SDE# 500935) includes girls' and boys' choruses. Attendance is required for after-school rehearsals and evening performances. Students are required to rent a chorus uniform from the Choral Booster organization for a small fee. Students wishing to participate in the choir should select and mark 7th Choral Music. **(See MHSAA note)** One extra-curricular group, Renaissance, provides additional musical performance opportunities for chorus students. Renaissance is a small madrigal/a Cappella group, including 7th and 8th graders, males and females. A chorus student may choose to audition for this group.

7TH SPLASH SHOW CHOIR*** - students wishing to participate in this competitive show choir should plan on auditioning. Auditions will be held the last week of April in the TMS choir room. Students in Splash show choir have all the same duties and requirements of 7th CHORAL MUSIC and are required to pay a Splash fee (a portion is paid, and a portion is raised). Attendance is required for any after-school rehearsals and performances. **Prerequisite: Students must audition for this course. If you are auditioning, please mark "CHORAL MUSIC" as your choice on your registration form. You will receive auditioning information at a later date.**

7TH DANCE***In this course, students will study the history of dance and perform the dances of many different cultures, periods, and musical styles. From ballet to hip-hop, from Irish folk dances to West African ceremonial dances, students will gain a broad understanding of dance as a form of cultural communication and performing art.

9. **7TH THEATRE ARTS***** (SDE# 500510) is an introduction to the dramatic arts. Course requirements include acting in groups, analyzing plays, writing scenes, memorizing lines, and improvisational acting. The course promotes reading, music, choreography, and movement, as well as a sense of confidence among peers. Opportunities will be given to learning skills that

will be important for success in social and professional situations, especially public speaking. (See MHSAA note)

7TH DISCIPLINES OF THEATRE (D.o.T.) *** is a course designed to provide students with the opportunity to pursue an exploration of technical stage design, criticism, dramatic and comedic acting, and performance. Students will produce plays for the general public and possibly for competition as part of the TMS Theatre Department's Season. Students will also be inducted into the TMS Jr. Thespians Troupe 88196 upon completion of the course. **Prerequisite: Students must audition for this course. Any upcoming 7th grader can audition whether or not they took 6th grade theater. No previous theatre experience is required. If you are auditioning, please mark "theatre arts" as your choice on your registration form. You will receive auditioning information at a later date.**

10. 7TH INTRODUCTION TO PUBLICATIONS & PRODUCTION I (SDE#110111) is a project-based class that focuses on individual student work that can be published, such as newspapers, comic books, short stories, and photographs. Students will be introduced to various interviewing techniques and broadcast journalism. Students will learn basic Journalism principles, which will aid them as they create a school newspaper, as well as practicing basic graphic design and photography skills.

11. 7TH TEAM INTRAMURAL SPORTS** (SDE# 340111) is a developmental program designed to help middle school children reach their goal of playing competitive athletics by introducing the fundamentals of athletics, teaching discipline through team activities and cardiovascular training, and teaching lifelong lessons. Students will be taught the basics in a variety of sports. Units for girls are basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, tennis, soccer, softball, bowling, badminton, and jump rope. Units for boys are padded football, basketball, track & field, soccer, baseball, and weight training. Written tests will be given on the rules and player positions and their responsibilities. A grade is given based on daily participation and written test scores. Recreational activities along with daily conditioning and stretching will be included. **Requirements for the class are as follows: 1. class rules form 2. athletic participation form 3. shorts, shoes, and tee shirts. (See MHSAA note)**

7TH PHYSICAL EDUCATION** (SDE# 340111) includes units from the following: badminton, basketball, handball, physical fitness, soccer, softball, tennis, ultimate frisbee, ping-pong, flag, dodgeball, football, track, kickball, floor hockey, and volleyball. Notes will be given on each unit and a written test. Appropriate clothes that meet the school dress code are required. All students are **required to participate daily** and wear proper shoes. **No sandals, slides, boots, open toes, or Dexter shoes are allowed.**

(STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TAKE 7TH PHYSICAL EDUCATION and 7TH INTRAMURAL SPORTS.)

7TH WEIGHT TRAINING is a course that focuses on muscular strength, endurance, flexibility, and safety. The core lifts in this course include parallel squats, cleans, and bench presses. Weight room safety, warm-up/cool down procedures, lifting technique and safety for all lifts, central muscle identification, and individual goal setting are all important components in this course.

12. 7TH ORCHESTRA*** (SDE# 500977) is open to students who want to **continue** to study one of the four orchestral string instruments: violin, viola, cello, and bass. The student/parent must rent or purchase an instrument. Students will be required to practice their instruments at home. Attendance at various performances is part of the course requirements. In addition, extracurricular ensembles and experiences may include All-State Honor Orchestra, North Mississippi Youth Symphony Orchestra, and the LOU Symphony. **(See MHSAA note)**

13. ROBOTICS Competitive Teams(Application Required) & Non-Competitive Teams:

This is a course in which students learn about careers, work in teams, problem-solve, create engineering notebooks, are involved in community service, work in the RoboMakerspace, and learn to program-specific robots. The Competitive Team takes commitment, requires fundraising, and competes in FLL, FTC, MATE, and/or SeaPerch competitions. Non-competitive teams will compete against competitive teams. Robotics is a time-intensive, **team-centered program** that stretches out over an entire school year and often ramps up in the weeks before competition as extra practices after school are needed to get projects, presentations, and robots ready to compete.

NOTES

Carnegie Unit: A Carnegie unit of credit is awarded for the successful completion of high school courses. A Carnegie unit is a full academic year of “high school” credit in a recognized subject. TMS seventh grade students who are scheduled into a course that awards a Carnegie unit of credit must achieve a numerical average of 65 percent or above to receive credit. Seventh grade students can earn up to two credits-one Carnegie unit for Cyber Foundations and/or one for CCR Compacted Math.

****TMS Competitive Teams Sports:** Teams **are not** associated with 7th grade Intramural Sports or 7th grade Physical Education classes. Some TMS competitive athletic teams will meet/practice after school. Announcements will be made to notify students when and where all competitive athletic team tryouts will be held. **(See MHSAA note)**

TMS Competitive Academic Teams: Teams will meet after school. Announcements will be made to notify interested students when and where all competitive academic team tryouts will be held. (See MHSAA note below.) (Math Counts, Robotics, and Science Bowl)

*****Mississippi High School Activities Association:** To be eligible to participate in interschool MHSAA activities (middle school or high school), a student must meet all MHSAA eligibility rules that include, but are not limited to, the following: a 7th grader must not have reached 14 years of age before August 1 of their 7th grade year. A 7th grader must have passed their previous grade level by achieving at least a 2.0 grade point average. Please contact your MHSAA coach or teacher for all eligibility rules.

*****Physical Education Requirement:** The Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards require physical education to be a part of the basic curriculum in any configuration of grades K-8. The curriculum must include 150 minutes of activity-based instruction per week and 45 minutes of instruction in health education per week.

Promotion & Retention Policy: Academic achievement and progress on the curriculum as adopted by the TPSD for students in grades 7 and 8 shall be reflected by a minimum grade average of 65 in each of the four major subject areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. **Students must pass the four major subject areas to be promoted to the next grade.**

Rotary Scholars *Please refer to Policy JN.

Grade Point Average: Beginning with incoming 7th graders for the 2020-21 school year, grade point average will be calculated based on Carnegie units classes.

Transferring from Advanced Classes to General Classes: The deadline for transferring from an advanced class to a general class is October 6, 2022. Once the second semester begins, no transfers will be allowed.

SUBJECT SELECTIONS FOR 2022/2023 7th GRADE

Name: _____
Print legal last name legal first name legal middle name

“REQUIRED COURSES”* (Select one course on lines one and two.)

1. ____ Language Arts I or ____ Advanced Language Arts
2. ____ Math or ____ Advanced Math (1 Credit)
3. Science
4. U.S. History
5. Cyber Foundations I (1 Credit)

“ELECTIVE COURSES” Select three, then label them your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice.

6. ____ 7th Art Lab or ____ 7th Ceramics
7. ____ 7th Junior Varsity Band (must rent or purchase instrument)
8. ____ 7th Choral Music (requires uniform rental) or ____ 7th Dance
9. ____ 7th Theatre Arts
10. ____ 7th Introduction to Publications and Productions
11. ____ 7th Team Intramurals or ____ 7th Physical Education
- ____ 7th Weight Training
12. ____ 7th Orchestra (must rent or purchase instrument)
13. ____ 7th Introduction to Robotics

IMPORTANT NOTE: *Selected choices of required and elective courses are subject to change per MAAP scores, alternative placement, individual educational plans, and/or student retention.*

[Website Link For Subject Selection](#)