



MIDDLE SCHOOL

7th Grade Course Descriptions

2016-2017

7th Grade Program

Language Arts

ELD

Mathematics

Science

Social Studies

Physical Education

(unless School of the Arts Certificate student)

Choice of Electives:

Japanese or Spanish Exploratory

Digital Media

Digital Storytelling

Design Thinking

Orchestra

Band

Studio Music

Dance Certificate Program

Performing and Visual Arts Exploration

(Dance, Theatre, Visual Arts, and Vocal Ensemble)

The 7th-grade team balances the meeting of curriculum goals and student care and development. They are deeply committed to providing an atmosphere that encourages critical thinking, active participation, and student accountability within a developmentally appropriate environment. Students are prepared for upper-level courses by being challenged and supported to meet the established expectations, the reinforcement of skills development and the management of activities while exposing them to relevant core content.

The goals of the 7th-grade team are to help students to become more independent, responsible, meet the challenges of increasing skills and curricular responsibilities while maintaining an atmosphere that is nurturing and conducive to learning.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

7th Grade Language Arts (M1100)

Year course

This course is designed to integrate the study of literature, composition, and language to further improve students' skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will develop their reading skills through novels, drama, and poetry and their writing skills through essays, journals, narratives, and poems. Students will also examine the structure of the English language through grammar and vocabulary instruction.

Mathematics - Students will be placed in courses according to demonstrated knowledge, experience, and ability.

7th Grade Math (M3100)

Year course

This course will prepare students for future Algebra courses. The investigations, problems, and practice exercises are designed to develop the students' logical and mathematical reasoning skills. Students complete guided investigations that explore and develop ideas, then practice them along with procedural skills in subsequent chapters. The content of this course include many of the fundamental ideas and procedures necessary to be successful in subsequent mathematics courses and will consolidate the core ideas of previous mathematics courses, so that it will serve students of varied mathematical backgrounds.

7th Grade Science (M4100)

Year course

This is an activity-oriented course that integrates various topics in Physical Science as outlined in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Students are given hands-on opportunities to explore energy, forces, motion, structure, and changes in matter. A special emphasis is placed on developing inquiry skills and the use of basic laboratory equipment in implementing the scientific method of problem-solving.

7th Grade Social Studies (M5100)

Year course

This course is designed to provide students with a broad understanding of American History from the formation of the states to the present. Students will explore major Social Studies themes that will help them develop an understanding of the important events in America's past and their connectedness to the world. The course also includes a brief study of geography and an overview of the development of United States government, and the meaning of citizenship in a democratic nation.

7th Grade Physical Education (M7100)

Year course

This course is designed to encourage a positive attitude towards physical activity, increase the students' knowledge of the benefits of health-related fitness, and to help develop habits for life-long exercise. Students will be able to assess their own level of physical fitness, and learn to develop self-esteem and personal satisfaction through physical experiences and successes. Competitive and non-competitive environments will be set up to suit the personal level of the student. The sports component includes the following activities: swimming, gymnastics, track and field, soccer, volleyball, tennis, and racquet sports.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT (ELD) COURSES

Students will be placed in courses according to demonstrated level of English.

ELD Intro to American Culture (M1925)

With guidance, students new to Mid-Pacific will get better acquainted with the Mid-Pacific community, Hawaii and Americans in general. It is designed to help students assimilate with their fellow Mid-Pacific students and understand American politics and policies. During the first couple of months we will look closely at understanding the student body, teachers, administration and alumni of Mid-Pacific. Next we will delve into customs and norms of Hawaii as well as learn about what these islands have to offer. After December, we will expand into historical elements that have shaped America, including our Native Americans the American Revolution and immigration waves.

ELD Academic Skills (M1922)

Students will continue to learn new academic concepts and ideals, while balancing their two (or more) languages. In this class students will learn: effective time preparation; how to effectively communicate with American teachers; sentence, paragraph and beginning essay-writing; goal-setting; and to increase their academic vocabulary development, grammar fluency, and understanding of politics, policy and current events.

ELD Conversational English (M1923)

For students in Basic and Intermediate levels. In this class students will receive consistent practice both listening and speaking for a variety of purposes. This practice will help each student achieve correct pronunciation, tone, and intonation. Listening to various videos and readings will help students develop a strong social vocabulary bank for communication.

ELD Advanced Transitional English (M1924)

This course is specifically designed to be the last pathway to mainstream full inclusion. The teacher will help develop consistent strength throughout the four areas of English language acquisition (listening, speaking, reading and writing). Grammar will be fine tuned and academic language and complex vocabulary will be introduced. With our readings, intellectual discussions of real world problems will be conducted.

ELECTIVES

Japanese Exploratory (M2261) or Spanish Exploratory (M2601)

Year course

These courses will provide students with hands-on experiences with language and culture introducing students to basic vocabulary, expressions, and customs. These courses are not for high school credit but intended to assist students in determining the world language course they will pursue for high school graduation credit. Mid-Pacific High School requires three years of the same language to graduate.

Digital Storytelling (M4550)

Year course

Prerequisite: Approval from teacher and administration

In this project-based class students will engage in the writing process to compose relevant, compelling narratives and publish them using modern digital media platforms. Students will be challenged to go beyond the basic digital tools, leveraging more sophisticated media, which may include computer simulations, game engines, and interactive wearable technology. Introduction and reinforcement of expert communication skills will be supported by a focus on the nature and function of storytelling.

Digital Media (M4640)

Year course

Digital Media will expose students to the basic concepts of 3D modeling, virtual scene creation, the fundamentals of coding, game design, and scripting. Students will also be introduced to design principles and concepts as applied to digital media-based projects with an emphasis on video, photography and digital storytelling by utilizing current industry technologies and applications.

Required: Digital Camera (Point-and-Shoot, Smart-phone or DSLR) and 16GB SD Card

Optional: Adobe Creative Cloud (\$20/mo for access to all Adobe desktop apps)

Design Thinking (M4650)

Year course

This exciting and interactive class will prepare students to develop an understanding of innovation and design thinking through the process of collaborative problem solving, visual thinking, hands-on activities, immersion and prototyping. Through direct instruction and hands on projects, students will create possible design solutions to real world problems with the use of technology and prototyping. This project-based class is hands-on and requires students to work as a team and collaborate with others, and give presentation pitches to both students and adults in the Mid-Pacific community and receiving feedback. In addition to creating possible design solutions, a strong emphasis is placed on reflection of the projects through the creation of individual student portfolios on the iBooks Author software.

Required: 16GB USB Flash drive

7th Grade Performing and Visual Arts (PVA) Exploration (M6010)

Year course

This course is extremely beneficial to all incoming 7th graders as it will broaden their view of the different arts disciplines and provide them with a holistic arts experience. Each quarter, students will experience one of the four arts disciplines – Visual Arts, Dance, Theatre, and Vocal Ensemble. A performance at the end of the quarter gives students the opportunity to support one another as performers, learn to be good audience members, and gain an appreciation for the arts.

BAND COURSES

If you have previous experience, please contact Mr. Masaki at emasaki@midpac.edu for a placement audition.

Beginning Orchestra (M6280)

Year course

Beginning Orchestra students will learn basic string and musician skills for violin, viola, cello, and bass through a combination of individual attention and class participation in order to select one instrument best suited for the student. Students are introduced to reading, fingering and bowing skills as they learn to play simple melodies from folk and classical repertoire. Performances will be required. *There will be a fee for renting an instrument.*

Intermediate Orchestra (M6290)

Year course

Intermediate Orchestra is a continuation of the studies of the skills and techniques initiated in Beginning Orchestra. Special attention will be applied to developing vibrato and studying varied bow strokes. The repertoire will include some of the standards in the string literature in arrangements suitable for the class. Performances are required. *There will be a fee for renting an instrument.*

Beginning Band (M6320)

Year course

Beginning Band helps the student examine various woodwind, brass and percussion instruments in order to select the one instrument best suited for the student. The development of basic principles of playing an instrument, such as embouchure, breath control, tone production, rhythm, note reading, and other factors important to the development of good musicianship are covered in the course. Performances will be required. *There will be a fee for renting an instrument.*

Concert Band (M6330)

Year course

Concert Band is a continuation of the study of the skills and techniques learned in Beginning Band. More emphasis is placed on the development of greater range, better tone production and technique. More individual practice is required in order for the student to master the more difficult music that is studied in class. A great variety of music and playing experiences is explored. Performances will be required. *There will be a fee for renting an instrument.*

Studio Music (M6420)

Year course

Studio Music is a class designed for students interested in performing solo/combo music in a recording studio type setting. Music material will cover a variety of genres with an emphasis in popular, jazz, and electroacoustic. This class is open to any and all musicians who have prior experience playing on an instrument or singing any type of music. This includes but is not limited to pianists, guitar/ukulele players, rappers, beat boxers, and students in the various performing arts classes here at Mid-Pacific (band/orchestra/vocal ensemble). Students will be introduced to and develop the skills they would need to play live music and produce high quality recordings.

MID-PACIFIC SCHOOL OF THE ARTS DANCE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Contact School of the Arts Office at 973-5071 for more information.

The Mid-Pacific School of the Arts Dance Certificate is offered to students in grades 7 and 8 and continues into high school. Middle School Dance Certificate students fulfill middle school **PE** credit by taking the concurrent courses of ballet and contemporary dance. Class placement is by audition and/or department approval. Attendance at school and community dance concerts may be required for course credit. Students who begin Level I in grade 8 may be required to take a summer school dance course to advance to the high school level. School of the Arts Certificate application required. Go to mypueo.midpac.edu/mpsa-certificate-application to fill an application form.

The following courses are offered to the serious dance student and must be taken concurrently:

Certificate Dance I: Ballet I (M6100) AND Contemporary Dance I (M6110)

Year courses

These courses will introduce the student to the fundamental techniques of classical ballet and contemporary dance. These courses are designed for the student who has had very little or no previous training.

Certificate Dance II: Ballet II (M6120) AND Contemporary Dance II (M6130)

Year courses

These courses are a continuation of the fundamental techniques of classical ballet and contemporary dance at a beginning or intermediate level.

Certificate Dance III: Ballet III (M6140) AND Contemporary Dance III (M6150)

Year courses

These courses are designed to challenge the intermediate/advanced dancer in classical ballet and contemporary dance.

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 8TH GRADE

1. 8th Grade Language Arts
2. 8th Grade Science
3. 8th Grade Social Studies
4. 8th Grade Physical Education (unless School of the Arts Certificate student)
5. Algebra (unless otherwise recommended by the math department)
6. Choice of World Languages (Mandarin, Japanese, Spanish) or a second elective
7. Choice of Elective

One (1) year course: Beginning Orchestra, Intermediate Orchestra, Beginning Band, Concert Band, Contemporary Dance I, Japanese or Spanish Exploratory, Digital Media, Design Thinking, Advanced Design Thinking, Dance Certificate Program, or Theatre Arts Certificate Program

OR

Two (2) semester courses: Vocal Ensemble Workshop, Theatre Workshop, or Visual Arts Workshop

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Grades 9-12)

Language Arts	4 credits (Enrollment in an English course is required each semester)
World Language	3 credits of one world language (Credit will be given for Level I completed in Grade 8)
Mathematics	3 credits Algebra I - Geometry - Algebra II (Credit will be given for any of the above completed in Grade 7 or 8)
Science	3 credits Integrated Science (1 credit may be replaced by an IB science)
Social Studies	3 credits (To include U.S. History)
Performing & Visual Arts	2 credits
Health	½ credit
Physical Education	1½ credits (To include successful completion of swim test)
Technology	½ credit
Electives	4 credits

1 credit = Completion of one year of coursework

½ credit = Completion of one semester of coursework

7TH GRADE REGISTRATION WORKSHEET

Student Name:

This form is only to help you prepare for registration. You must submit your choices on the online registration form. Seventh graders are required to enroll in seven (7) classes – you choose two elective classes and the five remaining classes are automatically scheduled for you. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Mah at 441-3745 or Mrs. Matsumoto at 973-5029.

You are automatically enrolled in:

1. 7th Grade Language Arts
2. 7th Grade Math
3. 7th Grade Science
4. 7th Grade Social Studies
5. 7th Grade Physical Education
(unless School of the Arts Certificate student)

*BAND/ORCHESTRA – There will be a fee for renting an instrument. Students continuing band/orchestra will be placed at appropriate level. For students taking band for the first time and have had previous experience playing an instrument, please email Elton Masaki at emasaki@midpac.edu to schedule a placement audition.

**SCHOOL OF THE ARTS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM –Dance Certificate students fulfill Middle School PE credit by taking the concurrent courses of ballet and contemporary dance. School of the Arts Certificate application required. Go to mypueo.midpac.edu/mpsa-certificate-application to fill an application form.

6. Select ELECTIVE 1 and alternate:

FIRST CHOICE	ALTERNATE CHOICE
M2261 Japanese Exploratory	M2261 Japanese Exploratory
M2601 Spanish Exploratory	M2601 Spanish Exploratory
M4550 Digital Storytelling	M4550 Digital Storytelling
M4640 Digital Media	M4640 Digital Media
M4650 Design Thinking	M4650 Design Thinking
M6010 7th Grade Performing & Visual Arts Exploration	M6010 7th Grade Performing & Visual Arts Exploration
M6280 Beginning Orchestra*	M6280 Beginning Orchestra*
M6290 Intermediate Orchestra*	M6290 Intermediate Orchestra*
M6320 Beginning Band*	M6320 Beginning Band*
M6330 Concert Band*	M6330 Concert Band*
M6420 Studio Music	M6420 Studio Music
MSDanceCert1 DANCE CERTIFICATE I** Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)	MSDanceCert1 DANCE CERTIFICATE I** Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)
MSDanceCert2 DANCE CERTIFICATE II** Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)	MSDanceCert2 DANCE CERTIFICATE II** Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)
MSDanceCert3 DANCE CERTIFICATE III** Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)	MSDanceCert3 DANCE CERTIFICATE III** Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)

7. Select ELECTIVE 2 and alternate:

FIRST CHOICE	ALTERNATE CHOICE
M2261 Japanese Exploratory	M2261 Japanese Exploratory
M2601 Spanish Exploratory	M2601 Spanish Exploratory
M4550 Digital Storytelling	M4550 Digital Storytelling
M4640 Digital Media	M4640 Digital Media
M4650 Design Thinking	M4650 Design Thinking
M6010 7th Grade Performing & Visual Arts Exploration	M6010 7th Grade Performing & Visual Arts Exploration
M6280 Beginning Orchestra*	M6280 Beginning Orchestra*
M6290 Intermediate Orchestra*	M6290 Intermediate Orchestra*
M6320 Beginning Band*	M6320 Beginning Band*
M6330 Concert Band*	M6330 Concert Band*
M6420 Studio Music	M6420 Studio Music
MSDanceCert1 DANCE CERTIFICATE I** Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)	MSDanceCert1 DANCE CERTIFICATE I** Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)
MSDanceCert2 DANCE CERTIFICATE II** Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)	MSDanceCert2 DANCE CERTIFICATE II** Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)
MSDanceCert3 DANCE CERTIFICATE III** Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)	MSDanceCert3 DANCE CERTIFICATE III** Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)

7TH GRADE REGISTRATION WORKSHEET FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL)

Student Name:

This form is only to help you prepare for registration. You must submit your choices on the online registration form. Seventh graders are required to enroll in seven (7) classes – you choose one elective classes and the six remaining classes are automatically scheduled for you. If you have any questions, please call Mrs. Mah at 441-3745 or Mrs. Matsumoto at 973-5029.

You are automatically enrolled in:

1. Mathematics
2. ELD Intro to American Culture
3. ELD Academic Skills
4. ELD Conversational English
5. ELD Advanced Transitional English (concurrent with Social Studies or Science)
6. 7th Grade Physical Education (unless School of the Arts Dance Certificate student)

*BAND/ORCHESTRA – There will be a fee for renting an instrument. Students continuing band/orchestra will be placed at appropriate level. For students taking band for the first time and have had previous experience playing an instrument, please email Elton Masaki at emasaki@midpac.edu to schedule a placement audition.

**SCHOOL OF THE ARTS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM –Dance Certificate students fulfill Middle School PE credit by taking the concurrent courses of ballet and contemporary dance. School of the Arts Certificate application required. Go to mypueo.midpac.edu/mpsa-certificate-application to fill an application form.

7. Select one **elective** and one alternate:

FIRST CHOICE		ALTERNATE CHOICE	
M2261	Japanese Exploratory	M2261	Japanese Exploratory
M2601	Spanish Exploratory	M2601	Spanish Exploratory
M4550	Digital Storytelling	M4550	Digital Storytelling
M4640	Digital Media	M4640	Digital Media
M4650	Design Thinking	M4650	Design Thinking
M6010	7th Grade Performing & Visual Arts Exploration	M6010	7th Grade Performing & Visual Arts Exploration
M6280	Beginning Orchestra*	M6280	Beginning Orchestra*
M6290	Intermediate Orchestra*	M6290	Intermediate Orchestra*
M6320	Beginning Band*	M6320	Beginning Band*
M6330	Concert Band*	M6330	Concert Band*
M6420	Studio Music	M6420	Studio Music
MSDanceCert1	DANCE CERTIFICATE I** Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)	MSDanceCert1	DANCE CERTIFICATE I** Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)
MSDanceCert2	DANCE CERTIFICATE II** Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)	MSDanceCert2	DANCE CERTIFICATE II** Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)
MSDanceCert3	DANCE CERTIFICATE III** Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)	MSDanceCert3	DANCE CERTIFICATE III** Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)