

7th grade Course Description 2025-2026



Physical Education Semester 7017.R0000.X

Students will be provided with purposeful physical activity to teach them the skills and knowledge needed to establish and sustain an active lifestyle. The program is taught by a certified and trained Physical Education teacher who uses a variety of learning opportunities, appropriate and sequential instruction, with meaningful and challenging content for all children. Students should come prepared to move, play, and have fun!



Athletics Semester or Year 7037.R0000.X

Athletics are for the students who want to play sports competitively. We will compete against other middle schools in the Austin area. The Fall sports include Girls Volleyball / Basketball, Boys Football, Boys/Girls Cross Country. The Spring semester sports include Boys Basketball, Boys/Girls Track. Participating in the athletic program is a privilege. Our athletes must be great students and teammates. They should be coachable and strive to get better each day. Our athletes should lead by example: Remember, whether on the field, in the classroom, at home or competing away, you represent Clint Small Middle School, your team, and your family. **Physicals form and Rankone form must be submitted before tryouts and the first day of school.**



Dance Wellness Semester 7022.R0000.X

Dance Wellness MS I is designed for students to demonstrate, create, and evaluate dance movement elements associated with the elements of dance, ballet, jazz, modern, hip hop, tap, and choreographic processes in cooperative groups or individually.



Dance MS 2 Year, Application Required 5022.R0000.Y

This course is for students who want to continue a yearlong dance in 7th grade. Prerequisite is Dance 1. Dance 2 is designed for students to demonstrate, create, and evaluate dance movement elements associated with the elements of dance, ballet, jazz, modern, hip hop, tap, and choreographic processes in cooperative groups or individually.



Dance MS 3 "Cougar Dancers" Year, Application Required 7023.R0000.Y

Dance MS 3 is designed as a continuation of Dance MS 2. This course requires participation in a camp, practice outside of the school day and after school performances.



Art History Semester 9517.R0000.X

A semester long introductory art course for students taking art for the first time in middle school, and no previous experience is necessary. This course is available to any student interested in exploring art as an elective. Students will have the ability to develop their artistic skills by working in a variety of media.



Art 2 Year 5002.R0000.Y

These courses are for students in their second year of middle school art class. Students will develop new skills and techniques through the use of a variety of art media while learning the elements and principles of art. Students will develop skills in perception, creative expression, and historical and cultural heritage.



Advanced Art Year, Application Required 5003.R0000.Y

This course is for students in their 3rd year of middle school art class or students who demonstrated higher skills level in art 1. The class is aligned with ART MS 3 standards.



AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)


Year 9218.R0000.Y

The AVID class addresses key elements in college preparation: academic success skills, college entry skills, tutorials (Socratic method), teambuilding activities, and career and college exploration. Additionally, students will improve their communication skills through presentations and Socratic Seminar, participate in writing to learn/reading to learn activities, including note-taking, reflection of learning, and essay writing. Structured collaboration supports these skills. Students will also prepare for college entrance examinations, including the PSAT and TSIA-2.




Artistic Imagination (Creative Writing) Semester 9042.R0000.X

Open to 7th and 8th graders, creative writing allows students to explore genres of their choice while working in writing groups to hone their writing skills. The goal is to get more comfortable putting ideas on paper. Everyone is a writer. Creative Writing will prove it.

 Spanish 1


Year, High School Credit

This course aims to build a foundational understanding of the Spanish Language and the cultures of the many people who speak it. This course will allow students to build skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening and improve their ability to make cultural connections that will deepen their understanding. Students who take Spanish 1 earn 1 high school credit. Students who take Spanish 1 in 6th grade can fulfill their high school language requirement completely by 7th grade. The rigor of this class is equivalent to that of Spanish 1 in 9th grade.

 Spanish 2


Year, High School Credit

Spanish 2 is a **high school credit** course. This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. It is an intermediate low level Spanish class that covers a number of familiar, everyday topics; understand the main idea; Series of simple sentences; short interactions. This is the equivalent of a 10th grade Spanish class and you will receive a full high school credit.

 Spanish 3B SS DL

Year, High School Credit

Spanish 3B DL is only available to students in **Dual Language program**. This course is an Intermediate Mid-Level of Proficiency course that studies a variety of familiar, everyday topics; understand the main idea; series of connected sentences, and short interactions. This is the equivalent of a 11th grade Spanish class.

 Ancient World Mythology

Semester

World Mythology is a semester long course full of inquiry, reading, writing, and collaboration as we learn about the universal human need to tell stories! Students will encounter myths, gods, heroes, and monsters from Ancient Roman, Greece, Scandinavia, Egypt, and Japan.


This course is **NOT** recommended for students who already took Mythology yearlong course in 6th grade.

 Social Justice

Semester


This middle school course will empower you to make a positive impact on the world around you! Uncover your unique qualities and harness the superpower of YOU! Dive into the art of effective communication, teamwork, and conflict resolution to become a rockstar in working with and understanding others. Take an adventure through history and the present to learn about social justice movements, including African American civil rights, LGBTQ rights, Women's rights, and Disability rights, that have shaped our world. Discover the power you hold to make a difference, learning the tools of activism and advocacy.

2015.RJ000.Y

 Latin 1


Year, High School Credit

You learn to read, write, listen to, and speak Latin while exploring ancient Roman cities, Roman emperors, food, clothes, gladiators, and Roman gods, goddesses, and heroes. Students who take Latin 1 in 6th grade can fulfill their high school language requirement completely by 7th grade. The rigor of this class is equivalent to that of Latin 1 in 9th grade.

 Latin 2


Year, High School Credit

Students will continue to build on their knowledge of Latin and the Ancient Roman world, including ancient hygiene, entertainment, infrastructure, politics, and the Roman conquest and occupation of the Mediterranean.

 Choir MS 2 (Concert)


Year

Choir students in their second in middle school choir enroll in MS 2. These courses focus on the continued development of the choral voice, with opportunities for work on the solo voice. Students in Choir MS 2 have the opportunity to participate in All-Region, UIL, Solo and Ensemble contests, and various music festivals and concerts. Daily rehearsals include vocal production, sight reading and rhythm studies, and preparing choral literature for school performances. These courses require a full year commitment and participation in all concerts is required.

 Choir MS3 (Chamber)

Year, Application Required

Choir students in their third year in middle school choir enroll in MS 3. These courses focus on the continued development of the choral voice, with opportunities for work on the solo voice. Students in Choir MS 3 have the opportunity to participate in All-Region, UIL, Solo and Ensemble contests, and various music festivals and concerts. Daily rehearsals include vocal production, sight reading and rhythm studies, and preparing choral literature for school performances. These courses require a full year commitment and participation in all concerts is required.

 Life Lab

Year

Life Lab aims to provide students with practical skills and knowledge that they can apply in their daily lives, promoting a healthy, sustainable, and mindful lifestyle. Some of the topics are financial literacy, career preparation, household management, communication skills, time management and organization, civic responsibilities

2014.RJ000.Y

2025.RJ000.Y

2635.HJ0BO.Y

9929.R0000.X

9911.R0000.X

2024.RJ000.Y

5042.R000.Y

5043.R0000.Y

9910.R0000.Y



Band MS 2 Year

5032.R0000.Y



Beginning Theater Semester

5011.R0000.X

Band students in their second year in middle school band enroll in MS 2 and are placed by audition into ability-based bands. Other factors that can affect band placement are experience, attitude/behavior, and director recommendation. MS 2 band students present concerts throughout the year for both the student body and the community and participate in several group and individual contests. Full band, small group, and individualized instruction are provided to ensure the success of the students. Weekly section rehearsals, either before or after school, and participation in concerts and contests are required.

This is an introductory one semester course for students taking theatre for the first time in middle school, and no previous experience is necessary. This course meets daily and is available to any student interested in exploring theatre as an elective. The class meets during the school day; however, there may be some outside of class time requirements at various times through the year to perform and prepare for performances. Students will have opportunities to develop their performance skills through a variety of in-class and outside of class performances, as well as improve their public speaking skills.



Jazz Band (INST/VOC MS 3)

5073.R6000.Y



Theater ARTS 2 Year

5012.R0000.Y

Year

Jazz Band is a full year course. Students are required to also be in full year band and/or orchestra/choir to also be considered for jazz band. Acceptance into the jazz program involves an audition after spring break. This is not a course for beginners on any instrument.

Prerequisite 6th or 7th/8th Beginning Theatre Class.

This class will cover the following TEKS and is a yearlong class: Ensemble building, playwriting, auditioning, Group scene work, produce/design/perform in the Haunted House at Smalloween.

This class will perform a play for parents after school.

Also keep in mind there is a limit to how many drum set, guitar, piano, and bass students can be selected based on instrumentation and equipment.

Our current Jazz Ensemble has this instrumentation which is the maximum per group:

Alto Sax: 2, Tenor Sax: 2, Bari Sax: 2 Trumpet: 5,

Trombone: 4-5

Bass (Electric or acoustic): 1

Guitar: 1, Drum Set/Vibes: 1-2

Piano: 1

See Mrs Mathews in the band hall for more information.



Advanced Theater (Varsity)

9529.R0000.Y

Year, Application Required

This Theatre class is yearlong course and engages in the study of acting, theatre production, and playwriting. Students will Produce, design, and perform in the Haunted House at Smalloween. Perform and present a one-act play for UIL One Act Play Contest. Produce and perform in the Spring Musical. Attend live performances. After school performances and rehearsal are required.



Guitar MS Year

5061.R0000.Y

In classical guitar class, students will learn how to hold the classical guitar with proper hand positioning, play relaxing/mellow classical guitar music, read standard music notation, and follow typical rehearsal etiquette. Only classical guitar techniques and repertoire will be taught in class. Outside rehearsals and performances will be required. Students do not need prior classical guitar knowledge or experience to register.

Nature Tech & Growing

9150.R0000.X & 9152.R0000.X

Year

This is a project-based **Green Academy** class where students do a variety of activities to get started on. Green Growing will build on skills acquired in Native Plants and Animals. Students will spend a majority of class outside maintaining gardens, collecting seeds, and propagating plants in our greenhouse. Students will be expected to learn the proper ways of caring for plants and troubleshooting their health concerns.



Orchestra MS 2 Year

5052.R0000.Y



Career and College STEM Exploration (DMAR)

Year

8050.R000.Y

Perform beautiful music with your orchestra family! Through engaging activities and music, learn to play a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, or double bass) with a confident and beautiful sound. Outside of class, we will have performances at multiple venues, fun social activities, and field trips. Join CSMS Orchestra to make fun and lasting memories with a supportive and caring community! Experienced string players will be placed in the Philharmonic Orchestra. Advanced experienced string players can audition for the Chamber Orchestra.

The Career and College Exploration course is designed as an introductory Career and Technical Education course. As part of the career development requirements for Texas students, the course intends to help students discover their individual interests and skills and the career pathways that best fit their abilities. Career and College Exploration is an early step on each student's journey toward selecting and pursuing a satisfying and rewarding career. Students learn about themselves through aptitude and interest inventory assessments. Students will review the Texas CTE Career Clusters to investigate a range of career paths and discover the education and training required to pursue their career goals



Principles of Architecture (Medical Detectives) 8404.RJ000.Y

Year, High School Credit

Today's students have grown up in an age of "green" choices. Students learn how to apply this concept to the fields of architecture and construction by exploring dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability as they design affordable housing units using Autodesk's® 3D architectural design software.

Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function, and investigate disease outbreaks.



Digital Communication in the 21st Century (Yearbook) 7009.RJ000.Y

Year, Application Required, High School Credit

Where all of your photojournalism, journalism, photography, and design courses all come together. You will love promoting the yearbook with posters, designing the theme and cover of the yearbook. Countless photoshoots with VIP access to football, basketball, volleyball, and soccer games, along with coverage of science labs and pep rally's. This strong Small tradition fills you with real world skills that our Small Yearbook Staffers have used to rise high as high school editors and going into the glitzy pro world of New York City! It all begins here.



Principles of Arts, Audio/Video Technology (Photography) 8500.RJ0000.Y

Year, High School Credit

Principles of Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications is designed to provide students an opportunity to develop an understanding of the various and multifaceted career opportunities in this cluster and the knowledge, skills, and educational requirements for those opportunities. This course allows students to develop knowledge and skills related to information management, presentation, animation, video technology, printing and desktop publishing. Careers in the Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications Career Cluster require a creative aptitude, a strong background in computer and technology applications, a strong academic foundation, and a proficiency in oral and written communication.



Principles of Information Technology (Design and Modeling / Automation and Robotics (DMAR) 8800.RJ000.Y

Year, High School Credit

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy. Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are then challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy. . This is course is prerequisite for Robotics and Magic of Electrons in 8th grade.



Fundamentals of Computer Science 7000.RJ000.Y

Year, High School Credit

An introductory course to Computer Science that will explore beginner coding concepts through hands-on activities and projects. The first semester, you will create apps for phones and tablets. The second semester, you will program a tiny computer called a MicroBit to do all sorts of fun and interesting things.



Digital Media 8807.RJ000.Y

Year, High School Credit

Digital Media is designed to help students analyze and assess current and emerging technologies, while designing and creating multimedia projects that address customer needs and resolve a problem. Students will implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. The knowledge and skills acquired and practiced will enable students to successfully perform and interact in a technology-driven society. Students will enhance reading, writing, computing, communication, and thinking and apply them to the IT environment. **This course is prerequisite for Video Game Design in 8th grade.**



Principles of Manufacturing (Construction) 8630.RJ000.Y

Year, High School Credit

Principles of manufacturing is designed to provide an introduction and lay a solid foundation for those students entering the construction or craft skilled areas. The course provides a strong knowledge of construction safety, construction mathematics, and common hand and power tools. For safety and liability considerations, limiting course enrollment to 15 students is recommended. This course also provides communication and occupation skills to assist the student in obtaining and maintaining employment.