



JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
COURSE DESCRIPTION CATALOG

2017  
GRADES 7-8  
2018





# **JUNIOR HIGH COURSE DESCRIPTION CATALOG**

**GRADES 7-8 • 2017-2018**



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# GENERAL INFORMATION

This course catalog contains a list of junior high (grades 7-8) courses offered in Mesa Public Schools. High school graduation requirements, as well as other pertinent information, are included in the catalog.

The contents of this catalog supersede previous catalogs. Students should contact school counselors if they have questions regarding the specific applicability of program changes.

Please note students transferring between junior high schools may find site specific elective course offerings at each campus.

## Courses Offered

This catalog lists courses offered by Mesa Public Schools and is provided to assist in planning students' schedules. The courses listed may not be offered at every site and may not be offered both semesters. In addition, courses may be cancelled due to a lack of enrollment or may be limited to specific grade levels. The availability of elective classes depends on the grade level of the student, special program eligibility, the number of students who register for the course and school resources.

It is important to make course selections carefully. Classes are formed based on student requests during pre-registration. Courses may not be available if sufficient pre-registration requests are not received.

## High School Credit

Credits applied toward high school graduation must be earned in grades 9-12. The only exceptions are Algebra I and Geometry.

Students enrolled in world language courses in junior high may challenge the high school curriculum by taking the STAMP 4S; an objective, web-based language proficiency assessment at the end of their 8th grade year. The assessment engages students in real-world scenarios to determine proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in the target language. Students demonstrating proficiency on the assessment will be awarded one (1) high school world language credit in Mesa Public Schools for each level of demonstrated proficiency.

Grades earned in these courses will be recorded on the MPS high school transcript, included in the student's GPA and College Core, and they will not be removed. Parents and students should be aware that senior high schools outside Mesa Public Schools may not recognize or transfer credits earned prior to 9th grade.

## Registration

Pre-registration is conducted at each school during the spring for the next school year.

Registration materials are mailed home in early July. The materials include student data forms, food and nutrition forms and optional course materials information and fees. Parents are encouraged to return the required forms with payment for optional materials by the date indicated in the packet. An online payment option is available for your convenience.

# EXPLANATION OF GRADES

## Course Grades

All courses taught for credit receive a letter or a pass/fail grade. Homework may not count for more than 10% of the final grade. Homework will be defined by the teacher in accordance with Administrative Regulation IKB-R. Final examinations may not count for more than 20% of the final grade. Grade point values and the percentages used to determine each grade are listed below.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Achievement Grade	Grade Point Value
90 - 100	= A	= Consistently meets curriculum standards at an outstanding level .....	4.0
80 - 89	= B	= Generally meets curriculum standards at a high level .....	3.0
70 - 79	= C	= Meets curriculum standards at a satisfactory level .....	2.0
60 - 69	= D	= Meets some curriculum standards .....	1.0
59 - 59.99	= D-	= Minimally meets some curriculum standards (teacher's discretion) .....	.5
< 59	= F	= Fails to meet curriculum standards. If courses are credit bearing, no credit toward graduation is granted to a student receiving a final grade of "F" in the course .....	0.0

P = Pass (reserved for designated pass/fail courses)

I = Incomplete (maximum length of time to make up a course is one semester) If not completed the incomplete turns to "F"

U = Audit (student may only use this option if it has been approved by the teacher and an administrator during the first 20 school days of the semester.)

W = Withdraw

W/P = Withdraw with a passing grade (not calculated in GPA)

W/F = Withdraw with a failing grade (calculated as an "F")

NC = No Credit (student did not meet course attendance requirement). If the student would have received an "F", then the "F" is given and calculated into the student's GPA.

**With the exception of the D-, no plus or minus notations are used on the report card.**

## Grades Impacted by Attendance

Satisfactory attendance at school is essential to learning, and regular attendance is a key to academic success. Satisfactory attendance at school is the responsibility of the student and his or her family.

- Cases involving prolonged illness or unusual circumstances will be reviewed by the school administration.
- Each unexcused absence will result in teacher and/or administrative action.
- Excessive tardies will result in administrative action.

## College Core/Class Rank

Mesa Public Schools determines a student's high school (9-12) class rank by calculating a College Core. The College Core is based on Arizona university entrance requirements, as defined by the Arizona Board of Regents, as well as Arizona State Board of Education graduation requirements. \*

Specifically, the College Core includes:

4 credits in English

3 credits in Laboratory Science

2 credits in World Languages

4 credits in Mathematics

3 credits in Social Studies \*

1 credit in Fine or Practical (CTE) Arts

Students who exceed minimum core area requirements will automatically be evaluated based on the courses with the highest grade points earned in that core area. For specific information and calculation assistance, visit [www.mpsaz.org/collegecore](http://www.mpsaz.org/collegecore).

\* NOTE: Arizona State Board of Education graduation requirements include three (3) credits in Social Studies. However, the Arizona Board of Regents only includes two (2) credits in Social Studies for university entrance.



# SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

In junior high school, students are placed in and/or have a choice to be placed in courses of varying rigor. The intent of the junior high school experience is for students to be best prepared to meet the challenges of the high school curriculum. Individual student goals, work ethic and abilities will determine appropriate course selection and placement. Counselors are available at all junior high schools to review options and to help students and families select courses that will best prepare them for high school and beyond.

## Core Courses\*

English Language Arts  
Mathematics  
Social Studies  
Science  
Physical Education  
Computer Essentials

\* These required courses may not be waived or substituted for students in grades 7 and 8. Please note that additional courses for English Language Development or Reading support may be required based on student need. Students in grade 7 and 8 may not utilize off-campus experiences or independent study.

## Non-Core Elective Courses

### PRACTICAL ARTS:

Career and Technical Education

### FINE ARTS:

Art  
Theater  
Music/Performing Arts

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### WORLD LANGUAGES

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Mesa Public Schools offers specialized programs designed to meet the needs of specific junior high school students. Students should see school counselors for more specific information.

### Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

<http://www.mpsaz.org/avid>

AVID is a college readiness program designed to prepare self-determined students, who have demonstrated average achievement, for college readiness. The program enrolls students in rigorous courses and provides them with intensive support to ensure their success. The major component at the junior and senior high school levels is a daily AVID elective class that students must attend. During this class, students receive training in effective note taking, organizational skills, and goal-setting strategies. Extensive writing and reading instruction is also provided. AVID students are academically capable students who would typically be the first in their families to attend college. Placement is done through an application process.

### Gifted and Talented Courses

<http://www.mpsaz.org/gtp>

Gifted and Talented courses in the junior high schools provide an atmosphere in which students investigate interdisciplinary connections through student led research. A Gifted and Talented course provides a platform for students to intellectually question problems within each content area, while building thinking skills through practicing both logical and creative thinking. Students are considered eligible for Gifted and Talented services based on their performance on a state approved assessment. Students may be eligible for classes under Gifted and Talented as determined through a site based performance review process.

For additional information please visit [www.mpsaz.org/gtp](http://www.mpsaz.org/gtp), or speak with your child's counselor.

### Mesa Distance Learning Program

<https://www.mdlp.org>

MPS Distance Learning courses allow students to learn via the Internet. Students must contact the administration at their school for approval related to MPS Distance Learning courses.

### International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme

<http://www.mpsaz.org/ib>

Mesa Public Schools is pleased to offer the nationally recognized International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme to junior high students. The Middle Years Programme (MYP) is offered at both the Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies and the Summit Academy. The programme provides students advanced coursework opportunities across all disciplines to prepare students to be successful in college prep programs such as the IB Diploma Programme or Advanced Placement courses. To learn more about this educational opportunity, please visit our website at [www.mpsaz.org/ib](http://www.mpsaz.org/ib).

### Junior High Athletics

<http://www.mesasports.org/jha>

Junior high athletics provides many opportunities for all students, regardless of skill, to participate in the sport of their choice. In addition to competitive 7th and 8th grade teams, skills camps will be offered each season for those interested in improving sport specific skills and learning techniques and rules for the sport.

There are four sports seasons that correspond to the school's calendar. A fee is required for all participants of Junior High Athletics. Fee assistance is available.

First Quarter Season	Second Quarter Season	Third Quarter Season	Fourth Quarter Season
Boys Basketball Girls Soccer Wrestling	Softball Baseball Badminton Boys Volleyball	Flag Football Volleyball Cross Country	Girls Basketball Boys Soccer

### Service Learning

<http://www.mpsaz.org/msl>

Our junior high schools provide a variety of opportunities for students and staff to participate in meaningful community service experiences that teach and reinforce the curriculum.

# JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## ART

### AR 01 Introduction to Art

**Difficulty: Low** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
A beginning course in art, introducing the student to basic principles and elements of design and exposing the student to a variety of media and techniques. These could include drawing, painting, sculpture, and ceramics.

### AR 02 General Art

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 01 Recommended**  
Reinforces and strengthens the concepts in AR 01. This could include drawing, plaster sculpture, ceramics and painting. Advanced problems in perspective and design are also included.

### AR 03 Drawing and Painting

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 01 Recommended**  
Students will develop skills in realistic drawings of figures, still life and landscape. Projects could include watercolor, scratchboard, acrylic and tempera paintings, printmaking and numerous drawing media.

### AR 04 Sculpture and Ceramics

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 01 Recommended**  
Includes a wide variety of techniques and processes of three-dimensional art forms. Projects could include plaster, clay, woodcarving, fibers, leather-tooling and copper enameling, paper maché and soft sculpture.

### AR 05 Beginning Ceramics

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
This is an introductory course in ceramics. Activity includes mixing clay, forming figures, firing figures, and glazing figures.

### AR 10 Computer Graphics

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
This course gives the student the opportunity to apply their art talents while learning the features of a computer graphics program. Topics in this project-based course include using the paint tools, working with objects in the draw layer, the effective use of color perspective drawing, three-dimensional figures, and the role of geometry in art. Projects could range from drawing a cartoon face to applying the principles of perspective in designing a cityscape.

### AR 19 Introduction to Digital Photography

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 10 Recommended**  
This course introduces students to digital photography and manipulation, including the use of a digital camera, an introduction to a photographic editing program, the use of a scanner, various tricks and techniques for editing digital photographs, design and composition.

### AR 24 Introduction to Photography

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 01 Recommended**  
A prerequisite to General Photography, this course covers basic black and white photography including film processing, print enlarging, composition and some experimental techniques. It is recommended that each student have a camera that takes a negative film.

### AR 25 General Photography

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 24 Required**  
Projects could include experimental photo techniques, light and portraiture, processing of slides, photographing landscapes, etc. It is recommended that students own a camera.

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## ART

### AR 26 Advanced Photography

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 24 or AR 25 Required**  
This is an advanced photography and imaging course, designed to expand upon General Photography. This course consists of advanced black and white darkroom techniques and advanced imaging practices. This course is designed to help students creatively express themselves by using visual technologies. Students may also be introduced to digital photography through the use of digital cameras, scanners, and computer software. Ownership of a 35mm SLR and digital camera is recommended.

### AR 28 Advanced Art

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: AR 01 or AR 02**  
Advanced techniques in drawing, painting, crafts and other individual projects are taught. For students with strong art abilities.

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

### AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

### IT 16 Power/Energy/Transportation Technology

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: IT 01 (IT 12 recommended)**  
Students will study concepts and complete hands-on activities in Power, Energy, and Transportation technology clusters. Activities may include internal combustion engine mechanics, solar energy applications, and vehicle design, construction and testing. Safe use of hand and power tools is emphasized.

### BUSINESS LEADERSHIP, TECHNOLOGY AND OPERATIONS SUPPORT

*ADE/CTE approved program for Business Operations Support and Assistant Services. 2 year program.*

### CB 02 Computer Essentials

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
This computer literacy course is designed to give every student the opportunity to develop essential computer skills needed for success in school, for use in their personal lives, and for a smooth transition into the world-of-work. Students will become cyber savvy by learning Internet safety skills as they gain a practical understanding of how to safely and responsibly take advantage of online resources. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of composing documents, spreadsheets and presentations through hands-on, real-world projects using Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint. This course will also expose students to a variety of other technology resources so they may enhance their learning and increase their productivity in other academic areas.

### CB 04 Web Creations

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: CB 02**  
In Web Creations, students will learn how to create dynamic, yet vibrant, web destinations using web authoring software. Students will have the ability to work in a single environment to quickly create, build, and manage websites and Internet applications.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

**BUSINESS LEADERSHIP, TECHNOLOGY  
AND OPERATIONS SUPPORT**

*ADE/CTE approved program for Business Operations Support and Assistant Services. 2 year program.*

**CB 06 Computer Programming and App Development****Difficulty: Average-High****Prerequisite: CB 02**

Students will explore and learn foundational skills for computer science by focusing on creativity and the design process as they create their own basic apps using MIT App Inventor. In addition, students will venture into text programming through Python, and develop an app and video game which will build computational thinking and problem solving skills. This course is a great opportunity for students to explore the computer science field and create computer programs and video games that can be deployed on digital devices.

**CB09 Technology Foundations for Business****Difficulty: Average** 2 sem — 1 Practical Arts/Elective Credit

This course is designed for students with a goal of achieving success in the business world. Students will learn to be critical thinkers, develop leadership skills and become proficient in emerging technologies that will make them more employable in the workforce. Students will learn how to manage complex projects and apply technology skills to a mock business. This course will give students the opportunity to earn professional certifications and specializations in the Microsoft Office Suite (ie: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Access).

**CB 13 Computer Graphics****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.**

This course gives students the opportunity to apply their art talents while learning the features of a computer graphics program. Topics in this project-based course include using the paint tools, working with objects in the draw layer, the effective use of color, perspective drawing, three-dimensional figures, and the role of geometry in art. Projects could range from drawing a cartoon face to applying the principles of perspective in designing a cityscape.

**CB 91 IB Digital Tech****Difficulty: Average-High****Prerequisite: MYP Year 1 - IB CTEC6 (6th grade IB Technology)**

IB Digital Tech challenges students to increase their knowledge of word processing, searching the Internet, designing databases, using spreadsheets and creating presentations and publication. Students develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills as they conduct research and create multi-media presentations on the Discoveries of the 20th/21st Centuries. Students assess their career skills and interests, and use the IB Design Cycle to investigate, plan, design, create and evaluate their multi-media college and career presentations.

**CB 92 IB Animation Studio****Difficulty: Average-High****Prerequisite: MYP Year 2 - CB91**

IB Animation Studio introduces students to the world of animation, from developmental history and drawing techniques to famous animators and full-feature animations. Students will continue to use the IB Design Cycle to investigate, plan, design, create and evaluate their own three-minute cartoon animations. While learning animation techniques, such as lip synching and walking cycles, students will also explore the components of a story. They will create storylines and storyboards, and analyze characters, setting, plot and motivation. They will also create GIFs using Adobe Flash and a website banner with Adobe Fireworks. Students will create an Animation Portfolio with HTML to display their animations for entertainment, self-and group-evaluation and academic assessment.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

**CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES****IT 23 Woodworking Technology-Basic****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.****Prerequisite: IT 01**

Students will use machines and processes basic to carpentry and cabinetmaking to construct and finish core projects. Safety in general shop procedures, hand tools, and power machinery will be stressed. Basic academics and problem-solving skills will be used daily. Approximately 20% classroom and 80% lab.

**CULINARY ARTS****FS 07 Food, Choices and Culture****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.**

An introductory course emphasizing personal food choices. Activities include food preparation, nutrition, kitchen management, hospitality, eating disorders, cultures, and careers.

**FS 40 Foods for Today****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.**

This course offers opportunities in food selection, nutrition, equipment use and safety. Principles of food preparation are taught through demonstrations and lab experiences. Also included are meal planning, hospitality, and reinforcement of basic skills.

**DESIGN & MERCHANDISING****FS 60 Clothing****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.**

For students who wish to learn to sew or for those who wish to add to their sewing knowledge. Activities include sewing techniques, machine use and care, fabric selection and personally selected construction projects.

**EDUCATION PROFESSIONS****FS 10 Teens 'n Teaching****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.**

Open to all students who enjoy children and teaching. Students will develop leadership skills through interaction with elementary school students. Other topics include self-esteem, communication, organization, problem-solving, and child development. Students may earn hours toward the Service Learning for Excellence certificate.

**ENGINEERING****IT 05 Advanced Robotics****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.****Prerequisite: IT20**

The Advanced Robotics class is a challenge-based class that explores advanced computer programming techniques. This includes loops, switches and subroutines. Students will explore mechanical designs which include gears and actuator arms. Students are strongly encouraged to compete in the First Lego League robotics competitions.

**IT 12 Communications and Engineering Technology****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.****Prerequisite: IT 01**

Students will study concepts and complete hands-on activities in communications and engineering technology. Activities may include bridge design and testing, desktop publishing, digital imaging, screen printing, air brushing, web page design, mechanical and computer aided drafting, product design and testing, and multimedia presentations. Safe use of hand and power tools will be emphasized.

**VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE**

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**ENGINEERING**

**IT 14 Computers/Electronics/Robotics Technology**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: IT 01**

Computer activities may include software applications and hardware components, depending on lab availability. Students will explore electronic theory, construct and test basic circuits, and build simple electronic projects. Students will be introduced to robots, their applications, and may include some basic programming and use of computer numerical controlled (CNC) machines. Safety and proper tool use will be stressed.

**IT 20 Intro to Engineering: Automation and Robotics**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics. They learn about mechanical systems, energy transfers, machine automation and computer control systems. Students use a robust robotics platform to design, build and program a solution to solve an existing problem.

**IT 25 Intro to Engineering: Design and Modeling**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

In this course students being to recognize the value of an engineering notebook to document and capture their ideas. They are introduced to and use the design process to solve problems and understand the influence that creative and innovative design has on everyday life. Students use industry standard 3D modeling software to create a virtual image of their designs and produce a portfolio to showcase their creative solutions.

**IT 26 Energy, Environment and Green Architecture**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: IT20**

Students investigate the impact of energy on everyday life and the environment. They design and model alternative energy sources and participate in an energy expo to demonstrate energy concepts and innovative ideas. Students evaluate ways to reduce energy consumption through energy efficiency and sustainability. Students will also focus on green architecture and how it effects building and design. Students are introduced to architectural plans, construction style, alternative materials and processes, dimensioning, measuring and architectural sustainability.

**IT 27 Flight and Space**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: IT20**

The rich history of aerospace comes alive through hands-on activities, research, and a presentation in the form of a short informational video. Students explore the science behind aeronautics and use their knowledge to design, build and test an airfoil. Custom-built simulation software allows students to experience space travel.

**IT 28 Science of Technology and Electrons**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: IT20**

Through hands-on projects, students explore the science of electricity, behavior and parts of atoms, and sensing devices. Students acquire knowledge and skills in basic circuitry design and examine the impact of electricity on our lives. This class also focuses on science and its effects throughout history. Students apply the concepts in physics, chemistry and nanotechnology to STEM activities and projects.

**VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE**

**CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**EXPLORATION**

**CE 01 Career Exploration**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

This class offers hands-on learning experiences that will give students the opportunity to explore various career pathways and begin developing 21st Century workforce skills. This class will facilitate the exploration process of Career Cluster occupational areas which include, but are not limited to: agriculture, architecture and construction, audio/video technology and communications, business management, education professions, finance, health sciences, information technology, marketing, and science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Students will develop an Education Action Plan, relate school experiences to occupational choices, and explore the relationship between work and broader life roles. The capstone of this course is a visit to the Junior Achievement Finance Park, where students experience real world situations through a simulated environment.

**FS 01 Introduction to Family and Consumer Sciences**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

Students will explore various areas of FACS through hands-on activities, group projects and class discussion. Areas such as life skills, goals and decision making, culinary arts and nutrition, hospitality, child care, apparel/textiles, and careers will be covered.

**IT 01 Introduction to Industrial Technology**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Basic skills in reading, writing and math**

This class is designed to help students explore the impact of technology in the areas of manufacturing, communication, construction and energy. Students will use state-of-the-art technology, industrial computer programs and academic skills combined with group and individual problem-solving techniques to complete assigned activities and product manufacturing. Personal safety and work ethic are strongly emphasized.

**CB 03 Computer TICS (Technology Integration Intro Core Curriculum Standards)**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

**Prerequisite: CB 02**

This is a hands-on course which reinforces the state academic standards. Students will use technology in conjunction with subject area content. Activities will include internet research, reports, PowerPoint presentations, and importing charts and graphs.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**

**CB 01 Business and Personal Financial Success**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

Students will explore the role of business in our economic society. They will also learn how to manage their money (budgeting, checking, saving, and investing), research career opportunities, and learn job skills (applying, interviewing and work ethics) necessary to achieve future personal and financial success.

**HEALTH SCIENCE**

**HE 01 Intro to Medical Science**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

In this course students are introduced to the scientific principles and methodologies utilized in three major areas of Medical Science: Bio-Medical Science, Biotechnology, and Sports Medicine. Students will practice key scientific concepts such as observations, scientific process, graphing, and experimentation through major topics of study which include: human anatomy, cellular biology, and genetics.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

## HEALTH SCIENCE

**HE 02 Medical Detectives****Difficulty: Average****Prerequisite: IT20****1 Sem.**

Medical Detectives explores the biomedical sciences through hands-on projects and labs that require students to solve a variety of medical mysteries. Students investigate medical careers, vital signs, diagnosis and treatment of diseases, as well as human body systems such as the nervous system. Genetic testing for hereditary diseases and DNA crime scene analysis put the students in the place of real life medical detectives.

## VIDEO PRODUCTION

**CB 05 Animation Studio****Difficulty: Average****Prerequisite: CB 02****1 Sem.**

Animation Studio explores the history, concepts and techniques of computer animation. From storyboarding to final production, students will create 2D and 3D animations and videos using graphics, animation, web editing, and digital video software.

**GV 01 Introduction to Video Production****Difficulty: Average****1 Sem.**

This course will introduce the basics of video production utilizing a personal camcorder and video editing equipment. Students study video technologies, basic equipment operation, video composition, basic lighting and audio production planning, and visual storytelling. Students work in groups to create video projects utilizing post-production editing. This course will also provide an understanding of the video production industry, which includes advertising and pre- and post-production as well as movie production and TV broadcasting.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

**ELA 07 English Language Arts 7****ELA 08 English Language Arts 8****Difficulty: Average**

A course in which the curriculum addresses reading literature and informational text, writing, speaking and listening skills, and language concepts (conventions and vocabulary). Students will interact with complex texts, build knowledge through content rich texts, and engage in evidence based reading and writing. ELA 07S and ELA 08S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**ELA 15 Honors English Language Arts 7****ELA 16 Honors English Language Arts 8****Difficulty: High**

**Prerequisites: Test scores and concurrent with Honors 7th Grade Social Studies (SS 10) and Honors 8th Grade Social Studies (SS 20)**

This course is designed for Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. The rigorous curriculum emphasizes analysis of literature and informational text, student driven research resulting in personal conclusions through the application of critical thinking and problem solving. Students enrolled will be expected to collaborate with other students on a long term project that usually culminates in a public sharing venue.

**ELA 28 English Skill Builder****Difficulty: Low - Average****1 - 2 Sem.**

An English class taken by students needing additional support. This elective class will help students strengthen basic skills, as well as review content of ELA 07 and ELA 08 course objectives. Study skills are emphasized. EN 28S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

**ELA 25 Writing****Difficulty: Average****1 - 2 Sem.**

An elective course designed for students who have a strong interest in writing. Instruction focuses on the various techniques used in writing both fiction and non-fiction.

**ELD 11 Introduction to English Grammar I****Difficulty: Average****2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Home language other than English and AZELLA Overall Proficiency Level at Pre-emergent/Emergent/Basic**

This course introduces students to foundational English language grammar and structure. Students will study basic syntactic elements of English (nouns, verbs, modifiers, etc.) along with phonetic and semantic aspects of the language. Word construction is also taught, as well as how to produce the four kinds of sentences in English (declarative, imperative, interrogative, and exclamatory). Students are expected to study and be able to identify all eight parts of speech.

**ELD 12 Introduction to English Reading I****Difficulty: Average****2 Sem.**

**Prerequisite: Home language other than English and AZELLA Overall Proficiency Level at Pre-emergent/Emergent/Basic**

This is a beginning English reading course for students whose first language is not English. Students will develop reading skills in four areas: word analysis, fluency and vocabulary, comprehension, and basic literary analysis and response. Students use sequential reading instructional materials at their level to establish a base for further content area and narrative reading tasks. Students develop a sight word vocabulary as well as receive explicit phonics and decoding skills instruction.

**ELD 13 Introduction to Conversational English and Academic Vocabulary I****Difficulty: Average****2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Home language other than English and AZELLA Overall Proficiency Level at Pre-emergent/Emergent/Basic**

This course is designed to provide students new to English with basic oral and aural competence in a wide variety of English language settings. Students will develop receptive and expressive English skills, while they also learn basic elements of the sound system and alphabet. Most coursework focuses on helping students to develop English skills that are immediately useful in school, classroom and community settings. An emphasis is placed on introducing a wide range of relevant content vocabulary words. Students also learn about academic culture related to school success, as well as student life skills for understanding school, community, regional and national cultures.

**ELD 14 Introduction to English Writing I****Difficulty: Average****2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Home language other than English and AZELLA Overall Proficiency Level at Pre-emergent/Emergent/Basic**

This course is designed to provide students with a foundation to English writing. Students in this course receive direct instruction in grammar, sentence expansion and writing forms (paragraphs, essay descriptive, narrative, and first person). Students will learn specific skills for pre-writing, draft composition, and editing using a process writing format. Students also are responsible for learning the spelling of a list of commonly used English words.

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (ELD)

**ELD 21 Intermediate English Grammar II**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Home language other than English and AZELLA Overall Proficiency Level at Intermediate**

This course extends students' proficiency of English language grammar and structure. Students will study advanced syntactic elements of English (nouns, verbs, modifiers, etc.) along with phonetic and semantic aspects of the language. Word study skills are developed, as well as production of more complex sentences containing conjunctions, transitions and prepositional phrases. Students are expected to be able to identify and apply all eight parts of speech.

**ELD 22 Intermediate English Reading II**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Home language other than English and AZELLA at Intermediate**

This is an intermediate English reading course for students whose first language is not English. Students will extend proficiency of reading skills in four areas: word analysis, fluency and vocabulary, comprehension, and literary analysis and response. Students will continue to use sequential reading instructional materials at their level for further development of content area and narrative reading tasks. Students receive instruction to expand development of sight word vocabulary, and improve reading fluency and decoding skills.

**ELD 23 Intermediate Conversational English and Academic Vocabulary II**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Home language other than English and AZELLA Overall Proficiency Level at Intermediate**

This course is designed to provide students new to English with advanced oral and aural competence in a wide variety of English language settings. Students will demonstrate correct use of receptive and expressive English skills. Most coursework focuses on continued development of English skills for social and academic conversations. An emphasis is placed on expanding the range of relevant content vocabulary words. Students continue to refine conversational skills related to academic success, as well as student life skills for understanding school, community, regional and national cultures.

**ELD 24 Intermediate English Writing II**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Home language other than English and AZELLA Overall Proficiency Level at Intermediate**

This course is designed to provide students advanced instruction in aspects of English writing. Students in this course receive instruction in grammar, sentence expansion and writing forms (paragraphs, essay descriptive, narrative, and first person). Students continue to refine skills in pre-writing, draft composition, and editing using a process writing format. Students are expected to demonstrate correct spelling of commonly used English words.

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

GIFTED AND TALENTED

*Note: Gifted students are concurrently enrolled as follows: Honors English co-registered with Honors Social Studies*

**ELA 15 Honors English 7**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: Test scores**

This course is designed for Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. The rigorous curriculum emphasizes analysis of literature and informational text, student driven research resulting in personal conclusions through the application of critical thinking and problem solving. Students enrolled will be expected to collaborate with other students on a long term project that usually culminates in a public sharing venue.

**SS 10 Honors 7th Grade Social Studies**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisite: Test scores**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. SS 10 follows the 7th grade performance objectives, emphasis is placed on critical thinking, research, and geography skills using cross-curricular integration.

*Note: Gifted students are concurrently enrolled as follows: Pre-Algebra or Algebra I co-registered with Honors Science*

**MA 10 Accelerated Pre-Algebra**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisite: Test scores**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. The curriculum addresses number sense and operations with an emphasis on integers and rational numbers, data analysis, probability, discrete mathematics, patterns, algebraic thinking and functions, geometry, measurement, problem solving, structure and logic.

**\*MA 27 Algebra I**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem. — 1 Math Credit**

**Prerequisite: MA10, test scores**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. The curriculum includes the skills, strategies and vocabulary involved in algebraic problem solving, discrete math, functions and relationships, algebraic representations, data analysis and analysis of change.

**SC 19 Honors 7th Grade Science**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisite: Test scores**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. SC 19 is an advanced science course designed for students who want the challenge of developing and refining scientific skills and methods that prerequisites for success in Advanced 8th Grade Science. These skills include experimental design, working appropriately with the tools of science and data analysis through mathematical processes and graphing. Topics studied include scientific processes, the nature and history of science, ecology, earth structure and earth processes. Students will be expected to complete a science investigation for a school/District Science Fair.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## GIFTED AND TALENTED

Note: Gifted students are concurrently enrolled as follows: Honors English co-registered with Honors Social Studies

**ELA 16 Honors English 8****Difficulty: High****2 Sem.****Prerequisites: Test scores**

This course is designed for Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. The rigorous curriculum emphasizes analysis of literature and informational text, student driven research resulting in personal conclusions through the application of critical thinking and problem solving. Students enrolled will be expected to collaborate with other students on a long term project that usually culminates in a public sharing venue.

**SS 20 Honors 8th Grade Social Studies****Difficulty: High****2 Sem.****Prerequisites: Test scores**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. Following the 8th grade performance objectives, emphasis is placed on critical thinking, civic engagement, economic concepts, and research skills using cross-curricular integration.

Note: Gifted students are concurrently enrolled as follows: Algebra I or Honors Geometry co-registered with Honors Science

**\*MA 27 Algebra I****Difficulty: Average****2 Sem. — 1 Math Credit****Prerequisite: MA10, test scores**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. The curriculum includes the skills, strategies and vocabulary involved in algebraic problem solving, discrete math, functions and relationships, algebraic representations, data analysis and analysis of change.

**\*MA 32 Honors Geometry****Difficulty: High****2 Sem. — 1 Math Credit****Prerequisites: MA27, test scores, and teacher recommendation**

Mathematical practices and modeling with mathematics are embedded into standards for honors geometry to include the study of congruence, similarity, right triangles, and trigonometry, circles, expressing geometric properties with equations, and geometric measurement and dimension. Instructional time and learning focuses on six critical areas: (1) congruence, proof, and constructions; (2) similarity, proof and trigonometry; (3) extending to three dimensions; (4) connecting algebra and geometry through coordinates; (5) circles with and without coordinates; and (6) applications of probability. In addition, the curriculum includes rigorous proofs, algebraic representations of geometric concepts, transformational geometry and coordinate geometry.

**SC 20 Honors 8th Grade Science****Difficulty: High****2 Sem.****Prerequisite: Test scores**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. SC 20 is an advanced science course designed for students who want the challenge of developing and refining scientific skills and methods that are prerequisites for success in taking Biology as a ninth grader. These skills include experimental design, working appropriately with the tools of science, and data analysis through mathematical processes and graphing. Topics studied include animal and plant diversity, heredity, force and motion, and the atomic molecular theory of matter. Students will be expected to complete a science investigation for a school/District Science Fair.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## MATHEMATICS

NOTE: Courses that will meet the core competency requirements for Arizona universities are marked with an asterisk\*.

**MA 07 Math 7****Difficulty: Average****2 Sem.**

Mathematical practices and modeling with mathematics are embedded into standards for Math 7. Instructional time and learning focuses on four critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) 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 (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples. MA 07S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**MA 08 Pre-Algebra****Difficulty: Average****2 Sem.**

Mathematical practices and modeling with mathematics are embedded into standards for pre-algebra. Instructional time and learning focuses on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. MA 08S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**MA 10 Accelerated Pre-Algebra****Difficulty: High****2 Sem.****Prerequisite: Test scores**

Mathematical practices and modeling with mathematics are embedded into standards for accelerated pre-algebra. Instructional time and learning focuses on seven critical areas: (1) developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; (2) developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) 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 (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples, (5) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, including modeling an association in bivariate data with a linear equation, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (6) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; and (7) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity and congruence and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem.

**MA 20 Math Skill Builder****Difficulty: Low/Average****1 - 2 Sem.****Prerequisite: Demonstrate need for remediation mathematics strands and /or prerequisite skills.**

A math support class in addition to the assigned mathematics class. This course will strengthen prerequisite skills, support and maintain on grade level concepts, as well as address study skills. MA 20S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.



## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## MATHEMATICS

**\*MA 27 Algebra I****Difficulty: Average** 2 Sem. — 1 Math Credit**Prerequisite: MA 10 Accelerated Pre-Algebra**

Mathematical practices and modeling with mathematics are embedded into standards for algebra to include the study of number and quantity, functions, reasoning with equations and inequalities, and interpreting categorical and quantitative data. Instructional time and learning focuses on five critical areas: (1) relationships between quantities and reasoning with equations; (2) linear and exponential relationships; (3) descriptive statistics; (4) expressions and equations; and (5) quadratic functions and modeling.

**\*MA 32 Honors Geometry****Difficulty: High** 2 Sem. — 1 Math Credit**Prerequisite: MA 27 and teacher recommendation**

Mathematical practices and modeling with mathematics are embedded into standards for honors geometry to include the study of congruence, similarity, right triangles, and trigonometry, circles, expressing geometric properties with equations, and geometric measurement and dimension. Instructional time and learning focuses on six critical areas: (1) congruence, proof, and constructions; (2) similarity, proof and trigonometry; (3) extending to three dimensions; (4) connecting algebra and geometry through coordinates; (5) circles with and without coordinates; and (6) applications of probability. In addition, the curriculum includes rigorous proofs, algebraic representations of geometric concepts, transformational geometry and coordinate geometry.

## MUSIC / PERFORMING ARTS

*NOTE: There may be requirements for performances other than during school hours.*

**MU 01 Beginning Girls' Chorus****Difficulty: Beginning** 1 - 2 Sem.

A performance-oriented course with emphasis on the basic fundamentals of music, vocal music reading, correct vocal production, and performance. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn.

**MU 02 Introduction to Performing Arts****Difficulty: Beginning** 1 - 2 Sem.

MU 02 is an exploratory class for students interested in a nine-week segment of chorus and a nine-week segment of drama. May include performances other than during school hours.

**MU 03 Prep Chorus (Mixed)****Difficulty: Beginning** 1 - 2 Sem.

A performance-oriented course with emphasis on vocal music reading, correct vocal production, and performance. Basic fundamentals of music are stressed. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn.

**MU 04 Intermediate Girls' Chorus****Difficulty: Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation**

A performance-oriented course with emphasis on vocal music reading, correct vocal production, and performance. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Basic fundamentals of music are stressed. Placement is by teacher recommendation.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## MUSIC / PERFORMING ARTS

**MU 05 Beginning Boys' Chorus****Difficulty: Beginning** 1 - 2 Semesters

A performance-oriented course with emphasis on the basic fundamentals of music, vocal music reading, correct vocal production, and performance. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn.

**MU 06 Intermediate Boys' Chorus****Difficulty: Average** 1 - 2 Sem.

A performance-oriented course with emphasis on vocal music reading, correct vocal production, and performance. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn.

**MU 07 Intermediate Mixed Chorus****Difficulty: Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation**

A performance-oriented course with continued emphasis on vocal music reading, correct vocal production, and performance. Basic fundamentals of music are stressed. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation.

**MU 08 Beginning Guitar****Difficulty: Beginning** 1 Sem.**Prerequisites: Must have access to classical or acoustic guitar**

MU 08 introduces the guitar and playing techniques for the instrument. The course, designed for beginners, includes note reading, rhythms and basic guitar skills. Public performance is a possibility.

**MU 09 Engaging Students in Music for the 21st Century**

1 Sem.

Project-based class designed to lead students on an exploratory journey of various ways of engaging with music beyond the scope of traditional music classes. In a collaborative setting, students will use analytical thinking skills to deconstruct music of various genres into its components and gain the knowledge needed to both remix these parts and create and record their own music. This will increase the students' skills of creative thinking and problem solving through an aesthetic environment. These skills are essential for students to succeed in the 21st century.

**MU 10 Advanced Girls' Chorus****Difficulty: Average-High** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

A performance-oriented course for the average/advanced junior high female voice. Prior musical experience is required. Continued emphasis is on music reading, vocal production and performance. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 11 Advanced Boys' Chorus****Difficulty: Average-High** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

A performance-oriented course for the average/advanced junior high male voice. Prior musical experience is required. Continued emphasis is on music reading, vocal production and performance. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## MUSIC / PERFORMING ARTS

**MU 12 Advanced Mixed Chorus****Difficulty: High** 2 Sem.**Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation/audition**

A performance-oriented course for the advanced junior high voice. Emphasis is on perfecting individual vocal skills through ensemble singing, sight singing, and choral performances. A wide range of musical forms and styles are studied throughout the year. Prior musical experience is required. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 14 Beginning Piano****Difficulty: Beginning** 1 - 2 Sem.

Beginning Piano introduces basic keyboard fundamentals through exercises which include reading and playing in various keys. Basic techniques of music theory are used in both written and playing exercises. Placement is by teacher recommendation.

**MU 15 Intermediate Piano****Difficulty: Average** 1 - 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Prior piano experience**

Intermediate Piano is a continuation of the study of basic keyboard fundamentals, including multiple-key reading and hand/finger coordination. Basic techniques of music theory are used in both written and playing exercises. Placement is by teacher recommendation.

**MU 16 Intermediate Guitar****Difficulty: Average** 1 Sem.**Prerequisites: MU 08 or audition. Must have access to classical or acoustic guitar.**

MU 16 is a continuation of MU 08. An entrance audition is required if MU 08 was not taken. Students will study more advanced chords, rhythms, note reading and harmony techniques. Public performance is a possibility. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 17 Beginning Instrumental Music****Difficulty: Beginning** 1 - 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Placement by teacher recommendation**

Beginning Instrumental Music is a class for students with limited or no prior instrumental performance experience on one of the following instruments: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet/cornet, horn, trombone, euphonium, tuba, percussion, violin, viola, cello, string bass. Percussionists will be expected to learn both pitched and non-pitched instruments. Basic fundamentals of music are stressed. Placement is by teacher recommendation.

**MU 18 Preparatory Band****Difficulty: Beginning-Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

Preparatory Band provides an opportunity for students with limited band experience to receive additional help developing one or more fundamental concepts or skills. Emphasis in this course is on improving performance skills. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 19 Intermediate Band****Difficulty: Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

A performance-oriented class for the junior high student with at least one year experience playing a band instrument. Fundamental playing skills specific to instrument families (brass, woodwind, percussion) and music theory will be studied. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## MUSIC / PERFORMING ARTS

**MU 20 Cadet Band****Difficulty: Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

A performance-oriented class for the junior high student with at least one year experience playing a band instrument. Fundamental playing skills will be reinforced and music theory will be studied. More advanced musical concepts and performance techniques will be introduced. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 21 Advanced Band****Difficulty: Average-High** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

A performance-oriented class for the advanced band student with several years of performing experience. Advanced musical concepts and performance techniques will be reinforced through performance. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 22 Jazz Band****Difficulty: Average-High** 1 - 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

A performance-oriented class for the advanced band student. Basic jazz performance techniques will be studied. Concurrent placement in a full band class is highly recommended. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition. This class may be offered during "A Hour."

**MU 23 Preparatory Orchestra****Difficulty: Beginning-Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

MU 23 is an orchestra class for developing basic string techniques. Reading and performance skills are stressed in preparation for more advanced orchestras. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 24 Intermediate Orchestra****Difficulty: Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

MU 24 is an orchestra class in which students further develop their string techniques. Reading and performance skills are stressed in preparation for more advanced orchestras. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 25 Concert Orchestra****Difficulty: Average** 2 Sem.**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

MU 25 is an orchestra class which reinforces correct string techniques. Students will be introduced to shifting and vibrato skills. The study of music theory is included. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

MUSIC / PERFORMING ARTS

**MU 26 Advanced Orchestra**

**Difficulty: Average-High** **2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation/audition**

MU 26 is a performance-oriented class for the advancing string player. Students will study a wide range of musical forms and styles with emphasis placed on improving individual musicianship. The study of music theory is included. This ensemble will prepare and perform concerts each semester, some of which may be other than during school hours. Special concert attire may be worn. Placement is by teacher recommendation/audition.

**MU 36 Musical Theater**

**Difficulty: Average** **1-2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: Drama, Dance, or Chorus Class**

This auditioned group is designed for students with previous performing arts experience. The course introduces the history of musical theater first semester and the opportunity to perform a musical second semester. Students will receive instruction in dance, drama, and singing (vocal techniques) throughout the course.

**MU 37 Music Arranging and Composition**

**Prerequisite: MU 40** **1 Sem.**

A project-based course beginning with the principles of orchestration (scoring preexisting music for instruments) and continuing on to develop the ability to write satisfying melodies, rhythmic motives and harmonic progressions. Projects will progress from short, original compositions for small ensembles to more extended works for larger forces. Compositions will be performed through computer and, as opportunities permit, by live ensembles.

**MU 40 Music Notation and Theory**

**Difficulty: Average-High** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: Ability to read music in treble, alto or bass clef and to perform at an intermediate level.**

Music Notation and Theory is designed to open the inner world of music to the student through the study of music notation and theory as it has evolved in western cultures over the last millennium. Students will both analyze music and apply their learning through rudimentary composition. The ability to read music in treble, alto, or bass clef and to perform at an intermediate level on an instrument is prerequisite.

**MU 42 Introduction to Music History and Literature**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: MU 37 and MU 40, or advanced level performing experience**

Introduction to Music History and Literature is designed to open the inner world of music to the student through the study of music history and literature. Students will gain an understanding of the chronological development of music in the western world by studying representative literature of noted composers. This repertoire will provide examples of the development of melodic, rhythmic and harmonic complexity and expressiveness through the last millennium. Aural recognition of the characteristics of each genre will be stressed.

**PA 23 Video Journalism**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**

This unique class is designed for students who would like to participate in the video production of daily announcements, special feature productions, and informational reporting. Students will learn technical aspects, gain performance skills, and study the process of communicating through the television medium. May require audition.

**PA 26 Drama**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**

Drama curriculum includes creating a safe environment stage basics, movement, pantomime, vocal development, characterization, improvisation, and producing a play.

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

MUSIC / PERFORMING ARTS

**PA 28 Performing Arts/Speech**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - Sem.**

Covers the basics of oral communication, i.e., public speaking, debate and oral interpretation. Also included is instruction in stage management and performance.

**PA 29 Advanced Drama**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**

**Prerequisite: PA 26**

This course is designed for students with high interest and previous arts and/or public speaking exposure. This course will cover more advanced applications of drama and speech that are taught in the beginning class as well as introduce new skills such as debate and play production. Students must have instructor approval before taking this class.

**PA 30 Stagecraft**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**

Designed to introduce and acquaint students with technical aspects of the theatre including lighting, sound, scenic design and construction. Course members may be considered for the school's stage crew. Some afternoon or evening work could be involved. Parent permission required.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**PE 07 Physical Education**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

Includes physical fitness training, aquatics instruction, individual and team sports, and games. Promotes skill development, sportsmanship, good health and body mechanics, and the value of physical exercise. Grades are based on daily participation, skill levels, knowledge, attitude, and the ability to meet individual class responsibilities, including dressing out. Physical Fitness tests administered at beginning and end of semester.

**PE 08 Physical Education**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

Includes physical fitness training, aquatics instruction, individual and team sports and games. Promotes skill development, sportsmanship, good health and body mechanics, and the value of physical exercise. Grades are based on daily participation, skill levels, knowledge, attitude, and the ability to meet individual class responsibilities, including dressing out. Physical Fitness tests administered at beginning and end of semester.

**PE 14 Adaptive P.E.**

**Difficulty: Low** **2 Sem.**

**Prerequisite: See Individual Education Plan**

Designed for the students who are physically unable to participate in the regular physical education program, or who do not meet the basic minimal skill. Students with health limitations are also included in this class. Special permission is required to be selected for the class.

**PE 21 Beginning Aerobics**

**Difficulty: Beginning-Average** **1 Sem.**

A blend of beginning aerobic workouts such as yoga, Pilates, kickboxing, and step aerobics. Students will work to improve flexibility, strength, and cardiovascular endurance while learning correct technique. Time will be devoted to building muscle strength and endurance through the use of weights, exercise bands or their own body weight. Music will be utilized to assist in learning the latest classes in a fitness club model.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**PE 22 Beginning Dance**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
Introduces a wide variety of dance styles. Each semester provides units in ballet, jazz, aerobic, popular and modern dance. Also included in this program is an emphasis on technique, body mechanics and composition. Participation in a fall or spring dance concert is highly encouraged.

**PE 23 Intermediate Dance**

**Difficulty: Average** **8th Grade = 1-2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: PE 22**  
Expands on the dance styles introduced in PE22. Each semester provides units in ballet, jazz, aerobic, popular and modern dance. Also included in this program is an emphasis on technique, body mechanics and composition. Participation in a fall or spring dance concert is highly encouraged.

**PE 24 Advanced Dance**

**Difficulty: Average** **8th grade = 1-2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: PE 22 and teacher recommendation/audition**  
Provides an opportunity for students to accomplish difficult jazz and modern techniques and to become more sophisticated in their choreography. Also included is stagecraft, performances and competition off-campus, and dance workshops held in the valley.

**PE 25 Weight Training and Body Conditioning**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
Designed for students who wish to improve their physical strength, appearance and well-being. Emphasis is on the use of weights, but the course will also include instruction in aerobic conditioning.

**PE 27 Advanced Weight Training**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: PE 25 and/or approval of coach**  
This course is designed for those students who wish to train with free weights, and have had previous weight training experience. A passing grade in P.E. and/or the signature of a coach is required.

**PE 30 Physical Education - General Elective**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**  
This course is designed to provide students instruction in specific areas of interest as an elective course at each junior high school. Elective offerings are based on interest of the students and training of the instructors.

**PE 31 Advanced Aerobics and Weight Training**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: PE 25**  
This course is designed for students in good physical condition who are willing to participate in advanced aerobic conditioning and advanced techniques in weight training. Nutrition, proper diet, and relaxation are also emphasized. Course may emphasize step aerobics.

**PE 33 Total Fitness**

**Difficulty: Low-High** **8th Grade = 1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: PE 07**  
This 8th grade physical education class provides a diverse variety of fitness activities and conditioning techniques focusing on individual improvement.

**PE 34 Team Sports**

**Difficulty: Average.-High** **8th Grade = 1 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: PE 07**  
This 8th grade physical education course places emphasis on learning, practicing, and competing in such sports as volleyball, ultimate frisbee, basketball, football, over-the-line, speed-a-way, and softball.

**PE 74 Hip Hop Dance**

**Difficulty: Average** **8th Grade = 1 Sem.**  
An introduction to basic hip hop style dancing. Each semester provides instruction in basic muscle and bone anatomy. Students will also have the opportunity to develop choreography skills as well.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## READING

*NOTE: Students are assigned to appropriate level reading courses based on assessment. Seventh and eighth graders are required to take reading depending on skill level as measured by district assessments.*

**RD 07 Seventh Grade Reading****RD 08 Eighth Grade Reading**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
This series of courses is designed to provide students with the opportunity to expand fluency through extensive reading. Instruction is provided for vocabulary, comprehension, reading fluency, and critical reading. This course can be repeated.

**RD 10 Honors Reading**

**Difficulty: High** **1 - 2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: Placement by Assessment**

This course is designed to provide a highly stimulating program for the very able readers to develop as more mature readers as well as critical thinkers. Increased emphasis is placed on content reading, fluency, and technical reading skills. This course can be repeated.

**RD 51 Reading I****RD 52 Reading II****RD 53 Reading III****RD 54 Reading IV****RD 55 Reading V****RD 56 Reading VI**

**Difficulty: Low** **2 Sem.**  
These courses are designed to meet the literacy needs of the students who require additional support in reading. The classes will focus on improving the student's literacy skills addressing the essential components of Reading: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Vocabulary, Comprehension, and Fluency. Assessment is required prior to placement in these classes. Students will be placed at the appropriate course level based on need. RD 51S, RD 52S, RD 53S, RD 54S, RD 55S, RD 56S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

## SCIENCE

**SC 07 Integrated Science I**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**  
SC 07 is the introductory science class for the junior high. Topic studies include scientific processes, the nature and history of science, ecology, earth's structure and earth's processes. SC 07 emphasizes the development of laboratory skills, science process skills, and mathematical and graphing skills necessary for data analysis. SC 07S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**SC 08 Integrated Science II**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**  
SC 08 builds on laboratory and science process skills studied in SC 07. These skills include experimental design, working appropriately with the basic tools of science, data analysis through mathematical processes and graphing. Topics studied include animal and plant diversity, heredity, properties of matter, and force and motion. SC 08S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

SCIENCE

**SC 19 Honors 7th Grade Science**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra I (MA 10 taken concurrently)**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. SC 19 is an advanced science course designed for students who want the challenge of developing and refining scientific skills and methods that are prerequisites for success in Advanced 8th Grade Science. These skills include experimental design, working appropriately with the tools of science and data analysis through mathematical processes and graphing. Topics studied include scientific processes, the nature and history of science, ecology, earth structure and earth processes. Students will be expected to complete a science investigation for a school/District Science Fair.

**SC 20 Honors 8th Grade Science**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: Algebra I (concurrent)**

SC 20 is an advanced science course designed for students who want the challenge of developing and refining scientific skills and methods that are prerequisites for success in taking Biology as a ninth grader. These skills include experimental design, working appropriately with the tools of science, and data analysis through mathematical processes and graphing. Topics studied include animal and plant diversity, heredity, force and motion, and the atomic molecular theory of matter. Students will be expected to complete a science investigation for a school/District Science Fair.

SOCIAL STUDIES

**SS 05 Current Events**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

Focuses on current topics and acquaints the students with local, national, and international events. Students will be exposed to a variety of media sources and emphasis will be placed on reading and writing skills through the study of current events. The content of this course is dependent upon current events; therefore, a variety of topics will be covered.

**SS 07 Social Studies**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**

This course traces the events and their effects on the United States and the world from the beginning of the U.S. Civil War to World War II. An emphasis on geographic themes and concepts will be incorporated as well as economics and the study of the role of government and citizenship. SS 07S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**SS 08 Social Studies**

**Difficulty: Average** **2 Sem.**

This course begins with examining the events leading to the creation of the United States and the background for the writing of the U.S. Constitution. The students will learn about the structure of American government, including a historical foundation and survey of the economic system in the U.S. It continues with the events of the Great Depression in the United States, as well as world events during the same time period, through present day global issues. SS 08S: Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

SOCIAL STUDIES

**SS 10 7th Grade Honors Social Studies**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisite: Test scores and concurrent with Honors English 7 (ELA 15)**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. Following the 7th grade performance objectives, emphasis is placed on critical thinking, research, and geography skills using cross-curricular integration.

**SS 20 8th Grade Honors Social Studies**

**Difficulty: High** **2 Sem.**  
**Prerequisites: Test scores and concurrent with Honors English 8 (ELA 16)**

This course is designed for the Gifted and Talented students with high ability and motivation. Following the 8th grade performance objectives, emphasis is placed on critical thinking, civic engagement, economic concepts, and research skills using cross-curricular integration.

WORLD LANGUAGES

**WL 01 Introductory Spanish**

**WL 02 Introductory French**

**WL 03 Introductory German**

**WL 05 Introduction to Chinese A**

**WL 06 Introduction to Chinese B**

**Difficulty: Average** **9 weeks - 1 Sem.**

For students who want to learn a basic vocabulary of either Spanish or French or German or Chinese. Understanding and speaking the language is stressed with some attention paid to reading, writing and grammar. Culture and customs are discussed.

**WL 04 Introductory Spanish/Introductory French**

**Difficulty: Average** **1 Sem.**

A one semester exploratory course of one-half introductory Spanish (9 weeks) and one-half introductory French (9 weeks).

**WL 10A Mandarin Chinese Level A**

**WL 20A Spanish Level A**

**WL 40A French Level A**

**Difficulty: Average-High** **1 - 2 Sem.**

Introduces students to the basic vocabulary and grammar of the language and components of the culture of the countries in which the language is spoken. Prepares student to begin to read, write, speak and understand the language. This course, when followed by Language Level B, is designed to meet level I course objectives. See General Information, page 1 for additional details.

**WL 10B Mandarin Chinese Level B**

**WL 20B Spanish Level B**

**WL 40B French Level B**

**Difficulty: Average-High** **1 - 2 Sem.**

**Prerequisites: WL 10A, WL20A, WL 40A**  
 Enhances basic vocabulary and grammar, as well as, components of the culture of the countries in which the language is spoken. Students refine their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills to prepare for the language proficiency assessment at the end of 8th grade. This course, when preceded by Language Level A, is designed to meet level I objectives. See General Information, page 1 for additional details.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## WORLD LANGUAGES

**WL 10C IB Mandarin Chinese****WL 20C IB Spanish****WL 40C IB French****Difficulty: Average-High** **1 Sem.****Prerequisites:** WL 10A and WL 10B, WL 20A and WL 20B, or WL 40A and WL 40B

Introduces students to more advanced vocabulary and grammar of the language and components of the culture of the countries in which the language is spoken. Students review skills previously acquired in reading, writing, speaking, and listening to become more proficient in the target language. This course when followed by Language Level D, is designed to meet level II course objectives. See General Information, page 1 for additional details.

**WL 10D IB Mandarin Chinese****WL 20D IB Spanish****WL 40D IB French****Difficulty: Average-High** **1 Sem.****Prerequisites:** WL 10C, WL 20C, or WL 40C

This course emphasizes the application of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Students refine the skills necessary to express themselves and understand others in the target language with increased vocabulary and more complex grammatical structures. This course, when preceded by Language Level C, is designed to meet level II objectives and prepare students for the language proficiency assessment at the end of 8th grade. See General Information, page 1 for additional details.

## VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE

## MISCELLANEOUS JUNIOR HIGH COURSES

## SPECIAL COURSE NUMBERS

**AI 30 Academic Intervention****Difficulty: Average**

This course provides students extra time and intervention services to accelerate achievement in reading, writing or mathematics. In a Response to Intervention (Rti) model this is a tier 2 intervention providing at least 30 minutes of additional focused instruction.

**AV 07 AVID-7th grade****AV 08 AVID-8th grade****Difficulty: Average**

AVID is a junior through senior high school college readiness system designed to prepare self-determined students who have demonstrated average achievement for college readiness. The program enrolls students in rigorous courses and provides them with intensive support to ensure their success. The major component is a daily AVID elective class that students must attend. During this class, students receive training in effective note taking, organizational, and goal-setting strategies. Extensive writing and reading instruction is also provided. AVID students are academically capable students who would typically be the first in their families to attend college. Placement is done through an application process.

**FS 02 Life Skills****Difficulty: Average****1-2 Sem.**

Are you ready for living on your own? This course is a hands-on course that will give students the necessary survival skills to live independently. Topics include: The Wallet (Money Management), Threads (Clothing), The Pad (Apartment Hunting), Wheels (Buying a Vehicle), Life (Career Exploration and Service Learning) and The Gut (Cooking and Nutrition).

**LT 27 Leadership Training****Difficulty: Average-High****1-2 Sem.**

This course will focus on leadership skills by assisting students in developing a positive self-image and self-confidence. While emphasizing technology, areas of focus will include workplace skills, group dynamics, goal setting, and oral and written communication. Although open to all students, this course can include members of student council and other student leaders.

**YB 01 Yearbook Production****Difficulty: Average-High****1-2 Sem.****Prerequisites:** AR 24 or Teacher Recommendation

Students will learn publication design and layout of photographs, graphic elements, copy and captions. Techniques of reporting, interviewing, writing copy, editing and collecting survey information are taught. The final project is the school yearbook, the visual record of the school year. Computer skills are helpful, and a "B" average in English is recommended.

**VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE**

**STUDENT ASSISTANT PROGRAM**

The Student Assistant Program was established because there is a need for student help in every department at the junior high schools. The program has been set up under the following conditions:

1. The student will receive a P/F grade.
2. The student must have a Student Assistant Program application (with necessary signatures) completed before he/she can be registered in the program.

**SA 01 Student Assistant, Office**

**SA 58 Student Assistant, Cafeteria**

**Difficulty: Average**

**Prerequisite: Principal approval**

Students will assist in assigned locations to learn and gain experience in office procedures, office etiquette, customer service, and to gain an operating knowledge of how to effectively organize tasks.

**ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC COURSES**

Curriculum in these courses is aligned with the Arizona Department of Education Arizona State Standards.

**AL 03J Alternate Academics: Listening/Speaking**

**1 - 2 Sem.**

This course provides instruction based on Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards for listening and speaking. Instruction will focus on communication skills needed for maximum participation and independence within the school, present and future community settings and interactions with peers and adults. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**CD 03J Career Life Management Skills**

**1 - 2 Sem.**

The purpose of Life Career Management Skills is to prepare students for life planning through hands on activities, classroom discussion, technological applications, cooperative learning, personal experiences, community-based instruction and community speakers. Areas to be addressed include: educational/vocational; money management; travel/transportation; health; housing; and socialization. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**DD 03J Personal Management: Daily Living**

**1 - 2 Sem.**

This course provides instruction in activities that increase a student's ability to function with maximum participation possible and independence in their daily life, within their present and future environments. Emphasis may include health and safety, self-care, adult living skills, meal planning/preparation and leisure skills. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**ELA 07C Connected English Language Arts 7**

Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content will be aligned to Core Content Connectors, and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**ELA 08C Connected English Language Arts 8**

Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content will be aligned to Core Content Connectors, and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**MA 07C Connected Math 7**

Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content will be aligned to Core Content Connectors, and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**MA 08C Connected Math 8**

Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content will be aligned to Core Content Connectors, and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**VERIFY OFFERINGS AT SCHOOL SITE**

**ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC COURSES**

**RD 51C Reading I**

**RD 52C Reading II**

**RD 53C Reading III**

**RD 54C Reading IV**

**Difficulty: Low**

**2 Sem. — 1 English Credit**

These courses are designed to meet the literacy needs of the students who require additional support in reading. The classes will focus on improving the student's literacy skills addressing the essential components of Reading: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Vocabulary, Comprehension, and Fluency. Assessment is required prior to placement in these classes. Course may be taken only upon teacher approval. Course content will be aligned to Core Content Connectors, and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**II 03S Individual Instruction**

**1 Sem.**

The Individual Instruction course provides an opportunity for students to learn specific strategies pertaining to a targeted area. This course places emphasis on methods of instruction utilizing an abundance of resources to assist students.

**PE 03C Physical Education**

**PE 13C Physical Education**

**1 Sem.**

For students unable to participate in regular PE program due to emotional condition. Includes rules for competitive and individual sports, sports etiquette, cooperation as a team member, ability to accept the decision of authority, and following directions. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**PP 57S Basic Science**

This course provides instruction based on the Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards in science. Emphasis will focus on science concepts and content through a hands-on science approach. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**RR 03J Arts/Recreational/Leisure**

**1 - 2 Sem.**

This course provides opportunities/activities for leisure time that are chronological-age appropriate and which will occur within a variety of natural integrated environments. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**SK 10S Study Skills**

**1 - 2 Sem.**

A course to teach skills in organization, reading, note taking, test taking, assignment completion, stress and time management, communication and self advocacy with an emphasis on application of strategies to content areas. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**ST 03S Skills for Teens**

**1 Sem.**

This course helps students become more self confident and to communicate better at home and school. This includes an individual approach to study skills, goal setting and decision-making strategies for successful and healthy living. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.

**VD 03J Workplace Skills**

**1 - 2 Sem.**

This course includes appropriate opportunities for training students to acquire and perform meaningful work skills in a variety of integrated work environments. Topics may include filling out job applications, interviewing, job search, behaviors, and skills necessary to keep a job. Course content and instruction will be differentiated to meet the specialized needs of the student.





# HIGH SCHOOL COURSE AND CREDIT INFORMATION

## Diploma Requirements

Students must earn 22 credits (16 required and 6 electives) and meet or exceed Arizona’s designated assessment requirements in order to graduate from a Mesa high school.

Transfer students must be enrolled in classes that place them on track for graduation and be enrolled through the semester of graduation. These students must have earned at least five (5) credits in an MPS high school to be eligible for an MPS diploma unless they transfer in the final semester of their high school experience. Students who transfer during the final semester of their senior year must earn three (3) credits to be eligible for a Mesa diploma. Students must check with the school student advisor or the registrar for specific details.

Students may participate only in commencement ceremonies held at the high school in which they were enrolled when graduation requirements were satisfied.

The chart presented below lists the credit requirements.

**AZ UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE**

English: 4, Math: 4, Science: 3, Social Studies: 2,  
World Languages: 2, Fine or Practical (CTE) Arts: 1,  
Grade point average: 3.0+

*For details, see page 26 or the website  
for the college of your choice.*

CURRICULUM	MESA SCHOOLS STANDARD DIPLOMA ① (See ADDITIONAL DIPLOMA DESIGNATIONS below)
<b>ENGLISH</b> <i>(see sequence for English courses)</i>	4
<b>MATHEMATICS</b> <i>(see sequence for Mathematics courses)</i>	4 <i>(Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and an additional math)</i>
<b>SCIENCE</b> <i>(see sequence for Science courses)</i>	3 <i>Lab Sciences (Biology and physical science + an additional science)</i>
<b>* SOCIAL STUDIES</b> <i>(see sequence for Social Studies courses)</i>	3 <i>(World History, American History, Government and Economics)</i>
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE</b>	0
<b>ARTS</b>	1 <i>(fine or practical (CTE) arts)</i>
<b>** PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>	1
<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>	6
<b>TOTAL REQUIRED COURSES</b>	22
<b>GRADE POINT AVERAGE</b>	No minimum GPA
<b>*** STATE REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS</b>	American Civics Test <i>(60/100 correct) (See page 10 for more information)</i>

\* Students must complete American/Arizona History before taking American/Arizona Government or Principles and Practices of Economics. BE 53 may substitute for Principles and Practices of Economics SS 57.

\*\* AS 35 and MS 35 can substitute for P.E. courses. Two semesters of MU 81 may substitute for ½ credit of the P.E. requirement. Hands only CPR will be taught in each Physical Education class to fulfill Arizona State Statute requirements.

\*\*\* Specific requirements are set by the Arizona State Board of Education.

### ① Additional Diploma Designations *(See pages 24-25 for detailed description of diplomas/designations.)*

- Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Diploma
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) AZ State Program Completer & Industry Certification
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma
- Advanced STEM Designation
- Arizona Seal of Biliteracy
- MPS Advanced Honor for Excellence in Academics
- MPS Service Learning Honor For Excellence

# SEQUENCE OF COURSES

## English Courses

Additional elective English courses not listed in the sequences below are available and are appropriate depending upon the academic goals of the student. Please consult a student advisor to determine the courses that meet individual and unique needs.

<b>STANDARD</b>	English Language Arts 7 ELA 07	English Language Arts 8 ELA 08	Freshman English EN 09	Sophomore English EN 47	Junior English EN 48	Senior English EN 49 or	
						Principles of English III EN 46 or College Prep Writing EN 45 or Critical Thinking & Writing EN 41	British Literature EN 60 or Multicultural Literature EN 56 or Shakespeare EN 40 or Mythology EN 52 or Humanities EN 80
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	

<b>ADVANCED</b>	Honors English Language Arts 7 ELA 15	Honors English Language Arts 8 ELA 16	Honors Freshman English EN 27	Honors Sophomore English EN 35 or Honors American History and Literature EN 58 (and SS 32)	AP English Language and Composition EN 70	AP English Literature and Composition EN 71
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>

## Mathematics Courses

Additional elective and advanced math courses not listed in the sequences below are available and are appropriate depending upon the academic goals and math skills of the student. Please consult a student advisor to determine the courses that meet individual and unique needs.

<b>STANDARD</b>	Math 7 MA 07	Pre-Algebra MA 08	Algebra I MA 27	Geometry MA 30	Algebra II MA 40	Honors Precalculus MA 45 or College Algebra/ Trigonometry (Precalculus) MA 42
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
<b>ADVANCED</b>	Accelerated Pre-Algebra MA 10	Algebra I MA 27	Honors Geometry MA 32	Honors Algebra II MA 41	Honors Precalculus MA 45	AP Calculus AB MA 50 or AP Calculus BC MA 51 or AP Statistics MA 52
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>

### NOTE:

- The state of Arizona requires students to satisfactorily complete Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II (or its equivalent) plus a fourth year of mathematics.

## Science Courses

Additional elective science courses not listed in the sequences below are available and are appropriate depending upon the academic goals of the student. Please consult a student advisor to determine the courses that meet individual and unique needs.

<b>STANDARD</b>	7th Grade Science SC 07	8th Grade Science SC 08	Essential Elements of Science SC 09	*Biology SC 49	Chemistry SC 71	Physics SC 81
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>
<b>ADVANCED</b>	Honors 7th Grade Science SC 19	Honors 8th Grade Science SC 20	*Biology SC 49 or *Honors Biology SC 45	Honors Chemistry SC 72	AP Physics I SC 79	AP Physics II SC 80 or **Other AP Lab Science
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>

\* The state of Arizona requires a science AIMS test to be administered to students at the end of a high school Biology or Applied Biology course, which must be completed in either the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Students enrolling in Biology in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade must have successfully completed Algebra I prior to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and are expected to continue on the "Advanced" Science sequence noted above.

\*\* AP Lab Science courses offered at various campuses: AP Biology (SC 46), AP Environmental Science (SC 52), AP Chemistry (SC 77), AP Physics I SC 79, AP Physics II SC 80 and AP Physics C (SC 90).

## Social Studies Courses

Additional elective social studies courses not listed in the sequences below are available and are appropriate depending upon the academic goals of the student. Please consult a student advisor to determine the courses that meet individual and unique needs.

### American Civics Assessment - graduation requirement

Mesa Public Schools will administer the American Civics Test in the 8th grade with subsequent opportunities for high school (grades 9-12) students to take the assessment as needed in order to meet this graduation requirement.

*Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the Competency Requirements for Social Studies shall include a requirement that, in order to graduate from high school or obtain a high school equivalency diploma, a pupil must correctly answer **at least sixty of the one hundred questions** listed on a test that is identical to the Civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. A district school or charter school shall document on the pupil's transcript that the pupil has passed a test that is identical to the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services as required by this section. Arizona Revised Statute §15-701.01*

STANDARD	7th Grade Social Studies SS 07	8th Grade Social Studies SS 08	World History/ Geography SS 22	Social Studies Elective	*American/ Arizona History SS 35	**American Government SS 51 and ***Principles & Practices of Economics SS 57
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>

ADVANCED	Honors 7th Grade Social Studies SS 10	Honors 8th Grade Social Studies SS 20	Honors World History/ Geography SS 28 or AP World History SS 50 or AP Social Studies Elective	*Honors American History & Literature SS 32 and EN 58 or AP World History SS 50 or AP Social Studies Elective	*AP United States History SS 39 and/or AP Social Studies Elective	**AP United States Government and Politics SS 52 or ***AP Microeconomics SS 86 and/or ***AP Macroeconomics SS 87
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>

\* Students must complete one (1) credit of American/Arizona history before taking American Government or Principles and Practices of Economics.

\*\* AP United States Government and Politics (SS 52) and We the People (SS 59) fulfill the requirements of government and economics necessary for high school graduation. Please note that AP Human Geography (SS 67) does not satisfy the World History graduation requirement.

\*\*\* BE 53, SS 85, SS 86, SS 87, SS 55 may substitute for Principles and Practices of Economics (SS 57).

# ADDITIONAL DIPLOMA DESIGNATIONS

<http://www.mpsaz.org/curriculum/curriculum-2a/>

## Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Diploma

<http://www.mpsaz.org/rmhs/academics/apcapstone>

The College Board's AP Capstone™ is an innovative college-level program based on two new courses — AP® Seminar and AP Research — that complement and enhance discipline-specific AP courses.

The program immerses high school students in the challenging practice of the critical skills students need today. The ability to think independently, write effectively, research, collaborate, and learn across disciplines is essential for success in college and beyond.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. This option allows students taking multiple AP courses to distinguish themselves to colleges and universities. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. (Available at Red Mountain High School)

## Career & Technical Education (CTE)

### AZ State Program Completer & Industry Certification

<http://www.mpsaz.org/cte>

Students who complete a two or three year CTE Program of Study will earn a program completer certificate and be recognized at an end-of-year ceremony. All Career and Technical Education programs lead to college and career pathways. For more information on dual enrollment options available, please go to [www.mpsaz.org/cte/program](http://www.mpsaz.org/cte/program). CTE programs lead to industry certifications that will qualify students for employment after high school. (Available at all MPS High Schools)

## International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma

<http://www.mpsaz.org/ib>

The IB Diploma is an additional diploma that students may earn in conjunction with their MPS Diploma. To be eligible for an IB Diploma students must earn a minimum of 24 points total on the six IB exams taken throughout their junior and senior years. Students also earn points towards their IB Diploma for completing their Extended Essay (EE) research paper with the support of an advisor, as well as taking the IB Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course. Finally, IB students complete approximately 150 hours of activities relating to creativity, physical well-being and service of their choosing during the last two years of high school. In acknowledgment of earning this internationally recognized diploma, IB students may be eligible to receive college credit and have access to IB specific scholarships that colleges/universities may offer. (Available at Westwood High School)

## Arizona State Seal of Biliteracy

<http://www.mpsaz.org/worldlanguages>

The Arizona State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes students who graduate from an Arizona school who have attained a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English. The Seal of Biliteracy encourages students to pursue biliteracy, honors the skills students attain, and can be evidence of skills that are attractive to future employers and college admissions offices. The seal requires students to show high levels of proficiency in English by successfully completing all English requirements for graduation with an overall grade point average in those classes of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Students must also show high levels of proficiency in English by receiving a passing score in English Language Arts on the required (AzMERIT) state assessment. Students must attain the required score on a language assessment as adopted by the State Board of Education. Students who successfully complete the requirements will earn a seal on their high school diploma.

MPS students interested in The Arizona State Seal of Biliteracy will need to meet the state requirements and apply through the district's World Languages Department by the end of the first quarter of their senior year. Visit the World Languages website for more information and the complete application process.

**\*Please note: As of the printing of this course catalog the specific State Board of Education requirements for this seal have not been completely defined.** (Available at all MPS High Schools)

## Advanced STEM Designation

<http://www.mpsaz.org/rmhs/academics/stem>

The Advanced STEM Diploma Designation is an innovative model blending rigorous honors and Advanced Placement (AP) curricula with STEM fields of study in Biomedical Sciences, Biotechnology, and Engineering. To qualify for this designation, students must successfully complete six (6) or more Advanced Placement course and earn a score of three (3) or better on those 6 AP exams. Additionally, students must successfully complete a minimum of two (2) years in a single STEM Pathway — Biomedical Sciences, Biotechnology or Engineering. Students enrolled in this course of study have the opportunity to earn college credits through advanced placement exams or dual enrollment, and those who complete all requirements for this designation will earn a seal on their high school diploma. (Available at Red Mountain High School)

## MPS Advanced Honor for Excellence in Academics

<http://www.mpsaz.org/curriculum/curriculum-2a/>

MPS students planning to apply to universities with competitive admission requirements may pursue the MPS Advanced Honor for Excellence in Academics designation. Requirements for this designation are outlined below. (Available at all MPS High Schools)

CURRICULUM	MPS ADVANCED HONOR FOR EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS
<b>ENGLISH</b> <i>(see advanced sequence for English courses)</i>	4
<b>MATHEMATICS</b> <i>(see advanced sequence for Mathematics courses)</i>	4 <i>(Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and an *additional math)</i>
<b>SCIENCE</b> <i>(see advanced sequence for Science courses)</i>	4 <i>Different lab sciences Biology, Chemistry, and two additional sciences, one (1) must be an **advanced science course</i>
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b> <i>(see sequence for Social Studies courses)</i>	3 <i>World History, American History, Government and Economics</i>
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE</b>	3 same language or 2 years each in 2 different languages
<b>ARTS</b>	1 <i>fine or practical (CTE) arts</i>
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION***</b>	1
<b>ELECTIVE COURSES</b>	4
<b>TOTAL REQUIRED COURSES</b>	24
<b>GRADE POINT AVERAGE</b>	3.25+ (unweighted) GPA <i>A minimum of 3 weighted credits. Two (2) credits must be AP or IB courses.</i>
<b>STATE REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS</b>	American Civics Test <i>(60/100 correct) (See page 10 for more information)</i>

\* "Advanced mathematics" is a mathematics course with Algebra II as a prerequisite.

\*\* "Advanced science" includes SC 46, SC 48, SC 52, SC 54, SC 55, SC 72, SC 75, SC 77, SC 79, SC 80, SC 81, SC 90, SC 92, SC93, SC 94, SC 95, SC 96, SC 97. Students are required to successfully complete a course in SC 49 Biology, SC45 Honors Biology, or AG 30 Applied Biology Systems in the 9th or 10th grade AND take the AIMS Science assessment at the completion of this course.

\*\*\* Hands only CPR will be taught in each Physical Education class to fulfill Arizona State Statute requirements.

## MPS Service Learning Honor for Excellence

<http://www.mpsaz.org/msl>

Students will be eligible for the Honor for Excellence in Service Learning seal on their diploma upon completion of approved service learning throughout their four years of high school. 150 hours is required through the graduating class of 2018-2019. Beginning with the graduating class of 2019-2020, 200 hours will be required. Students may earn hours from a combination of curriculum based service learning and extracurricular service sponsored by school clubs or community organizations. (Available at all MPS High Schools)

# ADMISSION TO COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Students planning on higher education should determine the entrance requirements of the particular school they wish to attend. Admission requirements to colleges and universities vary greatly. Students should consult the catalog of the college or university they are interested in attending to determine the exact requirements. Catalogs may be accessed on-line from the colleges and universities. Many catalogs are available in the student advisement offices and/or the Career Centers. Applicants for Arizona public universities must meet the following general requirements:

1. For assured admission, the universities will admit applicants who meet basic aptitude and competency requirements. To meet aptitude requirements, students must earn a 3.0 on a 4.0 unweighted grade scale on 16 “core” classes, or rank in the upper 25% of their high school graduating class. To meet competency requirements, students must demonstrate academic competency in each of the sixteen (16) required subjects (core competencies). For delegated admission, students must be in the upper 50% of the graduating class and must lack no more than one credit in no more than two basic competency subjects. Deficiencies in both math and lab sciences are not acceptable.
2. The ACT or SAT examination is required for admission to all state universities. It is highly recommended that these exams be taken during the spring of the student’s junior year. In addition, it is recommended that students take the Preliminary SAT (PSAT) prior to taking the ACT or SAT. The PSAT may qualify students to enter competitions for scholarships and participate in recognition programs through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.
3. National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Eligibility: All prospective student athletes who intend to participate in Division I or II athletics as freshmen in college must register and be certified by the NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse by June 15 upon completion of their junior year. A specific group of courses is required by NCAA. NCAA approved high school courses taken as an 8th grader that appear on the high school transcript may be recognized by NCAA. NCAA will not recognize high school courses taken in 7th grade or prior years. Note: Effective 8/1/10 the NCAA does not accept most non-traditional courses (correspondence, on-line, etc.).
4. GENERAL UNDERGRADUATE ARIZONA UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS (as of November 2016):
  - **ENGLISH** - Four (4) years of high school English (composition/literature based).
  - **MATHEMATICS** – Four (4) years of high school courses (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and an advanced math class for which Algebra II is a prerequisite.
  - **SCIENCE** – Three (3) years of different high school laboratory sciences (one year each from three of the following: Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science or Physics. An integrated science or an advanced science may be substituted for one required course).
  - **SOCIAL SCIENCE** – One (1) year of high school American History, and one (1) year of high school social science (e.g., World History, Economics, Government, Psychology, Geography, Sociology or Anthropology).
  - **WORLD LANGUAGES** – Two (2) years of the same high school language, or attainment of a minimum score on a national standardized foreign language test or placement into a third semester college foreign language class based on university placement exam results.
  - **FINE OR PRACTICAL (CTE) ARTS** – One (1) year of a high school fine or practical (CTE) arts or a combination of two semesters of high school fine arts.

Questions about Arizona university admission requirements should be referred to the Undergraduate Admissions Office at each university. Students entering Arizona four-year colleges and universities, after the year in which they graduated from high school, are expected to have met the entrance requirements in effect in the year they graduated from high school.

Certain colleges within the state universities may require additional courses for admission (examples: Nursing and Forestry). Students should check with their student advisors for specific course requirements. Weighted grade point values may not be accepted by some universities for determining class rank and/or admission. Students should contact individual universities for specific grading considerations.

Out-of-state schools have additional requirements and differ considerably. It is suggested students review those school catalogs to see specific requirements.









# Mesa Unified School District No. 4

## NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

*Mesa Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex or gender, sexual orientation, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: The Compliance Officer for Title IX is the Associate Superintendent, 63 East Main Street #101, Mesa, Arizona 85201-7422, (480) 472-0205, and the Compliance Officer for Section 504 is the Executive Director of Special Education, 1025 N. Country Club Drive, Mesa, Arizona 85201-3307, (480) 472-0710.*

