



Middle School School Virtual Course Catalog

Math

Math 7 A/B

Math 7 builds on material learned in earlier grades, including fractions, decimals, and percentages and introduces students to concepts they will continue to use throughout their study of mathematics. Among these are surface area, volume, and probability. Real-world applications facilitate understanding, and students are provided multiple opportunities to master these skills through practice problems within lessons, homework drills, and graded assignments.

Math 8 A/B

This course is designed to enable all students at the middle school level to develop a deep understanding of math objectives and leaves students ready for algebra. The first semester covers objectives in transformations, linear equations, systems of equations, and functions. The second semester focuses on scientific notation, roots, the Pythagorean Theorem and volume, and statistics and probability. The course is based on the Common Core State Standards Initiative and on a modern understanding of student learning in mathematics.

Social Studies

Middle School World History 7 A/B

In Middle School World History, learners will study major historical world events from early human societies through to the present day. Multimedia tools including custom videos as well as videos from the BBC, custom maps, and interactive timelines will help engage learners as they complete this year-long course. They will explore the development of early humans and early civilizations. They will be introduced to the origins of major world religions, such as Hinduism and Buddhism. Also, learners will study the medieval period. Historical thinking and geography skills will be taught and utilized throughout the course.

Middle School U.S. History 8 A/B

In Middle School U.S. History, learners will explore historical American events with the help of innovative videos, timelines, and interactive maps and images. The course covers colonial America through the Reconstruction period. Learners will develop historical thinking and geography skills, which they will use throughout the course to heighten their understanding of the material. Specific topics of study include the U.S. Constitution, the administrations of George Washington and John Adams, the War of 1812, and the Civil War.

Science

Science 7 with Virtual Labs A/B

Science 7 with Virtual Labs is an integrated science course based on the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The content covers all three dimensions incorporated by NGSS: disciplinary core ideas, science and engineering practices, and crosscutting concepts. The course robustly meets NGSS learning standards associated with seventh-grade integrated science (NGSS Appendix K: Revised Conceptual Progressions Model, p. 19). Semester A focuses on cells, the life cycle, and nutrition. Semester B focuses on chemical reactions, force fields, and energy. In this course, students complete teacher-graded labs in the Course Activities and Unit Activities. This version of Science 7 has been designed so that all labs are virtual. Students will still be able to plan and execute investigations through carefully designed simulations and videos. They will also be able to design experimental setups and analyze data and visuals derived from real-world experiments.

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Biology with Virtual Labs A/B

This inquiry- and virtual-lab-based course is designed to support modern science curriculum and teaching practices. It robustly meets NGSS learning standards for high school biology. Content topics include cells, organ systems, heredity, organization of organisms, evolution, energy use in organisms, and the interdependence of ecosystems. Each lesson includes one or more inquiry-based activities that can be performed online within the context of the lesson. In addition, the course includes a number of virtual lab activities in which students will exercise experimental design, data analysis, and data interpretation skills while working through a simulated laboratory situation.

Lab materials note: None of the virtual labs require specialized laboratory materials or tools. Some virtual labs do allow students to make use of common, household items—such as paper and a pencil—if they choose.

ELA

English 07 A/B

English 7 Integrates the study of writing and literature through the examination of a variety of genres. Students identify the elements of composition in the reading selections to understand their function and effect on the reader. Practice is provided in narrative and expository writing. Topics include comparison and contrast, persuasion, and cause and effect essays, as well as descriptive and figurative language. Lessons are supplemented with vocabulary development, grammar, and syntax exercises, along with an introduction to verbal phrases and research tools.

English 08 A/B

Extends the skills developed in English 7 through detailed study of parts of sentences and paragraphs to understand their importance to good writing. Students also acquire study skills such as time management and improved test-taking strategies. Other topics include punctuation, word choice, syntax, varying of sentence structure, subordination and coordination, detail and elaboration, effective use of reference materials, and proofreading.

World Language

Spanish 1 A/B

Spanish is the most spoken non-English language in U.S. homes, even among non-Hispanics, according to the Pew Research Center. There are overwhelming cultural, economic, and demographic reasons for students to achieve mastery of Spanish. Spanish 1A and B engage students and use a variety of activities to ensure student engagement and to promote personalized learning. These courses can be delivered completely online, or implemented as blended courses, according to the unique needs of the teacher and the students.

Spanish 2 A/B

Spanish 2A and B utilize three assessment tools that are designed specifically to address communication using the target language: Lesson Activities, Unit Activities, and Discussions. These tools help ensure language and concept mastery as students grow in their understanding and use of Spanish. Learning games specifically designed for language learning are used and can be accessed on a wide variety of devices.

Technology

Principles of Information Technology A/B

Building on the fundamentals learned in Information Technology 1A, this course takes the next steps in preparing learners for a career in information technology. Covering software, hardware, and implementation topics, the course also addresses the security and ethical issues that your students will face in an IT career. Combining lessons, online and offline activities, and interactive discussions, the course will provide a practical yet cutting edge look at the issues faced by leading IT professionals today and in the future.

Principles of Engineering & Technology A/B

This easy-to-manage course provides students with essential STEM knowledge and an effective overview of STEM careers. The course's 15 lessons are interspersed with activities and online discussions that engage learners and promote understanding and achievement. Topics covered include biotechnology, mechanics, and fluid and thermal systems. The concluding lesson provides a valuable overview of the overall engineering design process.



Middle School School Virtual Course Catalog

PE

Family Living & Healthy Relationships

In this course, students examine the family unit and characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships at different phases of life—including information on self-discovery, family, friendships, dating and abstinence, marriage, pregnancy, and parenthood. Students learn about the life cycle and the different stages of development from infancy to adulthood. They also focus on a variety of skills to improve relationships and family living, including coping skills, communication skills, refusal skills, babysitting, parenting, and healthy living and disease prevention habits.

Intro to Individual Sports 1

This course provides students with an overview of individual sports. Students learn about a variety of sports, yet do an in-depth study of running, walking, strength training, yoga, Pilates, dance, water sports, and cross-training. Students learn the history, rules, and guidelines of each sport, and practice specific skills related to each sport. Students also learn about the components of fitness, FITT principles, benefits of fitness, safety and technique, and good nutrition. Students conduct fitness assessments and participate in weekly physical activity.

Intro to Individual Sports 2

This course provides students with an overview of individual sports. Students learn about a variety of sports, yet do an in-depth study of running, walking, strength training, yoga, Pilates, dance, water sports, and cross-training. Students learn the history, rules, and guidelines of each sport, and practice specific skills related to each sport. Students also learn about the components of fitness, FITT principles, benefits of fitness, safety and technique, and good nutrition. Students conduct fitness assessments and participate in weekly physical activity.

Additional Electives

Principles of Arts, Audio/Video Technology, & Communications A/B

This course appeals to your students' familiarity with a variety of sensory inputs and stimulus. With an emphasis on visual arts, the 14 lessons introduce learners to careers in design, photography, performing arts, fashion, and journalism, among others. This engaging course covers inherently engaging topics that will stimulate your students as they consider careers in which the arts, technology, and communications intersect.

Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light

"A picture is worth a thousand words." Photographs play an important role in our world today. We photograph to preserve memories, document events, and create artistic works. This course introduces students to the basics of photography, including camera functions and photo composition. Students will learn what it takes to create a good photograph and how to improve photographs of animals, people, and vacations. They will also begin working with their photographs using photo-editing software. Through a variety of assigned projects, students will engage their creativity by photographing a range of subjects and learning to see the world through the lens of their cameras.

Middle School Career Explorations

What career are you best suited for? In this course, students will explore career options in many different fields including business, health science, public administration, the arts, and information technology.