

**Oxford Middle School
Curriculum Guide 2023-2024
Seventh Grade**

Oxford Middle School is an International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme school. Students are required to participate in an inquiry-based curriculum in the following areas: Language and Literature, Individuals & Societies, Mathematics, Sciences, Language Acquisition, Design, Arts and Physical Education/Health.

Music Students	Non-Music Students
Choose between Band, Choir, or Orchestra	<p>Non-Music students will choose <u>two</u> of the following semester electives, in order of preference:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Art Physical Education Theatre</p> <p><i>*Students may not be enrolled in their first choice. Requests are filled as best as possible.</i></p>
<p>Required:</p> <p>Physical Education/Health - one semester STEM II - one semester</p>	<p>Required:</p> <p>Physical Education/Health – one semester STEM II – one semester</p>
<p>Remediation in reading and math may be recommended for students who would benefit from these classes based on standardized test scores and screeners in Reading and Math.</p>	

CORE COURSES

Advisory - 7

Year-Long

Oxford Middle School integrates Advisory into the daily fabric of learning which consists of a coordinated set of activities intended to build the whole learner. These activities are rooted in the rich tradition of Oxford Community Schools: Communication and Problem Solving, Diversity and Global Awareness, IB/MYP Objectives, School Improvement Based Goals, Team Building and Individual Development. It is during this time we focus on the Olweus Bully Prevention Program and welcome OHS Bully Busters and WEB Leaders to the classrooms, participate in academic discussions about our progress with 1:1 conferences with our Advisory teacher, learn about current events, enjoy staff vs. student competitions, and show our school spirit by competing for Wildcat Points. Our vision is that we are Better Everyday...and it is during Advisory that we decide what we want to BE and create goals to BE it!

English Language Arts - 7

Year-Long

The seventh grade English Language Arts curriculum gives students an important foundation in reading and writing narrative, informational, and argument texts. As students analyze and produce these three types of text, they become more advanced readers, thinkers, and writers. By reading and writing they come to understand the distinctions between narrative, informational and argument texts by studying fiction and nonfiction in a variety of formats, while developing a more thorough understanding of audience and purpose. For each unit, students are encouraged to be independent, engaged, and empowered learners by participating in activities that promote close reading, idea generation, drafting, and revision.

OR

Direct Instruction Language Arts – 7

Year-Long

The seventh grade English Language Arts curriculum gives students an important foundation in reading and writing narrative, informational, and argument texts. As students analyze and produce these three types of text, they become more advanced readers, thinkers, and writers. By reading and writing they come to understand the distinctions between narrative, informational and argument texts by studying fiction and nonfiction in a variety of formats, while developing a more thorough understanding of audience and purpose. Using a reader/writer’s notebook for each unit, encourages students to be independent, engaged, and empowered learners by participating in activities that promote close reading, idea generation, drafting, and revision. ***Students with special needs may be placed in this class for specialized instruction based on the recommendation from the IEP team. Students will access the general education curriculum with modifications based on their needs as stated in their IEP.***

Geography - 7

Year-Long

Seventh grade students will review the tools and mental constructs used by historians and geographers. They will develop an understanding of Ancient World History (Eras 1-3) of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres. Students will study how the ingredients of a civilization (organized religion, centralized government, social classes, writing systems, monumental architecture, inventions/innovations, cities and job specialization) affected early human societies, the ancient river-based civilizations, classical civilizations and early American civilizations.

Math - 7

Year-Long

Math 7 is a full year course required of 7th grade students. Students will be placed based on teacher recommendation as well as placement assessments. Students will acquire mathematical knowledge and understanding of how math plays a role in real world situations. Students will persevere as they investigate patterns and communicate mathematics through different forms. This course provides a broad yet solid foundation in both algebra and geometry that helps students move from arithmetic to high school math.

OR

Accelerated Math – 7

Year Long

Students are placed in this course based on teacher recommendation as well as placement assessments. Accelerated Math 7 students will acquire mathematical knowledge and understanding of how math plays a role in real world situations. Students will persevere as they investigate patterns and communicate mathematics through different forms. This course provides a broad yet solid foundation in both algebra and geometry that helps students move from arithmetic to high school math.

OR

Algebra 1 - 7 (Prerequisite: Accelerated Math in 6th grade)

Year-Long

Algebra 1 is a high school credited course that requires higher level knowledge and understanding. Students will apply mathematical knowledge to investigate patterns and make conjectures while they persevere through challenging problems and exercises. Students will be required to communicate their thinking and analysis of diverse problems. Students will be actively involved in learning while developing mathematical reasoning to solve real-life situations.

OR

Direct Instruction Math – 7

Year-Long

Mathematics is designed to help students recognize and appreciate the role math plays in the real world. It also shows students the connections between different areas of mathematics, algebra, geometry, patterns and functions. This course provides a broad yet solid foundation for pre-algebra and beginning geometry that helps students move from elementary math to high school math. ***Students with special needs may be placed in this class for specialized instruction based on the recommendation from the IEP team. Students will access the general education curriculum with modifications based on their needs as stated in their IEP.***

Science - 7

Year-Long

7th grade science is a course in which students will explore a variety of topics in four units. Unit 1- Life Science: body systems and cellular processes. Unit 2- Intro to Chemistry: chemical reactions, conservation of matter. Unit 3- Physical Science: transfer, transformation, and conservation of energy. Unit 4- Earth Science: atmospheric processes in weather and climate. Students will use a variety of resources and techniques to investigate these concepts. Instructional emphasis includes experimental design, laboratory skills, technical reading, and reflective writing and the global impacts of science technology.

World Language Chinese

Chinese 1-A

Year-Long

This year-long class is the first half of the Chinese 1 curriculum. It is an introduction to the language and culture of the Chinese speaking world. Each student will work on attaining an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will be encouraged to use Chinese for communication and self-expression. Students will be able to hear and practice the language, be paired with others learning to speak the language, and interact with the teacher, as well as listen to native speakers. From the start, students realize that the Chinese culture directly affects their lives in many ways. ***1/2 High School credit will be awarded if the student earns a 78% for a year-long grade. The student's grade will be recorded on their high school transcript but will not be counted for High School GPA.***

World Language Spanish

Spanish 1-A

Year-Long

This course is for 7th grade students who successfully completed Introduction to Spanish in 6th grade and 7th grade students who did not successfully pass Spanish 1-A during their 6th grade year. This year-long class is the first half of the Spanish 1 curriculum. It is an introduction to the language and culture of the Spanish speaking world. Each student will work on attaining an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will be encouraged to use Spanish for communication and self-expression. Students will be able to hear and practice the language, be paired with others learning to speak the language, and interact with the teacher, as well as listen to native speakers. From the start, students realize that the Spanish culture directly affects their lives in many ways. ***1/2 High School credit will be awarded if the student earns a 78% for a year-long grade. The student's grade will be recorded on their high school transcript but will not be counted for High School GPA.***

OR

Spanish 1-B (Prerequisite: Spanish 1-A)**Year-Long**

This class is for students who successfully completed Spanish 1-A during the previous year. This class completes the first year introduction to the language and culture of the Spanish speaking world. Essentially, this year-long class is the second half of Spanish 1. Each student will work on attaining an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students will be encouraged to use Spanish for communication and self-expression. Students will be able to hear and practice the language, be paired with others learning to speak the language, and interact with the teacher, as well as listen to native speakers. From the start, students realize that the Hispanic culture directly affects their lives in many ways. *1/2 High School credit will be awarded if the student earns a 78% for a year-long grade. The student's grade will be recorded on their high school transcript but will not be counted for High School GPA.*

ELECTIVE COURSES**Physical Education – 7 (Required for Non-Music Students)****One Semester**

This course is designed to develop the basic skills and knowledge necessary to participate in various team and individual activities. The skills and rules are taught in a progressive manner so the students will be able to achieve some success in each of the activities. These activities include but are not limited to physical fitness, flag football, soccer (indoor and outdoor), basketball, floor hockey, volleyball, tumbling, wrestling, field hockey, softball, jogging, bowling, and lead up games. Through participation in these activities, students will demonstrate appropriate behaviors of sportsmanship while interacting with others during play. The Presidential physical fitness test will be administered to every student. Through these tests, each student will demonstrate minimal levels of muscular strength, flexibility, and endurance. Each student will also be required to demonstrate minimal levels of cardiovascular endurance. Emphasis will be placed on lifelong fitness, stressing the importance of leading an active, healthy lifestyle.

Health/Physical Education – 7 (Required)**One Semester**

This course examines the essential concepts of health and explores ways of protecting and promoting health and wellness. Refusal skills and positive pressure tactics will be practiced in order to encourage students to avoid the dangers of making choices that are harmful to their well-being. Students will understand the effect of exercise on lifestyle, stress, and benefits on overall health. Students will learn about utilizing good nutritional habits in combination with physical fitness strategies. The course will investigate issues associated with physical, social, emotional and mental health. By practicing effective verbal and non-verbal communication to enhance health, students will identify ways to communicate care, consideration, and respect for others. Key concepts in this unit include, recognizing their own habits, how to avoid unsafe behaviors, and using decision-making models to improve the quality of their decisions.

STEM II - 7 (Required)**One Semester**

Students trace the history and development of automation and robotics. They learn about structures, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students acquire knowledge and skills in engineering problem solving and explore requirements for careers in engineering. This cutting-edge program addresses the interest and energy of middle school students, while incorporating national standards in mathematics, science, and technology. This class is “activity oriented” to show students how technology is used in engineering to solve everyday problems.

Band - 7**Year-Long**

This year-long course is designed for students who have completed at least one year of study on a band instrument. Students are expected to be performing at grade level on their instruments. They should be striving to maintain excellent team-oriented discipline. Elements of music are approached through challenging, interesting, and enriching activities. Solo and group contests provide competitive opportunities for students to receive constructive criticism from adjudicators outside the district. There are four concerts per year, plus an adjudicated festival performance.

Choir - 7**Year-long**

The Oxford Middle School Festival Choir is a performance based class for students who like to sing. Students will learn more about the correct way to sing through a variety of quality music literature, including pieces in foreign languages. They will sing music in different styles and genres, including jazz, blues, swing, show tunes, and folksongs. The Festival Choir performs four concerts during the year. In addition, students have the opportunity to participate in many other musical activities such as Solo and Ensemble Festival, Choral Festival and performing at community events. This class will help all students enjoy singing and maximize their potential. The overall aim of music performance is to achieve self-growth and enjoyment by educating musicianship that will serve the whole person.

Orchestra - 7**Year-long**

Orchestra is for students interested in furthering their knowledge and skills on their stringed instrument. In this class, students will continue to develop and refine their musical skills such as tone production, music reading, and accuracy of pitch through the playing of orchestra literature. Students are encouraged to perform on an individual basis and participate in small or large ensembles. Students should anticipate possible after-school practices and evening performances. Out of school concerts and contest trips are also part of the class requirements. Students participate in three concerts that include participation in the MSBOA orchestra festival. Students may also elect to participate in the MSBOA solo and ensemble festival. Previous participation in orchestra and an audition/meeting with the conductor is required. Ownership or rental of an instrument is required for class participation and students will be required to purchase a Method book.

Art - 7**One Semester**

The focus of this 20-week course is designed to give students a solid base knowledge of art concepts and skills. These skills are needed for further study in art. Students will have an opportunity to experience a variety of media which may include drawing, painting, sculpture and ceramics. Students will be introduced to basic color theory, perspective drawing and clay hand building.

Theatre-7**One Semester**

This course is the second year of theater offered at the middle school level. Students taking this class will study 6 units including: Quality Performance, Character, Movement, Design, Comedy and Puppetry. All performances in this class will be of workshop nature and will be kept within the classroom.

Content Reading – 7**One Semester or Year-Long**

A student will be selected for this class by OMS Counselors through a careful review of a student's academic progress. Recent research and assessment analysis has indicated the need to continue reading instruction through the middle school years and the research indicates that reading instruction falls into three broad categories: Tier I instruction for students who are at or above grade level; Tier II instruction, which provides students who are a year or two below grade level with additional supplemental instruction; and Tier III instruction for students who are significantly below grade level by more than two years. This class will focus on Tier II strategies to assist the student who is reading a year or two below grade level.

Math Lab - 7**One Semester or Year-Long**

A student will be selected for this class by OMS counselors through a careful review of a student's academic progress and testing in math. Students selected for this class will receive additional instruction in math to strengthen their understanding of math concepts and skills. Students will be re-taught current and previous math concepts to address individual learning needs and deficiencies to prepare students for success in algebra I in 8th or 9th grade. In addition, students enrolled in this class will have more success in their current math class when needs and deficiencies are addressed in the student's math education. It is not a homework completion class.

Academic Center Lab - 7**One Semester or Year-Long**

A student will be selected for this class by OMS counselors through a careful review of a student's academic progress. Academic Center Lab offers whole, small group or individualized instruction that supplements the general curriculum of core and elective courses. Student support services include organizational strategies, study skills and communication skills.

Enrichment – 7**Year-Long**

Enrichment class is an elective class for students who have an individual education plan (IEP). Students are placed in this class based on the recommendations from the IEP team. Enrichment is a class that teaches students the skills needed to become life-long learners by developing skills of planning, time management, and critical thinking. In addition, students receive instruction in their deficit areas and work towards making progress on their IEP goals.

Functional Enrichment**Year-Long**

Functional Enrichment class is an elective class for students who have an individual education plan (IEP). This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student therefore topics will be determined based on the individual's IEP. Activities of focus will include: daily living skills, calendar skills, age-appropriate communication skills, small group and independent reading, building and maintaining relationships, and progress monitoring on an individual level.

Social Skills/Enrichment**Year-Long**

Social Skills class is an elective class for students who have an individual education plan (IEP). This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student. Topics will be determined based on the individual's IEP. Activities of focus will include: manners, appropriate conversations with specific audiences, building and maintaining relationships, and academic independence based on individual student level.

Functional Life Skills**Year-Long**

The Functional Life Skills class is an elective class for students who have an individual education plan (IEP). This course is designed to meet the individual needs of each student therefore topics will be determined based on the individual's IEP. Activities of focus will include: Social and emotional check ins with the 5-point emotional scale, meditation, cooking, hygiene, developing healthy habits, age-appropriate communication building, and general knowledge that will enhance independent living.

On-Line Learning for Seated Students

Students eligible for this option may enroll in an online course in place of their seated course. Students eligible for this option may enroll in up to two (2) online courses in place of their seated courses. For a complete listing of online classes available to Oxford students visit: https://drive.google.com/file/d/15_LMispckKh30v4ar2W6znW9Ek5_VX9D5/view.

The deadline to submit a request is March 8, 2023 for the 2023-24 school year and requires pre-approval by the Principal. Contact a counselor if you are interested (by student last name).

If you are interested in taking a Community Vendor class with an optional learning experience in place of one of your current general elective classes, please contact your counselor for more information about locations and transportation.

S23 Elementary CV Optional Learning Experience Courses
[S23 Middle School CV Optional Learning Experience Courses](#)
 S23 High School CV Optional Learning Experience Courses

You may contact the Middle School Counselors if you have any questions -

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