



# Capital Area Online Learning Association

## Online Course Catalog Middle School 2017-2018



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# eCourses™

**EdisonLearning's middle school product offering contains a multitude of different activities for a student to complete.**

In middle school core lessons, students will always encounter lesson content, videos, a textbook, and an assessment. Other activities will vary depending on the grade level and lesson path of each student.

## **Middle School (6-8)**

**Lesson Video** – This video introduces each lesson and focuses on key subject-specific information.

**MyBook** – The main content of the lesson is found here. Students are encouraged to complete the embedded exercises by using interactive drawing and text tools.

**Reteaching** – A student who is found to be consistently struggling will be directed to a Reteaching page. This page reviews the main concepts of the lesson and presents additional practice activities.

**Enrichment** – A student who consistently passes their assessment attempts will be directed to an Enrichment page, which contains content that encourages a higher level of thinking.

**Audio, Visual, and Kinesthetic Links** – Students are directed to resources that address the content using different modalities.

**Activities Workbook & Answer Key** – Workbooks contain practice activities and puzzles such as word searches, crosswords, and matching exercises related to the lesson's content.

**Assessments** – Students are delivered their daily assessments in an interactive, visually stimulating game format. Summative assessments, such as quizzes and exams, are given in a conventional test format.

**Instructor Guide** – Designed for the teacher, this document reviews all of the lesson elements and provides teachers with extended activities to complete with students.



## **Back-to-School 2017**

**EdisonLearning offers Middle School eCourses for 6th, 7th & 8th grade students.**

**EdisonLearning's Middle School product leverages the innovative MyDay content delivery technology. Credit Recovery courses are also available for core subject areas.**

### **Middle School MyDay**

Developed for students in grades 6, 7, and 8, MyDay eCourses encourage students to interact with and respond to lesson content. Students can access drawing tools to underline, highlight, and circle key terms and important concepts. They can also use writing tools to respond to questions posed in lessons. Assessments, delivered as games, are visually stimulating and highly engaging. Supplemental materials, such as printable PDF workbooks, offer students opportunities to synthesize material from the lessons via fun, low-stress puzzles and activities.

MyDay eCourses are offered for the core areas of Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies, as well as a variety of electives. Each lesson contains a video, interactive MyBook content, an activities workbook, assessment, and multiple resources to meet different learning styles.



**Accelerate Education will be utilized for Middle School electives and Middle School World Languages.**

The Accelerate Education curriculum offers rich and engaging content that has been carefully designed to meet the standards required by states. Students are engaged in a variety of activities and assessments appropriate to the courses being studied, including labs, journals, written assignments, discussions, group and individual projects, formative assessments, objective tests, and written exams.

## English

### Language Arts– 6th Grade

In English/Language Arts 6, students read to enhance their understanding of different genres and to enhance their own writing. Students practice the writing process in each part of the course as they plan, organize, compose, and edit four projects: a brief narrative essay about a personal hero; a piece of creative fiction; an essay analyzing a poem; and a research project. As they read the coming-of-age novel *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, by Mildred D. Taylor, students focus on the elements of fiction and examine elements of the author's craft. In a tour of folktales, students embark on a journey to South America, Africa, Asia, the Middle East, and even ancient Greece and Rome. Students are introduced to several types of poetry, learn to recognize poetic devices, evaluate the effectiveness of a poet's message, and, ultimately, compose their own poetry. As they explore nonfiction and informational texts, students build on concepts they learned in the elementary grades to develop higher-level critical thinking skills. A study of advertising and persuasive techniques helps students become more informed consumers. Students strengthen speaking and listening skills through predicting, questioning, summarizing, clarifying, and synthesizing. Students learn to work collaboratively, incorporate multimedia in their presentations, and present their findings in unique, effective ways.

Prerequisite: None

Length: Four Parts

### Language Arts– 7th Grade

In English/Language Arts 7, students read and analyze literature from poetry to novels and folklore to myth, using what they learn to enhance their own writing. The course begins with the steps of the writing process, which includes identifying parts of speech and using them correctly and effectively. A study of writing style focuses on slang, sentence variety, and transitions. Students learn how characters, setting, and plot contribute to literary fiction as they identify and explain these components and use them creatively in their own narrative essays. Reading poetry allows students to focus on figurative and descriptive language, which they apply to writing descriptive essays. Students also learn about the themes and characteristics of myth and folklore. A study of nonfiction focuses on research and organization as students produce objective informational essays. Students learn active reading and research skills that enable them to recognize bias and the techniques of persuasion in different genres, including biographical writing, then write persuasive essays based on their own beliefs or opinions.

Prerequisite: None

Length: Four Parts

### Language Arts– 8th Grade

In English/Language Arts 8, students continue their exploration of various genres, using active reading techniques such as note-taking and drawing conclusions from texts. Students review the steps of the writing process, making connections between each stage of writing, the genre they are studying, and a well-formed final product. To prepare students for writing narrative essays, lessons focus on plot, theme, and historical setting. Writing reflective and persuasive essays based on their own thoughts and ideas allows students to demonstrate their individuality. Solid research and understanding of organizational methods and visual features provide the foundation for writing informational essays. After improving their ability to recognize biased language, students write persuasive essays to express their own opinions. Students then look at the unique characteristics of poetry, myth, and folklore, and discover the conventions of playwriting and how drama employs the elements of fiction.

Prerequisite: None

Length: Four Parts

# Mathematics

## Mathematics— 6th Grade

In Math 6, each skill provides a stepping stone to the next. Students learn how to find the prime factors of composite numbers, then use this ability to work with fractions. They apply ratios and rates in a number of applications, including converting between English and metric measurements, determining unit rates, and finding unit prices. To build a foundation for learning algebra, students study the properties of addition and multiplication and the order of operations. Students then use these concepts as they write, evaluate, and factor algebraic expressions. After they learn to solve single-variable one- and two-step equations and inequalities, students extend their knowledge by graphing the solutions on number lines and the coordinate plane. The exploration of two dimensions continues as students work with plane polygons, classify shapes, and solve for shapes' perimeters and areas. Students learn to transform two-dimensional figures by translating, rotating, and reflecting both figures and graphs of equations, then move on to solid figures. Finally, students delve into statistics as they identify, interpret, and construct various data; solve for and interpret measures of center including mean, median, and mode; and use those measures to analyze data and construct appropriate data displays, which they can apply to a wide range of situations in other subject areas.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

## Mathematics— 7th Grade

Math 7 teaches skills essential to adult life and lays the groundwork for future mathematics classes. Students learn to apply their work with rational numbers and integers to everyday situations. Students convert words to expressions and vice versa, using equations and inequalities as problem-solving tools. They compute tax, percentage of error, commission, and interest using rates, ratios, and proportions; graph ordered pairs; and graph and write linear equations. Their work with simple figures—triangles, angles, circles, quadrilaterals, and polygons—focuses on finding areas and perimeters. Students then move on to scale drawings and composite figures composed of simple figures, and compute the volumes and surface areas of solids including prisms, cylinders, pyramids, cones, and spheres. Students collect data and use graphs, charts, and diagrams to read, interpret, and display the data—and they also learn how graphs can be misleading. Students apply the study of sampling and populations to applications involving probability, likely and unlikely outcomes, permutations, combinations, and compound events. Students learn to represent these concepts using Venn diagrams and charts, tools they will encounter in other courses.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

## Mathematics— 8th Grade

Math 8 helps students see the power of mathematics in everyday life. The course begins with a review of percentages and proportions, applying these concepts to conversion factors and emphasizing English and metric measurement. Work with linear equations includes computing rates of change, finding intercepts, graphing linear functions, and describing the action of a line. Number patterns and sequences foster a study of arithmetic and geometric means as students learn to find missing terms in sequences. An investigation of the Cartesian plane teaches students how to work with scale drawings, dilations, and graphs. Students learn about the properties of triangles, the Pythagorean Theorem, and the properties of parallel lines cut by a transversal. With pie charts, bar graphs, histograms, scatter plots and other linear models, students explore probability and make predictions and correlations. Students apply the concepts of independent and dependent events, odds, combinations, permutations, and factorials to situations from playing cards to determining how many different outfits they have in their closets.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

## Middle School Algebra

How do you write, simplify, and solve equations? How can you display data so it can be easily interpreted and understood? In Algebra, students learn how to translate phrases into expressions, and sentences into equations and inequalities, placing them into their simplest forms. Students find solutions to equations by graphing them on number lines or the coordinate plane. Students learn the value of finding the best tool for the job as they acquire different strategies to use in various situations, such as finding the slope of a line, solving a system of equations or inequalities, or factoring polynomials. Building on this knowledge, students apply transformations to polynomial functions, explore inverses and one-to-one functions, and examine exponential and logarithmic functions. Work in statistics includes organizing and analyzing data; making stem-and-leaf plots; finding mean, mode, and median; making box-and-whisker plots; and recognizing misleading graphs. At the completion of this course, students are prepared for additional math courses in middle and high school.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

## Science

### Science— 6th Grade

Scientists make exciting observations and learn amazing facts about the world. Harnessing students' natural curiosity and ability to observe, Science 6 surveys the physical and life sciences through engaging, interactive activities and media-rich content. Students begin by surveying the branches of science, noting important milestones in the development of scientific study, and discovering the contributions of some influential scientists. They examine the matter that makes up the world, the laws that govern the movement of matter, and how matter is affected by contact and noncontact forces. Students investigate energy, its sources, and methods of energy generation and transfer. As they examine the structure of Earth, students learn about natural resources and the impact of human populations on the balance of nature. Students also study weather, wind, storm formation, and ways data is used to predict the weather. Students begin learning about life science through the discoveries Robert Hooke made using his microscope. The vital relationship between structure and function is examined as students learn about the components of cells and the organ systems of the human body. The study of living things continues as students learn about the major groups of organisms and scientists who contributed to current knowledge about each group. The relationships among these groups, called kingdoms, and among living and nonliving things are revealed as students learn about biogeochemical cycles. The ecology section completing the course discusses water quality, conservation efforts, and recycling.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

### Science— 7th Grade

Science 7 brings together some of the most fascinating sciences- general, physical, earth, and life sciences- essential for investigating the world around us. After learning common measurement systems and the essentials of lab safety, students are ready to apply the scientific method to everyday situations such as a broken lamp or a hungry dog. Students learn about matter and energy, and about electromagnetic waves and the electromagnetic spectrum, focusing on the properties of visible light. Earth itself becomes the focus as students study the different geologic eras in Earth's history, the parts of the planet, and phenomena including earthquakes and volcanoes. Delving into Earth's past, students examine the fossil record and discover the clues to provide to the history of numerous species and how they adapted to their environment. Students learn how species change over time through mutation and natural selection. Finally, students explore food webs, the roles of different organisms in an ecosystem, and why preserving Earth's limited natural resources through conservation efforts is imperative.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

### Science— 8th Grade

Science 8 focuses on the smallest structures—the atoms that make up our world and the cells that make up our bodies—and the largest systems—the cycles of the natural world, the interaction of energy and matter, classical mechanics including Newton's Three Laws of Motion and the Law of Universal Gravitation, and the bodies that make up the universe. Beginning with classification systems, students learn about the elements and the structure of atoms. Students apply what they learn about temperature scales, the difference between temperature and heat, and chemical reactions to the study of energy and ways matter can change. This understanding of chemistry helps students in their next phase of study: cell function, the life-giving functions of photosynthesis and respiration, the biology of their own bodies, and the genetics that make each living being unique. The focus widens again as students explore classical mechanics: Newton's Three Laws of Motion and the Law of Universal Gravitation. Students then apply classical mechanics to planetary motion, the effects of the Moon, travel beyond our planet, and the most up-to-date discoveries about the universe.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

## **Social Studies**

### **Social Studies– 6th Grade**

Making sense of the unique and fascinating places in the world requires a broad range of knowledge and skills. Students explore how Earth's geography has affected human life and culture as they learn about the development of early civilizations in Asia and the Mediterranean. Students examine the great religious traditions born during this time, witness the growth of dynasties in Far Eastern Asia, and learn about the ideas that spawned the Renaissance. As the world became caught up in the excitement of the Age of Exploration, the Americas were "discovered," though vibrant and thriving civilizations had existed there for thousands of years. Students learn about the struggles of these native civilizations, the slaves who were brought to build a new nation, and independence movements in the western world. Modern nations continue to face many challenges including trade, migration, urbanization, and the human rights movement. In an exploration of recent history, students learn about dictators and witness revolutions in Europe, the Middle East, and the Americas. In the final section of the course, students study the impact of globalization and the technology driving it.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

### **Social Studies– 7th Grade**

History, government, economics, sociology, geography, and anthropology all come together to show how modern culture arose from ancient and classical civilizations. Beginning with the New Kingdom of Egypt, students witness how ancient civilizations grew into classical empires that gave rise to medieval Europe. They discover how feudal Europe moved toward the Renaissance, and how its ideals of humanism and constitutional government ignited the scientific revolution and the Protestant Reformation. Students study the development of spirituality in the Middle East, the growth of dynasties in the Far East, and the formation of Mesoamerican civilization. As students learn about the development of modern nations and their quest for overseas colonies, they see how the competition for colonies and extreme nationalism led to international conflicts, including the Seven Years War and the Cold War. Students discover how our political identity has evolved through developments including the Industrial Revolution, the labor and progressive movements, the struggle for civil rights, the economics of a modern society, and the dawn of the Information Age.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

### **Social Studies– 8th Grade**

In Grade 8 Social Studies, students focus on the history of North America and, in particular, the history of the United States. Before Europeans knew that North America existed, indigenous civilizations thrived throughout the continent. Students learn how colonial life led to first attempts at self-government and how European influence continues to this day. As they witness the expansion of US borders, students discover how the desire for land and resources led to the removal of native populations, wars with neighbors, and annexations. Students see the impact of civil war and witness the struggle of slavery and America's emergence as an industrial powerhouse. In their study of the twentieth century, students trace the reasons for and outcomes of the Civil Rights Movement and consider the role of the United States as a world power.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four Parts

## ***Health and Physical Education***

### **Health and Fitness (Middle School)**

What does it mean to be healthy? What are the steps for creating or improving a healthy lifestyle? This course helps students take charge of their own well-being by providing up-to-date information about physical activity, nutrition, and overall health. Students learn the importance of setting goals, well-being, recognizing peer pressure, making good decisions, and resolving conflicts. Students learn about the benefits of exercise and physical activity, and how to avoid unhealthy behaviors. Activities are designed to help students understand nutrition, analyze food labels, and develop an appropriate exercise plan. Students learn how physical activity affects different body systems and about key exercise concepts including cross-training, overload, and flexibility. Students become more familiar with the systems of their bodies, learn about common ailments, and examine the importance of self-esteem and emotional well-being in creating overall health.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Parts

### **Pennsylvania MS Physical Education**

How does a baseball player throw a ball, and what is the role of the players who are “fielding?” Can students move like a football player, or like the athletes who play their favorite sports? What scientific forces are taking place while participating in different sports? In this unique and innovative course, students will be able to experience physical activities first hand – participating in those that enhance basic movement patterns and those that are involved in specific game play. Moving through the course, lessons will address specialized movements, methods for participation, the various components of physical fitness, concepts related to nutrition, personal and social behaviors, sport science basics, and values. Students will be encouraged to create personal fitness goals for themselves and to work toward them through the span of the course, which will enable them to develop an understanding of the value that physical activity has in their lives. Creative “Show me” and “Tell me” assessments will require video and document submissions that test student’s knowledge and understanding of the lessons, which will help them to make progress toward their current and future goals. By the close of the course, students will experience each type of movement, participate in the physical activities of their choice, and complete a fitness log that details their journey. This course will prepare students to become physically active in their upcoming years, all the way through adulthood, and will teach them to find methods that suit their personal desires while preventing harmful conditions associated with a sedentary lifestyle.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Four parts

## **Electives**

### **MS Art History and Appreciation**

Where do artists find their inspiration? How can you tell a Rembrandt from a Renoir? Art History and Appreciation surveys artwork and architecture from different periods in human history. Students learn how artists use their abilities to observe and interpret reality and create unique artistic styles and works. Part 1 focuses on the art and architecture in Europe, Africa, and the Americas, while Part 2 moves east to Asia and Oceania. In each part of the course, students note the development of different art movements, the variation in artistic techniques, and the influence of significant artists and designers. Lessons explain the tools, skills, and techniques artists use to create their works. Students also learn how to differentiate between art movements in significant periods of history. At the end of this course, students can recognize different artistic styles, movements, and techniques, and identify specific pieces of artwork by period and origin.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Parts

### **MS Internet Safety**

Why take safety measures when using the Internet? What are the differences between interacting in the real world and interacting in a virtual world? In Internet Safety, students think critically about what constitutes appropriate behavior online and expand the range of their online interactions. This course begins by identifying safety precautions for online communication, sharing content responsibly, keeping accounts safe, and preventing identity theft and viruses. Students learn to identify appropriate online behavior and compare and contrast real and virtual citizenship. The course defines cyberbullying and encourages students to consider its consequences, and to report those who engage in the behavior. Lessons also include explanations of phishing, plagiarism, copyright terms, and fair use. The course ends by explaining how to recognize quality websites for research, safely use social networking sites, and buy and sell items online.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One Part

### **Introduction to OpenOffice Applications (Middle School)**

How can a word processing program eliminate errors in writing? What are some ways to make in-class presentations more interesting and interactive? In Introduction to OpenOffice Applications, students investigate OpenOffice Writer and OpenOffice Impress, the OpenOffice.org™ word processing and presentation applications, and discover the benefits of using the OpenOffice environment. With OpenOffice Writer, students create, save, and customize Writer documents to complete class assignments and perform real-world tasks. Students learn document management, how to edit and proofread documents, and how to change the appearance of text. By producing and managing presentations in OpenOffice Impress, students learn how to create custom templates and handouts and display data effectively. Students even learn how to add sounds, animations, and interactive elements to their presentations. After completing this course, students are prepared to use Write and Impress to complete academic assignments.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Parts

### **Middle School Career Exploration**

What career are you best suited for? In this course, students will explore career options in many different fields including business, health science, public administration, the arts, and information technology.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Parts

### **Middle School Journalism**

Who? What? When? Where? In this course, students will learn how to gather information, organize ideas, format stories for different forms of news media, and edit their stories for publication.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Parts

### **Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light**

Students see photographs every day on television, on the Internet, and in magazines and newspapers. What makes a great photograph? How did the artist capture a story? What makes a great picture? What are careers in photography? In this course, students learn and apply fundamental skills to use a camera and take photographs of animals, people, and landscapes. Students gain an understanding of how photography can be a means of documentation or high art. Students examine photographic careers and explore self-reflection to progress their creative growth as they develop a photographic portfolio. This course helps students select subjects, take a photograph, and print and display memories!

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Parts

**Required Materials:** A digital or film camera capable of manual aperture and shutter speed settings. If using a digital camera, software to transfer and view photos on a PC. A printer is optional. If using a film camera, students will need to purchase color and black and white film and have the film processed into digital files or prints.

### **Music Theory and Appreciation (Middle School)**

Have you ever wondered why some notes sound great together and others don't? Or how musicians translate the symbols of sheet music into the music you hear? Music theory—the study of how music works—is essential to any aspiring composer or performer. Students develop their knowledge through listening exercises, drawing and identifying notation, creating basic compositions, and analyzing music samples. In the second part of the course, students focus on music appreciation as they survey the development of music, beginning in ancient Greece and ending with modern western music. Students learn how to distinguish music from different periods and describe how music relates to its historical, cultural, and social context. By the completion of this course, students have a strong foundational understanding of music, preparing them to learn how to play an instrument or continue to more advanced music studies.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Parts

### **Problem Solving (Middle School)**

This course provides students with a fundamental overview of problem solving. Students learn George Pólya's four steps to problem solving and identify the best strategies for solving particular problems, such as determining how long it will take to save enough money for a new video-game system, how to choose the best transportation option, or what to do when the computer crashes and a term paper is due. The course also covers advanced concepts such as finding patterns and using inductive reasoning—even using algebraic techniques for solving real-world problems. After completing this course, students will have the confidence to tackle any type of problem, from a challenging math activity to losing a set of keys.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One Part

### **Study Skills (Middle School)**

Why are study skills important? What methods and techniques can students use to support studying, limit distractions, and prevent procrastination? The Study Skills course helps students develop a program to manage their study time, enhance concentration, and accomplish goals. Topics include identifying causes of study-related stress; techniques for relieving stress; the pros and cons of studying alone and in study groups; and improving reading comprehension, reading fluency, writing, and note-taking. The course concludes with strategies for preparing for tests and reducing test anxiety, leaving students well-prepared to meet their academic challenges.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** 9-week

## Credit Recovery/Summer School

### Language Arts 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1

Part 1 of this course focuses on three things: grammar, short stories, and presenting information. In the first unit, students examine grammatical concepts such as parts of speech, sentence structure, and punctuation rules. This review of the building blocks of writing prepares students to engage in a creative writing assignment, which they begin in this unit of the course.

In the second unit, students study creative fiction, including folktales from around the world and a short drama by A. A. Milne. Through their study of these works, students learn more about other cultures as well as about elements of fiction. Studying fiction will help students to use literary elements such as character, setting, and dialogue as they develop their own original short stories.

In the third unit, students learn about some of the key elements of presenting information, either through their writing or in an oral presentation. Lessons in this unit focus on topics that include understanding secondary sources, differentiating between fact and opinion, speaking effectively, and creating multimedia presentations. Through their studies in this part of the course, students learn to be critical readers, listeners, speakers, and writers.

### Language Arts 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2

Part 2 of this course delves deeper into the elements of literature and creative writing as students study both poetry and the classic novel *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*, by Mildred D. Taylor. In the first unit, students study a wide selection of poetry by authors including Robert Frost, Emily Dickinson, W. B. Yeats, and Matsuo Bashō. As they read these poems, students learn to analyze figurative language, rhyme, rhythm, poetic structure, and other key elements of poetry. This study of poetry culminates in a three-part writing assignment in which students analyze a poem.

Throughout the rest of the course, students read *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*. This renowned novel tells the story of 10-year-old Cassie Logan and her family, who live in rural Mississippi in 1933, and their struggle against racism and discrimination. As they read this novel, students learn about the elements of literature, including plot, setting, character, theme, and point of view. Their study of these elements will help students to analyze literature in a thoughtful manner.

### Language Arts 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1

Part 1 of this course examines a wide range of fiction and nonfiction, while also delving into the more technical aspects of writing including sentence structure and sentence variety. Students begin the course by studying dynamic short stories such as “All Summer in a Day,” “The Third Level,” and “Rip Van Winkle.” From there, they move on to study the informational essay, first by reading several examples and then by developing their own informational essays.

In the latter part of the course, students read Jack London’s novel *The Call of the Wild*, a story of a dog surviving in the Alaskan wilderness after being stolen from his California home. This novel teaches students to think critically about external conflict and its role in the development of the plot of a story.

This part of the course ends with lessons about poetry. Students study the different types of poetry, such as the narrative poem and haiku, as well as poetic elements including rhyme, rhythm, alliteration, and onomatopoeia. Throughout this part of the course, students learn to think critically about both fiction and nonfiction.

### Language Arts 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2

In Part 2 of this course, students continue their study of fiction and nonfiction. Students begin the course by studying nonfiction and the elements of persuasive writing. By reading famous speeches such as John F. Kennedy’s inaugural address and *Blood, Toil, Tears, and Sweat*, by Winston Churchill, students learn about the structure and key elements of persuasive writing. These lessons prepare them to write their own persuasive essays in this part of the course.

Additionally, students study vocabulary and grammar throughout the course. Students look at prefixes, root words, and suffixes to better understand the relationships between words. They also study some of the technical components of writing, such as the parts of speech. This unit helps students write formal texts.

In the final unit, students read excerpts from Louisa May Alcott’s novel *Little Women*. This story of four sisters growing up during the Civil War helps students make cultural and historical connections to another time as they study the elements of a novel.

### Language Arts 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1

Part 1 of this course immerses students in a wide range of literature and nonfiction in order to hone their critical thinking skills. The course begins with an overview of the writing process, preparing students to practice that process as they work on a persuasive essay. Students also study persuasive techniques and methods of finding and citing sources for a paper. They examine both persuasive and informational essays to get a better understanding of how to read and write these types of texts.

As the course progresses, students study different genres of literature, including poetry, short stories, and drama. Students begin by studying different poetic elements and types of poems, including Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s “Paul Revere’s Ride,” Lewis Carroll’s “Jabberwocky,” and Langston Hughes’s “Harlem.” From there, they move on to analyzing fiction and elements of drama. The course ends with the play *The*

*Diary of Anne Frank*, based on the world-renowned nonfiction book of the same title. This expansive selection of literature immerses students in a variety of genres and cultures.

### **Language Arts 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

Part 2 of this course introduces students to a range of significant historical works. Students begin by studying nonfiction texts by well-known writers including Frederick Douglass, Benjamin Franklin, and Mark Twain. As they study these texts, students become familiar with the characteristics and style of informational writing. Their work in this unit prepares them to write an informational essay, which they will work on throughout the course.

In the latter half of the course, students read Stephen Crane's best-known novel, *The Red Badge of Courage*. This novel, set during the Civil War, tells the story of a private in the Union Army who struggles to learn the true meaning of courage. As they study this novel, students learn how to analyze historical context, plot, setting, character, conflict, and other literary elements. Through this study of American literature and history, students learn to think critically about the past while honing a range of literary skills.

### **Mathematics 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

This course is designed to reinforce students' knowledge of the concepts they will need to understand in order to master sixth-grade mathematics. Part 1 of this course focuses on fundamental mathematical concepts at the sixth grade level.

Throughout this part, students focus on essential number concepts and beginning algebraic concepts. Topics covered include number classification; fractions and decimals; square and cube roots; absolute value; units and measurement; ratios, rates and percentages; and algebraic expressions. Through analysis and practice of these concepts, students gain the skills necessary to succeed with grade-level mathematics concepts.

### **Mathematics 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

This course is designed to reinforce students' knowledge of the concepts they will need to understand in order to master sixth-grade mathematics. Part 2 of the course focuses on fundamental mathematical concepts at the sixth grade level.

Throughout this part, students focus on essential algebraic and geometric concepts. Topics covered include solving equations; the coordinate plane; polygons and transformations; center, spread and shape; and data displays. Through analysis and practice of these concepts, students gain the skills necessary to successfully complete the course material.

### **Mathematics 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

This course is designed to reinforce students' knowledge of the concepts they will need to understand in order to master seventh-grade mathematics. Part 1 of the course focuses on fundamental mathematical concepts at the seventh grade level.

Throughout this part, students focus on essential algebraic concepts. Topics covered include number comparison, rational numbers, the order of operations, expressions, number properties, solving equations and inequalities, and graphs of linear equations. Through analysis and practice of these concepts, students gain the skills necessary to succeed with grade-level mathematics concepts.

### **Mathematics 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

This course is designed to reinforce students' knowledge of the concepts they will need to understand in order to master seventh-grade mathematics. Part 2 of the course focuses on fundamental mathematical concepts at the seventh grade level.

Throughout this part, students focus on essential algebraic and geometric concepts. Topics covered include proportional and non-proportional relationships, angle classification, similar figures, surface area and volume, data displays, permutations and combinations, and probabilities of events. Through analysis and practice of these concepts, students gain the skills necessary to successfully complete the course material.

### **Mathematics 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

This course is designed to reinforce students' knowledge of the fundamental concepts they will need to understand in order to master eighth-grade mathematics. Part 1 of the course focuses on fundamental mathematical concepts at the eighth grade level.

Throughout this part, students focus on essential algebraic and geometric concepts. Topics covered include exponents and scientific notation, rational expressions, proportions, linear and simple quadratic equations, surface area and volume of prisms, graphs of common functions, scale factor, and sequences. Through analysis and practice of these concepts, students gain the skills necessary to succeed with grade-level mathematics concepts.

### **Mathematics 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

This course is designed to reinforce students' knowledge of the fundamental concepts they will need to understand in order to master eighth-grade mathematics. Part 2 of the course focuses on fundamental mathematical concepts at the eighth grade level.

Throughout this part, students focus on essential algebraic and geometric concepts. Topics covered include linear functions and basic systems of equations, triangle theorems, transformations of figures on the coordinate plane, data displays, and probabilities of events. Through analysis and practice of these concepts, students gain the skills necessary to successfully complete the course material.

### **Science 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

Science is not just a subject to be studied; it is a process that can be used to solve problems. The first part of the sixth grade science course begins with an exploration of that scientific process. Once a scientific mindset has been established, students will examine the various branches of the sciences. Science can be divided into three general categories: physical, life, and earth. Students will start with the physical sciences, chemistry and physics. In their study of chemistry, students will learn about the properties of matter. As they explore physics, students will study motion and the phenomena that cause it. Students will learn how to define motion, understand the laws that govern it, and become aware of the forces that cause it. They will also study energy, which can be both the cause and the result of motion. Students will learn about the forms of mechanical energy and the properties of electrical energy. From there, the course moves into the earth sciences, with a particular emphasis on geology, the study of Earth's structures and processes. Students will study the structure of Earth, the processes by which rocks and soil are formed, and the water cycle. They will also learn about the study of weather patterns, meteorology; weather is one of the mechanisms by which water moves. Students will complete this part of the course with a study of how Earth's atmosphere, the water cycle, and Earth's other movements combine to create the weather and overall climate of a region. They will also take time to explore Earth's changing climate.

### **Science 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

Sixth grade science provides an overview of the major groups of science. The second part of this course covers the life sciences and ecology. Students begin their study of life with its most basic unit, the cell. Students examine the two different kinds of cells and the structures within cells that carry out the processes of life. Students will also learn about the structures that carry the blueprint for an organism and the traits that will be passed down to its offspring. Students will then build on their knowledge by seeing how cells come together to make tissues, tissues come together to make organs, and organs and tissues come together to make organ systems. Students will learn about the three domains and five kingdoms into which all life on Earth is classified. They will learn how the classifications were developed and examine some representative members of these classifications. Finally, students will study ecology, which explores the environment and the ways organisms interact with it. Students will study the ways matter and energy cycle through the ecosystem. The course concludes with a discussion of efforts to conserve natural resources and preserve the environment.

### **Science 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

Seventh grade science shows students how science is used to study the natural world. The course begins with an overview of the methods used in laboratories and scientific investigations to process the information gathered in the process of science. Science can be divided into several different subjects; this course gives an overview of its major branches, beginning with chemistry. Students learn about atoms, how they are classified, and how they interact with other atoms and molecules. Chemistry and physics are sometimes combined as the physical sciences, because they are related in their study of energy. Students explore the science of motion, physics, by learning about the laws and quantities that govern motion. Students learn about the properties and characteristics of waves, which energy uses to travel. Finally, students are introduced to another physical science, earth science, as they explore Earth's structure and atmosphere.

### **Science 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

The first part of this course gave students an overview of the physical sciences: chemistry, physics, and earth science. The second part continues with the study of earth science, as students learn about the formation of the layers of Earth and changes that have occurred in those layers over time. Included in those changes are the movements of the surface of Earth that create landforms, cause earthquakes, and produce volcanoes. Students then learn more about the information hidden in Earth's layers: the fossil record. This record allows scientists to learn more about ancient life-forms. The course moves into biology as students learn more about these life-forms. They examine the classifications of life-forms and the different kinds of animal life. The modern theory is that current life on Earth evolved from earlier life-forms. Students will learn about the theory of natural selection, which allows favorable traits to be passed down to offspring, and explore how this mechanism could have led to evolution. Students will study genetics, which explains how traits are passed down. Finally, students will study the environment in which organisms live and the interactions between the components of the environment as they explore the natural science ecology.

### **Science 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

This course is an overview of the various branches of science. This part begins by looking at chemistry. Students will start by exploring the basic building block of matter, the atom. Then students will see how these atoms come together to make other types of matter and learn about the forms that matter takes. Students will explore the natures of compounds and mixtures, along with more information about specific examples of both. They will learn about the three phases of matter and discover the ways that matter can change from one phase to another. When physical and chemical changes occur, energy may change as well. Students will learn the nature of those energy changes. The course transitions from chemistry to biology by looking at the reactions that happen in the body. This part of the course concludes with an exploration of the various systems that make up the human body.

### **Science 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

The second part of this course continues the overview of the various branches of science. This part begins with a study of biology, as students examine how materials cycle through the environment. Next, students will look at life, beginning with its smallest unit, the cell. Students will learn about the cells that make up living organisms, some of which are single-celled and others of which are multicellular. Students will then learn about the structures and functions of the cell, including how the cell processes energy and reproduces itself. This part of the course then moves into an exploration of the science of physics. Students will discover the nature of motion and the laws that govern it. That study of motion will expand beyond Earth as students explore the motion of the other objects in the universe. The remainder of the course will be spent discovering outer space, as students learn about astronomy. Students will also learn about how Earth moves and how that movement affects life on Earth. Students will conclude the course by examining the structures of other objects found in space.

### **Social Studies 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

In this course, students will study the past and present while exploring the interconnectedness of human societies worldwide. The first part of the course begins with the first humans and the hunter-gatherer way of life. Students will examine how the first civilizations came to be and the importance of the Fertile Crescent to these civilizations. The course then tracks the progress of humans and the empires they created: the Persian empire, ancient Greece, and the Roman empire. The spread of religion will also be covered extensively in this course. This part of the course ends with an examination of the culture of medieval Europe.

### **Social Studies 6th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

The second part of this course continues the investigation of ways the past influences the present and societies in one part of the world influence those elsewhere. This part begins by exploring different periods in world history, including the Crusades, the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Middle Ages, and the colonial period. Students will also learn about African kingdoms, the geography of North and South America, and the people who lived in what came to be called the Americas: the Mayas, Aztecs, and North American civilizations. Students will learn about the global influences of technology, religion, trade, uprisings, conquering, and fights for independence. Students will examine critical concepts, pivotal events, and important historical figures to round out their study of world history.

### **Social Studies 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

In the first part of this course, students will revisit the transition of early peoples from a nomadic existence to an agricultural lifestyle. Students will explore the contributions made by early civilizations including those in ancient Egypt, China, and Greece. Many of these contributions, such as writing and art, continue to be relevant to modern life. Students will study life in ancient Rome, focusing on the development of a republic, and learn about the rise of feudalism during the Middle Ages. Students will dig deeper into the cultural, economic, political, religious, and social changes occurring at the time. The course will conclude with the creation of the estates of the realm and the impact of the Black Death, both of which provide a framework for the second part of the course. This course will also help students to strengthen their critical thinking skills through the use of primary resources, videos, and online activities. Students will compare and contrast events and developments between various groups of people and environments. In addition, they will engage in historical inquiry and problem solving through lessons on continuity and change during the historical periods studied.

### **Social Studies 7th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

The world is constantly changing and evolving. The purpose of social studies is to study the past to help evaluate the present. The second part of this course gives students a rich sample of the history of various parts of the world. Students will start their lessons in the kingdoms of Europe, investigating its rulers, geography, and the dominant lifestyles. Students will also learn about the Roman Empire, the Crusades, the Renaissance, the Spanish Inquisition, the colonial period, and the Enlightenment. Lessons about culture, conflict, and compromise help students learn about the history of the world.

### **Social Studies 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 1**

Part 1 of this course guides students through the first half of American history. Students will learn about early colonial life as they explore the geographic distinctions of the Northern, Middle, and Southern Colonies. Students will investigate the creation of the new nation, the founding fathers, the Revolutionary War, and the key documents that provided the foundation for the government of the new nation. Finally, students will learn about key events in American history of the nineteenth century, ending with westward expansion.

### **Social Studies 8th Grade Credit Recovery- Part 2**

The second part of this course covers the second half of American history, beginning with the glories and trials of expanding the nation westward. Students will investigate the controversy over whether or not to bring the institution of slavery to the newly formed states. From here, students dive into an examination of the Civil War, including specific battles and, after the war, Reconstruction in the South. Students will also look at the Spanish-American War before they step into the twentieth century, learning about such important events as World Wars I and II, the civil rights movement, and the Cold War.



## Electives

### MS Art Explorations

Introducing students to diverse areas in the arts can broaden their perspective on the arts in general. Arts Explorations encourages students to experience each of the modern arts disciplines including Visual Arts, Theatre, Music, Media Arts and Dance. Students will also be able to identify areas of special interest where they would like continued study and the ways that the arts can be a part of their career paths.

#### Major Concepts:

- **Introduction to the arts:** Gain a better understanding of the different forms of art and recognize the products of modern arts careers.
- **Film and television:** Discover the history of film and television and its evolution including technological inventions and inventors, directors, actors and other socio-cultural impacts of film and television.
- **Media arts:** Explore digital photography, photojournalism, photo manipulation and more and learn how to capture scenes and edit them using modern technology.
- **Studio arts:** Learn the artistic elements and techniques needed to compose a range of different artwork using various mediums.
- **Art history:** Discover the rich history of the arts and the major artists and works that have built the foundation for the arts today.
- **World music:** Analyze the musical works from Russia, Spain, Ireland, Africa, Hawaii and beyond.
- **American music:** Gain a better understanding of American music by learning about the schools, organizations and artists that have contributed to the music industry beginning as far back as colonial times.
- **Theatre:** From backstage to the spotlight, identify various jobs and roles associated with theatre.
- **Dance:** Discover the evolution of dance, from ancient ritualistic ceremonies to the moonwalk and Michael Jackson.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One Semester

### MS Basic Drawing

Students will experiment with several different art materials and tools to see what each tool can do best. Students will explore ordinary things around them to become more observant of the structures and meanings of things which can be seen in your their home and community.

Your work will be your own study of the forms, textures, movements, and patterns of the things that you see every day.

Each project and each lesson is based on the one before it; so always do the lessons in the order they are given. Be sure to follow the directions exactly regarding which materials, sizes, and subject matter to use for each project. Each lesson will be a study of a new way of drawing. The examples given will show only the method and materials to be used, never the same subject or size as the project assigned. The examples are never to be copied. An example will only show one way of using the technique described.

By becoming more observant, by experimenting with new materials, and by exploring a variety of methods, students will continue to grow in artistic skill and enjoyment.

Beyond fundamental skills are various levels of creativity. Each lesson provides room for expressing the technical skill learned in a unique, creative way.

#### Major Concepts:

- Utilize various drawing tools including: pencil, conté, pen, and brush.
- Draw images using various techniques including: crosshatching, contour line, gesture, shading, washes, and texture.
- Demonstrate the illusion of space and depth on a two-dimensional surface with the use of: scale, placement, overlapping, linear perspective, and aerial perspective.
- Illustrate the full value range possible in various drawing tools and use value to define space and images in projects.
- Demonstrate an awareness of line quality that will add to the visual description of subjects in drawings.
- Solve design issues for final images of landscape, interior, still life, animal, and figure drawings. This will be accomplished by arranging images and elements so the viewer will see the meaning or impact you intended.
- Gain clarity and self-confidence in visual decision-making.
- Solve assignment challenges with planning, practice, patience, and the use of techniques introduced in the course.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One Semester

**Materials:** 1 drawing pencil, 2B, 1 round hair brush #10, 1 bottle India Ink, black, 1 Pilot Varsity Pen, self contained black ink, 2 conté,crayons: white, black, 1 Art gum eraser, 1 white, wax Crayola crayon, 40 sheets white drawing paper 9x12, 5 sheets construction paper, 9x12 black, 15 sheets grey construction paper 9x12, 14 large envelopes 10x13, 2 sheets white watercolor paper (rough, heavy, stiff), 2 sheets rice paper 9.5x12 (soft, translucent), 25 sheets newsprint 9x12, 1 bottle white glue (obtain locally).

## **MS Beginning Painting**

This course introduces students to classical and contemporary painting, techniques and concepts, with emphasis on the understanding of its formal language and the fundamentals of artistic expression. Painting from still life, landscape, and life models from observation will be geared towards realism; at the same time, various other painting styles could be explored. Color theory, linear perspective, compositional structure, figure/ground relationships, visual perception, spatial concepts, and critical thinking skills will all be emphasized. Students will study and research major painting styles and movements in historical context. The hope is that students will use this global approach to develop a “critical eye” in evaluation of contemporary painting. Acrylic and watercolors are the mediums used in this class. The main emphasis of this course is to encourage and nourish individuality and creativity.

### **Major Concepts:**

- Demonstrate skills in creating painted works with acrylic medium.
- Show skills in creating painted works with watercolor medium, including washes and dry brush techniques.
- Solve assignment challenges with planning, practice, patience, and the use of techniques introduced in the course.
- Master color mixing in two painting mediums.
- Identify and apply color harmonies.
- Gain awareness of art movements and artists throughout the history of painting.
- Enhance good design principles with a focus on the composition of painted assignments.
- Display clarity and self-confidence in visual decision-making.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** One Semester

**Materials:** Chromacryl tube of acrylic paints, Round brush, Flat brush, Watercolor paints (includes brush), Set of markers, Painting paper (use for all paintings), Newsprint paper (do not use for painting projects), 1 4b pencil, 7 project cardstock pages.

## World Languages

### MS Chinese 1

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the first semester of High School Chinese I. Students begin their introduction to Chinese by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

#### Major concepts:

- Engage in language learning
- Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
- Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic Chinese
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Semesters

### MS Chinese 2

Students continue their language-learning adventure by progressing to this next level of middle school Chinese. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the second semester of High School Chinese I. Students expand their introduction to Chinese through focus on four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Both Chinese characters and pinyin are presented together throughout the course and specific character practices are introduced after the first quarter. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

#### Major Concepts:

- Engage in language learning
- Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns

- Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic controversial prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic Chinese
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Chinese-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** Middle School Chinese 1, or equivalent

**Length:** Two Semesters

### **MS French 1**

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the first semester of High School French I. Students begin their introduction to French by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

#### **Major concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
- Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
- Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic French
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Semesters

### **MS French 2**

Students continue their language-learning adventure by progressing to this next level of middle school French. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the second semester of High French I. Students expand their introduction to French through focus on four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

#### **Major concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
  - Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
  - Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
  - Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
  - Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns

- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic French
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** Middle School French I, or equivalent

**Length:** Two Semesters

## **MS German 1**

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the first semester of High School German I. Students begin their introduction to German by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

### **Major concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
- Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
- Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic German
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisites:** None

**Length:** Two Semesters

## **MS German 2**

Students continue their language-learning adventure by progressing to this next level of middle school German. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the second semester of High School German I. Students expand their introduction to German through focus on four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

### **Major concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
- Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns

- Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic German
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various German-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** Middle School German I, or equivalent

**Length:** Two Semesters

### **MS Latin 1**

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the first semester of High School Latin I. Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

### **Major Concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
  - Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
  - Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
  - Engage with primary sources from ancient Roman authors
  - Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
  - Read and write for meaning in basic Latin
  - Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Greek and Roman cultures
  - Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Semesters

### **MS Latin 2**

Students continue their language-learning adventure by progressing to this next level of middle school Latin. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the second semester of High School Latin I. Since mastering a classical language presents different challenges from learning a spoken world language, students learn Latin through ancient, time-honored, classical language approaches which include repetition, parsing, written composition, and listening exercises. These techniques, combined with a modern multimedia approach to learning grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, provide students with a strong foundation for learning Latin. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading comprehension activities, writing activities, multimedia culture, history, and mythology presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on engaging with authentic classical Latin through weekly encounters with ancient passages from such prestigious authors as Virgil, Ovid, and Lucretius. The curriculum concurs with the Cambridge school of Latin; therefore, students will learn ancient high classical styles of pronunciation and grammar in lieu of generally less sophisticated medieval styles, making it possible for students to comprehend the most Latin from the widest range of time periods. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, understand and analyze the cultural and historical contexts of the ancient sources they study, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

### **Major concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
  - Master common vocabulary terms and phrases

- Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
- Engage with primary sources from ancient Roman authors
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read and write for meaning in basic Latin
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Greek and Roman cultures
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** Middle School Latin 1, or equivalent

**Length:** Two Semesters

### **MS Spanish 1**

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the first semester of High School Spanish I. Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

#### **Major concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
  - Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
  - Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns
  - Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
  - Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
  - Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic Spanish
  - Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries
  - Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** None

**Length:** Two Semesters

### **MS Spanish 2**

Students continue their language-learning adventure by progressing to this next level of middle school Spanish. The instruction is equivalent to that found in the second semester of High Spanish I. Students expand their introduction to Spanish through focus on four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course represents an ideal blend of language learning pedagogy and online learning. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, reading and listening comprehension activities, speaking and writing activities, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities and practices which reinforce vocabulary and grammar. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

#### **Major concepts:**

- Engage in language learning
  - Master common vocabulary terms and phrases
  - Comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns

- Participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts
- Generate language incorporating basic vocabulary and grammar patterns
- Read, write, speak, and listen for meaning in basic Spanish
- Analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries
- Regularly assess progress in proficiency through quizzes, tests, and speaking/writing submissions

**Prerequisite:** Middle School Spanish 1, or equivalent

**Length:** Two Semesters