



6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
Bible 6	Bible 7	Bible 8
Language Arts 6♦	Language Arts 7♦	Language Arts 8♦
Math♦	Math♦	Math♦
Science 6	Science 7	Physical Science
Social Studies 6	American History 7	Civics/Geography 8•
Revolve	Elective 1	Elective 1
Elective 1	Elective 2	Elective 2✓

♦ Honors courses are available in the areas of Language Arts and Math. In order to qualify for entrance in an Honors course, students are required to meet three of the following criteria:

1. A minimum 90 NPR(National Percentile Rank) score on a standardized achievement test (Iowa Assessments and Stanford) in the reading comprehension, reading total or math total
2. A minimum 115 SAS (Standard Age Score) on a standardized assessment of cognitive abilities test (CogAT and Otis Lennon) in the verbal or quantitative areas
3. Completed prerequisite courses with a minimum grade of 94%
4. A recommendation from a current Language Arts or Math teacher

If you would like your child to be considered for an honors course but they have not met three of the above requirements, please schedule a meeting with a Junior High administrator.

• A blended version of this course is offered, meeting once a week outside of the other 7 classes.

✓It is highly encouraged that 8th grade students use one of their elective choices to begin their Foreign Language study.

Math courses available to Junior High students include Math 6, Honors Math 6, Pre-Algebra, Honors Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry.

Junior High classes that count towards Senior High graduation credit include Algebra 1, Honors Algebra 1, Honors Geometry, Physical Science and Foreign Language courses (French 1A&B, French 1, Latin 1A&B, Latin 1, Mandarin Chinese 1A&B, Mandarin Chinese 1, Spanish 1A&B, Spanish 1).

Electives

Electives are offered to allow students to try something new or to further develop a skill or an art. Please see the following pages for a complete listing of the available electives.

- Revolve is a 9-week rotation of Physical Education, Visual Art, MakerSpace and Theory of Thinking. All 6th grade students will experience Revolve as one of their elective choices.
- All electives are available to take once per year except where noted on the following list



Semester-long Electives			
	6	7	8
Coding	✓	✓	✓
Creative Writing	✓	✓	✓
Dance Fitness - Girls [■]	✓	✓	✓
Drama 6 ^{■*}	✓		
Drama 7/8 ^{■*}		✓	✓
Exploring French	✓	✓	✓
Exploring Latin	✓	✓	✓
Exploring Mandarin Chinese	✓	✓	✓
Exploring Spanish	✓	✓	✓
Humanities: Classical Deities & the Death Star	✓	✓	✓
Humanities: Medusa Meets Michelangelo	✓	✓	✓
Intro to Photography		✓	✓
Intro to Video Production		✓	✓
MakerSpace 1* (Fall Only)		✓	✓
MakerSpace 2 ^{o*} (Spring Only)		✓	✓
Performance Training – Boys ^{■*}		✓	✓
Performance Training – Girls ^{■*}		✓	✓
Physical Education - Boys ^{■*}		✓	✓
Physical Education - Girls ^{■*}		✓	✓
Robotics	✓	✓	✓
Student Ministry [■]		✓	✓
Swim - Boys ^{■*}		✓	✓
Swim - Girls ^{■*}		✓	✓
Visual Art 1 (Fall Only)		✓	✓
Visual Art 2 ^o (Spring Only)		✓	✓
Year-long Electives			
Advanced Orchestra ^{o*}		✓	✓
Band 6 ^{o*}	✓		
Beginning Band*	✓	✓	✓
Choir 6	✓		
Choir 7/8		✓	✓
Concert Band ^o		✓	✓
Dance 1*	✓	✓	✓
Dance 2 ^{o*}		✓	✓
Dance 3 ^{o*}		✓	✓
French 1			✓
French 1A		✓	
Intermediate Orchestra ^{o*}	✓		
Latin 1			✓
Latin 1A		✓	
Mandarin Chinese 1			✓
Mandarin Chinese 1A		✓	
Spanish 1			✓
Spanish 1A		✓	

^oThese courses require previous experience, teacher recommendation and/or audition/interview.

[■]May be taken twice in one year.

*These courses may require additional supplies.

GAC Junior High
2016 – 2017 Elective Descriptions



Advanced Orchestra	Enriches orchestra skills for students with at least two years experience and teacher approval.
Band 6	Teaches band skills for students with at least one year experience.
Beginning Band	Teaches band skills for students with no previous band experience.
Choir 6	Teaches the basics of choral performance with opportunities to perform.
Choir 7/8	Further teaches the basics of choral performance with opportunities to perform.
Classical Deities & the Death Star	Designed to introduce the Classics of ancient Greece and Rome while connecting student knowledge with modern culture. Course topics include mythology of the Classical gods and goddesses, a cultural study of ancient Greece and Rome, and a unit of study focusing on the Hero's Journey with emphasis on mythology's heroes and modern heroes — especially those in the Star Wars series. Christian perspective is incorporated in each unit of study.
Coding	An introduction to learning the skill of writing step-by-step commands for the computer to follow in order to perform certain functions.
Concert Band	Teaches band skills for students with at least two years experience.
Creative Writing	Designed to challenge and engage students interested in literary creation, providing them with a substantial foundation for further exploration of their creative work.
Dance 1	This introductory course is offered to 6th graders as well as any student who is new to dance as a performing art. Areas of concentration will include dance history, vocabulary, anatomy, injury prevention, performance, and world dance forms. Students will study ballet, jazz, and modern dance technique.
Dance 2	This intermediate level course and is offered to 6th-8th grade students who have had some previous dance training. Students will study ballet, jazz, and modern dance technique. Areas of concentration will include dance history, anatomy, vocabulary, injury prevention, performance, and world dance forms.
Dance 3	This advanced level course and is designed for the dancer with one-two years in a junior high dance program and/or two or more years of recent studio training. Students will study ballet, jazz, and modern dance technique. Areas of concentration will include dance history, vocabulary, movement science, performance, and composition/ choreography. Placement for students new to the dance program will be determined by audition. Auditions will be held each spring.
Dance Fitness – Girls	Explores physical fitness through various aerobic and strengthening exercise formats including Zumba, Aerobic Dance, Line Dancing, Ballet Fit, Yoga, Jazz Dance and Pilates.
Drama 6	Introduction to the study of the dramatic arts with opportunities to participate in creative dramatics.
Drama 7/8	A further study of the dramatic arts with opportunities to participate in creative dramatics.
Exploring French	An introduction to the study of the French culture and language.
Exploring Latin	An introduction to the study of the Latin culture and language.
Exploring Mandarin Chinese	An introduction to the study of the Chinese culture and language.
Exploring Spanish	An introduction to the study of the Spanish culture and language.
French 1	A foundational study of the basic skills of French speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing. Senior High graduation credit.
French 1A	Part 1 of a 2-year sequence to gain high school foreign language credit. This 2-year sequence is equivalent to taking French 1 for a year.
Intermediate Orchestra	Enriches orchestral skills for students with at least one year of experience and teacher approval.
Introduction to Photography	An introduction to the basics of creating good images such as camera settings, lighting and framing.
Introduction to Video Production	An introduction to the basics of visual storytelling through video.

Latin 1	A foundational study of the basics skills of Latin grammar, reading, writing and experiences in Classical culture. Senior High graduation credit.
Latin 1A	Part 1 of a 2-year sequence to gain high school foreign language credit. This 2-year sequence is equivalent to taking Latin 1 for a year.
MakerSpace 1 & 2	Encourages students to create, invent and learn using technologies such as 3D printers, computer software, electronics and hardware supplies and tools.
Mandarin Chinese 1	A foundational study of the basic skills of Mandarin Chinese speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing. Senior High graduation credit.
Mandarin Chinese 1A	Part 1 of a 2-year sequence to gain high school foreign language credit. This 2-year sequence is equivalent to taking Mandarin Chinese 1 for a year.
Medusa Meets Michelangelo	Designed to combine the study of Classical mythology with the study of artwork. Topics of study include mythology's magical creatures and artwork from the Renaissance period to the modern era. Students look at art on a daily basis in an effort to experience the past, compare and contrast artistic perspectives, and practice analysis skills. Christian perspective is incorporated in each unit of study.
Performance Training – Boys	Promotes the growth of a male athlete's speed and agility.
Performance Training – Girls	Promotes the growth of a female athlete's speed and agility.
Physical Education – Boys	Emphasizes life-long fitness skills for boys though games and sports.
Robotics	Designed to stimulate creativity, problem-solving skills, and collaboration through the construction and programming of robots.
Spanish 1	A foundational study of the basics skills of Spanish speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing. Senior High graduation credit.
Spanish 1A	Part 1 of a 2-year sequence to gain high school foreign language credit. This 2-year sequence is equivalent to taking Spanish 1 for a year.
Student Ministry	Promotes student leadership through the planning, preparing and presenting of the Junior High weekly chapels. Application and interview required.
Swim - Girls	Focuses on water safety, swimming techniques like strokes, starts and turns, and fitness through games like water polo, water basketball and water aerobics.
Swim – Boys	Focuses on water safety, swimming techniques like strokes, starts and turns, and fitness through games like water polo, water basketball and water aerobics.
Theory of Thinking	Intended to help make students stronger and more productive through out their educational career. The goal is to instill a growth mindset in every child and make learning more effective. Students discover how everyone learns differently and how though consistent metacognition, they can personalize their best plan of action.
Visual Art 1 & 2	An introduction to or further study of the elements of art and principals of design.