

La Grande Middle School 2012-2013 Course Outlines

SEVENTH Grade

The school year consists of four quarters; each quarter is nine weeks long.
Due to budget/personnel reductions some elective courses may not be offered.

REQUIRED COURSES

Advisory

The Advisory Program will provide students an opportunity to connect with a caring adult who will assist with their academic and social success. Our building goals of promoting skills in reading and themes of respect are addressed in Advisory, along with Positive Behavior Support. A community service component offers students the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to their school and community, and will increase their awareness of positive citizenship. Advisory teachers are the team contact person for parent communication and student-led conferences.

English

The seventh grade English program continues to develop each student's communication skills in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and analyzing. The class is designed to help the student further develop his/her writing skills, and offers the student a large and varied selection of quality literature to enjoy.

Mathematics

At La Grande Middle School 7th grade students will have either Math 7 or Algebra 1. The specific standards by grade level and by math strand may be viewed at www.ode.state.or.us, then type "grade level standards".

Math 7: Students develop their conceptual understanding of mathematics in the strands of calculations and estimations, measurement, statistics and probability, algebraic relationships, and geometry. Throughout the course, students work to improve their processes and strategies in mathematical problem solving, reasoning, calculator applications, communication, connections, and representation.

Algebra 1: Enrollment is based on a selection process that includes a 3.5 or higher GPA in the student's previous math class, 90th percentile ranking on the state math multiple choice exam, and recommendation from the most recent math team.

Algebra 1 covers the following topics: patterns to algebra, operations in algebra, equations, proportional reasoning and statistics, linear functions, inequalities and absolute value, systems of equations and inequalities, and probability.

La Grande Middle School Algebra 1 uses the same course material and sequencing as La Grande High School. As an option the class can be taken for high school credit, in which case it will be included as part of the high school GPA.

Social Studies

The 7th grade social studies program will place emphasis on each student developing his/her ability to recognize and apply knowledge about the nature of man and cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere. This will be accomplished through a study of ancient history, geography, and contemporary issues. Current events will be an on-going focus throughout the year.

Life/Chemical Science

Life science deals with the study of classification, genetics, ecology, and the six kingdoms. Students will investigate the area of life science and introduction to chemistry using the processes of observing, communicating, quantifying, classifying, measuring, predicting, questioning, interpreting data, inferring, hypothesizing, formulating models, designing experiments and controlling variables.

Physical Education/Health

The Physical Education program is designed to help each student develop socially and emotionally as well as physically. Strength, flexibility, endurance, agility, coordination, and teamwork skills are developed through various games and activities. Throughout the school year the program will focus on team, dual and individual sports, as well as collaborative and cooperative endeavors.

Our comprehensive Health program – specifically designed for middle school students - will be evenly dispersed throughout students' 7th and 8th grade years in Physical Education/Health, so that in the course of those two years each student receives instruction in the complete Health education program. The program includes: Life Long Learning, Body Systems, Fitness and Nutrition, Substance Abuse Prevention, Consumer, Community and Environmental Health, The Cycle of Life, Social and Emotional Health, Disease and Illness Prevention, and Safety, Injury and Violence Prevention.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Seventh grade students will have two elective classes each quarter. The following information explains, in some detail, the elective experiences.

YEAR-LONG CLASSES

Intermediate Band

This is a class for seventh grade students who have some experience with a musical instrument, including voice and have the ability to read music while performing simple songs. Experience on a band instrument is helpful, but not required. Instruction will continue in the Beginning Band Method Book and progress to Level 1 sheet music. Good playing and performance habits will be reinforced, as well as learning major scales. There will be four required public, evening concerts.

Choir

Choir is open to all seventh grade students with an interest in discovering the elements of music through singing. Students will learn to read music as well as improve and enhance vocal skills with sol-fège, proper posture and technique. Performances include at least one evening concert per quarter attendance required. Singers may also choose to participate in the district solo contest.

QUARTER CLASSES

Art 7th

In this class students learn to tap the right side of the brain and improve drawing skills at the same time. Students will experience a wide variety of media including water color, charcoal, and clay. This is a hands-on class which provides a better understanding and appreciation for art.

Careers

Students in this class will explore a variety of careers and career paths that might lead to their future success and happiness. They will gain skills in self-analysis and awareness, problem solving, presentation and other job-related topics.

Design 7th

This class is designed to introduce students to many aspects of technical drawing. Students will become familiar with three different types of perspectives, orthographic projections and house design.

Keyboarding

It is the overall goal of this course to enable students to master touch typing through the use of Micro Type, a keyboarding program, and other keying activities while emphasizing proper technique and ergonomics. Once students have mastered the basic keyboard, they will work to gain speed and accuracy. In addition, students will prepare for advanced studies by learning to use computer applications for projects and activities across the curriculum.

Leadership 7th

Join us and become a “Green Leader” at LMS. This 9-week long 7th grade elective will be taking a closer look at environmental science and the challenges facing sustainability on our planet. We will also be in charge of running

the recycling program at the school. So sign up and help LMS become a “greener” school and learn ways to help reduce, reuse, and recycle!

Spanish 7th

This is an introductory class to Spanish and will emphasize basic foundations, structures, and functions needed for future studies. Students will be listening to, speaking, reading and writing Spanish.

Film Studies

The focus of this course is to study film as a form of art and as a picture of the world in which we live. Students will learn about aspects of film such as purpose, genre, elements, aesthetics, and the film industry. They will study several films in more depth, looking critically at how specific aspects of the films are effective at telling the story or getting across the message.

Woods 7th

This program consists of an in-depth study of woodworking and basic power mechanics. Students will be exposed to shop machinery, hand-held power tools, and many products and processes, including a strong emphasis on safety. Students will select the area of their interest and a project that suits their individual needs and abilities. They will keep a daily record of their activities, and develop confidence, responsibility, and satisfaction while utilizing the facility. Take-home projects will provide the vehicle for learning, while carefully worded and illustrated plan booklets will guide students through projects so they may work at their own pace and abilities. The knowledge and skills students gain will be beneficial now and in the future.