



Marston Middle School Course Catalog

"Pride in Excellence"

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Introduction

The purpose of this course catalog is to provide students and parents with information needed to understand the courses offered at Marston Middle School. Please review this information.

Marston Administration and Counselors place students in the appropriate level for English and Math based on school eligibility criteria. This criteria can be reviewed on the Marston Website. Students are placed into grade level Social Studies, Science, and Physical Education. Students will choose elective preferences year to year.

Courses by Grade Level

6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
English 6 <i>or</i> English 6 Advanced	English 7 <i>or</i> English 7 Advanced	English 8 <i>or</i> English 8 Advanced
Math 6 <i>or</i> Accelerated Math 6	Math 7 <i>or</i> Accelerated Math 7	Math 8 <i>or</i> Integrated Math I A-B Adv.
Social Studies 6	World History & Geography 7	US History & Geography 8
Science 6	Science 7	Science 8
Physical Education 6	Physical Education 6	Physical Education 6
Elective <i>or</i> other support	Elective <i>or</i> other support	Elective <i>or</i> other support

SDUSD Non-Discrimination Statement

San Diego Unified School District is committed to equal opportunity for all individuals in education.

District programs and activities shall be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying by reason of the following actual or perceived characteristics: age, ancestry, color, mental or physical disability, ethnicity, ethnic group identification, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, immigration status, marital or parental status, medical condition, nationality, national origin, actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, race, religion, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion, in accordance with district policy, administrative procedure and state law. Employees who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline up to and including dismissal. Any disciplinary action shall be in accordance with applicable federal, state and/or collective bargaining agreements.

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6th Grade Course Descriptions



English 6 (1708)

Year Long, Required course

English 6th is a single-period literacy course required of all grade 6 middle school students. The course content focuses on teaching students skills and strategies for independent reading and writing of grade-level-appropriate texts. Instruction in each unit of study integrates reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language study. Students are provided with multiple opportunities to engage in academic discourse as they question, interpret, extend, and evaluate others' ideas. The goal of instruction is to support students in becoming independent, strategic, critical readers, writers, listeners, and speakers who communicate effectively in various forms, for various purposes, and for various audiences. Students engage in standards-based lessons that are scaffolded to support a range of reading/writing levels.

English 6 Advanced (1013)

Year Long, Required course, students must meet placement requirements

Course is a single-period literacy course intended for grade level students who are exceeding grade level standards. The course is taught at a faster pace than other grade level courses and offers a rigorous standards-based curriculum that prepares students for college. Students will read and write both informational and narrative texts and utilize technology as a tool for enhancing their reading and writing.

Math 6 (4133)

Year Long, Required course

Math 6th is the first middle-level core math course that addresses the Common Core State Standards. Instruction focuses on (1) connecting ratio and rate to whole-number multiplication and division and using concepts of ratio and rate to solve problems; (2) completing an understanding of division and fractions and extending the notion of number to the system of rational numbers, including negative numbers; (3) writing, interpreting, and using expressions and equations; and (4) developing an understanding of statistical thinking.

Accelerated Math 6 (4136)

Year Long, Required course, students must meet school placement requirements

Accelerated Math 6th is the first of two courses for advanced learners in the Common Core State Standards math curriculum at the middle level. It begins an advanced or accelerated pathway that allows students to complete a three-year sequence of grade-level curriculum in two years. The course differs from the standard grade 6 math course in that it addresses all of the grade 6 standards plus half of those from grade 7, which demands a faster pace for instruction and learning.

Social Studies 6 (6520)

Year Long, Required course

World History and Geography: Ancient Civilizations. Students learn about early humankind and the development of human Societies, the early civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush, the ancient Israelites (Hebrews), ancient Greece, the early civilizations of India and China, and the development of Rome. Students grapple with geography, environmental issues, political systems and power structures, and civic engagement with fundamental ideas about citizenship, freedom, morality, and law.

Students practice history as an interpretative discipline. They read written primary and secondary sources, investigate visual primary sources, and learn how to analyze multiple points of view, cite evidence from sources, and make claims based on that evidence in writing and speaking.

Science 6 (6006)

Year Long, Required course

This course is based on the CA NGSS and incorporates Earth Science, Life Science, Physical Science, and Engineering topics blended together within the school year. The course is phenomenon based and focuses on building students skills in the Science and Engineering Practices along with the Crosscutting Concepts of Systems and System Models, Patterns, and Cause and Effect.

Physical Education 6 (5505)

Year Long, Required course

This course is intended to help students meet or exceed grade 7 physical education content standards 1–5 and the corresponding performance standards 1.1–5.5.

Movement Focus

- Manipulative skills: demonstrate mature techniques for the following patterns: overhand, sidearm, and underhand throw; catching; kicking/punting; striking; trapping; dribbling (hand and foot); and volleying.
- Rhythmic skills: perform multicultural dances.
- Combinations of movement patterns and skills: combine manipulative with locomotor and nonlocomotor skills into movement patterns; demonstrate body management and object manipulation skills for successful participation in individual/dual activities such as track and field, combative activities, and adventure/outdoor activities.
- Movement concepts: analyze movements/correct errors; use motor learning principles to support skill development; explain spin and rebound principles; understand basic offense and defense strategies.

Fitness Focus

- Assess the five health-related components of fitness using state fitness assessment tools; compare individual results; develop individual fitness goals and a one-week fitness plan; participate in moderate to vigorous physical activity; assess attainment of personal goals and make necessary adjustments; explain effects of physical activity on heart rate; relationship between physical activity and nutrition; apply principles of exercise: progression, overload, specificity.

Social Focus

- Self-responsibility: identify activity risks; accept responsibility for individual improvement.
- Social interaction: accept differences of others.
- Group dynamics: evaluate expressions of encouragement; identify role of a leader.



7th Grade Course Descriptions



English 7 (1501)

Year Long, Required course

English 7th is a one-period literacy course intended for all grade 7 middle school students. The course content focuses on teaching students skills and strategies for independent reading and writing of grade-level-appropriate texts. Instruction in each unit of study interrelates reading, writing, oral communication, and language study. Students are provided with multiple opportunities to engage in academic discourse as they question, interpret, extend, and evaluate ideas. The goal of instruction is to support students in becoming independent, strategic, critical readers, writers, listeners, and speakers who communicate effectively in various forms, for various purposes, and for various audiences. Students engage in standards-based lessons that are scaffolded to support a range of reading/writing levels.

English 7 Advanced (1015)

Year Long, Required course, students must meet placement requirements

Single-period literacy course intended for grade level students who are exceeding grade level standards. The course is taught at a faster pace than other grade level courses and offers a rigorous standards-based curriculum that prepares students for college. Students will read and write both informational and narrative texts and utilize technology as a tool for enhancing their reading and writing.

Math 7 (4133)

Year Long, Required course

Math 7th is the second middle-level core math course. Instruction focuses on (1) developing an understanding of proportional relationships and their applications; (2) developing an understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; (3) solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two- and three-dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume; (4) drawing inferences about populations based on samples. Students apply the concepts they have learned in previous grades to increasingly complex problems and situations that model real-world math challenges.

Accelerated Math 7 (4137)

Year Long, Required course, students must meet school placement requirements

Accelerated Math 7th is the second of two courses for advanced learners in the Common Core State Standards math curriculum at the middle level. It completes an advanced or accelerated pathway that allows students to complete a three-year sequence of grade-level curriculum in two years. The course differs from the standard grade Math 7 course in that it contains the second half of the content from grade 7 and all of the content from grade 8, which demands a faster pace for instruction and learning.

World History and Geography 7 (6521)

Year Long, Required course

Medieval to Early Modern Times. This required course examines the sequence of historical and geographic developments from 500 to 1789. The course locates civilizations and cultures in time and in place, compares events that were developing concurrently in the world, and investigates the transmission of ideas, beliefs, scientific developments, and economic trade throughout this important period of history. Major topics include: the world in 300 c.e., Rome and Christendom, Southwestern Asia and the world of Islam; South Asia, East Asia, West Africa, Americas, sites of encounter in the Medieval world, global convergence, and the impact of ideas, 1500–1750. Students study content-rich examples and case studies, rather than surveying all places, names, and events superficially. They approach history not only as a body of content (such as events, people, ideas, or historical accounts) to be encountered or mastered, but as an investigative discipline. They analyze evidence from written and visual primary sources, supplemented by secondary sources, to form historical interpretations. They cite evidence from textual sources to support their written and oral arguments.

Science 7 (6008, 6009)

Year Long, Required course

Science 7th—Computers and Technology is a two-semester, technology-oriented course in general science. This course is based on the CA NGSS and incorporates Earth Science, Life Science, Physical Science, and Engineering topics blended together within the school year. The course is phenomenon based and focuses on building students skills in the Science and Engineering Practices along with the Crosscutting Concepts. The course integrates computers into the science curriculum using a technology-rich approach that increases students' scientific and technological literacy while preparing them for success in the increasingly technology-driven world of the 21st century.

Physical Education 7 (5501)

Year Long, Required course

This course is intended to help students meet or exceed grade 7 physical education content standards 1–5 and the corresponding performance standards 1.1–5.5.

Movement Focus

- Manipulative skills: demonstrate mature techniques for the following patterns: overhand, sidearm, and underhand throw; catching; kicking/punting; striking; trapping; dribbling (hand and foot); and volleying.
- Rhythmic skills: perform multicultural dances.
- Combinations of movement patterns and skills: combine manipulative with locomotor and nonlocomotor skills into movement patterns; demonstrate body management and object manipulation skills for successful participation in individual/dual activities such as track and field, combative activities, and adventure/outdoor activities.
- Movement concepts: analyze movements/correct errors; use motor learning principles to support skill development; explain spin and rebound principles; understand basic offense and defense strategies.

Fitness Focus

- Assess the five health-related components of fitness using state fitness assessment tools; compare individual results; develop individual fitness goals and a one-week fitness plan; participate in moderate to vigorous physical activity; assess attainment of personal goals and make necessary adjustments; explain effects of physical activity on heart rate; relationship

between physical activity and nutrition; apply principles of exercise: progression, overload, specificity.

Social Focus

- Self-responsibility: identify activity risks; accept responsibility for individual improvement.
- Social interaction: accept differences of others.
- Group dynamics: evaluate expressions of encouragement; identify role of a leader.



8th Grade Course Descriptions



English 8 (1520)

Year Long, Required course

English 8th is a one-period literacy course intended for all grade 8 middle school students. The course content focuses on teaching students skills and strategies for independent reading and writing of grade-level-appropriate texts. Instruction in each unit of study integrates reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language study. Students are provided with multiple opportunities to engage in academic discourse as they question, interpret, analyze, extend, and evaluate ideas. The goal of instruction is to support students in becoming independent, strategic, critical readers, writers, listeners, and speakers who communicate effectively in various forms, for various purposes, and for various audiences. Students engage in standards-based lessons that are scaffolded to support a range of reading/writing levels.

English 8 Advanced (1017)

Year Long, Required course, students must meet placement requirements

Single-period literacy course intended for grade level students who are exceeding grade level standards. The course is taught at a faster pace than other grade level courses and offers a rigorous standards-based curriculum that prepares students for college. Students will read and write both informational and narrative texts and utilize technology as a tool for enhancing their reading and writing.

Math 8 (4133)

Year Long, Required course

Math 8th is the third and culminating middle-level core math course. Instruction focuses on the study of expressions and equations, functions, and two- and three-dimensional figures. Students apply concepts they have learned previously to increasingly complex and abstract problems that model real-world math challenges. The course lays the groundwork for students to master higher-level high school mathematics.

Integrated Math I A-B Advanced (P) (4165, 4166)

Year Long, Required course, students must meet placement/prerequisite requirements

Integrated Math I Advanced is the first course in the accelerated pathway to calculus. The course is designed for advanced grade 8 students. It includes the content of the standard Integrated Math I course plus an additional two units that will provide opportunities for students to begin working with the advanced + Common Core State Standards.

United States History and Geography 8 (6551)

Year Long, Required course

Growth and Conflict. This required course examines the sequence of historical and geographic developments in the United States from 1789 - 1914. Students examine important periods of United States history, such as the forming of the nation's identity and the development of the Constitution, westward expansion, the rising conflict and consequences of the Civil War, and the industrialization of the United States. Students research the issues, attitudes, points of view, and motives that helped shape

the United States and define American citizenship. Students practice history as an interpretative discipline. They read written primary and secondary sources, investigate visual primary sources, and learn how to analyze multiple points of view, cite evidence from sources, and make claims based on that evidence in writing and speaking.

Science 8 (6005)

Year Long, Required course

Science in grade 8 is a full year integrated science course. This course is based on the CA NGSS and incorporates Earth Science, Life Science, Physical Science, and Engineering topics blended together within the school year. The course is phenomenon based and focuses on building students skills in the Science and Engineering Practices along with the Crosscutting Concepts.

Physical Education 8 (5502)

Year Long, Required course

This course is intended to help students meet or exceed grade 7 physical education content standards 1–5 and the corresponding performance standards 1.1–5.5.

Movement Focus

- Manipulative skills: demonstrate mature techniques for the following patterns: overhand, sidearm, and underhand throw; catching; kicking/punting; striking; trapping; dribbling (hand and foot); and volleying.
- Rhythmic skills: perform multicultural dances.
- Combinations of movement patterns and skills: combine manipulative with locomotor and nonlocomotor skills into movement patterns; demonstrate body management and object manipulation skills for successful participation in individual/dual activities such as track and field, combative activities, and adventure/outdoor activities.
- Movement concepts: analyze movements/correct errors; use motor learning principles to support skill development; explain spin and rebound principles; understand basic offense and defense strategies.

Fitness Focus

- Assess the five health-related components of fitness using state fitness assessment tools; compare individual results; develop individual fitness goals and a one-week fitness plan; participate in moderate to vigorous physical activity; assess attainment of personal goals and make necessary adjustments; explain effects of physical activity on heart rate; relationship between physical activity and nutrition; apply principles of exercise: progression, overload, specificity.

Social Focus

- Self-responsibility: identify activity risks; accept responsibility for individual improvement.
- Social interaction: accept differences of others.
- Group dynamics: evaluate expressions of encouragement; identify role of a leader.



Elective Course Descriptions Grades 6-8



All elective courses at Marston are open to students' grades 6-8. The electives offered at Marston are subject to change based on staffing and school budget.

Beginning Band (yearlong)

Students will learn to play a standard band instrument of their choosing (Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Percussion) in an ensemble setting and learn to read and understand the language of music. Students will perform a variety of musical styles and participate in concerts throughout the year.

Intermediate/Advanced Band (yearlong)

For students who have completed Beginning Band or who have had equivalent study and experience.

Beginning Orchestra (yearlong)

Students will learn to play a string instrument of their choosing (violin, viola, cello, or bass) in an ensemble setting learning to read and understand the language of music. Students will perform a variety of musical styles and participate in concerts throughout the year.

Intermediate/Advanced Orchestra (yearlong)

For students who have completed Beginning Orchestra or who have had equivalent study and experience.

Choir (yearlong)

Students will learn musical notation and terminology and develop proper singing tone and vocal technique in an ensemble. Students will perform a variety of musical styles and participate in concerts throughout the year.

Guitar (yearlong/semester)

Course is designed to provide opportunities for students to learn the basics of guitar playing. Students will learn fundamentals of music reading and notation and perform guitar music in several styles and from a variety of historical periods and cultures. No previous guitar experience is required.

Construction (yearlong)

Students use hand tools and power tools construct products that are used in the real world, such as owl houses used by the U.S. Department of Forestry. Students also learn the principles of aerodynamics to help design and construct a CO₂-powered dragster that they will race in a competition.

TV Studio and Video Production (yearlong)

Video Production: students will learn to use Adobe Premiere Pro to make music videos, PSA commercials, passion projects, and sound design experiments.

TV Studio: students will create school wide broadcasts which entails filming and editing

Graphic Design (yearlong)

Graphic Design: students use Adobe Illustrator and Animate and are introduced to the art of lettering, animation and computer graphics.

Engineering (semester long course that usually pairs with Computer Science)

Engineering: Students learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation and computer control systems, using 3D printers, laser cutters and VEX robotics.

Computer Science (semester long course that usually pairs with Engineering)

Computer Science: Students learn to code, create computer games and design apps.

Art (semester long course that usually pairs with Theater)

Art: Students learn to use pencils, colored pencils, watercolor, oil and soft pastels. They experiment with Asian ink painting and origami. Some projects are 3-D topographic art, still-life drawings, portraits, landscapes and manga. Students can participate in various art shows.

Theater (semester long course that usually pairs with Art)

Theater: Students create their own skits and perform in front of their peers using imagination, voice projection, movement and improvisation. NOTE: The after-school production theater program (costumes, acting, singing, etc.) is independent from this class.

Spanish 1,2 (yearlong)

This introductory course is open to 7th and 8th grade students who wish to begin the study of Spanish language and cultures. It is intended to develop novice to mid-novice oral-language proficiency as well as limited facility in reading and writing. Major emphasis is on the development of listening and speaking abilities at the novice level with reasonably accurate pronunciation and intonation. *This course meets the high school graduation and a-g requirement for world language. The grades students receive stay on their permanent high school transcript. Students in this course will frequently have homework, tests, and are regularly required to speak in front of the class. Students who are struggling in Spanish may not transfer to another elective.*

Spanish 3, 4 (yearlong)

Students must pass Spanish 1,2 or meet other eligibility requirements

This course is open to 7th and 8th grade students and is designed for students who have successfully completed Spanish 1,2. It is a continuation of the introductory course and is intended to consolidate students' listening and speaking skills at the mid-novice level, with bridging opportunities to high novice. Reading receives increased attention, although the primary emphasis remains the development of oral-language proficiency. *This course meets the high school graduation and a-g requirement for world language. The grades students receive stay on their permanent high school transcript. Students in this course will frequently have homework, tests, and are regularly required to speak in front of the class. Students who are struggling in Spanish may not transfer to another elective.*