



*Preparing 21st Century students to  
be productive and successful!*

# **7th Grade Course Catalog**

2023-2024

## Academic Courses (Required)

### Language Arts 7

This class teaches reading, writing, speaking and listening, and research and reasoning skills in the reader'/writers' workshop structure. Students read a variety of texts such as short stories, nonfiction, poetry and drama. Students write for a variety of audiences and purposes in diverse styles including narrative, literary response, argument, research report writing and writing workshop creative choices. All elements of the writing process are emphasized.

### Math 7

This class teaches skills by applying and connecting mathematical ideas. Students will actively construct their own understandings and key concepts at a 7<sup>th</sup> grade level dealing with the following standards: Ratios and Proportional Relationships; The Number System; Expressions and Equations; Geometry; Mathematics Communication; Procedural Fluency; Statistics and Probability.

### Science 7

This class is designed with a focus on answering the question "How does evidence of life over time help explore the past, explain the present and predict the future?" Units include Cells, Human Body Systems, Healthy Decision Making, Genetics, Natural and Artificial Selection, and Changes in Life Over Time. Lessons are aligned to meet the three-dimensional learning of Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Three-dimensional learning allows students to engage with science and engineering practices and crosscutting concepts to deepen their understanding of the core concepts.

### Social Studies 7

This class studies the Eastern Hemisphere with a focus on the emergence of civilizations in various regions. Students will learn the history and geography of these regions along with studying their government and economic systems. Studies also include a focus on modern issues and globalization. The state standards in History/Civics/Geography/ Economics form the basis for instruction with guidance from district created units of study.

## Elective Courses (Year-long)

### Choir 7 - 6270

If you enjoy singing, this is your chance! Mixed Choir students sing choral music and prepare for concerts. Students learn techniques for improving vocal production. Students are required to participate in 3-4 evening concerts.

### Intermediate Band – 6210 *\*Teacher approval is required.*

This band is for those who were in 6th grade band or received private lessons for at least 6 months. Students must provide their own instrument, method books and concert uniform. Instruments will include flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, alto tenor and baritone saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone horn, tuba and percussion. Guitar is not included in concert band music. Students are required to practice 2 hours per week and participate in 3-4 evening concerts, including a concert for one of our feeder elementary schools.

### Spanish I - 8100

This is a high-school Spanish level I course designed for students to develop vocabulary and knowledge of key phrases in the Spanish language and to help students appreciate cultural differences and similarities between our culture in the United States and those of Spanish-speaking countries around the world. During this course, students will follow a high school Spanish Program, but will not receive high school credit.

## Elective Courses (Quarter)

### Art 7 – 6405

Students will use the elements and principles of art to create higher level 2/D projects. Projects and supplies may include pointillism, markers, oil pastels, scratch board, and ebony pencils.

### Computer Science 7 – 7423

This course introduces students to the interaction between hardware and software components. Students will have the opportunity to create projects and/or problem solve through programming, app development, the use of robotics, microcontrollers, science probes and more. As students refine their projects, they will use systematic troubleshooting strategies and use computational tools to collect and transform data.

### Drama 7 – 1730

Do you love being in the spotlight? Then sign up for Drama class! In this class we will learn the basics of acting, technical heater, (lights, sound, etc.) and some theater history. Filled with lots of hands-on activities and projects, this class is great for students of all abilities and levels.

### Health 7 – 4720

This class will be analyzing factors that influence healthy eating; utilizing effective interpersonal communication skills to express individual needs and boundaries; and explaining how sexually transmitted diseases, such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), are transmitted and their possible effects on the body. Students will be developing and practicing healthy strategies to deal with stress; evaluating internal and external influences (media, social media) on social and emotional health; and analyzing appropriate information regarding safety precautions for a variety of emergency situations. Students will be describing how personal, family, and cultural beliefs and values can influence healthy decision-making and examining the effects of marijuana, illegal drugs, abuse of prescription drugs, alcohol, and tobacco on an individual's physical, mental and emotional well-being.

***\*\*In the event you select Option 3 (8 quarter elective classes), Health 7 will be required.***

## (Quarter Elective Courses, cont.)

### **PE 7 – 4700**

This class focuses on skill development activities and games to stress the importance and benefits of physical activity. Learning to cooperate with others in team play is emphasized through instruction in sportsmanship and respecting our differences. Students will actively participate in a variety of skill development activities, lead up games, team and individual sports as well as physical fitness activities. Students will receive instruction on rules, etiquette, and strategies associated with different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities and lifelong physical activities. **\*This course may be selected more than once.**

### **Sculpture 6 - 6560**

Students will use the elements and principles of art to help create higher level 3/D sculptures. Projects and supplies may include metal working, jewelry smithing, paper mache, sculpture, clay based projects, and fiber based supplies.

### **Tech Ed 7 – 6740**

Computers rule the modern world and coding is the universal language. In this hands-on quarter class, you will learn how to create, debug, and refine games, simulations, apps, etc. This is a collaborative class in which we will be problem solving together to create, revise, and improve amazing things using coding.

## **Honors Program**

*7th grade Honors is for students who are interested in challenging themselves academically. Courses will infuse rigor and pace with strategies of Honors philosophies of higher-level thinking, vertical teaming, scholarly skills and habits of mind. Additionally, students will develop a strong foundation for successful completion of higher level course work in high school. **Honor selections are determined prior to school starting in the fall with counselor and teacher approval.***

### **Characteristics of Shadow Ridge Middle School's Honors Program Student**

- Motivation - Students are driven to learn by natural curiosity and sense of wonder.
- Enduring understanding - Students focus on big ideas.
- Rigor, pace, and scholarly skills are emphasized.
- Students will be working at and above grade level in all honors classes with emphasis on challenging curriculum and critical thinking.
- Students will be operating at the analysis, synthesis, and evaluation levels on a regular basis.
- Students will be independent thinkers and autonomous workers through rigorous academic challenges.

### **High Expectations for Quality Work and Productivity**

Student work is expected to be thorough, clear, on or above grade level, and worthy of the time it takes to complete it. Students are expected to independently apply skills and concepts and demonstrate a strong work ethic. Students will go through a six-week period where expectations will be modeled and expected. If a student continues to struggle academically even after receiving additional support, teachers will meet with parents during conferences to identify interventions to help the student to be successful.

### **Homework and Outside Experiences**

Students are expected to practice the skills and concepts they learn in the classroom. Teachers will assign meaningful homework or outside experiences on a consistent basis. Students will be expected to come to class prepared for the learning that will occur in the classroom each day. Outside experiences may include projects that will prepare students for upcoming classes.

- **In addition to the body of evidence, current performance in honors classes and teacher input will also be considered when placing students in honors classes for the next school year.**
- **Notification of honors placement will occur in late spring after the student schedules are finalized. A notification will be sent home indicating honors placement by the end of the current school year.**
- **Students selected for honors will be required to sign an honors contract which details expectations for performance.**

## **Honors Academic Courses**

### **Honors Language Arts 7**

The Reading and Writing Workshop Structure will be used to deliver instruction. Students will summarize and synthesize, and evaluate information; analyze main ideas and supporting details; and infer using information from a variety of texts and genres. The student will locate and recall information in above grade level texts with different structures; use word recognition skills to determine meanings of words, including those with multiple meanings to comprehend text; and create a draft that demonstrates distinct voice, style, and tone of a publishable quality. With increasing attention to craft, organize writing using a logical arrangement of ideas that include an introduction, body, and conclusion. Students will choose the organization to fit the audience/purpose.

### ***Body of Evidence to be considered for Honors Language Arts placement:***

- High proficient to advanced on grade level MAPs
- Proficient to advanced in all 4 GRCs
- Proficient and advanced on a 6th grade writing sample
- High proficient to advanced on the CMAS assessment
- Teacher Recommendation

(Honors Courses, cont.)

**Honors Math 7**

Students need to be secure with number sense and at mastery with basic computational skills in order to be successful with the advanced pace and rigor of honors 7th grade math. Honor strategies that are emphasized include: abstract reasoning; creativity; multiple perspectives; mathematical confidence; and tenacity in solving multiple step problems. Increased rigor of advanced level (8th grade) math curriculum. Primary Materials Used: Big Ideas Math

**Body of Evidence to be considered for Honors Language Arts placement:**

- **Successful completion of Honors Math 6**
- High proficient to advanced on the CMAS assessment
- High proficient to advanced on MAPS Math
- Teacher Recommendation

**~ IMPORTANT GUIDELINES ~**

- Course requests are **not** on a first come first served basis. All students will have an equal opportunity to register for their selected classes. Please observe the deadlines posted below.
- READ the course descriptions carefully before making your choices.
- Complete the Registration Forms by selecting Elective Option 1, 2 or 3.
- Complete the online registration using the link to the Infinite Campus Student Portal found on Shadow Ridge's website or <https://ic.adams12.org>
- Follow the steps outlined on your registration form, selecting your elective options and then your Alternate selections. *If you have selected Option 3 (8 quarter elective classes), Health 7 is required.*
- ***Honor selections are determined prior to school starting in the fall with counselor and teacher approval.***
- If you do not make your selections by the deadline, courses will be selected for you.
- For problems completing the online registration form, please contact your counselor.

***Choose your courses carefully!***

Course requests **will not** be considered once registration forms have been handed in.  
Student schedules will not be changed in the fall.



***\*\*\*Courses are offered based on student interest, enrollment, facilities, scheduling, staffing funding and Board Policy, and are subject to change. Academic requirements will take precedence when building the Master Schedule. We reserve the right to place students in courses based upon need.\*\*\****