



Bloomfield Hills Middle School

Program Summary: 7th Grade Course Descriptions

Bloomfield Hills Middle School, along with the Bloomfield School District, has adopted the Michigan State Core Curriculum. All benchmarks and Grade Level Content Expectations have been aligned with the State Curriculum, grades 6-8. Detailed descriptions of content objectives can be found at www.mde.gov and will be included in summary form in teacher syllabi.

Language A (7th grade)

Required 7

This course is designed to continue the development of language arts, to build skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Understanding story elements will be emphasized, through a variety of genre, including poetry, drama, myth, legend, memoir, and mystery. Grammar, structure, vocabulary, spelling, and editing will be emphasized in all writing assignments.

Science 7

Required 7

Seventh grade students examine and discover the interactions between the living and nonliving parts of the environment. The course topics include: earth systems, weather and climate, the water cycle, the atmosphere, waves and energy, properties of matter (chemistry), cells, heredity and plants.

Math 7

Required 7

CMP 7th grade math centers around key instructional themes, related mathematical processes and skills and strategies, while emphasizing significant connections between mathematical topics and other school subjects. Students will use graphing calculators. Topics covered include algebraic expressions and equations, operations using algebraic equations, similarity, scale factors, ratios, percents and proportional thinking, operations with integers, order of operations and absolute value, slope and linear relationships, 3-D measurement, samples and populations as related to probability, and representation and interpretation of data using charts and graphs.

Social Studies (Humanities)

Required 7

Students become acquainted with the various cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere. They will expand their knowledge of both the physical and cultural geography of major regions in Africa, Asia, Australia and Antarctica. In doing so, students will gain knowledge of the economic, political and social systems of the Eastern Hemisphere, both past and present. Themes in economics and geography are embedded in each unit of study, as are characteristics of democratic and non-democratic forms of government.

Physical Education 7

Required 7

The seventh-grade student will be introduced to the lifetime sports of tennis and badminton. Sport activities may include basketball, cross country running, floor hockey, team handball, flag football, softball and volleyball. Emphasis will be placed on the cardiovascular fitness contribution of these activities. The program will also include the physiological effects of exercise on the body. In October and May, each student will be required to run one mile to test cardiovascular endurance. The purpose of the test is to identify a level of fitness for each individual student. Students' results will be compared to national norms. Each year the Presidential Physical Fitness Challenge will be administered to all students so that their fitness level can be measured and compared to other students their age throughout the country.

Family and Consumer Science

Required 7

This course is a continuation of the exposure given to the sixth graders in Life Skills. Content will be advanced in the areas of nutrition, food preparation, consumerism, decision-making and communication. The content of this course is based on skills that students need to live healthier, and safer lives. Unit study will develop skills in the areas of kitchen safety and equipment use, food nutrient exploration and food preparation, cooking terminology and recipe reading, and nutritional analysis of foods. The course also addresses reproductive health, specifically, infectious and non-infectious diseases, puberty, male and female reproductive systems and conception.

Academic Extension 7 - Academic Extension is a rotation consisting of a series of 8 week courses

Health 7 Required 7

This course provides students with information concerning overall wellness including social and emotional health.

Design Technology Required 7

This course includes skills in reading architectural scale drawings, CAD programming, drafting tool use, and the elements of house design. Students will design and build a quarter section house.

Digital Design Required 7

Digital stories derive their power through weaving images, music, narrative and voice together, thereby giving deep dimension and vivid color to characters, situations, and insights. This course challenges students to take their written ideas and translate them into media-rich stories to tell, to share with others, and to preserve.

Careers Exploration Required 7

Students will investigate potential career pathways and investigate careers that are of interest to them. They will use extensive skills in technology to complete this investigation

Math Enrichment/Language Arts Enrichment Required 7

Students learn about study skills and test taking skills. In math enrichment, students expand their skills in operations with positive and negative numbers and operations with positive and negative fractions. In language arts enrichment, students study parts of speech and explore patterns, symbols and meaning in visual language.

Elective Courses:

7th Grade Orchestra Elective 7

This course is designed for those students who have been previously enrolled in Cadet Strings. Orchestra will provide opportunities to continue to develop individual skills in bowing and positions, and give experience in ensemble-playing. Evening programs and concerts will be given throughout the year. Opportunities to participate in solo and ensemble festival are encouraged. Major themes of study include music theory, sight-reading, ensemble formation, and concert preparation.

7th Grade Band Elective 7

Intermediate Band is designed for the student who has two or more years of playing experience on a band instrument. Emphasis is placed on development of tone, intonation, technique, rhythm, proper balance and blend in the ensemble, dynamics and interpretation. In addition to the band rehearsal, students will have the opportunity to participate in MSBOA District Solo and Ensemble festivals, MSBOA District Band Festival and other Honors Bands. Major units of study include ensemble techniques, concert preparation, music theory and sight-reading. Three to four evening performances will be given throughout the school year.

7th Grade Choir Elective 7

This course is for the student who enjoys singing and wants to continue to develop and build upon the fundamental and necessary skills for singing both individually, independently, and as a "voice" within the group. Emphasis will be placed on further developing competency in reading music, the production of an accurate, confident vocal sound and its relationship to others in the choral ensemble. Singing a variety of multiple part songs and choral literature, students will demonstrate and share their learning in a concert setting. Solo singing and skill building is explored in this course.

Drama I (Acting Skills, Improvisation) Elective 7

Seventh Grade Drama I students will study basic stage terms, improvisation, stage movement, visual awareness, observation techniques, oral skills, characterization, cooperation skills and theater attitude. Unit studies include stage movement, stage combat, voice and scene work, monologues and improvisation. Students will perform for classmates.

Drama II – (Forensics, Performance) Elective 7

Seventh Grade Drama II students will have a chance to learn by performance. Major units of study include: technical theater production design, performance of children's theater play, and techniques for interpretive forensics performance. Students will perform for audiences outside of the classroom.

Spanish 7

Elective 7

The seventh-grade Spanish program will begin to blend the elementary communication model with the high school program. Instruction will be one full class period every other day all year. Students will continue to improve and develop Spanish skills in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening and cultural awareness. Major unit studies include verb use and vocabulary development. The high school textbook series will be used as a classroom resource. Students will receive letter grades on the report card at the end of each marking period.

German 7

Elective 7

The seventh grade German course focuses on expanding upon skills learned in sixth grade. It is considered the second of the three courses of the middle school program. Instruction will be one full class period every other day all year. Overall objectives are aligned with the standards of foreign language learning: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. Lessons are designed specifically to improve students' listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in the German language. Units of study include: expressing wishes when shopping, telling time, ordering food and beverages, and talking about the weather. All units will focus on the development of basic verb usage and grammar through the use of authentic texts, photos, and artifacts from German speaking countries.

3-D Art

Elective 7

3-D Art is a three-dimensional art class that may include projects involving sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, fibers and puppetry as well as the study of artists who work in these art forms.

3-D Art will foster the observation skills, self-expression, creativity, self-discipline and personal responsibility of the students as they explore three dimensional art projects. In accordance with the National Standards for Art Education, students will build upon their sixth or seventh grade art experiences to meet six educational goals:

1. Understand three-dimensional media and its application, techniques and processes.
2. Use knowledge of structures and functions.
3. Choose and evaluate a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas.
4. Understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures.
5. Reflect upon and assess the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others.
6. Make connections between the visual arts and other disciplines.

2-D Art

Elective 7

2-D Art is a two-dimensional art class that may include projects in design, drawing, painting, fibers, print making and computer art as well as the study of artists who work in these art forms.

2-D Art will foster the observation skills, self-expression, creativity, self-discipline and personal responsibility of the students as they explore two dimensional art projects.

In accordance with the National Standards for Art Education, students will also build upon their sixth or seventh grade art experiences to meet the following six educational goals:

1. Understand two-dimensional media and its application, techniques and processes.
2. Use knowledge of structures and functions.
3. Choose and evaluate a range of subject matter, symbols and ideas.
4. Understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures.
5. Reflect upon and assess the characteristics and merit of their work and the work of others.
6. Make connections between the visual arts and other disciplines.