

Roosevelt Middle School Curriculum Guide & Course Descriptions

Grades 7 & 8

2018-2019



Roosevelt Middle School Requirements

7th & 8th Grade Program

7th & 8th Grade Requirements:

- **A year long Math course:** Students are placed according to their math level. Math placements are based on data from assessments and teacher recommendations.
- **A year long Science course:** Students are placed according to their grade level.
- **A year long Language Arts course:** Students are placed in Language Arts classes based on student preference and class availability. Choices include: Earth, Wind, & Fire, Hear Our Voice Journeys & Justice, Language In Action, and Legacy Of Power. Language arts classes are not repeatable. French Immersion students receive Language Arts instruction within the French Immersion program.
- **A year long Social Studies course:** Students are placed in Social Studies classes based on student preference and class availability. Choices include: World History and U.S. History. Social studies classes are not repeatable. French Immersion students receive Social Studies instruction within the French Immersion program. French Immersion students study World History in French and may choose to take U.S. History as an elective if there is space in the class.
- **A year long elective course:** Students are placed in a year long elective course based on student preference and class availability. Choices include: Art, Choir, Band*, Orchestra*, Spanish 1a, Spanish 1b*, and AVID*. Classes marked with * require prerequisite experience or teacher recommendation.
- **A trimester rotation course sequence:** one trimester of Health, one trimester of P.E., and one trimester elective. Choices for trimester electives may include: Culinary Arts (Family Recipes), All The World's A Stage (Drama/Theater), Bits, Bots, & Beats (Robotics & Coding), High Intensity Training, and Yoga.
- **House:** All students are placed in a House Advisory for three years.

French Immersion 7th & 8th Grade Requirements:

- 2 Year-long French Immersion classes: French Immersion students study social studies and language arts through the French Immersion program
- French Immersion students take a science course, a math course, a year long elective course, and a trimester rotation course sequence outside the French Immersion program similar to non-French Immersion Roosevelt students.

Note: The courses listed below may change after the publication of this Curriculum Guide & Course Descriptions document.

Course Descriptions: 7th & 8th

Math: 7th & 8th

Math 7:

A class that teaches to the 7th grade Common Core Standards. It incorporates both conceptual understanding and algorithmic fluency in a problem based learning environment. This class covers topics that are vital to student's success at the next level. The class covers integer operations and rational numbers, surface area and volume, linear relations, algebraic operations and the use of ratio and proportions.

Accelerated Math 7/8:

A rigorous class that compacts curriculum from 7th and 8th grade Common Core Standards. This class prepares students for an Algebra 1 class in 8th. It covers topics from both 7th and 8th grade in a problem-based environment that encourages students to extend and explore their understanding of these math topics.

Math 8:

This course is part of the standard math sequence in the three years of middle school—Math 6, Math 7, and Math 8 and is the appropriate pace for most students. The standard middle school math sequence leads to standard pace or accelerated math learning opportunities in high school, starting with Non-Linear Algebra in ninth grade, and prepares students to succeed in their college studies or careers.

Algebra:

This is a rigorous class that integrates the district-mandated College Preparatory Math (CPM) curriculum and balances both conceptual understanding with plenty of algorithmic practice in a problem-solving environment highly dependent upon group work. This class meets the high school Algebra I standards and can provide one High School math credit.

Geometry:

This class will help develop your critical reasoning skills by extending your algebra studies to describe two and three-dimensional figures while developing inductive and deductive systems of reasoning. The course includes geometric constructions, flowchart and two column proofs, logic reasoning, congruency, similarity, symmetry and properties of two and three-dimensional figures.

Science: 7th & 8th

All Science classes follow the 4J District adopted IQWST science curriculum. IQWST is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards(NGSS).

Science 7:

7th Grade science topics: Microscope, cells, osmosis and diffusion, cellular respiration, body systems. Properties of solutions, mixtures, and chemical reactions. Weather and seasons, earth and the sun, heat, pressure. Kinetic energy and gravity, motion, transfer of energy, thermal, chemical, and electrical energy.

Science 8:

8th Grade science topics: Heredity and inheritance, DNA and traits, evolution of organisms, population biology. Plants and photosynthesis, biological molecules, cell biology. Formation of the earth, plate tectonics, volcanoes and earthquakes, scientific models and case studies.

For a more detailed look at the IQWST curriculum, go to <http://www.activatelearning.com/iqwst-units/>

Language Arts: 7th & 8th

Earth Wind & Fire:

In this year-long language arts class we will use the lens of nature to focus our study of poetry and literature as well as non-fiction topics. We'll read YA novels by Carl Hiaasen, Rebecca Stead and Terry Pratchett—all stories where the main characters are in close contact with, and affected by, the nature that surrounds them. Our writing will also be inspired by the natural world, from the paintings of the American artist Charlie Harper to a field trip to Mt. Pisgah Arboretum and even the view from our south fields here at Roosevelt. Throughout the class we will work to hone our writing skills, increase our reading comprehension, and understand the secrets of grammar.

Hear Our Voices:

What is real courage? How can you make a difference in the world? In this class, you'll have the opportunity to develop your own ideas about courage and how you want to impact the world through a variety of projects that foster strong writing and thinking skills. We'll also read a selection of novels with characters who deal with the complex issues of family, friends, community, and self. One of the goals of the class is to encourage you to become an active part of the story instead of a passive bystander. Be ready to read, write, and discuss.

Journeys & Justice:

What determines the outcome of the journey we take? Is it fate, our own actions, or a combination of the two? We'll begin this year-long language arts class by reading the story of Homer's *Odyssey* and explore the way Greek gods and goddesses affected his perilous journey. Towards December, we'll see how Ebenezer Scrooge realizes his own actions can change his life trajectory in *The Christmas Carol*. Tension between two groups in both *The Outsiders* and *Romeo and Juliet* become the theme in the second half of the year and the platform for thematic essays about conflict and justice. Throughout the year, students will develop a tool chest of writing strategies for narrative, argumentative, and expository writing with the goal of exploring how the writing process provides a way to analyze and deepen thinking.

Language In Action:

This class is designed for students of all ability levels in writing, reading and speaking. Students will sample a wide range of activities ranging from daily free writing warm-ups to vocabulary builders and word games to formal written work and speeches. While this is primarily a writing class, students will also develop skills in critical/analytical thinking, problem solving and team building. Students will experience a variety of stimulating challenges in the art of using language. From dramatic literature to short stories, poetry and selected works of non-fiction, students will develop their skills as practitioners of language. Oregon benchmark skills will be addressed in writing, reading and speaking. Class expectations include completion of all course work, participation at a high level in all classroom activity and demonstration of personal improvement in language arts skills. This course is divided thematically by trimester: first trimester is That's Funny—focusing on humor; trimester two is Stories for the Stage, featuring storytelling and the writing of short scenes for the stage; third trimester is devoted to The World of Sports and Games.

Legacy Of Power:

Students will apply the skills learned in language arts to the analysis and comprehension of the concept of power and its impact upon all of humanity. They will do this through reading and writing about great theme-based novels and biographies, and by engaging in class discussions, cooperative learning, public speaking, vocabulary development, and dramatic simulations. Using the "writers' workshop" process, they will learn several genres of writing, including multiple styles of poetry. Students will have the opportunity to perfect their skills in the six writing traits, and be well-prepared for the state writing exam, as well as the next grade level and beyond.

Social Studies: 7th & 8th

U.S. History:

Focusing on the colonial era through the late 1800s, and connecting to current events and issues, this class explores interactions between different groups and the values and viewpoints of members of these groups at various points in this country's history. The eras of Colonialism, the American Revolution, Manifest Destiny, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Industrialism are of central focus. A common theme will be giving voice to people whose ongoing struggle for freedom and equality have been marginalized (women, Native Americans, African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, and possibly others). In addition, we will make connections about the Constitution, 3 Branches of Government, and the Bill of Rights to current and historical events/issues throughout the year. Our analysis will take place through discussion, readings, films, lectures, essays, guest speakers, and various projects. Close reading of and listening to primary and secondary sources and constructing well-supported claims with evidence are skills continually worked on throughout the year. Repeatable: No

World History:

Students will learn about important events and highly influential cultures from world history. During the course, we will study the legacy of the Roman Empire, the roots of Islam, the empires and kingdoms of sub-Saharan Africa, Western Asia, and India; China, the Mongols, Japan, and the European Middle Ages & Renaissance. The class will explore these and related topics through readings, discussion, group work, debates, essays, videos, art, simulations, and individual projects. Students will also learn the skills of note taking, test preparation, and test taking strategies. Furthermore, we will continuously connect to current events occurring in the world today. Repeatable: No

Year Long Elective Offerings: 7th & 8th

Art Survey:

You'll have fun exploring the wonderful world of art. We will learn to apply ideas, techniques, and problem solving to the creative process. We'll learn about how events and conditions influence the arts, and we will build our skills by learning to select and combine essential elements and organizational principles to achieve a desired effect when creating. We will create a range of art from traditional fine arts, to commercial art, to fiber arts. We will use pencils, markers, paints, clay, and we'll even do printmaking! We will be building our art skills and creativity all while creating art that has meaning to us.

Band:

This class offers continued instruction on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Students entering this class should have completed 6th Grade Band or the equivalent. Regular attendance, cooperation during class, and home practice are expected. Instruction will be offered in musical styles, music theory, advanced instrument pedagogy and performance. This is a performance-based class and will include required performances outside the regular school day.

Concert Choir:

Concert Choir is a year-long class for 7th and 8th grade students. Students will sing a wide variety of vocal music and perform for community events as well as school concerts. Skill development includes: sight singing, part-singing, improvising, and singing in different languages and different styles. This is a performance-based class and will include required performances outside the regular school day.

Orchestra:

This class offers continued instruction on violin, viola, cello and string bass. Students entering this class should have completed the 6th Grade Orchestra Class or the equivalent. Instruction will be offered in musical styles, music theory, advanced instrument pedagogy and performance. Regular attendance, cooperation during class, and home practice are required. This is a performance-based class and will include required performances outside the regular school day.

Spanish 1a:

Spanish is an exciting language with many possibilities. Having a foundation for communication is the goal of Spanish 1a. This foundation consists of building sentences, conjugating verbs, noun adjective agreement through themes of school, family, friends, past-times, food, etc... In addition, we will explore Hispanic cultures and celebrations, such as Día de Los Muertos and Cinco de Mayo. Written activities, music, communication activities, skits, games, reading, videos, homework, quizzes, and art will be used to reinforce lessons and demonstrate proficiency. Good attendance, daily practice, and participation are essential. Grades consist of class work, participation, homework, and assessments.

Spanish 1b:

This class is a continuation of Spanish 1a. It is designed for students who have successfully completed Spanish 1a or the equivalent. Increased emphasis is placed on the communicative skills of speaking and writing, with intense grammar review toward the end of the year. We'll continue learning irregular verbs, plus past tense, commands, direct and indirect object pronouns to be ready for Spanish 2 at the high school level. Good attendance, daily practice, and participation are essential. Grades consist of class work, participation, homework, and assessments.

Health, P.E., & Elective Rotation Offerings: 7th & 8th

Students take a trimester-based rotation sequence of Health one trimester, P.E. one trimester, and an elective one trimester. **All courses are one trimester**, and the order of classes varies.

Possible trimester Elective Options:

Exploring The Stage II (Drama/Theater): All 3 Trimesters

This class will contain elements of theater history, Shakespeare, improvisation, and musical theater. Students must be willing to keep an open mind, work hard and love the stage! We will have a production at the end of each term TBA.

All students will have plenty to do and lots of room to grow and explore as theater artists.

Credit will be based on participation, group involvement, cooperation and improvement. Excellent attendance is critical since this is a performance class. No previous drama/theater experience necessary.

Bits, Bots, & Beats (Robotics & Coding): All 3 Trimesters

Do you like electronics and messing around with technology? Do you want to save the world from global destruction by creating a robot to rescue humanity? Do you want to create your own theme music for your rise to power? Do you want to write code that could hack the invading robot army and turn them to your will? Then this is the class for you! Sign up, and together we shall save the world!

Family Recipes (Culinary Arts): All 3 Trimesters

This course is designed for all-comers—from the budding gourmand to the absolute novice! Patterned after a real life food handler's experience, young chefs will learn the basics of food safety and culinary skills. In addition, students will learn the value of working cooperatively with their kitchen mates. Course activities include budget and menu planning, demonstrations by working chefs and food preparation labs. In addition, we will create a unique class cookbook that will serve as a memorable keepsake for years to come! Fee: \$15.00 (scholarships are available)

Fitness-Interval Training {F.I.T.}: Trimester 2

Fitness-Intense Training {F.I.T.} is an all inclusive, dynamic course designed to improve a person's overall fitness level; including strength and flexibility. This total body, high intensity style program combines the components of different workouts, which use resistance and body-weight training, cardio, plyometrics, abdominal work, and more! This class is perfect for anyone looking to improve their overall physical conditioning and is especially ideal for those who participate in competitive sports, both individually and/or as part of a team.

Beginning Yoga: Trimester 2

This class is designed as an introduction to Yoga. The class will take a slower pace and build on developing correct alignment, core stability and overall flexibility.

7th/8th French Immersion Program

Lire et Ecrire:

This class will focus on French Language Arts instruction and on developing reading and writing strategies. Students will study vocabulary, parts of speech, sentence structure, verb conjugations and other aspects of French grammar. The main goal is to develop the ability to produce writing samples that are grammatically correct, clear, organized, thoughtful and to the point. Instruction and assignments will be chiefly in French and occasionally in English, in order to improve writing proficiency in both languages. Writing samples will vary to include memos, personal letters, journals, narratives, poems, and essays. Reading will also play an important role in this class. Aside from practicing reading strategies, it will foster discussions and a starting point for most writing assignments. Some readings will be in English, and mostly assigned as independent reading. Reading in French will be shorter, and studied in class. State writing and reading standards will be addressed in formal class assignments.

Les temps Modernes:

A year-long French Immersion World History class. In *Les temps modernes*, students will study the Renaissance, the Age of Explorations, the American and The French Revolution, and the American Constitution. The class will explore these and related topics through textbook material, discussion, group work, formal debates, essays, videos, art, simulations, and individual projects. During this year-long class students will focus on academic skills such as note taking, test preparation, and test taking strategies. Also, students will work on reading for a purpose, writing and research skills that will be explicitly taught and practiced. In addition, students will also study French language skills through mini-lessons as needed. State writing and reading standards will be addressed in formal class assignments.