

# NISD Middle School Course Selection



2018-2019

**NORTHSIDE INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



Please be advised that this Course Catalog is contingent on future decisions of the Texas Education Agency, State Board of Education, Texas Legislature and/or Northside Independent School District. If changes occur the online catalog will be updated.

It is the policy of Northside Independent School District not to discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, sex or handicap in its programs, services or activities as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.

# Northside Independent School District 2018-2019 Calendar



5900 Evers Road  
San Antonio, Texas 78238  
Internet: [www.nisd.net](http://www.nisd.net) Email: [info@nisd.net](mailto:info@nisd.net)  
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: August 27, 2018 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL: June 6, 2019  
FIRST SEMESTER: 87 days SECOND SEMESTER: 90 days

## July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

## December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

## March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

**Grading Periods.** Schools use 6 or 9-week grading periods. Report Cards will be sent on the last day of the next week following the end of the period.

### Legend

Student Holiday/Staff Development	○
Student Holiday/Staff Work Day	○
Teacher & Student Holiday	■
Student Holiday/Half Staff Dev/Half Work Day	●
Begin Semester	┌
End Semester	└
End Six Weeks	┌
End Nine Weeks	└
Bad Weather Makeup Day	*
Feb. 18, 2018 (1st choice); June 7 (2nd choice)	*
High School Early Release Day	*
(Dates: TBD 12:50 p.m.)	

### Student Holidays

July 4	Independence Day Holiday
Sept. 3	Labor Day
Oct. 8	Columbus Day/Student Holiday
Nov. 19-20	Student Holiday/Staff Dev.
Nov. 21-23	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 24-Jan. 4	Winter Break
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Feb. 18	Student Holiday/Staff Dev./Bad Weather Makeup Day
March 11-15	Spring Break
April 19	Easter Break
April 26	Battle of Flowers
May 27	Memorial Day
June 6	Work Day/Bad Weather Makeup Day

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## Using the Course Catalog

The Middle School Course Catalog provides course information for required courses and electives. Courses have been grouped by grade level. More detailed information about reading the course listings can be found on page 4 of this catalog.

## EXPLANATION OF ABBREVIATIONS

PR: Prerequisite  
SEM: Semesters  
CR: High School Credit

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# Campus Contact Information

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**Bernal Middle School**  
(210) 398-1900  
14045 Bella Vista Place, 78253

**Jones Middle School**  
(210) 397-2100  
1256 Pinn Rd., 78227

**Rayburn Middle School**  
(210) 397-2150  
1400 Cedarhurst Dr., 78227

**Briscoe Middle School**  
(210) 398-1100  
4265 Lone Star Parkway, 78253

**Jordan Middle School**  
(210) 397-6150  
1725 Richland Hills Dr., 78251

**Ross Middle School**  
(210) 397-6350  
3630 Callaghan Rd., 78228

**Connally Middle School**  
(210) 397-1000  
8661 Silent Sunrise, 78250

**Luna Middle School**  
(210) 397-5300  
200 N. Grosenbacher Rd., 78253

**Rudder Middle School**  
(210) 397-5000  
6558 Horn Blvd., 78240

**Folks Middle School**  
(210) 398-1600  
9855 Swayback Ranch, 78254

**Neff Middle School**  
(210) 397-4100  
5227 Evers Rd., 78238

**Stevenson Middle School**  
(210) 397-7300  
8403 Tezel Rd., 78254

**Hector Garcia Middle School**  
(210) 397-8400  
14900 Kyle Seale Pkwy., 78255

**Pease Middle School**  
(210) 397-2950  
201 Hunt Lane, 78245

**Stinson Middle School**  
(210) 397-3600  
13200 Skyhawk Dr., 78249

**Hobby Middle School**  
(210) 397-6300  
11843 Vance Jackson Rd., 78230

**Rawlinson Middle School**  
(210) 397-4900  
14100 Vance Jackson Rd., 78249

**Vale Middle School**  
(210) 397-5700  
2120 N. Ellison Dr., 78251

**Jefferson Middle School**  
(210) 397-3700  
10900 Shaenfield Rd., 78254

**Zachry Middle School**  
(210) 397-7400  
9410 Timber Path, 78250



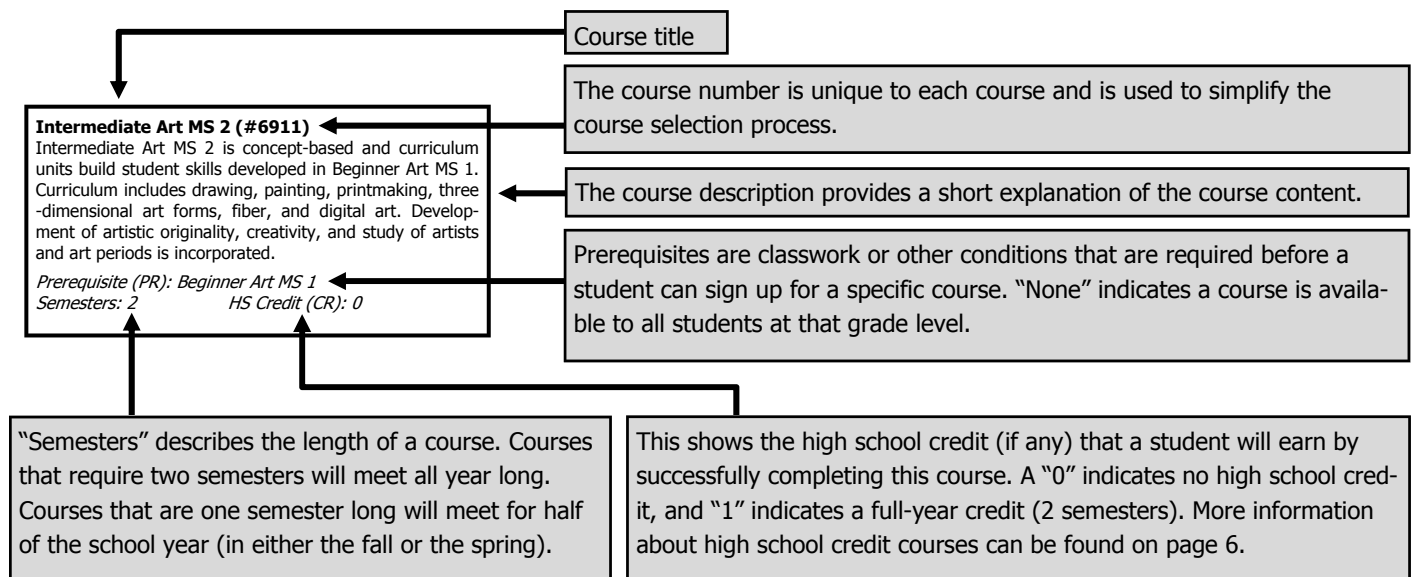
**Northside Independent  
School District**

# Course Selection Process

The process for students/parents to make course selections for the following school year typically begins in early spring. Each middle school campus will communicate with both 5th grade parents (of future 6th grade students) and to current 6th and 7th grade parents about their specific processes and timelines. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the middle school Counseling Department. The campus contact numbers are located on page 3 of this catalog.

## How to Read Course Descriptions

This course selection booklet contains information about each course offered at NISD middle schools. Courses are grouped by grade level and content area. Each course description contains the following basic information:



Course listings in this catalog are grouped by grade level. Courses for students at each grade level can be found in the following sections:

- Courses for incoming 6th grade students: Pages 8-10
- Courses for incoming 7th grade students: Pages 11-15
- Courses for incoming 8th grade students: Pages 16-22

At each grade level, required courses are listed first, followed by elective course listings.

# Required Courses

## 6TH GRADE

Students will enroll in one course in each of the following content areas:

English Language Arts (ELA)  
Math  
Social Studies  
Science  
PE  
Advisory

Students will select one elective course to fill the remainder of the school day.

Note: In place of an elective, students may be enrolled in an intervention class based on academic need.

## 7TH GRADE

Students will enroll in one course in each of the following content areas:

English Language Arts (ELA)  
Math  
Social Studies  
Science  
PE or Athletics

Students will select elective courses to fill the remainder of the school day.

Students may be enrolled in an intervention class based on academic need.

## 8TH GRADE

Students will enroll in one course in each of the following content areas:

English Language Arts (ELA)  
Math  
Social Studies  
Science  
PE or Athletics

Students will select elective courses to fill the remainder of the school day.

Students may be enrolled in an intervention class based on academic need.

## Middle School Grading and Citizenship

### ACADEMIC GRADES

90—100	A
80—89	B
75—79	C
70—74	D
69 and Below	F

### CITIZENSHIP

E	Excellent
S	Satisfactory
N	Needs Improvement
U	Unacceptable

## Home Access Center (HAC) for Student Grades

The Home Access Center (HAC) is Northside's parent/guardian portal for accessing student grades and attendance. Parents can create an online account using their student's school ID number and unique "4 x 4" password (which can be provided by campus personnel).

Once a parent account has been created, the HAC can be accessed at [hac.nisd.net](http://hac.nisd.net). The system will allow parents to customize email alerts for grades or attendance.

Students can also access their own grade data at [hac.nisd.net](http://hac.nisd.net). The student's user name is "S" followed by his or her student ID number (S123456), and the password is the new student "4 x 4."

# High School Credit Courses in Middle School

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Students have opportunities to earn high school credit while still enrolled in middle school. The available high school credit courses vary by campus, but may include MS Algebra I Pre-AP, Spanish, AVID 1, and Art.

## AWARDING OF CREDIT

In order to receive credit in high school courses, the student **MUST** meet both an academic standard **AND** the state attendance requirements.

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

For high school credit courses, each semester grade consists of 3 six-weeks' grades and a semester exam.

- The semester exam score represents 20% of the semester grade.
- The average of 3 six weeks' grades represents 80% of the semester grade.

The average of the two semester grades will determine the course grade and will become part of the student's high school Grade Point Average (GPA).

Semester exams are administered the last week of each semester (fall and spring) and are a percent of the student's overall course grade for each semester.

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) AND TRANSCRIPTS

- GPA is weighted with additional points for Pre-AP course distinctions with +5 points.
- Spanish 4 AP (8th grade only at select campuses) is weighted with an additional +8 points.
- If a student wishes to repeat the same full-year course previously taken and **PASSED** (not failed) to strengthen knowledge or to improve the grade earned, he/she may do so at a Northside ISD school within the 12-month period immediately following completion of the course. The higher grade achieved, whether as a result of the first or second time the course is taken, is used in calculating the student's grade point average (GPA).
- If a student **FAILS** a high school course, this failing grade will remain a component of the student's high school GPA and the student's transcript.
- GPA is used to determine high school class rank and is issued at the end of the 6th and 7th semester of the student's high school career.
- Please reference the Student Handbook for additional information.

## ATTENDANCE INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

The attendance requirement states that a student **MUST** attend the high school class for a minimum of 90% of the scheduled class time in order to receive credit for the course.

For 2018-19, a student may not be absent (excused or unexcused) for more than 18 days in order to receive credit for a high school credit course.

**The Minimum Attendance for Class Credit Law** (section 25.092) states, "A student may not be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance for at least 90% of the days the class is offered." If a student accrues more than eighteen (**18**) absences in a year-long course, without attending Attendance Recovery or having extenuating circumstances, he or she will receive **NO CREDIT** for that course.

**If your student misses an excess of 18 days during this school year, absences will be considered excessive and will result in denial of credit. Please note that credit will be denied even if the student is receiving a passing grade for the course.**

Absences will be reviewed periodically to ensure students are in compliance with this expectation. Students will have an opportunity to "retrieve" or "make-up" instructional time missed due to absences, in order to ensure they meet the attendance requirements for high school credit courses.

**Attendance Recovery** will be offered for students who need to make up excessive absences. Students must attend Attendance Recovery for both excused and unexcused absences which exceed the legal limit.

## EOC ASSESSMENTS

Middle school students who take Algebra I will take the STAAR End-of-Course test (EOC). This test is a rigorous and timed assessment. Students taking the EOC test must be aware that there is an EOC requirement for high school graduation. If a student fails to meet the passing standard set for the EOC test, the student will receive accelerated instruction and will have to retake the test.

# Pre-Advanced Placement Courses

Northside offers many Pre-AP (Advanced Placement) courses to middle school students. Participation in advanced academic courses is a foundation of college readiness. Students who participate in advanced coursework such as Pre-AP and AP classes are more likely to complete a bachelor's degree in college and typically have higher grades in college.

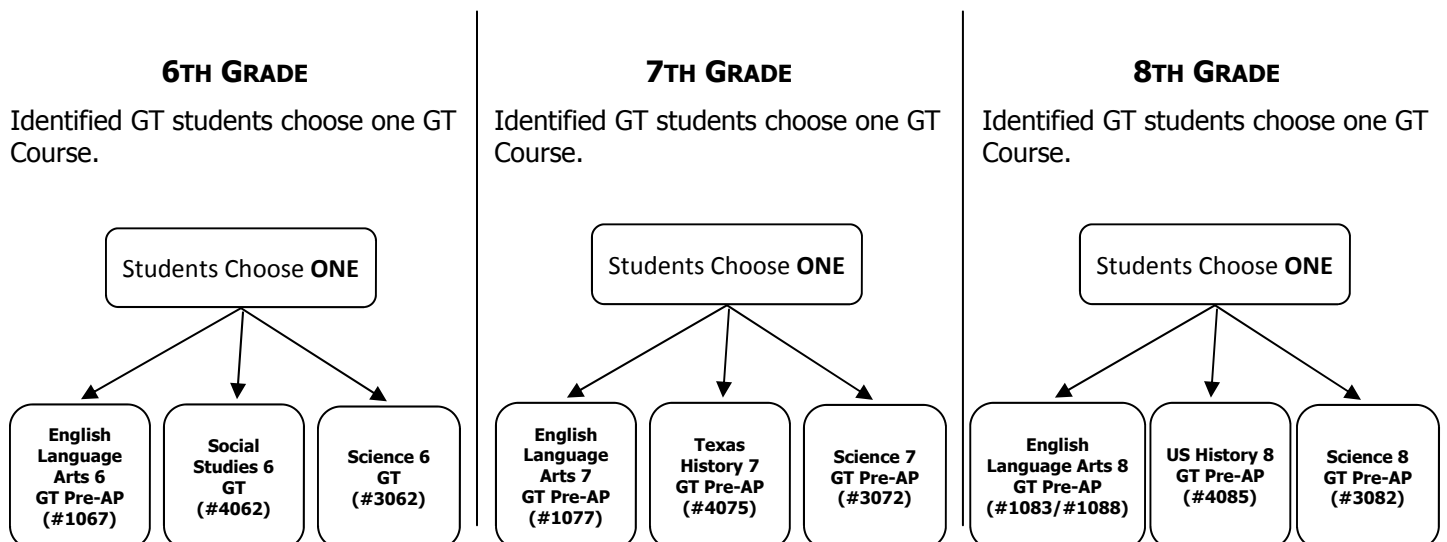
Northside ISD recognizes the value of student participation in rigorous academic coursework and encourages students to graduate from high school with at least one advanced academic course credit such as Advanced Placement. Our collective purpose is to ensure student success in middle school Pre-AP courses and provide opportunities for higher levels of learning in future grades.

Pre-AP courses are intended to develop students' literacy, problem-solving skills, and analysis. These middle school classes are designed to challenge students through rigorous instruction and complex learning tasks in order to prepare them for success in future Pre-AP classes, AP classes, and college courses.

## Gifted/Talented Program

Identified GT students choose a GT course each year. Each year's course selection is independent of the previous year. Each GT course will include in-depth research on a topic of the student's choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. This Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned through their course of study. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

Course selection is not guaranteed due to campus enrollment and staffing. Please give careful consideration to GT content selection.



# Sixth Grade Required Courses



The courses listed in this section are available to current 5th grade students who are incoming 6th graders. Available programs will vary slightly by campus. Students will select one course in each of the required subject areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, PE, and Advisory). Contact campus counselor for course availability.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

### ELA 6 (#1061)

Middle School English Language Arts is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and inquiry strategies are integrated daily to create a literacy-rich classroom which promotes engaging, student-centered learning. Through the communication of ideas, orally and in writing, students continue to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become independent readers, writers, and thinkers. The primary goals of this course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop the habits necessary for academic success.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### ELA 6 Pre-AP (#1066)

This course is designed to prepare and motivate middle school students for Pre-AP and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. This is in addition to the grade-level expectations of the Middle School English Language Arts classroom. Students have multiple opportunities to develop communication and analytical skills in an academically challenging course of study. As a preparation for Advanced Placement English courses in high school, this course adds a focus on literary analysis in reading, writing, and speaking.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### ELA 6 GT Pre-AP (#1067)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

Middle School English Language Arts is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and inquiry strategies are integrated daily to create a literacy-rich classroom which promotes engaging, student-centered learning. Through the communication of ideas, orally and in writing, students continue to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become independent readers, writers, and thinkers. The primary goals of this course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop the habits necessary for academic success. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. The Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

GT courses are offered in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Enrollment in these courses is open to identified NISD GT students. Students may only select one GT course each academic year.

## MATHEMATICS

### Math 6 (#2060)

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation for students to solve problems using number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and relationships; and measurement and data. The students will utilize process standards in order to weave knowledge and skills together so that they may be successful problem solvers and use mathematics efficiently and effectively in daily life.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Math 6 Pre-AP (#2062)

**Note: If you would like your student to enroll in MS Algebra I Pre-AP in 8th grade, select this course.**

This course is designed to extend the 6th Math curriculum into aligned 7th grade TEKS with an emphasis on complex problem solving through the lens of number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and relationships; and measurement and data. The students will utilize process standards in order to weave knowledge and skills together so that they may be successful problem solvers and use mathematics efficiently and effectively in daily life. This course will build a foundation for the 7th Pre-AP Math course.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### Social Studies 6 (#4060)

In 6th grade Social Studies, students study people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Societies of focus are 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 will study 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 will learn the different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. They will study the concepts of limited and unlimited government, and describe the nature of citizenship in various societies. Students will compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religious institutions. Students will also learn how the level of technology affects the development of various societies.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Social Studies 6 GT (#4062)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

In 6th grade Social Studies, students study people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Societies of focus are 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 will study 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 will learn the different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. They will study the concepts of limited and unlimited government, and describe the nature of citizenship in various societies. Students will compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religious institutions. Students will also learn how the level of technology affects the development of various societies. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. This Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.



# Sixth Grade Required Courses

The courses listed in this section are available to current 5th grade students who are incoming 6th graders. Available programs will vary slightly by campus. Students will select one course in each of the required subject areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, PE, and Advisory). Contact campus counselor for course availability.



## SCIENCE

### Science 6 (#3060)

In 6th grade Science, the content focus is on physical science. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: chemical formulas, physical properties of elements, evidence of chemical change, Earth's energy resources, potential and kinetic energy, motion, law of conservation of energy, Earth's structure, geological events, components of the solar system, space exploration, levels and classification of organisms and interaction of organisms within an ecosystem.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Science 6 GT (#3062)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

In 6th grade Science, the content focus is on physical science. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: chemical formulas, physical properties of elements, evidence of chemical change, Earth's energy resources, potential and kinetic energy, motion, law of conservation of energy, Earth's structure, geological events, components of the solar system, space exploration, levels and classification of organisms and interaction of organisms within an ecosystem. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. This Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

GT courses are offered in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Enrollment in these courses is open to identified NISD GT students. Students may only select one GT course each academic year.

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### PE 6 (#5069)

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development and an understanding of the relationship between physical activity and health through a life span. In sixth grade physical education, students will be taught to understand the function of the body and will learn how to measure their own performance accurately. Students will be given the opportunity to learn new activities and skills that will motivate them to be active for a lifetime including: rock climbing, circuit training, mountain biking, basketball, flag football, etc. All students will take the Fitnessgram to assess cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, upper body strength, abdominal strength, trunk extension and body mass.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

***Middle School Dance may be taken as an elective, or as a fulfillment of the PE requirement.***

***Students who wish to use Dance as an elective should NOT enroll in this course, but should rather enroll in Dance MS 1 (#6810) (listed on page 10).***

***Students who wish to use Dance to fulfill the PE requirement should enroll in Dance MS 1 PE (#5091) listed below. These students must also choose an elective from page 10 in this catalog.***

### Dance MS 1 PE (#5091)

***Note: This course serves as a substitute for Physical Education. To take this course as an elective only, see the course listing on page 10.***

The first dance course in middle school is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute beginner skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## ADVISORY

### Advisory (#9006)

This course supports students as they transition to middle school. Advisory is designed to encourage students to develop intellectually and strive for personal excellence through goal setting, character education, and academic support.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*



**Northside Independent  
School District**

# Sixth Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 5th grade students who are incoming 6th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.



**Elective offerings are based on enrollment, staffing, and availability. Not all electives are offered at all middle school campuses. Please contact the campus counseling department for a complete list of specific elective offerings.**

## ORCHESTRA

### Beginner Orchestra (#6079)

Orchestra Beginner Level is designed to teach students how to play a violin, viola, cello, or string bass instrument. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Students will learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform music. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Orchestra concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

**Note: Students who have successfully completed a 5th grade after-school string program may be eligible for placement in an intermediate orchestra class pending a review of the student's skill abilities by the middle school orchestra director. Parents should contact the middle school orchestra director immediately for an appointment.**

## BAND

### Beginner Band (#6017)

Band Beginner Level is designed to teach students how to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Students will learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform music. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Band concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## MARIACHI

### Beginner Mariachi (#6083)

Music, Middle School 1, Instrumental Ensemble is available on only those campuses where district-approved mariachi programs are offered (Rayburn, Jones, Ross, Neff). This is a beginner level course for students to learn to play guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón only. Vocal, trumpet, and violin beginner students develop their music fundamentals in beginner choir, band, and orchestra classes. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Mariachi concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## CHOIR

### Beginner Treble (Girls) Choir (#6401)

This course is designed to teach students how to sing properly. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Girls are assigned to the Treble Choir and boys are assigned to the Tenor Bass Choir. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Choir concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Beginner Tenor/Bass (Boys) Choir (#6402)

This course is designed to teach students how to sing properly. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Girls are assigned to the Treble Choir and boys are assigned to the Tenor Bass Choir. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Choir concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## THEATRE

### Beginner Theatre (#6609)

Beginning Theatre is an introductory theatre course designed for the student to experience the basic elements of drama. No previous theatre or drama experience is required. Beginning acting and technical theatre techniques will be explored along with the basic skills needed to create a theatrical performance.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## ART

### Beginner Art MS 1 (#6910)

Beginner Art MS 1 is concept-based. Curriculum units include drawing, painting, printmaking, three-dimensional art forms, fiber, and digital art. Content will include student originality and creativity.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## DANCE

**Middle School Dance may be taken as an elective, or as a fulfillment of the PE requirement.**

**Students who wish to use Dance to fulfill the PE requirement should NOT enroll in this course, but should rather enroll in Dance MS 1 PE (#5091) (listed on page 9).**

**Students who wish to use Dance as an elective, should enroll in Dance MS 1 (#6810) listed below.**

### Dance MS 1 (#6810)

**Note: This course serves as an elective only. To take this course as a substitute for PE, see the course listing on page 8.**

The first dance course in middle school is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute beginner skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## SPANISH—HS CREDIT (DUAL LANGUAGE ONLY)

### Spanish 2 Pre-AP for Spanish Speakers MS (#5739) - HS Credit

This course is for students currently enrolled in the elementary Dual Language program. It offers students opportunities to expand their knowledge of Spanish using special materials and activities designed for Spanish speakers. Students will continue to develop and refine their Spanish skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing through an enriched curriculum concentrating on Hispanic Culture, Customs, Heritage, and History.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD Dual-Language student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

Courses which qualify for high school credit will be part of the High School Grade Point Average (GPA). Students must meet both attendance and academic requirements to receive high school credit. Semester exams are administered the last week of each semester (Fall and Spring) counting for 20% of the semester average.

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Seventh Grade Required Courses



The courses listed in this section are available to current 6th grade students who are incoming 7th graders. Available programs will vary slightly by campus. Students will select one course in each of the required subject areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, and PE/Athletics). Contact campus counselor for course availability.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

### ELA 7 (#1071)

Middle School English Language Arts is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and inquiry strategies are integrated daily to create a literacy-rich classroom which promotes engaging, student-centered learning. Through the communication of ideas, orally and in writing, students continue to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become independent readers, writers, and thinkers. The primary goals of this course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop the habits necessary for academic success.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### ELA 7 Pre-AP (#1076)

This course is designed to prepare and motivate middle school students for Pre-AP and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. This is in addition to the grade-level expectations of the Middle School English Language Arts classroom. Students have multiple opportunities to develop communication and analytical skills in an academically challenging course of study. As a preparation for Advanced Placement English courses in high school, this course adds a focus on literary analysis in reading, writing, and speaking.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### ELA 7 GT Pre-AP (#1077)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

Middle School English Language Arts is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and inquiry strategies are integrated daily to create a literacy-rich classroom which promotes engaging, student-centered learning. Through the communication of ideas, orally and in writing, students continue to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become independent readers, writers, and thinkers. The primary goals of this course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop the habits necessary for academic success. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. The Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

GT courses are offered in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Enrollment in these courses is open to identified NISD GT students. Students may only select one GT course each academic year.

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

## MATHEMATICS

### Math 7 (#2070)

This course builds on student understanding of number and operations; proportionality; expressions, equations, and relationships; and measurement and data. Students will utilize process standards in order to weave knowledge and skills together so that they may be successful problem solvers and use mathematics efficiently and effectively in daily life.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Math 7 Pre-AP (#2072)

This course connects components from the 7th grade math TEKS into the 8th grade math curriculum with an emphasis on complex problem solving through the lens of proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data. Students will utilize process standards to weave knowledge and skills together so they may be successful problem solvers and use mathematics efficiently and effectively in daily life. This course will build a foundation for the MS Algebra 1 Pre-AP course.

*Prerequisite (PR): Math 6 Pre-AP*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

**Math Bridge I Pre-AP is a course designed for 7th grade students who want to take MS Algebra I Pre-AP (high school credit course) in 8th grade and who are NOT currently enrolled in Math 6 Pre-AP. This class is a 90-minute course that includes both 7th grade and 8th grade math content. This course will fulfill the math requirement and will take the place of ONE elective.**

### Math Bridge I Pre-AP (#2083)

This course integrates the 7th grade and 8th grade math curriculum with an emphasis on complex problem solving through the lens of proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data. Students will utilize process standards in order to weave knowledge and skills together so they may be successful problem solvers and use mathematics efficiently and effectively in daily life. This course will build a foundation for the MS Algebra 1 Pre-AP course.

*Prerequisite (PR): Math 6*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Courses which qualify for high school credit will be part of the High School Grade Point Average (GPA). Students must meet both attendance and academic requirements to receive high school credit. Semester exams are administered the last week of each semester (Fall and Spring) counting for 20% of the semester average.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### Texas History 7 (#4070)

In 7th grade Social Studies, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Students will learn the full scope of Texas history, including Physical and Human Geography, Colonization and Settlement, The Texas Revolution, Republic and Statehood, Conflict, Economic Growth, Globalization, and Modern Texas. Students will learn about the regions of Texas and the distribution of population within and among the regions. They will also study the factors that caused Texas to change from an agrarian to an urban society. Students will learn about 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.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Texas History 7 Pre-AP (#4071)

In 7th grade Social Studies, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Students will learn the full scope of Texas history, including Physical and Human Geography, Colonization and Settlement, The Texas Revolution, Republic and Statehood, Conflict, Economic Growth, Globalization, and Modern Texas. Students will learn about the regions of Texas and the distribution of population within and among the regions. They will also study the factors that caused Texas to change from an agrarian to an urban society. Students will learn about 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 enrolled in Pre-AP should expect a more rigorous class, faster pace, more in-depth classroom discussions, intensified vocabulary, an increased amount of reading and writing assignments, and the need for effective time management.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Texas History 7 GT P-AP (#4075)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

In 7th grade Social Studies, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Students will learn the full scope of Texas history, including Physical and Human Geography, Colonization and Settlement, The Texas Revolution, Republic and Statehood, Conflict, Economic Growth, Globalization, and Modern Texas. Students will learn about the regions of Texas and the distribution of population within and among the regions. They will also study the factors that caused Texas to change from an agrarian to an urban society. Students will learn about 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. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. This Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*SEMESTERS: 2 HS CREDIT (CR): 0*

# Seventh Grade Required Courses



The courses listed in this section are available to current 6th grade students who are incoming 7th graders. Available programs will vary slightly by campus. Students will select one course in each of the required subject areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, and PE/Athletics). Contact campus counselor for course availability.

## SCIENCE

### Science 7 (#3070)

In 7th grade Science, the content focus is on organisms and the environment. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: cell theory, structure and function of organelles and human body systems; physical and chemical changes in digestion, results of inheritance, adaptations, biodiversity; energy transformations in living systems; catastrophic events and their impacts on ecosystems; weathering, erosion and deposition and their impact on ecoregions of Texas and the effects of human activity on watersheds.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Science 7 Pre-AP (#3071)

In 7th grade Science, the content focus is on organisms and the environment. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: cell theory, structure and function of organelles and human body systems; physical and chemical changes in digestion, results of inheritance, adaptations, biodiversity; energy transformations in living systems; catastrophic events and their impacts on ecosystems; weathering, erosion and deposition and their impact on ecoregions of Texas and the effects of human activity on watersheds. Students enrolled in Pre-AP should expect a more rigorous class, faster pace, more in-depth classroom discussions, intensified vocabulary, an increased amount of reading and writing assignments, and the need for effective time management.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Science 7 GT Pre-AP (#3072)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

In 7th grade Science, the content focus is on organisms and the environment. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: cell theory, structure and function of organelles and human body systems; physical and chemical changes in digestion, results of inheritance, adaptations, biodiversity; energy transformations in living systems; catastrophic events and their impacts on ecosystems; weathering, erosion and deposition and their impact on ecoregions of Texas and the effects of human activity on watersheds. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. This Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ATHLETICS

### PE 7 (#5070)

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development and an understanding of the relationship between physical activity and health through a life span. In seventh grade physical education, students will learn to apply movement concepts to a variety of activities such as fencing, lacrosse, spinning, volleyball, soccer, etc. All students will take the Fitnessgram to assess cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, upper body strength, abdominal strength, trunk extension and body mass.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Athletics Boys 7 (#5072)

Athletics is for students who are interested in participating in competitive sports. When not in season, students will train in a physically challenging off-season program. Physicals should be completed by the first day of school.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Athletics Girls 7 (#5076)

Athletics is for students who are interested in participating in competitive sports. When not in season, students will train in a physically challenging off-season program. Physicals should be completed by the first day of school.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

***Middle School Dance may be taken as an elective, or as a fulfillment of the PE requirement.***

***Students who wish to use Dance as an elective, should NOT enroll in this course, but should rather enroll in Dance MS 1 (#6810) or Dance MS 2 (#6820) (listed on page 14).***

***Students who wish to use Dance to fulfill the PE requirement should enroll in Dance MS 1 PE (#5091) or Dance MS 2 PE (#5092) listed below. These students must also choose electives from page 13-15 in this catalog.***

### Dance MS 1 PE (#5091)

***Note: This course serves as a substitute for Physical Education. To take this course as an elective only, see the course listing on page 14.***

The first dance course in middle school is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute beginner skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Dance MS 2 PE (#5092)

***Note: This course serves as a substitute for Physical Education. To take this course as an elective only, see the course listing on page 14.***

The second of three sequential dance courses, Dance MS 2 is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute intermediate skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

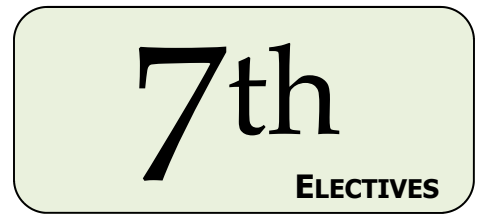
*Prerequisite (PR): Dance MS 1*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

GT courses are offered in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Enrollment in these courses is open to identified NISD GT students. Students may only select one GT course each academic year.

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Seventh Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 6th grade students who are incoming 7th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.



**Elective offerings are based on enrollment, staffing, and availability. Not all electives are offered at all middle school campuses. Please contact the campus counseling department for a complete list of specific elective offerings.**

## ORCHESTRA

### Beginner Orchestra (#6079)

Orchestra Beginner Level is designed to teach students how to play a violin, viola, cello, or string bass instrument. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Students will learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform music. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Orchestra concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Orchestra (#6086)

Orchestra Intermediate Level is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals on violin, viola, cello, and string bass instruments introduced in the beginner level class. Orchestra literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, kinesthetic development, expression, leadership, and problem-solving skills. Orchestra concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Orchestra*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Orchestra (#6089)

Orchestra Advanced Level is designed for students to apply strong music fundamentals on violin, viola, cello, and string bass instruments to music of all styles. Students build skills at their own pace. Orchestra literature is advanced and promotes extensive collaboration, expression, creativity, and problem-solving techniques. Orchestra concerts are extensive. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Orchestra*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Chamber Ensemble 1 (#6087)

This course is designed for Intermediate level and advanced level string students to explore various applications of string performance in "non-traditional" ensembles and literature. Students connect unique string applications to various cultures and music genres. Student inquiry, exploration, and innovation is developed. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in choir class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Orchestra*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## BAND

### Beginner Band (#6017)

Band Beginner Level is designed to teach students how to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Students will learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform music. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Band concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Band 2 (#6024)

Band Intermediate Level is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments introduced in the beginner level class. Students build skills at their own pace. Band literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, kinesthetic development, expression, leadership, and problem solving skills. Band concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Jazz Band 1 (#6081)

This course is designed for intermediate or advanced level students interested in an enrichment opportunity to learn how to play jazz literature. All jazz styles and genres of music are explored and an introduction to improvisation is provided. No prior knowledge of jazz is required. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in band class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Band Cultural Ensemble 1 (#6018)

This course is designed as an enrichment opportunity for intermediate or advanced level music students to study and perform in "non-traditional" ensembles other than jazz. World cultures and music applications in steel drums and "world drumming groups" are included in this course.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent Enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## MARIACHI

### Beginner Mariachi (#6083)

Music, Middle School 1, Instrumental Ensemble is available on only those campuses where district-approved mariachi programs are offered (Rayburn, Jones, Ross, Neff). This is a beginner level course for students to learn to play guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón only. Vocal, trumpet, and violin beginner students develop their music fundamentals in beginner choir, band, and orchestra classes. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Mariachi concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Mariachi (#6084)

This course is designed for students to build upon the mariachi fundamentals acquired previously. The course is available at Ross, Jones, Neff, and Rayburn only. Students will increase technical, musical, and expressive elements needed to perform more challenging literature in a variety of mariachi styles. This course is for intermediate level guitar, vihuela, guitarrón, vocal, trumpet, and violin students. Trumpet, violin, and vocal students should be concurrently enrolled in band, orchestra, or choir in order to continue detailed development of sound music fundamentals. Guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón students will receive this instruction during their class periods and may not be concurrently enrolled in another music class. Mariachi concerts are extensive and students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Mariachi*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Mariachi (#6085)

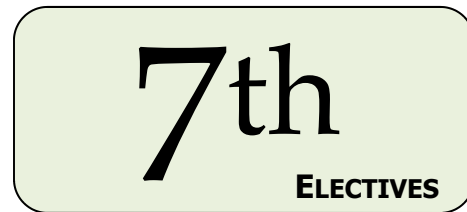
This course is designed for advanced music students to develop extensive performance skills in mariachi literature. The course is available at Ross, Jones, Neff, and Rayburn only. Performance opportunities are extensive and promote strong understanding of collaboration, expression, and creativity required for stage performance. Trumpet, violin, and vocal students should be concurrently enrolled in band, orchestra, or choir in order to continue detailed development of sound music fundamentals. Guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón students will receive this instruction during their class periods and may not be concurrently enrolled in another music class. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Mariachi*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Seventh Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 6th grade students who are incoming 7th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.



**Elective offerings are based on enrollment, staffing, and availability. Not all electives are offered at all middle school campuses. Please contact the campus counseling department for a complete list of specific elective offerings.**

## CHOIR

### Beginner Treble (Girls) Choir (#6401)

This course is designed to teach students how to sing properly. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Girls are assigned to the Treble Choir and boys are assigned to the Tenor Bass Choir. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Choir concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Beginner Tenor/Bass (Boys) Choir (#6402)

This course is designed to teach students how to sing properly. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Girls are assigned to the Treble Choir and boys are assigned to the Tenor Bass Choir. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Choir concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Treble (Girls) Choir (#6411)

This course is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals and singing skills introduced in the beginner level class. Students build skills at their own pace. Choral literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, development of vocal tone quality and range, expression, leadership, and problem solving skills. Choir concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Treble Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Tenor/Bass (Boys) Choir (#6412)

This course is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals and singing skills introduced in the beginner level class. Students build skills at their own pace. Choral literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, development of vocal tone quality and range, expression, leadership, and problem solving skills. Choir concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Tenor/Bass Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Vocal Ensemble 1 (#6404)

This course is designed for students interested in exploring various "non-traditional" or diverse styles of vocal music in smaller ensemble settings such as vocal jazz ensembles, madrigals, and show choirs. Concerts are varied and extensive to allow students opportunities to develop stage performance skills. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in choir class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Treble or Tenor/Bass Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## THEATRE

### Beginner Theatre (#6609)

Beginning Theatre is an introductory theatre course designed for the student to experience the basic elements of drama. No previous theatre or drama experience is required. Beginning acting and technical theatre techniques will be explored along with the basic skills needed to create a theatrical performance.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Theatre (#6610)

Intermediate Theatre is a more in-depth study of theatre where students continue to build upon skills learned in Theatre 1. Students are introduced to additional skills that are necessary to become a theatre artist. Dramatic structure, acting, and technical elements are expanded in both production and scene studies.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Theatre*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## DANCE

**Middle School Dance may be taken as an elective, or as a fulfillment of the PE requirement.**

**Students who wish to use Dance to fulfill the PE requirement should NOT enroll in this course, but should rather enroll in Dance MS 1 PE (#5091) or Dance MS 2 PE (#5092) (listed on page 12).**

**Students who wish to use Dance as an elective, should enroll in the courses listed below.**

### Dance MS 1 (#6810)

**Note: This course serves as an elective only. To take this course as a substitute for PE, see the course listing on page 11.**

The first dance course in middle school is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute beginner skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Dance MS 2 (#6820)

**Note: This course serves as an elective only. To take this course as a substitute for PE, see the course listing on page 11.**

The second of three sequential dance courses, Dance MS 2 is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute intermediate skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): Dance MS 1*  
*SEMESTERS: 2 HS CREDIT (CR): 0*

## ART

### Beginner Art MS 1 (#6910)

Beginner Art MS 1 is concept-based. Curriculum units include drawing, painting, printmaking, three-dimensional art forms, fiber, and digital art. Content will include student originality and creativity.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Art MS 2 (#6911)

Intermediate Art MS 2 is concept-based and curriculum units build student skills developed in Beginner Art 1. Curriculum includes drawing, painting, printmaking, three-dimensional art forms, fiber, and digital art. Development of artistic originality, creativity, and study of artists and art periods is incorporated.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Art MS 1*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### Career Portals FCS (#8800)

This comprehensive foundation course addresses positive self-image, nutrition and food preparation, wellness, personal appearance, sewing, and career options. Emphasis is on the importance of effective family communication skills, management skills, how to get along with others including family members and peers, decision making, acceptance of responsibility, and child care practices. Students will explore career information to learn more about themselves, their interests and their abilities in order to make informed decisions regarding their futures.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Career Portals Tech (#8810)

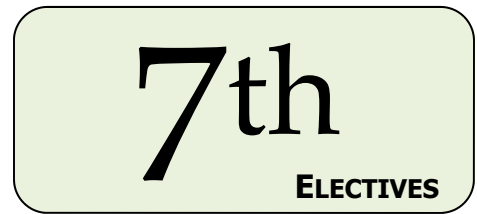
This comprehensive foundation course allows students to explore engineering and production concepts in a computer lab and in a hands-on woods lab. Students will experience coding and programming and will create working electrical circuits using breadboards. Modules provide experiences with solar, wind and pneumatic technologies. Students will assemble and learn to control a small robot through programming. Additionally students will spend time in a wood production lab where they will engage in the process of planning and constructing projects using drills, saws, sanders, and routers. Students will learn the safe operation of tools and machines in the wood lab.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Seventh Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 6th grade students who are incoming 7th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.



**Elective offerings are based on enrollment, staffing, and availability. Not all electives are offered at all middle school campuses. Please contact the campus counseling department for a complete list of specific elective offerings.**

## TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS

### Technology Applications 7 (#7017)

Students will use technology to create individual and collaborative products by using common office applications, graphic design, photography, audio/video production, 3D printing, coding, website design, and internet tools.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## SPANISH-HS CREDIT

### Spanish 1 MS (#5714) - HS Credit

This course focuses on developing speaking and listening comprehension skills. Students are exposed to basic reading and writing skills. Students are introduced to the people, their customs, and other aspects of their culture. Students have the opportunity to work in pairs and small groups to role play real-life situations using the target language.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Spanish 2 MS (#5715) - HS Credit

This course continues to focus on opportunities for students to expand their speaking and listening comprehension skills in addition to developing their writing and reading comprehension skills. Students continue to study the culture, the people and their customs. Students will continue to role play and perform dialogues/skits in a variety of everyday situations and topics using the target language.

*Prerequisite (PR): 70 or higher in Spanish 1, or 80 or higher on the Credit-by-Exam.*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Spanish 2 Pre-AP MS (#5732) - HS Credit

This course exceeds the Level 2 requirements by including many independent activities requiring performance in the target language. The students will continue to refine the four modes of communication by being exposed to an enriched and accelerated curriculum.

*Prerequisite (PR): Recommended 90 or higher in Spanish 1, or 90 or higher on the Credit-by-Exam.*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

Courses which qualify for high school credit will be part of the High School Grade Point Average (GPA). Students must meet both attendance and academic requirements to receive high school credit. Semester exams are administered the last week of each semester (Fall and Spring) counting for 20% of the semester average.

### Spanish 3 Pre-AP MS (#5742) - HS Credit

Students continue to work towards proficiency in speaking and listening comprehension. The study of some condensed literary works will incorporate the development of reading comprehension and writing skills. Culture topics are integrated throughout the curriculum. Students will do independent, pair, and group work to allow for more creativity and the use of higher order thinking skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Prerequisite for this course is a recommended 80 or better in Spanish 2 Pre-AP or a 90 or better in Spanish 2 Regular; or a 90 or better on the Credit-by-Exam.*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Spanish 3 Pre-AP

**for Spanish Speakers MS (#5749) - HS Credit**  
*Note: Available only to identified NISD Dual-Language students.*

This course is for students who understand and speak Spanish at the intermediate-high level. Students continue to work towards proficiency in speaking and listening comprehension. Students continue to expand their reading comprehension and writing skills. Cultured topics are integrated throughout the curriculum.

*Prerequisite (PR): Spanish 2 Pre-AP for Spanish Speakers MS*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

## JOURNALISM

### Journalism/Yearbook (#1702)

This course provides the study of current print and digital trends in yearbook design, layout, and publishing in order to develop and produce the school yearbook. Coursework includes gathering and analyzing information, photography, and specialized writing.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Journalism (#1700)

This course is designed to introduce students to mass media, advertising, marketing, and photography. Students study the basic features of journalism and newspaper and/or yearbook production, freedom and responsibility of the press, career opportunities in mass communications, and specialized writing.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## AVID

### AVID 7 (#9097)

AVID 7 builds upon the components of the AVID philosophy. Students will refine short- and long-term goals, and as a result, begin to understand the value in taking charge of their actions. Students will start working on intrapersonal and interpersonal skills, as well as formal and informal speech. Students will complete self-evaluations and peer evaluations, related to reading, writing, organization, and speaking. Students will take an active role in their learning, understanding the roles of all members in assignments and collaborative lessons. They will expand their knowledge bases of note-taking, in relation to studying and test preparation. Students will be exposed to different field trips, guest speakers and research, to increase their knowledge of college and career options.

*Prerequisite (PR): Application and interview*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## OTHER ELECTIVES

### Study Hall (#9471)

Study Hall is a designated class period during the school day that provides a structured time for students to work on homework, research, projects, or other assignments.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Office Assistant (#9023)

Students assist school personnel in the front office, counseling office, attendance office, library, and VPO. Selection is based on communication skills, grades, citizenship, and attendance.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 1 or 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Eighth Grade Required Courses



The courses listed in this section are available to current 7th grade students who are incoming 8th graders. Available programs will vary slightly by campus. Students will select one course in each of the required subject areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, and PE/Athletics). Contact campus counselor for course availability.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

### ELA 8 (#1081 or #1084)

Middle School English Language Arts is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and inquiry strategies are integrated daily to create a literacy-rich classroom which promotes engaging, student-centered learning. Through the communication of ideas, orally and in writing, students continue to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become independent readers, writers, and thinkers. The primary goals of this course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop the habits necessary for academic success.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### ELA 8 Pre-AP (#1082 or #1087)

This on grade-level course is designed to prepare and motivate middle school students for Pre-AP and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in high school. This is in addition to the grade-level expectations of the Middle School English Language Arts classroom. Students have multiple opportunities to develop communication and analytical skills in an academically challenging course of study. As a preparation for Advanced Placement English courses in high school, this course adds a focus on literary analysis in reading, writing, and speaking.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### ELA 8 GT Pre-AP (#1083 or #1088)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

Middle School English Language Arts is aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and inquiry strategies are integrated daily to create a literacy-rich classroom which promotes engaging, student-centered learning. Through the communication of ideas, orally and in writing, students continue to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to become independent readers, writers, and thinkers. The primary goals of this course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, and develop the habits necessary for academic success. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. The Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

GT courses are offered in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Enrollment in these courses is open to identified NISD GT students. Students may only select one GT course each academic year.

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

## MATHEMATICS

### Math 8 (#2080)

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation for students to solve problems using proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data. The students will utilize process standards in order to weave knowledge and skills together so that they may be successful problem solvers and use mathematics efficiently and effectively in daily life.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### MS Algebra I Pre-AP (#2121) - HS Credit

The purpose of this course is to provide a foundation for students to solve problems using functions, symbolic reasoning and mathematical modeling. The student will investigate real numbers, linear equations and inequalities as well as linear, quadratic and exponential functions. The students will utilize process standards in order to weave knowledge and skills together so that they may be successful problem solvers and use mathematics efficiently and effectively in daily life. The Pre-AP course includes an emphasis on complex problem-solving in order to prepare students for upcoming Pre-AP and AP coursework.

*Prerequisite (PR): Math 8 or its equivalent*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### US History 8 (#4080)

This course studies U.S. History from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. The class focuses on issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students will learn about the physical characteristics of the U.S. and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present; analyze economic factors that influenced the development of colonial America and the early years of the republic; examine American beliefs and principles, including limited government, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, and individual rights; and evaluate the impact of Supreme Court cases and major reform movements of the 19th century.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### US History 8 Pre-AP (#4081)

This course studies U.S. History from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. The class focuses on issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students will learn about the physical characteristics of the U.S. and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present; analyze economic factors that influenced the development of colonial America and the early years of the republic; examine American beliefs and principles, including limited government, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, and individual rights; and evaluate the impact of Supreme Court cases and major reform movements of the 19th century. \*Students enrolled in Pre-AP should expect a more rigorous class, faster pace, more in-depth classroom discussions, intensified vocabulary, an increased amount of reading and writing assignments, and the need for effective time management.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### US History 8 GT P-AP (#4085)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

This course studies U.S. History from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. The class focuses on issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early republic, the Age of Jackson, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction. Students will learn about the physical characteristics of the U.S. and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns in the past and present; analyze economic factors that influenced the development of colonial America and the early years of the republic; examine American beliefs and principles, including limited government, checks and balances, federalism, separation of powers, and individual rights; and evaluate the impact of Supreme Court cases and major reform movements of the 19th century. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. This Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Courses which qualify for high school credit will be part of the High School Grade Point Average (GPA). Students must meet both attendance and academic requirements to receive high school credit. Semester exams are administered the last week of each semester (Fall and Spring) counting for 20% of the semester average.



# Eighth Grade Required Courses



The courses listed in this section are available to current 7th grade students who are incoming 8th graders. Available programs will vary slightly by campus. Students will select one course in each of the required subject areas (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, and PE/Athletics). Contact campus counselor for course availability.

## SCIENCE

### Science 8 (#3080)

In 8th grade Science, the content focus is on earth and space. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: atomic structure, arrangement of the Periodic Table, chemical reactivity, evidence of chemical reactions, law of conservation of mass; Newton's three laws of motion, seasons, lunar cycle, ocean tides, components of the universe, classification of stars, electromagnetic spectrum, plate tectonic theory, Earth's crustal features, topographic maps and satellite views, atmospheric movement, formation of weather systems, weather maps, competition within an ecosystem and human dependence on ocean systems.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*

*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Science 8 Pre-AP (#3081)

In 8th grade Science, the content focus is on earth and space. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: atomic structure, arrangement of the Periodic Table, chemical reactivity, evidence of chemical reactions, law of conservation of mass; Newton's three laws of motion, seasons, lunar cycle, ocean tides, components of the universe, classification of stars, electromagnetic spectrum, plate tectonic theory, Earth's crustal features, topographic maps and satellite views, atmospheric movement, formation of weather systems, weather maps, competition within an ecosystem and human dependence on ocean systems. \*Students enrolled in Pre-AP should expect a more rigorous class, faster pace, more in-depth classroom discussions, intensified vocabulary, an increased amount of reading and writing assignments, and the need for effective time management.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*

*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Science 8 GT Pre-AP (#3082)

*Note: Available only to identified NISD GT students.*

In 8th grade Science, the content focus is on earth and space. Throughout this course, students conduct laboratory and field investigations to analyze data using critical thinking and scientific problem solving. Students will study a variety of topics that include: atomic structure, arrangement of the Periodic Table, chemical reactivity, evidence of chemical reactions, law of conservation of mass; Newton's three laws of motion, seasons, lunar cycle, ocean tides, components of the universe, classification of stars, electromagnetic spectrum, plate tectonic theory, Earth's crustal features, topographic maps and satellite views, atmospheric movement, formation of weather systems, weather maps, competition within an ecosystem and human dependence on ocean systems. This course is designed for identified Gifted/Talented students and will include in-depth research on a topic of his or her choice that is related to the TEKS of the course. This Middle School Innovative Project (M-SIP) will culminate in a presentation to the public over what the student has learned. In addition, GT strategies such as depth and complexity, creative problem solving, and critical thinking are integrated throughout the curriculum in order to foster leadership and maximize student potential for independent thinking.

*Prerequisite (PR): Identified NISD GT Student*

*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Revised on 2/26/2018

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION/ATHLETICS

### PE 8 (#5080)

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment, continued social development and an understanding of the relationship between physical activity and health through a life span. In eighth grade physical education, emphasis is placed more on participation for enjoyment and challenge, both in out of school. Students will develop an understanding of the need to remain physically active throughout life by participating in a variety of activities such as yoga, Pilates, archery, golf, tennis, badminton, etc. All students will take the Fitnessgram to assess cardiovascular fitness, flexibility, upper body strength, abdominal strength, trunk extension and body mass.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*

*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Athletics Boys 8 (#5085)

Athletics is for students who are interested in participating in competitive sports. When not in season, students will train in a physically challenging off-season program. Physicals should be completed by the first day of school.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*

*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Athletics Girls 8 (#5086)

Athletics is for students who are interested in participating in competitive sports. When not in season, students will train in a physically challenging off-season program. Physicals should be completed by the first day of school.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*

*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

GT courses are offered in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies. Enrollment in these courses is open to identified NISD GT students. Students may only select one GT course each academic year.

*Middle School Dance may be taken as an elective, or as a fulfillment of the PE requirement.*

*Students who wish to use Dance as an elective, should NOT enroll in this course, but should rather enroll in Dance MS 1 (#6810) or Dance MS 2 (#6820) (listed on page 20).*

*Students who wish to use Dance to fulfill the PE requirement should enroll in Dance MS 1 PE (#5091) or Dance MS 2 PE (#5092) listed below. These students must also choose an elective from page 19-22 in this catalog.*

### Dance MS 1 PE (#5091)

*Note: This course serves as a substitute for Physical Education. To take this course as an elective only, see the course listing on page 19.*

The first dance course in middle school is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute beginner skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*

*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Dance MS 2 PE (#5092)

*Note: This course serves as an elective only. To take this course as a substitute for PE, see the course listing on page 19.*

The second of three sequential dance courses, Dance MS 2 is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute intermediate skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): Dance MS 1*

*SEMESTERS: 2 HS CREDIT (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Eighth Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 7th grade students who are incoming 8th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.

## 8<sup>th</sup> ELECTIVES

**Elective offerings are based on enrollment, staffing, and availability. Not all electives are offered at all middle school campuses. Please contact the campus counseling department for a complete list of specific elective offerings.**

### ORCHESTRA

#### Beginner Orchestra (#6079)

Orchestra Beginner Level is designed to teach students how to play a violin, viola, cello, or string bass instrument. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Students will learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform music. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Orchestra concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Intermediate Orchestra (#6086)

Orchestra Intermediate Level is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals on violin, viola, cello, and string bass instruments introduced in the beginner level class. Orchestra literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, kinesthetic development, expression, leadership, and problem-solving skills. Orchestra concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Orchestra*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Advanced Orchestra (#6089)

Orchestra Advanced Level is designed for students to apply strong music fundamentals on violin, viola, cello, and string bass instruments to music of all styles. Students build skills at their own pace. Orchestra literature is advanced and promotes extensive collaboration, expression, creativity, and problem-solving techniques. Orchestra concerts are extensive. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Orchestra*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Chamber Ensemble 1 (#6087)

This course is designed for Intermediate level and advanced level string students to explore various applications of string performance in "non-traditional" ensembles and literature. Students connect unique string applications to various cultures and music genres. Student inquiry, exploration, and innovation is developed. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in choir class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Orchestra*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Chamber Ensemble 2 (#6088)

This course is designed for Advanced level string students to develop applications of string performance in "non-traditional" ensembles and literature. String applications to various cultures and genres include original compositions and techniques for performance. Student inquiry, exploration, and innovation is extensive. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in string orchestra class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Advanced Orchestra*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### BAND

#### Beginner Band (#6017)

Band Beginner Level is designed to teach students how to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Students will learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform music. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Band concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Intermediate Band 2 (#6024)

Band Intermediate Level is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments introduced in the beginner level class. Students build skills at their own pace. Band literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, kinesthetic development, expression, leadership, and problem solving skills. Band concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Advanced Band 3 (#6032)

Band Advanced Level is designed for students to apply sound music fundamentals on woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments to music of all styles. Students build skills at their own pace. Band literature is advanced and promotes extensive collaboration, expression, creativity, and problem-solving techniques. Students engage in multiple concerts. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Jazz Band 1 (#6081)

This course is designed for intermediate or advanced level students interested in an enrichment opportunity to learn how to play jazz literature. All jazz styles and genres of music are explored and an introduction to improvisation is provided. No prior knowledge of jazz is required. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in band class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Jazz Band 2 (#6082)

This course is designed for advanced level students interested in developing a mastery level of performance techniques in jazz. All jazz styles and genres of music are explored and an students develop accomplished skills in improvisation. Extensive performance opportunities and jazz festivals are available in this course. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in band class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Jazz Band 1 and Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Band Cultural Ensemble 1 (#6018)

This course is designed as an enrichment opportunity for intermediate or advanced level music students to study and perform in "non-traditional" ensembles other than jazz. World cultures and music applications in steel drums and "world drumming groups" are included in this course.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

#### Band Cultural Ensemble 2 (#6019)

This course is designed as an enrichment opportunity for advanced level music students to study and perform in "non-traditional" ensembles other than jazz. World cultures and music applications in steel drums and "world drumming groups" are included in this course. Students design and create presentation formats that are original to the non-traditional ensemble.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Advanced Band*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Eighth Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 7th grade students who are incoming 8th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.

# 8<sup>th</sup>

ELECTIVES

**Elective offerings are based on enrollment, staffing, and availability. Not all electives are offered at all middle school campuses. Please contact the campus counseling department for a complete list of specific elective offerings.**

## MARIACHI

### Beginner Mariachi (#6083)

Music, Middle School 1, Instrumental Ensemble is available on only those campuses where district-approved mariachi programs are offered (Rayburn, Jones, Ross, Neff). This is a beginner level course for students to learn to play guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón only. Vocal, trumpet, and violin beginner students develop their music fundamentals in beginner choir, band, and orchestra classes. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Mariachi concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Mariachi (#6084)

This course is designed for students to build upon the mariachi fundamentals acquired previously. The course is available at Ross, Jones, Neff, and Rayburn only. Students will increase technical, musical, and expressive elements needed to perform more challenging literature in a variety of mariachi styles. This course is for intermediate level guitar, vihuela, guitarrón, vocal, trumpet, and violin students. Trumpet, violin, and vocal students should be concurrently enrolled in band, orchestra, or choir in order to continue detailed development of sound music fundamentals. Guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón students will receive this instruction during their class periods and may not be concurrently enrolled in another music class. Mariachi concerts are extensive and students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Mariachi*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Mariachi (#6085)

This course is designed for advanced music students to develop extensive performance skills in mariachi literature. The course is available at Ross, Jones, Neff, and Rayburn only. Performance opportunities are extensive and promote strong understanding of collaboration, expression, and creativity required for stage performance. Trumpet, violin, and vocal students should be concurrently enrolled in band, orchestra, or choir in order to continue detailed development of sound music fundamentals. Guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón students will receive this instruction during their class periods and may not be concurrently enrolled in another music class. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Mariachi*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## CHOIR

### Beginner Treble (Girls) Choir (#6401)

This course is designed to teach students how to sing properly. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Girls are assigned to the Treble Choir and boys are assigned to the Tenor Bass Choir. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Choir concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Beginner Tenor/Bass (Boys) Choir (#6402)

This course is designed to teach students how to sing properly. No prior music experience or knowledge is required. Girls are assigned to the Treble Choir and boys are assigned to the Tenor Bass Choir. Students learn to read music, produce good tone quality, learn rhythm skills, and perform. Students can develop skills at their own pace. Choir concerts allow students to experience live performance. Students earn awards for individual outstanding skill mastery.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Treble (Girls) Choir (#6411)

This course is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals and singing skills introduced in the beginner level class. Students build skills at their own pace. Choral literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, development of vocal tone quality and range, expression, leadership, and problem solving skills. Choir concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Treble Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Tenor/Bass (Boys) Choir (#6412)

This course is designed for students to continue developing music fundamentals and singing skills introduced in the beginner level class. Students build skills at their own pace. Choral literature is more advanced and promotes increased teamwork, development of vocal tone quality and range, expression, leadership, and problem solving skills. Choir concerts include music of all styles. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Tenor/Bass Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Treble (Girls) Choir (#6423)

This course is designed for students to apply strong music fundamentals developed in beginner and intermediate level courses. Students build skills at their own pace. Choir literature is advanced and promotes extensive collaboration, expression, creativity, and problem-solving techniques. Students engage in multiple concerts. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Treble Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Tenor/Bass (Boys) Choir (#6424)

This course is designed for students to apply strong music fundamentals developed in beginner and intermediate level courses. Students build skills at their own pace. Choir literature is advanced and promotes extensive collaboration, expression, creativity, and problem-solving techniques. Students engage in multiple concerts. Students earn awards for individual and ensemble mastery of skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Tenor/Bass Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Vocal Ensemble 1 (#6404)

This course is designed for students interested in exploring various "non-traditional" or diverse styles of vocal music in smaller ensemble settings such as vocal jazz ensembles, madrigals, and show choirs. Concerts are varied and extensive to allow students opportunities to develop stage performance skills. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in choir class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Intermediate or Advanced Treble or Tenor/Bass Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Vocal Ensemble 2 (#6405)

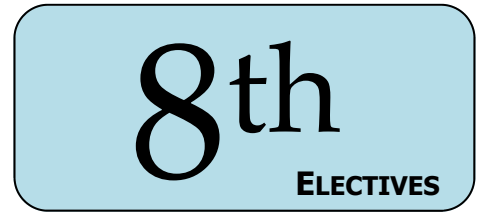
This course is designed for advanced vocal students interested in developing a mastery level of performance in "non-traditional" or diverse vocal ensemble settings, such as jazz, madrigals, and show choirs. The ensemble setting, music styles and genres allow students the opportunity to collaborate, inquire, create and improvise extensively. Multiple performance venues and concerts are available. Students participating in this course are concurrently enrolled in choir class to ensure continued development of music fundamentals.

*Prerequisite (PR): Concurrent enrollment in Advanced Treble or Tenor/Bass Choir*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Eighth Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 7th grade students who are incoming 8th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.



**Elective offerings are based on enrollment, staffing, and availability. Not all electives are offered at all middle school campuses. Please contact the campus counseling department for a complete list of specific elective offerings.**

## THEATRE

### Beginner Theatre (#6609)

Beginning Theatre is an introductory theatre course designed for the student to experience the basic elements of drama. No previous theatre or drama experience is required. Beginning acting and technical theatre techniques will be explored along with the basic skills needed to create a theatrical performance.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Theatre (#6610)

Intermediate Theatre is a more in-depth study of theatre where students continue to build upon skills learned in Theatre 1. Students are introduced to additional skills that are necessary to become a theatre artist. Dramatic structure, acting, and technical elements are expanded in both production and scene studies.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Theatre*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Theatre (#6615)

Advanced Theatre is an advanced theatre class that requires students to enhance skills learned in Beginning and Intermediate through analysis of theatrical concepts and practices. Students engage in research, creative thinking, problem solving, and improvisation that is transferred to collaborative production.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Theatre*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Courses which qualify for high school credit will be part of the High School Grade Point Average (GPA). Students must meet both attendance and academic requirements to receive high school credit. Semester exams are administered the last week of each semester (Fall and Spring) counting for 20% of the semester average.

## ART

### Beginner Art MS 1 (#6910)

Beginner Art MS 1 is concept-based. Curriculum units include drawing, painting, printmaking, three-dimensional art forms, fiber, and digital art. Content will include student originality and creativity.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Intermediate Art MS 2 (#6911)

Intermediate Art MS 2 is concept-based and curriculum units build student skills developed in Beginner Art MS 1. Curriculum includes drawing, painting, printmaking, three-dimensional art forms, fiber, and digital art. Development of artistic originality, creativity, and study of artists and art periods is incorporated.

*Prerequisite (PR): Beginner Art MS 1*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Art MS 3 (#6912)

Advanced Art MS 3 is concept-based and curriculum units build student skills developed in Intermediate Art MS 2. Curriculum includes investigation and application in the media of drawing, painting, printmaking, three-dimensional art forms, fiber, digital art and compositions of mixed media. Students work toward mastery level in originality and creativity.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Art MS 2*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Art HS (#6914) - HS Credit

This high school credit course is designed for the middle school student who has completed Beginner Art MS 1 and Intermediate Art MS 2 and wishes to continue the study of art at a rigorous level. Students investigate and apply techniques in drawing, painting, printmaking, 3-D art forms, fiber, digital art and compositions of mixed media. Students work toward mastery level in originality and creativity. Students personalize their learning and design their curriculum to enrich peaked interest in mastery of art skills. The course is designed for students with high interest in rich art experiences.

*Prerequisite (PR): Intermediate Art MS 2*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Art I HS (#6913) - HS Credit

High School Art I is concept-based and is an exploratory introduction to high school art. Curriculum includes all art media to allow students to acquire a general understanding of the principals of art and technique applications. Content will include some student originality, creativity, and study of artists and art periods.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

## DANCE

*Middle School Dance may be taken as an elective, or as a fulfillment of the PE requirement.*

*Students who wish to use Dance to fulfill the PE requirement should NOT enroll in this course, but should rather enroll in Dance MS 1 PE (#5091) or Dance MS 2 PE (#5092) (listed on page 17).*

*Students who wish to use Dance as an elective, should enroll in the courses listed below.*

### Dance MS 1 (#6810)

*Note: This course serves as an elective only. To take this course as a substitute for PE, see the course listing on page 15.*

The first dance course in middle school is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute beginner skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Dance MS 2 (#6820)

*Note: This course serves as an elective only. To take this course as a substitute for PE, see the course listing on page 15.*

The second of three sequential dance courses, Dance MS 2 is designed to give students the opportunity to develop and execute intermediate skills in ballet, jazz, tap, modern dance, musical theatre dance and world dance forms. Various dance genres and styles will be explored while improving their technique, self-confidence, creative ability and concept of wellness. Dance students will have ensemble performance opportunities. No prior dance experience is required.

*Prerequisite (PR): Dance MS 1*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Eighth Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 7th grade students who are incoming 8th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.



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## TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS

### Technology Applications 8 (#7018)

Students will use technology to create, present, and publish original works as a means of personal or group expression; create personal learning networks to collaborate and publish with peers, experts, or others using digital tools such as blogs, wikis, audio/video communication, or other emerging technologies as well as learn to evaluate various types of digital resources for accuracy and validity. Students will create and manage personal learning networks to communicate by using common office applications, graphic design, photography, audio/video production, 3D printing, coding, website design, and internet tools.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Advanced Technology Applications 8 (#7019)

Advanced Technology Applications 8 is an enrichment course for 8th grade students who have completed Computer Literacy 7 and are enrolling for a SECOND year of instruction in Technology Applications. Students will build on the foundation from Computer Tech 7. Advanced Technology Applications is designed to introduce students to the field of computer science through an exploration of engaging and accessible topics. Rather than focusing the entire course on learning particular software tools or programming languages, the course is designed to focus on the conceptual ideas of computing and help students understand why certain tools or languages might be utilized to solve particular problems. Students will learn to develop computational practices of algorithm development, problem solving and programming within the context of problems that are relevant to the lives of today's students. Students will also be introduced to topics such as interface design, limits of computers, and societal and ethical issues.

*Prerequisite (PR): Computer Literacy 7*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Courses which qualify for high school credit will be part of the High School Grade Point Average (GPA). Students must meet both attendance and academic requirements to receive high school credit. Semester exams are administered the last week of each semester (Fall and Spring) counting for 20% of the semester average.

## SPANISH-HS CREDIT

### Spanish 1 MS (#5714) - HS Credit

This course focuses on developing speaking and listening comprehension skills. Students are exposed to basic reading and writing skills. Students are introduced to the people, their customs, and other aspects of their culture. Students have the opportunity to work in pairs and small groups to role play real-life situations using the target language.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Spanish 2 MS (#5715) - HS Credit

This course continues to focus on opportunities for students to expand their speaking and listening comprehension skills in addition to developing their writing and reading comprehension skills. Students continue to study the culture, the people and their customs. Students will continue to role play and perform dialogues/skits in a variety of everyday situations and topics using the target language.

*Prerequisite (PR): 70 or higher in Spanish 1, or 80 or higher on the Credit-by-Exam.*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Spanish 2 Pre-AP MS (#5732) - HS Credit

This course exceeds the Level 2 requirements by including many independent activities requiring performance in the target language. The students will continue to refine the four modes of communication by being exposed to an enriched and accelerated curriculum.

*Prerequisite (PR): Recommended 90 or higher in Spanish 1, or 90 or higher on the Credit-by-Exam.*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Spanish 3 Pre-AP MS (#5742)

Students continue to work towards proficiency in speaking and listening comprehension. The study of some condensed literary works will incorporate the development of reading comprehension and writing skills. Culture topics are integrated throughout the curriculum. Students will do independent, pair, and group work to allow for more creativity and the use of higher order thinking skills.

*Prerequisite (PR): Pre-requisite for this course is a recommended 80 or better in Spanish 2 Pre-AP or a 90 or better in Spanish 2 Regular or a 90 or better on the Credit-by-Exam.*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

### Spanish 4 AP MS (#5752) - HS Credit

This course will integrate the curriculum prepared by the College Board and Northside curriculum in order to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Language and Culture exam. Group and independent activities will be utilized to facilitate intensive student use of the target language in all aspects of the course. Upon successful completion of the Advanced Placement exam; students may be eligible to receive several hours of college credit.

*Prerequisite (PR): Pre-requisite for this course is a recommended 80 or better in Spanish 3 Pre-AP or Spanish 3 Pre-AP for Spanish Speakers or a 90 or better on the Credit-by-Exam.*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

## CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### Career Portals FCS (#8800)

This comprehensive foundation course addresses positive self-image, nutrition and food preparation, wellness, personal appearance, sewing, and career options. Emphasis is on the importance of effective family communication skills, management skills, how to get along with others including family members and peers, decision making, acceptance of responsibility, and child care practices. Students will explore career information to learn more about themselves, their interests and their abilities in order to make informed decisions regarding their futures.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### FCS II (#8801)

A course designed to increase the student's understanding of nutritional guidelines, textiles/sewing techniques and stages of child development. Practical projects will be completed that reinforce problem solving, technical and academic skills. Students will research careers in order to assist with development of their four-year high school plans.

*Prerequisite (PR): Career Portals FCS 8800*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Tech Ed Production (#8811)

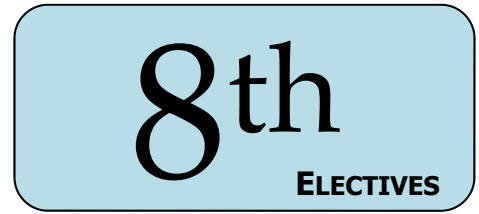
Students will apply critical thinking processes to research, plan, design, construct, and evaluate projects built in class. In the wood lab, students will learn safety, basic production principles, and how to use hand and power tools. Students will use drill presses, band saws, scroll saws, routers, air tools, and sanders to produce their projects. Students will use the knowledge and skills they acquire to design, create material lists, plan production and create their own student-designed projects. Students will also gain skills in wiring electronic circuits and programming. Career research will assist students with the development of their four-year high school plans.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.

# Eighth Grade Electives

The courses listed in this section are available to current 7th grade students who are incoming 8th graders. Students may be enrolled in intervention classes in lieu of an elective, according to academic need.



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## JOURNALISM

### Journalism/Yearbook (#1702)

This course provides the study of current print and digital trends in yearbook design, layout, and publishing in order to develop and produce the school yearbook. Coursework includes gathering and analyzing information, photography, and specialized writing.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Journalism (#1700)

This course is designed to introduce students to mass media, advertising, marketing, and photography. Students study the basic features of journalism and newspaper and/or yearbook production, freedom and responsibility of the press, career opportunities in mass communications, and specialized writing.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

## AVID-HS CREDIT

### AVID 1 (#9054) - HS Credit

AVID 1 will serve as a review of the AVID philosophy and strategies and as preparation for High School. Students will refine previous goals, focusing on their transition to high school as part of a college preparatory path. Students will increase awareness of their personal contributions to their learning, as well as their involvement in their school and community. Students will work in collaborative settings, learning how to participate in collegial discussions and use sources to support their ideas and opinions. Students will prepare for and participate in college entrance and placement exams, while refining study skills and test taking, note-taking, and research techniques. They will take an active role in field trip and guest speaker preparations and presentations. Their college research will include financial topics and building their knowledge on colleges and careers of interest.

*Prerequisite (PR): Application and interview*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 1*

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## OTHER ELECTIVES

### Study Hall (#9471)

Study Hall is a designated class period during the school day that provides a structured time for students to work on homework, research, projects, or other assignments.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

### Office Assistant (#9023)

Students assist school personnel in the front office, counseling office, attendance office, library, and VPO. Selection is based on communication skills, grades, citizenship, and attendance.

*Prerequisite (PR): None*  
*Semesters: 2 HS Credit (CR): 0*

Please note course selection(s) may change due to ARD committee placement decisions for students receiving special education services.



# Northside ISD

# High School Endorsements

Contact campus counselors for additional information about High School course requirements.

A student must complete the Foundation High School Program (22 credits), one additional math credit, one additional science credit, and two additional elective credits while completing the specific requirements of his/her selected endorsement. Distinguished Level of Achievement graduates must meet the Foundation Program and earn 4 Math credits including Algebra II, 4 Science credits, and at least 1 Endorsement.

## STEM

Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math

Students may earn a STEM endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 4 options.

Note: Algebra II, Chemistry, and Physics are required for the STEM endorsement regardless of the option the student selects.

### Option 1: Computer Science

Students take 4 computer science courses.

- Principles of Computer Science AP
- Computer Science 1 Pre-AP
- Computer Science 2 AP/DC
- Computer Science 3 H/DC

### Option 2: CTE

Students earn four (4) CTE credits by taking at least two (2) courses in the same cluster that lead to a final course in the STEM cluster. At least one (1) of the courses must be an advanced CTE course (3rd year or higher course in a sequence).

### Option 3: Math

Students take Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II AND two (2) of the following courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite.

- AQR
- Pre-Calculus
- AP Calculus AB or BC
- AP Statistics
- AP Computer Science A
- Math ISM College Algebra
- College Prep Math (ISM Advanced Algebra 3)

### Option 4: Science

Students take Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, AND two (2) of the following courses. New courses may be added.

- AP Biology
- AP Capstone (Year 1-AP Seminar) BRANDEIS ONLY
- AP Capstone (Year 2-AP Research) BRANDEIS ONLY
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Physics 1
- AP Physics 2
- AP Physics C (Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism)
- Advanced Animal Science
- Advanced Plant & Soil Science
- Advanced Biotechnology
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Aquatic Science
- Astronomy
- Earth & Space Science
- Engineering Design & Problem Solving
- Environmental Systems
- Food Science
- Forensic Science
- Medical Microbiology/Pathophysiology (paired semester courses)
- Scientific Research & Design

### Option 5: Combination

In addition to Algebra II, Chemistry, and Physics, a student may take a coherent sequence of three (3) additional credits from no more than two (2) options above. (STEM Options 1-4)

## Business & Industry

Students may earn a Business & Industry endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 2 options.

### Option 1: CTE

Students earn four (4) credits in a coherent sequence by taking at least two (2) courses in the same cluster. At least one (1) of the courses must be an advanced CTE course. (3rd year or higher course in the sequence).

Clusters include:

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communication
- Business Management and Administration
- Finance
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Information Technology
- Manufacturing
- Marketing
- Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

### Option 2: English

Students take four (4) English elective credits that include three levels in one of the following areas

- Advanced Journalism: Newspaper, Yearbook or Broadcast
- Debate or Public Speaking

## Public Services

Students may earn a Public Services endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 2 options.

### Option 1: CTE

Students earn four (4) credits in a coherent sequence by taking at least two (2) courses in the same cluster. At least one (1) of the courses must be an advanced CTE course. (3rd year or higher course in the sequence).

- Education and Training
- Health Science
- Human Services
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security

### Option 2: JROTC

Student takes four (4) JROTC courses for 4 credits.

## Arts & Humanities

Students may earn an Arts & Humanities endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 4 options.

### Option 1: Social Studies

Students take five (5) social studies credits.

### Option 2: LOTE (Language other than English)

Students take four (4) levels of the same LOTE for 4 credits.

OR

Students take two (2) levels of one LOTE and two (2) levels of a different LOTE for 4 credits.

### Option 3: Fine Arts

Students take four (4) courses in the same fine arts area for 4 credits

OR

Students take two (2) courses in one fine arts area and two (2) courses in a different fine arts area for 4 total credits.

### Option 4: English

Students take four (4) elective credits selected from the following courses.

- English IV
- Independent Study (ISM) in English
- Literary Genres
- Creative Writing
- Research and Technical Writing
- Humanities
- AP English Literature & Comp
- Communication Applications

## Multidisciplinary Studies

Students may earn a Multidisciplinary Studies endorsement by selecting and completing the requirements from among these 3 options.

### Option 1: Four by Four (4 X 4)

Students take four (4) courses in each of the four core content areas.

- Four (4) English credits including English IV
- Four (4) math credits
- Four (4) science credits including biology and chemistry and/or physics
- Four (4) social studies credits

### Option 2: AP and Dual

Students take four (4) credits in Advanced Placement or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, languages other than English, or fine arts.

### Option 3: Combination

Students take four advanced courses that prepare them to enter the workforce or postsecondary education without remediation from within one endorsement area or among endorsement areas not in a coherent sequence.

# NISD 4 Year Plan with Endorsement

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ID \_\_\_\_\_

**ENDORSEMENT & STRAND:** *Select your endorsement and indicate your intended strand*

- Arts & Humanities \_\_\_\_\_
- Business & Industry \_\_\_\_\_
- Public Service \_\_\_\_\_
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) \_\_\_\_\_
- Multidisciplinary Studies \_\_\_\_\_

## 9th Grade

## 10th Grade

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English 1	1
Algebra 1	1
Biology	1
World Geography	1
PE / PE Equivalent	1
Language or Elective	1
Endorsement Elective or Elective	1

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English 2	1
Geometry	1
Chemistry	1
World History	1

**High School Credits Earned in Middle School:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 11th Grade

## 12th Grade

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English 3	1
Algebra 2	1
Physics	1
US History	1

<u>Courses</u>	<u>Credits</u>
English 4	1
Advanced Math	1
Advanced Science	1
Government/Economics	.5 / .5

**Additional Graduation Requirements:**

- 2 years Language
- Fine Art
- Health/Speech

*Revised on 2/26/2018*

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