

# MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

## GRADE SEVEN

## GRADE EIGHT

ENGLISH	<p><b>Focus on heroic journey.</b>            Writing process, formal vs. informal writing, multi-genre writing, vocabulary study; mythology, poetry, novels, biographies, oral presentations, independent reading</p>	<p><b>Focus on hardships as opportunities for growth.</b>            Grammar, mechanics, composition and reading comprehension strategies, selected Shakespeare, introduction to genre</p>
SOCIAL STUDIES	<p>Ancient History: River Valley Civilizations, Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome</p>	<p>Federal government and the political system; the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy</p>
MATH	<p>Pre-Algebra; Advanced Pre-Algebra  <i>(Advanced students are allowed to move to 8th grade courses.)</i></p>	<p>Introductory Algebra; Algebra I; Algebra IA <i>(covers half of Algebra I)</i>; Geometry <i>(Advanced students are allowed to take Upper School courses)</i></p>
SCIENCE	<p>Earth science: scientific process, ecology, astronomy, meteorology, energy and motion, water cycle</p>	<p>Earth science: geology, dendrology, volcanoes, topographic maps, plate tectonics, natural disasters</p>
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	<p>French 7 or Spanish 7: Speaking and listening, writing and reading skills learned through projects and skits (Introduction to Latin offered as an elective.)</p>	<p>Spanish 8, French 8, Introduction to Latin, French I, Spanish I, Latin I</p>
COMPUTER SCIENCE	<p>Keyboarding, word processing, spreadsheet and chart making, PowerPoint projects, Excel, Cyber ethics</p>	
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	<p>Focus on fitness and team building through aerobic activities, weight training, lifetime sports, team sports, Intramurals</p>	
ELECTIVES	<i>Art</i>	<p>Drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, crafts, paper sculpture, textile design, bookbinding, basketry</p>
	<i>Music</i>	<p>Band, Chorus for Girls, Chorus for Boys, Orchestra</p>
	<i>Drama</i>	<p>Improvisation, theatre games, verbal and non-verbal situations, pantomime, script reading, video production</p>
	<i>Engineering</i>	<p>Engineering for Girls, Engineering for Boys, Advanced Engineering, Programming</p>
	<i>Enrichment</i>	<p>Reading/Study Skills, Writing Workshop, Public Speaking</p>