

Loyal Junior High School

7th Grade

Registration Handbook



LOYAL JUNIOR HIGH

7TH GRADE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The right of a student to participate fully in classroom instruction and extra-curricular activities, pupil services, recreational or other program or activity, shall not be abridged or impaired or be denied participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against because of the person's sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

English 7

First and Second Semester

Students will participate in focused, thematic units for the purpose of growing their abilities in reading comprehension, formal and creative writing, speech, and grammar. This will include competency in determining reliable and unreliable sources, writing MLA-formatted citations, researching and evaluating print-based and online sources, applying knowledge of the parts of speech to determine sentence structure, writing to specific prompts, reading self-chosen and teacher-assigned novels and creating artifacts and preparing formal presentations for these novels, analysis through both verbal and written responses, and learning key literary devices, figurative language, and chosen vocabulary words.

Social Studies 7

First and Second Semester

The primary goal of this course is the continued development of skills in the use and interpretation of maps and to increase the global awareness of the student. Extensive map skills will be emphasized.

Strong emphasis is placed on knowing nations of the world, capital cities, land and water forms and other physical and cultural features of the earth. Current events are included throughout the year.

Mathematics 7

First and Second Semester

This course is designed to reinforce students understanding of basic mathematics concepts, including: whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percents, and geometry. The course focuses on ratios and proportional relationships, the number system, expressions and equations, geometry and statistics and probability. Emphasis is placed on the use of estimation to obtain reasonable results. Various methods of problem solving are used as a means to strengthen understanding of fundamental math concepts.

Science 7

First and Second Semester

This is an introductory course in the biosciences, where students will learn from working with the smallest living things (cells) to a very basic introduction of human physiology and anatomy. Ecology is also introduced, where the students study the relationships of plants and animals to each other and how man plays an important role in their well being in this ecosystem. There are laboratory experiments where good laboratory skills are taught. These skills will help in future life science classes (Biology, Biology II, Body Structure & Function, and Chemistry).

Physical Education 7

One Semester

Physical Education 7 involves the acquisition of knowledge and skills that provide a foundation for sport, a physically active lifestyle, and social development through physical activity. Activities include those that increase strength, endurance, and flexibility; teach the rules of games and sports; reinforce safe technique; and explore the relationship between physical education and health.

Co-Health 7

One Semester

This course is designed to help the students develop the total self in promoting good health practices. Topics covered include building skills for healthy relationships; character education, preventing bullying; mental and emotional health; stress management; coping with loss; conflict resolution and violence prevention; first aid and CPR, nutrition; physical activity; reproductive health; and alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Band**Two days per week all year****Prerequisite: Completion of 6th Grade Band, audition or director permission**

Students will continue to develop the playing skills that they learned in Elementary Band. Proper tone production, musical expression and technical abilities will be emphasized. Each student will be exposed to a variety of music and styles from different time periods. Students will study basic music theory concepts, historical context of the music and composers and will broaden their musical horizons.

Requirements: Attendance is required at all scheduled concerts and festivals. A schedule of performances will be distributed to students in the first week of class. Students will also be required to complete a music lesson component that will meet outside of class time. When the student's class schedule is void of a study hall, the director will arrange a lesson time. Students are expected to be in Band for the full year. Exceptions to this policy will be granted at the discretion of the Band director.

Chorus**Two days per week all year**

Chorus is open to any student who likes music and enjoys singing. The student will have to take a singing test to show ability to perform the level of music used by chorus. The placement of voice quality in the proper vocal section is evaluated. Each member is exposed to a broad variety of music from the 15th and 16th century classical music to current pop music. Students will discuss historical content of the music and their composers, as well as study the theory of music. The opportunity for students to increase their individual abilities is provided in solo and ensemble contests and perhaps in a musical. The students also have the opportunity to become a member of the "Show Choir", a 16-20 member group consisting of the best voices within the choir chosen by audition to perform vocal jazz as well as pop rock literature with some dancing involved. Students are expected to be in Chorus for the full year. Exceptions to this policy will be granted at the discretion of the Chorus director.

General Music I**One day per week all year**

General Music is open to any student who wishes to gain an in-depth study of music theory and music history. The class is split into two halves; the first half concentrates on music theory and fundamentals including notes, rests, and musical symbol identification, and application as well as basic keyboard and piano skills. Computer application in these areas is also included.

The second half involves the study of music history from its early roots in man's development, to its modern day development and composers. Students will be asked to develop listening skills as well as a respect and understanding (appreciation) of different styles and composers. Students are expected to be in General Music for the full year. Exceptions to this policy will be granted at the discretion of the instructor.

Exploratory Courses:

Applied Language Arts 7

Nine Weeks

Students will participate in mini-units introducing them on what to expect in English their 8th grade year. They will explore literary devices, vocabulary, writing techniques, grammar, and reading comprehension strategies while focusing on young adult fiction.

Exploring Agriculture

Nine Weeks

Agriculture is an exciting and vast area of science that provides many challenges. In this fast-paced, hands-on course students will engage in many activities that will help provide a better understanding of agriculture. Topics that will be covered will most likely include: agricultural products, the dairy industry, FFA, small animal care, poultry, and food science.

Study Skills

Nine Weeks

This course was designed to help 7th graders with the transition from elementary school to junior/senior high school. Topics presented in this course will provide students with skills and techniques that will help enable them to become more strategic learners. Some topics that may be covered during this nine-week course are: goal setting, organization, time management, notetaking and study strategies, reading strategies, test-taking strategies, and how to keep a positive attitude.

Exploring Business Education

Nine Weeks

Students will explore several areas of the business and information technology. Throughout the quarter students will reinforce their touch-method of keyboarding, practice proof-reading skills, discover how to insert and format tables in Microsoft Word, and explore creating spreadsheets and graphing using Microsoft Excel. Students will discuss safety and making smart choices when using social media. Finally, students will explore being an entrepreneur and determine how to make business decisions that earn a profit.

Exploring Family and Consumer Education **Nine Weeks**

The 7th grade FACE class is designed to give you a taste of the classes you will have to choose from as a high-school student. Some of the topics covered are healthy eating, working in the kitchen, child care, and sewing. You will leave this class with a better knowledge on practical life skills.

Exploring Spanish

Nine Weeks

Students will be introduced to the Spanish language in this nine-week class. They will become familiar with greetings and goodbyes, the alphabet, numbers, colors and common expressions. Students will learn vocabulary for school supplies, seasons, weather, dates and the calendar. They will also learn geography of the Spanish speaking world and the different cultures within various Spanish-speaking countries. They will be actively engaged in learning with puzzles, flashcards, interactive and fun games, songs, YouTube video clips, activities, and projects.

Exploring Leadership

Nine Weeks

Leaders are not born, they are created! In this course, students will be exposed to a wide variety of leadership opportunities. Students will create a resume and gain skills helpful for future jobs and opportunities. This course focuses on soft skills, including communication, work ethic, and preparedness for careers. Students will develop a foundation to develop further skills in oral and written communication, character building and community service.

Exploring Technology Education

Nine Weeks

Students will be introduced to different types of manufacturing, material processes, and all phases of technology. Students will be working with different types of materials to create projects and see the process of turning raw materials into finished products.

Exploring Finance

This course continues to build on key concepts introduced in elementary financial literacy and prepares students for exploring finance in 8th grade and beyond. Students in this course will explore the basics of becoming an entrepreneur and will even start their very own (hypothetical) business by brainstorming products and services and creating an original business plan.