



7th Grade Arts

Instructors

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Course Description

The arts at ISM are taught as term courses. In the first term from August through December, MYP students attend performing arts. Then in the second term from January through June MYP students attend visual arts classes. Both performing arts and visual arts classes meet twice a week.

In performing arts class, learning will be primarily divided between two main units of study. In our first unit, we will examine the use of pattern and variation in music from a variety of cultures and periods of time. Students will study music composition, improvisation and performance, and will respond to listening assignments both verbally and through writing. The second unit will focus on our preparations for our Arts Night performance. The theme of each year's show changes based on student input and often includes dramatic presentations including scripted-dialogue, improvisations, and/ or comedy sketches with students performing the role of actor, musician or narrator.

In MYP visual arts students will learn the elements of art and principles of design. The second term will include two units of study. In our first unit, students will learn how to use balance, pattern, contrast, emphasis and movement in their artwork. The second unit of study will focus on Night of the Notables, a 7th grade event which explores positive actions and contributions people have made in their lives. Students will use design theory to create artwork for this event. Students will use a variety of art mediums, and will learn art techniques as part of the creative process. Students will view works of art and designs from around the world, and learn about various artists. Students will keep a developmental workbook, which will record their planning, techniques, and reflections. At the end of the semester, students will exhibit their artwork on Arts Night at the end of the year. Students will take home their art portfolios at the end of the term.

The International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program gives this course a framework through which ISM teachers are able to incorporate the California State Content Standards (where applicable) and the Common Core State Standards.

MYP Aims

The aims of all MYP subjects state what a teacher may expect to teach and the student may expect to experience and learn. These aims suggest how the student may be changed by the learning experience.

The aims of MYP arts are to encourage and enable students to:

- create and present art
- develop skills specific to the discipline
- engage in a process of creative exploration and (self)discovery
- make purposeful connections between investigation and practice
- understand the relationship between art and its contexts
- respond to and reflect on art
- deepen their understanding of the world

MYP 7th Grade Objectives

A Knowing and understanding:

- i. demonstrate knowledge of the art form studied, including concepts, processes, and the use of appropriate language
- ii. demonstrate knowledge of the role of the art form in original or displaced contexts
- iii. use acquired knowledge to inform their artwork.

B Developing skills:

- i. demonstrate the acquisition and development of the skills and techniques of the art form studied
- ii. demonstrate the application of skills and techniques to create, perform and/or present art.

C Thinking critically:

- i. outline a clear and feasible artistic intention
- ii. outline alternatives, perspectives, and imaginative solutions
- iii. demonstrate the exploration of ideas through the developmental process to a point of realization.

D Responding:

- i. outline connections and transfer learning to new settings
- ii. create an artistic response inspired by the world around them
- iii. evaluate the artwork of self and others.

Units of Inquiry

These are the anticipated units of inquiry for this year. These units continue to be a work in progress as ISM teachers continue to make adaptations to meet the guidelines for the MYP. Changes to these units might take place throughout the year as students and teachers reflect on what is needed to prepare students for the next level of learning. Teachers will be in contact with families to keep them informed about the current units of study.

7th Grade Arts Units of Inquiry

Performing Arts Unit Title	Key Concept	Related Concepts	Global Context	Statement of Inquiry	Criteria Assessed
Foundational Elements of Performing Arts	Communication	Composition Expression Presentation Structure	Personal and Cultural Expression	Elements of performance, such as structure and composition, allow us to express and communicate ideas and emotions.	B, C
Storytelling through Performance	Form	Genre Interpretation Narrative Style	Personal and Cultural Expression	Narrative stylistic choices, such as form and perspective, create a genre of storytelling.	B, C

Visual Arts Unit Title	Key Concept	Related Concepts	Global Context	Statement of Inquiry	Criteria Assessed
Design in Your Life	Aesthetics	Composition, Expression	Personal and Cultural Expression	Exploring composition enhances the aesthetics and artistic expression.	A, B, C, D
Interdisciplinary Unit: Night of the Notables	Identity Relationships	Language and Literature: Context Visual Arts: Representation	Personal and Cultural Expression	Representing a hero's identity through multiple artistic contexts deepens one's relationship with the concept of heroism.	A, B, C, D

Assessment

Assessment in the MYP follows a criterion related approach. All assessment in the MYP is conducted by teachers who rely on professional expertise in making qualitative judgments. This means that students' work is assessed against defined assessment criteria and not against the work of other students. When assessing student work, teachers read descriptors outlined within rubrics looking for the highest achievement level that a student has demonstrated in their work.

Before summative assessment tasks are given, teachers work to clarify the expectations of the task with students by using any of the following:

- Task specific rubrics
- Oral discussion of the expectations
- A task sheet that explains the expectations

At the end of each term students will receive a grade for each of the criteria within that subject. All MYP subjects have four criteria and the maximum points for each criterion is 8. The chart below outlines the criteria for the arts:

- Criteria A Knowing and understanding Maximum 8
- Criteria B Developing skills Maximum 8
- Criteria C Thinking critically Maximum 8
- Criteria D Responding Maximum 8

Subject Specific Grade Boundaries

To determine a student's final grade, teachers assess where each student is most consistently performing with regard to each criterion. Students final criterion grade is determined using all assessments and evidence collected from that criterion. However, grades are not an average of all work completed. Rather, grades indicate where a student's most current knowledge and abilities most consistently fall at that time. Teachers use the "bestfit" approach and professional judgment to determine a final grade for each criterion based on the evidence they have collected. These grades will be reported to students and parents at the end of each term on report cards. Students will also receive written comments that highlight strengths and areas of continued development.

Teachers add together all the criteria achievement levels for that subject. Teachers use the grade boundaries, determined by IB, to determine the MYP grade of 1-7. All MYP courses have the same grade boundaries.

MYP Grade Boundaries	MYP Grade
28-32	7
24-27	6
19-23	5

15-18	4
10-14	3
6-9	2
1-5	1