

ROCKY POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL

ELECTIVE COURSE GUIDE

GRADE 7

ROBOTICS I

Grade level: 7

Prerequisite: None

Robotics I (Semester): Has the robot uprising already begun? Be on the frontline of defense by learning about modern robotics and how we control the robot revolution. By working in a virtual robotic world, you will navigate programmable virtual environments allowing you to learn big ideas in robotics, coding, computational thinking, and mathematics. The skills learned in this class will be used in future robotics studies with physical robots.

INTRODUCTION TO CODING

NEW!

Grade level: 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Introduction to Coding (Semester): We love to play video games, but have you ever wondered how those games were made? Introduction to coding is an entry-level computer science course in which students will learn JavaScript programming. Students learn JavaScript commands, functions, and control structures by solving puzzles and writing creative programs. The coding foundation learned in this course will be used in a subsequent game design course.

LIVING TO COOK (FACS)

Grade level: 7

Prerequisite: None

Living to Cook (Semester): Are you excited to learn a skill you will use for the rest of your life? In Living to Cook you will learn about kitchen tools, food prep techniques and cooking meals together. The class will show you how to be safe in the kitchen, use sanitary methods, and how to prepare meals for yourself and your family. You will learn a number of breakfasts, lunch, dinner, side dishes, and dessert recipes.

ACTING & THEATER I

Grade level: 7

Prerequisite: None

Acting/theater (Semester): PERFORMING ARTS I offers students experience in various phases of drama including oral interpretation, acting and play production. Students will study the basic techniques needed to create a character, physical acting, improvisation, script analysis and stage work. In addition, students will work individually and in groups selecting, rehearsing, and performing scenes from plays.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LITERACY

Grade level: 7

Prerequisite: None – This course takes the place of a student's music elective for the 7th grade.

Information Technology Literacy (Alternating Day): "Information Technology Literacy is a dynamic course designed to empower 7th and 8th-grade students with essential skills and knowledge in the rapidly evolving field of Information Technology (IT). This course is carefully designed to ensure that students not only gain a solid foundation in IT concepts but also develop the critical thinking and problem-solving skills necessary for success in the digital age. Emphasis will be placed on hands-on application and problem-solving, allowing students to demonstrate their understanding of IT concepts in real-world scenarios."

WORLD LANGUAGES 7

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE 7 **

Grade level: 7

Prerequisite: None

This introductory course covers the first half of the high school's American Sign Language I course curriculum. The primary goal of ASL teaching is the achievement of functional communication in the context of the Deaf culture. The goals related to ASL instruction include development of receptive, expressive, and interactive skills as a foundation for effective communication in ASL. Deaf culture will be explored and students will interact using ASL. Students will move on to American Sign Language I in 8th grade to complete the second half of the level I curriculum.

French 7 **

Grade level: 7

Prerequisite: None

Level 1 is the first half of the introductory-level course that focuses on the acquisition of beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in the world language. Grade 7 & 8 world languages, combined with the Checkpoint A exam serve to satisfy the one year language requirement for a Regents Diploma.

Spanish 7

Grade level: 7

Prerequisite: None

Level 1 is the first half of the introductory-level course that focuses on the acquisition of beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in the world language. Grade 7 & 8 world languages, combined with the Checkpoint A exam serve to satisfy the one year language requirement for a Regents Diploma.

** Please note: selected languages may not have Honors/Advanced Placement (accelerated) or upper level 4 & 5 options in grades 9-12.

ROBOTICS II

NEW!

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: Completion of Robotics I or departmental recommendation

Robotics II (Semester): This course focuses on coding and computational thinking. Students will use the LEGO SPIKE Prime curriculum to engage in a structured sequence of programming activities in real-world project-based contexts. The projects are designed to get students thinking about the patterns and structure of not just robotics, but also programming and problem-solving more generally. This curriculum includes videos, animations, and step-by-step lessons designed to help learners foster Computational Thinking using the SPIKE Prime hardware and SPIKE programming app.

INTRODUCTION TO CODING

NEW!

Grade level: 7 & 8

Prerequisite: None

Introduction to Coding (Semester): We love to play video games, but have you ever wondered how those games were made? Introduction to coding is an entry-level computer science course in which students will learn JavaScript programming. Students learn JavaScript commands, functions, and control structures by solving puzzles and writing creative programs. The coding foundation learned in this course will be used in a subsequent game design course.

GAME AND APP DESIGN

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: Completion of Introduction to Coding or departmental recommendation

Game and App Design (Semester): In this course students will use and build on the coding skills they developed in Introduction to Coding to use the p5play JavaScript library in order to design, develop, and publish games. The course will also introduce students to the metaverse world of Roblox. Students will learn about the platform, explore the Roblox Studio game engine, build an obstacle course ("obby"), add code scripts to the obby, and customize their own game. Throughout the course, students learn about major programming topics like variables, functions, conditionals, and mouse/keyboard events while building fun and interactive games that they can play and share with others.

EXPLORING THE WORLD OF CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGIES (TECHNOLOGY)

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: None

Exploring the world of Construction Technologies (Semester): Home repairs can be expensive, but there is a way to help save some money. In this course you will learn practical applications of concepts learned in Math, Science, English and Social Studies. By using tools and machines to create various projects you will learn the basics of such topics as, how the subsystems in a typical home function and how to do basic homeowner repairs.

ACTING & THEATER II

NEW!

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: None

Acting/theater (Semester): PERFORMING ARTS II offers students experience in various phases of drama including oral interpretation, acting and play production. Students will study the basic techniques needed to create a character, physical acting, improvisation, script analysis and stage work. In addition, students will work individually and in groups selecting, rehearsing, and performing scenes from plays.

Movies, T.V., and Media

NEW!

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: None

Movies, T.V., and Media (Semester): Movies, T.V., and Media will introduce students to the art and potential career of writing in the commercial industry. Students will explore current works that have been made into productions in the film and television along with the creative process. Students will also engage in individual creating writing for movies, television and commercials

WORLD LANGUAGES 8

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE IR **

NEW!

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: Previously enrolled in American Sign Language 7

This introductory course covers the second half of the American Sign Language I course curriculum. The primary goal of ASL teaching is the achievement of functional communication in the context of the Deaf culture. The goals related to ASL instruction include development of receptive, expressive, and interactive skills as a foundation for effective communication in ASL. Deaf culture will be explored and students will interact using ASL. This course will culminate with a NYS Checkpoint "A" Exam. Students must be successful on both this exam, and the course work to attain 1 credit of World Language on their transcript.

French IR **

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: Previously enrolled in French 7

Level 1 is the second half of the introductory-level course that focuses on the acquisition of beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in the world language. Grade 7 & 8 world languages, combined with the Checkpoint A exam serve to satisfy the one year language requirement for a Regents Diploma.

Spanish IR

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite: Previously enrolled in Spanish 7

Level 1 is the second half of the introductory-level course that focuses on the acquisition of beginning listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in the world language. Grade 7 & 8 world languages, combined with the Checkpoint A exam serve to satisfy the one year language requirement for a Regents Diploma.

** Please note: selected languages may not have Honors/Advanced Placement (accelerated) or upper level 4 & 5 options in grades 9-12.

Music 6-8

Band

Grade level: 6-8

Prerequisite: Previously enrolled in Band or a Beginning Band course

The primary goal of the Middle School Concert Band is open to instrumentalists in grades six, seven and eight who want to further their study of instrumental music. Middle School Band meets every other day so independent practice is important to help students improve and develop the necessary musical skills. Band class includes a weekly rotating lesson period and the students present three to four public performances each year. Performances are essential to the band's musical growth and are required. This course develops additional skills necessary for students to perform in the High School Band.

Beginning Band

Grade level: 6 and 7

Prerequisite: None

This class is designed primarily for students who are new to a particular band instrument. No prior musical experience is necessary. The main instruments offered are: Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, and Percussion. If you are interested in a band instrument not listed here, please speak with a band teacher. Students will receive guidance from a band teacher in September as to what instrument will be best for them. Students will be required to supply their own instrument and lesson book. Rental and purchase options will be discussed in class. The number of Percussionists will be limited and decided during the first month of class. The goal is for the students to be ready to join the 6th Grade Concert Band in May.

Chorus

Grade level: 6-8

Prerequisite: none

Middle School Concert Chorus is open to singers in grades six, seven and eight who want to further their study of choral music. Middle School Chorus meets every other day so independent practice is important to help students improve and develop the necessary musical skills. Chorus class includes a weekly rotating lesson period and the students present three to four public performances each year. Performances are essential to the chorus' musical growth and are required. This course develops additional skills necessary for students to perform in the High School Chorus.

Orchestra

Grade level: 6-8

Prerequisite: Previously enrolled in orchestra or a Beginning Orchestra course

Middle School Concert Orchestra is open to instrumentalists in grades six, seven and eight who want to further their study of orchestral music. Middle School Orchestra meets every other day so independent practice is important to help students improve and develop the necessary musical skills. Orchestra class includes a weekly rotating lesson period and the students present three to four public performances each year. Performances are essential to the orchestra's musical growth and are required. This course develops additional skills necessary for students to perform in the High School Orchestra.

Beginning Orchestra

Grade level: 6 and 7

Prerequisite: None

The primary goal of the Middle School Beginning Orchestra is open to instrumentalists in grades six and seven who want to begin their study of orchestra music. The Middle School Beginning Orchestra meets every other day so independent practice is important to help students improve and develop the necessary musical skills. The Beginning Orchestra class includes a weekly rotating lesson period and the students present two to three public performances each year. Performances are essential to the Orchestra's musical growth and are required. This course develops the skills necessary for students to move on to the grade level Middle School Orchestra course the next school year.

General Music

Grade level: 6 and 8

Prerequisite: None

Middle School General Music is open to all sixth and eighth grade students and meets on an alternate day schedule. This class enables students to listen and respond to musical compositions, and to incorporate their musical experiences with other activities and subjects. The class involves understanding music as creative expression and communication, and refining the ability to discern and critique.