TEXAS
ONLINE PREPARATORY
SCHOOL

Middle School Course Catalog 2026-2027

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6th Grade Course Offerings

Language Arts 6

This course equips students with the essential language arts skills needed throughout their academic careers. Students read and analyze a variety of informational and fictional texts. Instruction and reading strategies accompany reading selections to help engage students in the text and sharpen their comprehension. Students express their ideas and knowledge using standard (formal) English in written and oral assignments. Writing expressive, analytical, and procedural compositions helps students develop communication skills necessary in today's world. Vocabulary is taught explicitly and through an array of vocabulary acquisition strategies that give students the tools to independently increase their vocabulary. Students study grammar, usage, and mechanics; and practice sentence analysis, sentence structure, and proper punctuation. The course includes discussion activities that engage students in the curriculum while creating a sense of community.

Advanced Language Arts 6

This course will encompass all requirements of 6th grade ELA in addition to half of the 7th grade ELA TEKS. Students will take the 6th Grade ELA STAAR.

Eligibility Requirements: It is required to score either Meets or Masters in 5th grade ELA STAAR and a 70+ average in 5th grade ELA. If a student's average is below 70% at the end of semester 1, they may be removed from the advanced course and placed in the regular grade level ELA course. Students that do not take the 5th grade ELA STAAR are not eligible for Advanced ELA 6.

Math 6

In Stride's Grade 6 mathematics course, students deepen their understanding of multiplication and division of fractions to apply their knowledge to divide fractions by fractions, with an additional focus on increasing efficiency and fluency. Students gain a foundation in the concepts of ratio and rate as an extension of their work with whole number multiplication and division, and in preparation for work with proportional relationships in Grade 7. Students also make connections among area, volume, and surface area, and continue to lay the groundwork for deep algebraic understanding by interpreting and using expressions and equations.

Advanced Math 6

This course will encompass all requirements of 6th grade math in addition to half of the 7th grade math TEKS. Students will take the 6th Grade STAAR.

Eligibility Requirements: It is required to score either Meets or Masters in 5th grade Math STAAR and a 70+ average in 5th grade Math. If a student's average is below 70% at the end of semester 1, students will be asked to opt out of semester 2 advanced math and placed in the regular grade level Math course. Per SB 2124, students that qualify for Advanced Math based on STAAR scores must opt out to not continue in the program. Students that do not take the 5th grade Math STAAR are not eligible for Advanced Math 6.

Science 6

The Earth Science curriculum builds on the natural curiosity of students. By connecting them to the beauty of geological history, the amazing landforms around the globe, the nature of the sea and air, and the newest discoveries about our universe, the curriculum gives students an opportunity to relate to their everyday world. Students will explore topics such as the fundamentals of geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy; Earth's minerals and rocks; Earth's interior; plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and the movements of continents; geology and the fossil record; the oceans and the atmosphere; the solar system and the universe. Lesson assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the science of our planet.

Intermediate **Global Studies 6**

In Grade 6, students study people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Societies for study are from the following regions of the world: Europe, Russia and the Eurasian republics, North America, Central America and the Caribbean, South America, Southwest Asia-North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific realm. Students describe the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in those societies and identify the locations and geographic characteristics of various societies. Students identify different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. The concepts of limited and unlimited government are introduced, and students describe the nature of citizenship in various societies. Students compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religious institutions. Students explain how the level of technology affects the development of various societies and identify different points of view about events. The concept of frame of reference is introduced as an influence on an individual's point of view.

7th Grade Course Offerings

Language Arts 7

This course continues with the development of comprehension and analysis of informational and fictional texts with an ongoing emphasis on reading strategies. Students express themselves using standard (formal) English in written and oral presentations. Analyzing and practicing the form and structure of various genres of writing enhances students' communication skills. Students study a variety of media to understand informational and persuasive techniques, explicit and implied messages, and how visual and auditory cues affect messages. Grammar, usage, and mechanics skills are deepened. Students continue to widen their vocabulary and apply acquisition strategies. The course includes discussion activities that engage students in the curriculum while creating a sense of community.

Advanced Language Arts 7

In this course, students will encompass all requirements of 8th grade ELA in addition to half of the 7th grade ELA TEKS. Students will take the 8th Grade ELA STAAR.

Eligibility Requirements: For students that took Advanced ELA 6, it is required to score Meets or Masters in 6th grade ELA STAAR and a 70+ average in 6th grade ELA OR Approaches in 6th grade ELA STAAR with an 80+ average in 6th grade ELA. For students that did not take Advanced ELA 6, it is required to score Masters on 6th grade ELA STAAR with a 70+ average. Students that do not take the 6th ELA STAAR are not eligible for Advanced ELA 7. To be eligible for English 1 in 8th grade, students must take Advanced Language Arts 7 or equivalent and meet other eligibility requirements.

Math 7

In Stride's Grade 7 mathematics course, students focus on real-world scenarios and mathematical problems involving algebraic expressions and linear equations and begin to apply their understanding of rational numbers with increased complexity. The course lays the foundation for exploring concepts of angle, similarity and congruence, more formally addressed in Grade 8, as students work with scale drawings and construct and analyze relationships among geometric figures. Students also develop and apply understandings of proportional relationships.

Advanced Math 7

In this course, students will encompass all requirements of 8th grade math in addition to half of the 7th grade math TEKS. Students will take the 8th Grade STAAR.

Eligibility Requirements: For students that took Advanced Math 6, it is required to score Meets or Masters in 6th grade Math STAAR and a 70+ average in 6th grade Math OR Approaches in 6th grade Math STAAR with an 80+ average in 6th grade Math. For students that did not take Advanced Math 6, it is required to score Masters on 6th grade Math STAAR with a 70+ average. Students that do not take the 6th Math STAAR are not eligible for Advanced Math 7. To be eligible for Algebra 1 in 8th grade, students must take Advanced Math 7 or equivalent and meet other eligibility requirements.

Science 7

The Life Science program invites students to investigate the world of living things—at levels both large and small—by reading, observing, and experimenting with aspects of life on Earth. Students explore an amazing variety of organisms, the complex workings of the cell and cell biology, the relationship between living things and their environments, and discoveries in the world of modern genetics. Students tackle such topics as ecology, microorganisms, animals, plants, cells, animals, species, adaptation, heredity, genetics, and the history of life on Earth. Lesson activities and assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the living world.

Texas State History 7

In Grade 7, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Content is presented with more depth and breadth than in Grade 4. Students examine the full scope of Texas history, including Natural Texas and its People; Age of Contact; Spanish Colonial; Mexican National; Revolution and Republic; Early Statehood; Texas in the Civil War and Reconstruction; Cotton, Cattle, and Railroads; Age of Oil; Texas in the Great Depression and World War II; Civil Rights and Conservatism; and Contemporary Texas eras. The focus in each era is on key individuals, events, and issues and their impact. Students identify regions of Texas and the distribution of population within and among the regions and explain the factors that caused Texas to change from an agrarian to an urban society. Students describe the structure and functions of municipal, county, and state governments, explain the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and examine the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens. Students use primary and secondary sources to examine the rich and diverse cultural background of Texas as they identify the different racial and ethnic groups that settled in Texas to build a republic and then a state. Students analyze the impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the development of Texas in various industries such as agricultural, energy, medical, computer, and aerospace. Students use primary and secondary sources to acquire information about Texas.

8th Grade Course Offerings

Language Arts 8

Throughout this course, students engage in literary analysis and close reading of short stories, poetry, drama, novels, and informational texts. The course focuses on interpretation of literary works, analysis of informational texts, and the development of oral and written communication skills in standard (formal) English. Students read "between the lines" to interpret literature and go beyond the text to discover how the culture in which a work of literature was created contributes to the theme and ideas it conveys. Analysis of the structure and elements of informational texts and media helps students develop the skills needed for academic success and navigating the world. Students continue to acquire knowledge and skills in grammar, usage, mechanics, and vocabulary. Implementing reading strategies, self-monitoring progress and reflecting on successes and challenges help students become metacognitive learners. The course includes discussion activities that engage students in the curriculum while creating a sense of community.

Honors English I

ENG109 Summit English I Honors

This course challenges students to improve their written and oral communication skills, while strengthening their ability to understand and analyze literature in a variety of genres. Students enrolled in this course work on independent projects that enhance their skills and challenge them to consider complex ideas and apply the knowledge they have learned.

Literature: Students read a broad array of short stories, poetry, drama, novels, autobiographies, essays, and famous speeches. The course guides students in the close reading and critical analysis of classic works of literature and helps them appreciate the texts and the contexts in which the works were written. Literary selections range from the Greek tragedy Antigone to Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet to contemporary pieces by authors such as Annie Dillard and Maya Angelou.

Language Skills: Students broaden their composition skills by examining model essays in various genres by student and published writers. Through in-depth planning, organizing, drafting, revising, proofreading, and feedback, they hone their writing skills. Students build on their grammar, usage, and mechanics skills with in-depth study of sentence analysis and structure, agreement, and punctuation, reinforced by online activities. Student vocabularies are enhanced through the study of Greek and Latin root words, improving students' ability to decipher the meanings of new words. The Honors Project is a mandatory assignment for all students assigned to Pre-AP courses.

Course Length: Two semesters

High School Credit: 1.0

Eligibility Requirements: For students that took Advanced ELA 7, it is required to score Meets or Masters in previous ELA STAAR and a 70+ average in 7th grade ELA OR Approaches in previous ELA STAAR with an 80+ average in 7th grade ELA. Students that did not take Advanced 7th ELA are not eligible to take Honors English 1.
Students must take Advanced ELA 7 or equivalent to be eligible. It is required to score Meets or Masters in previous ELA STAAR and a 70+ average in 7th grade Advanced ELA OR Approaches in previous ELA STAAR with an 80+ average in 7th grade Advanced ELA. Students that did not take the ELA STAAR in 7th grade are not eligible to take Honors English 1.

Math 8

Grade 8 mathematics course prepares students for more advanced study in algebra as students solve linear equations and systems of equations, work with radical and integer exponents, gain conceptual understanding of functions, and use functions to model quantitative relationships. To prepare students for more advanced study in geometry, the course emphasizes the Pythagorean theorem and a deepening exploration of similarity and congruence.

Honors Algebra I

Students develop algebraic fluency by learning the skills needed to solve equations and perform manipulations with numbers, variables, equations, and inequalities. They also learn concepts central to the abstraction and generalization that algebra makes possible. Topics include simplifying expressions involving variables, fractions, exponents, and radicals; working with integers, rational numbers, and irrational numbers; graphing and solving equations and inequalities; using factoring, formulas, and other techniques to solve quadratic and other polynomial equations; formulating valid mathematical arguments using various types of reasoning; and translating word problems into mathematical equations and then using the equations to solve the original problems. The Honors Project is a mandatory assignment for all students assigned to Pre-AP courses.

Course Length: Two semesters

High School Credit: 1.0

Eligibility Requirements:

Students must take Advanced Math 7 or equivalent to be eligible. It is required to score Meets or Masters in previous Math STAAR and a 70+ average in 7th grade Advanced Math OR Approaches in previous Math STAAR with an 80+ average in 7th grade Advanced Math. Students that did not take the Math STAAR in 7th grade are not eligible to take Honors Algebra 1.

Science 8

The Physical Science program introduces students to many aspects of the physical world, focusing first on chemistry and then on physics. The course provides an overview of the physical world and gives students tools and concepts to think clearly about matter, atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, motion, force, momentum, work and machines, energy, waves, electricity, light, and other aspects of chemistry and physics. Among other subjects, students study the structure of atoms; the elements and the Periodic Table; chemical reactions; forces, including gravitational, motion, acceleration, and mass; and energy, including light, thermal, electricity, and magnetism.

American History to the Late 1800s

In HST08 Summit American History to the Late 1800s, students study major historical events and people from colonization through the Reconstruction period. This includes a study of Colonial America, the Revolutionary War, the drafting of the Constitution, the growth of the United States, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. In addition, the course contains two flex units of lessons that can be used as part of the main course to address local standards. One of these units focuses on the history and cultures of Native Americans, as well as other indigenous peoples and their descendants, who have contributed to the history of the United States. The second flex unit covers major historical events and people from post-Reconstruction to the beginning of the twentieth century. Throughout the course, students practice critical analysis skills as they read primary sources and study historical accounts from a variety of perspectives. They expand their knowledge of the world around them by studying how geography has influenced American history. By analyzing related current events, students see how the events of yesterday affect the world around them today. Students also reflect on changes and continuities within and between time periods. Students demonstrate their knowledge through a mixture of projects, discussions, tests, and independent work.

Fine Arts

Middle School Art I

ART06 Summit Intermediate American Art II

Lessons include an introduction to the artists, cultures, and great works of American art and architecture from the end of the Civil War through modern times. Students will investigate paintings done in various styles, from impressionist to pop; learn about modern sculpture and folk art; discover how photographers and painters have inspired one another; examine examples of modern architecture, from skyscrapers to art museums; and create artworks inspired by works they learn about.

Middle School Art II

ART07 Summit Intermediate World Art I

Lessons include an introduction to the artists, cultures, and great works of world art and architecture from ancient to medieval times. Students will investigate how artists from different civilizations used various techniques, from painting to mosaic; examine elements of design and styles of decoration, from the spiral to the solar disk; and explore some of the best-preserved works from ancient tombs, including the treasures of Egypt's King Tut.
Prerequisites: Completion of ART06 Summit Intermediate American Art II or the equivalent.

Middle School Art III

ART08 Summit Intermediate World Art II

Lessons include an introduction to the artists, cultures, and great works of world art and architecture from the Renaissance through modern times. Students will study various works of art from the Renaissance and beyond; discover great works of art and see how they influenced later artists; compare and contrast works from many civilizations, from paintings to sculpture, architecture, book covers, prints, and more; and create artworks inspired by works they learn about.
Prerequisites: Completion of ART06 Summit Intermediate American Art II and ART07 Summit Intermediate World Art I or the equivalent.

Middle School Music I

MUS06 Spotlight on Music

Explore and build foundational musical skills with Spotlight on Music. This course offers a variety of learning activities that include singing, dancing, virtual instruments, listening maps, authentic sound recordings, and playing the recorder. Six units in the course are organized into four sections: Spotlight on Concepts, Spotlight on Music Reading, Spotlight on Performance, and Spotlight on Celebrations. Students learn about these musical elements: duration, pitch, design, tone color, expressive qualities, and cultural context. Students explore beat, meter, rhythm, melody, harmony, tonality, texture, form, tone color, dynamics, tempo, articulation, style, and music background.

Health and Physical Education

Fitness and Health 6

The sixth-grade physical education course introduces students to health-related fitness components, dance, team sports, and lifetime activities. Students learn the essential principles to live a healthy, active lifestyle. The lessons give students exposure to many activities that can be incorporated into their daily lives today, tomorrow, and in the future.

Students will develop the knowledge and skills they need to make positive fitness decisions to stay active, safe, and informed, as teenagers and adults. The lessons and activities introduce important aspects of physical health and fitness and focus on helping students learn new fitness skills and stay active. Students will set fitness goals and assess their progress throughout the course. Students will use daily Fitness Plans to guide their physical activity and Fitness Logs to track their activity.

7th OR 8th Grade PE

OTH07A Physical Fitness 7 OR OTH08A Physical Fitness 8

Through K12's seventh grade physical education course, students are exposed to diverse activities and learn a wide variety of fitness concepts that they can use in their everyday lives. Students learn skills for lifelong activities, such as strength training and power walking, as well as several options for aerobic activities. They can measure their progress and accomplishments through the completion of fitness tests. On completing this course, students will have the knowledge to stay fit and active well beyond middle school. This is a year-long course.

7th/8th Grade Health

HLT07D Health 7

The health course helps students develop the knowledge and skills they need to make healthy decisions to stay active, safe, and informed as teenagers and adults. The lessons and activities introduce important aspects of the main types of health: emotional and mental health, social health and wellness, and physical health. Among other topics, students explore nutrition, understanding and avoiding disease, violence prevention and safety, body systems, and building character through maintaining healthy relationships. They also explore topics related to the use and abuse of tobacco, drugs, and alcohol; green schools and environmental health; dating, abstinence, and human sexuality; and mental and emotional health and disorders. The course engages students with relevant health and wellness topics, and real-world concepts and health issues. Quizzes and tests assess student understanding of the various health topics and concepts from the course. This is a semester course paired with Technology Applications. Students choose between the Health 7/Technology Applications combo (middle school courses) OR Health I/Touch Systems combo (HS Credit bearing courses).

Health Education

HLT012 Health I

This course focuses on important skills and knowledge in nutrition; physical activity; the dangers of substance use and abuse; injury prevention and safety; growth and development; and personal health, environmental conservation, and community health resources. The curriculum is designed around topics and situations that engage student discussion and motivate students to analyze internal and external influences on their health-related decisions. The course helps students build the skills they need to protect, enhance, and promote their own health and the health of others. This course is paired with Touch Systems Data Entry.

Course Length: One semester
High School Credit: .5
Grade Levels Offered: 7th and 8th

Technology Applications

Middle School Requirement: A Technology Applications course is required in 7th grade. NOTE: New 8th students entering TOPS in the fall will be required to take a Technology Applications course.

Technology Applications

Through the study of technology applications, students make informed decisions by understanding current and emerging technologies, including technology systems, appropriate digital tools, and personal learning networks. As competent researchers and responsible digital citizens, students use creative and computational thinking to solve problems while developing career and college readiness skills. This is a one semester course paired with Health 7.

Touch Systems Data Entry

Course Description: In Touch System Data Entry, students apply technical skills to address business applications of emerging technologies. Students enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the business environment. Students will need to apply touch system data entry skills for production of business documents. This course is a Career Learning course. This is a one semester course paired with High School Health.

Course Length: One semester
High School Credit: .5
Grade Levels Offered: 7th and 8th

Additional Electives for High School Credit

Spanish I

Students begin their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of world language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Students are initially trained to recognize key sounds and basic vocabulary, not only in written form but also through ear training that leads quickly to oral production. Vocabulary and grammar topics are introduced in an ongoing adventure story that prompts students to use skills from all four language-learning areas. Students learn fundamental grammar as embedded in authentic spoken language. Cultural information covers major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas. Engaging graphics, videos, and games keeps students interested, and makes learning languages exciting.

Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 7th and 8th

Spanish II

In this continuing introduction to Spanish, students deepen their focus on four key skills in world language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. A continuing storyline introduces and reinforces new vocabulary, while activities prompt students to analyze meaning from context, and then to reproduce new vocabulary in real-life oral expression. Additional verb tenses and idiomatic expressions are also introduced. As in Spanish I, students learn grammar through supplemental texts that supply traditional charts, tables, and explanations. Cultural information addresses Spanish as it is used around the globe. Engaging graphics, videos, and games keeps students interested, and makes learning languages exciting.

Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Prerequisites: Spanish 1
Grade Level Offered: 8th

College & Career Preparation

8th graders may choose one of the following courses that earns 1.0 high school credit.

Principles of Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources

Principles of Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources will allow students to develop knowledge and skills regarding career and educational opportunities, personal development, globalization, industry standards, details, practices, and expectations.

Pathway(s): Animal Science
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Applied Engineering

In Principles of Applied Engineering, students gain an overview of the various fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and their interrelationships. Students will develop engineering communication skills, which include computer graphics, modeling, and presentations, by using a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects.

Pathway(s): Robotics & Automation Technology
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Arts, AV Technology & Communications

The goal of this course is that the student understands arts, audio/video technology, and communications systems. Within this context, students will be expected to develop an understanding of the various and multifaceted career opportunities in this cluster and the knowledge, skills, and educational requirements for those opportunities.

Pathway(s): Graphic Design & Interactive Media
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance

Students find out what it takes to market a product or service in today's fast-paced business environment. They learn the fundamentals of marketing using real-world business examples. They learn about buyer behavior, marketing research principles, demand analysis, distribution, financing, pricing, and product management. This course utilizes project-based learning.

Pathway(s): Marketing & Sales, Accounting & Financial Services, Entrepreneurship, Real Estate
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Education & Training

Principles of Education and Training is designed to introduce learners to the various careers available within all levels of educational institutions. Students explore careers through shadowing, interviewing, career interest inventory, researching, and/or self-reflection to understand requirements for entering each field of work. Students will gain understanding of societal impacts within education and learn characteristics necessary for success as a teaching professional, including job market analysis for the future.

Pathway(s): Teaching & Training
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Health Science

The Principles of Health Science course is designed to provide an overview of therapeutic, diagnostic, health informatics, support services, and biotechnology research and development systems of the health care industry.

Pathway(s): Diagnostic & Therapeutic Services; Exercise Science, Wellness, & Restoration
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Human Services (Family and Consumer Science)

In this course, students develop skills and knowledge to help them transition into adult roles within the family. They learn to make wise consumer choices, prepare nutritious meals, contribute effectively as part of a team, manage a household budget, and balance roles of work and family. They gain an appreciation for the responsibilities of family members and community members.

Pathway(s): Health and Wellness
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Information Technology

In Principles of Information Technology, students will develop computer literacy skills to adapt to emerging technologies used in the global marketplace. Students will implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. Students will enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and reasoning skills and apply them to the information technology environment. This course meets high school technology requirements and utilizes project-based learning.

Pathway(s): Cybersecurity, Programming & Software Development
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th

Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security introduces students to professions in law enforcement, protective services, corrections, firefighting, and emergency management services. Students will examine the roles and responsibilities of police, courts, corrections, private security, and protective agencies of fire and emergency services. The course provides students with an overview of the skills necessary for careers in law enforcement, fire service, protective services, and corrections.

Pathway(s): Law Enforcement, Legal Studies
Course Length: Two semesters
High School Credit: 1.0
Grade Levels Offered: 8th