

Kindergarten – Sixth Grade

History

- United States and world history and geography
- Founding principles and documents
- Responsibilities of citizenship

Reading/Language Arts

- Spalding Method for Teaching Speech, Spelling, Writing and Reading
- Instruction centered in phonics and content knowledge in early grades.
- Literature-based reading in upper grades to correspond with history topics

Math

- Singapore Math
 - Concrete-pictorial-abstract approach
 - Communication of mathematical ideas and problem solving

Science

- Based on Core Knowledge Sequence and Utah State Standards
- Hands-on approach with training in scientific methodologies
- Life sciences, earth sciences, and physical sciences

Art

- Core Knowledge art integrated in Discipline Based Art Education
- Art elements and application of principles
- Art appreciation - Great artists and their works

Music

- Kodaly method to music integrated in Core Knowledge music
- Great composers and their works
- Theory
- Integrated with language arts and social studies at elementary level

Spanish/ Chinese

Students will study of language and language relationships with an emphasis on Chinese and Spanish. They will learn basic vocabulary and conversational phrases and study the culture, history, and geography of the Chinese and Spanish-speaking worlds. This course offers students the opportunity to experience both languages and cultures before focusing in on one in future studies.

In Fourth Grade students will choose between Chinese or Spanish as their language of focus in future grades.

Seventh - Ninth Grade

7th Grade English

Course Description – 7th grade

The seventh grade language arts course focuses on reading and writing and includes instruction in vocabulary, spelling, and grammar. The curriculum will include reading works of fiction, nonfiction and drama such as *Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *Narrative of the Life of Fredrick Douglass*, *Little Women*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Scarlet Letter*, *The Hobbit*, *The Gift of the Magi*, *The Necklace*, *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *The Call of the Wild*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and *Cyrano de Bergerac*, and historical speeches and documents of the Revolutionary and Civil War eras. Elements of fiction, drama, and poetry will be studied, along with historical essays and speeches. The study of Latin will be continued with that of English grammar. Latin and Greek words, along with foreign phrases commonly used in English, will be introduced to support vocabulary development. Writing will include nonfiction essays that describe, narrate, persuade, and compare and contrast and research essays with a focus on gathering relevant data, defining a thesis, organizing an outline, and preparing a bibliography. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through short speeches and group discussions.

Pre Algebra

Course Description – 7th Grade

The Pre-Algebra course will expand upon concepts and skills covered in elementary mathematics and will introduce algebra concepts to students as a way to transition them into the study of Algebra and Geometry. Students will work with equivalent expressions, single-variable equations and inequalities. This course will include daily practice of basic math facts, new concepts presented in small increments and reviewed throughout the year, and daily written practice that encourages students to communicate mathematically and apply problem solving strategies to real world situations.

7th Grade Science

Course Description – 7th Grade

The seventh grade science course will review atomic structure covered in grade 5 and will expand upon this knowledge to discuss early theories of matter and the beginning of modern chemistry. Students will study chemical bonds and reactions, cell division, and genetics. They will also learn about the history of the earth and life forms, through the study of paleontology, geologic time, and evolution. The course will also include a

study of the lives and discoveries of Charles Darwin, Antoine Lavoisier, Lise Meitner, and Dmitri Mendeleev.

7th Grade History

Course Description – 7th Grade

Utah History - This course will examine Utah's history, geography, and inhabitants and help students understand its unique nature, people, and cultures. Topics of study will include the contributions of Native Americans, explorers, and pioneers on the development of this area, settlement and statehood, government, and industry.

US History - This course explores United States history from the Age of Exploration through the 19th century. Topics include the Exploration, Colonization, the Revolutionary War, the Constitution, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Westward Expansion.

Art – Foundations I

Course Description – 7th Grade

Students will develop drawing skills in shape, space, value, line, vanishing points, three-dimensional form, illustration, and light and shadow and will also gain an understanding and appreciation of great works of art and artists throughout history.

Music

Course Description – 7th Grade

This course is an introduction to music and vocal or instrumental training. Students will learn and develop listening, performing, creating, and analyzing skills as they study a variety of musical pieces from different historical periods.

CTE Intro

Course Description – 7th Grade

CTE Intro is Utah's exploratory Career and Technical Education Core Curriculum requirement for middle/junior high 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. Students are provided with the direction, decision-making, and planning needed in order to select their career path. Through Awareness Activities students are exposed to careers in the following content areas:

- Agriculture Education
- Business Education
- Economics, Entrepreneurship, and Financial Literacy Education
- Family & Consumer Sciences Education
- Health Science & Technology Education
- Information Technology Education

Monticello Academy Course Descriptions

- Marketing Education
- Technology & Engineering Education
- Skilled & Technical Sciences Education

7th Grade PE

Course Description – 7th Grade

Seventh grade Physical Education will aid students in developing skills such as throwing, catching, striking, and kicking. Students will participate in drills, activities and a variety of team sports to master basic movements and prepare themselves for advanced play.

Spanish / Chinese

Course Description – 7th Grade

Students will study of language and language relationships with an emphasis in Chinese or Spanish. They will learn basic vocabulary and conversational phrases and study the culture, history, and geography of the Chinese and Spanish-speaking worlds. This course will focus on the national standards for foreign language which are communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. More specifically, students will improve their skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking as they progress from year to year at their grade level.

8th Grade English

Course Description – 8th Grade

The eighth grade language arts course will focus on reading and writing and will include instruction in vocabulary, spelling, and grammar. The curriculum will include reading works of fiction, nonfiction and drama such as *Diary of a Young Girl*, *Animal Farm*, *The Good Earth*, *The Count of Monte Cristo*, *The Giver*, *Wuthering Heights* and short stories by Chekov, Hawthorne, Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky, and Crane. Elements of fiction, drama, and poetry will be studied, along with historical essays and speeches. The study of Latin will be continued with that of English grammar. Latin and Greek words, along with foreign phrases commonly used in English, will be introduced to support vocabulary development. Writing will include nonfiction essays that describe, narrate, persuade, and compare and contrast and research essays with a focus on gathering relevant data, defining a thesis, organizing an outline, and preparing a bibliography. Speaking and listening skills will be developed through short speeches and group discussions.

Algebra I

Course Description – 8th Grade

Algebra I will expand upon concepts introduced in Pre-Algebra and will include topics such as proofs, statistics, probability, irrational numbers, equivalent expressions, polynomials, and quadratic relationships. Students will work with tables, graphs, and

equations. Students will develop more complex mathematical thinking and fluency in solving linear equations and inequalities.

8th Grade Science

Course Description – 8th Grade

The eighth grade science course covers topics related to energy and changes in matter. In addition, the following topics will be explored: motion, forces, density and buoyancy, work, energy, power, electricity, magnetism, electromagnetic radiation and light, sound waves, and the chemistry of food and respiration. Scientists within these areas will also be studied, such as Albert Einstein, Dorothy Hodgkin, James Maxwell, and Charles Steinmetz.

8th Grade History

Course Description – 8th Grade

US History II - This course will review topics from US History I and continue study with a focus on growth and change in American democracy, and interactions with world forces, particularly nationalism and totalitarianism. Topics will include Post-Reconstruction, the Constitution, Westward Expansion, Native American policies, Growth of Industry, Social Reform, Imperialism, World War I, The Great Depression, the New Deal, World War II, the Cold War and Civil Rights.

US Government & Citizenship - Through this course, students will explore American citizenship and study essential concepts, protections, privileges, and structures that influence the United States political system.

Art – Foundations II

Course Description – 8th Grade

Students will develop drawing skills in shape, space, value, line, vanishing points, three-dimensional form, illustration, and light and shadow and will also gain an understanding and appreciation of great works of art and artists throughout history.

8th Grade Music

Course Description – 8th Grade

This course is an introduction to music and vocal or instrumental training. Students will learn and develop listening, performing, creating, and analyzing skills as they study a variety of musical pieces from different historical periods.

8th Grade PE

Course Description – 8th Grade

Monticello Academy Course Descriptions

8th Grade Physical Education expands up skills taught in 7th Grade Physical Education and provides students with more challenging activities to improve skill development and physical fitness. Students will participate in team sports and cooperative activities to develop teamwork and sportsmanship.

Health

Course Description – 8th Grade

The health component of this course provides students with knowledge and skills to make healthy choices in their lives. Students will explore many factors of a healthy self, including nutrition and fitness, disease prevention, substance abuse prevention, healthy relationships and self-esteem.

Spanish / Chinese

Course Description – 8th Grade

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9th Grade English

Course Descriptions – 9th Grade

This course will allow students to read authors from a range of literary periods from all parts of the world. The view and cultural influences of each piece of work will be examined as well as background about the author and how his/her experiences shaped what they wrote. Students will develop skills necessary to read, analyze and evaluate literature from different areas and time periods. This course is designed to prepare students for increased reading demands in college. Students are assigned more lengthy readings as well as readings within certain professional disciplines. This allows students to increase their reading comprehension while also learning to read more quickly. By completing this course students should also be able to write at a professional level.

Geometry

Course Descriptions – 9th Grade

The main goal of Geometry is for students to develop the structure of Euclidean geometry logically and apply the resulting theorems and formulas to address meaningful problems. Students will use experimentation and inductive reasoning to construct geometric concepts, discover geometric relationships, and formulate

Monticello Academy Course Descriptions

conjectures. Students will employ deductive logic to construct formal logical arguments and proofs. Students will extend their pre-existing experiences with algebra and geometry to trigonometry and coordinate geometry. Students will use dynamic geometry software, compass and straightedge, and other tools to investigate and explore mathematical ideas relationships and develop multiple strategies for analyzing complex situations. Students will apply mathematical skills and make meaningful connections to life's experiences.

Biology

Course Descriptions – 9th Grade

The two main goals of Biology are to help students develop an conceptual framework for modern biology and to help students gain an appreciation of science as a process. The ongoing information explosion in biology makes these goals even more challenging. Primary emphasis in a Biology course could be on developing and understanding of concepts rather than on memorizing terms and technical details. Essential to this conceptual understanding are the following: a grasp of science as a process rather than as an accumulation of facts; personal experience in scientific inquiry; recognition of unifying themes that integrate the major topics of biology; and application of biological knowledge and critical thinking to environmental and social concerns.

Geography

Course Descriptions – 9th Grade

Geography is described as the study of the “why of the where.” Geography for Life will explore how to use geography as a tool to better understand the world in which we live. Students will learn to evaluate and question the why and where of spatial perceptions that are read, seen, and heard. The six standards identified below are best understood when using the following geographic themes: location, place, movement, region, and human environmental interaction. This course will include map skills with physical and human geography essentials, beginning with North America, South America, Europe, and their connections to other world regions.

Spanish / Chinese

Course Description – 9th Grade

Students will study of language and language relationships with an emphasis in Chinese or Spanish. They will learn basic vocabulary and conversational phrases and study the culture, history, and geography of the Chinese and Spanish-speaking worlds. This course will focus on the national standards for foreign language which are communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. More specifically, students will improve their skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking as they progress from year to year at their grade level.

Fitness for Life

Course Description 9th Grade High School Credit: 0.50 PE/Health

Fitness for Life is a one semester course designed to give students the knowledge and skills necessary to self-assess, create, conduct, evaluate, and redesign personal fitness programs. It is required of all students and there are no substitutions.

Participation Skills

Course Description 9th Grade High School Credit: 0.50 PE/Health

2nd Semester 9th grade PE Class. This class offers students instruction in lifetime activities and fulfills one semester PE requirement for high school graduation.

Concert Orchestra

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts

The Concert Orchestra gives the opportunity to violin, viola, cello, and bass players to experience many different varieties of the orchestral music repertoire. This is a performing ensemble and all students will be expected to participate in all concerts and performances. We will focus on the development of technical and performance skills. Teacher approval required. New students must have at least 1 year experience to have their names submitted to music teacher for consideration.

Concert Band

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts

The Concert Band gives the opportunity to brass, woodwinds and percussion players to experience many different varieties of band music repertoire. This is a performing ensemble and all students will be expected to participate in all concerts and performances. We will focus on the development of technical and performance skills. Teacher approval required. New students must have at least 1 year experience to have their names submitted to music teacher for consideration.

Concert Choir

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts

This is the largest advanced choir at the school. Members are expected to meet high vocal and musical standards, and must be aware of the commitment to attend all scheduled rehearsals and programs. Class work and content are increased, and the music demands more maturity of voice quality and more refined musicianship. Attention is given to the improvement of music reading ability and the understanding of mood, form and style in choral music. Teacher approval required. New students must have at least 1 year experience to have their names submitted to music teacher for consideration.

Musical Theater / Drama

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts
Students will study scripts, learn about the different jobs and responsibilities in the profession, and apply skills to performances – in and outside of class. Enjoy performing? Love to act? This course emphasizes the basic elements of theatre. We will be exploring vocal techniques, physical movement, pantomime, acting for stage, theatre etiquette, auditioning, and improvisation, to name a few.

Music Theory

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts
This course will provide basic music theory instruction in harmony and composition. Instruction will accompany and utilize this knowledge, with one of the goals to compose and write (in music notation) student song(s).

Music Appreciation and The History of Rock and Roll

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts
1940's to the present, this course will explore the beginnings of Rock and Roll, its influences, its style(s) and form(s), and its major contributors.

Glee / Show Choir

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts
Students in this performing choir develop musicianship and specific performance skills through ensemble and solo singing and dancing. Activities create the development of quality repertoire in the diverse styles of choral literature appropriate in difficulty and range for the students. Choral classes provide instruction in creating, performing, conducting, listening to, and analyzing, in addition to focusing on the specific subject matter. Students develop the ability to understand and convey the composer's intent in order to connect the performer with the audience. A limited amount of time outside of the school day may be scheduled for dress rehearsals and performances. Students must participate in performance opportunities outside of the school day that support and extend the learning in the classroom.

Foundation II

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts
It is designed to provide an overview and introduction to Visual Arts through studying a variety of art tools and materials. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skill, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics.

Ceramics

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts

Monticello Academy Course Descriptions

Ceramics develops basic skills in the creation of 3D forms and pottery from clays. With an emphasis on studio production, this course is designed to develop higher-level thinking, art-related technology skill, art criticism, art history, and aesthetics. The prerequisite for this course is Foundations I or II. (Foundations I was taught in 7th Grade)

Commercial Art / Computer graphic I

Course Description- Grades:8th and 9th Grade, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Fine Arts Interactive Media is the process of planning, instructional design, and development. Interactive Media I - Design and Development is the first-year interactive media course where students will create and learn using elements of text, graphics, animation, sound, video, and digital imaging to create interactive computer applications to be delivered on CD-ROM, Internet or other media. These skills will prepare students for entry-level multimedia positions and will provide fundamental interactive media understandings and skills beneficial for other occupational/educational endeavors. *Prerequisite:* Keyboarding Proficiency and Computer Technology (Computer Literacy).

Gifted and Talented

Course Description- Grades: 8th and 9th, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Elective Credit. Students are given opportunities to research specific interests within various disciplines as determined by the teacher. Students demonstrate their research and learning via presentations to faculty, staff, and students. Exemplary student projects may be displayed in the main office.

Investigative Science

Course Description- Grades: 8th and 9th, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Elective Credit The purpose for Investigational Science course is to provide students with real world experiences in the field of science. Investigation is a key component of the Scientific Method and the processes involved in science. It is necessary for all good scientists to be able to investigate to determine answers to their questions. The course will guide the students through an intensive use of the Scientific Method and processes allowing them some say in the different investigations they pursue. They will gain experience by coming up with concise, testable questions that lead to hypotheses and they will carry out investigations\lab experiments where plausible. They will identify dependent and independent variables and develop good repeatable methods of testing. The class will learn about current science events. These projects will have various forms including demonstrations, presentations, models, experiments, and other appropriate formats based on their investigations and research.

Journalism

Course Description- Grades: 8th and 9th, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Elective Credit

Monticello Academy Course Descriptions

This course will introduce students to the basic skills and techniques of newspaper and yearbook production. Students will learn news gathering, reporting, and graphic design as well as develop strong writing skills. Students will learn the role and significance of journalism in our society. They will learn to write all types of journalistic pieces--news, feature, sports, editorials, creative works (poetry, stories, etc.) for publication.

Debate

Course Description- Grades: 8th and 9th, 9th Grade High School Credit: 1.0 Elective Credit
This course is an introduction to speech and debate. The aspects of logical reasoning and argumentation are studied as well as the basics of good communication. Students are to research and present arguments on current issues, learn case construction, refutation, and cross-examination techniques. They will also learn how to make and use visual aids, how to write an effective speech, and develop interpretation skills. Through the length of this course, students will develop a confidence in public speaking, will practice effective speech habits, and will become familiar with the materials and methods of research.