

Stanberry R-II Junior High



Course Description Guide

Updated: April of 2020

Stanberry R-II Junior High Courses

English

7th Reading
7th Language Arts
8th Language Arts

Math

7th Math
8th Algebra

Science

7th Earth Science
8th Science

Social Studies

7th History
8th History

Music

Junior High Band
Junior High Choir

Block Exploratory Classes

7th Grade (Reading and PE/Health)
8th Grade (STEM and PE/Health)

Semester Exploratory Classes (required for those students who are not in either Band or Junior High Choir)

7th Grade – Art, FACS, Ag, and STEM
8th Grade – Art, FACS, Ag, and STEM

English

7th Language Arts

Full Year

Grade 7

Three divisions of language arts are explored within this course: grammar, composition, and spelling. Grammar study includes parts of speech, parts of sentences, complex and compound sentences, word usage and mechanics of writing. Composition study includes the writing process, and expository, narrative, descriptive and persuasive paragraphs. Spelling includes correct spelling, sentence usage and dictionary skills of commonly used words.

8th Language Arts

Full Year

Grade 8

Four divisions of language arts are explored within this course: grammar, composition, spelling, and literature. Grammar study includes parts of speech, parts of sentences, complex and compound sentences, word usage, and mechanics of writing. Composition study includes the writing process and expository, narrative, descriptive, and persuasive paragraphs. Spelling includes correct spelling, sentence usage, and dictionary skills of commonly used works. Literature study includes a basic knowledge of literary terms and reading and analyzing short stories, plays, and poetry.

Math

7th Grade Math

Full Year

Grade 7

Junior High Math (textbook is entitled *Saxon Course 2*) is offered to all 7th graders and is the normal class progression following their 6th grade year of math. Junior High Math also offers some upper level concepts which will help to ensure better success for their next math class, 8th Pre-Algebra.

8th Algebra

Full Year

Grade 8

Algebra I is a study of the abstract way numbers behave and interrelate. It is designed to develop the ability to think both abstractly and logically. Emphasis will be placed on positive and negative numbers, algebraic expressions, linear and quadratic equations, exponentials, and order of operations. The Algebra I class also introduces and gives practice with area, volume, and surface area in preparation for Geometry.

8th Algebra I *does not* count toward: Stanberry R-II High School's graduation requirements; Stanberry R-II High School's cumulative grade point average (GPA) used to determine class rank.

Science

7th – Seventh Grade Earth Science

Full Year

Grade 7

Earth science is an inquiry-based course designed to introduce students to the processes that shape the Earth, and explain the universe. They will explore the Earth's surface and interior, the theory of plate tectonics, our solar system, energy resources, the water cycle, atmosphere, weather, and climate. This course will have many hands-on learning opportunities for students as we learn how the world around us works.

8th –Science

Full Year

Grade 8

Life science is an inquiry-based course designed to introduce students to fundamental biological concepts, providing practical application of scientific skills and allowing them to explore the basic principles of life science. Students will investigate various topics including the characteristics of living things, cellular structures and functions, plants, heredity, and the change in species over time. Students will also be introduced to ecological topics, including ecosystem interactions.

Social Studies

7th History

Full Year

Grade 7

This is an introductory study of the history of the world. The course begins with the people of the Stone Age and traces the development of Ancient Civilizations, beginning with the people of the Fertile Crescent and proceeding through the development of modern world nations. Special emphasis is placed upon themes such as water, geography, trade, communication, and cities as the course travels the worlds of Greece, Rome, Egypt, China, Africa, the Americas, and Europe. Empires and cultures which have influenced world history will be examined.

8th History

Full Year

Grade 8

This course is an introductory study of United States history from the country's origin to the Civil War and Reconstruction. Events, people, foreign policies, and themes are examined to highlight experiences and influences which have shaped American history. Critical issues are interjected to connect learning as the course travels through the Revolutionary War, the

War of 1812, the Industrial Revolution, the Age of Jackson, and the Civil War. **Included in this course is a comprehensive three-week study of the United States Constitution with required testing being done; if a test score of 70% or higher is earned, this score will fulfill the state of Missouri's high school graduation requirement for U.S. Constitution testing.**

Music

JH Band

Full Year

Grades 7-8

Band for 7th – 8th grade students is included within the high school program. It is designed to promote musicianship, performance abilities, and enjoyment of instrumental music. Competition is also available. Performance opportunities include marching band, concert band, pep band, as well as solos and small ensembles. Other instrumental activities, including district, regional, and conference bands, are formed to further challenge the serious musician. Individual assistance is available before, during and after school. Some extra rehearsals and performances are required. *It does not count toward Stanberry R-II High School's: graduation requirements; cumulative grade point average (GPA) used to determine high school's class rank.*

Junior High Choir

Full Year

Grades 7-8

Course Description: The junior high choir is a mixed-voice chorus comprised of 7th & 8th grade singers. This course is designed to teach students the fundamentals of vocal music, sightsinging, ear training, and music theory. Group performances include the winter and spring concerts, as well as two school day visits to Pine View Manor. Small group and solo competition is available, but not required. Individual assistance is available before, during, and after school.

Block Exploratory Classes **(Required for Junior High Students)**

7th & 8th Grade

7th Grade Grammar

Full Year

Grade 7

This course utilizes small group instruction to enable the student to improve oral and silent reading skills. Reading skills are taught directly using skill sheets and computer software. Then the skills are applied in reading plays, short stories, magazine articles, poetry and nonfiction works and in writing short responses and essays to enhance processing, organizing, and evaluating skills. It will meet every other day for the full year with all 7th grade girls being in one section and all 7th grade boys being in the other section.

8th Grade Leadership

Full Year

Grade 8

This class is to develop students into leaders that positively represent the voices of the school and serve students and staff, while reaching the community. Students will learn skills to be positive and will have opportunities to take on leadership roles working with different ages. Leadership will support the students in being positive examples and provide a fun atmosphere for students to get involved. The curriculum will help students develop skills and behaviors of good leadership including goal-setting, time management, communication skills, and human relations.

Physical Education/Health

Full Year

Grade 7-8

This class is a combination of both physical education and health; it will meet every other day with all 7th-8th grade girls being in one section and all 7th-8th grade boys being in the second section. The course itself will provide opportunities to experience both winning and losing, to set individual goals, and to take risks in a safe setting. Students will strive toward a better balance of health-related and skill-related fitness in the physical education/health classroom in order to prepare each student for a healthier future.

Semester Exploratory Classes

(Required for Students Not Enrolled in Either Band or Junior High Choir)

7th Grade

7th Art

Semester

Grade 7

This semester class expands on the elementary art foundation of exploring mediums, techniques, and artists, with a connection to the high school level art classes. Students will be encouraged to gain confidence in their artistic voice through discussion on other artists' work and expression through their own projects which include but are not limited to drawing, painting, ceramics, and sculpture

7th Agriculture

Semester

Grade 7

Students will participate in the Hunter Education program from the Missouri Department of Conservation. Students will complete the Hunter Education Booklet, along with taking quizzes throughout. They will demonstrate safe gun handling techniques with the use of the MDC non firing weapons, learn about wildlife conservation, and the ethics of hunting and conservation. Students will be required to obtain an 80% or above on the MDC issued Hunter Certification test, to receive their certificate, along with completing the safety skills portion in a safe manner. This class will also contain a unit on combating food insecurity in our state, nation, and world.

7th Family and Consumer Science (FACS)

Semester

Grade 7

This course was designed to incorporate technology and hands on experience and apply them to Family and Consumer Science concepts. We use creativity, problem solving, and computer skills to develop computer code and create individual logos using an embroidery machine.

7th STEM

Semester

Grade 7

The goal of this semester's class is to teach students the basic computer skills such as Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher, and Google products will be explored. Students will be expected to key a minimum of 20 wpm. With STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics), students will learn inquiry-based approaches to address design challenges. Students will explore STEM careers and work in groups of 3-5 to create projects based on the STEM careers to explore interests and academic requirements of each field. The library's makerspace area will be utilized as students explore different robots, hands-on activities, and project creations. Design projects will be researched, tested, evaluated, re-designed and tested again.

8th Grade

8th Art

Semester

Grade 8

This semester class expands on the elementary art foundation of exploring mediums, techniques, and artists, with a connection to the high school level art classes. Students will be encouraged to gain confidence in their artistic voice through discussion on other artists' work and expression through their own projects which include but are not limited to drawing, painting, ceramics, and sculpture

8th Agriculture

Semester

Grade 8

This class contains units in introductory agricultural science, plant science, animal science, and agricultural products grown both locally, nationally, and worldwide. Students will also complete a unit on Shielded Metal Arc Welding at the end of the semester.

8th Family and Consumer Science (FACS)

Semester

Grade 8

This course was designed to provide students with an exploratory experience of skills and concepts identified within Family and Consumer Sciences. There are four units of study: personal relationships, sewing/clothing care and repair, consumer decisions and foods/nutrition. The course also prepares the student to make decisions and develop independence to improve self-concept.

8th Computers/STEM

Semester

Grade 8

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) students will learn inquiry-based approaches to address design challenges. In class, students will problem solve, discovery, explore, and innovate through the different academic content areas. Students will explore STEM careers and work in groups of 3-5 to create projects based on the STEM careers to explore interests and academic requirements of each field. The library's makerspace area will be utilized as students explore different robots, hands-on activities, and project creations. Design projects will be researched, tested, evaluated, re-designed and tested again. Students will create and share their projects to others after being the developers of their project. We will broaden student understanding of computer science concepts learning about coding, technology, and devices to strengthen this skill.