



HENDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

COURSE
SELECTION
GUIDE
2023-2024



Hardin Jefferson ISD Mission Statement

To provide the best possible education for all students in an environment that promotes and develops responsible, productive citizens through a cooperative effort of all parents, students, teachers, administrators, and the Hardin-Jefferson Community.

Hardin-Jefferson ISD Vision Statement

Excellent Community. Superior Education

Hardin-Jefferson Board of Trustees

Mark Aldrich
Andrew Brooks
Jason Dickerson
Jimmy Padgett
Sandra Sherman
Alex Stelly
Brent Walters

Hardin-Jefferson ISD Leadership

Mr. Brad McEachern, Superintendent
Dr. Steven Cox, Assistant Superintendent
Zach Bass, Athletic Director

Hardin-Jefferson Independent School District

520 W. Herring Street
Sour Lake, Texas 77659
(409) 981-6400
<http://www.hjisd.net>

Henderson Middle School

3025 Highway 326 South
Sour Lake, Texas 77659
(409) 981-6420
<http://www.hms.hjisd.net/>

In agreement with Title 9 rules and regulations implementing Educational Amendments of 1972 and as defined in Title 42, Section 2000 E-15, United States Code, the Hardin-Jefferson Independent School District does not discriminate based on sex, national origin, race, color or disability in making decisions regarding employees or students in all its functions. Individuals with questions regarding Hardin-Jefferson I.S.D practices may address them to the Superintendent.

The purpose of the Course Selection Bulletin is to provide a complete list of courses offered to students at Henderson Middle School. This bulletin will assist the parent and student in selecting courses for the coming year and will help the student in making plans for the future. It is our desire to help students make proper course selections, eliminating course selection changes.

Please give the registration form the serious consideration it deserves. When making an alternate choice, remember it may be one of the classes selected for your schedule. If you are not sure of what courses you would like to take, **please consult parents, teachers, counselor, or principal before registering for elective classes.** Parents must sign the registration form showing that they approve of the courses selected by their child. If your student does not complete a form, the counselor will plan a schedule for him/her. Schedule changes are extremely difficult after the year begins. Changes will not be considered except in extreme emergencies. There will be no schedule changes made after the first five days of school.

* Please note students **must** complete one year of a fine arts credit while at the middle school level. Also, students are required to take two years of PE.

COURSES RECEIVING HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

Henderson Middle School will offer classes in the 2023-2024 school year to give 8th grade students a choice to receive high school credit. All classes that count for high school credit will be posted on their high school transcript no matter what grade they make. Students must earn a grade of a 70 or higher in order to receive high credit. High school course offerings include:

Algebra I (one full high school credit - prerequisite 7th Grade Honors Math)

Spanish I (one full high school credit)

General Employabilty Skills (one full high school credit)

Principles of Information Technology (one full high school credit)

GIFTED AND TALENTED

We are offering a 6th grade GT Elective and a combined 7/8th Grade elective. Students must qualify.

Minimum Grade Policy

Students will be given the opportunity to make up failing grades by replacing a minimum of 20% of test grades/20% of daily grades, in each nine-week grading period. Failing scores are grades less than 70. Students will make up assignments according to teacher guidelines. Students will have, subject to teacher discretion, a minimum of one and a maximum of three weeks to replace failing grades. Nine-week tests, benchmark exams, research papers, projects, AR point requirements, and semester exams may not be replaced.

ZAP (Zeros Aren't Permitted) Policy

ZAP is an opportunity for students to make up zeros on daily work. Zeros must be made up within three weeks of receiving the failing grade. ZAP will be scheduled on Saturday mornings, and students will be required to wear their picture ID, be in full compliance with the dress code, and be on time to attend. Students will be allowed to make up any zero received in the three weeks prior to ZAP. Information about ZAP can be obtained from the office.

Grading Guidelines

Achievement is reported to parents through the use of school report cards and progress reports. Nine weeks, semester grades, semester/final exams, and final grade averages may not exceed 100%. Student grades shall be determined as follows:

40% Daily Grades

Minimum grades per quarter:
Standard classes 14 Daily Grades
Honors 10 Daily Grades

60% Major Grades

4 Major Grades
Honors Classes
3 Major Grades



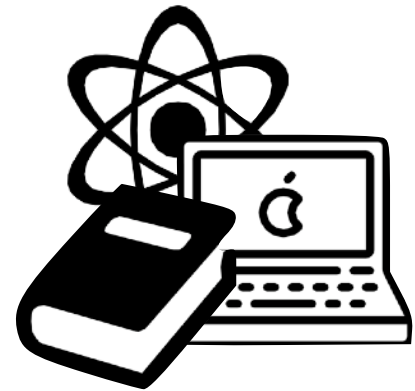
6TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

(0600) English Language Arts & Reading is a 50-minute course for sixth grade students. In accordance with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), students will develop the ability to comprehend and process material from a wide range of texts. The TEKS are organized into the following: Reading, Writing, Research; Listening and Speaking; Oral and Written conventions. The standards are cumulative. Students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade.

(0601) Honors English & Reading is a 50-minute course that exceeds the traditional course by offering a more in-depth study of classical and some contemporary literature, focusing on discussions and interaction. The course provides a rigorous study of grammar, usage, mechanics and sentence structure that extends to sentence imitating, sentence combining, and sentence expanding. The course places strong emphasis on critical thinking and literary analysis. Summer reading is required for this class. **Students contemplating taking advanced AP courses in high school or the AP English exam are encouraged to take this course.*

(0614) 6th Grade Mathematics, within a well-balanced mathematics curriculum, the primary focal points at grade 6 are using ratios to describe direct proportional relationships involving number, geometry, measurement, probability, and adding and subtracting decimals and fractions.

(0609) World History and Cultures is a required course in which students study selected ancient civilizations and contemporary world societies, including the United States. Students continue to build foundations in history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, and social studies skills. Among other things, students will learn about the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in world societies.



(0608) Science is general course of study that includes topics such as matter, energy, force, motion, Earth and space. Each unit includes many laboratory investigations and hands-on activities.

(0615) Accelerated Instruction through Math Labs is a required course for those who may need additional help in math. Placement in the class is dependent upon "the individual needs of the student."

(0970) Accelerated Instruction through Reading Labs is a required course for those who may need additional help in reading. Placement in the class is dependent upon "the individual needs of the student."

(0606) Lifetime Fitness is to teach, train and motivate students about the benefits of healthy behaviors that they may incorporate these behaviors into their lifestyles for a lifetime. Lifetime Fitness includes lifetime sports such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, and softball. Weight training, running and agility drill will be performed during this class period

(0962) iLearn

Students in iLearn will become skilled in word processing, spreadsheets and presentations by using a variety of software including; MS Office Suite, iWorks (Apple) & Google Apps software. Multimedia projects will be introduced with iMovie and Garageband. Students will learn how to manage files, evaluate websites and conduct effective searches. Collaboration projects, Mystery Skype, Coding and Cyber Safety are incorporated in the coursework as well. iLearn addresses the 126.14 Tech App TEKS.

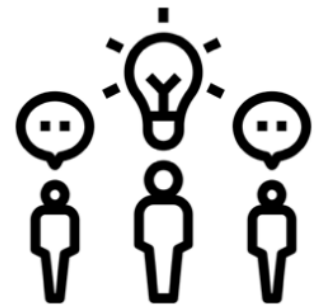
Texas Law requires that students have a fine art elective while in Middle School. Students satisfy that credit by taking either band or general music.

Beginner Band (0623) is open to all 6th, 7th grade, and 8th grade students. There is no prerequisite to enroll in this class. All basic fundamentals in reading music and playing an instrument are taught in this class. Students must be tested on instruments with the band directors to determine the best fit for the student's success. Each member of the band is required to pay \$25 in Band Dues for the year which covers basic supplies and their band shirt. Larger, more expensive horns can be rented through the band for an additional \$50 fee per school year. These fees can be paid in installments.

General Music (0911) is designed to introduce students to foundational aspects of music, music history, music theory, and music technology. Students will engage in activities centered around developing their understanding of music and its foundational elements ranging from pitch, rhythm, notation, melody and harmony.

GT iExcel 1 (9082) An elective class developed specifically for identified Gifted and Talented students in Hardin-Jefferson ISD. This course includes opportunities to explore new ideas and approaches to challenges through project based learning. We will cover various topics throughout the year including: STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math), Public Speaking, Humanities (art, culture, foreign language, geography and history), Entrepreneurship, Leadership, and Social & Emotional Learning. The curriculum is designed to foster inquiry and challenge students to think critically, create and conduct proper research to support their ideas and outcomes.

6TH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES



7TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

(0700) English Language Arts and Reading is a 50-minute course for seventh grade students. In accordance with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), students will develop the ability to comprehend and process material from a wide range of texts. The TEKS are organized into the following: Reading, Writing, Research; Listening and Speaking; Oral and Written conventions. The standards are cumulative. Students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade.

(0701) Honors English & Reading is a 50-minute course, which exceeds the traditional course by offering a more in-depth study of classical and some contemporary literature, focusing on discussions and interaction. The course provides a rigorous study of grammar, usage, mechanics and sentence structure that extends to sentence imitating, sentence combining, and sentence expanding. The course places strong emphasis on critical thinking and written literary analysis of the literature selections. Summer reading is required as preparation for this class.

(0707) 7th Grade Mathematics, within a well-balanced mathematics curriculum, the primary focal points at grade 7 are using direct proportional relationships in number, geometry, measurement and probability; applying addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of decimals, fractions and integers to real life situations including personal finances and using statistical measures to describe data.

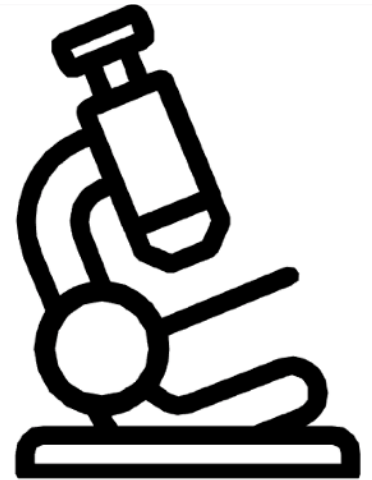
(0710) Honors Math is a course integrating the 7th grade math TEKS and 8th grade Math to prepare students for Algebra in the 8th grade. There is a matrix for this course. Students must meet all the requirements to be eligible for this class. Teacher approval required. *This course is a prerequisite for Algebra 1 in 8th grade.*

(0709) Texas History is a project-based class where students are encouraged to use creative abilities to enhance learning. One major project is required each semester. Students will examine Texas geography, native Texans, European explorers, Texas Revolution, Mexico, the Texas Republic, Texas in the Civil War, Reconstruction, growing and changing economy, creation of and changes in the Texas Constitution, and Texas in the 20th Century.

(0712) Honors Texas History will give students an opportunity to practice skills that will enable them to be successful in later classes at the advanced level. The class is designed for students who have demonstrated a high aptitude for accelerated instruction in history. Students will master the required grade 7 social studies skills using a more rigorous and accelerated curriculum, providing instruction at an increased depth and complexity.

(0708) Science is the study of organisms and their environments. Each unit includes many laboratory investigations and hands-on activities.

(0716) Honors Science is science designed for students showing a high degree of self-motivation and advanced aptitude for science. It is more in-depth content study, focusing on higher-level problem solving, thinking and creativity. There is a matrix for this course. Students must meet all the requirements to be eligible for this class.



7TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

(0723) General Employability Skills (high school credit) provides students with knowledge of the prerequisite skills for general employment as well as the means of obtaining those skills. Employability skills include fundamentals of maintenance of personal appearance and grooming. The course also includes the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that allow employees to get along with their co-workers, make important work-related decisions, and become strong members of the work team. Discovering job possibilities that link skills, abilities, interests, values, needs, and work environment preferences is a part of the process of obtaining employability skills and abilities and is experiential learning that takes place over time.

(0706) Accelerated Instruction through Math Labs is a required course for those who may need additional help in math. Placement in the class is dependent upon “the individual needs of the student.”

(0970) Accelerated Instruction through Reading Labs is a required course for those who may need additional help in reading. Placement in the class is dependent upon “the individual needs of the student.”



(0705) Lifetime Fitness will teach, train, and motivate students about the benefits of healthy behaviors so that they may incorporate these behaviors into their lifestyles for a lifetime. Lifetime Fitness includes lifetime sports such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, and softball. Weight lifting, running, and agility drills will be performed during this class period. Students will take this course for a full year.

(0721) Boys' Athletics is offered only to those students who want to participate in the extracurricular activities associated with athletics. Each course emphasizes physical fitness while developing skills in a particular sport. Sports include football, basketball and track. Students make a commitment to the class and will NOT be removed once their sport is finished.

(0722) Girls' Athletics is offered only to those students who want to participate in the extracurricular activities associated with athletics. Each course emphasizes physical fitness while developing skills in a particular sport. Sports include volleyball, basketball, and track. Students make a commitment to the class and will NOT be removed once their sport is finished.

Art I (0703) is for students that want to know how to approach drawing. In the beginning, students are often self-conscious about the quality of their drawings, but that is to be expected. Drawing is a learned skill, and it improves with practice. Students will learn to develop hand and eye coordination by learning the fundamentals of drawing. Through art, visual perception is fine-tuned. Media to be covered are paper projects, working with pencil, colored pencils, crayons, and charcoal.

Beginner Band (0623) is open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. There is no prerequisite to enroll in this class. All basic fundamentals in reading music and playing an instrument are taught in this class. Students must be tested on instruments with the band directors to determine the best fit for the student's success. All students are responsible for purchasing or renting an instrument from a music store. Any instrument passed down or purchased through online retailers/pawnshops/second hand must be approved by a band director prior to the start of school. Each member of the band is required to pay \$60 in Band Dues for the year. An additional \$25 Fee is applied to all percussionists. Larger, more expensive horns can be rented through the band for an additional \$50 fee per school year. These fees can be paid in installments.

Concert Band (0815) is the full size concert band of Henderson Middle School and is open to seventh and eighth grade students who demonstrate at least a minimum or greater proficiency on their instruments and have completed beginner band. Students are encouraged to participate in ATSSB/TMEA region tryouts and solo and ensemble contests. Students are required to perform at all pep rallies, assigned home football games, concerts, and assigned parades. Each member of the band is required to pay \$25 in Band Dues for the year. Larger, more expensive horns can be rented through the band for a \$50 fee per school year. These dues and fees can be paid in installments.

Pre-Reqs. - Beginner Band (0623)

Media Explorations (0916) - is designed to assist the School Media Specialist in promoting and developing the school media center in order to provide an efficient service to pupils and staff. Job duties include but are not limited to the following: checking books in and out to patrons, shelving, stocking, and keeping the Media Center in good order, processing new material so that it is ready for shelving, help patrons find material to meet their needs, create online resources to promote the media center, managing Makerspace tools and educating patrons on their use. Students will need to have good people skills, be self motivated, trustworthy, honest, and dependable.

Prerequisite: Librarian's recommendation

GT iExcel 2 (9083) An elective class developed specifically for identified Gifted and Talented students in Hardin-Jefferson ISD. This class is a new elective for 7th and 8th graders that is composed of many dynamic learning units. The first 9 weeks students will explore the World of 3D. Within this unit, students will learn to use software that allows for 3D design. The ultimate goal is for students to master 3D drawing and use our 3D printers to make their design come to life. In the second and third nine weeks, we connect with the business world to learn what it takes to run a small business. Students will design a business and will learn what it takes to run it. In the second part of the business unit, students will connect with a local business and will create promotional material for them. (logo's, business cards, brochures, video commercials...). In our last 9 weeks, we connect with others by learning the educational value of playing and making both digital games and board games. Minecraft Edu is one platform we hope to incorporate into this unit.

This is a real world learning class. Students who sign up for this class need a willingness to work.

The logo consists of the text "7TH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES" in a white, outlined, sans-serif font, centered within a dark gray rectangular background.

7TH
GRADE
ELECTIVE
COURSES

8TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

(0800) English Language Arts and Reading is a required course for 8th grade students. In accordance with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), students will develop the ability to comprehend and process material from a wide range of texts. The TEKS are organized into the following: Reading, Writing, Research; Listening and Speaking; Oral and Written conventions. The standards are cumulative. Students will continue to address earlier standards as needed while they attend to standards for their grade.

(0801) Honors English Language Arts and Reading exceeds the traditional course by offering a more in-depth study of classical and some contemporary literature, focusing on discussions and interaction. The course provides a rigorous study of grammar, usage, mechanics and sentence structure that extends to sentence imitating, sentence combining, and sentence expanding. The course places strong emphasis on critical thinking and written literary analysis to the literature selections. There will be required summer reading preparation for this class. **Students contemplating taking advanced AP courses in high school or the AP English exam are encouraged to take this course.*

(0809) 8th Grade Mathematics, within a well-balanced mathematics curriculum, the primary focal points at grade 8 are using basic principles of algebra to analyze and represent both proportional and non-proportional linear relationships.

(0982) Algebra 1 (1 year HS credit) contains the standard topics of first-year algebra. Signed numbers are heavily emphasized as are integer exponents and solving equations. Systems of two linear equations in two unknowns are practiced extensively before coin problems are introduced. Graphs and equations of linear functions are covered thoroughly. Scientific notation, ratio, percent, variations problems, and unit conversion practice prepare for science course. Teacher approval required. 7th Grade Honors Math or Pre-Algebra are prerequisites for this course.

(0811) Science involves studying atoms, chemical interactions, Newton's laws, stars, the moon, Earth's systems, topography and crustal features. Each unit includes many laboratory investigations and hands-on activities.

(0814) Honors Science is the honors science designed for students showing a high degree of self-motivation and advanced aptitude for science. It is more in-depth content study, focusing on higher-level problem solving, thinking and creativity.

(0812) U.S. History is a required course in which students study American colonization through the Reconstruction era. Students will also study founding documents such as the Declaration of Independence, Federalist and Anti-Federalist writings, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights. Primary source document analysis along with independent and collaborative projects are used to help students analyze the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

(0816) Honors U.S. History is a one-year course covering American colonization through the Reconstruction era and is designed for highly motivated, independent students with well-developed study skills. These are students who can work above grade level and are willing to complete individual research assignments. Students should also have a genuine interest in history and a mature work ethic. Class time will be devoted to discussion, problem solving activities, and essay development.

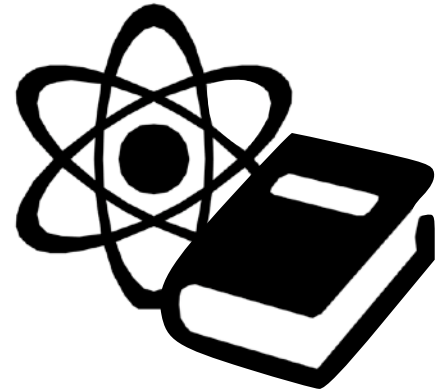
8TH GRADE REQUIRED COURSES

(0987) Principles of Information Technology (1 year HS credit) helps students develop computer literacy skills to adapt to emerging technologies used in the global marketplace. Students implement personal and interpersonal skills to prepare for a rapidly evolving workplace environment. PIT empowers invention and innovation to help create tomorrow's innovators and idea-makers. Students will have a complete hands on experience with the latest in technology to design new prototypes, solve engineering problems, create new products, use of special effects, code, and electronic wiring. This class brings together courses drawn from various hands-on and maker technologies that allow students to create exciting and new projects.

(0810) Accelerated Instruction through Math Labs is a required course for those who may need additional help in math. Placement in the class is dependent upon "the individual needs of the student."

(0970) Accelerated Instruction through Reading Labs is a required course for those who may need additional help in reading. Placement in the class is dependent upon "the individual needs of the student."

(0805) Lifetime Fitness will teach, train, and motivate students about the benefits of healthy behaviors so that they may incorporate these behaviors into their lifestyles for a lifetime. Lifetime Fitness includes lifetime sports such as volleyball, basketball, badminton, and softball. Weight lifting, running, and agility drills will be performed during this class period. Students will take this course for a full year.



(0806) Boys' Athletics is offered only to those students who want to participate in the extracurricular activities associated with athletics. Each course emphasizes physical fitness while developing skills in a particular sport. Sports include football, basketball and track. Students make a commitment for the year and will NOT be removed once their sport is finished.

(0807) Girls' Athletics is offered only to those students who want to participate in the extracurricular activities associated with athletics. Each course emphasizes physical fitness while developing skills in a particular sport. Sports include volleyball, basketball, and track. Students make a commitment for the year and will NOT be removed once their sport is finished.

8TH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

Art I (0703) is for students that want to know how to approach drawing. In the beginning, students are often self-conscious about the quality of their drawings, but that is to be expected. Drawing is a learned skill, and it improves with practice. Students will learn to develop hand and eye coordination by learning the fundamentals of drawing. Through art, visual perception is fine-tuned. Media to be covered are paper projects, working with pencil, colored pencils, crayons, and charcoal.

Art II (0803) is an elective course that brings an exciting world of visual activities to the student and enables them to develop a keen sense of creative observation and appreciate the beauty of art (study of art history). Taking art in the middle school is extremely important as the student's eyesight is reaching maturity. Research has found that art experiences at this age greatly enhance the student's eye development and hand-eye coordination. Due to his or her maturing eyesight, drawing successes are created and these successes improve self-esteem and lead to winning contests and recognition. Additionally, art activities teach higher level thinking skills, awareness of careers and connect lessons in other academic areas. Media covered in Art II are pencil, charcoal, pastels, pen and ink. With each media covered various techniques are taught. Art students are expected to work every day on their assigned art project.

Beginner Band (0623) is open to all 6th, 7th grade, and 8th grade students. There is no prerequisite to enroll in this class. All basic fundamentals in reading music and playing an instrument are taught in this class. Students must be tested on instruments with the band directors to determine the best fit for the student's success. All students are responsible for purchasing or renting an instrument from a music store. Any instrument passed down or purchased through online retailers/pawnshops/second hand must be approved by a band director prior to the start of school. Each member of the band is required to pay \$40 in Band Dues for the year. An additional \$25 Fee is applied to all percussionists. Larger, more expensive horns can be rented through the band for an additional \$50 fee per school year. These fees can be paid in installments.

Concert Band (0815) is the full size concert band of Henderson Middle School and is open to seventh and eighth grade students who demonstrate at least a minimum or greater proficiency on their instruments and have completed beginner band. The first semester will be spent on marching band style events. We will perform and march in at least one parade during the year this semester as well as select home football games. This course can be used as an alternative to PE and students will receive ½ a PE credit after the 1st semester. The second semester will focus on concert band performance. This is a continuation of developing tone, technique, and scale patterns, as well as advancement in musical notation and rhythmic identification. Students are encouraged to participate in ATSSB/TMEA region tryouts and solo and ensemble contests. Students are required to perform at all pep rallies, assigned home football games, concerts, and assigned parades. Each member of the band is required to pay \$40 in Band Dues for the year. An additional \$25 Fee is applied to all percussionists. Larger, more expensive horns can be rented through the band for a \$50 fee per school year. These dues and fees can be paid in installments.

Pre-Reqs. - Beginner Band (0623)

8TH GRADE ELECTIVE COURSES

Media Explorations (0916) is designed to assist the School Media Specialist in promoting and developing the school media center in order to provide an efficient service to pupils and staff. Job duties include but are not limited to the following: checking books in and out to patrons, shelving, stocking, and keeping the Media Center in good order, processing new material so that it is ready for shelving, help patrons find material to meet their needs, create online resources to promote the media center, managing Makerspace tools and educating patrons on their use. Students will need to have good people skills, be self motivated, trustworthy, honest, and dependable. Prerequisite: Librarian's recommendation

Spanish I (0985)- 1 year HS credit) is an introduction to the Spanish language. Basic vocabulary and sentence structure are introduced. This is a grammar-based course that emphasizes the acquisition and development of basic Spanish language grammar concepts through reading, writing, speaking and listening. Beginning oral communication skills and cultural knowledge are also developed in this course. Taking Spanish does not guarantee high school credit. HS credit may be applied if criteria are met. Please note this is an extremely difficult class. CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED.

GT iExcel 2 (9083) An elective class developed specifically for identified Gifted and Talented students in Hardin-Jefferson ISD. This class is a new elective for 7th and 8th graders that is composed of many dynamic learning units. The first 9 weeks students will explore the World of 3D. Within this unit, students will learn to use software that allows for 3D design. The ultimate goal is for students to master 3D drawing and use our 3D printers to make their design come to life. In the second and third nine weeks, we connect with the business world to learn what it takes to run a small business. Students will design a business and will learn what it takes to run it. In the second part of the business unit, students will connect with a local business and will create promotional material for them. (logo's, business cards, brochures, video commercials...). In our last 9 weeks, we connect with others by learning the educational value of playing and making both digital games and board games. Minecraft Edu is one platform we hope to incorporate into this unit. This is a real world learning class. Students who sign up for this class need a willingness to work.



Office/Counselor/ Support

This course is designed to be a "hands on" experience in an office setting. General filing, phone answering, and copying skills will be taught. You may not have ISS or DAEP placements during your 7th Grade year/ This is a selection process. (Limit 1 per section)

HONORS PLACEMENT OVERVIEW

Henderson Middle School offers Honors Placement courses in English, Science, and Social Studies for the 2023-2024 school year.

Honors classes at Henderson Middle School offer challenge and enthusiasm for learning during the middle school years and prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Placement program at the high school level.

Honors Placement classes are based on two important premises:

- Students can perform at rigorous academic levels. This expectation should be reflected in curriculum and instruction throughout the school, and students should be consistently challenged to expand their knowledge and skills to the next level.
- As a school, we can prepare these students for higher intellectual engagement by starting the development of skills and knowledge as early as possible.

Pre-Advanced Placement Course Offerings:

- 6th Grade: English
- 7th Grade: English, Science, Social Studies
- 8th Grade: English, Science, and Social Studies

Characteristics of a Successful Honors Student:

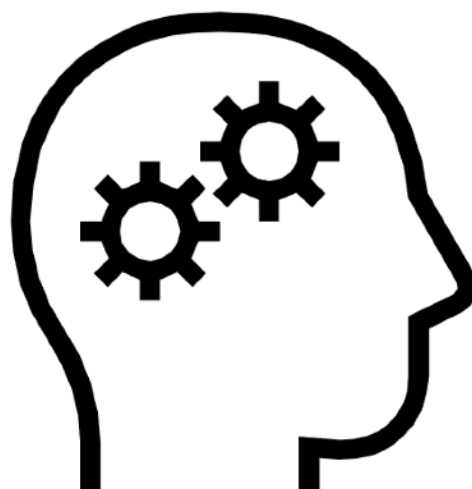
- Excellent study and organizational skills
- Ability to work well with others
- Persistence in pursuing goals
- A strong sense of responsibility
- Ability to become an independent learner

Considerations:

- Scores on STAAR test
- Grades from previous school year
- Parent and student commitment
- Teacher recommendations

Gifted and Talented Offerings:

- 6th Grade iExcel 1
- 7th/ 8th Grade iExcel 2



HJISD-HENDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

Honors courses challenge and enrich motivated, college-bound students to expand their education beyond the regular program. The coursework develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for the college-level work of Advanced Placement (AP) courses at the high school level and for the Advanced Placement exams.

Students in these programs are expected to:

- analyze, synthesize, and apply knowledge and skills
- think critically
- develop successful study skills by budgeting time effectively and efficiently
- commit to additional workload
- engage in scholarly research
- extend advanced content area vocabulary
- maintain subject-specific portfolios/notebooks when applicable
- commit to this agreement supporting; the Honors program and expectations
- employ technology as a tool of research

Success requires commitment from all students, parents, teachers, and administration involved in this program.

The teachers agree to conduct the Honors Course at a college preparatory pace and with content appropriate to grade level as outlined by the College Board. Teachers will encourage and support students' efforts to achieve success in rigorous courses. Teachers will notify students and parents with progress reports if student work and/or assessments are unsatisfactory.

The student agrees to organize his/her time and effort to successfully complete this course.

PLACEMENT REVIEW: Once a student commits to this more demanding course, the student is expected to remain in the class for the entire year. However, if a student is encountering great difficulty with the workload or with the higher level of thinking, reading, and writing skills required in the course, a recommendation can be made that the student be placed in a more appropriate class at the end of the first semester. Student-parent-teacher-principal communication is required before any change is made, whether initiated by student, parent or teacher.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: All students are expected to do their own work. When students are given projects or assignments that must be completed outside of class, the student is expected to complete work independently unless collaboration is specified as a part of the assignment. Students will be made aware of proper documentation procedures for research-based assignments and will be expected to follow those guidelines. Plagiarism is never acceptable, no matter the source of information.

HJISD-HENDERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL HONORS COURSE AGREEMENT

Student Name (please print): _____

Grade (2023-2024) _____

Every Honors student should:

- Maintain an average of at least 80 or higher
- Maintain an attendance rate of 95% or higher
- Continually evaluate individual progress
- Attend tutorials when needed
- Turn in all homework assignments, completed and on time
- Turn in all make-up work promptly following an absence
- Utilize class time for clarification and understanding of concepts
- Demonstrate responsibility, self-control, and appropriate decision-making skills
- add preparation for future Advanced Placement tests

Student Section

I am requesting to be admitted to an Honors class. I understand this is a more difficult course than the regular curriculum and will require increased work, both in terms of volume and difficulty, and will include summer assignments. I have read and understand the general requirements for participation in Honors courses as explained in the Honors Overview and the Honors Program Expectations. I understand that dropping this Honors class may be done ONLY at the end of the first semester following a parent-student-teacher-principal conference.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

Parent/Guardian Section

As the parent/guardian of the above named student, I am requesting that he/she be admitted to an Honors class. I understand this class will require increased work, both in terms of volume and difficulty. I have read and understand the general requirements of participation in the Honors Overview and the Honors Program Expectations.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)