

Sherrard Junior High School

2021-2022

Catalog of Course Offerings
Grades 7 & 8



Sherrard CUSD 200
507 3rd Street
PO Box 369
Sherrard, IL 61281

PREFACE

The outline in the guide will provide students and parents with a basic description of each course offered at Sherrard Junior High School.

This guide should be read carefully with attention given to the required, elective, and prerequisite courses.

Through the use of this registration guide, all students will receive the necessary guidance to develop a plan of studies to prepare for high school.

PHYSICAL EXAMS

If you are currently enrolled in the Sherrard School District, you will need a physical exam ONLY if you plan to participate in athletics. This exam must be completed prior to the first practice of the activity in which you plan to participate. Forms for the athletic physical may be picked up in the junior high office.

If you are new to the district from out of state, a physical is required regardless of grade level.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The school day will consist of eight class periods. Six class periods are required and two class periods will be electives.

REQUIRED CLASS PERIODS ELECTIVE CLASS PERIOD OPTIONS

English (7,8)	7,8 Band (Year Long Course)
Math (7,8)	7,8 Chorus (Year Long Course)
Geography (7)	7,8 Art (semester)
Science (7,8)	7,8 Robotics/STEM (semester)
Physical Education (7,8)	7,8 Desktop Publishing/Web Design (semester)
History (8)	7,8 Current Events (semester)
Computers/Civics (7)	7,8 Intro to Foreign Language (semester)
Health/Careers (8)	7 Spanish Culture (semester)
	8 Spanish (Year Long Course)
	7,8 Study Hall (semester)

Junior High students must earn at least 5 credits each year in order to be promoted to the next grade level. In addition, a student MUST pass MATH, ENGLISH, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, AND SCIENCE each year in the Jr. High School. The failure to do so would require the student to repeat the course they failed or complete credit recovery regardless of whether they achieved promotion from one grade to another.

Students at Sherrard Junior High School may be recommended for placement in an accelerated or regular program in Math and/or English. Scores on achievement tests, past grades, and teacher recommendations determine placement for these classes. Parents will be notified of the placement in advanced Math and/or English.

7th Grade Required Courses Descriptions

7 ADVANCED ENGLISH (State Course Code 51035A000)

(Students must qualify for this course)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Advanced English. This is the first course of two in the Advanced English program. The course focuses not only on language arts skills (reading, writing, grammar, and vocabulary) but also the integration of language arts into other curricular areas and the development of critical and creative thinking skills. Students are recommended for this course through a variety of criteria. Besides demonstrating a high level of potential in language arts, students should be committed to working at a more challenging level through inquiry and panoramic concept development.

7 ENGLISH (State Course Code 51035A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of English. This is the first course in the English program, which consists of instruction in reading, writing, and grammar. The reading component includes vocabulary development, and the study of short stories, poetry, and novels to develop comprehension and analytical skills, and an introduction to literary terminology.

The writing aspect of the program requires students to write in narrative, informative, and persuasive formats.

Grammar instruction covers parts of speech, mechanics, usage, and sentence structure.

7 ADVANCED MATH (State Course Code 52051A000)

(Students must qualify for this course)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Advanced Math. Enrollment in this course is based on test scores, past grades, and teacher recommendations. This course focuses a greater emphasis on problem-solving skills. Geometry is studied to a greater depth. Special emphasis is placed on pre-algebra concepts. Both seventh and eighth-grade materials, as well as enrichment activities, are incorporated into this course. This course allows a student to take Algebra I in eighth grade.

7 MATH (State Course Code 52037A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Math. This course extends the skills learned in 6th grade to solve problems that involve integers, complex fractions, ratios and proportions, and geometry. Students will also begin to explore algebraic concepts including variables, expressions, and equations.

7 WORLD GEOGRAPHY (State Course Code 54001A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of World Geography. This course will focus on the development of map skills and the study of the physical, cultural, and economic geography of world regions. Regions to be studied include Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, North America, and Latin America.

7 LIFE SCIENCE (State Course Code 53158A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Life Science. This course will study the basic concepts and principles of life science. It is designed to develop an awareness of all living organisms. Some of the topics and activities covered are developing and using models, planning and carrying out investigations and research, interpreting data, obtaining, and evaluating, and communicating information as well as real-life applications of cause and effect, cycles, and human impact. Specific topics may include scientific measurement, bacteria, and drug resistance, ecology, cell processes and genetics, and a study in invertebrates.

7 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (State Course Code 58001A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Physical Education. The class will consist of team and individual recreational activities including softball, soccer, weight training/conditioning, and dance or aerobics. A written or skills test is given after each unit. Students are required to dress daily in the required Physical Education uniform. A state-mandated fitnessgram will be administered.

7 PERSONAL FITNESS (State Course Code 58005A000)

(Students must qualify for this course)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Personal Fitness. Enrollment is based on teacher recommendations and fitness testing results from 6th grade. This course is designed for students to learn proper movement progressions, lifting techniques, and weight room safety. The focus will be on the following fundamentals: Body Awareness, Mobility/Flexibility, Mechanics, Relative Strength, and Stability. Activities will include but are not limited to, a multitude of lifts utilizing free weights, as well as an emphasis on linear and lateral speed/change of direction for athletic development. A state-mandated fitnessgram will be administered.

7 COMPUTERS (State Course Code 62006A000)

Students will be enrolled in 2 quarters (1 semester) of Computers. This course will introduce students to Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft PowerPoint. Students will also be introduced to technology they will be expected to use throughout JH/HS such as, email, Infinite Campus, and Google Drive.

7 CIVICS (State Course Code 54161A000)

Students will be enrolled in 2 quarters (1 Semester) of Civics. The Civics course will examine the general structure and functions of American systems of Government, the roles and responsibilities of citizens to participate in the political process, and the relationship of the individual to the law and legal system.

7th Grade Electives Course Descriptions

7 BAND (State Course Code 55101A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Band. Junior High Band is a fun way for students to express themselves musically while learning their instrument, leadership, teamwork, passion, responsibility, pride, and good work ethics in a safe band community. Students learn about their instruments in a performance-based class focused on music education and playing their instruments every day. Participation in out-of-school performances, concerts, competitions, and festivals is required and reflected in the student's band grade. Dates of these events will be given with plenty of notice. Some of these events can consist of but are not limited to 3-4 Band Concerts throughout the year, IGSMAS Solo & Ensemble Contest, IGSMAS Organizational Contest, and other fun performances, festivals, and competitions. The Junior High Band often has the opportunity to travel. Junior High Jazz Band is an additional outside-of-school ensemble that is optional only for students enrolled in the Junior High Band who are looking for a fun and challenging group to expose themselves to the world of jazz. **The prerequisite to be in Junior High Band is participation in 6th Grade Beginning Band or a specific recommendation from the Band Director.**

7 CHORUS (State Course Code 55110A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Chorus. Students enrolled in chorus will learn basic music fundamentals, performance skills, music appreciation, part-singing, and individual vocal improvement. Participation is required at all performances, which usually include Fall Concert, Christmas Concert, Spring "Pops", IGSMAS or IESA contest, and the Conference Chorus Festival.

7 ART (State Course Code 55187A000)

Students will be enrolled in Art for 1 semester (2 quarters). The art class is a beginning visual arts course; two- and three-dimensional art production is included in this course. Through creative projects using graphite, paint, color pencil, pastel, and clay students will learn the fundamentals of the elements and principles of design and how to incorporate them into expressing their visual voice.

7 ROBOTICS/STEM (State Course Code 71003A000)

Students will be enrolled in Robotics for 1 semester (2 quarters). Robotics will introduce students to robotic programming using the LEGO Mindstorm system. Students will learn how to program their robot to make 10 different turns, drive forward a specific distance, turn a specific amount, and make the robot follow lines on the table.

Students will be enrolled in STEM for 1 quarter. 7 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) 7 STEM will use a combination of design, engineering, technology, and math applications to create a variety of functional structures such as bridges, rockets, jet cars, etc.

7 CURRENT EVENTS (State Course Code 54999A000)

Students will be enrolled in Current Events for 1 semester (2 quarters). 7 Current Events will include the discussion and evaluation of major events transpiring on the local, state, national, and international levels. The purpose is to understand the ever-changing world around us on a daily basis.

7 INTRO TO FOREIGN LANGUAGE (State Course Code 24959A000)

Students will be enrolled in Intro to Foreign Language for 1 semester (2 quarters). This course will emphasize the language arts skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) necessary to communicate in a foreign language. Students will explore the customs, history, and art forms of the people(s) whose language is being studied.

7 DESKTOP PUBLISHING/WEB DESIGN (State Course Code 60201A000)

Students will be enrolled in Desktop Publishing for 1 quarter. During this course, students will learn how to create attractive print and online documents using desktop publishing applications including Adobe Photoshop.

Students will be enrolled in Web Design for 1 quarter. During this course, students will create basic web pages using HTML and CSS coding.

7 SPANISH CULTURE (State Course Code 24061A000)

Students will be enrolled in the Spanish Culture for 1 semester (2 quarters). During this time students will be exposed to different aspects of the Hispanic culture that span from traditions, festivals, geography, and film. Students will learn Spanish language terms within each unit and students will be able to express themselves in the language. The focus of the class will be to introduce students to a culture that expands well over 21 countries.

Prerequisite for the Spanish Culture class is a B or higher in 6th grade English.

8th Grade Required Courses Descriptions

8 ADVANCED ENGLISH (State Course Code 51036A000)

(Students must qualify for this course)

Prerequisite: 7th grade Advanced English/Language Arts

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Advanced English. This is the second course of two in the Advanced English program, which provides students with a challenging curriculum that is aligned to state standards. At the advanced level, students will use a wide variety of text to increase their use of critical thinking skills. The curriculum moves at an accelerated pace with a more concentrated focus on independent reading, writing, analysis, and problem solving. Opportunities are provided for students to develop questioning and research strategies that assist them in organizing and presenting information in oral, visual, and written formats. The primary goals of the course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of content, and build the skills necessary for transitioning to high school.

8 ENGLISH (State Course Code 51036A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of English. The 8th grade English course will build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Typically, these courses use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and they link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections.

8 ADVANCED MATH/ALGEBRA (State Course Code 52052A000)

(Students must qualify for this course)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Algebra. Placement in this course is based on test scores, past grades, completion of 7th advanced, and teacher recommendations. This course is designed to extend the knowledge of 7th grade advanced mathematics and move students towards the high school equivalent of Algebra. Content studied in this course will be, but not limited to, one variable statistics, linear equations, inequalities, and systems, two variable statistics, functions, exponential functions, quadratic functions, and quadratic equations.

8 MATH (State Course Code 52038A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Math. The content will extend on the learning from 7th grade mathematics. Content that will be studied will be, but not limited to, rigid transformations and congruence, dilations, similarity, and introducing slope, linear relationships, linear equations and linear systems, functions and volume, associations in data, exponents and scientific notation, and pythagorean theorem and irrational numbers.

8 US HISTORY (State Course Code 54101A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of US History. This course will focus on the time period between Pocahontas and Manifest Destiny. Students will engage in formulating opinions using text evidence as well as learning how to reference information. Students will also be required to pass the Constitution Test in order to pass this class.

8 SCIENCE (State Course Code 53238A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Science. In this course, students will explore the world we live in and develop an understanding of the mechanisms behind its innerworkings. Students will use and develop models; plan and carry out investigations; research information; interpret data; obtain, evaluate and communicate information; use mathematics and computational thinking; and construct explanations. They will also investigate our planet's real-life cause and effect scenarios, cycles, patterns, energy and matter flows, structure and function, and stability and change. Topics may include: Laboratory Safety, Scientific Measurement, The Metric System, The Scientific Method, Earth's Systems, Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, Volcanoes, The Rock Cycle, Geologic Time, Weather, and Human Impacts.

8 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (State Course Code 58001A000)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Physical Education. The class will consist of team and individual recreational activities including softball, soccer, weight training/conditioning, and dance or aerobics. A written or skills test is given after each unit. Students are required to dress daily in the required Physical Education uniform. A state-mandated fitnessgram will be administered.

8 PERSONAL FITNESS (State Course Code 58005A000)

(Students must qualify for this course)

Students will be enrolled in 4 quarters of Personal Fitness. Enrollment is based on teacher recommendations and fitness testing results from 7th grade. This course is designed for students to learn proper movement progressions, lifting techniques, and weight room safety. The focus will be on the following fundamentals: Body Awareness, Mobility/Flexibility, Mechanics, Relative Strength, and Stability. Activities will include but are not limited to, a multitude of lifts utilizing free weights, as well as an emphasis on linear and lateral speed/change of direction for athletic development. A state-mandated fitnessgram will be administered.

8 HEALTH (State Course Code 58057A000)

Students will be enrolled in 2 quarters (1 Semester) of Health. The course will cover topics such as drugs, medicines, tobacco, alcohol, the body systems, relationships, and parenting. When appropriate guest speakers will be invited to explain these different health topics in order for our students to make informed lifelong decisions regarding their personal health and individual growth.

8 CAREERS (State Course Code 72151A000)

Students will be enrolled in 2 quarters (1 Semester) of Careers. This course will help students identify and evaluate personal goals, priorities, aptitudes, and interests, with the goal of helping them make informed decisions about their careers. These courses expose students to various sources of information on career and training options and may also assist them in developing job search and employability skills.

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8 SPANISH (State Course Code 56100A000)

Students will be enrolled in Spanish for 4 quarters (Full Year Course). Students must have a B in 7th grade Advanced or Regular English for placement in 8 Spanish. This class is designed to introduce students to Spanish language and culture, the 8 Spanish course emphasizes basic grammar and syntax, simple vocabulary, and the spoken accent so that students can read, write, speak, and understand the language at a basic level within predictable areas of need using customary courtesies and conventions. Culture is introduced through the art, literature, customs, and history of Spanish speaking people.

Prerequisite is a B or higher in 7 Advanced English or 7 Regular English. Class will be limited to 20 students.