

# Foundation Academy



## Middle School Course Catalog 2022 - 2023

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# Middle School Academic Levels

**All 7th and 8th grade students have seven courses on their schedule at the Tilden campus. Foundation Academy's 7th and 8th Grade academics are available in Grade Level or Honors.**

## **Middle School Grade Level**

These courses follow a core curriculum (Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies) that will prepare middle school students for Foundation Academy's college preparatory high school courses.

## **Middle School Honors**

Honors courses offer a core curriculum that provides greater depth of subject matter and may include assignments that require more independent work effort. Students must obtain a teacher recommendation to enroll in these classes and meet standardized testing benchmarks. Honors level courses prepare middle school students for Honors, AP, and Dual Enrollment courses in high school.

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## Middle School Course Catalog

***\*IMPORTANT: All Honors options require Teacher Recommendations based on coursework and standardized test benchmarks.***

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## Language Arts

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### **English 7: Grade Level and Honors**

Students' experiences will include (but are NOT limited to) writing, reading, speaking, listening, storytelling, researching, and performing. Students will be exposed to a variety of literary genres and will have opportunities to examine, analyze, and enjoy these works. Students will also hone and enrich their study, vocabulary, and grammar skills. Vocabulary, spelling, and media/library research skills will also be emphasized.

### **English 8: Grade Level and Honors**

Students' experiences will include (but are NOT limited to) writing, reading, speaking, listening, storytelling, researching, and performing. Students will be exposed to a variety of literary genres and will have opportunities to examine, analyze, and enjoy these works. Students will also hone and enrich their study, vocabulary, and grammar skills. Vocabulary, spelling, and media/library research skills will also be emphasized.

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# Mathematics

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## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Options:

### **Math 7: Grade Level**

A prerequisite to Pre-Algebra, this course integrates arithmetic skills and competencies using fractions, decimals, and percents in real world problem settings. Problem solving strategies involving the concepts of algebraic reasoning, expressions, linear equations, geometry, probability, and statistics are emphasized.

### **Pre-Algebra Honors**

In Pre-Algebra Honors, instructional time will focus on making sense of problems and persevering to solve them. Students will use abstract and quantitative reasoning to construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Options:

### **Pre-Algebra: Grade Level or Honors**

In Pre-Algebra, instructional time will focus on making sense of problems and persevering to solve them. Students will use abstract and quantitative reasoning to construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

### **Algebra I Honors**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra

Algebra I reviews Pre-Algebra skills and introduces the following algebraic topics: operations with integers, functions and graphing, radicals and rational expressions, quadratic equations and functions, exponents, polynomials, and linear equations. This is a high school level class where students will receive high school credit. The student's grade will impact their high school GPA and will show on the student's high school transcript.

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# Science

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## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Life Science: Grade Level and Honors**

The Life Science course provides students with a general understanding of the concepts of life science. Students investigate the structure, function, and processes of living things. Students will also learn to communicate scientific information and processes, and understand how developments in science and technology affect society and the environment.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science: Grade Level and Honors**

The Physical Science course provides students with a general understanding of the concepts of physical science. Students study the principles of matter and energy, mechanics, and motion. Students learn to communicate scientific information and processes, and understand how developments in science and technology affect society and the environment.

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# Social Studies

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## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade History**

This United States history course begins with the discovery of the New World and the development of the first thirteen colonies. This course will survey the history of the United States up to the Civil War.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade History: Grade Level and Honors**

This United States History course explores the history of our country from Reconstruction to the present. This survey course is designed to build a solid foundation in United States History for future reference.

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# Foreign Language

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## **Introduction to American Sign Language**

This is an introductory course to American Sign Language. Students will learn the basics of signing the alphabet, numbers, Bible verses, and pledges. This is a one-semester elective course designed to introduce students to American Sign Language.

## **American Sign Language I**

1 credit

*\*Available for 8<sup>th</sup> grade only.*

Students will learn how to sign the alphabet, sign numbers, facial expressions, basic ASL structure, basic deaf culture, basic storytelling, basic receptive skills, and basic communication skills. Students may potentially attend silent events for exposure to the Deaf culture. This is a high school level class where students will receive high school credit and their grade will impact their high school GPA.

## **Introduction to Spanish**

This is an introductory course to Spanish I. Students will gain a foundational understanding of basic Spanish vocabulary. This is a one semester elective course designed to introduce students to the Spanish language.

## **Spanish I**

1 credit

*\*Available for 8<sup>th</sup> grade only.*

Spanish I introduces the student to the Spanish language and its culture. Spanish vocabulary and grammar are included. An understanding, both written and spoken, of basic conversational Spanish is emphasized. This is a high school level class where students will receive high school credit and their grade will impact their high school GPA.



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# Christian Studies

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## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible**

Biblical character development is the focus for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Bible classes. Students will walk through a broad chronological overview of the Old Testament, and will spend two quarters focusing on the life of Joseph. They will learn from Joseph's life, difficulties he faced, and how he focused on God in every season. As they see the big picture of the Old Testament coming together, they will see how everything points to redemption through Jesus Christ.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Bible class focuses on an overview of the life of Christ. Students will take a chronological journey through the four Gospel stories, stopping to learn from the life of Jesus: His life, ministry, miracles, and the people He encountered. They will see how Jesus is the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy, and why the story of Jesus changes our lives today.

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# Electives: Physical Education

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## **Physical Education**

Physical Education is important to keep the body functioning at top efficiency. This course is intended to instill in each student an enjoyment of physical activity and the joy that comes from play, teamwork, sportsmanship, perseverance, cooperation, effort, and achievement. The focus is on the training and conditioning of the body for the maximum goal of fitness and skill to educate each student in the proper use of the body throughout life. Physical Education will include a basic knowledge of a variety of team sports in both a competitive and recreational environment. All 7th grade students are required to take a full year of PE. 8th Grade students can opt for PE or Personal Fitness.

## **Personal Fitness**

.5 credit

This PE course is for 8th grade only. Personal Fitness is designed to educate and empower the student to make healthy choices for a winning lifestyle. The class will focus on total health of body, mind, and spirit. Personal fitness will train and condition the body for the maximum goal of fitness and health, while more in depth classroom applied studies of text will inform and educate the student on personal health and body awareness. This is a high school level class where students will receive high school credit and meet the Personal Fitness high school graduation requirement.

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# Electives: General

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## **Art**

Art is a fundamentals course. It is designed to enhance students' understanding of the elements of art and principles of design while exploring a wide range of materials applicable to drawing, painting, ceramics, design, crafts, and mixed media.

## **Advanced Art**

Advanced Art is a full-year course designed to take experienced artists to a deeper level of drawing, painting, ceramics, design, crafts, and mixed media.

## **Band: Advanced**

This course continues students' instrumental music education from beginning band. Students in Advanced Band get to participate in the Marching Band which performs at parades, pep rallies, other school events, and football games. This course also allows students to develop their skills in music through the Concert Band side allowing students to perform more challenging pieces in a concert setting.

## **Band: Beginning**

Beginning Band is an introductory band course for students with little or no prior band experience. This course is designed for those students who are interested in learning to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument. Students will be given the opportunity to try different instruments before they choose which instrument to focus on.

## **Choir**

Middle School Choir is designed to teach and improve student's vocal and performance skills. Application of those skills will be challenged daily in both ensemble and individual vocal performance. This will be accomplished by teaching vocal technique, mechanics, and anatomy of the voice. We will have several performances throughout the school year.

## **Digital Art**

This course is an introduction to the creation, manipulation and critical interpretation of graphic and photographic artwork. Includes input and output of digital work as it applies to artists.

## **Drama**

This class offers a general overview of the world of theatre, focusing upon your personal development as an actor and as a theatre enthusiast. You will be exposed to a wide range of dramatic literature and will develop fundamental acting skills. You will be given opportunities to stretch your imagination, focus your creative energies, and work alone and in groups to bring characters to life.

## **Drawing**

An introductory course that provides the student with experiences in working with a variety of subject matter and media. Various methods will be explored, and a variety of mixed media techniques will be introduced.

**Life Skills**

Life Skills is a course that will assist middle school students in managing emotions, developing a work-ethic, and defining and achieving personal goals.

**Multimedia Production**

In Multimedia Production, students will have the opportunity to create high-quality mini commercials and/or promotional videos for the various departments here at FA. You will be taught while receiving hands-on experience to execute the three stages of creating video production: pre-production, production, and post-production.

**Reading for Enjoyment**

Reading for Enjoyment is a course designed to help students enjoy reading. Students will read various books and articles, mostly of the students choosing.

**Robotics: Non-Competition**

Students will learn about and get hands-on experience with all elements of Robotics. This will include designing, engineering, building and programming their own robots. This is a one-semester course that will not participate in Robotics competitions.

**Robotics: Competition**

Students will learn about and get hands-on experience with all elements of Robotics. This will include designing, engineering, building and programming their own robots. The ultimate goal of the class will be to team up as a class and participate in the FIRST Tech Challenge, a national competition between teams from schools across the country to complete a specified challenge within a given timeframe. This course is a two semester commitment.

**Speech**

Speech is a one semester course emphasizing an introduction to public speaking, speech organization, research, critical thinking, and listening. In Speech, students will learn how to speak in front of an audience by practicing that skill many times in class. They will present different types of speeches, such as Introductory Speech, Informative Speech, Persuasive Speech, Impromptu, Demonstration Speech, and Special Occasion Speech. Students will hone not only their public speaking skills but also their listening comprehension skills.

**Steel Drums: Beginner**

This course is for students who have never played instruments before. No musical experience is required. The students will learn the basics of music and how to play songs from different genres.

**Steel Drums: Intermediate**

This course is for Steel Drum players who have at least one year of experience on Steel Drums. Students will continue to expand their knowledge of the instruments, as well as grow in their skills and repertoire previously learned.

***Foundation Academy partners with families and the church to build a firm foundation for life through Christ-centered education.***