

JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

7th Grade Course Offerings:

Bible:

[Old Testament Survey](#)

English:

[Literature 7 & Writing 7](#)
[Fundamentals of Writing & Literature](#)
[AIG Writing & Literature](#)

Math:

[General Math 7](#)
[Pre-Algebra Year 1](#)
[Accelerated Pre-Algebra](#)
[AIG Pre-Algebra](#)

Science:

[Science 7](#)

Social Studies:

[World Studies](#)

Electives:

Students take 1 choice elective each semester

[Art](#)
[Band](#)
[Colorguard](#)
[Future City](#)
[Music](#)
[Physical Education](#)
[STEM](#)
[Study Hall](#)
[Theater](#)
[Yearbook](#)

Please note: There are fees for 7th and 8th grade art, band, and colorguard. Please see more specific details in the course descriptions.

8th Grade Course Offerings:

Bible:

[New Testament Survey](#)

English:

[Literature 8 & Writing 8](#)
[Fundamentals of Writing & Literature](#)
[AIG Writing & Literature](#)

Math:

[General Math 8](#)
[Pre-Algebra Year 2](#)
[AIG Algebra 1](#)

Science:

[Science 8](#)

Social Studies:

[World Geography/Computer Applications](#)

Electives:

Students take health 1 semester and a choice elective the other semester

[Art](#)
[Band](#)
[Colorguard](#)
[Future City](#)
[Health](#)
[Music](#)
[Physical Education](#)
[Spanish](#)
[STEM](#)
[Study Hall](#)
[Theater](#)
[Yearbook](#)

Click on a course name to go to a more detailed description

BIBLE COURSES

Old Testament Survey (7th Grade):

In 7th grade Bible, there are four primary aspects: (1) Old Testament Survey (2) Old Testament Sound-Offs (3) Weekly Character Traits (4) Spiritual Disciplines. Throughout the year, we examine the overall picture of the Old Testament, with a short study of each Old Testament book. To reinforce this content, students memorize an Old Testament Sound-Off, where they will be able to recite the books of the Bible in order, with a brief/general paraphrase of each book. In addition, as a part of our daily devotions, students learn about different character traits each week and how these traits can be shown in our own lives. Woven throughout this content, students learn essential spiritual disciplines such as prayer, worship, and developing a personal devotional life.

Textbook: *The Bible, NIV Translation*

New Testament Survey (8th Grade):

In 8th grade Bible, students study an overview of the entire New Testament, with a brief study of each individual book. The New Testament has a unique blend of history, church doctrine, theology, prophecy, and daily application for our spiritual lives. This class reflects all these different aspects at different times throughout the year. In addition to reviewing each New Testament book, students are also introduced to other topics such as apologetics and basic biblical interpretation tools.

Textbook: *The Bible, NIV Translation*

Community Service (7th and 8th Grade):

The junior high requirement for community service is 5 hours per semester.

ENGLISH COURSES

Literature 7 (7th Grade):

In 7th grade literature, students strive to become critical readers that dig deeper than just the storyline of a story. Students learn various author techniques that are used to create good writing. They also learn to hold a collegial discussion through whole class and small group discussions. Students take what they learn in this literature class and put it into practice in the corresponding writing class.

Novels Read in this Course:

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor

King Arthur by Puffin Classics

The Narnia Series by C.S. Lewis

Haroun and the Sea of Stories by Salman Rushdie

Flying Lessons and Other Short Stories by Ellen Oh

Truce by Jim Murphy

Various current novels used in Lit Circles

*Please note, novels may vary from year to year.

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Writing 7 (7th Grade):

Seventh grade writing is a survey class of the main genres of writing: narrative, literary analysis, and argument. Students write various essays including realistic fiction, literary analysis, informative research, and fantasy fiction. In narrative writing, students must demonstrate an understanding of theme and how to develop a short story using various author techniques. In literary analysis, students learn to go beyond summary writing and dig deeper in analysis of what they read. Students continue to strengthen their writing skills as they learn to develop strong argumentative writing using evidence and research. Throughout the year, students learn how to develop stronger sentences and paragraphs that support their ideas. Finally, the students work on writing a fantasy fiction piece that follows the archetype hero's journey.

Literature 8 (8th Grade):

In 8th grade literature, reading strategies, elements of literature and writing, critical thinking, analysis skills, speaking, listening, and vocabulary building comprise the main elements of reading instruction. Students continue to develop an appreciation for literature through the study of literary elements in classic and modern selections. Students consider the influence of language Biblically and in literature.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
The Giver by Lois Lowry
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Night by Elie Wiesel
The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
Animal Farm by George Orwell
The Diary of Anne Frank (play version) by Anne Frank
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

*Please note, novels may vary from year to year.

Writing 8 (8th Grade):

In 8th grade writing, students write various essays including investigative journalism, persuasion, literary analysis, and research-based argument. Students are taught to strive for precise wording, developed syntax, established craft, thoughtful analysis, correct mechanics of writing, and cohesive structure. MLA format is expected for all papers. In all genres of writing, students consider the Biblical perspective and determine the accuracy of their thought in light of God's word.

Fundamentals of Writing & Literature (7th & 8th Grade):

Fundamentals of Writing and Literature is designed as an intervention class for students with learning difficulties or known disabilities in the language arts content areas. This is a combination class of 7th and 8th grade students. This class is smaller in size to meet individual student needs. Students enrolled this class are also participating in the Student Academic Services (SAS) Program in the daily services. An Educational Consult and a formal evaluation is required prior to enrollment in the Foundations of Writing & Literature class and the SAS Program.

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AIG Writing & Literature (7th & 8th Grade):

AIG writing and literature are rigorous courses designed for students who are prepared to think critically, read at a deeper level, and write at a higher level. It exceeds 7th and 8th grade reading and writing standards. Its rigor prepares students for high school honors and AP English classes. Enrollment in this class is based on meeting entrance requirements for AIG (Academically and Intellectually Gifted Program) requirements.

Novels Read in this Course:

Dawn of Wonder by Jonathan Renshaw

The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom

Excerpts from *Don't Waste Your Life* by John Piper

Watership Down by Richard Adams

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

Excerpts from *Cross of Christ* by John Stott

The Giver by Lois Lowry

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee

*Please note, novels may vary slightly from year to year.

MATH COURSES

General Math 7 (7th Grade):

General Math 7 is designed for students who need extra math support. It is a class that focuses on small group instruction to meet students where they are at in math, while still exposing them to grade-level concepts when appropriate. This class further develops the student's understanding of the number system and continues to help them grow their confidence in basic mathematical concepts. Enrollment in this class is based on testing and teacher recommendation.

Textbooks: *Math in Focus: Singapore Math Course 2*, Marshall Cavendish

Other supplemental materials are used to meet students at their level

Pre-Algebra, Year 1 (7th Grade):

Pre-Algebra is designed to develop abstract thinking skills in preparation for future courses in algebra and geometry. Abstract thinking skills are developed while studying topics such as percent, measurement, ratio, proportion, data analysis, integers, geometry, statistics, formulas, and equations. Pre-Algebra is offered in a two-year format to support students with more practice, application and review to help them deepen their understanding of the concepts presented.

In 7th grade, instructional time focuses on five critical areas: (1) analyzing proportional relationships and using them to solve real-world problems (2) applying and extending previous applications with fractions (3) using algebraic expressions and equations to solve real-world problems (4) using angle measure, area, surface area, and volume to solve real-world problems (5) drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

Textbook: *Math in Focus: Singapore Math Course 2*, Marshall Cavendish

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Accelerated Pre-Algebra (7th Grade):

Accelerated Pre-Algebra is designed for students who are prepared to work at a faster pace. They complete pre-algebra in one year. This class covers both 7th and 8th grade math standards. Instructional time focuses on nine critical areas: (1) analyzing proportional relationships and using them to solve real-world problems (2) applying and extending previous applications with fractions (3) using algebraic expressions and equations to solve real-world problems (4) applying geometry to solve real-world problems (5) drawing inferences about populations based on samples (6) using irrational numbers (7) solving linear equations (8) using functions (9) investigating patterns between two quantities. Enrollment in this class is based on testing and teacher recommendation.

Textbook: *Saxon Math Course 3*, Saxon Publishers

AIG Pre-Algebra (7th Grade):

AIG Pre-algebra is a rigorous course designed for students who are prepared to be challenged to think critically and practice a variety of pre-algebra concepts on a much deeper level. They complete pre-algebra in one year and cover both 7th and 8th grade standards. In addition to working at a faster pace, students problem-solve to complete complex, multi-step, real-world problems. Enrollment in this class is based on meeting entrance requirements for AIG (Academically and Intellectually Gifted Program) requirements.

Textbook: *Saxon Math Course 3*, Saxon Publishers

General Math 8 (8th Grade):

General Math 8 is a continuation of General Math 7. It is for students who need extra math support. It is a class that focuses on small group instruction to meet students where they are at in math, while still exposing them to grade-level concepts when appropriate. Students will further develop their understanding of the number system and continue to grow their confidence in basic mathematical concepts.

Textbooks: *Math in Focus: Singapore Math Course 3*, Marshall Cavendish
Other supplemental materials are used to meet students at their level

Pre-Algebra, Year 2 (8th Grade):

Pre-Algebra is designed to develop abstract thinking skills in preparation for future courses in algebra and geometry. Abstract thinking skills are developed while studying topics such as percent, measurement, ratio, proportion, data analysis, integers, geometry, statistics, formulas, and equations. Pre-Algebra is offered in a two-year format to support students with more practice, application and review to help them deepen their understanding of the concepts presented.

In 8th grade, instructional time focuses on five critical areas: (1) using irrational numbers (2) formulating and reasoning about expressions, solving linear systems of equations (3) developing understanding of functions and using functions to describe quantitative relationships (4) applying the Pythagorean Theorem and using volume of cylinders, cones and spheres to solve real-world questions (5) investigating patterns between two quantities

Textbook: *Math in Focus: Singapore Math Course 3*, Marshall Cavendish

AIG Algebra 1 (8th Grade):

This is a high school level class, so it will appear on the high school transcript.

AIG Algebra is a rigorous course designed for students who are prepared to be challenged to think critically and practice a variety of algebraic concepts on a much deeper level. They go beyond the 9th grade algebra standards. In addition to working at a faster pace, students problem-solve to complete complex, multi-step, real-world problems. Enrollment in this class is based on meeting entrance requirements for AIG (Academically and Intellectually Gifted Program) requirements.

Textbook: *Algebra 1: Applications and Connections*, Merrill

SCIENCE COURSES**Science 7 (7th Grade):**

In 7th grade science, students learn to marvel at the foundations of God's creation. 1st semester is a survey of Life Science (Biology), starting with the cell and working up to entire ecosystems, focusing especially on the diversity in creation. 2nd semester is a survey of Physical Science (Chemistry), looking at atoms and properties of matter, and how those elements mix and react to one another. A focus is placed on laboratory practices and skill building.

Textbook: No textbooks are checked out to students for this class, but various book and online resources are used in class.

Science 8 (8th Grade):

In 8th grade science, students learn to marvel at the processes that shape God's creation. 1st semester is a survey of Earth Science (Geology), starting with the innermost layers of the earth and climbing up into the heavens. A focus is placed on the processes shaping the earth and making conclusions based on evidence. 2nd semester is a survey of Physical Science (Physics), looking at energy in its various forms, how objects interact, and how those interactions affect everyday life. A focus is placed on laboratory skills building and engineering practices.

Textbooks: *Earth Science*, D.C. Heath and Company and *Science Spectrum: Physical Science*, Holt Pub.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES**World Studies 7 (7th Grade):**

This survey course is designed to give students an overview of world geography, history, and cultures. It focuses on the stories of people and their relationship to God throughout the ages. The content picks up where the sixth grade Ancient History class left off at the Crusades and goes through the recent past. Students also learn about and critically think through current events throughout the year.

Textbook: *World Studies, Fourth Edition*, BJU Press

World Geography/Computer Applications (8th Grade):

This course focuses on the earth and its contents. We will be learning about landforms, people groups, maps and globes, cultures, climates, etc. We will also be learning how to successfully navigate Microsoft Office and its many tools and apps. Computer projects are integrated into the geography curriculum.

Textbook: *Discovering World Geography*, McGraw Hill Education

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JUNIOR HIGH ELECTIVE COURSES

The following courses have previously been offered at Cole Valley Christian School and are not necessarily offered every semester. Elective choices each year are based on teacher availability and student interest.

Art: There is a \$30 fee per semester for art.

This course is designed to teach students to recognize and successfully employ art vocabulary, the elements and principles of design, various art media, and tools and techniques while expressing themselves visually. Students will learn problem solving skills and will be able to describe, analyze, interpret, and make judgments about works of art, including their own.

Band: There is a \$100 fee per semester for band.

(This is a full year class; marching band is first semester and concert band is second semester.)

Students develop instrumental music skills on the instrument of the student's choice. Students provide their own instruments, with the exception of specifically assigned instruments. Students are expected to meet minimum assigned practice requirements and participate in all band performances.

Colorguard: There is a \$250 fee per semester for colorguard.

The Colorguard works closely with the band program. We strive to provide a Biblically based opportunity for student growth, development, and understanding of music, color, and movement through individual devotion and group participation. Colorguard instruction includes choreography and equipment training related to, what is called: "Sport of the Arts" (example: flags ruffles, dance, and ribbons) with equipment supplied by the CVCS Instrumental Music Department. Performances are required and occur at selected sporting events, marching competitions, parades, festivals, and winterguard/showcases.

Future City:

Future City starts with a question—how can we make the world a better place? To answer it, students imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future that showcase their solution to a citywide sustainability issue. This flexible, cross-curricular educational program allows students to work on teams and gives them an opportunity to do the things that engineers do. It culminates with a regional competition at BSU in January. We have taken teams to compete in Future City for the past 2 years. This is the first year we're planning to offer it as a JH elective.

Health: (Required elective 1 semester in 8th grade, unless student is taking a full-year elective like Spanish or band)

The junior high-level health course is gender specific. Students study the major components of health: spiritual, physical, mental, emotional, and social. Life skills will be developed throughout this class with an emphasis on decision-making and refusal skills.

Music:

Junior high choir students will learn to use their voices to create a correct and pleasing singing sound. In addition to learning proper vocal technique, students will also learn music reading skills, and performance skills. This is a performance-based class. Participation in a concert performance outside of regular class hours is required.

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Physical Education:

For PE, students participate in a variety of physical activities. We focus on team sports and individual activities. Some semesters, we offer strength and conditioning instead. JH strength and conditioning covers the most basic movements of weightlifting. Student focus on form, stretching, and conditioning. This is an entry level class to the high school strength and conditioning class.

Spanish: (This is a full year class and only offered for 8th graders.)

Students will be introduced to pronunciation, phrases, and beginning conjugation of Spanish. Students will also learn about Spanish speaking countries and culture within this country. By the end of the class, students will be able to carry on a simple conversation in Spanish read in Spanish correctly.

STEM:

Junior High STEM will push younger scientist/engineers into a wide variety of challenges in which students must provide a working solution. Students will sharpen their math, science, creativity and teamwork skills during this semester long class. They will learn how to design, build, test, analyze and correct a wide variety of topics including but not limited to; rocketry, cardboard carpentry, 3D design and printing, simple machines, mechanical efficiency, and much more. This class is designed to offer advanced students with opportunities to apply their scientific understanding. It does *not* replace the JH Science courses.

Study Hall:

This class allows students time to stay on top of their studies and work on their homework. The expectation is that students always come with something to do and work independently the entire class period. If they do not have homework, they need to come with a book.

Theater:

This class focuses on learning the basic principles of theater, such as staging, pantomime, improv, and costume characterization. This class will explore each person's creative artistic expression and emphasize the study of acting as a discipline. It will cover the fundamental techniques of acting through project-based experiences that will ultimately lead to a final performance of small group scenes.

Yearbook:

This class gives students experience in planning and creating a school yearbook. They design and create the junior high yearbook for the current school year.

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