



# 7th Grade Course Descriptions

The Required courses for 7<sup>th</sup> graders are: English 7, Life Science 7, U.S. History 7, Math, Health & PE 7, one semester each of Technology Education 7 and Family & Consumer Science 7, and 45 minutes of Resource or Spectrum (if applicable). Teachers of core classes have determined if a placement of academic or honors is most appropriate for your child.

Required Electives	Course Descriptions
<b>Technology Education (Semester Course)</b>	Students study significant inventions that have advanced society and explore contemporary technological problems facing them, their community, or the world and apply systematic procedures to invent new products or innovations as solutions. Students discover the design process while being challenged and empowered to use and apply their learning to design solutions to real world problems through project-based learning.
<b>Family &amp; Consumer Sciences (Semester Course)</b>	This course emphasizes personal responsibility for the demands of multiple life roles through hands-on, project-based instruction. Students focus on individual development, maintain their personal environments, apply nutrition and wellness practices, manage consumer and family resources, create textile, fashion, and apparel products, and explore careers related to Family and Consumer Sciences such as child care. Instruction in this course emphasizes science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) concepts, where appropriate. Students enrolled in the course will be exposed to the Career Investigations Phase competencies

Full Block Elective Courses (Choose 1)	Course Descriptions
<b>Exploratory Dramatics &amp; Theatre</b>	This class is designed to provide students with an introduction to the study of performance, theatre history, dramatic literature, and theatrical production. Through research, planning, scripting, production, and performance experiences, students will acquire skills in communicating ideas, critical thinking, and collaborative problem solving. This course prepares students for further theatrical study and nurtures an appreciation for the many forms of theatre.
<b>Intro to Computer Science (Coding)</b>	Introduction to Computer Science is the first standalone computer science course in the LCPS Program of Studies. Students will primarily utilize block-based programming to develop projects in order to think creatively, communicate clearly, use technologies fluently, and collaborate effectively. Students will study the history of computers and computer science, with a focus on the impact of Virginians in addition to building additional programming skills within the framework of computer science principles. Students will explore and create computer programs, facilitate reasoning and problem solving, and verify solutions with computer science tools that facilitate design, analysis, and implementation of computer programs.
<b>World Languages</b>	Beginning to take a World Language as a seventh grader is not a requirement, but rather an option. All of the language classes are taught at a high school level, they are worth one high school credit upon completion, and the final grade begins to build the high school GPA. If students choose to take a World Language in seventh grade, they may only take one.

	<p><b>French I / German I / Spanish I</b> - Students develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment at the beginner-novice level producing basic language structures. This communication is evidenced in all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Listening and reading facilitate the ability to communicate orally and in writing.</p> <p><b>Spanish for Fluent Speakers I</b> - Spanish for Fluent Speakers I is designed to meet the needs of students whose primary language is Spanish and who have minimal or no formal instruction in the language. While developing their current competencies in formal speaking and listening, students focus on the acquisition of comparable competencies in reading and writing. This class is taught almost entirely in Spanish. Additionally, students will be screened to determine if this class is an appropriate placement for them.</p>
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Fine Art Elective (Choose 1)	Course Descriptions
<b>Art 7</b>	<p>Art 7 is a course that infuses art history, art criticism, and aesthetic critiques. This course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to continue to develop a foundation of varied art skills, techniques, concepts and ideas beyond what is learned in the 6th grade program. Learning experiences will be connected to the real world, allowing students to understand how art relates to everything around us. Students will continue to discuss and write about their art work and that of other artists. Also, students will establish a continuing art portfolio.</p>
<b>Chorus 7</b>	<p>This class is open to all students with a strong desire to sing and requires no audition. Students will apply the basics of proper singing techniques while performing a variety of styles of unison, two- and three part choral music. Music reading skills are emphasized in this class and students will develop choral literacy by singing literature that is sacred and secular. Participation in performance activities, such as concerts, assessments and rehearsals outside regular school hours, is required.</p>
<b>Strings 7</b>	<p>This is a full-year elective which provides instruction for violin, viola, cello, or bass students. Students enrolled in this class will continue to develop fundamental performance skills introduced in Strings 6 with an increased focus on ensemble playing. Students provide their own instruments through rental or purchase. Students are required to practice daily. Participation in performance activities, such as concerts, assessments and rehearsals outside regular school hours, is required.</p>
<b>Guitar 7</b>	<p>7th Grade Guitar is open to all students. The nylon-stringed classical guitar is used to introduce students to proper guitar technique, sitting position, standard music notation, tablature, chord charts, music theory and history, and solo and ensemble playing in a variety of musical styles. Care and proper maintenance of the instrument is also emphasized. Participation in 7th Grade Guitar Level 1 class may require after-school performance with rehearsals.</p>
<b>Band 7</b>	<p>Students enrolled in this class will continue learning and developing the fundamental skills of playing a band instrument with an increased emphasis on ensemble performances. Students provide their own instruments through rental or purchase. Instruments include: Percussion, clarinet, trumpet, flute/oboe, low brass, and saxophone. Students are required to practice daily. Participation in performance activities, such as concerts, assessments and rehearsals outside regular school hours,</p>

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