

Stanberry R-II Junior High



Course Description Guide

Updated: May, 2023

Stanberry R-II Junior High Courses

English

7th/8th Novels
7th Language Arts
8th Language Arts

Math

7th Math
8th Pre-Algebra
8th Algebra

Science

7th Earth Science
8th Science

Social Studies

7th History
8th History

Music

Junior High Band
Junior High Choir

Block Exploratory Classes

Guidance
Novels
PE

7th/8th Semester Exploratory Classes

Ag
Art
Careers
FACS
Geography
Keyboarding
Leadership
STEM

English

7th Language Arts

Full Year

Grade 7

Five divisions of English-Language Arts are explored within this course: literature, composition, language, speaking and listening and spelling. Reading divisions include basic knowledge of literary devices along with reading, comprehending, and analyzing literary, informational, and argumentative text. Students will engage in one novel study using *The Giver*. Writing study includes developing the writing process through writing responses to literature, as well as writing descriptive, narrative, expository and argumentative essays. Language study includes parts of speech, parts of sentences, complex and compound sentences, word usage, vocabulary and mechanics of writing. Speaking and listening includes collaborating in peer groups and presenting. Spelling includes correct spelling, sentence usage, and dictionary skills of commonly used works.

8th Language Arts

Full Year

Grade 8

Five divisions of English-Language Arts are explored within this course: literature, composition, language, speaking and listening and spelling. Reading divisions include basic knowledge of literary devices along with reading, comprehending, and analyzing literary, informational, and argumentative text. Students will engage in one novel study using *The Outsiders*. Writing study includes developing the writing process through writing responses to literature, as well as writing descriptive, narrative, expository and argumentative essays. Language study includes parts of speech, parts of sentences, complex and compound sentences, word usage, vocabulary and mechanics of writing. Speaking and listening includes collaborating in peer groups and presenting. Spelling includes correct spelling, sentence usage, and dictionary skills of commonly used works.

Math

7th Grade Math

Full Year

Grade 7

Junior high Math is offered to all 7th graders and is the normal class progression following their 6th grade year of math. It is a challenging course that builds on the four basic operation and builds a solid knowledge base of how to strategically solve a problem. Junior High Math also offers some upper level concepts that will help ensure better success for their next math class.

8th Grade Math

Grade 8

8th grade Pre-Algebra is a course that builds on previous skills used in everyday math. This course helps build a good algebra base so students will enjoy and thrive in upper level math courses. Emphasis will be placed on real numbers, scientific notation, exponent, algebraic expressions, linear equations, linear inequalities, systems of linear equations, and functions. 8th grade Pre-Algebra class will also introduce and give practice with surface area, volume, and Pythagorean theorem in preparation for Geometry.

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, sight singing, ear training, and music theory. Group performances include the winter and spring concerts. Small group and solo competition is available. Individual assistance is available before, during, and after school.

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

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

7th/8th Grade Novels Full Year Grade 7-8
Novels is a course designed to show students the significance of reading books through literary analysis, guided discussion, and engaging activities. We will also incorporate a unit to help the student become a more independent learner and develop effective study skills.

7th/8th Guidance Full Year Grade 7-8
This course analyzes how an individual's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors can be influenced by other people, specific situations, and overall environment. It also examines how we think of ourselves and others, the persuasion and influence of others, the impact of friendships/relationships, and establishes coping strategies for everyday life.

Quarter Rotational/Semester Exploratory Classes **(Required for Students Not Enrolled in Either Band or Junior High Choir)**

7th Grade

7th Art Quarter Grade 7
This semester-long art class expands on the elementary art foundation of exploring mediums and techniques such as watercolor pencils and the creation of optical illusions, with a connection to the high school level art classes. Students will be encouraged to gain confidence in their abilities in a variety of projects which include but are not limited to drawing, painting, and ceramics.

7th Agriculture Quarter 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 Careers Quarter Grade 7
The Careers class is designed for junior high students to help them understand various career options available to them. Students will participate in a variety of activities, including career assessments, research projects, guest speakers and career cluster activities. By the end of the course, students will have a better understanding of their own interests and strengths, and be better equipped to make informed decisions about their future career paths.

7th Family and Consumer Science (FACS) Quarter 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 Keyboarding

Quarter

Grade 7

Keyboarding will build on previous skills used in everyday class. This course helps enhance a sturdy technology foundation, so students will thrive in typing, notetaking, and general keyboard use. Students will be tested on their keyboarding skills.

7th Leadership

Quarter

Grade 7

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.

7th STEM

Quarter

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.

7th Geography:

Quarter

Grades 8

This course familiarizes the student with the world by using the five themes of geography. The student will develop skills and knowledge about location, place, human/environment interaction, movement, and regions. This course will cover North and South America by focusing on the five themes.

8th Grade**8th Art**

Quarter

Grade 8

This semester-long art class takes a focus on cultural techniques and mediums, students will have access to a variety of materials and new processes. Students will be encouraged to gain confidence in their abilities to adjust to different ways of creating art and have a new awareness of art. Students will create projects that involve but are not limited to painting, scratchboard, ceramics, paper-mâché, and mixed media.

8th Agriculture

Quarter

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 Careers

Quarter

Grade 8

The Careers class is designed for junior high students to help them understand various career options available to them. Students will participate in a variety of activities, including career assessments, research projects, guest speakers and career cluster activities. By the end of the course, students will have a better understanding of their own interests and strengths, and be better equipped to make informed decisions about their future career paths.

8th Family and Consumer Science (FACS)

Quarter

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 Keyboarding

Quarter

Grade 8

Keyboarding will build on previous skills used in everyday class. This course helps enhance a sturdy technology foundation, so students will thrive in typing, notetaking, and general keyboard use. Students will be tested on their keyboarding skills.

8th Leadership

Quarter

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.

8th STEM

Quarter

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.

8th Geography:

Quarter

Grades 8

This course familiarizes the student with the world by using the five themes of geography. The student will develop skills and knowledge about location, place, human/environment interaction, movement, and regions. This course will cover North and South America by focusing on the five themes.