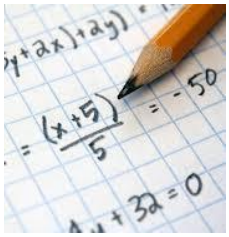
Ione Junior High Course Selection Guide
2021-2022

ADVANCED COURSES

Placement in advanced courses will be based on student performance in the subject area, teacher recommendation, previous performance on state-wide testing, and performance on benchmark assessments. Please use the pre-registration form to indicate requested advanced courses.

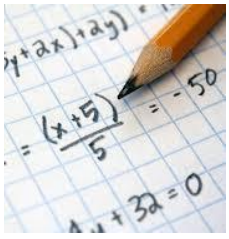
Advanced ELA 7 and 8

7th and 8th Grade Advanced English Language Arts (ELA) is designed to prepare students for the rigor of advanced-level high school ELA courses. While teaching the same standards and using the same core curriculum as the general ELA courses, Advanced ELA moves at an accelerated pace and emphasizes skill development in deep analysis and evaluation of complex texts. This course is highly recommended for students who intend to take Advanced Placement courses in high school and attend a four year university upon graduation. Placement will be determined by student interest/drive, standardized test scores in ELA/Literacy, performance in previous ELA classes, and/or teacher recommendations. An additional consideration for Advanced ELA 7 will be concurrent enrollment in AVID 7.



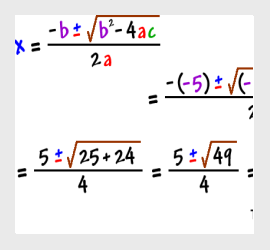
Advanced Math 7

This is a course for students seeking an accelerated and challenging math curriculum. The course is a combination of 7th and 8th Grade Math. By moving at a fast pace through both curriculums, students are prepared to take Algebra I in the 8th Grade. This class is highly recommended for students who intend to take higher-level math in high school and attend a four year university upon graduation. Placement will be determined by student interest/drive, standardized test scores in math, concurrent enrollment in AVID 7, and/or teacher recommendations.



Advanced Math 8

This is an accelerated math course designed to prepare students to excel in Algebra CP in their freshman year of high school. The course will cover the entirety of the CPM Course 3 curriculum and deepen student understanding of concepts that will be integral to a high level of success in Algebra CP. This course is designed for students who may not quite be prepared for Algebra CP, but who are confident in math and desire to build on their academic strengths.



Algebra 1 CP

This is a high school level mathematics course to systematically study numbers and their properties. The content areas include:

- structure of the real number system
- functions and graphing
- simplification of algebraic expression
- solving equations and inequalities
- polynomials and factoring
- exponents and radicals

Successful completion of this class is mandatory for students to be eligible to take Geometry in 9th grade. This class is highly recommended for students who intend to take higher-level math in high school and attend a four year university upon graduation. Placement will be determined by student interest/drive, standardized test scores in math, performance in Advanced Math 7, and/or teacher recommendations.

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT

All students will be placed in one academic enrichment course. Students who are accepted into the AVID Elective will have met the academic enrichment course requirement and will also request a general elective. Students who receive Specialized Academic Instruction support (IEP) for English or Reading will be placed in an appropriate enrichment class by their case manager. All other students will be placed in one academic enrichment course based on previous student performance in the subject area, teacher recommendation, previous performance on state-wide testing, and performance on benchmark assessments. Please use the pre-registration form to indicate whether or not you have been accepted into AVID.

AVID

Advancement via Individual Determination

AVID

AVID is a college and career readiness program which will focus on organization, study skills and inquiry skills. Learn how to be a successful college candidate while becoming a leader and part of our AVID family. This is a national program with very high success rates of acceptance into four year colleges. The application and acceptance process for AVID is currently closed. If you have been accepted into AVID, you will select one general elective (see below).

English Strategic Support 7 and 8

The strategic support course is designed for students who would benefit from additional time with their ELA teacher and classmates in order to continue to grow in

their knowledge and skills related to English. The course is taken concurrently with a General English course so that students will have the same peers and teacher as their general English course. The course will be used to work on developing ELA skills, provide additional time for ELA assignments, and provide additional support from the student's ELA teacher for students in meeting grade level standards.

Math Strategic Support 7 and 8

The strategic support course is designed for students who would benefit from additional time with their Math teacher and classmates in order to continue to grow in their knowledge and skills related to mathematics. The course will be paired with a General Math class so that students will have the same peers and teacher as their general Math course. The course will be used to work on Math skills, provide additional time for Math assignments, and provide additional support from the student's Math teacher for students in meeting grade level standards. The course will utilize a combination of online Math programming, workshop model instruction, collaborative learning, and guided instruction.

Computer Science Discoveries/ Advanced STEM

This course meets the enrichment requirement through one semester of Computer Science and one semester of Advanced STEM. Computer Science Discoveries is an introductory computer science course for 6 - 10th grade students. Mapped to CTSA standards, the course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as problem solving, programming, physical computing, user centered design, and data, while inspiring students as they build their own websites, apps, animations, games, and physical computing systems. Students can request this course in place of a general elective.

In STEM Enrichment we will explore 3 topics using WICOR strategies of writing, inquiry, collaboration, organization and reading. We will cover Forensics and Crime Scene Investigation, Bridge Building, and STEM in Media and Literature. IMPORTANT: While we are careful to avoid being 'too graphic' in covering forensics, this class is not suited for students who are uncomfortable with blood or may be sensitive to issues related to crime or death situations.

ELECTIVES

All students will take one general elective. Please use the pre-registration form to indicate preferred electives. Some elective choices are one (1) semester that are paired together to comprise the full year (one taken in the Fall and the other taken in Spring). Other electives are taken for two (2) semesters (taken both Fall and Spring).

Band – (2 Semesters - full year)

Beginning Band is designed to provide 6th Grade students with an introductory experience of band instruments. Curriculum for this course is an extension of the skills and concepts introduced in 5th Grade Band. However, this course is open to all 6th Grade students. Prior instrumental music experience is not required.

Intermediate/Advanced Band is for 7th and 8th Grade students who have participated in at least a year of Band or musical instruction. This is a combined class for both intermediate and advanced levels of instruction. Intermediate students will learn band performance skills and music theory, while practicing technical proficiency. Advanced students will learn full-band performance skills and complex music theory/interpretation while perfecting a higher level of playing proficiency.

Student Leadership (2 Semesters – full year)

This course is designed to empower students to become effective leaders both on campus and in their own community. Students will explore various components of what it means to be an effective group member and leader through planning and implementing activities, programs, and events for Ione Junior students and faculty.

This course is for:

- Students who are interested in being a class officer or a representative for Student Council next year.
- Anyone who wants to help bring fun activities to Ione Junior High throughout the year.
  - → Please note: Students in Leadership will need to participate in occasional before school or after school events and fundraisers.

Team Sports (2 Semesters – full year)

This course is designed to introduce and provide opportunities for students to develop basic and intermediate skills in a variety of sports and activities that they will be able to participate in now and in the future. Students will be exposed to basic skill, strategies and etiquette of various activities. The

components of fitness (muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, body composition and cardiovascular fitness) will be emphasized throughout the year.

→ Please note: This is not designed as a replacement course. Students will still be required to participate in regular P.E.

WEB (2 Semesters – full year)

WEB stands for "Where Everybody Belongs". WEB is a student mentorship program that teaches 8th grade students to be peer leaders and helps our 6th grade students with transition to Middle School. It is a way for our 8th grade students to become role models, leaders and mentors to our newest group on campus. This elective is for 8th grade students only and does require a completed application, which can be acquired from the office or Mrs. Calestini.

Yearbook/Newspaper/Current Events (2 Semesters – full year)

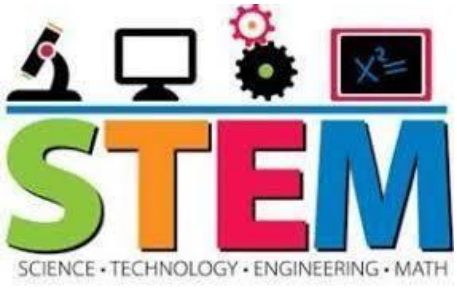
In this course, students will compose pieces fit for publication, have an opportunity to choose the topics they write about, be exposed to a variety of types of journalistic writing (like writing for news, sports, opinion, and yearbook coverage), and will have the opportunity to edit and revise both their own work, and the work of other students. Yearbook Students learn and develop the skills needed to produce a yearbook: evaluating news, fact gathering, photography, writing of headlines and captions, graphic design and layout, proofing, editing, advertising, basic publication management skills, and creative writing. This course requires considerable time outside school hours as well as leadership and teamwork abilities.

Introduction to Art (1 Semester)

This course will cover a broad spectrum of art-related topics. Some of the ideas and skills that students will learn include: thinking creatively, 1st person perspective, color theory, and drawing animals, landscapes and people. Use of paints, coloring supplies, watercolors, and more will be employed to create finished works of art. Students will create sculptures and learn about art history. This class is paired with the Introductory Spanish and STEM 8 courses.

Introductory Spanish (1 Semester)

This course will introduce students to the basics of the language and culture. The learning objectives include familiarizing students with foundational vocabulary and practicing the language through reading, writing, and speaking basic passages and common phrases. Students will study the culture to better understand the Spanish speaking people and their customs. This course is not a replacement of High School College Prep Spanish 1; however, it will better prepare students for success in the course for advancement to higher-level Spanish classes. This class is paired with the Introduction to Art course.



Intro to STEM (1 Semester)

This course provides an overview of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. No prerequisite required, but this course has high demands and expectations. In this course students will learn coding; simple computer programing via online lessons and game development; an introduction to engineering and design principles, 3-Design intro using *Tinkercad* or other resources. Students would have the opportunity to submit proficient work to the 8th grade STEM team for printing. Each quarter will feature guest speakers discussing career opportunities in their STEM fields. This class is paired with the Computer Science course.

T.A./Office Aide

Aide positions are reserved for students who demonstrate initiative, responsibility, trustworthiness, good citizenship, and a helpful attitude. Students may apply to work in the office, library, or in a classroom. An application must be completed and assignments will be determined based on the needs of the teachers/school.

Technology Aide

This is a specialized aide position for students who are highly interested in technology and demonstrate strong organizational skills, work ethic, responsibility and trustworthiness. Duties will include transportation and maintenance of Chrome book carts, assisting with troubleshooting, and providing general support to the School Site Technician. Website maintenance may also be included. An application must be completed in order to be considered for a tech aide position.

TUTORIAL

General Tutorial

This study hall is designed to provide students with additional academic support. Facilitated by teachers, this study hall focuses on building organizational and time-management skills. Routine procedures will include grade and planner checks and the development of plans to obtain and complete missing work.