

D91

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IDAHO FALLS SCHOOLS

2024-2025

Middle School Course Catalog

Idaho Falls School District 91

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Preparing for 7th Grade

D91 7 th Grade Requirements
English
Mathematics
Life Science
World Studies
Reading
Electives
Advisory

Students

1. Stay organized.

Use your planner to keep track of assignments, projects, and upcoming tests.

2. Ask for help.

If you are feeling overwhelmed, it might be helpful to talk to a trusted adult such as a teacher, counselor, or parent. They can assist you with any issues, no matter how big or small.

3. Make good use of class time.

Homework should be minimal if you make good use of your time in class.

4. Don't procrastinate.

If you start to fall behind on your assignments, let your teacher or parents know so they can help you figure out the best way to catch up and be successful.

5. Have fun!

Seventh grade is a great time to make new friends, join clubs, and try new things as you transition from elementary school.

Parents

1. Make PowerSchool your friend.

PowerSchool is a platform that provides you with access to your child's grades, attendance records, assignments, and much more. If you don't have a PowerSchool username and password, you can create an account on the district's website at www.ifschools.org. To set up an account, you'll need your child's student ID, which they use to check out books at the library, pay for lunch, and more.

2. A heavy homework load is not common for 7th grade students.

If students manage their classroom time effectively, they shouldn't have much homework. However, they are encouraged to read for 20-30 minutes every night.

3. Contact teachers, counselors, and administrators with concerns.

Middle schoolers learn to advocate for themselves, but parents may need to intervene. Teachers can be contacted via email or meetings can be scheduled.

Preparing for 8th Grade

D91 8 th Grade Requirements
English
Mathematics
Physical Science
American History
Health/P.E./Reading/Careers
Electives
Advisory

Students

1. Fine tune your study skills.

Improve study strategies from 7th grade to succeed in school and beyond. Review material on your own for upcoming tests and ask for help when needed. Good study habits ensure success in high school.

2. Create a plan for high school.

Plan and make efforts to maximize your opportunities in high school. Consider your future goals and take advanced classes or earn college credit. Develop a 4-year plan with your parents and counselor to achieve your goals.

3. Explore your interests.

This is a great time to explore and try new things. Joining a club, signing up for a new sport, meeting new people, and seeking ways to develop your leadership skills can be very beneficial.

4. Learn to advocate for yourself.

Let your teachers know when you are struggling and ask for help when needed. These skills are valuable in high school, college, and beyond.

Parents

1. Encourage your child to be a good student.

Ensure your child's success by asking about upcoming tests and projects and helping them make time to study daily.

2. Use PowerSchool to stay up to date on what your child is doing at school.

Make sure to update your school with your current contact information, including your cell phone number, to sign up for text message alerts.

3. Help your child plan for high school and beyond.

Make sure your child's 4-year plan includes the necessary classes for graduation. Explore opportunities for them to take advanced classes, earn college credits, or start exploring career options.

4. Being a teenager can be stressful.

It is crucial to ensure that your child gets enough rest and develops healthy sleeping habits. Additionally, monitor their social media activity and encourage them to take part in other activities.

7th Grade

Core Courses

Course Code	Course Name	Grade	Credit	Eagle Rock	Taylorview
LA120	7 English	7	3	x	x
LA130	7 English Honors	7	3	x	x
LA160	7 Reading	7	3	x	x
MA225	7 Math	7	3	x	x
MA325	8 Math	7	3	x	x
SC120	7 Life Science	7	3	x	x
SS120	7 World Studies	7	3	x	x
SS125	7 World Studies Honors	7	3	x	
PE220	Physical Education	7-8	1	x	

7 English LA120

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

In 7 English students focus on various types of writing, such as expository, persuasive, research, and technical writing. They also practice grammar, spelling, punctuation, and sentence structure to improve your writing application.

7 English Honors LA130

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

7 English Honors offers a challenging curriculum that covers the same standards as English 7. The course is more rigorous and moves at a faster pace with an emphasis on critical thinking skills. Students are expected to do extra homework and reading outside of class to meet the standards.

7 Reading LA160

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on fluency, word analysis, reading process, literature responses, and comprehension. The curriculum includes district-adopted literature and trade novels to enhance reading skills, while meeting state and district guidelines.

7 Math MA225

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

7 Math covers proportional relationships, rational numbers, linear equations, geometry, and statistical inferences. The focus is on real-world applications to prepare students for college and future careers.

8 Math MA325

Grade 7

Prerequisite: Two advanced ISAT scores, or passing score on Advanced Math Placement

In this course students use critical thinking to solve real-world problems, focusing on formulating and reasoning expressions and equations, using functions to describe relationships, and analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, congruence, and the Pythagorean Theorem.

7 Life Science SC120

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

Life Science is an introductory course to Biology where students learn about animal behavior, disease, body systems, genetics, and ecology through inquiry-based methods, cooperative learning, laboratory experiments, hands-on activities, and projects.

7 World Studies SS120

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

7 World Studies covers the geography, culture, politics, and economics of selected nations with a focus on people. It includes Prehistory, Ancient Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Ancient India, and Ancient China, as well as Modern Middle East, South Asia, and China. Notebooks, reports, and map assignments are required.

7 World Studies Honors SS125

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

7 World Studies Honors is a project-based class that focuses on Ancient World Civilizations and their impact on today's world. Students learn about geography, culture, politics, and economic structures of ancient civilizations through research activities and analysis of primary and secondary sources. The course helps students develop a deeper understanding of historical sources and their application to present day life.

Physical Education PE220

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Physical Education is a mandatory course that covers fitness, aerobics, individual and team sports, games, and sports for life.

8th Grade

Core Courses

Course Code	Course Name	Grade	Credit	Eagle Rock	Taylorview
LA220	8 English	8	3	x	x
LA230	8 English Honors	8	3	x	x
MA325	8 Math	8	3	x	x
MA425	Algebra	8	3	x	x
LA260	8 Reading	8	1	x	x
PE100	8 Health	8	1	x	x
PE220	8 Physical Education	7-8	1	x	x
D105	8 th Grade Career Exploration	8	1	x	x
SC320	8 Physical Science	8	3	x	x
SS220	8 American History	8	3	x	x
SS260	8 American History Honors	8	3	x	x

8 English LA220

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This English course offers advanced literary response skills and in-depth studies of literary selections, with a focus on critical reading, reflection, research, collaboration, and oral communication. Students study a variety of texts and write in various modes, including narrative, expository, persuasive, and literary analysis.

8 English Honors LA230

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

English Honors course has six challenging units that teach the same standards as the English 8 course. The curriculum moves at an accelerated pace with a more concentrated focus.

8 Math MA325

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

8 math students learn to solve real-world problems using critical thinking. They focus on three areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, (2) grasping the concept of function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships, and (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence.

Algebra MA425

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 8 Math

Algebra involves creating, reading, and solving equations and inequalities. Students also learn how to interpret data and apply concepts to solve real-world problems.

8 Reading LA260

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

Reading students learn fiction and non-fiction reading strategies, organizational skills, and critical thinking to analyze and summarize a variety of text types to support academic success in middle school.

8 Health PE100

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

8 Health is an in-depth study of the mental, social, and physical aspects of health. An emphasis is placed on the student's role in achieving health in these three areas.

Physical Education PE220

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Physical Education is a mandatory course that covers fitness, aerobics, individual and team sports, games, and sports for life.

8th Grade Career Exploration D105

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course covers sixteen career clusters, employability skills, personality, career options, personal network, and the use of CIS Junior. Students complete a final portfolio that includes their 8th grade plan, interest inventory results, and future goals. Technical skills required: word processing, presentation software, and file management.

8 Physical Science SC320

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course covers chemistry concepts and a brief exploration of the solar system. Students develop skills in math, measurement, scientific writing, laboratory work, and group collaboration.

8 American History SS220

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

8 American History students study American History from colonization to Civil War, including American Revolution, U.S. Constitution, western expansion, and sectional conflicts.

8 American History Honors SS260

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

8 Honors American History is a project-based class that covers American History curriculum, research skills, and research projects. It includes independent and group projects, critical thinking activities, and moves at an accelerated pace. Participation in National History Day project is required.

Electives

Course Code	Course Name	Grade	Credit	Eagle Rock	Taylorview
CM190	Film Appreciation	8	1	x	x
CM390	Intro to Graphic Design	8	1		x
CM410	Intro to Yearbook Publishing	7	1	x	x
CM420	Yearbook Publishing	8	3	x	x
CS115	Intro to Coding	8	1		x
CS121	Computer Creativity	8	1	x	
PD030t	Intro to Computer Skills	7	1	x	x
CM200	Intro to Drama/Theatre	7	1	x	x
FA070	Drama/Theatre Basics	8	1	x	x
FA071	Drama/Theatre Production	8	1	x	x
FA072	Musical Production	8	1	x	x
PD010t	Intro to Art	7	1	x	x
FA080	2-Dimensional Art	8	1		x
FA100	3-Dimensional Art	8	1		x
FA130	Beginning Art	8	1	x	
FA175	Intro to Digital Art and Design	7-8	1	x	
FA303 a-c	Beginning Choir – Soprano/Alto	7	2-3		x

Course Code	Course Name	Grade	Credit	Eagle Rock	Taylorview
FA304 a-c	Beginning Choir – Tenor/Bass	7	2-3		x
FA337 a-c	Beginning Mixed Choir	7	2-3		x
FA313	Intermediate Choir – Soprano/ Alto	7-8	2-3	x	x
FA314	Intermediate Choir Tenor/ Bass	7-8	2-3	x	x
FA338	Intermediate Mixed Choir	8	2-3		x
FA400a	Beginning Band	7-8	3	x	x
FA420	Intermediate Band	7-8	3	x	x
FA455	Beginning Orchestra	7	3	x	x
FA460	Intermediate Orchestra	7-8	3	x	x
FA480	Beginning I Percussion Ensemble	7	3		x
FA481	Intermediate I Percussion Ensemble	8	3		x
FA057	Beginning Guitar	7-8	1	x	x
FA058	Intermediate Guitar	8	1		x
FA490s	Piano	7-8	1	x	
PD050t	Intro to Foreign Language	7	1	x	x
FL580	Beginning Spanish	8	1	x	x
FL800	Spanish I	8	3	x	x
FL600	French I	8	3		x
LA270	Reading for Pleasure	7-8	1	x	x
LA270	Creative Writing	7-8	1	x	x

Course Code	Course Name	Grade	Credit	Eagle Rock	Taylorview
PD032t	Intro to Industrial Technology	7	1	x	x
ST050	Beginning Industrial Technology	8	1	x	x
PD070t	Intro to Physical Education	7	1	x	x
PE225	Physical Education	8	1	x	x
PD073	Lifetime Fitness	8	1		x
PD075	Intro Dance/Dance Applications	7-8	1	x	
PD080t	Intro to Young Living	7	1	x	x
PD086t	Intro to Food/Nutrition	7	1		x
PD087	Beginning Food/Nutrition	8	1		x
PD090	Beginning Young Living	8	1	x	x
PD340	Money Matters	8	1	x	x
PD421a-c	Hope Squad	7-8	1-3	x	x
PD046	Student Government	7-8	2-3	x	x

Film Appreciation CM190

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course covers film styles, special effects, design, genre, history, structure, evaluation, and appreciation. It connects storytelling, technology, acting, and communication through a performance-based art form.

Intro to Graphic Design CM390

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course teaches graphic design as a means of visual communication for delivering a message. Students learn to create text-based graphics, illustrations, and images using industry-standard software. Projects take students through the entire creative process to produce their final visual presentations.

Intro to Yearbook Publishing CM410

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

In this course students learn technology skills for printing, including planning, designing, and developing publications. They also learn basic photography and journalism skills, pagination, layout, and design concepts. The final project involves completing a Photography Assignment with captions, story, and complete package layout.

Yearbook Publishing CM420

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Application, instructor approval

In this course students learn print technology skills, design concepts, and industry-standard software to produce the school yearbook.

Intro to Coding CS115

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course teaches students the basics of coding languages like HTML5, CSS3, and Javascript. They also learn about other languages such as Python, C++, C#, Bootstrap, PHP, and MySQL. Several projects are included to test their knowledge.

Computer Creativity CS121

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

In this course students utilize a variety of Office and Web Tools to learn creative thinking and problem-solving skills. They set goals, track their progress, and explore different areas like Web Design/Coding, Game Design/Coding, App/Widget Creation, Computer Programming, or Movie and Video Production. All of this takes place in a business-like environment that emphasizes the importance of entrepreneurship, self-regulated learning, and 21st century skills.

Intro to Computer Skills PD030t

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

The course "Introduction to Computer Skills" focuses on formal keyboarding instruction, basic formatting of business and personal documents, speed and accuracy skill development, and advanced computer skills including Microsoft Applications, Document Processing, Graphic Design, and a touch of coding.

Intro to Drama/Theatre CM200

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

In this course students learn the basics of acting, play production, and public speaking, including improvisation, pantomime, voice, diction, and play analysis and writing.

Drama/Theatre Basics FA070

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course covers acting and play production basics, including improvisation, pantomime, voice, diction, and acting. Students have written and performance projects. Drama structure, varieties, and history may be included. Performing in front of an audience is required.

Drama/Theatre Production FA071

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Drama/Theatre Basics or instructor approval

This course offers advanced study in improvisation, pantomime, voice, acting, and directing. One class production and student performance are required. After-school rehearsals may be necessary. The final group performance is a directed scene or play for an audience. May take more than 1 trimester at ERMS only.

Musical Production FA072

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Drama/Theatre Basics or instructor approval

Musical Production is for students interested in musical theater. Acting students audition, rehearse and perform, while tech students build sets, props and run lights/sound. Rehearsals and evening performances are required for all students.

Intro to Art PD010t

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

Art students will learn and experiment with different art forms, techniques, elements, and principles of art and design. They will use various media to create both two-dimensional and three-dimensional projects.

2-Dimensional Art FA080

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course covers the basics of drawing and painting. Students work with various media such as graphite, colored pencil, marker, watercolor, pastel, cray-pas, and ink. The course also includes art appreciation and history.

3-Dimensional Art FA100

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

3-D Art teaches sculpture techniques using various media such as clay, plaster, wood, wire, papier-mache, and scraps. Emphasis is on form, texture, and tool proficiency. Art history and appreciation are also covered.

Beginning Art FA130

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

In Beginning Art students learn about the elements of art and principles of design through drawing and painting. Various media such as watercolor, pastel, acrylic, tempera, ink, and scratchboard is used. Art history and appreciation is also covered. May be repeated.

Intro to Digital Art and Design FA175

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Students learn art theory concepts such as elements of art, principles of design, composition, and color theory, along with the digital software tools used to create digital art for print. They also learn to edit and adjust illustrations, advertisements, posters, and logos.

Beginning Choir – Soprano/Alto FA303 a-c

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

Choir class teaches music and vocal techniques to untrained soprano/alto voices. Students learn two-part music and perform once per trimester. The class is available for 3 trimesters and 3 credits.

Beginning Choir – Tenor/Bass FA304 a-c

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

Beginning choir class is for the untrained tenor/bass voice. Basic music skills and vocal techniques are taught, with a special emphasis on the changing voice. Students learn unison or two-part music and participate in at least one performance per trimester. The class is available for 3 trimesters and 3 credits.

Beginning Mixed Choir FA337 a-c

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

Mixed choir is a course that focuses on music fundamentals and vocal singing. Proper vocal techniques are learned through singing and performing. Students are introduced to singing parts and musical interpretation through a variety of music. At least one performance per trimester is required. The class is available for 3 trimesters and 3 credits.

Intermediate Choir – Soprano/Alto FA313

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Intermediate Choir builds on the skills learned in Beginning Choir. Students learn 2–3-part music and perform at least once per trimester. The class is available for 3 trimesters and 3 credits.

Intermediate Choir – Tenor/Bass FA314

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Intermediate Choir builds on the skills learned in Beginning Choir. Students learn two- or three-part music and perform at least once per trimester. Students can take this class for 3 trimesters and 3 credits.

Intermediate Mixed Choir FA338

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course emphasizes music fundamentals and vocal singing. Proper vocal techniques are learned through singing and performing. Students learn to sing parts and interpret music through a variety of genres. They perform at least once per trimester. The class is available for 3 trimesters and 3 credits.

Beginning Band FA400a

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Full-year course teaching basic elements of playing a band instrument. No prior experience required, but performances are mandatory. Students must bring their own instruments.

Intermediate Band FA420

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Prior instrumental experience or instructor approval

Intermediate band requires previous musical experience and students should bring their own instrument, accessories, and method books. Performances and rehearsals are mandatory.

Beginning Orchestra FA455

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Beginning orchestra teaches violin, viola, cello, or bass to those without prior experience. Students learn music reading, technique, and ensemble skills. Performances are mandatory.

Intermediate Orchestra FA460

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: Beginning Orchestra or prior instrumental experience

Intermediate Orchestra is for students with previous musical experience. The class focuses on popular and classical string music, ensemble playing, and performance skills, as well as reinforcing music fundamentals and sight-reading. Performances are required.

Beginning I Percussion Ensemble FA480

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

Percussion ensemble class teaches all instruments and ends with a performance. Students bring their own kit.

Intermediate I Percussion Ensemble FA481

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

Intermediate percussion ensemble is for experienced students to learn about and play all percussion instruments. Students must bring their own percussion kit and will perform as a full ensemble.

Beginning Guitar FA057

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

In this course students learn note reading, chords, basic theory, and history. Each student must have their own acoustic guitar.

Intermediate Guitar FA058

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Beginning Guitar

The intermediate Guitar course builds on beginning guitar topics. Students work on special projects to develop musicianship. Each student must have their own acoustic guitar.

Piano FA490s

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Piano Skills I is for beginners. Learn piano basics and music reading using an electronic keyboard. Keyboards provided in class. May take more than 1 Trimester.

Intro to Foreign Language PD050t

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

Foreign Languages course introduces students to various languages and cultures like Russian, German, French, and Spanish. It's a general survey course and not a requirement for later language classes. It helps students make an informed decision when choosing a foreign language to learn.

Beginning Spanish FL580

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on oral communication, including simple conversations, responding to teacher commands, and understanding stories with key vocabulary. It provides a strong foundation for Spanish I in 9th grade.

Spanish I FL800

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

Spanish I teaches the four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students learn basic spoken Spanish and grammar using everyday vocabulary. Culture is also included.

French I FL600

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

French I teaches listening, speaking, reading, and writing in French through basic vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure using present tense verbs. It also explores French culture.

Reading for Pleasure LA270

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Reading for Pleasure helps students develop reading skills by exploring new genres and investigating novels and authors through projects.

Creative Writing LA270

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on plot, theme, characterization, and narrative writing. It helps students practice their creative skills while reinforcing these objectives.

Intro to Industrial Technology PD032t

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

In this course students learn problem-solving, technical drawing, measuring, safety in shop environments, and use of hand tools and machines for woodworking. They apply these skills to design, evaluate and fabricate independent projects.

Beginning Industrial Technology ST050

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course teaches foundational principles in CTE fields such as industrial problem-solving techniques, mechanical drawing, electrical wiring, industrial psychology, CNC machine programming, industrial safety, and woodworking. It can be taken multiple times.

Intro to Physical Education PD070t

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on the fundamentals of fitness and conditioning. Activities include aerobics, individual sports, team sports, games, and sports for life.

Physical Education PE225

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: None

P.E. is a co-ed course that focuses on fitness and conditioning. It includes activities like aerobics, individual and team sports, games, and sports for life. Can be repeated.

Lifetime Fitness PD073

Grade 8

Prerequisite: Must have taken one trimester of P.E. previously

This course Course is for eighth graders who want to focus on exercise form and fitness knowledge concepts. The class includes an activity and nutrition log to encourage healthy lifestyle choices.

Intro Dance/Dance Applications PD075

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course covers a variety of dance styles and techniques for both non-dancers and those with experience. The objective is to introduce students to the benefits of dance and its history, and to build their creativity and confidence.

Intro to Young Living PD080t

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

This course includes topics such as foods and nutrition, clothing, child development, housing design, consumer decisions, personal finance, and interpersonal relationships.

Intro to Food/Nutrition PD086t

Grade 7

Prerequisite: None

In this course students learn about nutrition, wellness, and healthy snack preparation. They research food groups and present them to the class. Communication skills are also taught.

Beginning Food/Nutrition PD087

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course focuses on teaching students kitchen skills and nutrition. Students will learn to read and prepare recipes, explore nutrition, and kitchen equipment. They will also learn personal finance and decision making with FCCLA activities integrated.

Beginning Young Living PD090

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

The Young Living course covers a range of subjects to help students become wise consumers and productive adults. It includes practical exercises on topics such as goal setting, time management, relationships, and self-development. The course also covers specific areas such as insurance, taxation, and consumer protection. It can be taken multiple times.

Money Matters PD340

Grade 8

Prerequisite: None

This course teaches students money management skills that will help them in high school and beyond. It covers income, money management, spending, credit, saving, investing, insurance, and taxes. Students will learn to design budgets and make informed financial decisions leading to financial independence.

Hope Squad PD421a-c

Grade 7-8

Prerequisite: Nomination process

This course teaches valuable communication skills, including building self-esteem and overcoming obstacles, conflict management, goal setting, public speaking, and improving relationships. The goal is to improve students' communication skills for stronger relationships.

Prerequisite: School election and/or instructor approval

Student Government teaches leadership skills and allows students to positively impact their education and school culture.