

2026-27

Introduction to Middle School Course Registration



Seattle Public Schools course planning
guide for middle school students.



Table of Contents

A Message from the Assistant Superintendent of Academics 2

Middle and K-8 School Contact Information.....3

What Is Middle School About? 4

Anticipated Courses.....4

Important Middle School Terms.....4

Important Organizational Ideas.....4

Homework Tips.....4

Support Networks

Activities and Clubs.....5

Accessing Grades.....6

High School and Beyond Planning

SchooLinks: An Online Career and College Planning Tool.....8

Graduation Requirements 9

Graduating Class of 2027 & Class of 2028.....9

Graduation Pathways for Class of 2027 & Class of 2028.....10

Guidance on Dual Credit Participation

Middle School Courses for High School Credit

World Language Proficiency Credit

Virtual High School Course Options

Recommended Course Sequences and Descriptions 11

Career & Technical Education (CTE).....12

English Language Arts

Mathematics

Physical Education

Science

Social Studies

Visual & Performing Arts.....24

World Languages.....27

A Message from the Assistant Superintendent of Academics

Dear Seattle Public Schools Student,

The following is an introduction to the Seattle Public Schools middle school course registration process for the 2026-27 school year. It is designed to assist you in making informed, educational decisions in preparation for your future and to complement the information you receive from your middle school.

Our teachers and staff work hard to provide you with challenging and meaningful experiences while teaching skills that will prepare you for high school. The guidance in this introduction allows you to prepare for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Use this guide as you prepare for the next school year and beyond.

Seattle Public Schools wants all students to have access to and succeed in courses across subject areas, including English Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, Math, Visual & Performing Arts, Physical Education, Career & Technical Education, and World Languages.

We hope this document will help you in providing general guidance on middle school in Seattle Public Schools. It also includes a summary of courses you need to take in high schools such as graduation requirements, the High School and Beyond Plan, and recommended course sequences by content area.

If you have questions about the courses your school offers, please contact a teacher, counselor, or administrator at your school. They are here for you. As you prepare to make plans for the next few years at Seattle Public Schools, we encourage you to consider the following:

- **Every year is important!** College and career preparation begins as early as preschool and continues through high school with 6th grade being a particularly important year.
- **Predict!** The best predictor for success in high school is the completion of a rigorous middle school curriculum.
- **Set your goals!** Evaluate what you want to do, then write a plan to achieve that goal.
- **The time to start is now!** Start early to determine which courses will best set you up for success in high school.
- **Finish strong!** Plan to challenge yourself during your 8th grade year.
- **Share what you are thinking and planning!** Discuss this process with your family and share the goals of your high school program. Your family members are important partners in developing your High School & Beyond Plan.

We wish you success as you make the most of the opportunities available at Seattle Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mike Starosky,
Assistant Superintendent of Academics

Middle School and K-8 School Contact Information

For more school information please visit www.seattleschools.org/schools/

Middle Schools

Aki Kurose Middle School

3928 S Graham St.
Seattle, WA 98118
Main Office: 206-252-7700

Denny International Middle School

2601 SW Kenyon St.
Seattle, WA 98126
Main Office: 206-252-9000

Eckstein Middle School

3003 NE 75th St.
Seattle, WA 98115
Main Office: 206-252-5010

Hamilton International Middle School

1610 N 41st St.
Seattle, WA 98103
Main Office: 206-252-5810

Jane Addams Middle School

11051 34th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98125
Main Office: 206-252-4500

Madison Middle School

3429 45th Ave. SW
Seattle, WA 98116
Main Office: 206-252-9200

McClure Middle School

1915 1st Ave. W
Seattle, WA 98119
Main Office: 206-252-1900

K-8 Schools

Broadview-Thomson K-8

13052 Greenwood Ave. N
Seattle, WA 98133
Main Office: 206-252-4080

Cascade Parent Partnership

2919 1st Ave W
Seattle, WA 98119
Main Office: 206-743-3900

Catharine Blaine K-8

2550 34th Ave. W
Seattle, WA 98199
Main Office: 206-252-1920

Hazel Wolf K-8

11530 12th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98125
Main Office: 206-252-4610

Licton Springs K-8

3015 NW 68th St.
Seattle, WA 98117
Main Office: 206-743-3700

Louisa Boren STEM K-8

5950 Delridge Way SW
Seattle, WA 98106
Main Office: 206-252-8450

Orca K-8

5215 46th Ave. S
Seattle, WA 98118
Main Office: 206-252-6900

Pathfinder K-8

1901 SW Genesee St.
Seattle, WA 98106
Main Office: 206-252-9710

Salmon Bay K-8

1810 NW 65th St.
Seattle, WA 98117
Main Office: 206-252-1720

South Shore PK-8

4800 S Henderson St.
Seattle, WA 98118
Main Office: 206-252-7600

TOPS K-8

2500 Franklin Ave. E
Seattle, WA 98102
Main Office: 206-252-3510

What Is Middle School About?

Middle school is a time when you have more choice, freedom, and responsibility – all part of getting older. This catalog will help you understand some of the changes and choices you will experience in middle school.

Anticipated Courses

During their time in middle school, students will engage in:

- 3 years of Language Arts taken in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.
- 3 years of Social Studies taken in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.
- 3 years of Mathematics taken in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.
- 3 years of Science taken in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.
- 1 semester of Visual or Performing Arts taken each year in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade.
- 1 semester of Physical Education taken in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Schools may excuse students from participation on account of physical disability, religious belief, or participation in directed athletics per state guidelines. However, they still need to ensure students have the opportunity to learn the cognitive content knowledge of Physical Education.
- Health education units within 6th, 7th, and 8th grade Science classes.
- High School and Beyond Plan lessons.

Important Organizational Ideas

Every student is different when it comes to organization. Look below to find some organizational tips to help you be more successful!

Planner or Calendar

Keep track of your assignments in your calendar or planner to help you stay on top of your work. Make sure to include page numbers, needed materials, and due dates. Remember that even if you don't have a specific assignment due for a class, it is an expectation that you read every day.

Organization Systems

You will typically have six classes. We recommend you have a designated section for each class, such as binders with dividers, accordion envelopes, folders, etc.

No matter what system you use:

- Put all the work for each class together in its appropriate section.
- It may be helpful to put your homework in a designated place each time you finish so you can easily find it when it is time to turn in your homework.

Homework Tips

Find a study space

Try to find a place with the least distractions away from the TV, cell phone. Connect with your school librarian to find ideal times for study in the school library.

Ask for help, if needed

You can also check with your teacher, counselor or other staff to see when they have time to provide help outside of class. Extra help may be available during lunch or after school.

Find a study buddy

If you are stuck while doing your homework you can contact your reliable, trustworthy friends to get help.

Important Middle School Terms

Elective

Electives are classes such as art, band, choir, orchestra, robotics, technology, etc. Choices vary by middle school.

Transcripts

A transcript is a record that shows a record of a student's high school courses and grades. A student must have earned at least 0.5 credit of high school credit to have a transcript. Students may earn high school credit in middle school.

Break up big projects into smaller steps

Create a timeline starting with an assignment due date and work backwards. Next, using your planner, schedule each piece of the project you will need to complete. If you need help doing this, ask an adult or your teacher.

Turn in your homework

If you forget to turn in your homework, your overall grade will be negatively impacted.

- Keep your homework in a place that it is easy to find.
- Take your homework out right when you enter the class.
- When you turn in your homework, check it off in your planner.

Prepare the night before

Pack your backpack immediately after you finish your homework. Make sure that you have all your assignments and materials necessary for the following day. Put your backpack in a place where you can easily pick it up to take it with you to school.

Support Networks

Ask your teachers

If you are struggling in a class, get help right away! Contact your teacher as soon as you are confused or unsure by:

- Email
- Staying after class to ask for more help.

**Make sure that you tell your teacher exactly what you are struggling with when asking for help.*

Example: "Can I get some help with fractions? I am confused about when to multiply and when to divide."

Talk to your parents or guardians

Sit down with your parent or guardian and be honest about what you're struggling with. Work together to create a plan.

Request to speak with your counselor

Counselors love to help students. Schedule a meeting to discuss:

- Friendship or personal issues
- Academic struggles
- Schedule questions
- Conflict resolution
- Coping strategies
- Study skills
- College and career planning

Turn to a friend

Friends can be a great sounding board for everyday problems, but if your problem involves safety concerns, make sure to use your adult support networks. Remember that friendships change as people grow and it is common for your friend group to also change over time.

Student Support Services

Students can also access additional services if they have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), need multilingual services, or advanced learning services. To find out more information about these services, please access the following webpages:

- Students with IEPs (Special Education Services) - <https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/special-education/>
- Multilingual Learners - <https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/multilingual/>
- Advanced Learners - <https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/advanced-learning/>

Activities and Clubs

In middle school, one of the best ways to meet new friends and try different things is to get involved! Check with your middle school to find out what opportunities are available.

Clubs

Examples of after school clubs include: school newspaper, yearbook, art club, robotics, math club, game club, chess club, science club, diversity club, drama club, GSA, jazz band, etc. Check with your future middle school to see what they offer. Joining a club is a great way to meet new people.

Affinity Groups

Many middle schools offer affinity groups during the day to offer students an opportunity to gather with others with the same interest or background.

Homework Help

Many schools have a homework club or study time after school. This is a great way to get help from teachers, use school computers or resources, and work with students who are doing similar assignments.

Sports

Students become eligible to participate in sports starting in 7th grade, as determined by the WIAA. 6th graders can compete in middle school sports. To be eligible, students must maintain a 2.0 GPA and complete the required registration forms. The current middle school sport offerings are:

- **Fall:** Girls' Soccer, Co-ed Ultimate Frisbee
- **Winter:** Boys' and Girls' Basketball
- **Spring:** Girls' Volleyball, Co-ed Track, Boys' Soccer

Note: Cross Country and Wrestling are not offered at the middle school level.

Accessing Grades

In middle school, it is good to get in the habit of checking your online grades at least once per week. This allows you to doublecheck that the teacher has received the work you turned in and keep track of assignments. It can take approximately two weeks for assignments to be collected, graded, and recorded online. Talk with your teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

The Source

The Source is Seattle Public Schools' online communication tool that allows parents, guardians and students access to schedules, attendance, assessment scores, and more. To login, go to <https://ps.seattleschools.org/public/>.

High School and Beyond Planning

High school and beyond planning is the process of teaching students to hope for the future. Hope has a goal, seeing the pathway and the agency to achieve it. High School and Beyond Planning allows all students to:

- Engage in career exploration activities to spark ideas for the future,
- Reflect on and strengthen skills needed in high school and beyond
- Is the platform used to create a plan that documents the benchmarks needed to obtain your goals
- Reviewed at each grade level to reflect on lessons learned and skills improvement
- Make corrections or updates when new ideas or experiences change your path
- High School and Beyond Plan instruction, at its best, incorporates Social-Emotional development, 21st Century Skills, and academic connections.

A college and career readiness culture includes knowledge of self, career exploration, skill development, and career planning.

1) Knowledge of Self

First: know yourself, your interests, and your strengths.

Seek knowledge of your community and family, your collective strengths, and shared wisdom. The High School and Beyond Plan use tools that align those things with careers. You might find something unexpected.

2) Career Exploration

Learning about and experiencing different careers is important to make informed decisions. Exploration is about seeing different interests, skills, and values in a lot of options.

How do your interests and career connect to our course options? What skills do people need to be employable in various careers? How do you identify the training needed to reach those careers?

3) Skill Development

Goal setting, problem-solving, decision-making, and resilience are examples of skills needed for class, work, and life success. The High School and Beyond Plan help students develop these skills. Students also learn resume skills and more to help them be successful in the world of work.

4) Career Planning

You will develop insights and develop skills to search for jobs, resume building, college planning, college cost planning (financial aid), college and career fit, and more.

College and career readiness are about applying academic, social emotional, and career skills to life and the world of work. You also can learn about work habits, service learning, and career growth.

Being college ready is one step in the career-ready process for many careers.

Your plan is a tool **and** a process you use to define your career goals and make informed decisions.

The process is about examining your interests and strengths to create your goals. Then you will reevaluate as you learn more about yourself and your career options.

This is about supporting you; your family and your elders; defining and growing your goals as you move through your journey.

SchooLinks: An Online Career and College Planning Tool

Seattle Public Schools is transitioning to a new High School and Beyond Plan Tool beginning Fall 2026! [SchooLinks](#) is a platform that supports students' career and college planning. SchooLinks provides a single place for students to complete and track every component of the HSBP. Students will use SchooLinks to discover their interests and strengths, explore colleges and careers, and create an individualized career and academic plan that best reflects their post-diploma goals.

To support the process of their High School and Beyond Planning, our 6th-12th grade students use SchooLinks to take self-assessments, explore career paths, search for scholarships and work-based learning opportunities, and more.

How Students Log in to SchooLinks

Students log in to SchooLinks through the [SPS Clever student portal](#)

The student portal and SchooLinks can be accessed both at school and from home. Each student must know their district username and password to access the student portal. Students can contact any teacher or librarian for assistance with their district username and password. [Learn more about the Clever Student Portal.](#)

How Parent/Guardians Access SchooLinks

Parent/guardian access is view-only plus the ability to add colleges to your student's prospective college list.

[Onboarding for parent/guardians](#)

To request a parent account, [contact the School Counseling Team](#) and include your child's name and school they are attending.

Note: You must have a Source account to obtain a SchooLinks parent/guardian account. [If you do not currently have a Source account, create one by following the set up instructions.](#)

Once you register for a SchooLinks account, it will remain active as long as your student is "opt in" for SchooLinks and enrolled in the district, you have an active Source account, and you are identified in the student information system as a parent or guardian. To request support for your SchooLinks account, please [contact the School Counseling Team.](#)

Resources for parents/guardians:

- [Log in to The Source](#)
 - Source support: sourcesupport@seattleschools.org
- [Log in to the Clever Student Portal](#)
- [How to set up a Source account](#)
- [How Students Access SchooLinks at school and at home](#)

Alumni Access to SchooLinks

Students will provide their personal email address in their senior year SchooLinks activity. This email address will be able to be used to log in to SchooLinks once students have graduated.

SchooLinks Support During the Summer

If you need help over the summer, submit a request through Let's Talk with a phone number if possible, and a brief description of your issue or question. You can also leave a voice message at 206-743-3600.

[Contact Counseling Team via Let's Talk](#)

High School Graduation Requirements

SPS students experiences in middle school will help shape their plans for high school. As a result, the next pages summarize the high school graduation requirements in Seattle Public Schools.

Students in the Class of 2021 and beyond must earn 24 credits to graduate. The new graduation requirements are mandated by the Washington State Board of Education. The board designed the new requirements to be both rigorous and flexible and to support the vision of an education system that prepares all students for college, career, and life.

Graduating Class of 2027 & Class of 2028^a

24 Credit Course Requirements

English: 4 Credits

- Introduction to Literature and Composition 9, LGBTQIA Intro to Literature and Composition
- World Literature and Composition 10
- American Literature and Composition 11, Ethnic Studies or LGBTQIA Literature and Composition 11, African, Asian, Latinx, or Native American Literature and Composition 11, AP Language and Composition, IB Language and Literature 11, or Running Start/College in the High School (CIHS) English
- Comparative Literature and Composition 12, AP Language and Composition or AP Literature and Composition, IB Language and Literature for 12th grade, or Running Start/College in the High School (CIHS) English

Social Studies: 3 Credits

- World History 1
- World History 2, Ethnic Studies World History 2, AP World History: Modern, or AP Human Geography A
- World History 3, AP World History 2, or AP Human Geography B, Black Studies World History 3, or LGBTQIA World History 3
- US History, Ethnic Studies US History, IB History of the Americas, AP US History, CIHS American Ethnic Studies 151, CIHS 147 and 148, Black Studies US History, Filipinx US History, or Latinx US History
- American Government and Civics, IB 20th Century, or AP US Government and Politics
- Washington State History graduation requirement, no credit awarded

Mathematics: 3 Credits

- Algebra 1
- Geometry

- Algebra 2, IB Math SL Year 1, Financial Algebra, Business Math 130, or a more advanced course in the sequence or an approved CTE math course.

Science: 3 Credits

- Physics A/Chemistry A
- Biology A/Biology B
- Physics B/Chemistry B or select from approved core course offerings or OSPI-approved equivalent career and technical education (CTE) courses.

Career Connected Learning (CTE): 1 Credit

- Select from approved course offerings.

Health: 0.5 Credit

- 0.5 Health or Family Health

Physical Education: 1.5 Credits

- Personal Fitness
- Select from approved course offerings

Visual and Performing Arts: 1 to 2 Credits

- Select from approved course offerings.

Personalized Pathway Courses (World Language, Art, Science, etc.): 2 to 3 Credits

- Select from approved course offerings.

Electives: 4 Credits

- Any course other than the courses listed above.

Total: 24 Credits

^a Please note that the graduation requirements for the Class of 2028 are still being finalized but are anticipated to be very similar to those for the Class of 2027. For the latest information and details on SPS graduation requirements, please go to: <https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/graduation-requirements/>

Graduation Pathways for Class of 2027 & Class of 2028^b

Starting with the Class of 2020, students are required to complete a pathway that aligns with their High School and Beyond Plan to graduate. Students must complete at least one Graduation Pathway but are encouraged to complete as many as align with their career and educational goals.

ELA Pathway	Math Pathway	Career & Technical Pathway
<p><i>Meet at least one ELA option of those options listed</i></p> <p>ELA Courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Running Start English Courses• CIHS English Courses• Bridge to College English with a D or higher <p><i>1.0 Credit with a C+ or higher, or with a qualifying exam score:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• AP Language and Composition• AP Literature and Composition• AP African American Studies• AP Human Geography• AP Economics• AP Psychology• AP US History• AP World History• AP US Govt and Politics• AP Comparative Government and Politics or IB Individuals and Societies or IB English Language/Literature courses with a C+ or higher (or with a qualifying AP/IB Exam score) <p>ELA Exams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SBA ELA(2548)• WA-AIM(104)• SAT(410)• ACT (14)	<p><i>Meet at least one math option of those options listed</i></p> <p>Math Courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Running Start math course• College in the High School math course• 1.0 credit Bridge to College Math• AP Statistics, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Precalculus, AP Calculus, IB Math course, IB Computer Science (C+ grade or higher each term) <p>Math Exams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SBA Math (2595)• WA-AIM (103)• SAT (430)• ACT (16)• AP Statistics, AP Computer Science A, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Precalculus, AP Calculus (3 or higher)• IB Math course (4 or higher)• IB Computer Science	<p><i>2.0 Credits in one CTE Program Area</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agricultural Sciences• Business and Marketing• Culinary and Hospitality• Education and Human Services• Health and Medical• Information Technology• Media Arts• Skilled Trades• STEM
		<p>Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) Pathway</p> <p>Take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery with a Score of 31 or higher</p>

Key:

- SBA = Smarter Balanced Assessment (the end-of-year test in Mathematics and English Language Arts required by Washington State)
- WA-AIM = Washington Access to Instruction & Measurement (an alternate assessment based on alternate achievement standards aligned to the Common Core State Standards for students with significant cognitive disabilities)
- SAT previously stood for "Scholastic Aptitude Test" (a standardized college admission exam that measures a student's literacy, mathematics, and writing skills)
- AP = Advanced Placement
- IB = International Baccalaureate
- CIHS = College in the High School
- STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

^b Please note that the graduation requirements for the Class of 2028 are still being finalized but are anticipated to be very similar to those for the Class of 2027. For the latest information and details on SPS graduation requirements, please go to: <https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/graduation-requirements/>

Guidance on Dual Credit Participation

State legislation was created to ensure access to accurate and easily understandable information about dual credit programs starting in middle school. This is intended to clearly outline program details and any associated costs or supports and key details associated with these programs. Some of the dual credit opportunities that students may access once they reach high school include College in the High School, Running Start, Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and CTE Dual Credit.

Middle school students do not enroll in these programs yet, but they begin learning about them to support future academic planning.

For more detailed information about dual credit programs and how to participate, please refer to the Introduction to High School Course Registration.

Middle School Courses for High School Credit

Seattle Public Schools students may receive high school credit for specific middle school courses.

For the class of 2024 and beyond, the credits earned while the student is in seventh or eighth grade will be included on the high school transcript unless requested otherwise by the student and the student's family.

For students in graduating classes before 2024, credits earned while the student was in seventh or eighth grade will be included on the high school transcript upon request of the student and the student's family.

Students who have completed a high school credit-bearing course while attending middle school in another school district must present a transcript from the school district in which the course was taken for the course to be considered for approval by the Seattle Public Schools high school principal.

World Language Proficiency Credit

Seattle Public Schools students may be awarded credit in a world language by establishing competency in a language other than English. Assessments will be aligned with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) proficiency guidelines to ensure consistency across languages.

For more information, see your school counselor or visit the World Languages Assessments webpage at www.seattleschools.org/world-languages

Virtual High School Course Options

There are four options for students to take online courses:

1. Enroll in the Virtual Option at Cascade Parent Partnership.
2. Enroll in Interagency Academy and take virtual courses.
3. Take online courses for credit recovery through the vendors your high school is using.
4. Follow Policy and Procedure 2024 and request the option of taking out-of-district credits.

Access to online courses may vary based on grade level, purpose (acceleration vs. credit recovery), and school approval. Families should consult their school counselor before enrolling.

Recommended Course Sequences by Content

The following pages contain the recommended course sequences and some course options, pathways, or examples available in each required content area.

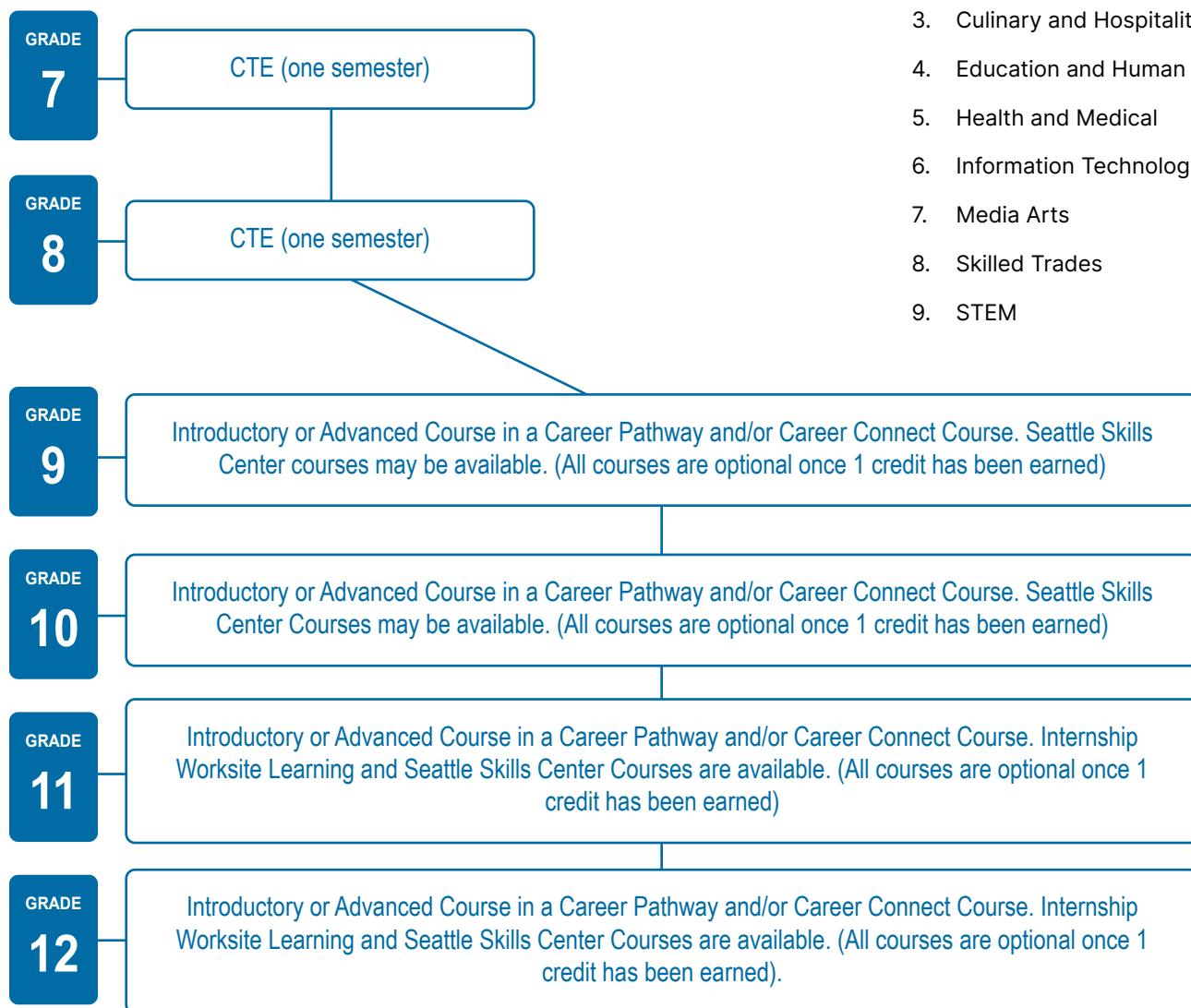
Please reach out to your school with questions about the descriptions of the courses listed and to find out which specific options your middle school offers. Additional important information can be found in the registration materials each school develops.

Used together, this will help you design a learning plan that will meet graduation requirements and help prepare you for your post-high school plans. This plan is meant to provide meaningful, relevant, and personalized educational experiences throughout middle school and high school.

Career & Technical Education (CTE)*



Recommended Course Sequence and Pathways for Grades 6-12



9 CTE Pathways:

1. Agricultural Sciences
2. Business and Marketing
3. Culinary and Hospitality
4. Education and Human Services
5. Health and Medical
6. Information Technology
7. Media Arts
8. Skilled Trades
9. STEM

*SPS middle schools typically offer courses in these areas as electives meaning that students do not have to take these classes in middle schools.

Career & Technical Education (CTE)

Please note that these pages only include some courses from the recommended scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.

Automation & Robotics

Course Codes: MPC4203

Grades: 7-8

Length: Two semesters

In this course, students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork collaboration and innovation. Students will learn about positive and negative effects of automation and robotics on humans in terms of safety and economics, investigate related careers, determine the requirements for robotics jobs of the future. Students will be able to explain how engineers contribute to the invention and innovation of products and describe the impact that technology has had on society.

Design & Modeling

Course Codes: MPC4202

Grades: 7-8

Length: Two semesters

This course uses 3D-modeling software as part of the design process. Utilizing a design approach, students understand how design influences their lives learning sketching techniques and using descriptive geometry as a component of design, measurement, and computer modeling. Students brainstorm, research, develop ideas, create models, test, and evaluate design ideas and communicate solutions.

STEAM INNOVATION LAB A & B

Course Code: MPC451

Grades: 7-8

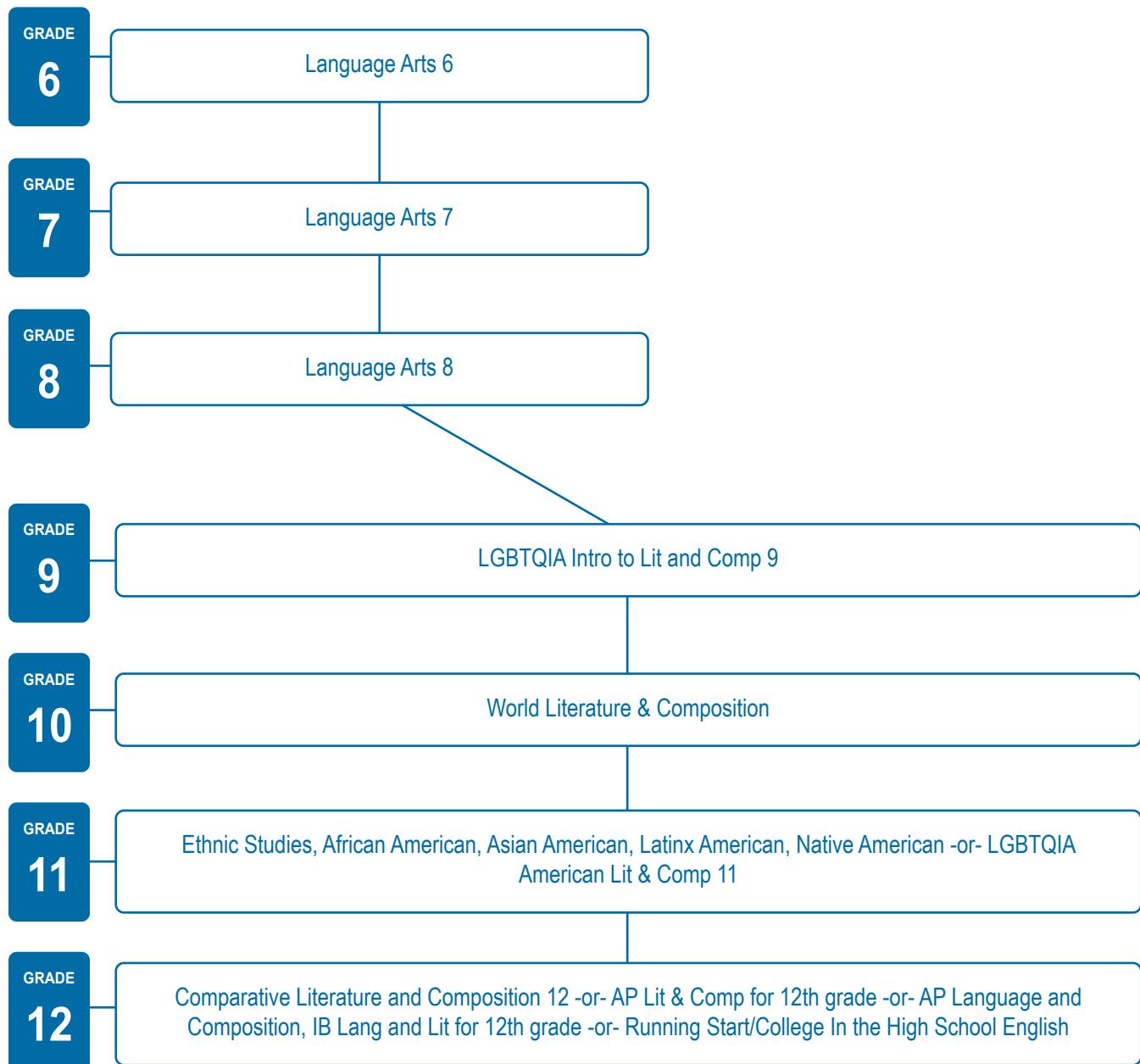
Length: Two semesters

In the STEAM Innovation Lab course, you will bring together science, technology, engineering, arts, and math to solve real-world problems through design challenges and the creative process. You'll explore things such as 2D and 3D design and printing, animation, video and film editing, photography, coding, robotics, circuits, and game design. You will learn how to use current and emerging digital technologies for artistic expression while collaborating with others to manage safe and proper use of STEAM materials, tools, and equipment.

English Language Arts



Recommended Course Sequence and Options for Grades 6-12



English Language Arts

Please note that these pages only include some courses from the recommended scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.

Language Arts 6A and 6B

Course Codes: MLA0007 6A, MLA4037 6B

Grades: 6

Length: Two semesters

English Language Arts 6A and 6B is a foundational course for middle school students, emphasizing close reading, formal writing, and speaking skills. It focuses on literary analysis and research, gradually increasing in complexity. Students learn to read various texts using comprehension strategies and analyze elements like main idea, theme, and author's craft. The course enhances writing proficiency across genres, emphasizing narrative, argumentative, and informational texts while adhering to grammar conventions. Students also develop research skills, properly citing sources and avoiding plagiarism. Additionally, they engage in discussions and presentations, improving speaking and listening skills, thereby fostering critical thinking and effective communication.

Language Arts 8A and 8B

Course Codes: MLA0018 8A, MLA 4158 8B

Grades: 8

Length: Two semesters

English Language Arts 8A and 8B is a yearlong course designed to build a strong foundation in reading, writing, language, speaking, and listening skills necessary for high school and beyond. The curriculum includes diverse texts for literary analysis, helping students evaluate both fiction and non-fiction while focusing on authors' choices. Students enhance their writing proficiency through argument and informational pieces, using strong claims and evidence. They also craft narratives that explore human experiences. As tasks grow in complexity, students develop effective speaking and listening abilities for presentations and discussions, preparing them to tackle advanced texts collaboratively and independently in high school.

Language Arts 7A and 7B

Course Codes: MLA0017 7A, MLA4157 7B

Grades: 7

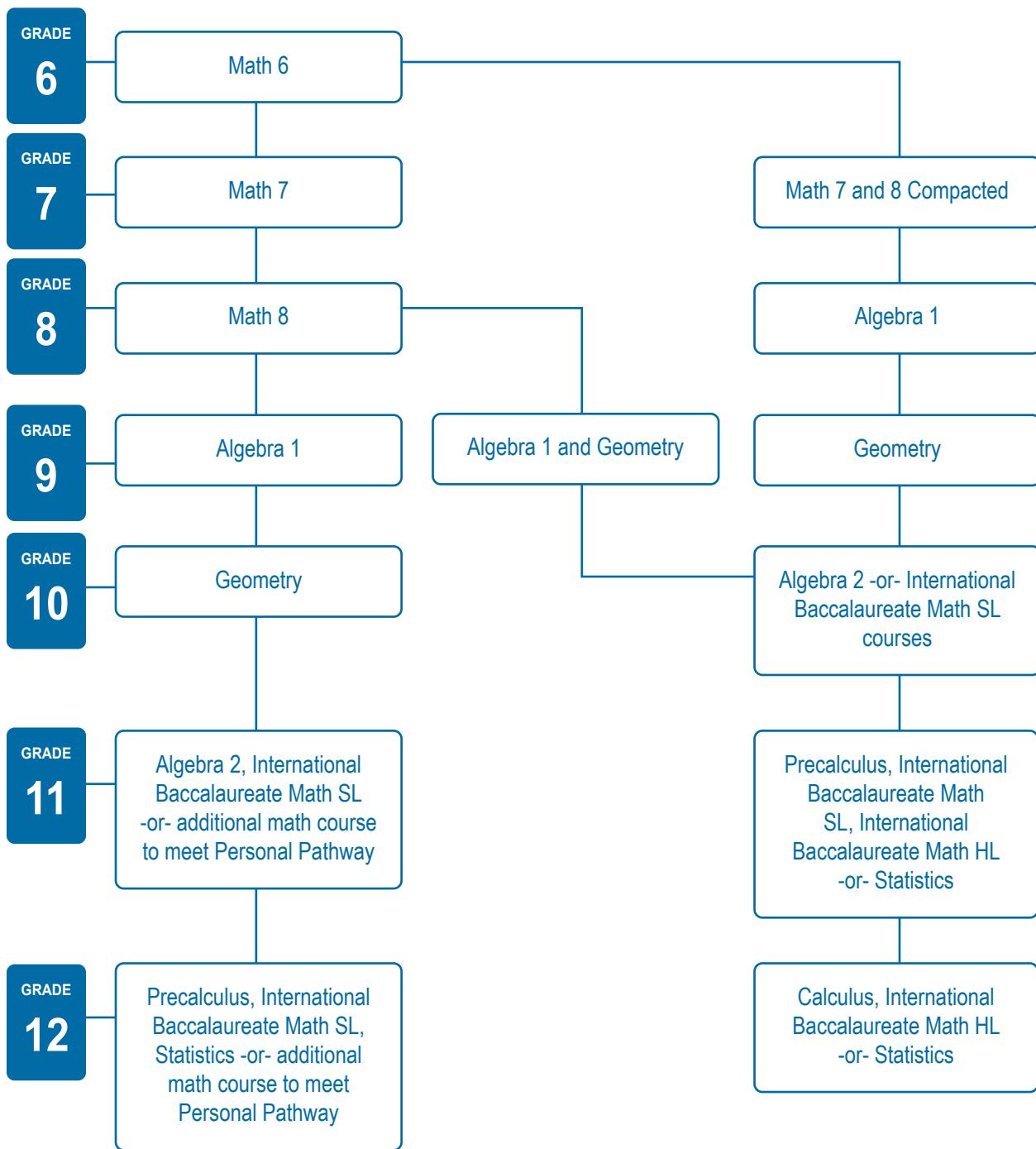
Length: Two semesters

English Language Arts 7A and 7B is a year-long course designed to enhance students' reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking skills through diverse grade level texts. It emphasizes analyzing literature and understanding how various components interact to influence meaning. Students will collectively read various genres and develop close reading and writing skills, focusing on clarity and audience. They will conduct research, cite evidence, and construct informative and narrative texts using the writing process. As the course progresses, tasks will increase in rigor and complexity, with a focus on collaboration, questioning, and improving language and communication skills.

Mathematics



Recommended Course Sequence and Options for Grades 6-12



Mathematics

Please note that these pages only include some courses from the recommended scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.

Mathematics 6

Course Codes: MMA6858, MMA6860

Grades: 6

Length: Two semesters

Students will review fraction and decimal operations and use them to solve problems. They will learn long division, divide fractions by fractions, and extend their understanding to negative rational numbers and integers. Students will reason about absolute value, order rational numbers, and locate points in all quadrants of the coordinate plane. They will use variables, write expressions and equations, evaluate them, and solve equations and inequalities. Students will analyze ratios, unit rates, and proportional relationships. They will explore statistical questions, summarize data, and compute measures like mean, median, and variability. Students will calculate areas, surface areas, volumes, and draw polygons.

Mathematics 7

Course Codes: MMA6862, MMA6864

Grades: 7

Length: Two semesters

Students will understand the rational number system and recognize fractions, decimals, and percents as representations of rational numbers. They will operate on rational numbers and apply these skills to numerical and algebraic expressions. Students will solve single- and multi-step ratio and proportionality problems, graph proportional relationships, and understand slope. They will tackle percent problems, including discounts and taxes, and solve scale drawing problems. Students will write and solve equations and inequalities. They will work with circles and three-dimensional figures, and solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume. They will compare data distributions, explore sampling, and evaluate probability models.

Math 7 and 8 Compacted

Course Codes: MMA3821, MMA3822

Grades: 7

Length: Two semesters

Students will understand the rational number system, recognizing fractions, decimals, and percents as representations of rational numbers. They will operate on rational numbers, explain rules for arithmetic with negatives, and solve equations involving rational numbers. Students will explore rational and irrational numbers, radicals, and integer exponents. They will solve ratio, proportionality, and percent problems, graph proportional relationships, and interpret slopes and y-intercepts. Students will compare data distributions, use random sampling, and evaluate probability models. They will apply the Pythagorean Theorem, solve surface area and volume problems for cones, cylinders, and spheres, and analyze two-dimensional figures using transformations, congruence, and similarity.

Mathematics 8

Course Codes: MMA6866, MMA6867

Grades: 8

Length: Two semesters

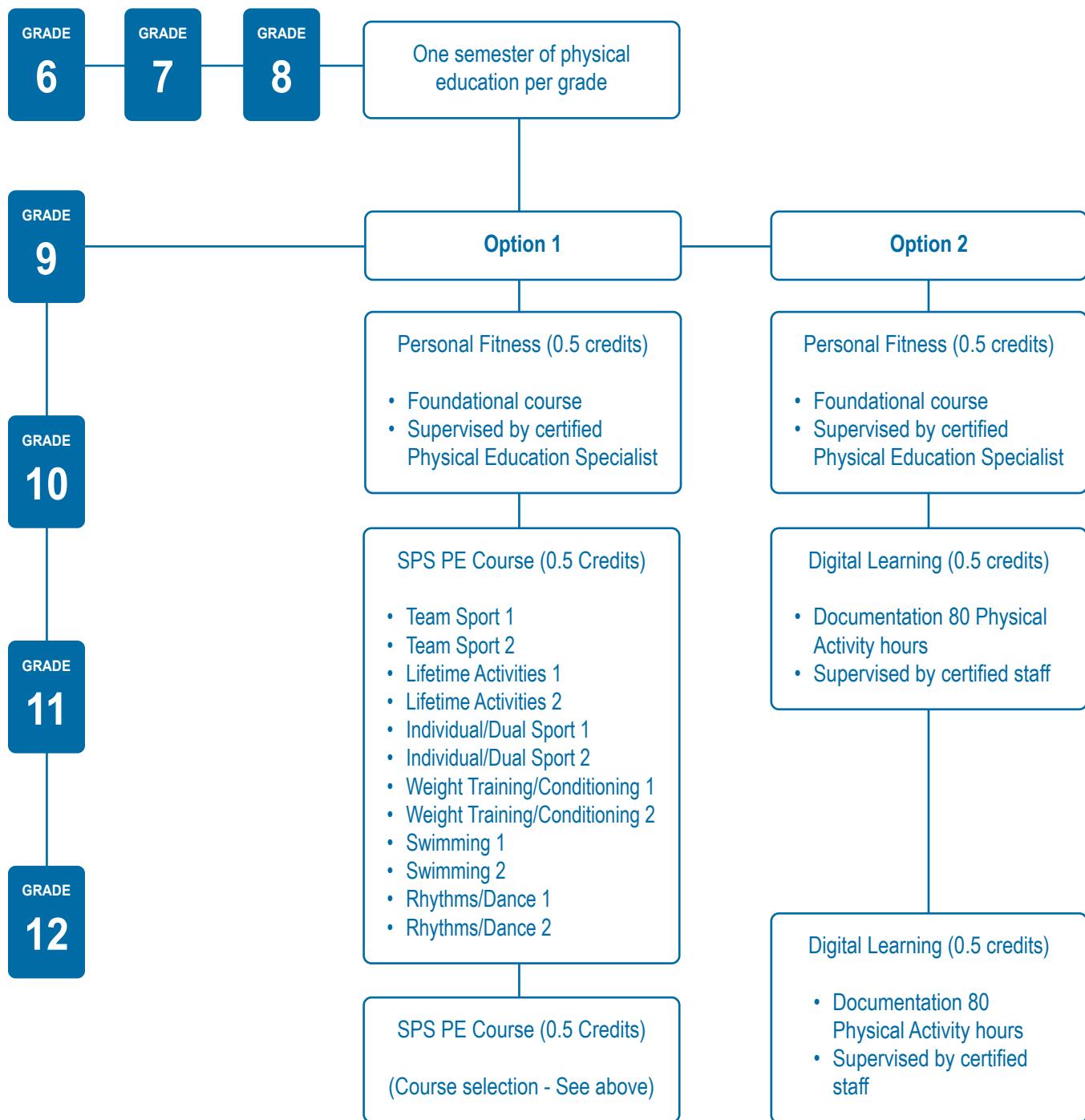
Students will deepen their understanding of the real number system, including rational and irrational numbers, radicals, and integer exponents. They will solve linear equations, interpret slopes and y-intercepts, and analyze proportional relationships. Students will understand functions as rules linking inputs and outputs, translate between function representations, and describe their relationships. They will solve systems of linear equations and use these to analyze problems. Students will learn the Pythagorean Theorem and its applications, solve volume problems for cones, cylinders, and spheres, and explore transformations, congruence, and similarity. They will analyze angles, triangles, and parallel line relationships.

For information about eligibility criteria, please follow the link <https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/advanced-learning/identification-and-eligibility/>

Physical Education



Recommended Course Sequence and Options for Grades 6-12



Physical Education

Please note that these pages only include the recommended courses from the scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.

Notes:

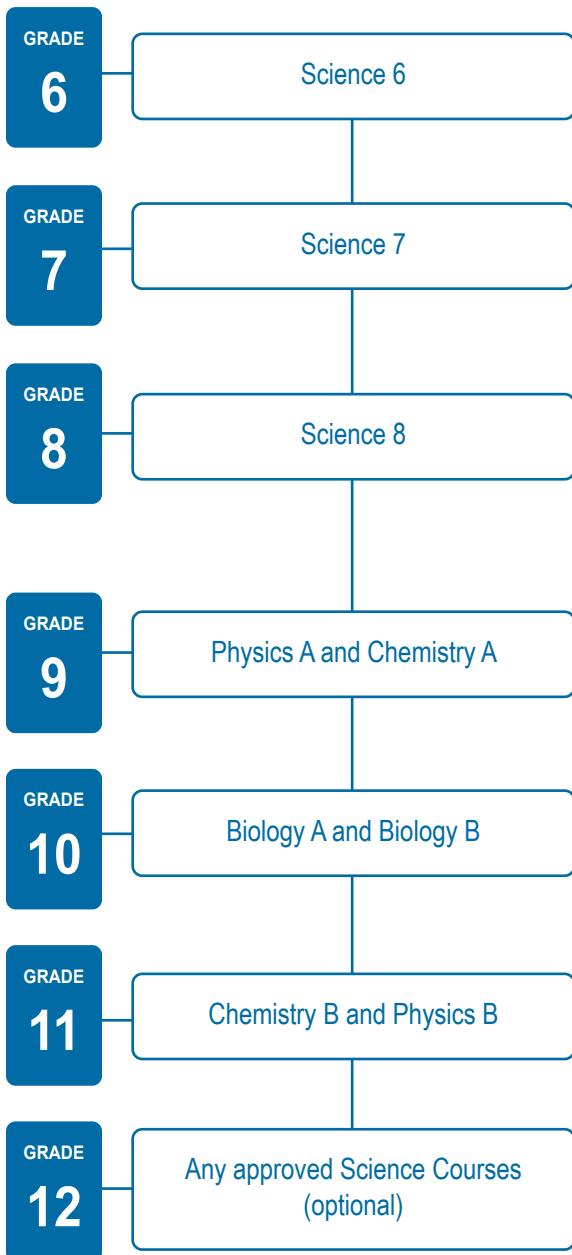
Students should take 1 semester of Physical Education in the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Students should take the .5 Personal Fitness first in their high school experience in the sequence as the foundational Physical Education Course. Schools may excuse students from participation on account of physical disability, religious belief, or participation in directed athletics per state guidelines. However, they still need to ensure students have the opportunity to learn the cognitive content knowledge that needs to be learned, delivered and assessed in Physical Education.

Science



Recommended Course Sequence for Grades 6-12

Please note that these pages only include some courses from the recommended scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.



Notes:

Chemistry B and Physics B is highly recommended for several important reasons:

- Solid Science Foundation: These courses provide essential knowledge in both chemistry and physics, preparing students for a wide range of college and career paths.
- Meets College Admission Requirements: Washington State's Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs) require one science credit in biology, chemistry, or physics. Many 4-year colleges also require a full year of chemistry (and sometimes physics) for admission. Chem A+ Chem B satisfies the full year of chemistry, and Physics A + Physics B fulfills a full year of physics.

The third credit may be chosen based on the student's interest and may include a CTE science-equivalent course.

Please check with your High School for AP, IB, College in the High School, CTE science-equivalent, and other options for the third credit of science.

Science

Please note that these pages only include some courses from the recommended scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.

Science 6A and 6B

Course Codes: MSC3007, MSC3105

Grades: 6

Length: Two semesters

Sixth grade science focuses on nine unit-storylines that begin by engaging learners in a puzzling, relevant scientific phenomenon or engineering problem. Students engage in science topics through authentic science practices including investigation, argumentation, and explanation. Students build foundational learning in core science ideas and apply this knowledge in two engineering design units. Units focus on body systems and cells including an engineering design application; thermal energy and molecular movement; variables that influence weather patterns; the impact of climate change and humans' role in these changes with an engineering design project; and Earth-Moon-Sun systems.

Science 7A and 7B

Course Codes: MSC3038, MSC3108

Grades: 7

Length: Two semesters

Seventh grade science supports students' learning progression through nine unit-storylines anchored in puzzling, relevant scientific phenomena or engineering problems. Students engage in science topics through authentic science practices including investigation, argumentation, and explanation. Students continue building upon core science ideas and the application of knowledge to engineering design. Units focus on plate movement and designing a tsunami warning system; explaining the rock cycle; phase change and designing low-cost portable incubators; conservation of matter and the rearrangement of atoms in chemical reactions; how populations affect each other in an ecosystem; and the movement of carbon through living and non-living systems.

Science 8A and 8B

Course Codes: MSC3042, MSC3109

Grades: 8

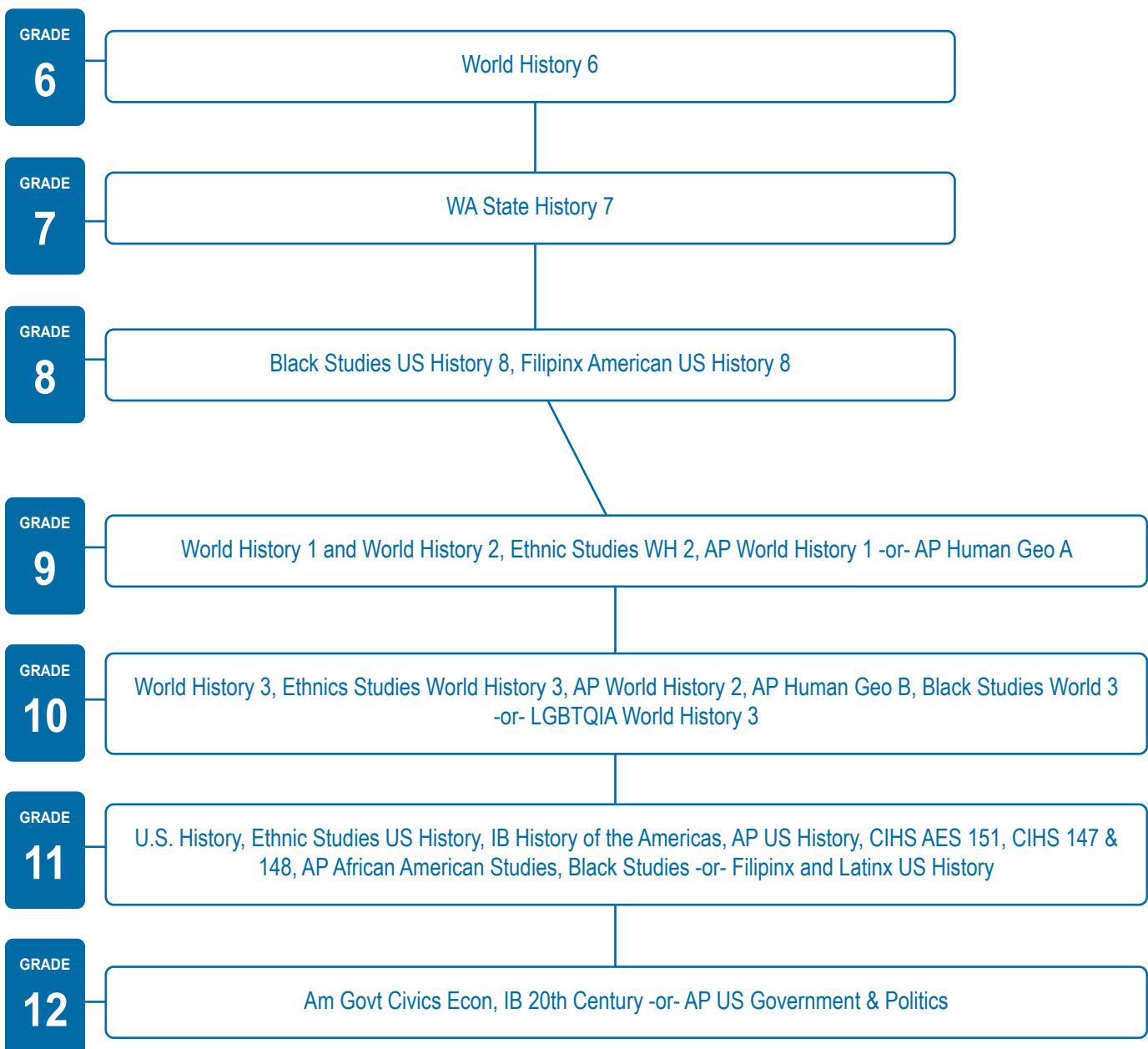
Length: Two semesters

Eighth grade science supports students' learning progression through nine unit-storylines anchored in relevant scientific phenomena or engineering problems. Students continue engaging in authentic science practices and building upon core science ideas and applying knowledge to engineering design. Units focus on the relationship between force, velocity, and mass during collisions and design an emergency supply drop pod; the relationship between magnetic force, kinetic energy and potential energy; the interaction of light waves and matter; genetic variation and heredity; the process of natural selection and the design of antimalarial treatments that minimize drug resistance; and the evolution of species over time.

Social Studies



Recommended Course Sequence and Options for Grades 6-12



Social Studies

Please note that these pages only include some courses from the recommended scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.

From seventh to 12th grade, all students in Washington State are required to take one semester of Washington state history.

World History 6A and 6B

Course Codes: MSS7451, MSS7452

Grades: 6

Length: Two semesters

World History 6A and 6B is a yearlong course that enhances students' understanding of the Earth and its peoples through the study of history, geography, politics, culture, and economic systems. Students explore major world regions and delve into ancient civilizations, analyzing their development and decline while considering cultural interactions. The course covers history to approximately 1450CE. Students will develop map skills, learn how history is constructed by archaeologists and historians, and understand the significance of primary and secondary sources, starting with the agricultural revolution and river civilizations.

US History 8A and 8B

Course Codes: MSS7459, MSS7460

Grades: 8

Length: Two semesters

In U.S. History, students gain a deeper, more abstract understanding of social studies concepts within the context of U.S. history and government from 1776 to 1877. The course covers significant ideas, issues, and events from the framing of the Constitution through Reconstruction. After examining the founding of the United States and the Constitution, students investigate the evolution of politics, society, culture, and economy in the nation. This exploration enhances their conceptual understandings in civics, geography, and economics, fostering critical thinking and a comprehensive grasp of the historical and governmental foundations of the United States.

Washington State History 7A and 7B

Course Codes: MSS9045, MSS9046

Grades: 7

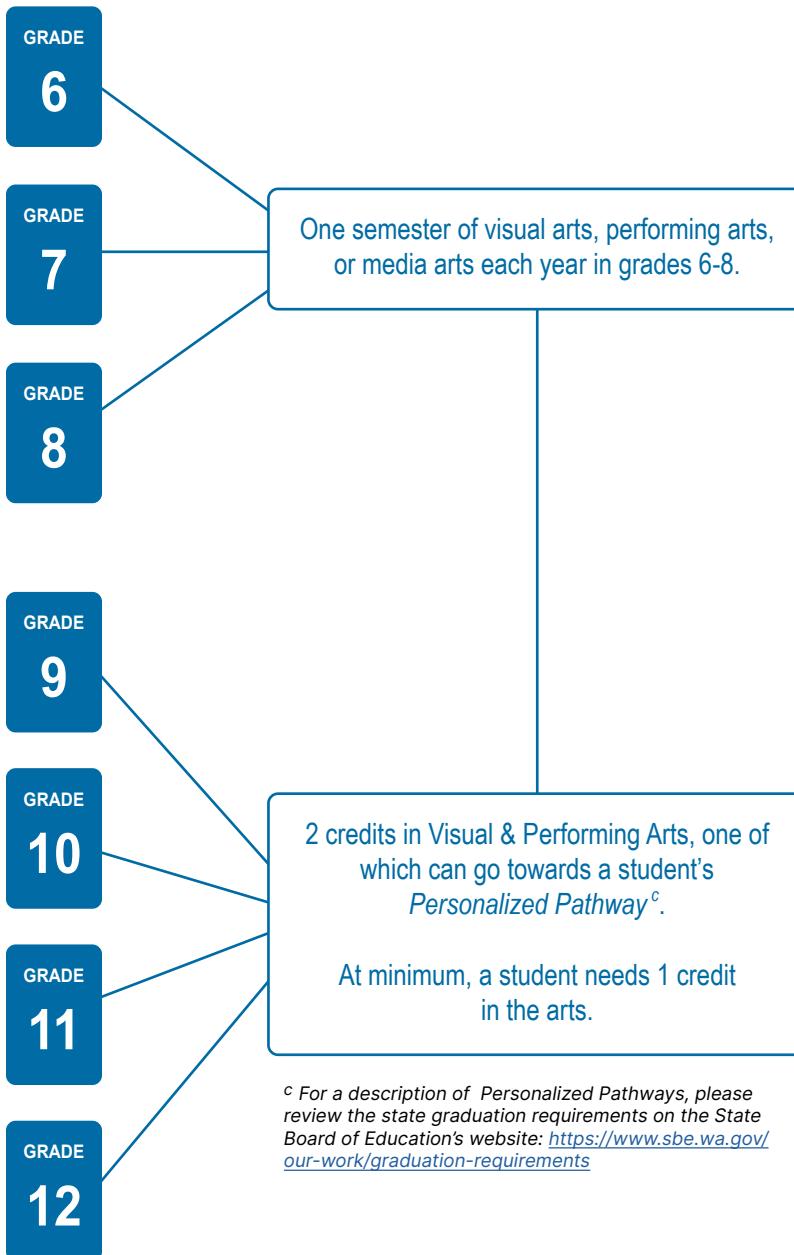
Length: Two semesters

Washington State History 7A and 7B is a yearlong course that explores the tribal and colonial histories of Washington, focusing on civic and social responsibilities for the future. The course begins with the first peoples of the land, examining tribal homelands and the balance between indigenous and colonial land values. Students study migration, social justice, urbanization, and environmental interactions to develop agency and understanding of civics, economics, geography, and history. They will enhance social studies skills by analyzing historical and current events, conducting inquiry-based research, evaluating sources for credibility and bias, and understanding multiple perspectives on public issues.

Visual & Performing Arts



Course Sequence & Examples for Grades 6-12



Examples:

For a student who wants to follow a specific arts discipline (music example):

- 6th Grade: Introductory Orchestra
- 7th Grade: Intermediate Orchestra
- 8th Grade: Concert Orchestra
- 9th Grade: String Orchestra
- 10th Grade: Concert Orchestra
- 11th Grade: Symphony Orchestra
- 12th Grade: Chamber Orchestra

For a student who wants to explore multiple arts disciplines:

- 6th Grade: Visual Arts Beginning
- 7th Grade: Experience Music
- 8th Grade: Theatre Beginning
- 9th Grade: Drawing & Painting Beginning
- 10th Grade: Theatre Beginning/Advanced
- 11th Grade: Guitar Lab 1
- 12th Grade: Photography Beginning

^c For a description of Personalized Pathways, please review the state graduation requirements on the State Board of Education's website: <https://www.sbe.wa.gov/our-work/graduation-requirements>

Visual & Performing Arts

Please note, these pages only include a sample of the courses offered in Visual & Performing Arts for music, theatre, and visual arts. Please contact your school to find out what courses they offer.

The state middle school arts mandate requires districts to ensure all students take at least one semester of visual or performing arts in grades 6, 7, and 8.

Music

Introductory Band

Course Codes: MFA8509, MFA8510

Grades: 6-8

Length: One or two semesters

Welcome to Introductory Band! This course is for students who want to learn a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument such as flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, snare drum, and more. Come join a welcoming community committed to building lasting relationships where all learners succeed. You will learn instrumental technique, musicianship, and perform many styles of music. No previous experience necessary. All students are welcome.

Percussion Ensemble

Course Codes: MFA8500

Grades: 6-8

Length: One or two semesters

Explore a world of rhythmic possibilities in Percussion Ensemble! This is a welcoming community for students who are interested in learning to play pitched and non-pitched percussion instruments that may include bass drum, snare drum, steel pan, marimba, and more. Learn playing techniques and build musicianship skills through performing a wide variety of music from different cultures and time periods – past and present – while developing lasting relationships with others. No previous experience necessary. All students are welcome.

Intermediate Orchestra

Course Codes: MFA8438, MFA8439

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Welcome to Intermediate Orchestra! This yearlong course is for students who have multiple years of experience on violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Be part of a welcoming community and build lasting relationships through performing in school concerts and traveling to regional festivals. Continue to expand your instrumental technique, musicianship, and perform many styles of music.

Concert Choir

Course Codes: MFA8409, MFA8410

Grades: 7-8

Length: Two semesters

Expand your singing style in a supportive choral community! Concert Choir is an advanced, year-long course for students who have multiple years of choral experience. Students continue to develop their vocal and musicianship skills through performing engaging music from a variety of genres, cultures, and styles, while building lasting relationships with others through performing in school and community concerts and traveling to regional festivals.

Experience Music

Course Codes: MFA8400

Grades: 6-8

Length: One semester

Discover your connection to music! Experience Music is a course that introduces you to a range of cultures and styles through music making and/or music technology. Collaborate with others to create and play original music and/or music from a wide variety of societies and cultures all while building your understanding of music concepts, skills, and techniques. No previous experience necessary. All students are welcome.

Theatre

Theatre Beginning and Advanced

Course Codes: MFA8517, MFA8518

Grades: 6-8

Length: One semester

Welcome to Theatre Beginning and Advanced! Theatre Beginning is designed for students interested in acting and performing as part of a supportive community through fun and creative activities. Public speaking, creative problem solving, and collaboration are explored through voice and movement exercises, improvisation, story structure, creating character, scene study, poetry, and playwriting. You will explore a range of perspectives and voices through scenes and scripts from various theatre traditions – past and present. Theatre Advanced expands your acting and performing skills while collaborating with others to act and perform plays, scripts, monologues, and works created in class. Special focus may include advanced acting methods, stage combat, audition preparation, and how to give and receive feedback. All students are welcome.

Theatre Production

Course Codes: MFA8584

Grades: 6-8

Length: One semester

Do you want to put on a show? In Theatre Production you are part of a supportive community to produce and perform a play, musical, or show created through improvisation for a public audience. Perform onstage and work backstage. You may also have opportunities to specialize in technical fields like sets, props, or costumes. All students are welcome.

Technical Theatre

Course Codes: MFA8601

Grades: 6-8

Length: One semester

Do you like to build things and problem-solve? Technical Theatre is a collaborative, production-oriented class that introduces you to theatre design and construction. You may work on sets, costumes, props, lighting, sound, dramaturgy, hair, make-up, and publicity, all of which will be used in a performance for a live audience. All students are welcome.

Visual Arts

Visual Arts Beginning and Advanced

Course Codes: MFA8519, MFA8520

Grades: 6-8

Length: One semester

Welcome to Visual Arts Beginning and Advanced! Visual Arts Beginning will spark your imagination while exploring and experimenting with drawing, painting, sculpture, and more in a supportive community of creative learners. Express, celebrate, and reflect on your unique perspective, ideas, culture, and feelings with individual and group projects while using the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. Visual Arts Advanced will grow your creativity and artistic skills by creating 2D and 3D projects that may involve drawing, painting, printmaking, collage, clay, and paper mâché. All students are welcome.

Ceramics Beginning and Advanced

Course Codes: MFA8403, MFA8404

Grades: 6-8

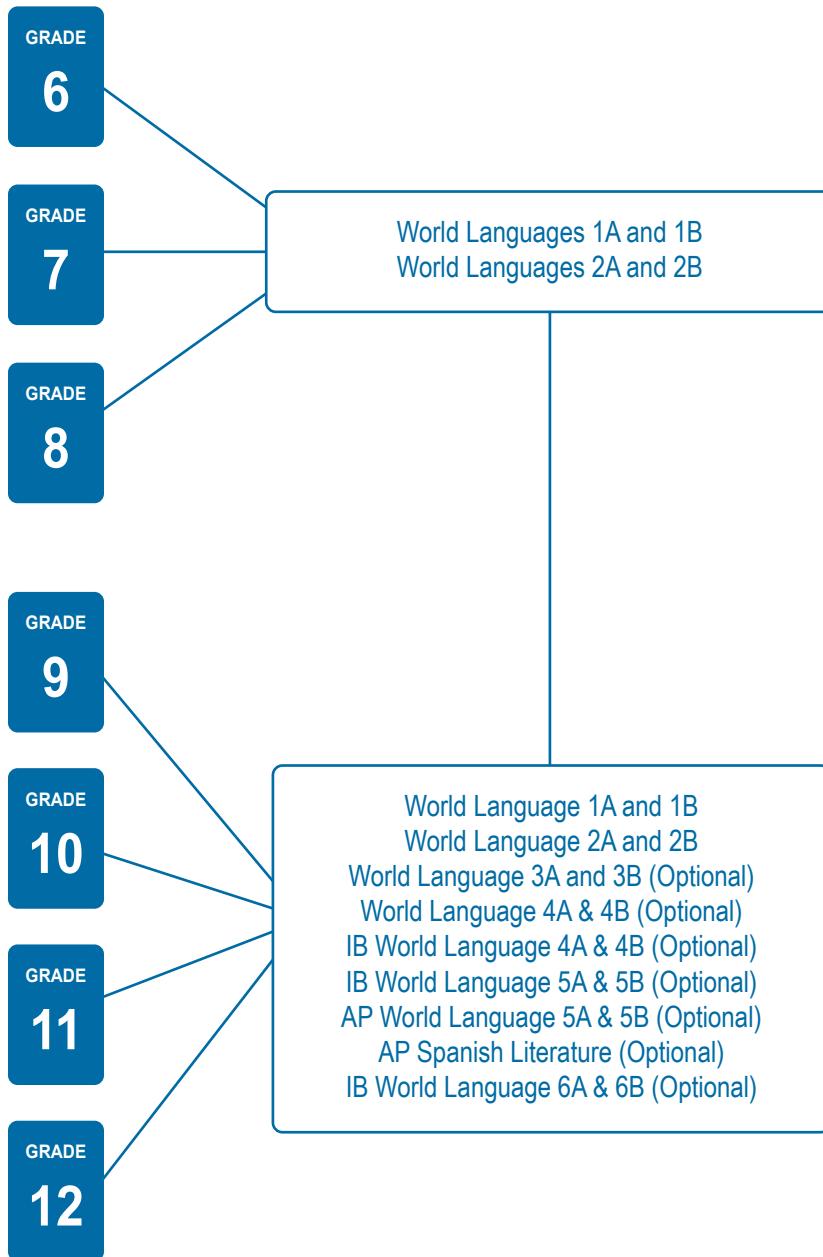
Length: One semester

Welcome to Ceramics Beginning and Advanced! In Ceramics Beginning, you will create a variety of projects using hand building techniques such as pinch, coil, slab, sculpting, and possibly how to “throw” clay on the pottery wheel. Experiment with different ways to add color and decoration to your projects which may include cups, plates, vases, pitchers, spoons, monsters, and more. Collaborate with others while managing the studio and caring for the materials, tools, and equipment. In Ceramics Advanced you’ll expand those skills by using your experiences and knowledge to celebrate and communicate your ideas, unique perspective, and culture through your art. All students are welcome.

World Languages*



Recommended Course Sequence for Grades 6-12



*SPS middle schools typically offer courses in these areas as electives meaning that students do not have to take these classes in middle schools.

World Languages

Please note that these pages only include some courses from the recommended scope and sequence for this content area. For a comprehensive list of available courses, please reach out to your school.

Arabic 1

Course Codes: SWL3471, SWL3473, HWL3470, HWL3472

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students are introduced to the Arabic language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students begin to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students communicate about topics such as greetings, descriptions, telling time, locations, school, family, foods and friends, and more activities. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Arabic-speaking countries and Arabic in the United States.

Chinese 1

Course Codes: SWL1277, SWL1278, HWL1277, HWL1278

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students are introduced to the Chinese language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students begin to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students communicate about topics such as greetings, descriptions, telling time, locations, school, family, foods and friends, and more activities. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Chinese-speaking countries and Chinese in the United States.

Chinese 2

Course Codes: SWL3579, SWL3580, HWL3579, HWL3580

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students build on the basics of the Chinese language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students continue to develop their ability to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students also begin to develop interpretive reading and listening skills across a variety of contexts and topics. Students communicate about topics such as daily routines, social activities, group activities to practice language, music, games and other various topics. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Chinese-speaking countries and Chinese in the United States.

Chinese 3

Course Codes: SWL3583, SWL3584, HWL3583, HWL3584

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students deepen their communication of the Chinese language through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students use a range of texts and scenarios to practice and apply the Chinese language. Students demonstrate communication on a wide range of topics through group discussion, oral presentations, reading short stories and writing original stories. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Chinese-speaking countries and Chinese in the United States, as well as current events related to the Chinese-speaking world.

French 1

Course Codes: SWL1273, SWL1274, HWL1273, HWL1274

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students are introduced to the French language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students begin to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students communicate about topics such as greetings, descriptions, telling time, locations, school, family, foods and friends, and more activities. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying French-speaking countries and French in the United States.

French 2

Course Codes: SWL3522, SWL3523, HWL3522, HWL3523

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students build on the basics of the French language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students continue to develop their ability to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students also begin to develop interpretive reading and listening skills across a variety of contexts and topics. Students communicate about topics such as daily routines, social activities, group activities to practice language, music, games and other various topics. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying French-speaking countries and French in the United States.

French 3

Course Codes: SWL3526, SWL3527, HWL3526, HWL3527

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students deepen their communication of the French language through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students use a range of texts and scenarios to practice and apply the French language. Students demonstrate communication on a wide range of topics through group discussion, oral presentations, reading short stories and writing original stories. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying French-speaking countries and French in the United States, as well as current events related to the French-speaking world.

Japanese 3

Course Codes: SWL3545, SWL3546, HWL3545, HWL3546

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students deepen their communication of the Japanese language through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students use a range of texts and scenarios to practice and apply the Japanese language. Students demonstrate communication on a wide range of topics through group discussion, oral presentations, reading short stories and writing original stories. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Japanese-speaking countries and Japanese in the United States, as well as current events related to the Japanese-speaking world.

Japanese 1

Course Codes: SWL1275 SWL1276, HWL1275 HWL1276

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students are introduced to the Japanese language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students begin to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students communicate about topics such as greetings, descriptions, telling time, locations, school, family, foods and friends, and more activities. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Japanese-speaking countries and Japanese in the United States.

Spanish 1

Course Codes: SWL1279, SWL1280, HWL1279, HWL1280

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students are introduced to the Spanish language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students begin to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students communicate about topics such as greetings, descriptions, telling time, locations, school, family, foods and friends, and more activities. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Spanish-speaking countries and Spanish in the United States.

Japanese 2

Course Codes: SWL3541, SWL3542, HWL3541, HWL3542

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students build on the basics of the Japanese language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students continue to develop their ability to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students also begin to develop interpretive reading and listening skills across a variety of contexts and topics. Students communicate about topics such as daily routines, social activities, group activities to practice language, music, games and other various topics. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Japanese-speaking countries and Japanese in the United States.

Spanish 2

Course Codes: SWL3560, SWL3561, HWL3560, HWL3561

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students build on the basics of the Spanish language and study language that can be used in everyday conversation. Students continue to develop their ability to communicate in writing and speaking in the target language. Students also begin to develop interpretive reading and listening skills across a variety of contexts and topics. Students communicate about topics such as daily routines, social activities, group activities to practice language, music, games and other various topics. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Spanish-speaking countries and Spanish in the United States.

Spanish 3

Course Codes: SWL3564, SWL3565, HWL3564, HWL3565

Grades: 6-8

Length: Two semesters

Students deepen their communication of the Spanish language through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students use a range of texts and scenarios to practice and apply the Spanish language. Students demonstrate communication on a wide range of topics through group discussion, oral presentations, reading short stories and writing original stories. Students expand their understanding of culture by studying Spanish-speaking countries and Spanish in the United States, as well as current events related to the Spanish-speaking world.

A note on Advanced Courses and Heritage Language Courses:

Various advanced courses such as International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP) and College in the High School (CIHS) are offered in different languages and at different schools. Additionally, heritage language courses are also offered in different languages. Check with your school for available offerings.



Equal Educational and Employment Opportunities: Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities based on sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

SPS complies with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008; and the Washington Law Against Discrimination RCW 49.60. SPS's compliance includes, but is not limited to all district programs, courses, and activities, including extra-curricular activities, services, and access to facilities.