

# Marion Junior High Course Offerings

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## Language Arts

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### 8th Grade English

8<sup>th</sup> 1 year

Most students in eighth grade will enroll in regular eighth-grade English. This course will place strong emphasis on reading and writing as well as on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Benchmark literacy test.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-AP English

8<sup>th</sup> 1 year

**Prerequisites:** *grade of A or B in subject, teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, and standardized test score of 80% or higher.*

Students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade have an opportunity to take Pre-Advanced Placement English by meeting established prerequisites. A summer assignment is given.

### 9th Grade English

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

The 9<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum is designed to prepare the student for high school. Units on grammar and literature will include an emphasis on the writing process. If a student does not pass either semester with a 60% or above, he/she will be required to repeat the course.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Pre-AP English

9<sup>th</sup> year: 1 credit

**Prerequisites:** *grade of A or B in subject, teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, and standardized test score of 80% or higher.*

Pre-Advanced Placement English 9 is very demanding and students are expected to devote more time and energy to assignments given in this class. In order to be placed in the course, students and their parents must sign a contract and agree to the workload and commitment of the class. The focus of the course is literature and writing; therefore a firm grasp of grammar and composition is expected of the student. A summer assignment is given.

### French I

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

**Prerequisites:** *Minimum grade of "B" in English*

In French I, students will learn to communicate in French on a variety of topics. They will be able to express information about themselves and their possessions, friends and family, daily activities and leisure pastimes. They will be able to express themselves accurately in a variety of situations. To sharpen language skills, class activities include oral and written practice, individual and group study, and frequent review. Students will learn about the customs and cultures of the French-speaking countries.

### Spanish I

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

**Prerequisites:** *Minimum grade of "B" in English*

Spanish I introduces the sound system, basic syntax, basic vocabulary, and elementary inflectional endings of general American Spanish. These elements are used in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. Hispanic cultural heritage is emphasized with special attention given to Hispanic influences in the United States.

### Oral Communication (Speech)

9<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1/2 credit

Speech is designed to provide students with the opportunity to develop listening and speaking skills needed to meet the challenges of life beyond home and school. Students study the basic elements of communication, different types of communication, and informal and formal individual speaking opportunities, students learn to think clearly and express themselves before an audience.

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## Math

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### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-Algebra

8<sup>th</sup> 1 year

All eighth grade students are enrolled in Pre-Algebra unless they have applied to and meet qualifications for Algebra I.

### 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Algebra I

8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, A or B in seventh grade Pre-Algebra, or 80% or higher on the standardized test score in Math.*

Algebra I is the traditional Algebra program that is completed in 1 year. **Eighth grade students are eligible for Algebra I if the above criteria is met.** Students must have an average of C or better in 7<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-algebra to be placed in this program. The grade earned in Algebra I will be recorded on the student's high school transcript and the student will earn a high school credit if the course is passed. Occasionally, ninth grade students will need to be placed in an appropriate module of Algebra according to their success of previously taught material.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Integrated Algebra AB

9<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1 credit

Integrated Algebra AB is the first half of the Algebra I program spread over two periods during one semester instead of one period over two semesters. This course is based on content traditionally taught in the first half of Algebra I. Integrated Algebra AB consists of one two-hour module the first nine weeks and one two-hour module the second nine weeks. Mastery of the material is required in each module before proceeding to the next one. Students will be placed in an appropriate module according to their success of previously taught material.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Integrated Algebra CD

9<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1 credit

Integrated Algebra CD is the second half of the Algebra I program spread over two periods during one semester instead of one period over two semesters. This course is based on content traditionally taught in the second half of Algebra I. Integrated Algebra CD consists of one two-hour module the third nine weeks and one two-hour module the fourth nine weeks. Mastery of the material is required in each module before proceeding to the next one. Students who successfully complete these two courses (AB and CD) will earn a total of two math credits for the year.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre – AP Geometry

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

Geometry is for the students who have passed Algebra I with an A or B. Students who make a C or less in 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra I are advised to repeat 9<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra I.

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## Social Studies

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### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade American History

8<sup>th</sup> 1 year

Students in eighth grade will begin their study with the early explorers of America and continue through the study of American History up to and including the Civil War.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-AP American History

8<sup>th</sup> 1 year

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, 80% or above on standardized test scores, and A or B in subject that request is made.*

This course encompasses a survey of American History from the Age of Exploration to the Civil War. In addition to exposing students to content, Pre-AP American History will also train students to analyze and interpret primary and secondary source material, evaluate historical documents, interpret charts, graphs, tables, maps, cartoons, summarize text material, take accurate lecture notes, develop a working vocabulary, and show their ability to write an analytical essay. Pre-AP American History will require more time and work on the part of the student. Students taking this course must meet the required prerequisites.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Government

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

Students will study the foundations and processes of American government. This study will provide the students with the necessary skills to understand and participate in a democratic society. Students must take/pass this particular course as a requirement for graduation.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre - AP Government

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, 80% or above on standardized test scores, and A or B in subject that request is made.*

This course encompasses a survey of American Government, including an in-depth study of the United States Constitution. In addition to exposing students to content, Pre-AP American Government will also train students to analyze and interpret primary and secondary source material, interpret charts, graphs, tables, political cartoons, summarize text material, take accurate lecture notes, develop a working vocabulary, and show their ability to write an analytical essay. Pre-AP American Government will require more time and work on the part of the students. Students taking this course must meet the required prerequisites.

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## Science

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### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Earth Science

8<sup>th</sup> 1 year

Eighth grade science is the study of geology, meteorology, oceanography, and astronomy. Students will explore science topics using a variety of hands-on activities as well as traditional methods that progress logically from the concrete to the abstract. All eighth grade students are enrolled in Earth Science unless they have applied to and met qualifications for Honors Science.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre-AP Earth Science

8<sup>th</sup> 1 year

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, 80% or above on standardized test scores, and A or B in subject that request is made.*

Students taking this course must meet the above prerequisites. Labs and projects are a major part of this course.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

Physical Science is an introduction to Chemistry and Physics. In this course students will explore science topics using a variety of hands-on activities and traditional methods that progress logically from the concrete to the abstract.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Pre - AP Physical Science

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, A or B in seventh grade Earth Science, or 80% or higher on the S.A.T 9 in Science.*

Pre-AP Physical Science is an intensive introduction of the concepts of physics and chemistry that will prepare students for success in Advanced Placement classes in High School. Placement is by three of the following; teacher recommendation, parent recommendation, grades, and test scores.

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## ***Business Education***

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### **Keyboarding**

8<sup>th</sup> 1 semester

Keyboarding is a one-semester course designed to help students develop speed and accuracy by learning the touch operation of alphanumeric/keyboard characters. Emphasis is placed on the following: mastery of the keyboard with desirable keyboarding techniques; development of speed and accuracy; basic problem-solving applications of centering and arranging reports, letters, and tables; proofreading formatting; and proper care of the equipment. Keyboarding is the foundation for developing entry-level skills for business (and other) careers.

### **Computer Applications I**

8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 1 semester

**Prerequisite:** **Keyboarding**

Computer Applications I is a semester course designed to provide students with the fundamental computer skills necessary to do well in high school and in virtually all jobs today. In the area of word processing, students will learn the fundamental skills necessary to create and edit the most widely used documents and use the most commonly used features of a word processor, such as bullets, numbered lists, special characters, borders and shading, fonts, and paragraph and line searching. The fundamentals in use of scanners, graphics and WordArt are applied to documents. Internet searching skills and citing Internet sources are stressed with these applied to a simple PowerPoint presentation. In the area of spreadsheets, students will be expected to create and edit simple spreadsheets using basic formulas and functions, and create a simple graph or chart.

### **Computer Applications II**

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1/2 credit

**Prerequisite:** **Keyboarding and CAI**

Computer Applications II is a half-unit course designed to provide students with the intermediate computer skills necessary to do well in high school and in virtually all jobs today. Students will learn techniques that will allow them to create fairly complex word processing and spreadsheet documents. They will continue their Internet research, applying it to spreadsheets, charts and graphs, and web pages. In addition, students will continue to develop their PowerPoint skills.

### **Computer Applications III**

9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1/2 credit

**Prerequisite:** **Keyboarding, CAI, and CAII**

Computer Applications III is a half-unit course designed to provide students with the computer skills necessary to do well in college and needed in most jobs today. Students will learn techniques that will allow them to create simple to intermediate desktop publishing documents; create, access and edit databases; use email efficiently and ethically; create advanced electronic presentations; and create web pages using web-page design software. They will continue their Internet research, applying it to advanced electronic presentations and the web pages they create.

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## ***Career Orientation***

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### **Required Courses**

#### **Career Orientation**

8<sup>th</sup> 1 semester

This is a hands-on, activity-based, career exploration course that provides students the opportunity to explore the world of work in relation to their own interests and abilities. Students are provided the opportunity to develop successful employability skills such as decision making, job application, interviewing, and on-the-job relations. Business leaders, community leaders, and parents are encouraged to participate as guest speakers by sharing their experiences and expertise in the work force. Career Orientation is the mainstay for the Career Action Plan developed for students as they enter their high school years.

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## ***Driver's Education***

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### **Driver's Education**

9<sup>th</sup> grade 1 semester: 1/2 credit

**Prerequisites:** **2.0 from previous grading period and permit**

This semester course is designed to prepare students to drive safely and learn rules of the road.

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## ***Family & Consumer Sciences***

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### **Family and Consumer Science**

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

Family and Consumer Science is a course that teaches the basics of essential life skills. Topics such as child development, housing and interiors, clothing, food preparation, nutrition, health and wellness, decision-making, relationships, and exploring careers are taught during the year. The students participate in hands on activities related to foods and clothing.

### **Nutrition and Wellness**

9<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1/2 credit

This semester course focuses on food, sports, nutrition, and exercise for lifelong fitness and wellbeing of individuals and families. This course teaches responsible eating and exercise habits to help students make wise decisions about a healthy lifestyle. This course is a prerequisite for Strength, Conditioning and Fitness.

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## ***Fine Arts***

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### **Electives**

#### **Band**

8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 1 year

**Prerequisites: 6th & 7<sup>th</sup> grade band**

Band is primarily a comprehensive course of study in instrumental music geared toward the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year player. Instruments played include the flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, and percussion. The band participates in some concerts in the area plus school and community events. Group ensemble skills and individual improvement are emphasized. Ninth grade students receive one credit for this course.

#### **Chorus**

8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 1 year

**Prerequisites: Must pass try-outs**

Chorus participates in regional festivals annually. Choir is available for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. Try-outs are held for choir. Ninth grade students receive one credit for this course.

#### **Art I**

9<sup>th</sup> 1 year: 1 credit

This course is intended to allow interested students an opportunity to further develop their skills and understanding in art. Students will learn about composition and expression in art as they experience a variety of new genres.

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## ***Physical Education***

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### **Required Course**

#### **Physical Education**

8<sup>th</sup> 1 semester  
9<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1/2 credit

Physical education is designed to allow students to participate in team building activities and learn the importance of physical fitness. Activities include: softball, soccer, basketball, flag- football, volleyball, tumbling, and badminton. Appropriate clothing is required. Ninth grade students earn 1/2 credit for passing this course.

### **Health**

9<sup>th</sup> 1 semester: 1/2 credit

Health is a course, which offers information for healthy living. The curriculum includes wellness, mental health, stress management and suicide prevention, physiology of exercise, information on diabetes, cancer, cardiovascular diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, training in CPR, family life education, and information on the effects of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs on the body. This course is a requirement and students earn 1/2 credit for passing.

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## ***Electives***

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### **Cheerleading/Drill Team**

8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 1 year

Students are chosen by tryouts held during the spring semester. Students need to have a 2.0 GPA and no U's in conduct during the try-out year. Students cannot have any "out of school" suspensions during the try-out year. If chosen to be on the squad, all cheerleaders are expected to attend all games, activities, practices, camps, etc. as set forth by the sponsor and administration. A physical is required prior to try-outs. Ninth grade students will receive a credit for passing this course.

### **Athletics Boys/Girls**

8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 1 year

**Prerequisites: Try-outs, physical exam, under the age of 16, must maintain a 2.0 GPA, and pass 3 of the 4 core subjects.**

Athletics is a course where students will compete on an inter-school basis. The following sports are offered at Marion Junior High: baseball, tennis, golf, football, basketball, track, volleyball, and softball. Students must undergo physicals yearly. Students must also be willing to spend extra time after school on a daily basis to practice. Some practices will also be scheduled when school is not in session. Football practice begins in the summer months before the start of school. Students must participate in these sports or activities related to these sports the ENTIRE semester in order to receive the Athletics credit. If the sport is only done part-time after school for part of a semester of P.E. to satisfy their Physical Education requirement. **Students will earn 1/2 credit for each FULL semester of Athletics taken during the 9th grade only. This credit will substitute for the P.E. requirement. Do NOT take both Athletics and P.E. for credit.**

**NOTE: Course offerings are subject to change.**