



CORE COURSES

English Language Arts (ELA) is a daily language arts class designed to support students in building their reading, writing, listening, speaking, and research skills. English essential knowledge and skills are taught in reading/writing workshops as well as other related language arts activities and projects. Students build skills in reading through a variety of genres including media literacy and informational texts. **Pre-AP** is an advanced ELA course designed for the above-average language arts student. **Pre-AP** students may be required to complete a summer reading assignment.

Math 8 is a class covering the state-mandated essential knowledge and skills, focusing on math reasoning and thinking skills.

Algebra I (HS credit) is an advanced math course designed for the above-average math student. Due to accelerated curriculum, students must have successfully completed 7th grade Pre-AP math in order to take this course. **Students will take the Algebra I EOC instead of the 8th Math STAAR test.** (70 or above is required for HS credit)

American History/Government includes the exploration and founding of North America and the early beginnings of our country, and its government through the Civil War and Reconstruction periods until 1877. **Pre-AP** is an advanced history course designed for the above-average history student.

Science 8 is interdisciplinary in nature; much of the content focus is on earth, space, and the interdependence of systems. Hands-on activities in a lab setting are also part of the course. **Pre-AP** is an advanced science class designed for the above-average science student.

PRE-AP SUGGESTED CRITERIA

Overall average of an 88 or better

Above average performance on STAAR

Parent/Guardian signature of approval

Please note that classes are subject to change based on personnel and availability. **Any request for changes in course selections must be submitted by May 12th.**

ELECTIVE COURSES...HS CREDITED

Class average of 70 or above is required for HS credit

Art I is the study of the basics and fundamentals of visual art through the use of elements and principles of design, as well as other related vocabulary. Students will use creativity and critical thinking skills to generate design solutions when creating original art. Original artwork will be created using the following mediums of drawing, painting, printmaking, crafts, and sculpture. Student artwork will be incorporated into a digital portfolio and submitted into the end-of-year Art Show and Auction. Students will critique and make connections between visual art information and its relationship to historical, cultural, and core subject matter. In order to fully appreciate and understand this course, it is highly encouraged that the student first take Art in Seventh Grade; however, any 8th grader may register for the course.

Theatre I requires student participation in various group activities in order to learn theatre safety, improvisation, theatre terminology, and basic acting skills/techniques. As well as improving their communication and memorization skills, students will participate in some capacity in a production. In order to fully appreciate and understand this course, it is highly encouraged that the student first take Drama in Seventh Grade; however, any 8th grader may register for the course.

Spanish I is a basic introduction to language and culture. Students will learn to speak and understand basic phrases and read and write simple sentences. Basic grammar is studied with an emphasis on vocabulary acquisition. (Native speakers should not request this course. See counselors for more information.)

Student Leadership provides an opportunity to study, practice, and develop group and individual leadership and organizational skills. These skills include the structure of leadership, organization, and managerial skills, citizenship, goal setting, group processes, and communication.

College & Career Choices (1/2 HS credit—semester class) is designed to create a culture of high expectation and continuous improvement that provides middle school students with a foundation for success in high school, future studies, and careers. Students explore college and career planning with specific career clusters.

Principles of Communications (1/2 HS credit—semester class) develops the student's ability to focus on communication skills. The following areas of study are highlighted: vocal improvement, group interaction and problem solving, organization, listening skills, general speech delivery, oral interpretation, persuasive speaking, informative speaking, and impromptu speaking.

Principles of Agriculture is the introduction course for the Agriculture Department. All agricultural areas are covered including FFA, Parliamentary Procedure, Soil, Plant, Animal, Food and Environmental Science. There will also be a small introduction to Agricultural Mechanics.

Note

Students who require reading, writing, math, or language intervention will be enrolled in an intervention course/s in lieu of his/her elective choice/s.

Dyslexic students being served through the Wilson program will be enrolled in Dyslexia class in lieu of his/her elective choice.



Other ELECTIVE COURSES...Programs

Mustang Band is a performance-based instrumental ensemble open to second and third year players. Students must have completed Beginning Band in order to participate. Public performances are **required**. Students will also take part in some competitions, both as individuals and as an ensemble.

Jazz Band consists of a small ensemble whose emphasis will be the study of various jazz elements (i.e., swing, funk, etc). Students must have completed beginning band and **must also be concurrently enrolled** in Mustang Band in order to participate in this band. Director approval is required.

Women's Choir is for those who want to improve their singing abilities and who love to sing. Students will perform at UIL competition and other fun performances throughout the year. They will also learn how to sight-read music. All students will have opportunities to compete at Region/UIL events and to go on field trips. Students do **NOT** have to audition to be in Women's choir; however, **experienced singers can audition for Advanced Choir**. Auditions and selection for **Advanced Choir** will be held in April and May. If students plan to audition for **Advanced Choir**, select **Women's Choir** on the selection sheet. The choir directors will place students in Advanced Choir based on results of audition. (Public performance is required in Women's Choir and Advanced Choir.)

Men's Choir is for those who want to improve their singing abilities and who love to sing. Students will learn sight-reading basics and will participate in many fun performances throughout the year. All students will have opportunities to compete at Region and UIL events and to go on field trips. (Public performance is required)

Middle School Theatre is designed to strengthen student's development of self-confidence and sensory memory, increase emotional awareness through the use of movement, vocal expression, improvisation and dramatization. The nature of performance is explored through research and dramatic interpretation that strengthens basic acting techniques. In order to fully appreciate and understand this course, it is highly encouraged that students first experience 7th Grade Middle School Drama; however, any 8th grader may register for this course.

Middle School Art guides the student to develop visual literacy skills using critical thinking, imagination, and observation skills by learning about, understanding, and evaluate the elements of art, principles of design, and expressive qualities. The student expresses and communicates ideas creatively through original artworks using a variety of media with appropriate skills and develop solutions to visual problems. The student demonstrates an understanding of art history and culture by analyzing artistic styles, historical periods, and a variety of cultures. The student responds to and evaluates the artworks of self and others.

Please note: Students will be required to submit artworks for and participate in the MFMS Annual Art Show as well as visit an Art Gallery or Museum of the student's choice outside of the classroom. Student growth will be determined through the assessment of student created digital portfolios.

GT Explorations is designed for students who are identified as **gifted and talented** by a prescribed profile. Students will participate in a variety of instructional methods including discovery, problem solving, independent research and presentations.

Yearbook is a course that develops skills in one or more of the following areas: page design, advanced publishing techniques, copy writing, journalism, editing and photography while producing a creative, innovative yearbook. Participants gain useful, real world skills in time management, marketing, teamwork, and design principles. Students must apply for this class. Selection is based on leadership skills, responsibility, and strong work-ethic skills.

Multimedia Production builds upon and uses the skills and techniques learned in Multimedia to extend learning to deeper levels. Students will explore further into various multimedia careers while building a portfolio. Students will give back to the school by creating projects including posters, video announcements, and slides for Marble Falls Middle School. Prerequisite – passing grade in prior Multimedia class or audition with Mrs. Jett.

Athletics is for the serious-minded athlete who has a desire to participate in athletic competition with other schools.

Requirements include:

- Physical form must be on file before first practice.
 - Required to attend practices.
- (Please note the time below are approximate and are subject to change due to weather, facility use, and available daylight.)

End time for Girls: 5:30 p.m.

End time for Boys: 5:15 p.m.

- Parents must provide transportation to practices, and home from practice and events.
- Student-athletes must meet UIL standards of eligibility by maintaining a 70% average or above in all subjects.
- Student-athletes must maintain a clean discipline record in all classes and extracurricular activities.
- Student-athletes must comply with all MFISD drug testing policies.

Student-athletes are required to commit to playing **two sports** within the MFMS athletic program.

- Volleyball, Basketball, Track - main sports for girls
Cross country, tennis, golf, soccer - other sports
- Football, Basketball, Track - main sports for boys
Cross country, tennis, golf, soccer - other sports

(Students interested in cross country, tennis, golf, or soccer as a single sport are not required to register for Athletics, although participating in off-season workouts may help develop their overall strength and athleticism.)

The boys' or girls' MFMS Athletic Coordinator will grant entry into the athletic program taking into consideration the items listed above. Athletic Coordinators have discretion over admission to and dismissal from the athletic program. Please see District Website/Parents-Students/Student Code of Conduct-Extracurricular Handbook on school website:

English: <http://marblefallsisd.org/common/pages/Displayfile.aspx?itemId=5671943>
Spanish: <http://marblefallsisd.org/common/pages/Displayfile.aspx?itemId=5671947>

***Note:** All Extra-curricular participants fall under the Extra-Curricular Handbook regarding expectations, discipline, and removal.