

OAK GROVE LUTHERAN SCHOOL
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
GRADES 6-7-8
2017-2018

ART

Art 6 **Required, 1 quarter** **Grade Level: 6**

Utilizing the elements and principles of design, students will produce art through the units of drawing, painting, mixed media, and three dimensional design. Students will hone their skills through sketchbook work.

Art 7 **Required, 1 quarter** **Grade Level: 7**

Art 7 students will delve further into the units of drawing, painting, mixed media, and three-dimensional design. Students will use the elements and principles of design to create artworks and practice their skills through sketchbook assignments.

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

Christian Studies 6 **Required, 1 quarter** **Grade Level: 6**

Students will study Scripture to find out how God created human relationships and rescues His people. Various topics are covered in this study including: God creates the universe, God creates human beings, God creates human relationships, God saves people from sin and evil, God saves people through Jesus, God helps people by the work of the Holy Spirit, and God calls people to serve.

Christian Studies 7 (Old Testament) **Required, 1 semester** **Grade Level: 7**

Students will spend time reading and reflecting on Judges, Daniel, Psalms, and Jonah. Students will complete group projects, do service projects, and continue to learn how to apply their faith to their daily lives. This class is designed to allow students to think about and wrestle with certain ideas that a student of this generation faces. The course will focus on conversations, discussion, and reflections. Students will be responsible for the following: class participation, completing all assignments, leading two class devotionals and leading one class current event.

Christian Studies 8 (New Testament) **Required, 1 semester** **Grade Level: 8**

Students will spend time reading and reflecting on the gospels, as well as complete group projects, do service projects, and continuing to learn how to apply their faith to their daily lives. This class is designed to allow students to think about and wrestle with certain ideas that a student of this generation faces. The course will focus on conversations, discussion, and reflections. Students will be responsible for the following: class participation, completing all assignments, leading two class devotionals and leading one class current event.

COMPUTER

Computer 6 **Required, 1 quarter** **Grade Level: 6**

Students will concentrate on touch typing keyboarding skills. Students will be introduced to Microsoft Word 2013, Office 365, and will use the Edotyping online program. Students will use the internet and online databases to research and write a Social Studies paper that will be formatted in MLA style.

Computer 7 **Required, 1 quarter** **Grade Level: 7**

Students will review touch typing keyboarding skills. Basic formatting skills using Microsoft Office 2013 Word for letters, memos, press releases, and tables will be presented. Students will also use and become familiar with Office 365, OneDrive and Oak Grove student email.

Computer Applications 8**Required, 1 semester****Grade Level: 8**

Students will review touch typing keyboarding skills. Basic formatting skills using Office 2013. Microsoft Office 2013 Excel for spreadsheets, charts and calculations will be presented. Basics in Microsoft PowerPoint 2013 will also be presented for creating and editing visual presentations. Students will continue to learn and use Office 365, OneDrive and the Oak Grove student email.

ENGLISH**English 6****Required, full year****Grade Level: 6**

In this course, students will work to further develop their skills in writing, reading, and speaking. They will use the six traits of writing to improve their writing and editing skills while being introduced to informative, persuasive, narrative, and descriptive writing styles. Emphasis will be placed on writing a clear and well developed paragraph. Students will undertake a detailed study of grammar learning and applying the eight parts of speech to their writing. Students will gain an appreciation for various genres of literature as they read the novels for this course. Through these novels, they will study vocabulary, spelling, and the elements of literature. Students will also be involved in group and individual presentations including a demonstration speech. The Accelerated Reader program is used in this class to encourage reading and increase comprehension.

English 7**Required, full year****Grade Level: 7**

This course focuses on writing and literature, with a year-long emphasis on parts of speech, grammar, and mechanics. Students will begin to perfect writing mechanics and punctuation usage in order to ensure their writing is clear and meaningful. Students will apply grammar and mechanics through a variety of writing experiences. Fictional writing will include creative responses, reflections, and narratives. Non-fiction writing will include informative/research based writing and responding. Students will learn how to find information (credible sources) and how to cite their information. Students will study short stories as well as novels. Increased vocabulary awareness will be taught through prefixes, suffixes, and Greek/Latin roots. Students will utilize their knowledge of the prefixes, suffixes, and roots in their own writing and reading.

English 8**Required, full year****Grade Level: 8**

This course focuses on writing and literature, with an emphasis on formal, non-fiction, research-based writing and MLA format and citations. Consistent grammar and mechanics instruction are taught throughout the year. First semester focuses on reviewing English mechanics linked with grade-level writing: a variety of sentences structures are reviewed as well as active voice in writing is taught in preparation for professional writing and research in High School. A 5 paragraph essay is taught fall semester to hone MLA format skills as well as utilizing textual evidence, writing a thesis, and organizing arguments. Fiction and nonfiction short stories are also studied. Second semester focuses on novel comprehension, poetry, and vocabulary studies. Research writing, citations, and organization are taught more extensively second semester. The novel Anne Frank is an extensive literature unit that also utilizes non-fiction articles and stories from WWII.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**Family and Consumer Science****Required, 2 quarters****Grade Level: 6 & 7**

This class includes and introduces the students to a variety of life skills using hands-on activities. The topics include: character development, food safety and sanitation, food guide pyramid, food preparation, hand sewing, machine sewing and money management.

MATHEMATICS

One math class is required per year. Any student taking a high school math class will receive high school credit for the class.

Mathematics 6

Required, full year

Grade Level: 6

This course includes the study of ratios/rates, fractions/decimals/percents, multiplying and dividing fractions, computing with multi-digit numbers, integers and the coordinate plane, algebraic functions, area/volume/surface area and statistical displays. The students are given a work book in place of using a text book.

Math 6 Advanced

Full year

Grade Level: 6

Placement in this course based on faculty recommendation. This course moves at a steady to rapid pace. This course includes the study of ratios/proportional reasoning, percents, positive and negative integers, rational numbers, algebraic expressions/equations/inequalities, classifying and measuring geometric figures, probability and statistics. The students are given a work book in place of using a text book.

Mathematics 7

Full year

Grade Level: 7

This course includes the study of ratios/proportional reasoning, percents, positive and negative integers, rational numbers, algebraic expressions/equations/inequalities, classifying and measuring geometric figures, probability and statistics. The students are given a work book in place of using a text book.

Math 7 Advanced

Full year

Grade Level: 7

Placement in this course based on faculty recommendation. This course includes the study of rational and real numbers, exponents, scientific notation, roots, multi-step equations, writing and graphing linear equations, triangles and Pythagorean Theorem, congruence and similarity, volume and surface area, scatter plots, data analysis and statistics, and two-variable equations in algebra.

Pre-Algebra 8

Full year

Grade Level: 8

This course includes the study of ratios/proportional reasoning, percents, positive and negative integers, rational numbers, algebraic expressions/equations/inequalities, classifying and measuring geometric figures, probability and statistics.

Algebra I

Full year (1 HS credit)

Grade Level: 8-9

Placement in this course based on faculty recommendation. This high school course includes the study of number theories, graphs, positive and negative numbers, mathematical sentences, polynomials, linear equations and inequalities with one and two variables, systems of equations, functions, plus enrichment activities and computer enhanced instruction, as well as a more thorough coverage of inequalities, irrational numbers and quadratic equations. High school credit will be given in this course.

MUSIC

General Music Band

Required, full year

Grade Level: 6

6th Graders are required to take one of the General Music Classes. A student may take both. This is a beginning level band that focuses on learning the basics of playing a band instrument including note reading, breath support, counting, dynamics, playing as an ensemble and following the conductor. The student also has a weekly sectional/private lesson. Private lessons are also encouraged but not required. The Beginning Band participates in four major concerts per year: October, December, March, and May

General Music Choir **Required, full year** **Grade Level: 6**

6th Graders are required to take one of the General Music Classes. A student may take both. This course provides an opportunity for the student to learn various aspects of general music. The students will review note-reading and will learn fundamentals of music theory and music history. They will also be introduced to improvisation and composition. Students will sing two-part music in a choral format, and will participate in three concerts per year: December, March (the Middle School Musical), and May.

Middle School Choir **Required, full year** **Grade Level: 7-8**

7th & 8th Graders are required to take one of the Music Classes. Choir meets every other day. Concepts taught include vocal development, healthy singing through voice change, breath support and posture, and learning part-singing through rounds, partner songs, and two and three-part music. The student will also learn proper concert etiquette and audience skills. The choir participates in three concerts per year: December, March (the Middle School Musical), and May

Middle School Band **Required, full year** **Grade Level: 7-8**

7th & 8th Graders are required to take one of the Music Classes. This class aims to continue learning and implementing intermediate instrumental techniques in a full band setting. Students will be working to improve the skills they learned in Beginning Band. Students will develop their sight-reading skills, learn scales, and play various band selections. They will develop their aural skills, working towards proper balance and blend within the ensemble. This class is open to any student grade 6-8 who has had at least one year of experience on his/her instrument. The Middle School Band participates in four concerts each year: October, December, March, and May.

Middle School Music Appreciation **Required, full year** **Grade Level: 7-8**

7th & 8th Graders are required to take one of the Music Classes. If you don't play an instrument or enjoy performing or singing in public, this music class is perfect for you! We will take a look at some of the behind-the-scenes elements of music and get a chance to explore musical things in a casual environment. Some of the topics we will learn about include recording/editing, listening to/discussing current music, theory/composition, poetry, basic knowledge of a number of instruments and how they work, and the emotional response to music. We will end the course by making our own working instruments out of everyday materials.

Private Lessons, Vocal **Elective, semester** **Grade Level: 7-8**

Private vocal lessons are elective and available on a limited basis to highly motivated students who wish to study voice individually. There is an additional fee.

Private Lessons, Piano **Elective, semester** **Grade Level: 7-8**

Private lessons in piano are elective and available on a limited basis to highly motivated students who wish to study piano individually. There is an additional fee.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Physical Education **Required, 1 semester** **Grade Level: 6-8**

The Oak Grove Physical Education program is designed to help students acquire the important health and fitness skills they need to continue their journey through life. Students will have an opportunity to participate in a wide variety of team sports and lifetime sports. We will also be covering a wide variety of individual and dual sports. Physical fitness testing is also a part of the Oak Grove Physical Education program.

Health 6 **Required, 1 quarter** **Grade Level: 6**

Students will study the interrelationship of physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual health. Using a variety of methods, students will research and analyze current health information and issues in order to make positive health choices. Areas of study include wellness, decision making, goal setting, refusal skills, self-esteem, self-concept, hygiene, skeletal and muscular systems, and tobacco prevention education.

Health 7**Required, 1 quarter****Grade Level: 7**

Students will further their study of wellness and making positive health choices. Areas of study are decision making, goal setting, refusal skills, physical fitness, nutrition, and alcohol education. Using technology, students will write a research paper, design a visual aid, and give a presentation on infectious or non-infectious disease.

Health 8**Required, 1 quarter****Grade Level: 8**

Continuing study of wellness will include mental and emotional health, stress management, decision making, goal setting, refusal skills, healthy relationships, infectious diseases, health careers, and the miracle of life. Students will use technology and library resources to research and write papers on mental illnesses, health careers, and current health issues.

SCIENCE**General Science 6****Required, full year****Grade Level: 6**

This course covers a variety of scientific areas including life's structure and function, diversity of life, life and the environment, Earth's air and water, earth and space, matter, forces, and energy, electricity and magnetism.

Life Science 7**Required, full year****Grade Level: 7**

This course is required for all seventh grade students. We will explore the world of living things including ecology and environmental science, the cell, genetics, and the diversity of living things. An organism research project will highlight students' knowledge of coursework. Students will gain confidence and hands on experience with life science concepts through labs and activities integrated throughout the course.

Earth Science 8**Required, full year****Grade Level: 8**

This course is required for all eighth grade students. We will explore the function of the Earth system through the study of processes that shape Earth including weathering and erosion, plate tectonics, weather and climate. We will also explore Space Science and how Earth fits in the larger picture of the universe. A middle school science Capstone project will be completed during the students' second semester. Students will gain confidence and hands on experience with earth science concepts through labs and activities integrated throughout the course.

Science & Engineering Exploration**Elective, half or full year****Grade Level: 7 & 8**

This middle school Science elective will be offered first hour. This class can hold up to 20 students. Even though this is an optional elective, some outside class work may be requested, but is not mandatory. The class will be broken into two semesters, allowing students to have the option of taking one or both.

During the first semester students will participate in the Bison BEST robotics competition. Our class will work as a team to design, build, and program a robot. Students will also conduct an independent investigation on a science or engineering topic of their choice (with teacher supervision and approval). Projects will be displayed at an open house at the end of the semester. Both Bison BEST and independent projects will require some outside of class participation.

Second semester we will continue to explore engineering concepts with engineering design challenges including Rube Goldberg devices, egg drop, and others. Second semester will have little to no outside of class commitments.

SOCIAL SCIENCES**Social Studies****Required, full year****Grade Level: 6**

This course covers a variety of topics including The Shape of the Earth, ancient Civilizations including Egypt, India, China, Greece, and Rome. We will also spend time studying more current history in Europe, Africa Asia, and Australia, as well as current events taking place in our community, state, country, and world. The class does a major project on a structure of their choice, where they will research the structure, write a detailed paper, build the structure in class, and present their structure in a formal setting to the class. The projects are displayed for the public.

Geography**Required, full year****Grade Level: 7**

This course is the study of the world's regions using the Five Themes of Geography. The regions include: Location (both absolute and relative), place (the physical and human characteristics), human/environment interaction (the relationships within places) movement (the mobility of people, goods and ideas) and region (how they form and change). Some of the highlights include modeling landforms, sketching the continents, and a final project of sketching world.

United States History**Required, full year****Grade Level: 8**

Students will study the history of the peopling of the Americas through the Civil War. Students will have many opportunities to analyze and interpret primary source materials from documents to political cartoons.

North Dakota History**Required, 1 quarter****Grade Level: 8**

This course is offered in the spring. It features field trips, special guest speakers, written resources, history trunks, and curriculum support from ndstudies.gov.