



7TH GRADE

SAN JOSE MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All seventh grade students will take the following academic courses:

Each course is 2 Semesters (10 credits)

Language Arts_____	Physical Education_____
Social Studies/History_____	Science_____
Mathematics_____	Elective_____

7th GRADE ELECTIVE OPTIONS

Seventh grade students enroll in one elective course for next year. Elective enrollment commitments are for the full school year. Every effort will be given to ensure a student's first choice; however, due to class size limitations etc. this may not always be possible. **Depending on academic needs students may be placed in an academic support class.**

Jazz Band: Jazz Band will meet as an extra-curricular opportunity this year. Practices will likely be in the morning. Auditions TBA. **In order to be in Jazz band, students must choose Concert Band as their elective.**

Scorpion Band (beginning and intermediate): Open to all students. Students will learn individual instrumental skills and band practices. Students will participate in school concerts throughout the year. It is expected that students will be responsible for maintaining a practice log at home.

Concert Band: Is for any band student who has completed one year of study for any band instrument. Band placement is at director discretion. Students at the seventh grade level may choose to transfer to another instrument with the instructor's approval, and may also audition for Jazz Band. Expanding skills, performance practice, and festivals are all included with the seventh grade band elective.

Drama: Students will learn acting styles, stage direction, set building, and production techniques (including stage lighting, videography and audio set-up). There are two major productions. Students should sign up for Drama and they will be placed by the teacher.

Advanced Drama: Students will continue to develop skills in acting, stage direction, and performance and will build an MSA portfolio. Additionally, more challenging materials will be addressed, including works by William Shakespeare. Students should sign up for Drama and they will be placed by the teacher.

Art/Technology: (courses switch at semester)

Art: The 7th grade art class continues to study art from around the world including Japan and the Italian Renaissance, while also working on strengthening skills with writing and discussing art. The students create an art book to keep their thoughts and sketches in. We will also explore both digital art and photography.

Technology: Students work with Learn.code.org learning about doing concepts such as loops, conditionals, functions and variables. They move on to physical computing and work with Micro:Bit boards. Students learn about a coding concept, apply it to their coding and incorporate it into a physical build. By the end of the semester, students apply all concepts they have learned to create a project of their choice.

Leadership: If you're a 7th grader interested in Leadership please locate the application in your school bookmarks folder. Please know that the application process includes the leadership teacher talking with your current teachers. Applications must be completed by April 30.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination): This elective class involves both an application and interview process for students who want to improve their writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization, and reading skills in order to be prepared for college and beyond. An application will be placed in your bookmarks. Please contact Ms. Cosentino for more information at gcosenino@nUSD.org