



Middle School Course Offerings

WA Online is proud to offer both a 7th and 8th Grade curriculum for students interested in beginning their enrollment in WA before 9th grade. Middle School courses are available as both single course offerings or for students interested in dual enrollment.

7th Grade

Core:

- Language Arts 7th
- Math 7
- Science 7
- Social Studies 7

Electives:

- Spanish I
- Art 7
- Health
- Keyboarding
- Computer Basics
- Character Education

8th Grade

Core:

- Language Arts 8th
- Math Foundations
- Integrated Science
- Social Studies 8

Electives:

- Spanish I
- Art 8
- Keyboarding
- Computer Basics
- Character Education
- Study Skills

7th Grade Courses

English 7

Through analysis of written, spoken, and multimedia texts, students will become more critical consumers of information and of various forms of media. They will also synthesize and organize ideas to prepare structured essays in several different modes, including narrative, persuasive, and expository. Each lesson will guide students in learning and applying specific strategies for reading and writing different types of texts. A review of basic English mechanics is included in many of the writing lessons, along with a discussion of levels of formality required for different purposes and audiences. Students will tackle difficult texts and themes, and the level of analysis demonstrated and required becomes more in-depth as the course progresses.

Math 7

In this first semester, students work with problem-solving skills, beginning algebra skills, geometry, decimals, fractions, data analysis, number theory and patterns, percents, and integer use. Projects measure the student's ability to integrate and apply the course objectives. Then, in this continuation of the first semester, students work with fractions; unit conversions; proportions and rates; percents; geometry topics including lines, angles, polygons, polyhedrons, perimeter, area, surface area, volume, and transformations; squares and square roots; permutations and combinations; and probability. Real-life application of concepts is emphasized in all units.

Social Studies 7

This study of the history of the United States emphasizes how ideas, events, and philosophies have shaped the nation. Students will learn about America's past while mastering the skills of historical interpretation. Study begins with the earliest arrivals of people and ends with the conclusion of the Civil War. Then in the half of the course, content will have an emphasis on how historical ideas, events, and philosophies have shaped the United States. Beginning with Reconstruction, this course uses the same skill development approach to guide students through U.S. history to the present.

Science 7

The focus of Science 7 is to introduce students to a balance of life science, physical science, and Earth and space science. The concepts and terminology associated with Grade 7 Science will be delivered through the contexts of Interactions within Ecosystems, Mixtures and Solutions, Heat, and Earth's Crust. Inquiry investigations and problem-solving situations create powerful learning opportunities for students. This is aimed at increasing a students' understanding of scientific and technological concepts and help students connect ideas about their world.

Health

This course will help the student understand the importance of making decisions that will affect his or her physical, emotional, mental and social health. This course will provide students with the knowledge and resources they will need to make responsible informed decisions about their health. Students will have an opportunity to evaluate their own values, opinions and attitudes about health.

Spanish I

Spanish I is designed to develop an authentic and practical understanding of the Spanish language and culture. Students will have the ability to express their thoughts, feelings, and opinions in the target language within basic, real-life situations and learning scenarios. All new concepts, grammatical concepts, and cultural information will be introduced in context while incorporating various listening, speaking and writing activities.

Keyboarding

The keyboarding course is appropriate for elementary and middle school students. The curriculum introduces new keys by rows where students first learn the middle row, then the top row and the bottom row of the keyboard. The content is designed with a strong focus on sight and high frequency words. This course assumes no keyboarding experience and will guide them through the keyboard.

Computer Basics

In this course you will learn how to use productivity and collaboration tools, such as G Suite by Google Cloud to create word processing documents, spreadsheets, surveys and forms such as personal budgets and invitations.

Character Education

This course teaches students practical skills for understanding and managing their emotions, setting goals and getting organized, understanding and getting along with others in our diverse world, and making good decisions. Research shows that people who practice these skills have greater academic achievement as students and experience more success and satisfaction as adults

Art 7

Introducing students to diverse areas in the arts can broaden their perspective on the arts in general. Arts Explorations encourages students to experience each of the modern arts disciplines including Visual Arts, Theatre, Music, Media Arts and Dance. Students will also be able to identify areas of special interest where they would like continued study and the ways that the arts can be a part of their career paths.

8th Grade Courses

English 8

Students will read and analyze various kinds of written texts, include novels and short fiction, informational texts representing a wide range of topics and forms, and several one-act plays. Lessons will also guide students in writing their own narratives and essays, using the readings in the course as both examples and sources of ideas for reflection, analysis, and argument. Students will learn better ways to discuss their thoughts and perceptions with others—they will practice their skills in collaborative discussions as well as informal journal entries, presentations, and speeches. Writing assignments include personal narratives, analytical and persuasive essays, and an original one-act play. Special emphasis is placed on reading in certain content areas, such as science and history, as well as understanding and thinking critically about news and media sources.

Math Foundations

Math Foundations will help students move from the world of simple mathematics to the exciting world of Algebra and Geometry. They will develop skills that will be necessary throughout their life. Students will stretch their thinking by learning to solve real world problems. Learning math and algebra concepts can be fun. Abstract ideas can be challenging for many students but the challenge is one they can meet. Concepts are presented with a little humor, making the learning fun. Students will enjoy learning each new concept and develop a deeper understanding of the math skills they already have. Each concept is presented using examples of the skills, concepts, and strategies students will need. Scaffolding of ideas is provided to ensure student learning. Students will study text pages, watch videos, interact with flash presentations, and complete practice problems. The pace is controlled by the student and reviewing the material is encouraged.

Social Studies 8

In this course students will understand the significance of government, law, and politics. They will examine the United States foundational documents and how they shaped the United States government. Students will examine the purposes and functions of federal and state government, law, and political systems. Learners will evaluate their role and civic responsibility to their families, communities, and country including voting and being a productive member of society. Learners will follow a step-by-step approach for successfully completing each lesson, which includes textbook reading, interactive activities, supplemental reading, lecture, video clips, and Power Point presentations to enhance and reinforce learning.

Integrated Science

This will aid students in the development of foundational skills necessary for studying higher levels of science and will include lessons in Physical Science, Chemistry, Biology, and Ecology. In addition, students will develop skills using the metric system, units of measurement, unit conversions, data collection and analysis, and introductory laboratory equipment. Students will develop critical thinking skills, understand the integrated nature of scientific inquiry, and be encouraged to think creatively about the natural world.

Spanish I

Spanish I is designed to develop an authentic and practical understanding of the Spanish language and culture. Students will have the ability to express their thoughts, feelings, and opinions in the target language within basic, real-life situations and learning scenarios. All new concepts, grammatical concepts, and cultural information will be introduced in context while incorporating various listening, speaking and writing activities.

Art 8

What makes an artwork a masterpiece? Why do artists create art? What is the difference between Rococo and Art Nouveau? In this course, students will discover the answers to these questions and more. We examine the elements of art and principles of design, and explore how artists have used these elements and principles in the creation of art for centuries.

Computer Basics

In this course you will learn how to use productivity and collaboration tools, such as G Suite by Google Cloud to create word processing documents, spreadsheets, surveys and forms such as personal budgets and invitations.

Character Education

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Study Skills

The Study Skills and Strategies course equips students with skills and understandings critical to effective learning. Using a unique approach to the traditional topic of study skills, this course weaves understanding regarding the role of the brain in learning into the instruction of discrete learning skills and strategies. Moving beyond a list of good tips and ideas, the Study Skills and Strategies course will challenge students to develop intentional approaches to learning. They will be required to make connections between the strategies and skills they learn in this course and the implementation of those strategies and skills in their other coursework. Upon completion of the course, students will have learned a variety of specific learning skills and strategies, gained greater understanding of their own learning preferences, and become prepared to develop and implement specific learning and study plans for any academic course or other learning needs.

Keyboarding

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