

Prospectus of Offerings

Saipan International School

Middle School Course Descriptions

Saipan International School
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Grade 6

Department: English

Language Arts 6

The 6th grade English course is designed to give students an introduction to middle school language arts. The course will explore high-quality classic and contemporary literature selections, supported by skills instruction and practice in grammar and writing skills. Students will explore selections from the four different varieties of literature: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Mathematics

Mathematics 6

The sixth grade math course is designed to be the second course of study in the middle school level. The sixth grade math course is an advanced course that is actually set by the textbook publishers for the seventh grade. The course meets all of the NCTM standards for sixth and seventh grades as well as builds a solid base for students to excel in math.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Modern Language

Mandarin 6

The primary goal of this course is not only review the basic vocabulary, greeting, Pinyin system and also is to continue to build a solid foundation of basic grammar, sentence structure, speaking and reading.

Each lesson provides reinforced exercise including listening comprehension, Character writing, translation from Chinese to English and from English to Chinese, as well as work in pairs or with group to improve speaking skill in the class.

In additional, students will understand and explore further with Chinese culture and celebrate the main Chinese Festivals at school.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Natural Sciences

Earth Science 6

This class introduces the students to the study of Earth's structure and mineral resources, the different processes that Earth have undergone through time, the components of the ocean and how it affects the weather, and the study of space science. It emphasizes inquiry, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills that students needs for solid science instruction.

Topics will be focused to four main branches of Earth Science namely: Geology, Oceanography, Meteorology and Astronomy.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Social Sciences

Geography

The World Geography class provides students with the essential skills for understanding of world geography. The course will begin with an introduction on how to study geography. Students will learn to tools that geographers use to study the world and how to use these tools. Students will then learn what factors on Earth affect where and why humans live where they do. Students will learn about topics relating to current issues that face groups of people throughout the world. This course will focus on the physical, political and human geography of regions of the world. The entire globe is studied with a focus on North America and Europe, The Middle East, and Africa. After completing this course the students will understand the physical and political geography of the world and also be able to discuss the factors that lead humans to live where they live.

Credits: 1.0

Grade 7

Department: English

English 7

The 7th grade English course is designed to give students an appreciation for a variety of world literature. Students will explore the four different varieties of literature: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and drama. The course will also focus on writing skills in the areas of fiction, non-fiction, creative, and poetry. Finally, mechanics (grammar and spelling) will be incorporated as needed into each unit.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Mathematics

Pre-Algebra 7

The 7th grade Pre-Algebra course is designed to be the third and final course of study in the middle school level. It introduces the thinking processes needed to solve algebraic equations and extends the basic arithmetic functions introduced in previous levels. This course is an advanced course designed by the textbook publishers to be an eighth grade course. It meets all of the NCTM standards for the seventh and eighth grade.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Modern Language

Mandarin 7

The primary goal of this course is not only review the basic vocabulary, greeting, Pinyin system and also is to continue to build a solid foundation of basic grammar, sentence structure, speaking and reading.

Each lesson provides reinforced exercise including listening comprehension, Character writing, translation from Chinese to English and from English to Chinese, as well as work in pairs or with group to improve speaking skill in the class.

In additional, students will understand and explore further with Chinese culture and celebrate the main Chinese Festivals at school.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Natural Sciences

Life Science 7

Life Science introduces middle school students to the characteristics and structure of living things, the process of life and how living organisms interact with one another. Areas of emphasis will include structure, function, reproduction, evolution, classification and interaction of all living systems.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Social Sciences

World History 7

The seventh grade Ancient World History class provides students with an in-depth look at early civilizations' governments, economies, and social structures. Beginning with Early Man's attempts to satisfy needs of hunger, safety, and language, and ending with the Renaissance aims of poetry, art, and music, the class will cover some of history's most important and influential societies. Students will be able to see the progression as each society builds on many of the accomplishments and/or failures of the previous one(s).

Credits: 1.0

Grade 8

Department: English

World Literature and Composition 8

World literature is a survey course of reading and writing taught to the 8th grade class. It is a basic introduction to literary terms (e.g. theme, plot, setting, etc. As well as the beginnings of literary analysis) and how these terms and techniques are applied to literature. The course uses novels, poems, essays, and short stories to achieve comprehension and evaluation of literature. Furthermore, the literature is used as a springboard for personal writing of journals, essays, poems, and short narrative writings. There is also a strong emphasis on English grammar and mechanics as well as vocabulary building.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Mathematics

Algebra 8

The eighth grade Algebra course is a high school equivalent Algebra I course. It serves as an extension of Pre-Algebra and develops a more in-depth coverage of algebraic thinking. Eighth grade Math meets all of the NCTM standards for eighth and ninth grades as well as builds a solid base for students to excel in math.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Modern Languages

Mandarin 8

The primary goal of this course is not only review the basic vocabulary, greeting, Pinyin system and also is to continue to build a solid foundation of basic grammar, sentence structure, speaking and reading.

Each lesson provides reinforced exercise including listening comprehension, Character writing, translation from Chinese to English and from English to Chinese, as well as work in pairs or with group to improve speaking skill in the class.

In additional, students will understand and explore further with Chinese culture and celebrate the main Chinese Festivals at school.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Natural Sciences

Physical Science 8

In this eight grade Physical Science course, students will learn the basic introductory principles of Chemistry and Physics. This course will provide the students with the general knowledge of physical science and laboratory skills needed for higher level courses.

The first half of this course will focus on general chemistry. Through laboratory experiments and theory students will learn the following topics: matter; physical and chemical properties and changes; elements, compound and mixtures; atoms; the periodic table; chemical bonding and types of chemical bonds (ionic and covalent); chemical reactions and types of reactions; acids and bases; basic organic chemistry.

The second half of this course will focus on fundamentals of physics. Through experimental design and theory students will learn the following topics: Mechanics (motion and force; Newton's Laws of motion; Fluids; Pressure; Work; Energy; Heat; Electricity; Electromagnetism; Waves, Sound and Light; and Lenses.

Credits: 1.0

Department: Social Sciences

United States History

The eighth grade United States History class provides students with a basic understanding of the major events and time periods in United States history. The course will then cover major events and eras in United States history from colonization through the Vietnam War. After completing this course the students will have a basic understanding of the major eras in United States history, how the United States was affected by world events, and how the United States influenced world events.

Credits: 1.0