

Southampton Middle School Courses

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Sixth Grade Course Descriptions

Language Arts 6 SCED Code: 01034 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course focuses on the development, instruction, and practice of English in the context and scope of developing literacy, comprehension, and expression. Focus on verbal language instruction occurs through individual and small-group activities. Students will work on developing reading skills where emphasis is placed on elements of literature, narrative structure, comparison and contrast of information from different sources, and the ability to select information appropriate for a specific purpose. Students will learn to infuse and elaborate on ideas in their writing. In addition, this course will afford students the opportunity to choose appropriate parts of speech, reinforce grammar, and develop mastery of subject-verb agreement. Students will be instructed on appropriate use of word-reference materials, citing sources, writing for an audience, and working on developing their vocabulary.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment:

Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Elementary Promotion

Location: SMS

Mathematics 6 SCED Code: 02036 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course provides increased opportunities for students to develop and apply critical thinking and problem solving skills as part of the mathematics curriculum. Students are able to construct mathematical connections that are reflective of the continuously changing world. Students will develop and utilize proportional reasoning, application and analysis, mathematical communication and proportional reasoning skills. Reinforcement and development of problem solving is an integral part of the course so as to ensure that students can develop a wide range of skills and strategies for solving standard and nonstandard problems. In this course, students will be exposed to mathematical competencies in estimation, algebra, number theory, geometry, and measurement so as to form the needed foundational skills necessary for success in advanced mathematics later at the middle, secondary, and post-secondary level. Technology will be incorporated throughout the curriculum in order to provide students with opportunities to explore concepts. Completion of the Grade 6 Mathematics SOL is required and is used to reinforce and supplement instruction. Students will benefit from a differentiated approach to learning and instruction.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment:

Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Elementary Promotion

Location: SMS

Algebra Readiness 6 SCED Code: 02996 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course is designed to be paired with another math course (typically Math 6) and is recommended for students who are in need of foundational knowledge and skill development in order to prepare for academic success in Pre-Algebra and Algebra I. This course of study will establish foundational skills and reinforce skills taught in their regular math course as students prepare to demonstrate mastery on the end of year Mathematics Standards of Learning exam. In this course, curriculum and practice will focus on computation, proportional reasoning, analysis, application, formulas, as well as, standard and nonstandard problems. Students will also review test taking strategies that focus on developing mindfulness and familiarity with content through the connection and inclusion of lived experiences within the mathematical curriculum. Instruction will be differentiated based on each student's needs. Technology will be used to reinforce and supplement instruction. Students will benefit from a differentiated approach to learning and instruction. **Students will be co-enrolled in a primary grade-level math course in addition to this course. This course will take the place of an elective course in the student's schedule.**

Criteria for Enrollment:

Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: N/A; co-requisite Math 6, 7, or Pre-Algebra

Location: SMS

Science 6 SCED Code: 03236 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course presents Science content in a cohesive manner where emphasis is placed on the impact of the sun's energy on the Earth's systems, water, air, the atmosphere, environment, space, forces, transformations of energy, matter, and basic chemistry concepts.

In this course, emphasis is placed on experimentation and data analysis. Students will continue with their development and understanding of the nature of science. Lessons will be designed to promote student engagement and inquiry. Students will be able to create explanations for scientific concepts that are based on rules of evidence and logical thinking. Students will engage in experimentation, observation, and manipulation of variables.

Prerequisite: Elementary Promotion

Location: SMS

U. S. History I SCED Code: 04102 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course explores the beginning of the New World to about 1865. Students will engage in critical thinking skills to evaluate, analyze, and synthesize concepts. Students will be able to articulate several historical themes which includes exploring the reasons behind why people emigrate and start a new country. Students will also review how a country is able to maintain sovereignty and cohesion after formation. Students will use those statements to guide them through their discovery of United States History I. During this course students will learn about the birth of the United States of America and the “rebirth” during the Civil War. This course will allow students to develop U. S. historical competency through:

- Critical thinking
- Comparing primary sources
- Reading for content information
- Writing with structure and purpose
- Active participation in class discussion
- Applying geographical terms and concepts
- Understanding cause-effect relationships
- Developing retention and recall for Social Science Vocabulary
- Evaluating and interpreting famous historical artifacts and speeches

Prerequisite: Elementary Promotion

Location: SMS

Health and Physical SCED Code 08110 Level: 6th Credit: N/A
Education 6

This course incorporates activities designed to develop lifetime physical fitness and conditioning through participation in selected team and individual activities. Safety relating to sports and recreation are included. Students enrolled in this course will be exposed to instruction on anatomy and physiology, fitness planning, social development, and energy balance. In addition, students will engage in activities centered in cooperative games and sports, team and individual activities, rhythmic activities, physical fitness testing, lifetime fitness, recreational activities, health and wellness, and socio-emotional health. This course also covers health and wellness in the form of nutrition, physical exercise, mental exercise, appropriate diet, stress and mental health, lifetime fitness and wellness. First aid and safety, communicable and non-communicable diseases, gangs, bullying, health advocacy, and refusal strategies related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs will be taught. Students will also be exposed to a Family Life Education (FLE) component included in this course.

This is a semester-long course. This course is a requirement in a typical schedule.

Prerequisite: Elementary Promotion

Location: SMS

Sixth Grade Electives

Art Appreciation SCED Code: 05151 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course infuses art history, critique, production and aesthetics within the curriculum. This course is designed to develop foundational knowledge and varied skills in art history, theory, techniques, concepts, and ideas. Students will engage in creating, presenting, responding to, and connecting with their personal works of art and the work of others. Students enrolled in this course will begin creating and maintaining their personal portfolios which will include both visual and written documentation of the creative process.

This is a 9-week course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Beginning Band SCED Code: 05101 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course is open to students who have an interest in learning to play a musical instrument. Potential instruments available include the flute, clarinet, oboe, alto saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium/baritone, tuba or percussion (snare drum/mallet instruments). Students are responsible to provide their own instrument secured through purchase or rental. This course offers students an opportunity to meet with SCPS band directors for an individual evaluation. This is to determine students are appropriately matched with their instrument of choice. Also, students and instructors are able to determine if the student's preferred instrument best meets the student's natural physical embouchure characteristics and best guarantees their success. Students are required to participate in concerts and rehearsals after school hours. In addition, it is expected that students will practice with their instrument daily.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Beginning Chorus SCED Code: 05110 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course is open to students who like to sing and have an interest in developing their vocal abilities. Emphasis is placed on developing appropriate vocal techniques and skills necessary for singing in an ensemble. Students enrolled in this course will develop their knowledge and skills of essential music theory, including reading notation, ear training and sight singing. Students who are enrolled in this course will develop choral literacy through exposure to sacred and secular music. It is expected that students enrolled in this course will perform and participate in performance activities, such as winter and spring concerts.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Career Investigations SCED Code: 19258 Level: 6th-8th Credit: N/A

In this course, emphasis is placed on career competencies, exploration, and investigation. Students will be able to explore career options based on their interest, talents, and skills. Students will be afforded the opportunity to investigate different career pathways and determine potential requirements for a chosen profession.

Students will assess their roles in a given career, complete basic exploration of career clusters, review income and assets, select career pathways or occupation for further research and create an academic and career plan based on their interests.

Students will also explore the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in anticipation of career trends and future career pathways.

Students can also expect to learn workplace readiness and characteristics that would make them successful in their future career.

This course is required, but only needs to be taken once, and may be taken in any grade level at SMS.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Digital Technology SCED Code: 10900 Level: 6th Credit: N/A
Foundations

This foundation course introduces the use of relevant and emerging technologies, tools, and applications to prepare students for current workplace practices and everyday life. Students will demonstrate information processing using a variety of hardware and software and Internet-based tools to produce and integrate data in various formats. This course is designed for students wishing to progress through more advanced business and information technology coursework.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Exploratory Spanish SCED Code: 24050 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course introduces students to the basics of Spanish. Students who are enrolled in this course will examine both written and spoken Spanish in an effort to develop concrete knowledge and skills. Emphasis will be placed on interpersonal interaction and basic greetings, language, words, and phrases. In addition, students will explore Spanish cultures here in all the United States and around the world as they develop an understanding of all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) in an effort to further develop their communication skills and embark on developing fluency and competency.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Introduction to Technology and Engineering SCED Code: 21051 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course introduces students to the study of technology in our society. Students are afforded an opportunity to acquire a foundation in technological energy, information, and material. Students will be able to apply processes associated with technological thinking, engage in laboratory activities, while creating new ideas and innovations. Students will be able to build systems, analyze technological products and learn how technology functions. Students will be exposed to issues in medical technology, biotechnology, information technology, and communication technology as they learn how to use resources, examine and solve problems in a technology laboratory setting. Students will also analyze emerging technologies to predict future technological changes in society.

This is a 9-week course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Keyboarding SCED Code: 12005 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course is designed to introduce middle school students to the basics of computers, keyboarding skills, and potential careers. Students will develop and enhance touch skills for entering information using a keyboard to compose and produce personal, educational, and professional documents. Contextual instruction and student participation in co-curricular career and technical student organization (CTSO) activities will develop leadership, interpersonal, and career skills. High-quality work-based learning (HQWBL) will provide experiential learning opportunities related to students' career goals and/or interests, integrated with instruction, and performed in partnership with local businesses and organizations. Note: Completer sequences and certifications do not apply.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: None

Location: SMS

Music Appreciation SCED Code: 05116 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

Music History/Appreciation courses survey different musical styles and periods with the intent of increasing students' enjoyment of musical styles and/or developing their artistic or technical judgment. Music History/Appreciation courses may also focus on developing an understanding of a particular style or period.

This is a 9-week course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

STEM Challenge 6 SCED Code: 03239 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course introduces students to the interconnectedness of *Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*. Students who are enrolled in this course will examine each area individually and as a whole, so as to develop awareness and competency in the area of STEM. Emphasis will be placed on the integration and relationship of the four disciplines. In addition, students will explore the basic scientific concepts that they will use as they advance with STEM in upper grades. Students will reinforce mathematical skills and scientific skills necessary for success along with exposure to and utilization of tools necessary in engineering. This course provides both an overview and strong foundational development of STEM.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

TAG 6 SCED Code: 03239 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course provides opportunities for students identified as Talented and Gifted (TAG) to explore advanced topics, deepen the learning they bring with them from their other courses, and further develop their unique gifts.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

TAG Art 6 SCED Code: 05199 Level: 6th Credit: N/A

This course provides opportunities for students identified as Talented and Gifted (TAG) to explore advanced topics, deepen the learning they bring with them from their other courses, and further develop their unique gifts.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Seventh Grade Course Descriptions

Language Arts 7

SCED Code: 01035

Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course focuses on communication through nonverbal communication and spoken language. Students will be expected to demonstrate reading skills and articulation at the seventh grade level. Focus on spoken language and communication will occur individually and in small groups. Students will continue developing reading skills through exposure to a variety of media. Students will continue to develop foundational skills in the areas of comparison and contrast, facts, opinions, inference, poetry interpretation, roots, affixes, vocabulary building and research format.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment:

Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: English 6

Location SMS

Algebra Readiness 7

SCED Code: 02999

Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course is designed to be paired with another math course (typically Math 7) and is recommended for students who are in need of foundational knowledge and skill development in order to prepare for academic success in Pre-Algebra and Algebra I. This course of study will establish foundational skills and reinforce skills taught in their regular math course as students prepare to demonstrate mastery on the end of year Mathematics Standards of Learning exam. In this course, curriculum and practice will focus on computation, proportional reasoning, analysis, application, formulas, and both standard and nonstandard problems. Students will also review test taking strategies that focus on developing mindfulness and familiarity with content through the connection and inclusion of life experiences within the mathematical curriculum. Instruction will be differentiated based on students' needs. Technology will be used to reinforce and supplement in instruction. Students will benefit from a differentiated approach to learning and instruction.

Students will be co-enrolled in a primary grade-level math course in addition to this course. This course will take the place of an elective course in the student's schedule.

Criterion for Enrollment:

Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Math 6

Location: SMS

Math 7 SCED Code: 02037 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra I and beyond. Emphasis is placed on developing core mathematical skills. A range of topics will be covered including pre-Algebra, algebra, geometry, algebraic equations, and statistical topics. Students who are enrolled in this course will develop foundational knowledge and skills in understanding the foundation for advanced mathematical concepts. This course is intended to prepare students to think critically, explore concepts in the areas of numbers, computation, and proportional reasoning.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment:

Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Math 6

Location: SMS

Pre-Algebra 7 SCED Code: 02038 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course emphasizes algebraic thinking, problem solving and critical mathematical analyses. A variety of mathematics topics will be covered including algebra, probability, geometry, and symmetry. Students who are enrolled in this course will develop foundational knowledge and skills in fractions, percentages, rational numbers, square roots, ratio and proportions, and organizing data. Students will also develop competency in solving algebraic expressions, working with polynomials, binomials, linear equations, and inequalities. This course is designed to prepare students to meet the high academic standards set forth by Southampton County Public Schools and the Virginia Department of Education for all students in Algebra I.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment:

Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Math 6

Location: SMS

Life Science **SCED Code: 03158** **Level: 7th Credit: N/A**

In this course, students are introduced to the study of biological systems and the living world. The course curriculum will include cellular organizations and the classification of organisms, the dynamic relationships among organisms, populations, communities, and ecosystems, and change as a result of the transmission of genetic information from each generation. Students will use inquiry skills to organize and analyze mathematical data, manipulate variables in experimentation, and identify sources of experimental error.

The curriculum also covers student progress in understanding the nature of science through defining ideas and explanations of nature. Students will be able to develop and test hypotheses by using observations, experimentation, modeling, evidence, and synthesis of different processes.

Students will be exposed to activities and curricula where scientific concepts and explanations are based on logical thinking; subject to rules of evidence; are open to rational critique, and are subject to refinement and change with the addition of new scientific evidence.

Prerequisite: Science 6

Location: SMS

U.S. History II **SCED Code: 04103** **Level: 7th Credit: N/A**

This course builds from the information in U. S. History I and expands on the New World from approximately 1865 and the Age of Reconstruction to present.

Students will learn how the United States changed from a farming economy in 1865 to a technical information society in the present day. Students will continue learning about the transformation of our country from the “Industrial Age” to the “Information Age.”

Students will work to reinforce and further develop their critical thinking skills to evaluate, analyze, and synthesize historical information about the New World. Students will be able to articulate several historical themes which includes exploring conflict, historical changes, and the sovereignty of the nation. During this course students will learn about the rebirth of the United States of America after the Civil War, participation in international conflict and wars, protest and unrest, and the coming together of the nation. This course will allow students to strengthen U. S. historical competency through:

- Critical thinking
- Comparing primary sources
- Reading for content information
- Writing with structure and purpose
- Active participation in class discussion
- Applying geographical terms and concepts
- Understanding cause-effect relationships
- Developing retention and recall for Social Science Vocabulary
- Evaluating and interpreting famous historical artifacts and speeches

Prerequisite: U. S. History 6

Location: SMS

Seventh Grade Electives

Career Investigations SCED Code: 19258 Level: 6th-8th Credit: N/A

In this course, emphasis is placed on career competencies, exploration, and investigation. Students will be able to explore career options based on their interest, talents, and skills. Students will be afforded the opportunity to investigate different career pathways and determine potential requirements for a chosen profession.

Students will assess their roles in a given career, complete basic exploration of career clusters, review income and assets, select career pathways or occupation for further research and create an academic and career plan based on their interests.

Students will also explore the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in anticipation of career trends and future career pathways.

Students can also expect to learn workplace readiness and characteristics that would make them successful in their future career.

This course is required, but only needs to be taken once, and may be taken in any grade level at SMS.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Introduction to Art SCED Code: 154 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course provides students with an opportunity to expound on the development of art, foundational knowledge of art skills, including theory and techniques; as well as concepts and ideas beyond the sixth grade art curriculum. Students' learning experiences will be connected to the current events, thus allowing students to understand how they are relatable to all aspects of life.

Students will continue discussing and writing about their personal artwork, as well as engage in detailed discussions about the work of other artists. Students will also continue developing their personal portfolios.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: Art Exploratory 6, or Teacher Recommendation, or Equivalent Study and Experience

Location: SMS

Intermediate Band SCED Code: 05101 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course provides students with an opportunity to expand on the fundamental skills of playing a band instrument with an increased emphasis on ensemble performances. Students are responsible for providing their own instrument either secured through purchase or rental.

Students are expected to practice daily and participate in concerts, festivals, and rehearsals outside school hours. Potential instruments available include the flute, clarinet, oboe, alto saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, euphonium/baritone, tuba, or percussion (snare drum/mallet instruments).

Prerequisite: Beginning Band, Teacher Recommendation, or Equivalent Study and Experience

Location: SMS

Intermediate Chorus SCED Code: 05110 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course is an expansion of Beginning Chorus. Students will apply the basics of proper singing techniques while honing their skills in performing a variety of styles of unison and choral music. Students reinforce their abilities in music reading skills and develop choral literacy by singing literature that is sacred and secular. Students are required to attend several concerts and rehearsals held after school hours. Students who are enrolled in this course will develop an understanding of musical elements that includes rhythm, melody, form, tempo, design, timbre, harmony, and style.

Prerequisite: Beginning Chorus, or Teacher Recommendation, or Equivalent Study and Experience

Location: SMS

Introductory Spanish SCED Code: 240500 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This beginning level of world language in Spanish formally introduces students to the core principles of the language by focusing on the four key components of world language studies, which includes listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students are introduced to the basics of Spanish language and culture where they will focus on understanding and recognizing basic grammatical functions, conversational words and phrases, greetings and salutations, as well as basic communications and exploration of peoples and culture and everyday situations. This course prepares students for the rigor and expectations of Spanish I.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Inventions and Innovations SCED Code: 21099 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

Students apply the engineering design process to plan, build, and communicate inventions or innovations that address contemporary technological problems facing them, their community, and the world. This hands-on course allows students to apply creativity and innovation that emphasizes working in teams and the safe use of technological and engineering tools and equipment. Contextual instruction and student participation in co-curricular career and technical student organization (CTSO) activities will develop leadership, interpersonal, and career skills.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Keyboarding SCED Code: 12005 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course is designed to introduce middle school students to the basics of computers, keyboarding skills, and potential careers. Students will develop and enhance touch skills for entering information using a keyboard to compose and produce personal, educational, and professional documents. Contextual instruction and student participation in co-curricular career and technical student organization (CTSO) activities will develop leadership, interpersonal, and career skills.

Note: Completer sequences and certifications do not apply.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: None

Location: SMS

Make it Your Business SCED Code: 005 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course investigates how to design, establish, and operate a small group or class business, producing a service that meets an identified school or community need. Emphasis is placed on the introduction and application of business terminology, basic entrepreneurship concepts, and fundamental business principles. Basic academic skills (mathematics, science, English, and History/Social Science) are integrated into this course.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: Keyboarding

Location: SMS

STEM Challenge 7 SCED Code: 22250 Level: 7th Credit: N/A

This course exposes students to the benefits of a hands-on, creative instructional approach where each student will be encouraged to design, experiment, build, and invent as they deeply engage in science, engineering, and tinkering, be it with wood, art, or other creative products.

Students are afforded the opportunity to explore and enhance scientific thinking through analysis and discovery. Students will be given a real-world problem that they will attempt to solve in a systematic approach from the design phase through implementation and then presentation as the final product. Students will work collaboratively on teams and independently to address problems. Students will use both critical thinking and creative problem-solving.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

TAG 7 **SCED Code: 03239** **Level: 6th** **Credit: N/A**

This course provides opportunities for students identified as Talented and Gifted (TAG) to explore advanced topics, deepen the learning they bring with them from their other courses, and further develop their unique gifts.

This is a year-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

TAG Art 7 **SCED Code: 05199** **Level: 6th** **Credit: N/A**

This course further develops artistic foundations and introduces more advanced techniques, seeking to further develop the unique artistic gifts of participating students. Students who have demonstrated talent in art are encouraged to submit an artistic portfolio for consideration. Students will be evaluated by the minimum two member committee, which will consist of an Elementary Art Teacher and a Middle School Art Teacher, to qualify for this course. For more information, please contact your school counselor.

This is a year-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Eighth Grade Course Descriptions

Standards of Learning (SOL) passing scores earned at the middle school (including those SOL scores associated with middle school courses bearing high school credit, such as Algebra I) do not meet the verified credit requirements for high school graduation as set forth by the Virginia Department of Education. Should you have further questions, please contact the school counselor.

Language Arts 8 SCED Code: 01036 Level: 8th Credit: N/A

This course further develops the written and verbal communication skills of students. In this course, reading instruction emphasizes students' ability to demonstrate and expand on their knowledge and skills acquired from prior English courses where they are able to compare and contrast authors' styles, analyze authors' credentials, identify and explain a viewpoint, and articulate the impact both verbal and nonverbal communication has on expression, meaning, and interpretation. Students will be expected to demonstrate reading skills and articulation at the eighth grade level.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment: Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Language Arts 7

Location: SMS

Algebra Readiness 8 SCED Code: 02999 Level: 8th Credit: N/A

This course is designed to be paired with another math course (typically Pre-Algebra 8) and is recommended for students who are in need of foundational knowledge and skill development in order to prepare for academic success in Pre-Algebra and Algebra I. This course of study will establish foundational skills and reinforce skills taught in their regular math course as students prepare to demonstrate mastery on the end of year Mathematics Standards of Learning exam. Focus areas will include computation, proportional reasoning, analysis application, formulas, as well as, standard and nonstandard problems. Instruction will be differentiated based on students' needs. Technology will be used to reinforce and supplement instruction. Students will benefit from a differentiated approach of learning and instruction.

Students will be co-enrolled in a primary grade-level math course in addition to this course. This course will take the place of an elective course in the student's schedule.

Criteria for Enrollment: Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Math 7

Location: SMS

Pre-Algebra 8**SCED Code: 02038****Level: 8th Credit: N/A**

This course emphasizes algebraic thinking, problem solving and critical mathematical analyses. A variety of mathematics topics will be covered including algebra, probability, geometry, and Symmetry. Students who are enrolled in this course will develop foundational knowledge and skills in fractions, percentages, rational numbers, square roots, ratio and proportions, and organizing data. Students will also develop competency in solving algebraic expressions, working with polynomials, binomials, linear equations, and inequalities. This course is designed to prepare students to meet the high academic standards set forth by Southampton County Public Schools and the Virginia Department of Education for all students in Algebra I.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment: Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Math 7**Location: SMS****Algebra I****SCED Code: 02052****Level: 8th Credit: N/A**

This course is a secondary level course. Upon successful completion of this course, students will earn high school credit towards their graduation requirement. Students who are enrolled in this advanced course can expect to learn mathematic properties of numbers and the development of the real number system. Fundamental concepts of equality, functions, multiple representations, probability, and data analysis. Technology will be used to further develop mathematical thinking, reasoning, and communication skills.

SOL Test

Criteria for Enrollment: Multiple measures which will include student academic history, classroom and standardized test scores, placement test performance, and teacher recommendation.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or Teacher recommendation**Location: SMS**

Civics and Economics SCED Code: 04161 Level: 8th Credit: N/A

This course emphasizes citizenship, United States government, rules and responsibilities of the government to its citizens; the national economy and impact on and of foreign economies. This course is designed to prepare students for advanced studies in local, national, and regional history and government. Students will also be exposed to the interpretation of maps, political satire, elements of the constitution and overall political issues.

Students are expected to become familiar with their rights and responsibilities as citizens of the United States of America, as residents, and as students.

Students will also learn about fair market value, supply and demand, depreciation, the stock market, regulation, deregulation, and world economies.

This course allows students to further strengthen their competencies in the areas of:

- Critical thinking
- Comparing primary sources
- Reading for content information
- Write with structure and purpose
- Recognize cause and effect relationships
- Understand diverse cultures and backgrounds
- Develop retention and recall, for Social Science vocabulary
- Evaluate and interpret charts, graphs, political cartoons, maps, and financial markets

SOL Test

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Physical Science SCED Code: 03159 Level: 8th Credit: N/A

In this course, students are introduced to areas of physical science including atomic structure, the organization and use of the periodic table, physical and chemical changes, forms of energy and energy transformations, heat and heat transfer, sound and light and the technical applications, principles and applications of work, force, and motion, magnetism, and principles of electricity, the nature and structure of matter and the characteristics of energy.

Students will be exposed to scientific concepts where scientific concepts and explanations are based on logical thinking; subject to rules of evidence; are open to rational critique; and are subject to refinement and change with the addition of new scientific evidence.

SOL Test

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Career Investigations SCED Code: 19258 Level: 6th-8th Credit: N/A

In this course, emphasis is placed on career competencies, exploration, and investigation. Students will be able to explore career options based on their interest, talents, and skills. Students will be afforded the opportunity to investigate different career pathways and determine potential requirements for a chosen profession.

Students will assess their roles in a given career, complete basic exploration of career clusters, review income and assets, select career pathways or occupation for further research and create an academic and career plan based on their interests.

Students will also explore the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in anticipation of career trends and future career pathways.

Students can also expect to learn workplace readiness and characteristics that would make them successful in their future career.

This course is required, but only needs to be taken once, and may be taken in any grade level at SMS.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Health & Physical SCED Code: 08112 Level: 8th Credit: N/A
Education 8

This course incorporates activities designed to develop lifetime physical fitness and conditioning through participation in selected team and individual activities. Safety issues relating to sports and recreation are included.

Students enrolled in this course will be exposed to instruction on anatomy and physiology, fitness planning, social development, and energy balance.

In addition, students will engage in multiple activities centered on cooperative games and sports, teams and individual activities, rhythmic activities, physical fitness testing, lifetime fitness, recreational activities, health and wellness, and socio-emotional health.

This course also covers health and wellness in the form of a healthy lifestyle with diet and nutrition, physical exercise, mental exercise, appropriate diet, stress and mental health, lifetime fitness, importance of sleep, heredity and illness, bullying, and the relationship of healthy body systems to overall wellness.

Family Life Education (FLE) is also included in this course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Eighth Grade Electives

Art I **SCED Code: 05154** **Level: 8th** **Credit: 1**

This course is designed for students that exhibit skill in drawing and painting who wish to improve their skills. Students in this class will learn techniques in drawing, painting, perspective human figure drawing, and shading. *Students are required to pay a nominal fee associated with participation in this course.*

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Advanced Band **SCED Code 05101** **Level: 8th** **Credit: N/A**

This course provides students with an opportunity to strengthen their musical skills in preparation for performance at the high school level. There is a continued emphasis on development of performance techniques, sight reading skills, and ensemble playing at a more challenging level. Students are responsible to provide their own instrument either secured through purchase or rental.

Students are expected to practice daily and participate in concerts, festivals, and rehearsals outside school hours. Students will reinforce musical sportsmanship through discipline, teamwork, collaboration, harmony and regular performances in the classroom, school, at school functions and events.

Prerequisite: Beginning Band, or Teacher Recommendation, or Equivalent Study and Experience

Location: SMS

Advanced Chorus **SCED Code 05110** **Level: 8th** **Credit: N/A**

This course is designed for students that exhibit skill in drawing and painting who wish to improve their skills. Students in this class will learn techniques in drawing, painting, perspective human figure drawing, and shading. Students are required to pay a nominal fee associated with participation in this course.

Prerequisite: Beginning Band, or Teacher Recommendation, or Equivalent Study and Experience

Location: SMS

Computer Solutions **SCED Code:10010** **Level: 8th** **Credit: N/A**

Students are introduced to computing devices and software as problem-solving tools. Emphasis is placed on using basic touch keyboarding skills to complete a variety of projects incorporating word processing, database, presentation, and spreadsheet software. Basic Internet safety, coding, and device maintenance are components of this course. Contextual instruction and student participation in co-curricular career and technical student organization (CTSO) activities will develop leadership, interpersonal, and career skills. High-quality work-based learning (HQWBL) will provide experiential learning opportunities related to students' career goals and/or interests, integrated with instruction, and performed in partnership with local businesses and organizations.

This is a semester-long course.

***Prerequisite:* N/A**

Location: SMS

Introduction to Plant Systems SCED Code: 18504 Level: 8th Credit: 1

Students develop competencies in each of the major areas of the Plant Systems career pathway, including applied botany, plant propagation, and plant care and selection. Instructional content also includes an introduction to the various aspects of the plant systems industry. Students learn agricultural mechanics applicable to plant systems. Contextual instruction and student participation in co-curricular career and technical student organization (CTSO) activities will develop leadership, interpersonal, and career skills. High-quality work-based learning (Hqwbl) will provide experiential learning opportunities related to students' career goals and/or interests, integrated with instruction, and performed in partnership with local businesses and organizations.

***Prerequisite:* N/A**

Location: SMS

Spanish I SCED Code: 24052 Level: 8th-12th Credit: 1

In this course students will learn about Spanish speaking cultures around the world and compare them with Spanish speaking cultures in the United States.

Students will develop the ability to communicate about themselves and their immediate environment in Spanish at the beginner-novice level producing basic language structures. This communication is evidenced in all four language skills: listening; speaking; reading; and writing.

Listening and reading facilitate the ability to communicate orally and in writing.

***Prerequisite:* N/A**

Location: SMS

STEM Challenge 8 SCED Code: 22250 Level: 8th Credit: N/A

This course exposes students to the benefits of a hands-on, creative instructional approach where each student will be encouraged to design, experiment, build, and invent as they deeply engage in science, engineering, and tinkering, be it with wood, art, or other creative products.

Students are afforded the opportunity to explore and enhance scientific thinking through analysis and discovery. Students will be given a real-world problem that they will attempt to solve in a systematic approach from the design phase through implementation and then presentation as the final product. Students will work collaboratively on teams and independently to address problems. Students will use both critical thinking and creative problem-solving.

***Prerequisite:* N/A**

Location: SMS

**Sustainability and
Renewable
Technologies**

SCED Code: 21053

Level: 8th

Credit: 1

Sustainability and Renewable Technologies explores issues that affect global citizens in the areas of economics, culture, and the environment. The course introduces students to the historic, economic, political, environmental, and cultural issues that impact the global community and its future. Students will address issues affecting the health of our environment and explore solutions offered by sustainable agriculture, energy efficient building design, and renewable energy sources.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS

Technological Systems

SCED Code: 21001

Level: 8th

Credit: N/A

Students will experience the problems and opportunities of our increasingly technological society. The class will provide hands-on learning to explore technologies and the systems of which they are composed. They also explore technology-oriented careers and project-based learning to explore technological systems. Contextual instruction and student participation in co-curricular career and technical student organization (CTSO) activities will develop leadership, interpersonal, and career skills. High-quality work-based learning (HQBWL) will provide experiential learning opportunities related to students' career goals and/or interests, integrated with instruction, and performed in partnership with local businesses and organizations.

This is a semester-long course.

Prerequisite: N/A

Location: SMS