



# MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 7th Grade Course Descriptions

### 2017-2018

#### 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**

Middle School is a time for exploration of different literary genres and styles of writing. Our goal is to inspire students to develop a passion for language arts, making it accessible and fun, while preparing them for high school and beyond.

Throughout Middle School, students will:

- Write strong paragraphs
- Organize their ideas
- Connect with characters in novels
- Present their understanding in ways other than writing
- Make connections between aspects of the novel to the real world
- Express themselves in written, spoken, artistic, and digital ways
- Increase vocabulary development

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

### **Math II (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 will 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 encourages the development of a positive attitude and lifelong habits for physical activity, health, and wellness. Students will collaborate through group work as well as participate in competitive and non-competitive sport situations. Students will reflect upon class experiences and demonstrate critical thinking through physical activity, games, and sport. This class will provide a safe environment for students to learn and fine tune their motor skills through physical activity. The sports component includes but is not limited to the following activities: swimming, gymnastics, track and field, soccer, volleyball, tennis, and racquet sports. In order to graduate from Mid-Pacific, all students must pass a swim test.

## 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. In conjunction with their social studies classes, we will expand into historical elements that have shaped America.

### **ELD Academic Skills (M1922)**

Academic skills taught in this course include technology use, time management, teacher communication, written fluency, goal-setting, grammar fluency, reading comprehension and vocabulary development. Students will learn new academic concepts and ideals in conjunction with their 1st language. Through current events, politics and policy will also be addressed.

### **ELD Conversational English (M1923)**

*For students in Basic and Intermediate levels.* In this class, students will receive consistent practice, listening, speaking and reading for a variety of purposes. Speaking practice will help each student achieve accurate pronunciation, tone, and intonation. Listening to various videos and readings will help students develop diverse vocabulary for oral and written communication.

## 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 provide students with the fundamental skills necessary to analyze, design, build and utilize many of today's technologies. By focusing on a wide array of critical thinking skills, each day students will be immersed in projects that require them to employ a variety of innovative technologies and current industry applications.

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

### Design Thinking (M4650)

Year course

This course will walk students through the design thinking process as defined by the Stanford Design School. Students will create possible design solutions to authentic 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, present design solutions, and work in consultant-client relationships with both students and adults. A strong emphasis is placed on reflection of the projects through the creation of individual student portfolios.

*Recommended: 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 AND ORCHESTRA COURSES**

*If you have previous experience, please contact Mr. Masaki at [emasaki@midpac.edu](mailto: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. This course may be repeated.

**MID-PACIFIC SCHOOL OF THE ARTS DANCE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

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 <https://mypueo.midpac.edu/mpsa-certificate-application> to fill an application form. *Contact School of the Arts Office at 973-5071 for more information.*

**Dance Certificate 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.

**Dance Certificate 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.

**Dance Certificate 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 Language (Mandarin, Japanese, Spanish) or a second elective
7. Choice of Elective  
One (1) year course: Beginning Orchestra, Intermediate Orchestra, Beginning Band, Concert Band, Studio Music, Contemporary Dance I, Japanese or Spanish Exploratory, Digital Storytelling, Creative Media, Digital Media, Design Thinking, Advanced Design Thinking, Dance Certificate Program, Theatre Arts Certificate Program, Fundamentals of Visual and Digital, or 8th Grade Visual Art Workshop (Traditional/Digital Art).

### OR

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

## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (Grades 9-12)

<b>Language Arts</b>	4 credits (Enrollment in an English course is required each semester)
<b>World Language</b>	3 credits of <u>one</u> world language (Credit will be given for Level I completed in Grade 8)
<b>Mathematics</b>	3 credits Algebra I - Geometry - Algebra II (Credit will be given for any of the above completed in Grade 7 or 8)
<b>Science</b>	3 credits Integrated Science (1 credit may be replaced by an IB science)
<b>Social Studies</b>	3 credits (To include U.S. History)
<b>Performing &amp; Visual Arts</b>	2 credits
<b>Health</b>	½ credit
<b>Physical Education</b>	1½ credits (To include successful completion of swim test)
<b>Technology</b>	½ credit
<b>Electives</b>	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. Rose at 973-5029.

You are automatically enrolled in:

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

Select **two choices**:

Select **two alternates**: (DO NOT select the same elective twice)

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)

\*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](mailto: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 <https://mypueo.midpac.edu/mpsa-certificate-application> to fill an application form.

# 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. Rose 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)

Select **one choice:**

Select **one alternate:** (DO NOT select the same elective)

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	<b>DANCE CERTIFICATE I**</b> Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)	MSDanceCert1	<b>DANCE CERTIFICATE I**</b> Ballet I (M6100) & Contemporary Dance I (M6110)
MSDanceCert2	<b>DANCE CERTIFICATE II**</b> Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)	MSDanceCert2	<b>DANCE CERTIFICATE II**</b> Ballet II (M6120) & Contemporary Dance II (M6130)
MSDanceCert3	<b>DANCE CERTIFICATE III**</b> Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)	MSDanceCert3	<b>DANCE CERTIFICATE III**</b> Ballet III (M6140) & Contemporary Dance III (M6150)

\*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](mailto: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 <https://mypueo.midpac.edu/mpsa-certificate-application> to fill an application form.