

2016-2017 Middle School Course Guide



Creekview Middle School



Wayside Middle School



Ed Willkie Middle School



Prairie Vista Middle School



Highland Middle School

Eagle Mountain - Saginaw ISD

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



Board of Trustees

President

Dick Elkins

Vice President

Paige Ring

Members

Tony Owens

Rob Franklin

Steven G. Newcom

Liz Hatley

Donna Webb

Administration

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Jim Chadwell

Deputy Superintendent

Dr. Linda Parker

www.emsisd.com

DISCRIMINATION DISCLAIMER

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex or disability in providing education services, activities, and programs, including vocational programs, in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw I.S.D. does not discriminate on the basis of disability by denying access to the benefits of district services, programs, or activities. To request information about the applicability of Title II of the American with Disabilities ACT (AD) interested persons should contact the school.

The Eagle Mountain-Saginaw I.S.D. will take steps to assure that a lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational programs.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Creekview Middle School

Anthe Anagnostis
817-237-4261

Ed Willkie Middle School

Elisha McDonald
817-237-9631

Highland Middle School

Karen Pressley
817-847-5143

Prairie Vista Middle School

Anna King
817-847-9210

Wayside Middle School

Jason Sneed
817-232-0541

Our Mission:

The mission of Eagle Mountain-Saginaw Independent School District is to foster a culture of excellence that instills a passion for a lifetime of continuous achievement in every student.

We Believe:

1. Every student is a unique individual with unique potential.
2. Effective communication is key to success.
3. Engaged and interested students learn more effectively.
4. Respect is a key to success.
5. Education is a team effort.
6. High quality educational facilities optimize student and staff success,
7. Accountability is essential to success.
8. A physically and emotionally safe environment promotes student learning.
9. A high quality education is barrier free.

Strategic Objectives:

1. Each student will have a dynamic-customized education plan from registration to graduation which contains post-secondary goals and inspires individual success.
2. Each student will be equipped with innovative technological skills to complete and contribute to a constantly-evolving global society.
3. Each student will be challenged to fulfill the district's high expectations and leave the district prepared and qualified to succeed in their chosen path(s).

Strategies:

1. We will design and implement a system in which personal education plans are created that promote high expectations and meet the academic, social, emotional, and extra-curricular needs of each student.
2. We will create an interconnected community where technology is integrated into the fabric of all we do. The district will provide the resources, training, and skill development to drive our students' future success.
3. We will provide each teacher with the resources and opportunities to collaboratively plan the innovative implementation and delivery of the instructional program.
4. We will create a culture that promotes each student's inner drive, providing the opportunity to reach full potential.
5. We will systematically evaluate and assess learning, processing, and programs against internal and external benchmark standards to hold staff and students accountable for our culture of excellence.
6. We will employ and retain high-performing, dynamic educators with character and conviction to improve themselves and their students through effective strategies by innovative, targeted continuing education, freedom and flexibility to teach beyond established assessments, all with District support.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Some courses listed in this guide may not actually be offered due to low enrollment. Because of scheduling conflicts and classes closing, a student may not be able to register for every course he/she plans to take during a semester. For this reason, the student should have in mind alternate courses in case the first choice is not available.

Advanced Academics

Students are encouraged to take more challenging Advanced Academics courses, such as Pre-Advanced Placement courses and Advanced Placement courses. Teachers for these courses are trained in advanced methodology and curriculum. Advanced academics courses are offered in English, mathematics, science, social studies and other selected areas.

Pre-Advanced Placement Courses

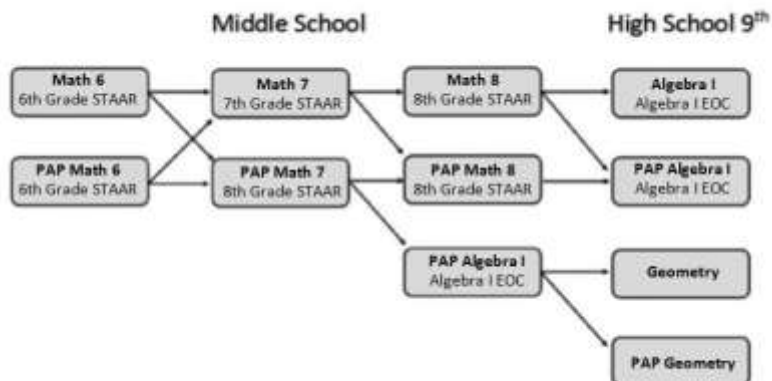
Academic courses that lead to Advanced Placement courses are referred to as Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) courses. Pre-AP courses can be taken in grades 6 – 11. In middle school, Pre-AP courses cover curriculum with greater depth and complexity. They require additional studies outside of the classroom as well as good time management skills. Emphasis is given to the skills and strategies students need to succeed in AP courses in grades 9 - 12 and in post-secondary education. Pre-AP courses are offered in English, mathematics, science, social studies and other selected courses.

Secondary students who are identified as gifted and talented are served through our Pre-AP, AP and Dual Credit program. In order for students to continue to be served, they must be enrolled in at least one of these courses.

Pre-AP Mathematics

Middle school Pre-AP math courses are compacted and cover four years of curriculum in three years.

A student may show readiness for Pre-AP math at the start of any school year. Those mastering Pre-AP coursework in the 6th and 7th grade will enroll in 8th grade Pre-AP Algebra I. Those mastering Pre-AP math for the first time in 8th grade will enroll in Pre-AP Algebra I in 9th grade.



Students enrolling in Pre-AP math courses should meet the following criteria as recommended by the district:

- Maintain an overall 85+ GPA in current math class
- Perform at the advanced level on math STAAR
- Perform at the advanced level on algebra readiness screener
- Score 80+ on district placement test
- Demonstrate strong work ethic and study skill
- Master new concepts at a fast pace
- Enjoy challenges and problem-solving

Students who do not meet the recommended criteria yet desire enrollment in these courses should contact their counselors to discuss.

Students will only be allowed to exit PreAP Algebra I prior to the end of the first semester. Students will not be allowed to exit after the end of the first semester.

AP Courses

AP Spanish for Native Speakers is offered in 8th grade. College credit may be earned based on successful completion of the course and an acceptable score on the AP exam.

Transfer Students

Students entering from another state or state accredited private school where grades are awarded in letter form rather than numerical form shall have them interpreted using the EIC (local) grade conversion chart. unless the school from which the student transferred provides documentation of the numerical equivalent for each letter grade awarded. Classroom teachers, guidance personnel, and the principal shall place students entering a District school from a non-accredited public, private, or parochial schools, including home schools, initially at the discretion of the principal, pending observation.

Course Selection Process

Course Selection

- Parent and student informational meetings will be held prior to course selection
- Students will be guided through the course selection process
- Students who do not submit a course selection form will have a schedule arranged for them by their counselor according to their academic needs and/or graduation plan

Schedule Changes

At the discretion of the campus, the following guidelines may be used in making scheduling changes.

- A change is needed to balance a class size.
- Students scheduled in a course for which they already taken and passed.
- Student is enrolled in a course for which the student does not have the prerequisite.
- Students with incomplete schedules.
- Change is needed as a result of a course passed in summer school.

Exit Guidelines for Pre-AP/AP Courses

- Change requests for exiting of Pre-AP/AP courses will not be considered before the 10th instructional day of the course.
- Requests to exit the Pre-AP/AP course will be considered between the end of the first 10 instructional days and the end of the first six weeks of a course. Requests for second semester changes will be considered at the end of the first semester. A student must turn in a written request providing a valid explanation of the schedule change request to his/her counselor. The request must be signed by a parent/guardian.
- Before enacting the process to exit, the reason for the schedule change, in conjunction with the student's past academic history, absences, and use of tutorials and interventions will be reviewed.
- A conference to include the student, teacher, counselor, administrator or designee, and parent will be held once the written request is received and reviewed. Options to be discussed at the conference include:
 - Developing a plan for the improvement of the student's performance that includes alternative instructional strategies, student attendance, student effort, student utilization of tutorials and other interventions, and specific target dates for progress reports to students and parent;
 - or**
 - Exiting the student from the course and placing the student in another appropriate course if the student's past academic history and the committee assessment indicate the student's past academic history and the committee assessment indicate the student does not have the skills to be successful in the course and the student was inappropriately placed in the course.

Testing Information

The STAAR test evaluates student based learning on the state required curriculum- the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). Students are tested in the areas of 6th grade Math and Reading; 7th grade Math, Reading, and Writing; and 8th grade Math, Reading, Science, and Social Studies.

Student Success Initiative: The Student Success Initiative (SSI) was created by the Texas Legislature to ensure that all students receive the instruction and support they need to be academically successful in mathematics and reading.

Under the SSI grade advancement requirements, students are required to pass the STATE of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Grade 5 mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to sixth grade. Additionally, students are required to pass the STAAR grade 8 mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to ninth grade

Refer – <http://tea.texas.gov/student.assessment/calendars/>

Options for Credit

Recovery/Acceleration Credit by Examination

Eagle Mountain-Saginaw offers three different types of Credit by Exam (CBE): with prior instruction, for acceleration, and for validation credit. The tests are administered several times throughout the school year and are given during non-school hours. The tests are designed to measure the student's essential knowledge as prescribed by TEKS.

Credit by Exam with Prior Instruction

Credit by examination for students in grades 6 - 12 who have lost credit is available in courses approved by the board of trustees. Students must have had prior formal instruction to be eligible for CBE. Students must score a grade of 70 or above to receive satisfactory completion/credit. The cost for this testing is the student's responsibility. CBE shall not be used to gain eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities, nor shall it be used to earn satisfactory course completion/credit when students have excessive absences. Students should contact their counselor for additional information. Exams may be administered when needed, but are administered outside of the school day. Pre-registration and parental approval is required.

Credit by Examination without Prior Instruction

A student will be permitted to take an exam to earn credit for an academic course for which the student has no prior instruction. The passing score required to earn credit on an exam is 80%. All four subjects must be passed to qualify for acceleration. The student (or parent) must register with the campus counselor no later than 60 days prior to the scheduled testing date. See the district website at: www.emsisd.com for Acceleration by Examination information located under the parent drop down menu.

Credit by Exam is only administered to students who are enrolled and attending the Eagle Mountain-Saginaw ISD.

Texas Virtual School Network

The **Texas Education Agency (TEA)** provides online courses to eligible students through the **Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN)**. TxVSN works in partnership with Texas Public Schools to provide students with opportunities to enroll in high school Advanced Placement, and dual-credit courses offered by TEA-approved course providers. See your counselor for more information.

Correspondence Courses

Students may earn a maximum of two of the total units required by the state through correspondence courses. Prior to enrollment in correspondence courses, students shall make written request to the principal or designee for approval to enroll in the course. Students shall not be awarded credit toward graduation if approval was not granted prior to enrollment. Students may be enrolled in only one correspondence course at a time.

Credit toward state graduation requirements may be granted for correspondence courses only under the following conditions:

1. The institution offering the course is The University of Texas at Austin, Texas Tech University or another public institution of higher education approved by the Texas Commissioner of Education.
2. The correspondence course includes the state-required essential knowledge and skills for such a course.

<p style="text-align: center;">ASSESSMENT AND GRADING OF STUDENTS: 2016-2017 GRADING GUIDELINES SECONDARY SCHOOLS</p>
--

<http://www.emsisd.com/Page/22343>

Definitions

- CREDIT – Unit assigned to a high school course of study. A student must earn twenty-six (26) credits to graduate. Some two semester courses receive 1 credit while one semester courses receive one-half credit. Some Career and Technology courses can receive up to three.
- ELECTIVE - A course that a student chooses to take, although it is not specifically required.
- ENDORSEMENT – An area of specialized study, that helps a student prepare for a career or a series of courses that better prepare a student for college.
- GIFTED AND TALENTED - Secondary students who are identified as gifted and talented. In order for students to continue to be served, they must be enrolled in one of the classes listed as PAP/GT.
- PREREQUISITE - A requirement that must be met in order to take a specific course.
- REQUIRED COURSE - A specific course that a student must take and pass to be promoted to the next grade and ultimately to graduate from high school.
- PRE-AP - Pre Advanced Placement classes are higher level, more in-depth classes within a subject area. Successful completion of a Pre-AP level course prepares students for enrollment into high school AP (Advanced Placement) level courses.
- SEMESTER - An eighteen-week segment of the thirty-six week school year. Two semesters make up the school year on the middle school level.
- SSI - see page 23: Language Arts and Mathematics
- STAAR – State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness is the State student testing program for core subject areas – reading, writing, math, science and social studies. The number of tests will vary from two to four depending on grade level.
- TEKS - (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills) The statewide curriculum mandated by the State Board of Education.
- ARD Committee – Admission, Review and Dismissal Committee
- CBE – Credit by Exam



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING HIGH SCHOOL 2014-2015 AND AFTER

Foundation Plan w/ Endorsements:

DEPARTMENT	# OF CREDITS	CLASSES
ENGLISH	4.0	English 1, English 2, English 3, Advanced English Course
MATH*	3.0	Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Advanced Mathematics Course
SCIENCE	3.0	Biology, IPC, Physics or Chemistry Advanced Science, Advanced Science
SOCIAL STUDIES	4.0	U.S. History, U.S. Government (1/2 credit), Economics (1/2 credit), World Geography, World History
PHYSICAL EDUCATION**	1.0	P.E., Athletics, ROTC, Drill Team, Cheerleading, Band
LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH	2.0	2 years of Languages other than English
FINE ARTS	1.0	Art, Band, Dance, Music, Theatre
ELECTIVES/ENDORSEMENTS***	8.0	
	26 Total	

* Students who take Algebra I in 8th grade must take three (3) but are encouraged to take four (4) additional math courses in high school (beginning with freshman entry 2002-2003)

** No more than four units of credit in Physical Education may be applied toward state graduation requirements.

For specific graduation requirements see:

http://ritter.tea.state.tx.us/curriculum/SBSGradReqs2010_2011.pdf

***Endorsement Choices – STEM, Business and Industry, Public Service, Arts and Humanities, and Multidisciplinary Studies

6TH GRADE

All sixth graders must take **LANGUAGE ARTS, READING, MATH, SCIENCE, WORLD CULTURES & GEOGRAPHY, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, ADVISORY, and ONE ELECTIVE**. Based on current or previous year's performance, a student may be scheduled into a Reading Plus or Math Plus class in lieu of the elective.

English/Language Arts

406011 – GT/Pre-AP English Language Arts 6

Pre-AP English students are expected to apply previously learned skills in increasingly more complex presentations and written compositions. Along with developing research techniques and language assessment skills, students select and use different forms of writing for specific purposes such as to inform, persuade, or entertain. To support the reading/writing connection, students write to analyze and interpret literary works on a regular basis, some of which will include in-class, timed writings. A more intense emphasis on grammar aids this analysis. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program. **Taken with 406031.**

406021 – English Language Arts 6

Along with developing research and language skills, students are able to select and use different forms of writing. Students vary sentence structure and use more complex punctuation such as hyphens, semicolons, and possessives. Students edit their writing based on their knowledge of grammar and usage, spelling, and punctuation to produce final error-free pieces of written composition. **Taken with 406041.**

406031 – GT/Pre-AP Literature 6

This course develops more complex comprehension skills and introduces literary analysis strategies. The reading/writing connection is strengthened by writing a response to, reflect on, and analyze literature. Some of these writings reflect the nature of the advanced placement exam and are completed in class within a timed situation. Strong attention is given to increasing the ability and desire to read works of literary merit. Literary focus includes fiction, nonfiction, poetry and drama. In addition emphasis is on more complex vocabulary development, critical listening skills and as increased reading rate. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program **Taken with 406011.**

406041 – Literature 6

Emphasis on vocabulary, listening skills, reading rate and the reading/writing connection is an ongoing part of the program. Strong attention is given to increasing both the ability and desire to read. Students study fiction, nonfiction, poetry and drama. **Taken with 406021.**

409011 – English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Language Arts

This course is offered to identified English language learners to help them develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

409520 - Basic Language Arts 6

Designed to teach basic language and writing skills, that are essential for full participation in society. Students will be able to select and use different forms of writing. Students vary sentence structure and learn to use punctuation such as periods, commas and question marks. Growth in these processes is developmental and occurs as concepts and skills are integrated and developed in meaningful situations. Students are expected to think critically, present ideas logically, and use language effectively. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

409511 – Basic Reading 6

Designed to teach the basic communication processes of listening, speaking, and reading that are essential for full participation in society. Emphasis on vocabulary, listening skills, and the reading/writing connection is an ongoing part of the program. Strong attention is given to increasing both the ability and desire to read. Students will study a variety of different genres. Growth in these processes is developmental and occurs as concepts and skills are integrated and developed in meaningful situations. Students are expected to think critically, present ideas logically, and use language effectively. The program also promotes an enjoyment and appreciation of literature. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

Mathematics

406051 - Pre-AP Math 6

This course is designed for advanced level students planning to enroll in Algebra I in the eighth grade. All of sixth and part of seventh grade Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills are compacted to prepare students for Pre-AP Math 7. Critical thinking and creative problem solving skills are incorporated throughout. Students should possess advanced facility with numbers and have a sincere interest in enrolling in AP Calculus or other advanced math course in their senior year of high school. *This course meets the needs of the district's gifted and talented mathematics students.

406061 – Math 6

Focal points in mathematics at Grade 6 include using operations with integers and positive rational numbers to solve problems; understanding and applying ratios and rates and using equivalent ratios to represent proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to represent relationships in a variety of contexts; understanding data representation; and financial literacy. Use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding is emphasized. Students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools to develop concepts and solve problems.

409551 - Basic Math 6

This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student and provides the experiences necessary to become mathematically literate for the 21st Century. Focal points in mathematics at Grade 6 include using operations with integers and positive rational numbers to solve problems; understanding and applying ratios and rates and using equivalent ratios to represent proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to represent relationships in a variety of contexts; understanding data representation; and financial literacy. Use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding is emphasized. Students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools to develop concepts and solve problems. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

Science

406081 – Science 6

Provides students with the skills to apply science concepts to their daily life. Science instruction involves teaching students to answer questions and solve problems, to become skilled in collecting information and data, to organize it in an effective manner, draw conclusions by analyzing this data, and to become knowledgeable in the content of science.

409561 - Basic Science 6

Provides students with the skills to apply science concepts to their daily life. Science instruction involves teaching students to answer questions and solve problems, to become skilled in collecting information and data, to organize it in an effective manner, draw conclusions by analyzing this data, and to become knowledgeable in the content of science. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

Social Studies

406091 - World Cultures and Geography 6

Designed as a study of the people and places of the contemporary world, this course is built on the Social Studies strands: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science and technology and social studies skills. The content, as appropriate for the grade level, includes an assortment of written, visual and auditory, primary and secondary sources.

409562 - Basic World Cultures and Geography 6

Designed as a study of the people and places of the contemporary world, this course is built on the Social Studies strands: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science and technology and social studies skills. The content, as appropriate for the grade level, includes an assortment of written, visual and auditory, primary and secondary sources. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

Physical Education

406201 – PE/Lifetime Fitness/Pre-Athletics

Students in this course will acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continued social development through physical activity. Students will learn specialized skills and concepts that lead to confidence and competency in a variety of physical activities. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports.

Pre-Athletics is for students interested in athletics. Students will be taught the fundamentals of team sports and training will be provided on agility, speed/endurance, explosiveness, nutrition, the basics of proper weight training, and sport-specific skills. Students will dress out each day. There is a \$30 fee to cover the cost of student's uniform.

Each campus will offer a variety of electives. Not all electives will be offered each year or on all campuses. See your counselor for information about electives offered on your campus.

Fine Arts Electives

406401 – Beginning Girls Choir

406411 – Beginning Boys Choir

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn fundamental vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through learning music, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group ensembles; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image. **There is a fee per student determined by each campus for this course.**

406301 - Beginning Band

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn fundamental instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind or percussion instruments. Through learning music, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group ensembles; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image. **There is a fee per student determined by each campus for this course.**

408630 – Theatre 6

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn skills in speaking, acting, directing, production, design and technical theatre. Through studying theatre, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group casts; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image.

General Electives

406101 - Exploratory

This course allows students to rotate through a variety of courses for 12 to 18 week periods. Courses rotate and may vary by semester and campus.

409106 - Reading Plus 6

Emphasizes study skills and critical reading and thinking strategies that students need to become mature, independent learners. This course is taken in addition to the regular language arts class. **Placement is determined by Academic Placement Committee, administrators or counselors.**

409601 – Math Plus 6

The course is to be taken in addition to the regular mathematics class and is required for students identified to need support in mathematics. It provides additional and individualized instruction in Grade 6 Math concepts. Problem solving skills and vocabulary development are emphasized. **Placement in this course is determined by Academic Placement Committee, administrator or counselor.**

7th GRADE

All seventh graders must take LANGUAGE ARTS, READING, MATH, SCIENCE, TEXAS HISTORY, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, ADVISORY and ONE ELECTIVE. Based on current or previous year's performance, a student may be scheduled into a Reading Plus or Math Plus class in lieu of the elective.

English/ Language Arts

407011 - Pre-AP English Language Arts

Designed for highly motivated students with above grade level proficiency in language arts. Communication skills are reinforced as the student improves proficiency in sentence structure and learns the components of a well-developed paragraph through a process approach to writing. Grammar, spelling, vocabulary instruction, and research skills are emphasized. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program. **Taken with 407031.**

407021 – English Language Arts

Provides the student with knowledge of the structure and patterns of language. Usage skills develop the student's ability to speak and write effectively. Instruction in written communication focuses on the development of well planned, coherent compositions written for a variety of audiences and purposes. Reading skills include vocabulary development, comprehension, organization, and study skills. Research skills are introduced. **Taken with 407041.**

407031 - Pre-AP Literature

Designed for highly motivated students with above grade level proficiency in language arts. A more advanced higher level of literary analysis and study skills is emphasized in the study of literature. Grammar, spelling, vocabulary instruction, and research skills are emphasized. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program. **Taken with 407011.**

407041 - Literature 7

This course integrates the study of literature, reading analysis and response, and vocabulary development. Students will develop complex reading skills by analyzing a variety of literature genres, including fiction, expository, literary nonfiction, drama, poetry, persuasive, procedural and various forms of media. Research skills are introduced. **Taken with 407021**

409012 – English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Language Arts

This class is offered to identified English language learners to help them develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

409521 - Basic Language Arts 7

Provides the student with knowledge of the structure and patterns of language. Usage skills develop the student's ability to speak and write effectively. Instruction in written communication focuses on the development of well planned, coherent compositions written for a variety of audiences and purposes. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by ARD Committee.**

409512 – Basic Reading 7

Reading skills include vocabulary development, comprehension, organization, and study skills. Research skills are introduced. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by ARD Committee.**

Mathematics

407051 - Pre-AP Math 7

This course is designed for advanced level students who have successfully completed Pre-AP Math 6 or its equivalent. All of eighth and part of seventh grade Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills are compacted to prepare the students for 8th grade Pre-AP Algebra I. Critical thinking and creative problem solving skills are incorporated throughout. Students should possess advanced facility with numbers and have a sincere interest in enrolling in AP Calculus or other advanced math course in their senior year of high school. *This course meets the needs of the district's gifted and talented mathematics students.

407061 – Math 7

Focal points in mathematics at grade seven include developing fluency with rational numbers and operations to solve problems in a variety of contexts; representing and applying proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to describe relationships in a variety of contexts, including geometric problems; comparing sets of data; and financial literacy. Use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding is emphasized. Students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools to develop concepts and solve problems.

409552 - Basic Math 7

This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student and provides the experiences necessary to become mathematically literate for the 21st Century. Focal points in mathematics at grade seven include developing fluency with rational numbers and operations to solve problems in a variety of contexts; representing and applying proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to describe relationships in a variety of contexts, including geometric problems; comparing sets of data; and financial literacy. Use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding is emphasized. Students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools to develop concepts and solve problems. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

Science

407071 - Pre-AP-Science 7

Designed to meet the needs of gifted and advanced students, this course focuses on life on planet Earth. It stresses the interrelationships and interdependence between living organisms and the physical, chemical, and earth science world. The sequence of the course follows a coordinated thematic approach. Enrichment in each of the topics will be accomplished through the presentation of more complex concepts. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program.

407081 – Science 7

Focuses on life on planet Earth. This course stresses the interrelationships and interdependence between living organisms and the physical, chemical, and earth science world. Curriculum follows a coordinated thematic approach. Learning in each of these topics will be accomplished through the presentation of complex concepts and explanations of science related phenomena and additional laboratory activities. The students are encouraged to do a science research project reinforcing the use the scientific method as a problem solving approaching daily life.

409563 - Basic Science 7

Focuses on life on planet Earth. This course stresses the interrelationships and interdependence between living organisms and the physical, chemical, and earth science world. Curriculum follows a coordinated thematic approach. Learning in each of these topics will be accomplished through the presentation of complex concepts and explanations of science related phenomena and additional laboratory activities. The students are encouraged to do a science research project reinforcing the use the scientific method as a problem solving approaching daily life. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

Social Studies

407091 - Texas History

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding and appreciation of the history and geography of Texas as well as the state's cultural heritage from exploration to the present.

409565 – Basic Texas History

This course is designed to help students develop an understanding and appreciation of the history and geography of Texas as well as the state's cultural heritage from exploration to the present. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

All students must participate in Physical Education or a PE Equivalent for a full year in either their 7th or 8th grade year, to meet State and District requirements.

Physical Education

409201/409211 – Boys/Girls Physical Education and Fitness

Students enrolled in this course will understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. Student will continue to acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continue social development through physical activity. Students will begin to understand the need to remain physically active throughout life by participating in enjoyable lifetime activities. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports.

Athletics

Girls/Boys Athletics

Sports Available

Girls – Volleyball, Basketball, Cross Country, Track, and Soccer - **407211**

Boys – Football, Basketball, Cross Country, Track, and Soccer - **407201**

Soccer – **407261**, students interested in Soccer only should sign up for this course.

Tennis – **409221**, students interested in Tennis only should sign up for this course.

Gymnastics – **409241**, students interested in Gymnastics only should sign up for this course.

*** A basic gymnastic skills tryout will be held for acceptance into this class. Parent drop off at the high school for morning workout is required.***

Designed for students interested in participating in competitive sports. Students must be available before school, after school, evenings and Saturdays for practice sessions and games. In order for a student to participate in or try-out for a sport, the school must have a physical form completed by a medical doctor. These forms must be on file with the campus coordinator at the student's school. Maximum team size for each sport will be established and maintained based on written criteria. If enrollment exceeds the number that can be accommodated on the teams, then students will compete for the available positions. Students who are not selected for a team will be assigned to an off-season conditioning class during the athletic period until the beginning of a new sport. This procedure will be used for each sport. There is a \$30 uniform fee for these sports.

Note – Cross Country is held before school and it is not required to be in athletics. A physical form and all UIL paperwork is required. A \$30 fee is associated with this class. Soccer players should be enrolled in either 407261, 407211, or 407201

Electives

Each campus will offer a variety of electives. Not all electives will be offered each year or on all campuses. See your counselor for information about electives offered on your campus.

1561/1562 – Spanish for Native Speakers

This course is designed for students who demonstrate through a placement test, skills in understanding and speaking Spanish but who need to give greater attention to reading, writing, and conventions of the language. The course is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. **Prerequisite: Placement Exam. This is a pass/fail course with high school credit but no GPA.**

407191 – AVID 7

The 7th grade AVID elective course is an introduction to the AVID philosophy. AVID's goal is to prepare students for success in school, college, and a career, especially students who are traditionally underrepresented in higher education. It is designed to meet the needs of students, especially those designed as "students in the middle," who are often underachieving, disadvantaged, underrepresented, or first-generation college students, by providing:

1. Foundational tools (structure, organizational tools, note-taking, goal setting, time management)
2. WICOR (writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organization, reading to learn) strategies
3. Academic support for students taking a Pre-AP courses
4. College visits

409107 – Reading Plus 7

This course is to be taken in addition to the regular reading class. It provides additional and individual instruction to develop better reading and comprehension skills. Vocabulary development and listening skills are also stressed. **Placement is determined by Academic Placement Committee, administrator or counselor.**

409701 - Math Plus 7

The course is to be taken in addition to the regular mathematics class and is required for students identified to need support in mathematics. It provides additional and individualized instruction in Grade 7 Math concepts. Problem solving skills and vocabulary development are emphasized. **Placement in this course is determined by Academic Placement Committee, administrator or counselor.**

409371 – Honor Band

409381 – Symphonic Band

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn advanced instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind or percussion instruments. Through learning music, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group ensembles; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image. **There is a fee per student determined by each campus for this course. Class placement determined by director through tryouts.**

408401 – Girls Choir

408411 – Boys Choir

Designed as a performance-based course, female students learn advanced vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through learning music, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group ensembles; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image. **There is a fee per student determined by each campus for this course. Class placement is determined by director through tryouts.**

407131 - Theatre Arts

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn skills in speaking, acting, directing, production, design and technical theatre. Through studying theatre, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group casts; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image.

407103 – Art 7

Designed as a survey course, students learn a broad overview of art concepts. Students explore and learn about 2-D and 3-D art and are provided opportunities to create personal art work.

407123 – Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness

This class introduces students to basic life skills, including budgeting, cooking, sewing, health, and independent living. Students will be responsible for supplying some of the instructional materials for the class, not to exceed \$50, as materials such as recipe ingredients and sewing notions are required for the class.

407113 - Technology Education

This class is designed to introduce students to computer applications such as spreadsheets, databases, word programs, and basic web design. Students are assessed on knowledge and products.

8th GRADE

All eighth graders must take **LANGUAGE ARTS, MATH, SCIENCE, U.S. HISTORY, and ADVISORY**. In addition elective offerings may be chosen from the list beginning on **page 25**. Based on current or previous year's performance, a student may be scheduled into a Reading Plus and/or Math Plus class(s) in lieu of one or two electives.

Student Success Initiative: The Student Success Initiative (SSI) was created by the Texas Legislature to ensure that all students receive the instruction and support they need to be academically successful in mathematics and reading.

Under the SSI grade advancement requirements, students are required to pass the STATE of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) Grade 5 mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to sixth grade. Additionally, students are required to pass the STAAR grade 8 mathematics and reading tests to be promoted to ninth grade.

English/Language Arts

408011 - Pre-AP English Language Arts and Reading

Designed to meet the needs of advanced students in language arts, this course focuses on integrated reading, writing, speaking, and listening that will allow in-depth study of the total communication process. Emphasis is placed on using interpretive reading skills for stimulating thinking and developing ideas for writing multi-level descriptive, narrative, persuasive, and informational compositions. Grammar, spelling and vocabulary are taught through application. Research skills are strengthened through varied activities. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program.

408021 – English Language Arts and Reading

Provides written communication skills as the major focus for eighth grade language arts students, including practice with narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and informative compositions using a process approach to writing. Reading and literary skills emphasized in eighth grade address critical and analytical thinking. Oral communication and study skills are applied through appropriate activities. Research skills are strengthened through varied activities.

409013 – English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Language Arts

This course is offered to identified English language learners to help them develop proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing.

409522 - Basic Language Arts 8

Provides written communication skills as the major focus for eighth grade language arts students, including practice with narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and informative compositions using a process approach to writing. Reading and literary skills emphasized in eighth grade address critical and analytical thinking. Oral communication and study skills are applied through appropriate activities. Research skills are strengthened through varied activities. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee**

Mathematics

1215 - Pre-AP Algebra I

This course is designed for advanced level students who have successfully completed Grade 7 Pre-AP Math or passed the district Algebra I placement exam. Topics of study include linear functions, equations, and inequalities; quadratic functions and equations; exponential functions and equations; and a variety of algebraic methods. Use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding is emphasized. Students use these processes together with graphing calculator technology and other mathematical tools to develop concepts and solve problems. Students should possess advanced facility with numbers and have a sincere interest in enrolling in AP Calculus or other advanced math courses in their senior year of high school. *This course meets the needs of the district's gifted and talented mathematics students. **Students will only be allowed to exit PreAP Algebra I prior to the end of the first semester. Students will not be allowed to exit after the end of the first semester.**

408053 – GT/Pre-AP Math 8

This rigorous course is designed to prepare students for ninth grade Pre-AP Algebra I. All of the eighth grade Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills are taught with increased depth and complexity. Critical thinking and creative problem solving skills are incorporated throughout. Students should have a sincere interest in math and in enrolling in Pre-AP and AP math courses in high school.

408061 – Math 8

The primary focal points at Grade 8 include representing, applying, and analyzing proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to describe relationships, including the Pythagorean Theorem; making inferences from data; and financial literacy. Use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding is emphasized. Students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools to develop concepts and solve problems.

409553 - Basic Math 8

The primary focal points at Grade 8 include representing, applying, and analyzing proportional relationships; using expressions and equations to describe relationships, including the Pythagorean Theorem; making inferences from data; and financial literacy. Use of mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate understanding is emphasized. Students use these processes together with technology and other mathematical tools to develop concepts and solve problems. . **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee**

Science

408071 – GT/Pre-AP Science 8

Designed to meet the needs of gifted and advanced students. This course focuses on a study of the Earth and solar system and how living systems, chemistry, and physics interact to form our exosphere. The sequence of the course follows a coordinated thematic approach. In addition to daily learning experiences related to content and laboratory-oriented activities, the students will be required to complete a science research project. This project is intended to increase the student's appreciation of science and reinforce the use of the scientific method as a problem-solving approach in daily life. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program.

408081 – Science 8

Focuses on a study of the Earth and solar system and how living systems, chemistry, and physics interact to form our exosphere. The sequence of the course follows a coordinated thematic approach. In addition to daily learning experiences related to content and laboratory-oriented activities, the students will be encouraged to do a science research project. This project is intended to increase the student's appreciation of science and reinforce the use of the scientific method as a problem-solving approach to daily life.

409564 – Basic Science 8

Focuses on a study of the Earth and solar system and how living systems, chemistry, and physics interact to form our exosphere. The sequence of the course follows a coordinated thematic approach. In addition to daily learning experiences related to content and laboratory-oriented activities, the students will be encouraged to do a science research project. This project is intended to increase the student's appreciation of science and reinforce the use of the scientific method as a problem solving approach to daily life. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

Social Studies

408092 – GT/Pre-AP United States History

Designed to meet the needs of the district's more advanced students, this course is a study of United States History from the early Colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will be required to read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, sharpen writing and research skills and/or to develop creative projects for historical periods covered. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program.

408091 - United States History

This course is a detailed study of United States history from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, research major themes and/or develop creative projects for historical periods covered. Knowledge of the founding documents will be stressed as well as the skills and attitudes of responsible citizenship.

409566 – Basic US History

This course is a detailed study of United States history from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, research major themes and/or develop creative projects for historical periods covered. Knowledge of the founding documents will be stressed as well as the skills and attitudes of responsible citizenship. This course is designed to meet the individual needs of the student. **Placement in this course is determined by the ARD committee.**

All students must participate in Physical Education or a PE Equivalent for a full year in either their 7th or 8th grade year, to meet State and District requirements.

Physical Education

409201/409211 – Boys/Girls Physical Education and Fitness

Students enrolled in this course will understand in greater detail the function of the body, learn to measure their own performance more accurately, and develop plans for improvement. Student will continue to acquire the knowledge and skills for movement that provide the foundation for enjoyment and continue social development through physical activity. Students will begin to understand the need to remain physically active throughout life by participating in enjoyable lifetime activities. Physical activity will include lessons from team sports, individual sports, aerobic sports and adventure outdoor sports.

Athletics

408211/408201 - Girls/Boys Athletics

Sports Available

Girls Volleyball, Basketball, Track, Cross Country and Soccer – **408211**

Boys Football, Basketball, Track, Cross Country and Soccer – **408201**

Soccer – **408261**, students interested in Soccer only should sign up for this course.

Tennis – **409231**, students interested in Tennis only should sign up for this course.

Gymnastics – **409241**, students interested in Gymnastics only should sign up for this course.

A basic gymnastic skills tryout will be held for acceptance into this class. Parent drop off at the high school for morning workout is required.

Designed for students interested in participating in competitive sports. Students must be available before school, after school, evenings and Saturdays for practice sessions and games. In order for a student to participate in or try-out for a sport, the school must have a physical form completed by a medical doctor. These forms must be on file with the campus coordinator at the student's school. Maximum team size for each sport will be established and maintained based on written criteria. If enrollment exceeds the number that can be accommodated on the teams, then students will compete for the available positions. Students who are not selected for a team will be assigned to an off-season conditioning class during the athletic period until the beginning of a new sport. This procedure will be used for each sport. There is a \$30 uniform fee for these sports.

Note – Cross Country is held before school and it is not required to be in athletics. A physical form and all UIL paperwork is required. A \$30 fee is associated with this class. Soccer players should be enrolled in either 408261, 408211, or 408201

Electives

Each campus will offer a variety of electives. Not all electives will be offered each year or on all campuses. See your counselor for information about electives offered on your campus.

408191 - AVID 8

AVID's goal is to prepare students for success in school, college, and a career, especially students who are traditionally underrepresented in higher education. The 8th grade AVID elective course meets the needs of students, especially those designed as "students in the middle," who are often underachieving, disadvantaged, underrepresented, or first-generation college students, by providing:

1. Foundational tools (structure, organizational tools, note-taking, goal setting, time management)
2. WICOR (writing to learn, inquiry, collaboration, organization, reading to learn) strategies
3. Academic support for students taking a Pre-AP courses
4. College visits

409108 – Reading Plus 8

Offered to students who need support in reading. **Placement in this course is made by Academic Placement Committee, administrator or counselors.**

409801 – Math Plus 8

The course is to be taken in addition to the regular mathematics class and is required for students identified to need support in mathematics. It provides additional and individualized instruction in Grade 8 Math concepts. Problem solving skills and vocabulary development are emphasized. **Placement in this course is determined by Academic Placement Committee, administrator or counselor.**

409371 – Honor Band

409381 – Symphonic Band

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn advanced instrumental techniques and music reading skills on brass, woodwind or percussion instruments. Through learning music, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group ensembles; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image. Previous band experience is required. **There is a fee per student determined by each campus for this course. Placement will be determined by director.**

409401 – Girls Choir

409411 – Boys Choir

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn advanced vocal techniques and music reading skills. Through learning music, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group ensembles; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image. **There is a fee per student determined by each campus for this course. Placement determined by director.**

408131 - Theatre Arts

Designed as a performance-based course, students learn skills in speaking, acting, directing, production, design and technical theatre. Through studying theatre, students are provided opportunities to: (1) perform in large and small group casts; (2) interact with other students and develop team work skills; (3) develop and increase personal and academic discipline; and (4) develop a positive self-image.

406171 - Dance

Dance I will explore various styles of dance including ballet, lyrical, jazz, hip hop, and others. In addition to learning a variety of routines and combinations, students will cover the fundamentals, technique, vocabulary, and history of each dance style. Creativity and expression will be encouraged through student choreography, both individually and as a group. The class will consist of both physical and written activities.

408181 - Journalism/Yearbook

Designed as a course in which students develop skills relevant to real world settings. Students will develop skills using software and cameras to create, produce, and organize the school yearbook. They are also responsible for sales, picture days, and student event photography. They will also practice skills that are necessary for careers in the field of journalism. \$15.00 fee for supplies.

408121 - Skills for Living/Consumer Science I

This class introduces students to basic life skills, including budgeting, cooking, sewing, health, and independent living. Students will be responsible for supplying some of the instructional materials for the class, not to exceed \$50, as materials such as recipe ingredients and sewing notions are required for the class.

408513 – Office Aide**408523 – Library Aide****408533 - Teacher Aide**

An application must be completed and attached with parent signature. Selection is based on grades, attendance, and attitude.

408111 - Technology Education

This class is designed to introduce students to computer applications such as spreadsheets, databases, word programs and basic web design. Students are assessed on knowledge and products.

8th Grade Courses for High School Credit

In addition to Pre-AP Algebra I the following courses are offered for high school credit.

8031 – Methodology of Academic and Personal Success I (MAPS)

Credits: .5

Semesters: 1

Prerequisite: none

This course will provide instruction in preparing for high school, college, and a career. Specific areas covered in this course include development of a four year personal graduation plan, the Distinguished Level of Achievement, endorsements and what courses must be taken to acquire each endorsement, what are performance acknowledgements, and what it takes to be college and career ready. Using Career Cruising students will research potential career choices and the education needed based on their interests. Students will also search colleges and technical schools that provide courses and training to match their area of interest. Course will be taught by a Career and Technology Education certified instructor.

5372 – Principles of Hospitality

Credits: .5

Semesters: 1

Prerequisite: none

The hospitality and tourism industry encompasses lodging, travel and tourism, recreation, amusements, attractions, resorts, restaurants, and food beverage service. The hospitality and tourism industry maintains the largest national employment base in the private sector. Students use knowledge and skills that meet industry standards to function effectively in various positions within this multifaceted industry. Students are encouraged to participate in extended learning experiences such as career and technical student organizations and other leadership or extracurricular organizations.

5371 – Principles of Human Services

Credits: .5

Semesters: 1

Prerequisite: none

This course will enable students to investigate careers in the human services career cluster, including counseling and mental health, early childhood development, family and community, and personal care services.

1563/1564 - Spanish for Native Speakers

Credits: 2

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: 1561/1562 or **Placement Exam**

This course is conducted entirely in Spanish and is designed for students who demonstrate through a placement test or through performance on Spanish II for Native Speakers strong skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. First semester students will focus on Spanish III TEKS, second semester students will prepare for the AP Spanish Language exam given in May. **AP courses provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory courses. Students who take this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in the spring.**

5551 - Concepts of Engineering

Credits: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: none

Site: BHS, SHS, CTHS, CMS, EWMS, HMS, PVMS, WMS

This course provides an overview of the various fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and their interrelationships. Students will use a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects.

1510 - Spanish I

Credits: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: None

This course is an introductory course for beginning Spanish. Basic language concepts important to developing oral proficiency will be stressed, including production of sounds, stress patterns, and intonation of the language. Students also study basic facts about geography, customs and culture of the Spanish-speaking countries

1810 - Health

Credits: .5

Semesters: 1

Prerequisite: None

Health Education offers students an opportunity to study concepts and skills related to physical, mental and social well-being of individuals or groups. Students will study nutrition, first aid, safety, emergency care, physical fitness, and drug abuse. Current health and community health will also be discussed.

2010 - Art 1

Credits: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: none

Art I is an introduction to the use of the elements and principles of design, and the different materials used for Self-expression. The student will be given opportunities to Design and create original works of art.

2015 - Pre-AP Art 1

Credit: 1

Semesters: 2

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

The Art Pre-AP curriculum will follow the College Board directives of the Advanced Placement General and Drawing Portfolio requirements. Art 1 Pre-AP provides learning opportunities for 9th and 10th grade students beyond those available in the regular Art 1 class by extending the state essential knowledge and skills through drawing and color study (first semester). Students also learn what will be expected of them for the AP Portfolio Examination. The second semester focuses on painting, printmaking, sculpture, and ceramics.

