

# **COPPER MOUNTAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

## Seventh Grade Course Descriptions

2020-21

### **REQUIRED CLASSES**

**Teacher's Advisory:** A homeroom class where students are provided with an adult advocate, opportunities to explore interests and to learn life skills, conflict resolution skills, and study skills. It provides students a place and time to conduct and engage in school activities, contests, and listen to daily announcements. It will also facilitate the tracking of student progress and help build a relationship with parents and enhance communication with homes. Credit is received for the year on a pass/fail basis.

**Integrated Science 7:** The seventh-grade Science with Engineering Education Standards (SEEd) standards look for relationships of cause and effect which enable students to pinpoint mechanisms of nature and allow them to make predictions. Students will explore how forces can cause changes in motion and are responsible for the transfer of energy and the cycling of matter. This takes place within and between a wide variety of systems from simple, short-term forces on individual objects to the deep, long-term forces that shape our planet. In turn, Earth's environments provide the conditions for life as we know it. Organisms survive and reproduce only to the extent that their own mechanisms and adaptations allow. Evidence for the evolutionary histories of life on Earth is provided through the fossil record, similarities in the various structures among species, organism development, and genetic similarities across all organisms. Additionally, mechanisms shaping Earth are understood as forces affecting the cycling of Earth's materials. Questions about cause and effect and the ongoing search for evidence in science, or science's ongoing search for evidence, drive this storyline.

**Language Arts 7:** This course, based on Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for grade level instruction in reading comprehension, writing, and methods of inquiry, and Processes, skills and strategies of effective communication.

**Language Arts 7 Core: Required if below grade level in reading- based on district assessment.** This course, based on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is a combination of Language Arts and Reading and follows course descriptions for Language Arts 7 and Reading 7.

**Utah Studies 7:** Utah is an amazing place, rich in resources, in geographic wonders, in inspiring history, and in the diversity of its people. The study of Utah permits students to understand more deeply the place they call home, while developing essential skills unique to the social studies disciplines. Within these standards, Utah Studies offers an opportunity for students to learn about their own families and cultures as well as those of others. The Utah Studies standards are based on four social studies disciplines: history, geography, economics and civics. Students will explore the complex history of Utah, with examples of creativity, sacrifice, conflict, innovation, inequity, compromise, and leadership. Students will also learn about Utah's diverse physical geography, encounter Utah's economic systems and dynamics, and explore local and statewide political systems. The range of the Utah Studies standards allows teachers flexibility in designing the course scope and sequence. The course could be organized thematically, with distinct units of study related to the social studies disciplines of economics, geography, history and political science/civics.

**College and Career Awareness:** CTE is Utah's exploratory Career and Technical Education Core Curriculum requirement for middle school. The purpose of this program is to allow students to be involved in activity-centered lessons, which utilize technology, develop beginning skills, and explore careers.

**Fitness 7:** This is a physical education course to develop a solid foundation in skills and competencies. Students are still mastering basic manipulative skills, and are ready to engage in lead-up games and drills that provide a progression toward participation in regulation or advanced play. Students will apply skills in modified games, and

may be introduced to regulation rules and game play. Instruction includes an introduction to training principles and activities that can enhance health-related fitness as students pursue personal fitness goals.

**Digital Literacy:** This course is an introduction to computer literacy. Students will have opportunities to use technology and develop skills that encourage creativity, critical thinking, productivity, and collaboration in the classroom and day-to-day life. Skills will be demonstrated by creating a project for a different content area. This course is aligned with national and international standards and the Utah Core to prepare students across multiple levels of skills. Students will complete this course with a prerequisite to move into high school computer literacy courses.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math:** In 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics students will focus on developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; and drawing inferences about populations based on samples.

**7<sup>th</sup> Mathematics Honors:** The Honors course includes everything taught in 7<sup>th</sup> grade math as well as extra depth and additional topics such as codes, patterns, number bases, and number systems.

## **FULL YEAR ELECTIVE CLASSES**

**Art 1 & Art 2:** This option is for students that want a full year of art. Descriptions are listed under the semester elective classes.

**Orchestra 1:** This class is for students who would like to learn to play a violin, viola, cello, or string bass. No experience necessary. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. Instruments are required. If available, a viola, a cello, or a string bass may be rented from the school for a nominal fee.

**Orchestra 2 and 3: Teacher approval required.** These are intermediate-level orchestra classes focusing on intermediate-level literature for orchestra. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirements and will constitute a portion of the grade. Practice outside of class time with instrument is required. If available, a viola, a cello, or a string bass may be rented from the school for a nominal fee.

**Band 1 Woodwinds:** This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the flute, oboe, clarinet or saxophone. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. An instrument is required. If available, an oboe or tenor saxophone may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

**Band 1 Brass:** This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the cornet, trumpet, French horn, baritone horn, euphonium, trombone, or tuba. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. An instrument is required. If available, a French horn, baritone horn, euphonium, or tuba may be rented at the school for a nominal fee.

**Band 1 Percussion:** This is a beginning band class offered for students who wish to learn to play the drums, mallet keyboard instruments, and other percussion-related instruments. Practice outside of class time and performances are part of this course. Drum sticks are required. A drum kit or mallets may also be required as per teacher request.

**Concert Band: Teacher approval required.** This is an intermediate level band course that encourages increased technical and expressive musical proficiency through performance and study of music. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and constitute a portion of the grade. Practice outside of class time with an instrument is required. If available, an oboe, bass clarinet, bassoon, tenor

saxophone, baritone saxophone, French horn, baritone horn, euphonium, or tuba may be rented at the school for a nominal fee. **Contact Teacher for placement in this course**

**French 1 and Spanish 1: (only available for students above grade level in reading).** This course is designed to teach elementary skills in listening, speaking, reading, and spelling. The curriculum covered in this course will give students the skills to communicate in culturally-appropriate ways in the target language. By the end of this course, student skill level should be at novice-mid level according to the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) standards. Students will develop an appreciation for the culture of the countries where the language is spoken.

## **SEMESTER ELECTIVE CLASSES**

**Art Foundations 1:** Art Foundations 1 provides an overview of visual arts while studying a broad variety of art tools and materials. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

**Art Foundations 2:** Prerequisite: Art Foundations 1, must sign up for Art Foundations 1 also.

Art Foundation 2 provides an overview and introduction to visual arts through studying a variety of art tools and materials. This course builds on Foundations 1 with a more in-depth experience with fewer art forms. This course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skills, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics, with an emphasis on studio production.

**Beginning Theatre:** This is an introductory course in theatre with an emphasis on performance and playwriting. No previous experience is necessary. The course will include, but not be limited to, improvisation, monologues, characterization, movement, playwriting, and work with voice projection and diction. Other skills learned and developed include critical thinking, rehearsal skills, plot structure, reading, writing, and cooperative group work.

**Choir 1 Mixed:** This class is open to all students. Emphasis will be placed on quality vocal production, part-singing, and music reading skills. Rehearsals and performances outside of class time are part of the course requirement and will constitute a portion of the grade.

**Dance 1:** This course offers basic dance techniques, fitness fundamentals, movement qualities, and rhythm with an emphasis on creativity, sequencing, and problem solving.

**Dance 2: Need to have 3 years previous dance experience.** This course is designed to develop dance techniques, flexibility, and coordination, with an emphasis on creativity and artistic composition. There will be performances outside of class time that are part of the course requirements, and they will constitute a portion of the grade.

**Music Connections:** Music Connections is an extension of the K-6 Music Core and includes concepts and skills to intergrade music into everyday life. Study will include: exploration in creating, experiments with singing/playing/reading music, development of analytical and evaluative skills in music listening, investigations of various purposes of music, and inquiry into music's impact on culture, history, quality of life, and other subject areas.

**Reading Honors:** This course, based on the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Utah English Language Arts (ELA) Core Standards, is designed for students who qualify for more advanced instruction in reading comprehension, vocabulary, and reading skills for reading above grade-level literary, informational, and functional texts.