



# Middle School Course Catalog

Dear middle school students and parents,

It is time to begin thinking about classes for the 2021-2022 school year. The following course description guide will help in this process. Please contact the Guidance office if you need any help in this process.

If you are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade next year, here are a few things to keep in mind.

- All 6<sup>th</sup> graders will take Social Studies, Science, Bible, PE, Math, and English. Math and English do have advanced sections available to students who score high enough on their standardized testing, their previous academic courses and also have received teacher recommendations.
- The following are the elective choices available for 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Students who take Band or Chorus will not be able to take the “Wheel” as those are full year classes:
  - “Wheel” (Computers, Critical Thinking, Drama, Music Exploration) which allows students to take four different courses; one per quarter.
  - Students not choosing the wheel can select to take one of the following year-long electives: Beginning Band, Beginning Praise, Chorus, Concert Band, Drumline or Symphonic Band

If you are entering 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, here are a few things to keep in mind.

- All 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will take Social Studies, Bible, Science, Math, and English. Math, Science and English have an advanced section available to students who score high enough on the placement testing, standardized testing, previous academic grades and also receive teacher recommendations.
- 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders have a variety of elective choices. Look over the descriptions and make wise decisions. Some courses are for a full year and others only one semester.
- 8<sup>th</sup> graders may begin fulfilling their high school foreign language credits by taking High School Spanish I with an A in both math and English or teacher recommendation. Students who opt for this path should be prepared to continue through at least three levels of Spanish when in high school. Math courses may also be taken for high school credit if the pre-requisite courses have been successfully completed, along with a teacher recommendation. Students will still take a math class every year they are in high school, so this option is for students who desire to continue in the higher levels of math.
- Career Research is a required elective in middle school. Students must select this semester elective either in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the course selection forms. Contact the Guidance office or with any questions.

In His Service,

The Guidance Department

## **Contact Info**

Arlene Outerbridge  
Director of Guidance  
[arleneouterbridge@mastersacademy.org](mailto:arleneouterbridge@mastersacademy.org)

Lindsey Herold  
Associate Director of Guidance  
[lindseyherold@mastersacademy.org](mailto:lindseyherold@mastersacademy.org)

Andrea Brosseau  
Student Advisor / Registrar  
[andreabrosseau@mastersacademy.org](mailto:andreabrosseau@mastersacademy.org)

Jocelyn Mennenga  
Student Advisor  
[jocelynmennenga@mastersacademy.org](mailto:jocelynmennenga@mastersacademy.org)

Guidance Office  
[guidance@mastersacademy.org](mailto:guidance@mastersacademy.org)  
407-971-2221

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## ENGLISH

### English 6

**Grade Level: 6**

English 6 encompasses the study of literature, vocabulary, grammar, and writing. Basic reading comprehension and critical thinking skills are developed through timed reading, skill sheets, short stories, poetry, essays, and novels. Students will read different styles of literature and complete various styles of book report projects on the selections. Critical reading and thinking skills are further developed through class discussions and written responses of these works. Vocabulary is expanded through the study of words found in the literature text, as well as from words studied in the vocabulary text. Grammar skills covered in this class include sentence structure, diagrams, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and parts of speech. Students are given numerous opportunities to write in this course. The writing process is stressed as students learn how to both proofread and revise their own writings. Students learn to write book reports, essays, personal narratives, speeches, poems, and letters. The sixth graders participate in the annual Tropicana Speech/ 4H Speech Competition competing against other Seminole county public and private schools.

### English Honors 6

**Grade Level: 6**

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation, testing, and B+ or higher grade maintained throughout 5<sup>th</sup> grade English. English 6 Honors encompasses the study of literature, vocabulary, grammar, and writing. Basic reading comprehension and critical thinking skills are developed through timed reading, skill sheets, short stories, poetry, essays, and novels. Students will read different styles of literature and complete various styles of book report projects on the selections. Critical reading and thinking skills are further developed through class discussions and written responses of these works. Vocabulary is expanded through the study of words found in the literature text, as well as from words studied in the vocabulary text. Grammar skills covered in this class include sentence structure, diagrams, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and parts of speech. Students are given numerous opportunities to write in this course including online forums. The writing process is stressed as students learn how to both proofread and revise their own writings. Students learn to write book reports, essays, personal narratives, speeches, poems, and letters. The pre-honors class will complete an in-depth paragraph study of the narrative, expository, descriptive and persuasive paragraphs. Peer-editing and revision will also be strongly encouraged. The sixth graders also participate in the annual Tropicana Speech/4H Speech Competition competing against other Seminole county public and private schools.

### English 7

**Grade Level: 7**

English 7 encompasses the study of literature, vocabulary, grammar, and writing.. The first goal of English 7 is to read, study, and develop an appreciation for a variety of literature genres. Short stories, plays, poetry, and novels are used throughout the year to meet this goal. Secondly, writing and grammar skills are refined as students learn to produce a wide variety of written expressions including essays, personal narratives, letters, and poetry. Students are also introduced to the research process and are taught how to conduct research and validate internet sources. Students are also taught how to use Turnitin to aid them in properly citing the sources that they use. Grammar skills covered in this class include sentence structure, usage, punctuation, capitalization, figurative language, literary devices, and parts of speech. Finally, the vocabulary curriculum rounds out the program by providing a systematic approach to increasing word knowledge using varied and controlled contexts. Each spring, seventh grade students participate in the Poetry Café and memorize and recite a well-known poem. Students are also taught how to identify various devices used in poetry.

**English Honors 7****Grade Level: 7****Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation, testing, and B+ or higher grade maintained throughout English 6

English 7 Honors encompasses the study of literature, vocabulary, grammar, and writing. Basic reading comprehension and critical thinking skills are sharpened through short stories, poetry, essays, plays and novels. Critical reading and thinking skills are further developed through class discussions and written responses to these works. Writing and grammar skills are refined as students learn to produce a wide variety of written expressions including essays, personal narratives, letters, and poetry. Students will study and complete brief research papers, using the internet. Students will learn how to correctly document and cite sources used when conducting research. Vocabulary is expanded through the study of words found in the literature text, as well as from words studied in the vocabulary text. Grammar skills covered in this class include sentence structure, usage, punctuation, capitalization, figurative language, literary devices, and parts of speech. The writing process is stressed as students learn to proofread and revise their own writings. Each spring, seventh grade students participate in the Poetry Café and memorize and recite a well-known poem. Students are also taught how to recognize and identify various devices used in poetry.

**English 8****Grade Level: 8**

The first goal of English 8 is to broaden student strategies for increasing reading comprehension and reinforcing literary skills. Short stories, plays, poetry, and novels are used throughout the year to meet the goal of critical thinking and analysis. Secondly, writing and grammar skills are refined as students learn to produce a wide variety of written expressions including expository, narrative, descriptive, persuasive and personal forms of writing. The Students will complete a research paper using the internet. Students will learn how to incorporate parenthetical documentation throughout the paper, and how to correctly cite the sources. The grammar skills covered in this class include: parts of speech, parts of sentences, phrases, clauses, effective sentences, subject/verb agreement, punctuation, and capitalization. Finally, the vocabulary curriculum rounds out the program by providing a systematic approach to increasing word knowledge using varied and controlled contexts.

**English Honors 8****Grade Level: 8****Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation, testing, and B+ or higher grade maintained throughout English 7

English 8 Honors encompasses the study of literature, vocabulary, grammar, and writing. Basic reading comprehension and critical thinking skills are sharpened through short stories, poetry, essays, plays and novels. Critical reading and thinking skills are further developed through class discussions and written responses of these works. The grammar skills covered in this class include: parts of speech, parts of sentences, phrases, clauses, effective sentences, subject/verb agreement, punctuation, and capitalization. Students will complete a research paper using the internet. Students will learn how to incorporate parenthetical documentation throughout the paper, and how to correctly cite the sources. Vocabulary is expanded through the study of words found in the literature text, as well as from words studied in the vocabulary text. Grammar skills covered in this class include sentence structure, diagrams, usage, punctuation, capitalization, and parts of speech. Students are given numerous opportunities to write in this course. The writing process is stressed as students learn to proofread and revise their own writings. Students learn how to write well-structured paragraphs, book reports, essays, personal narratives, poems, and short stories. Students participate in writing competitions sponsored through the Seminole County Public Library and vocabulary competitions with the WordMaster Challenge. Students also participate in the ACSI Spelling Bee.

**MATH****General Math 6****Grade Level: 6**

This course is designed to prepare students for future success in algebra and geometry. Through a carefully planned sequence of topics, students practice and extend their knowledge of mathematics to promote confidence and mastery. Topics for study include number patterns, decimals, fractions, percentages, solving one-step algebraic equations, integers, statistics, probability, measurement, and geometry. Students will be expected to demonstrate competency in these computations without the aid of a calculator. Applications and problem solving are emphasized using hands-on labs and activities.

**Math 6 Accelerated****Grade Level: 6**

**Prerequisite:** B+ or higher in fifth grade math, a required minimum score on the placement test, and teacher recommendation.

Designed to prepare students for Pre-Algebra, this course increases proficiency in essential mathematics skills and an introduction to Pre-Algebra skills. Problem solving strategies and critical thinking skills will also be stressed throughout the course. Students will develop an understanding of ratios, rates, and percentages, and apply these skills in real-life scenarios. Students will also apply, conversion of units, and the principles of area and volume in the study of basic geometry. Students will be expected to demonstrate competency in these computations without the aid of a calculator. Algebra readiness skills are integrated throughout the course. Topics for study also include operations with integers, decimals, fractions, statistics, percent applications, proportional reasoning, and basic algebraic equations and inequalities. Following this course students will progress into Pre-Algebra.

**General Math 7****Grade Level: 7**

This course is designed to prepare students for future success in algebra and geometry through a carefully planned sequence of topics. Students practice and extend their knowledge of mathematics to develop confidence and mastery of the concepts. Topics for study include fractions, statistics, linear equations and functions, proportional reasoning, algebra, operations with integers, geometry, and measurement. Students will be expected to demonstrate competency in these computations without the aid of a calculator. Problem solving and critical thinking are emphasized in daily assignments and activities.

**Pre-Algebra****Grade Level: 7, 8**

**Prerequisites:** ~~Seventh-grade~~ B+ or higher in Math Accelerated 6th, a minimum required score on the placement test, and teacher recommendation.

This course prepares students for algebra and geometry through a sequence of topics designed to extend their knowledge of mathematics. Topics for study include algebra, integers, rational numbers, linear equations, inequalities and functions, applying algebra to geometry, statistics, and probability. Application, problem solving, and critical thinking are emphasized through daily assignments as well as activities.

**Algebra I Honors Credit: 1.0 (High School Credit)****Grade Level: 7, 8**

**Prerequisite:** B+ or higher in Pre-Algebra, a score of 85 or better on the Orleans-Hanna Algebra Readiness Test, and/or teacher recommendation

This course is designed to provide the foundation for advanced placement mathematics courses and develop skills needed to solve mathematical problems. Topics include sets, variables, structures and properties of the real number system, first-degree equations and inequalities, relations, functions, graphs, systems of linear equations and inequalities, integral exponents, polynomials, rational algebraic expressions, irrational numbers, radical expressions, and quadratic equations. Critical thinking, real-world applications, and problem solving are emphasized through daily assignments.

**Geometry Honors 1.0 (High School Credit)****Grade Level: 8**

**Prerequisites:** B+ or higher in Algebra I Honors or teacher recommendation

The purpose of this course is to develop the geometric relationships and deductive strategies that can be used to solve a variety of real world and mathematical problems. More emphasis will be given to the development of independent thinking skills and the use of critical analysis. Topics include logic and reasoning, the study of Euclidean geometry of lines, planes, angles, triangles, similarity, congruence, geometric inequalities, polygons and circles, area and volume.

## SCIENCE

### **General Science 6**

**Grade Level: 6**

This course entails the study of God's creation as a general science course. The topics covered are: Plants, Invertebrates, Forces of the Earth, Space, Universe, and Basics of Chemistry. This course investigates these topics through studying the text, hands on investigations, and projects. Projects include: leaf study, classification of invertebrates, building a volcano, creating models of solar systems and constellations, as well as developing chemistry games. Field trips include going off campus for plant investigation and butterfly encounters, and a visit to The Kennedy Space Center. The entire course of study is based upon the world which God created with an emphasis that all creation comes from Him and no other.

### **Life Science**

**Grade Level: 7**

Life Science is a middle school survey class touching all areas of God's amazing living creation. Areas of study include: the scientific method, heredity, microbiology, plants, animal biology, and structure and function of the human body. All topics are taught through a Christian worldview. Learning will take place through a variety of methods including scientific reading, interpretation of graphs, direct instruction, laboratory investigations, and dissections.

### **Life Science – Advanced**

**Grade Level: 7**

**Prerequisite:** B+ or higher in Science 6 or teacher recommendation

Advanced Life Science is a middle school survey class touching all areas of God's amazing living creation. Areas of study include: the scientific method, heredity, microbiology, plants, animal biology, and structure and function of the human body. All topics are taught through a Christian worldview. Learning will take place through a variety of methods including scientific reading, interpretation of graphs, direct instruction, laboratory investigations, and dissections. Advanced students will be required to go deeper in their learning of Life Science with more ability to infer and analyze. The advanced student should be a proficient writer and have the ability to read more challenging texts.

### **Physical Science**

**Grade Level: 8**

Physical Science is a survey course of study of God's creation of the universe and the physical laws and concepts that govern the world. Concepts taught include: the scientific method, measurement, atoms, states and changes in matter, motion and forces, energy, waves, and simple machines. This class integrates mathematical skills and applies them to the world of science. All topics are taught through a Christian worldview. Learning will take place through a variety of methods including: scientific reading and writing, laboratory investigations, models, and direct instruction and demonstrations.

### **Physical Science – Advanced**

**Grade Level: 8**

**Prerequisite:** B+ or higher in Life Science Advanced or teacher recommendation. It is recommended that students be enrolled in Algebra I Honors in 8<sup>th</sup> grade to take this course.

Physical Science is a survey course of study of God's creation of the universe and the physical laws and concepts that govern the world. Concepts taught include: the scientific method, measurement, atoms, states and changes in matter, motion and forces, energy, waves, and simple machines. This class integrates mathematical skills and applies them to the world of science. All topics are taught through a Christian worldview. Learning will take place through a variety of methods including: scientific reading and writing, laboratory investigations, models, and direct instruction and demonstrations. Advanced students are required to have co-requisite of Algebra 1. In addition the advanced student should be a proficient writer and have the ability to read more challenging texts.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### **World History**

**Grade Level: 6**

World History is a survey of the history of the world beginning with creation to the present time. We cover such topics as Creation, Ancient Civilization, Medieval Times, Reformation, Renaissance, Inquisition, Age of Exploration and the rise of modern European countries, the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, ending with current events. Students are taught through powerpoints that integrate videos, pictures, and maps to reinforce material. Students will be able to synthesize information through real-life simulations of historical people, integration of historical literature (i.e. *Robin Hood* and *Treasure Island*), and projects (i.e. family traditions, building a 3D model, creative writing). Along with tests, evaluation of material includes creative writing, art work, essays, and research papers.

### **Civics**

**Grade Level: 7**

Civics is a year-long, in-depth study of the principles, functions, and organization of government. Special emphasis will be given to the origins of the American political system, the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens, and methods of active participation in our political system. Students will analyze economic structures, cultural and physical geography of the United States, international interdependence, the global impact of American foreign policy, and American cultural diffusion. Students will be able to synthesize information through real-life simulations, current events, projects, and various primary sources.

### **US History**

**Grade Level: 8**

United States History is a survey course of our nation's history from the exploration of our country to today. Throughout the course, we will study the political, economic, social and religious trends that have emerged in the development of the United States. We will cover such topics as Colonization, the American Revolution, the Constitution, Manifest Destiny, the Civil War, Industrialism, and the 20th Century. Students will be able to synthesize information through real-life simulations of historical events, current events, projects (i.e. create your own colony, propaganda poster, video production, etc.) and various primary sources. A highlight of the course includes a 4-day trip to Washington, D.C. to visit our nation's capital.

## BIBLE

### **Bible 6 - Biblical Survey**

**Grade Level: 6**

This course is an introductory course to Biblical knowledge, which gives a general view of the Old Testament. Before a student can be confident discussing the Bible, they need a sound understanding of its outline. Throughout this course students will learn the main ideas and characters for each book and be able to compose a timeline of the Old Testament.

### **Bible 7 - The Life of Christ and Me**

**Grade Level: 7**

This course will take students on a journey through the gospels and Acts, helping them develop not only a deeper knowledge of Christ, but also a deeper relationship with Him. This course examines the ministry and work of God's Son within Israel's historical and geographical context. The emphasis of this course will focus on Christ's birth, life, ministry, death and resurrection revealing God's love, forgiveness, and power to change. This course helps middle school students understand that the gospel is all about God making us into who he meant us to be all along.

### **Bible 8 - The Gospel-Centered Life**

**Grade Level: 8**

This course addresses student's deepest need—God's grace in their lives through faith in Christ. Paul explains the profoundly wonderful implications and applications of the gospel in Romans. Students will study Acts through Revelation and identify theological and practical application to their lives. This course will also work through *The Gospel-Centered Life for Teens*, that will help students discover the message of Jesus and how it relates to every area of their lives.

## WORLD LANGUAGE

### **Spanish I Credit: 1.0 (High School Credit)**

**Grade Level: 8**

**Prerequisite:** An A is required in both math and English or teacher recommendation. It is recommended that students be enrolled in Algebra I Honors in 8th grade to take this course.

This introductory course is designed to give students the basic language tools for developing proficiency in using Spanish for communication. Focus is on the development of basic and relevant vocabulary, simple grammatical structures and an integrated approach to Hispanic cultures. Students will be given an opportunity to begin to develop all four language skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking. Speaking and writing skills are developed as students begin relating basic information. This is a beginner proficiency level. This class is designed for students who plan on pursuing AP level Spanish courses in high school.

## ELECTIVES

### **Critical Thinking and Study Skills (Wheel)**

**Grade Level: 6**

This 9-week course is designed to provide students with concrete skills to assist them in their academic endeavors. Students will be taught strategies to acquire, store and retrieve information as well as tips to enhance their oral and written communications. Students will be introduced to tactics on how to prepare for various subjects based on proven techniques in note taking, organizational skills, and time management.

### **Drama (Wheel)**

**Grade Level: 6**

This 9-Week Drama course has been designed to produce enthusiastic, well-rounded Drama students. This two part course will not only give students ample opportunity to perform in class, but will also introduce them to the fundamentals of acting, stage movement, improvisation, theatre history, theatre technology, theatrical make-up, and costuming.

### **Computers (Wheel)**

**Grade Level: 6**

Students will advance their typing skills as they work on lessons and typing games daily. Students will learn Google applications (drive, docs, sheets, draw, sites, slides & forms), the fundamentals of computers and the Internet, Microsoft Windows file management, digital story creation, digital citizenship and an introduction to computer programming using block coding. In addition, they will also learn the necessary computer skills to work on projects and assignments for other classes. The objective is to equip students with more proficient technology skills needed throughout middle and high school.

### **Music Exploration (Wheel)**

**Grade Level: 6**

Students explore the essential elements of 20th- and 21st-century music in America (e.g., jazz, rock, soul, blues) and global cultures (e.g., Latin, Bollywood, European, Asian, world drumming). Students reflect on the significance of social influences and historical events on the development of music. Participants focus on the creation, use, and performance of music; and the modes of listening, distributing, and gaining access to music. Public performances may serve as a resource for specific instructional goals. Students may be expected to attend at least one performance outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom.

**Chorus****Grade Level:** 6, 7, 8

All students are accepted as beginners into this vocal performance group. Students will be exposed to a variety of music styles and will learn to harmonize, read music and sing together as a group and individuals. In the spring we will participate in the ACSI choral festival competition with entries available as a group and soloists. The group also enjoys local community events and has the opportunity to perform at off-site locations. There is a mandatory performance at the end of each semester. This is an academic course as well as an extra-curricular course. Additional rehearsals may be required and/or mandatory as we approach the opening of the concerts and performances. This is a year-long course which may include off-site performances and additional fees.

**Beginning Band****Grade Level:** 6, 7, 8

Beginning band is a beginning level band for students with little to no previous musical knowledge or experience. Students are provided with learning and performance opportunities, focusing on basic skills of a wind or percussion instrument. In addition to large group ensembles, individual growth and achievement are encouraged through participation in adjudicated solo and ensemble contests and private lessons. Students in Blue Band will perform in at least two concerts a year. Students are responsible for renting or purchasing an instrument for the duration of the year. Additional costs may apply for extracurricular events. This is a year-long course which may include off-site performances and additional fees.

**Concert Band****Grade Level:** 6, 7, 8

**Prerequisite:** Beginning Band or an audition.

Concert Band is a year-long course open to developing, novice students with some previous instrumental experience. Students will have an opportunity to perform marching band music and concert band performances. A wide variety of music for winds and percussion will be studied and performed throughout the year. In addition to at least 2 concerts per year, students will have individual opportunities to participate in optional events like Solo and Ensemble Contest. Out-of-school rehearsals, performances, and activities are part of the course grade. These activities are an integral element that support and extend learning in the classroom. Private lessons are strongly encouraged but not required. Practicing at home is expected and will vary with the individual. Attending all full band performances is a course requirement. Course fees and rental expenses are required for this class. This is a year-long course which may include off-site performances and additional fees.

**Symphonic Band****Grade Level:** 6, 7, 8

**Prerequisite:** By Audition or Invitation Only

Symphonic Orchestra is TMA's premier music course - a year-long course designed for advanced instrumentalists. Brass, Strings, Winds, Percussionists, Pianists, and other musicians are welcome to join. Classroom activities are designed to develop elements of musicianship including collaboration, tone production, technical skills, intonation, music reading skills, listening skills, analyzing music theory, studying historically significant styles of literature, and integration of other applicable disciplines such as sight-reading and correct responses to a conductor's musical insight to the literature being studied and to be performed. Students study a varied advanced repertoire of developmentally appropriate concert band literature, string orchestra literature, chamber music, solo pieces, jazz, and technical studies, and develop the ability and artistry to convey a composer's intent in the performance of music. There is periodic classroom assessment to monitor student progress. Some students may be asked to participate in marching band. In addition to at least three required performances per year, students will have individual opportunities and may be asked to participate in events like Solo and Ensemble Contest. Out-of-school rehearsals, performances, and activities are part of the course grade. These activities are an integral element that support and extend learning in the classroom. Private lessons are strongly encouraged and practicing at home is expected. Course fees and instrumental rentals/purchases are required. This is a year-long course.

**Introduction to Dance****Grade Level:** 7, 8

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn the beginning skills of dance learning terms and techniques in ballet, jazz, modern styles, enhancing self-confidence and creative ability. Students will learn how to interpret and execute choreography and dance in all styles through classes in technique and presentations. Students will explore the creative process, through their own choreography and compositions translating ideas, thoughts, and feelings into the performing art form of dance. Students will cover dance through the ages in different cultures and time periods with cultural and historical context. Students grow in understanding dance and its elements through direct experience.

### **Drumline**

**Grade Level: 6, 7, 8**

In this year-long course, students with little or no percussion experience in an instrumental ensemble develop basic musicianship and ensemble performance skills through the study of basic, high-quality music in diverse styles. Student musicians focus on building foundational music techniques, music literacy, listening skills, and aesthetic awareness. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g. borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

### **Intro to Praise and Worship**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

This introduction to Praise and Worship Band is the premier class for student leaders who have the gift of music. Students will discover a heart of worship and what it takes to lead a chapel service, from a spiritual and musical perspective. Some musical experience is required. Invited to audition are singers, or instrumentalists who play keyboard, drums, guitar, bass, ukulele, or percussion. Students will learn to harmonize, play rhythms, understand chords, and analyze and perform praise and worship music. Course fees, instrumental purchases and practicing at home are required. This is a year-long class.

### **Comprehensive Reading**

**Grade Level: 6**

**Note: Students are placed in this class by the administration based on teacher recommendation.**

The purpose of this Comprehensive Reading class is to accelerate learning and enable students to catch up with their peers. The program is a combination of direct teaching with required oral responses and workbook exercises. According to SRA (Scientific Research Associates), the "Corrective Reading program teaches general comprehension skills that are taught in most reading programs – cause and effect, making inferences, finding the main idea, sequencing events, seeing humor, and many other less traditional comprehension strategies." Students learn the importance of analyzing and choosing relevant facts and practice methods which help improve information recall – skills frequently lacking in learners who fall behind grade level reading comprehension.

Not only does Comprehensive Reading "specifically prepare students for academic success by teaching background knowledge, fundamental concepts, and rules that are pertinent to content areas," but it also helps students to see God's order demonstrated by many of the lesson exercises.

### **Physical Education & Health**

**Grade Level: 6, 7, 8**

**Uniforms:** TMA Physical Education boys/girls shorts, shirt, athletic shoes, socks

The purpose of Physical Education and health is to incorporate individual and team skills with conditioning and lifestyle activities. Total health encompasses many aspects, therefore discussions about the importance of healthy living and practical applications will be integrated into the curriculum. According to I Corinthians 6:19: "Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own." The development of Christ-like attitudes toward others, good sportsmanship, encouragement of classmates and choices for lifelong healthy living is fostered on a daily basis. The President's Challenge is utilized in the fall and spring for fitness evaluation. As instructed by God, TMA instructors relay the importance of physical activity and healthy choices to their students to ensure a positive outlook on life.

### **Career Research**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

**This is a required Middle School elective that must be taken in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.**

This semester class will introduce students to careers of interest and the widely recognized Sixteen Career Clusters through class research with computers and reference books, guest speakers, interviewing, and shadowing. They will grow in self-awareness and an understanding of how that relates to career selection. Decision making, planning, and goal setting are significant skills addressed and applied. Students will study the job search process and skills for being an effective employee, as well as the significance of living a balanced life and coping with inevitable change.

### **Computer Applications I**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

Students will learn digital citizenship, JavaScript programming basics through drawing and animation projects, story creation and video editing using iMovie, and computer/ internet concepts as needed for use in other classes and everyday life. Students will also learn and increase their competency in Google applications, as well as Microsoft Office products (MS Word, MS Publisher, MS Excel and MS PowerPoint) through a Teen Entrepreneur business simulation project. Students will use graphic and creative design skills to develop promotional marketing material for their businesses.

### **Computer Applications II**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

**Prerequisite:** Computer Applications I

Students will learn more advanced computer/ internet skills and concepts beyond Computer Applications I. They will gain valuable photo editing and video editing skills, 3D modeling, 3D printing and computer coding skills using various computer-aided design (CAD) programs and the LulzBot 3D printer. Additionally, students will learn digital citizenship, advanced features of Google applications, animation and game creation, web page development and physical computing using Circuit Playgrounds. The objective of this course is to empower students to become creators using technology; students learn to become better thinkers and communicators by working together in coding and design projects.

### **Introduction to Robotics**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

Students are introduced to engineering principles as they design and assemble robots to perform basic navigation and specific tasks. Fundamental robotics skills are learned in the context of studying and modifying a simple robot. These projects tie together a wide range of disciplines, including computer science, physics, engineering, math and art. Students learn to work together as a team, learning group dynamics and problem solving.

### **Creative Writing**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

Middle school students are encouraged to write for pleasure and for possible publication. They learn rules and terminology associated with various genres, and they are given opportunities to write in these genres, which include description, poetry, dialogue, monologue, memoir, short story, and drama. Students engage in self and peer editing in addition to teacher grading to enhance writing skills for application in all subjects. At the end of the semester students will compile their favorite writings into a portfolio.

### **Drama**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

This very interactive course focuses on the fundamentals of acting, with an emphasis on the development of imagination, self-awareness, sense memory, improvisation, the ability to execute basic stage tasks, characterization and character development. This is an academic course as well as an extra-curricular course, where students have the opportunity to perform in a large scale production. Additional rehearsals will be mandatory as we approach the week of the production.

### **Exploring Art**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

Exploring Art is designed to build upon the Elements and Principles of Art while using design techniques and imagination. Students will have the opportunity to explore a wide variety of media to include paint, pastel, pencil, plaster and clay while learning about several master artists and materials in greater depth.

### **Photography**

**Grade Level: 7, 8**

Students explore the aesthetic foundations of art using beginning photography techniques, using color digital photography. Digital cameras and Adobe Photoshop will aid in learning the processes and techniques for image capture and editing. Content covers the basic mechanics of a camera, including manual operation, compositional foundations, editing an image for display, and evaluating a successful edit. Craftsmanship and quality are reflected in the use of editing tools, attention to compositional conventions, and expression of personal ideas and feelings. Student photographers use an art criticism process to evaluate, explain, and measure artistic growth in personal or group works. This course incorporates hands-on activities and requires a weekly commitment to getting photos of both in-school and after-school TMA events using a D-SLR camera. Students will make significant contributions to the yearbook through the application of their photography skills through sports photography and event photography. Students would benefit from having their own D-SLR camera, but they will be able to share in the use of yearbook cameras if they do not.

**Middle School Videography****Grade Level:** 7, 8

This course is an introduction to the fundamental concepts, terminology, techniques, and applications of digital imaging to create original work. The instructional focus will be on film. Students produce digital animated images through the single or combined use of computers, digital cameras, digital video cameras, scanners, photo editing software, drawing and painting software, graphic tablets, printers, new media, and emerging technologies. Through the critique process, students evaluate and respond to their own work and that of their peers to measure artistic growth. This course incorporates hands-on activities, the use of technology, and consumption of art materials.

**Global Perspective Class****Grade Level:** 7, 8

This one semester course focuses on the cultures of various ethnic groups across the globe with emphasis on service-learning and civic responsibility. Students will experience how culture impacts language by exploring the language and culture of many countries across the globe, ending with Latin America (Spanish). Effective service-learning project implementation will be taught and applied through structured service projects that meet real school, community and/or global needs. Learning outcome includes an appreciation for the various cultures, ethnicities, and races created by God and opportunities to practice Biblical love and leadership. Students will actively participate in meaningful service-learning experiences of at least 20 hours in duration.

**Yearbook****Grade Level:** 7, 8

Students will create pages for the TMA Upper School Yearbook. They learn what it takes to put a yearbook together. Students document school events through taking photos and interviewing their peers. Photography, interviewing, copywriting, and design are the major skills of focus. Use of digital SLR cameras and professional computer design software are part of this curriculum. Students leave this class with introductory journalism skills and advanced yearbook design skills, possess a majority of the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in high school yearbook, and experience the satisfaction of holding their work in their hands at the end of the year when TMA Yearbooks are distributed.

# 2021-2022 TMA Middle School

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM PLAN



### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### Language Arts:

(3 credits required)

English 6  
English Honors 6

English 7  
English 7 Honors

English 8  
English 8 Honors

#### Credits Completed:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Mathematics:

(3 credits required)

General Math 6  
Math 6 Accelerated\*

General Math 7  
Pre-Algebra  
Algebra I Honors+\*

Pre-Algebra  
Algebra I Honors  
Geometry Honors+\*

#### Credits Completed:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Science:

(3 credits required for College Prep)

General Science

Life Science  
Life Science - Advanced

Physical Science  
Physical Science - Advanced

#### Credits Completed:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Social Studies:

(3 credits required for College Prep)

World History

Civics

US History

#### Credits Completed:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# 2021-2022 TMA Middle School

**Bible:**

Bible 6  
(Biblical Survey)

Bible 7  
(The Life of Christ and Me)

Bible 8  
(The Gospel-Centered Life)

**Credits Completed:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Foreign Language:**

Spanish I

**Credits Completed:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Education:**

Physical Education  
(Required)

Physical Education  
(Elective credit)

Physical Education  
(Elective credit)

**Credits Completed:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fine Arts Electives:**

Chorus  
Band  
Wheel Course#

Art  
Chorus  
Beginning Band  
Praise Band  
Beginning Strings  
Concert Band  
Symphonic Band\*\*  
Videography  
Drama  
Intro to Dance  
Drumline

Art  
Chorus  
Beginning Band  
Praise Band  
Beginning Strings  
Concert Band  
Symphonic Band\*\*  
Videography  
Drama  
Intro to Dance  
Drumline

**Credits Completed:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Electives:**

Wheel Course #  
-Drama  
-Music  
-Computer  
- Critical Thinking

Career Research  
Computer Applications I  
Computer Applications II  
Creative Writing  
Photography  
Intro to Robotics  
Yearbook  
Global Perspectives

Career Research  
Computer Applications I  
Computer Applications II  
Creative Writing  
Photography  
Intro to Robotics  
Yearbook  
Global Perspectives

**Credits Completed:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

+ *Teacher recommendation required*

\* *Placement Test Required*

\*\* *Audition Only*

# *Course is split in Quarters (Drama, Music, Computers, Critical Thinking)*