

MOUNTAIN RIDGE JUNIOR HIGH
8TH GRADE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS



+++REQUIRED CORE CLASS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS+++



****MATH (full year class)****

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". Find the "Curriculum and Instruction" column, click on "Secondary Math 7-12".

NOTE: Math classes will be pre-assigned, this year determined by tests, scores and teacher recommendation.

M080D1– Intermediate Math II and Lab (2 credits): 8th Grade new Utah State Standard Math. (Daily)

M0801 – Intermediate Math II (1 credit): 8th new Utah State Standard Math. (Every other day)

M0801A – Intermediate Math IIA and M090A2 Secondary Math 1H (1 credit): 8th Grade new Utah State Standard Academy Math. Placement will be determined by the Math Department at Mountain Ridge.



****ENGLISH (full year class)****

EN081 - English 8 (1 credit):

Students enrolled in English 8 will continue the study of reading, writing including mechanics and usage, viewing, listening and speaking. Teachers will emphasize the six writing traits and reading strategies. Outside reading and book reports may be required.

EN08G1 - English Academy (1 credit): Placement from District test scores. (Barbara Langford)

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




****SCIENCE (full year class)****

S1801 - Science 8 (1 credit):

Focus is on the theme of "change". Topics from physical, earth, and life science are integrated to illustrate the concept of change in nature. Students will study chemical and physical changes; changes in force, motion, and energy; and changes in the earth's crust and climate. Hands-on, inquiry-based instruction is used to help student, value science as a process for obtaining knowledge based on observable evidence

S180G1 – Academy Science (1 credit): Placement will be determined by the Science Department at Mountain Ridge. Testing scores from District Academy testing will be including in placement determination.

*****Science Academy students will be pre-registered on-line for Science 7. Schedules will be adjusted on an individual basis.**

 ****HISTORY (full year class)****

HUS11 - US History (1 credit):

This course includes the study of political and physical geography, exploration, colonization, the Revolutionary Era, the Constitution and government, westward expansion, the Civil War and Reconstruction. Also include mapping, charting and graphing skills.

HUS1G1- History Academy (1 credit): Placement from District test scores. (Barbara Langford)

*****History Academy students will be pre-registered on-line for US History. Schedules will be adjusted on an individual basis.**


 ****PE (half year class)****

P108F- Girl's PE (.5 credit):

Intermediate PE activities; This class offers a wide range of developmentally appropriate activities that are increasingly complex in content, concept, skill development and execution.

P108M- Boy's PE (.5 credit):

Intermediate PE activities; This class offers a wide range of developmentally appropriate activities that are increasingly complex in content, concept, skill development and execution.

 ****HEALTH (half year class)****

P0H10 – Health (.5 credit) :

This class offers students an opportunity to develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for practicing lifelong-health enhancing behaviors. This course includes the study of nutrition, physiology of body systems, human development, and consumer skills.

 ****ACADEMY (core classes)****

Academy is the gifted and talented program. At Mountain Ridge we have Science, Math, English, and History Academy. These classes will be offered to qualifying students on an individual basis. Testing for Academy English and History, is with the District. Testing was done in November. For more information contact Barbara Langford at the District office.

Academy Math and Science students are placed by our Math and Science department.

+++ELECTIVE CLASSES:+++

 ****MUSIC (full year)****

A8001 - Beginning Orchestra (1 credit):

This is an entry level class for beginning students on violin, viola, cello, or bass viol. It is open to students of all grades and is preceded by a four-week "summer strings" session in July to give students specific instruction on their instrument. This school has violas, cellos, and basses for student rental at \$70.00 per 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.

A8011 - Intermediate Orchestra (1 credit):

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

A3311-- 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.

A3611 – 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 bari 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.

A3511- Beginning Percussion (1 credit):

Recommended two years prior piano experience 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.

A3021- Intermediate Band (1 credit):

Concert Band is open to students **with previous instrumental music experience**. The ensemble consists of students in seventh, eighth, and ninth 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.

A4231 – Choir TB (1 credit): Full year class

This is a boy's class will develop music and rhythm reading as well as pitch perception skills. It will cover a large variety of music styles and will perform at festivals and concerts.

****MUSIC (half year)****

A430F0 – Choir Female (.5 credit):

This class will develop music and rhythm reading as well as pitch perception skills. It will cover a large variety of music styles and will perform at festivals and concerts

****MUSIC AUDITION CLASSES (full year)******A3521–Percussion (Intermediate/Advanced Percussion): (A) 1.0 credit Audition Class**

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.

A3261 - Symphonic Band: (A) 1.0 credit Audition Class

Advanced instrumental ensemble directed toward performing the finest in contemporary, traditional, and classic band literature. There are generally twelve to fifteen performances each year. Contact Band office for details.

A3111 - Jazz Band: (A) 1.0 credit Audition 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.

A8021 - Advanced Orchestra (1 credit):

By **teacher recommendation/audition** 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.

A4211 – Chorus Int. Female (SSA Choir) (1 credit): By audition only.

Class is for soprano and alto voices. Course involves singing and performances. The basic emphasis of voice and music will be taught, as well as communication skills.

****LANGUAGE ARTS (half year)******ENCRO - Creative Writing (.5 credit):**

Students will have the opportunity to write several types of writing, including personal experiences, mysteries, fantasies, essays, poems, children's stories, etc. They will also study the "seven traits of writing" in depth. They will use this skill to evaluate their own writing and the writing of others.

ENFL0 – Film Literature (.5 credit):

Students explore the development of motion picture art form from the silent era to modern films. Essays, reports, and critical analysis of films are included.

ENMY0 – Mythology (.5 credit)

Study of Greek, Scandinavian, Hindu, and American folklore and mythology will help students learn to appreciate the impact they have on our literature and culture today.



****FOREIGN LANGUAGE (full year)**
(Foreign Language Courses are subject to change)**

LSP11 - Spanish 1 (1 credit):

This class stresses the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students practice the skills by means of dialogue, structure drills, reading selections and written exercises. Creative projects are incorporated.

LFR11- French 1 (1 credit):

A year beginning class. Students will learn to read and write and speak in French. Emphasis will be placed on Vocabulary acquisition.

****FOREIGN LANGUAGE (1/2 year)****

LCH0 – Chinese Intro (½ credit): An introductory course designed to give the student an experience with the Chinese language and culture.

LAS0 – ASL Intro (½ credit): (American Sign Language) This course is an introductory course to the ASL language program. It includes instruction in American Sign Language (ASL) or other deaf languages, finger spelling orientation to deaf culture, and interpreting from signing to voice and from voice to signing.



****CTE (half year)****

C80120 – 8th Grade Exploration Tech Ed (.5 credit): A Technology program that allows students to choose five different activities from a list of forty-plus different areas. Career research, design, problem solving and creative thinking are emphasized. The activities include, in addition to others, the following: safety and orientation (required by all students), materials and processing, modeling technology, research and development, arc welding, electricity, invent-a-game, lathe turned pen, concrete casting, aerospace, computer video editing, architecture and home design, computer numerical control, computer scanning and image editing (Adobe Photoshop), computer music technology, criminology, drafting, computer aided drafting, electronics, earthquake engineering, photography, small gas engines, claymation, weather technology, commercial design (Adobe Illustrator), and digital Photography.

C30510 – FACS Exploration Foods (.5 credit): This class is designed to introduce junior high school students to the basics of table setting, proper manners, the new food pyramid, kitchen equipment and safety, safe food handling, correct measuring techniques, cooking terms, eating disorders, the importance of breakfast, and following simple recipes. Foods labs are scheduled approximately 1 per week.

C30410– FACS Exploration Clothing (.5 credit) This course is designed to introduce 8th grade students to some of the FACS areas. A majority of the semester will focus on basic sewing techniques and construction. Students will make pin cushions, drawstring backpacks, pajama pants, and other projects of their choice. Fashion design, interior design, and free enterprise will also be studied. Note: In addition to the registration fee, students will be asked to bring some basic sewing supplies.

C83110 -Communication Tech (.5 credit): Students will learn to create, store, analyze, manipulate, record and transmit information through four major areas: 1) drafting and design; 2) electronic communications; 3) Audio and visual/multi-media communications; 4) graphic communications. Focus will be on developing the understanding and skill set to work with design and program languages. Students will explore the impacts of communication technology on our society; and they will explore related careers.

“CTE Courses do not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, gender, or disability”



****FINE ARTS (half year)****

A6010 - Drama 1 (.5 credit): This is a basic study of drama. Areas covered will be stage presence, contemporary scene work, voice and diction, auditioning, monologues, introductory theater history, and other various forms of the performing arts.

A0010 – Art Foundation 1 (.5 credit): This studio class emphasizes art-making with insights gained from art history and contemporary art practices. Students are introduced to new media (art making tools) and techniques. Students dramatically improve their artistic skills and make notable works of art.

A2100 – 3D Art (.5 credit): This class focuses on three-dimensional art-making techniques. Students explore various materials and methods to create sculptural and architectural forms. The course covers the history of 3D art and emphasizes hands-on studio experience.

A2200 – Ceramics Intro (.5 credit): This introductory course teaches the fundamentals of pottery and ceramics. Students learn about clay properties, wheel throwing, and hand-building techniques. The class includes a study of ceramic art history and the firing process.

A2010 –2 D Art- (Photography Intro) (.5 credit): This class teaches the basics of photography: cameras, lighting, shutter speed, and aperture. Students learn to make informed choices about the aesthetics and content of their photography.

A5010-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.

A5020-Dance 2 (.5 credit): Pre-Requisite of Dance 1 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

A501A-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 being placed on the basic elements that make up dance

PX110- Social Dance (.5 credit):This coed dance class teaches various forms of American style social dancing. All of the social dances taught are designed to give students dance experience that they can share and enjoy on any social dance occasion. Emphasis is placed in the fox-trot, cha-cha, waltz, and triple swing.



****AUDITION CLASSES (full year)****

AX311- Stage Crew (1 credit): **By teacher approval only.** Stage crew members learn the mechanics of theater lighting, sound, set and prop construction, set painting, stage management, and technical design. Students must pass the district safety test and be certified to operate all saws located in the school Shop Department and be capable of lifting 50-75 lbs. Students will be involved in all phases of technical theater and may be required to come after school, evenings or early mornings for rehearsals and performances.

email Mrs. Britney Smith

A5041- Dance Company (1 credit): Audition Class. This class is designed to study dance in techniques, choreography, performance quality, and production. Each member will choreograph and complete a study of dance as an art form as entertainment. Improvement in technique and performance quality will be stressed in all areas of dance, concentrating on modern and jazz



****AUDITION CLASSES (half year)****

AX450-Theater Production (.5 credit): (First Semester Audition Class.)

This class is designed to teach the basic skills of play production, including back-stage work, from office management, and actual performances. Students will produce plays that do not involve music or dance. They will participate in a traveling show to Elementary Schools

A7202 - Musical Theater (.5 credit): (Second Semester Audition Class.)

Musical Theater focuses on the history and performance of musical theater. Students will discover techniques for singing, dancing, acting and auditioning in the musical theater genre. This class is performance based with the class preparing and presenting the spring musical. Admission to this class is by audition only with limited enrollment, and only taught 2nd semester



****ELECTIVE PE CLASSES (half year) ****

P8400 – Weights and Conditioning (.5 credit): This class is designed for students to tone, shape, and strengthen. Class is individually oriented. This class does not fill the Participation Skills & Techniques course required for graduation.



****APPLICATION CLASSES (half year) ****

X4210 - Peer Tutor (.5 credit): Students will be involved in peer tutoring students in special education classes in math, English, reading, life skills, and other academic areas.

X0120 – Teacher Aide (.5 credit): (By Teacher Approval) With teacher approval, you may sign up to be an aide for your favorite teacher's class. You must have a 3.0 and good citizenship. You will receive a Pass or Fail grade only. This can count as an Elective Class for high school graduation.

X0110 – Office Aide (.5 credit): By approval only from Judy Clayton & Counselors. You will receive a Pass or Fail grade only. This can count as an Elective Class for high school graduation.