

Roosevelt Middle School Program Requirements & Course Descriptions

Grades 7 & 8

2019-2020



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 according to their grade level. French Immersion students receive Language Arts instruction within the French Immersion program.
- **A year long Social Studies course:** Students are placed in World History or U.S. History. 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, every other day Health & Physical Education course:** Students are placed according to their grade level.
- **Three year long, every other day elective courses:** Students are placed in elective courses based on student preference and class availability. Selective course descriptions are below.
- **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 health/p.e. course, and year long elective courses outside the French Immersion program similar to non-French Immersion Roosevelt students.

Note: The courses listed below may change after the publication of this Program 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:

Algebra 1 aims to formalize and extend the algebra that students have learned in previous courses. Algebra 1 is a full year course designed to provide students with a hands-on approach to Algebraic concepts. Students will investigate a variety of functions and learn multiple ways to manipulate and represent these functions. The investigation of these functions will often occur collaboratively within study teams and students will learn strategies for effectively working and communicating about mathematics with their peers

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, 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/>

Social Studies: 7th & 8th

7th Grade Social Studies: The Eastern Hemisphere:

In The Eastern Hemisphere students will study the histories, cultures and peoples of the Eastern Hemisphere. This will include Ancient Egypt, China and African empires, as well as India and the Middle East and finally European history from the Middle Ages to the recent past. The class will explore these and related topics through textbook material, source documents, 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. State writing and reading standards will be addressed in formal class assignments.

8th Grade Social Studies: 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.

Year Long Elective Offerings: 7th & 8th

Art Survey:

In Art, we want to explore, grow, and lead. You will have chances to do all of that in this year-long class. This is blended 7/8 class with TAB (Teaching for Artistic Behaviors) elements. Students will learn many processes and techniques for creating art while exploring their own art creating through themes. Students will learn to critique art and create your own portfolio. 8th graders will be doing all of this as well as preparing a bank of their own ideas to propose their own projects. The biggest focus will be on the process of creating vs the product. While the product is important, students need to learn to behave like an artist and think like an artist!

Digital Art:

Students will learn how to use the iPad to create all kinds of digital art, from drawing, to stop motion animation. Students will learn how to apply the elements of art digitally and create dynamic and unique works of art. This class will be TAB lite, meaning Teaching for Artist Behaviors but with some restrictions. Students will be able to make art as they wish while following requirements of the project/theme/enduring idea. This class focuses on the process over the product. Be prepared to think like an artist.

Comics/Sequential Art:

Students will learn the basics of creating their own comics. We'll cover drawing characters, different types of plots, and different styles of comics. We will use traditional art forms as well as the iPad to create the art. We also will cover a bit of comic history. This class will be TAB lite, meaning Teaching for Artist Behaviors but with some restrictions. Students will be able to make art as they wish while still following requirements of the project/theme/enduring idea. This class focuses on the process over the product. Be prepared to think like an artist.

Student Government:

This is a fun class for students who want to help make a difference at Roosevelt through involvement in a range of school-wide activities. The Student Government class is responsible for sponsoring and promoting all Activity Nights - an evening event every trimester that includes a dance, bingo, karaoke, food & drinks, and other fun activities for students. In order to help create a caring, fun, and safe school climate for all, this class also coordinates our school-wide assemblies intended to support our student-created STOP program (Start Teaching Others Peace), an anti-bullying, anti-harassment program generated 8 years ago by the Student Government class. In addition, Student Government is responsible for supporting our annual winter HAP food drive, facilitated in part through house representation. Serving as a house representative is a way to develop leadership skills while making sure student voices are heard related to a range of important school-wide issues. So, whether you prefer working behind the scenes to bring your creative ideas and artwork to promotion projects, or to be out front as a speaker at an assembly, this class is a great way to build your confidence, to make friends, and to get involved in helping to make Roosevelt a positive and welcoming place for all!

ACT: Active Caring Teens:

Do you see yourself as a leader - someone who likes to get involved and enjoys helping others? Are you one who cares about making your school, your community and the world around you a better place to live? If you answered yes to these questions, then this class is for you! Students will participate in a wide range of student-driven school and community-based service learning projects. These may range from supporting local organizations, such as Food For Lane County or Womenspace, to completing a school-wide peace project. Students in this class will be responsible for sponsoring and supporting the STOP program (Start Teaching Others Peace), an anti-bullying, anti-harassment program generated 8 years ago by the Student Government class.

All The World's A Stage:

This year long class focuses on the works of William Shakespeare, contemporary theater, and original student written work. During the first trimester students will participate as actors in a production of *The Taming of the Shrew* as part of our annual Bard Fest. Each student will have an opportunity to play a role in our production of this hilarious comedy. During the second trimester students will study contemporary scenes and student written work—some of which will be generated by our *Stories for the Stage* class. There will be a “showcase” of student work at the end of trimester two. Third trimester studies will focus on producing and presenting original student work in a fully-mounted stage format. For example, since 2015, RMS students have presented three original musicals in the Springtime. We hope to keep this tradition alive.

Stories For The Stage:

This course has a considerable focus on “page to the stage” aspect of drama. During trimester one students will focus on the basics of playwriting—essentially learning how to create stories designed for the stage. Students will learn about the playwriting format as opposed to standard prose writing, aka the short story or novel and will create original monologues and short scenes. During the second trimester students will present a “showcase” production of their work as staged readings. Some of these original works may also provide material for actors in both *All the World's A Stage* and *Exploring the Stage* classes. Trimester three will consist of students studying folktales from around the world to learn and re-tell. Students from this class will host feeder elementary schools and may travel to elementary schools to present a program of folktales as part of our Troupe of Tellers.

Family Recipes:

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)

Concert Band:

Concert band 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. This class will focus on building ensemble skills, improving instrumental techniques, and strengthening musicianship in the band setting. This is a performance-based class and will include required performances outside the regular school day.

Concert Choir:

Concert Choir is a class designed for 7th and 8th grade students who are interested in singing with others, building musicianship, and building confidence. No previous singing experience is required. (Positive attitude and growth-mindset required!) Students will explore unison singing and part-singing, as well as singing in different languages and various styles. This is a performance-based class and will include required performances outside the regular school day.

String Orchestra:

String orchestra offers continued instruction on violin, viola, cello and string bass. Students entering this class should have completed 6th Grade orchestra or the equivalent. Regular attendance, cooperation during class, and home practice are expected. This class will focus on building ensemble skills, improving instrumental techniques, and strengthening musicianship in the orchestra setting. This is a performance-based class and will include required performances outside the regular school day.

Symphony Orchestra:

The Symphony Orchestra is an advanced ensemble that includes strings, winds, brass, and percussion instruments. Students in the symphony orchestra will focus on developing leadership, professionalism, and advanced musicianship through the study and performance of classical/orchestral repertoire. Students are encouraged (but not required) to also participate in concert band or string orchestra. *Admission to Symphony will be based on auditions; director approval is required.

A Cappella Voices:

Pitch Perfect, Glee, The Sing-Off – What do these shows have in common? AMAZING a cappella singers! The “A Cappella Voices” class will focus on strengthening creativity and musicality, with students singing in a variety of musical styles without instrumental accompaniment. This singing group will explore pop, classical, and alternative music in a fun, engaging environment with other enthusiastic singers. Get ready to explore elements of beat boxing and body percussion to round out our study of vocal traditions through various world cultures. We’re guaranteed to make some silly sounds...Sense of humor required. (Students in A Cappella Voices are encouraged to also participate in concert choir!)

Jazz Band:

Jazz Band provides an opportunity for students to study and perform in the instrumental jazz style. As this is an advanced class, students must have at least one year of experience on a jazz instrument. The jazz band is made up of trumpets, trombones, alto saxophones, tenor saxophones, baritone saxophone, and rhythm section. (Piano, bass, guitar, and drums.) Some non-traditional jazz instruments may be admitted at the director’s discretion. Students will learn jazz terminology, a variety of jazz styles, and basic improvisation techniques. **All members (except guitarists and pianists) are required to be enrolled concurrently in concert band.** *Admission into Jazz Band is based on auditions; director approval is required.

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.

Science & Technology/Robotics:

Students will explore the uses of technology and its connections to science. Starting with the most basic understanding of how technology affects our lives, how technology aids us and how it has changed us. Students will learn about robotics and will be utilizing Lego Mindstorm kits, Robolab software and various Lego Robotics materials. Students will be introduced to basic programming as well as problem solving strategies. Topics may include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, timing, program loops, logic gates, decision-making, timing sequences, propulsion systems and binary number systems.

French Immersion

7th Social Studies French Immersion: *L'hémisphère oriental*

In, l'hémisphère oriental students will study the histories, cultures and peoples of the Eastern Hemisphere. This will include Ancient Egypt, China and African empires, as well as India and the Middle East and finally European history from the Middle Ages to the recent past. The class will explore these and related topics through textbook material, source documents, 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.

8th Social Studies French Immersion: *L'histoire des États Unis*

In L'histoire des États Unis students will focus on U.S. history from the 1780's through the end of Reconstruction as well as Westward Expansion and its effects on Native Americans. The class will explore these and related topics through textbook material, source documents, 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. State writing and reading standards will be addressed in formal class assignments

7th Language Arts French Immersion: *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 (expository and argumentative). Students will use strategies learn in this class for their Social Studies assignments. Reading will also play an important role in this class. Aside from practicing reading strategies, it will foster discussions and be a starting point for most writing assignments and be, at times, a support for the Social Studies course. 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. Student are expected use French not only when interacting with the teacher but among themselves for both class purposes and when socializing. State reading and writing standards will be addressed in formal class assignments.

8th Language Arts French Immersion: *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 (expository and argumentative). Students will use strategies learn in this class for their Social Studies assignments. Reading will also play an important role in this class. Aside from practicing reading strategies, it will foster discussions and be a starting point for most writing assignments and be, at times, a support for the Social Studies course. 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. Student are

expected use French not only when interacting with the teacher but among themselves for both class purposes and when socializing. State reading and writing standards will be addressed in formal class assignments.