

EXPLORER MIDDLE SCHOOL ~ 2006-2007 ~ ACADEMIC CLASSES ~ SEVENTH GRADE

All students are automatically assigned to a required English, Literature, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

ENGLISH

English Block (Yr/2.0)

Seventh grade English is a dual period that covers the state standards of reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will continue to develop and apply reading strategies in various genres. They will complete novel studies, read poetry, short fiction, non-fiction, and drama. Additionally, Accelerated Reader is used as an independent reading program. Vocabulary development and the writing process, including grammar, usage, and six traits will be continuous and woven throughout instruction. Students will be introduced to and develop expository paragraphs, multi-paragraph essays, and writing for a variety of purposes. Students will complete library research and projects involving written and oral presentation.

Honors English Block (Yr/2.0)

Seventh grade Honors English is a dual period that covers the state standards of reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will complete novel studies, read poetry, short fiction, non-fiction, and drama with a focus on critical analysis. Additionally, Accelerated Reader is used as an independent reading program. Advanced vocabulary development and the writing process, including grammar, usage, and six traits will be continuous and woven throughout instruction. Students will be introduced to and develop expository paragraphs, multi-paragraph essays, and writing for a variety of purposes. Students will complete library research and projects involving written and oral presentation.

Successful Honors English students possess the following skills: 1) Excellent writing—good thought processes and organizational skills, stylistic maturity; 2) Excellent reading ability—skill and willingness to read lengthy assignments, to read from the classics, and a desire to read independently.; 3) Excellent study habits—ability to pace themselves on long term assignments, willingness to go “above and beyond” on assignments and projects, self motivation; 4) Excellent class participation—ability to analyze and discuss literature, good oral communication skills. **Students must maintain a grade of “B” or higher to remain in honors English.**

Math

Course 1 (Yr./1.0)

This course is designed to focus on strengthening the students' foundational skills in math. The primary goals of the course are aligned with the state standards. These standards include mathematical operations and their relationships to each other, problem solving strategies, relationship between fractions, decimals and percents, understanding of organizing and analyzing data, identifying mathematical patterns, and measurement. Students are placed according to teacher recommendation and results of placement testing.

Course 2 (Yr./1.0)

This course strengthens students' foundational skills in math. The primary goals of the course are aligned with the 7th grade state standards. These standards include mathematical operations and their relationships to each other, problem solving strategies, logical reasoning, relationship between fractions, decimals and percents, understanding of organizing and analyzing data, identifying mathematical patterns, and measurement. Students are placed according to teacher recommendation and results of placement testing.

Course 3 (Yr./1.0)

This course is designed for the student who has shown mastery of foundational skills in math. The primary goals of the course are aligned with the 8th grade state standards and include the following topics: algebraic concepts, expressions and equations, relationships of mathematical operations, mastery of manipulating fractions, decimals and percents, problem solving strategies, logical reasoning, data analysis, identifying mathematical patterns, and measurement. Students are placed according to teacher recommendation and results of placement testing. Students who successfully complete this course **and** meet specified requirements would begin the study of Algebra in the eighth grade.

Algebra (Yr./1.0)

This course is for the student who has shown mastery of pre-algebra skills and the 7th and 8th grade state standards. The primary goals of the course are aligned with state standards for Algebra. This course includes a study of sets of real numbers, solution of first and second-degree equations, graphing on the coordinate plane, applications of algebra to data analysis and probability, patterns and functions and their applications and basic mathematical structures. Students are placed according to teacher recommendation and results of placement testing. Students must maintain a B average in the class. Algebra 1-2 is intended for the student of high ability and interest in mathematics. Students who successfully complete this course **and** meet specified requirements would begin the study of Geometry in 8th grade.

SCIENCE

Science (Yr/1.0)

The seventh grade science course covers the state standards. Broad topics include life, earth and space science. Science process and skill standards promote the inquiry process, the history and nature of science, and understanding the impact of science and technology. Student instruction will involve lecture, hands-on activities, formal lab reports; cooperative learning groups and WEB based research.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies (Yr/1.0)

Seventh grade social studies cover the state standards emphasizing American history from the Civil War through the Great Depression. They study the impact of the Industrial Revolution and imperialism on world events.