



Mountain Ridge

7th Grade Course Descriptions 2016 - 2017

REQUIRED CORE CLASSES

- **MATH**

Go to www.corestandards.org and click on "Mathematics Standards" for an explanation of the Common Core Math.

OR go to www.alpineschooldistrict.org. Under "departments" choose "Educational Services and Curriculum". Under "Curriculum and Instruction" column, click on "Secondary Math 7-12".

NOTE: Math classes will be preassigned by student's Sage Test Scores, Grades, and Teachers.

Intermediate Math I and Lab: (2 credits): 7th Grade Utah State Standard Math. **(Daily)**

This course focuses on the concept of proportional relationships. Students also work with integers and rational numbers.

Intermediate Math I: (1 credit): 7th Grade Utah State Standard Math. **(Every other day)**

This course focuses on the concept of proportional relationships. Students also work with integers and rational numbers.

A.L.L. Intermediate Math: (1 credit): 7th Grade Utah State Standard Advanced Learning Lab Math. (Placement by Math teacher). Register for A.L.L. testing online through the ASD Gifted Services <http://curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services/>

- **English**

English 7: (1 credit): This class will provide a foundation in reading, writing, Speaking and language use. Outside reading will be required.

A.L.L. English: (1 credit): Register for A.L.L. testing online through the ASD Gifted Services <http://curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services/>

****A.L.L. English students will be registered into English 7. Schedules will be adjusted on an individual basis.*

Read 180/English: (2 credits): This class is by referral only. These students will have English every day with the same teacher. They will use Read 180, a computer and reading program developed by Scholastic. They will focus reading comprehension, spelling skills, vocabulary skills, and writing skills. All elements of the seventh grade core curriculum will be covered. This class is limited in size and is based on teacher referral.

****Read 180/English students will be pre-registered online for English 7. Schedules will be adjusted on an individual basis.*

• SCIENCE

Science 7: (1 credit): This course focuses on the theme of "structure" as a property that is common to all sciences. Students observe that all substances are made of smaller parts and are themselves parts of larger wholes, and that when parts come together the whole often has properties that are very different from its parts. Hands-on, inquiry-based instruction is used to help student's value science as a process for obtaining knowledge based on observable evidence.

A.L.L. Science 7: (1 credit): This project-oriented class offers an advanced level of Integrated Science 7, focusing on the theme of structure as a property that is common to physical, earth, and life sciences, exposing students to complex and substantive content, and providing the opportunity to develop quality products that relate to the real world. The enriched curriculum will emphasize inquiry, research, creativity, and higher-level thinking skills. Prior approval is required based on district testing. Placement will be determined by the Science Department at Mountain Ridge. Testing scores from District A.L.L. testing will be included in placement determination.

Register for A.L.L. testing online through the ASD Gifted Services.

<http://curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services/>

****A.L.L. Science students will be pre-registered online for Science 7. Schedules will be adjusted on an individual basis.*

• UTAH HISTORY

Utah History: (.5 credit): This course is a study of geography, geology, and prehistoric era of Utah, and also includes the Native Americans, the trapper, colonization, and the road to statehood. The state government is also taught.

A.L.L. History: (1 credit): Register for A.L.L. testing online through the ASD Gifted Services.

<http://curriculum.alpineschools.org/gifted-services/>

**** A.L.L. History students will be pre-registered online for History 7. Schedules will be adjusted on an individual basis.*

- **Physical Education**

PE Girls: (.5 credit):

PE Boys: (.5 credit):

Beginning Team Sports Activities: This class is an entry level course emphasizing beginner skills in a broad spectrum of activities in order to develop a foundation for future physical education classes.

*****DANCE WILL NOT REPLACE PE.**

- **College and Career Awareness (previously CTE)**

College and Career Awareness: (1 credit): College and Career Awareness offers exploration and preparation in college and career pathways focusing on jobs that are high skill and high demand, as well as satisfying and financially rewarding. The College and Career Awareness course is designed to help students identify their interests, abilities, and skills. With appropriate developmental information related to careers, educational pathways, and self-knowledge, students are able to begin to make college and career goals for the future. College and Career Awareness is designed to acquaint students with the Utah labor market and the employment opportunities for which they can prepare by defining a College and Career Ready Plan. The experiences are presented in four cluster areas:

- 1) Business/Marketing/Economics/Information Technology
- 2) Family and Consumer Sciences
- 3) Technology/Agriculture
- 4) Careers and Health Sciences

Each of the components includes a corresponding guidance module.

STUDENTS WILL STUDY ALL FOUR CLASSES DURING THE YEAR.

*College and Career Awareness Courses do not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender or disabilities.

- **Keyboarding**

Keyboarding I: (.5 credit): A beginning typing course where students will master touch operation on a computer keyboard. Correct fingering by touch operation and good technique will receive primary emphasis; speed and accuracy will be given secondary emphasis. Students will learn alphabetic keys, top-row numbers, the number pad, punctuation marks, and symbols.

FULL YEAR ELECTIVE CLASSES

- FINE ARTS

Beginning Brass Band: (*1 credit*): This is a fun class for beginners wishing to play a brass instrument (trumpet, french horn, trombone, euphonium or baritone, and tuba). **Prior music experience is not needed** — students are taught everything they need to know including how to read music. Students will need to rent or buy an instrument to play (usually from a local music store). School-owned instruments (tubas, French horns, and euphoniums) may be rented for \$70 for the school year. Summer band is recommended (but not required) for students to receive specific instruction on their instrument and for those wishing to get a head start. There is a \$5 class fee to help cover music and travel costs.

Beginning Woodwind Band: (*1 credit*): This is a fun class for beginners wishing to play a woodwind instrument (clarinet, flute, saxophone, oboe and bassoon). **Prior music experience is not needed** — students are taught everything they need to know including how to read music. Students will need to rent or buy an instrument to play (usually from a local music store). School-owned instruments (bass clarinets, oboes, bassoons, tenor and bass saxes) may be rented for \$70 for the school year. Summer band is recommended (but not required) for students to receive specific instruction on their instrument and for those wishing to get a head start. There is a \$5 class fee to help cover music and travel costs.

Beginning Percussion: (*1 credit*): **Prerequisite:** two years piano lessons, proficient piano skills, and music reading ability. In this fast paced class, students will focus primarily on mallet and snare techniques and other concert and orchestral percussion instruments. Each student will need to rent or buy a percussion/bell kit to play (usually from a local music store). Students will perform with the Beginning Band throughout the year. Summer band is recommended (but not required) for students to receive specific instruction on their instrument and for those wishing to get a head start. There is a \$25 class fee to help cover cost and maintenance of school percussion equipment.

Beginning Orchestra: (*1 credit*): This is an entry level class for beginning students with no experience on violin, viola, cello, or bass. It is open to students of all grades. Our school has violas, cellos, and basses for student rental for \$70 for the school year. Violins can be rented or purchased through local music dealers. This Orchestra performs in a concert at the end of each quarter. Intermediate orchestra is appropriate for all students with at least one year prior experience.

FULL YEAR AUDITION CLASSES

Experienced Band and Orchestra Students will need to audition with teachers for placement in higher level classes.

Percussion (Intermediate/Advanced Percussion): (1 credit) This class requires one or more years percussion experience, at least two years prior piano experience, and music reading ability. Students will learn aspects of being a total percussionist including playing position, rudiments, rhythms, reading music, timpani, auxiliary instruments, and mallets. Members of this class perform with the Concert and Symphonic Bands. There is a \$25 class fee to help offset travel, festival, music and equipment costs.

Intermediate Band: (1 credit): Concert Band is open to students with previous instrumental music experience. The ensemble consists of students in 7th, 8th, and 9th grades. In this class, students will continue to reinforce playing fundamentals while rehearsing and performing more challenging music. **Prerequisites:** students should be able to play all 12 major scales and/or have completed the first band method book. There is a \$15 class fee to help offset travel, festival, music and equipment costs.

Symphonic Band: (1 credit) The Symphonic Band is Mountain Ridge Junior High's advanced performing ensemble consisting primarily of 8th and 9th graders. Placement in the Symphonic Band is determined by student auditions and instrumentation needs. Symphonic Band is treated as an honors class, so expectations are very high. Audition includes playing all 12 major scales memorized at a steady tempo and a two octave Concert F Chromatic Scale. There is a \$25 class fee to help offset travel, festival, music and equipment costs.

Jazz Band: (1 credit) **EARLY MORNING CLASS:**

Jazz Ensemble (Advanced and Intermediate): The Mountain Ridge Jazz Bands rehearse before school and allow students to expand their musical knowledge beyond the "classical" realm. Students in Jazz Band perform music of a more contemporary nature, focusing on jazz (swing), rock, Latin, and ballads. Members learn improvisation, jazz articulations, and other aspects of the jazz idiom. Placement in jazz band is based on auditions held in May and requires continued participation in a regular class in addition to jazz band. The jazz band performs at school and community events, concerts and festivals.

Intermediate Orchestra: (1 credit): This course is offered to students with at least one year experience playing violin, viola, cello, or bass. In addition to the quarterly concerts, this orchestra performs for the District Intermediate Orchestra Festival. No audition required if experience criteria is met.

Advanced Orchestra: (1 credit)

By audition or teacher recommendation only. Students should be able to play in upper positions and/or take private lessons. In addition to the quarterly concerts, this orchestra performs for

numerous Festivals, the Grand Concert, and the school musical. Students will be part of an ensemble of advanced string players directed toward performing the finest in classical and contemporary music.

1/2 YEAR ELECTIVE CLASSES:

- **World Languages**

Spanish Intro: (.5 credit): This class will explore the Spanish language and culture. Basic Spanish language skills will be taught.

- **College and Career Awareness (previously CTE)**

7th Grade Exploration Tech Ed: (.5 credit): Exploring Technology is an exciting discovery of the technological systems of four of the following seven technology areas: medical, agriculture/biotechnology, energy-power, information and communications, transportation, manufacturing, and construction technologies. This course will provide opportunities for students to work individually and in a team, while also developing skills in technological design, innovation, and problem solving. There is also the opportunity to learn and practice leadership skills and participate in technological skills competitions through involvement in the Technology Student Association. *College and Career Awareness Courses do not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender or disabilities.

- **English**

Creative Writing: (.5 credit): This course is designed to give students the opportunity to develop their writing skills through creative and artistic expression. Students will write every day and explore a variety of writing genres. They will create a portfolio of their writing. Students will learn how to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others.

- **Fine Arts**

Art Exploration: (.5 credit): This is an entry level art course designed to introduce students to the elements and principles of design, art history, criticism, diverse art media, and art making practices and to allow for the development of artistic, creative and problem-solving talent. This class is a spring board for all other art courses offered at both Jr. High and High school. This class will provide an opportunity for students to develop basic skills.

Chorus: (.5 credit): This fun class emphasizes developing basic singing technique and performance skills. Students will focus on voice building, music reading, music history, and developing confidence while they work together to learn music from all genres. Students perform once a semester and can look forward to a fun and friendly class.

Humanities (.5 credit): A study of music, literature, art and sculpture.

Drama 7: (.5 credit): This is an introductory study of theater, covering many various forms of the performing arts. This class will help students feel comfortable speaking in public, reading and writing play texts, and working in groups. Students will discover techniques for characterization, improvisation, puppetry, and using voices and bodies effectively to tell a story.

Theater Production: (.5 credit): First Semester Audition Class. This class is designed to teach the basic skills of play production, including back-stage work, and actual performances. Students will produce plays that do not involve music or dance. Every person in the class will get a speaking part in the class production. There are only one or two rehearsals outside of class.

Dance 1: (.5 credit): In this introduction to dance, beginning dance techniques and movements will be taught. Different dance styles will be explored, with emphasis being placed on the basic elements that make up modern dance.

Dance 2: (.5 credit): Two years or more of dance experience required. This class is a continuation of Dance 1. Intermediate dance techniques and movements will be taught and different dance styles will be explored. Emphasis will be placed on the elements of modern dance.

Men's Hip Hop: (.5 credit): In this introduction to dance, beginning dance techniques, movements and dancing with props, will be taught. Different dance styles will be explored. Emphasis will be placed on the basic elements that make up dance.

- **General**

Study Skills: (.5 credit): This is a class to help students learn study skills that will help them be a successful student.

*****This is NOT a homework center.**