

# Fort Herriman Middle School

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# Fort Herriman Middle School

## 7th Grade Course Descriptions

### Visual Arts

#### **Art Foundations 1**

Art Foundations 1 provides an overview of visual arts while studying a broad variety of art tools and materials. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

### **Career and Technical Education**

#### **College and Career Awareness**

CTE is Utah's exploratory Career and Technical Education Core Curriculum requirement for middle/junior high school. The purpose of this program is to allow students to be involved in activity-centered lessons, which utilize technology, develop beginning skills, and explore careers.

#### **Digital Literacy and Coding**

This course is an introduction to computer literacy. Students will have opportunities to use technology and develop skills that encourage creativity, critical thinking, productivity, and collaboration in the classroom and day-to-day life. Skills will be demonstrated by creating a project for a different content area. This course is aligned with national and international standards and the Utah Core to prepare students across multiple levels of skills. Students will complete this course with a prerequisite to move into high school computer literacy courses.

### **Foreign Language**

#### **Introduction to Spanish**

This semester course is designed to teach elementary skills in listening, speaking, reading, and spelling. The curriculum covered in this course will give students precursory skills to communicate in culturally-appropriate ways in the target language. Students will develop an appreciation for the culture of the countries where the language is spoken.

#### **Spanish DLI 3 H**

This course is specifically designed as the middle school pathway for students who have completed an elementary dual language immersion program. It is designed to teach advanced skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The course content includes the development of more abstract vocabulary, literature, speaking, conversations, and composition. Outside cultural experiences may be expected. This course begins preparation for the Advanced Placement Spanish exam.

#### **Spanish DLI Culture and Media**

This course is specifically designed for students who have completed an elementary school Dual Language Immersion program. It is designed to build skills in cultural-linguistic competencies necessary for successful communication with native speakers. Students utilize

media and authentic texts to learn about the diverse cultural products, practices and perspectives of countries. This course begins preparation for the Advanced Placement Spanish exam. Can be taken as a year-long or semester class. There are 4 sections available, each taught within 2 years that do not repeat. Students who opt out of a semester will be unable to take that section.

### **World Language Exploration**

This course is designed to provide students with a rotating introduction to languages offered at their school (French and German). Focusing on listening and speaking skills, students will develop world language study strategies and acquire a variety of vocabulary sets. The course will expand student knowledge of other languages and cultures. It will also aid them in making more informed decisions about their future language study. Reading qualifier required to take this class.

## **Healthy Lifestyles**

### **Fitness 7**

This is a physical education course to develop a solid foundation in skills and competencies. Students are still mastering basic manipulative skills, and are ready to engage in lead-up games and drills that provide a progression toward participation in regulation or advanced play. Students will apply skills in modified games, and may be introduced to regulation rules and game play. Instruction includes an introduction to training principles and activities that can enhance health-related fitness as students pursue personal fitness goals.

### **Dance 1**

This course offers basic dance techniques, fitness fundamentals, movement qualities, and rhythm with an emphasis on creativity, sequencing, and problem solving.

### **Mindfulness Yoga 1**

This class focuses on structural alignment, increase of strength and flexibility. It will deepen a student's awareness of breath and the role it has in generating energy and stamina in one's mind and body. The course will also incorporate techniques for stress relief, and enhance one's physical performance by teaching students how to connect breath, organ systems, physiology and anatomy all together.

## **Language Arts**

### **Language Arts 7**

This course, based on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for grade level instruction in reading comprehension, writing, methods of inquiry, and the processes, skills, and strategies of effective communication.

## **Math**

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

In 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics students will focus on developing an understanding of and applying proportional relationships; developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; solving problems involving scale drawings

and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

## **Performing Arts**

### **Beginning Choir**

This class is open to all students. Emphasis will be placed on quality vocal production, individual singing, and music reading skills. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and will constitute a portion of the grade.

### **Beginning Theatre**

This is an introductory course in theatre with an emphasis on performance and playwriting. No previous experience is necessary. The course will include, but not be limited to, improvisation, monologues, characterization, movement, playwriting, and work with voice projection and diction. Other skills learned and developed include critical thinking, rehearsal skills, plot structure, reading, writing, and cooperative group work.

### **Orchestra 1**

This class is for students who would like to learn to play a violin, viola, cello, or string bass. No experience necessary. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. Instruments are required. If available, a viola, a cello, or a string bass may be rented from the school for a nominal fee.

### **Orchestra 2**

*Prerequisite: Instructor approval*

This is an intermediate-level orchestra class focusing on intermediate-level literature for orchestra. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirements and will constitute a portion of the grade. Practice outside of class time with instrument is required. If available, a viola, a cello, or a string bass may be rented from the school for a nominal fee.

### **Beginning Band 1**

#### **Band 1 - Woodwinds**

This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the flute, oboe, clarinet or saxophone. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. An instrument is required. If available, an oboe or tenor saxophone may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

#### **Band 1 - Brass**

This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the cornet, trumpet, French horn, baritone horn, euphonium, trombone, or tuba. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. An instrument is required. If available, a French horn, baritone horn, euphonium, or tuba may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

#### **Band 1 - Percussion**

This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the drums, mallet keyboard instruments, and other percussion-related instruments. Practice outside of class time

and performances are part of this course. Drum sticks are required. A drum kit or mallets may also be required as per teacher request. Prior band experience or piano experience is required.

### **Band 2 - Concert**

*Prerequisite: Audition/Interview*

This is an intermediate level band course that encourages increased technical and expressive musical proficiency through performance and study of music. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and constitute a portion of the grade. Practice outside of class time with an instrument is required. If available, an oboe, bass clarinet, bassoon, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, French horn, baritone horn, euphonium, or tuba may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

## **Science**

### **Integrated Science 7**

Seventh Grade Integrated Science focuses on the theme of “structure.” Life, physical, and earth science contents are integrated in a core curriculum. The standards to be taught relate to matter, structure of earth’s crust and interior, structure of cells and organisms, reproduction and heredity of organisms, and classification schemes.

## **Social Studies**

### **Utah Studies 7**

Utah is an amazing place, rich in resources, in geographic wonders, in inspiring history, and in the diversity of its people. The study of Utah permits students to understand more deeply the place they call home, while developing essential skills unique to the social studies disciplines. Within these standards, Utah Studies offers an opportunity for students to learn about their own families and cultures as well as those of others. The Utah Studies standards are based on four social studies disciplines: history, geography, economics, and civics. Students will explore the complex history of Utah, with examples of creativity, sacrifice, conflict, innovation, inequity, compromise, and leadership. Students will also learn about Utah’s diverse physical geography, encounter Utah’s economic systems and dynamics, and explore local and statewide political systems. The range of the Utah Studies standards allows teachers flexibility in designing the course scope and sequence. The course could be organized thematically, with distinct units of study related to the social studies disciplines of economics, geography, history and political science/civics.

## **\*Other**

### **Reading 7**

*Prerequisite: Instructor approval*

This course, based on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for students requiring basic instruction with targeted reading intervention in reading comprehension, vocabulary, and reading skills to assist striving readers with literary, informational, and functional texts. If this course is required, it will be one of the elective units.

### **Teacher Advisory (TA) 7th Grade**

This course provides an opportunity for students to establish a positive relationship with an adult role model in the school, to engage in silent sustained reading, to participate in character

education, and to focus on study skills. Teachers provide students with academic support in a mentorship environment. Participation in this class will help to enhance the core curriculum and to create a more positive environment in the school. Students have the opportunity to earn .25 credits per semester based on participation in all Teacher Advisory activities.