



GREENVILLE MIDDLE ACADEMY

TRADITIONAL AND
GLOBAL STUDIES



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Planning Your Education

Your school provides this course curriculum guide as a means of assisting students and parents in understanding and planning their course of study. Students are encouraged to carefully select related arts courses during the registration process. Your school's guidance counselors and teachers stand ready to assist them. Parents are invited and encouraged to actively participate by assisting their student.

Related arts classes are scheduled based upon student requests. However, due to schedule conflicts and changes in course offerings, the staff cannot guarantee that students will be scheduled for all courses they request. In addition, be aware that the school builds a master schedule and employs teachers based on students' requests; therefore, schedule changes will only be considered on a very limited basis.

Online Registration

Online Registration was implemented in 2004. It allows parents and students to request related arts courses for the next school year from home via the Internet. Families who do not have access to the Internet will be given opportunities to use school computers to register online. Parents and students should understand that requesting a related arts course through online registration does not guarantee that the student is placed in the course the next school year. Final placement in a course is dependent upon enrollment, scheduling feasibility, and teacher allocation. Schools will post the courses that they will be offering the next school year in a course curriculum guide which will be located on the school's website. Parents without Internet access at home will receive a printed copy of the course curriculum guide by request. The window for students to select related arts courses online is posted by the school on the school's website and in parent newsletters. Schools will provide instructions on accessing the online registration tool.

Promotion Criteria for Grades Six through Eight (GCS IHE / Rule 9/11/2006)

Criterion 1: Students in grades six through eight are expected to learn, at a minimum, curriculum standards in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies, and meet attendance requirements.

Criterion 2: The student earned a minimum average grade of 70% in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies (if language arts is taught as a separate subject in grades 6-8, the English language arts grade will be determined by the mean of the yearly average of reading and language arts.)

End of Year Promotion Status

The following are summary designation and descriptors for end-of-year promotion status of students in grades six-eight.

Promoted – The student met all promotion criteria. The one exception is that students who fail a high school credit bearing course in middle school are promoted but must retake the course. Enrollment in these credit bearing courses will be determined by the district criteria as stated in the Master Catalog of Middle School Courses which is located in the Important Items section of the Infoweb.

Promoted - Summer School Required - The student failed to meet the criteria for one or two core academic areas, but successful performance in summer school for any deficient area was met.

Greenville Middle Academy of Traditional and Global Studies

An Environment For Learning

What does *traditional and global studies* really mean?

1. Our students understand language. Students study Latin and Greek stems in all literature classes. All students have opportunities to study Spanish and French. Understanding the origin of our language results in more proficiency in understanding and expanding vocabulary.

2. Our students use language for communication and expression. Students write, often and well. They prewrite, draft, edit, proofread and publish. Writing projects become experiential learning opportunities in which students incorporate art projects, presentations and experiments. Our publishing lab offers technological support.

3. Our students use language to access and to process. Students read and respond to classic, international, and contemporary literature. They analyze fiction and nonfiction texts as they relate information across disciplines.

4. Our students are encouraged to think and organize independently. Students who attend Greenville Middle Academy are strong and independent thinkers. Our instructors teach students analytical and organizational skills which result in better focused and more fully developed thought.

5. Our students are virtually exploring the world. Greenville Middle's "Global Studies" related arts course for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students exposes them to world histories, customs, foods, ceremonies, and virtual travels. Our partnership with Furman University's Asian Studies program gives Greenville Middle students unique perspectives and learning opportunities.

Information/Instructions for Student Registration Course Selections

Greenville Middle's academic teachers carefully consider academic placements for the upcoming school year. Recommendations are made for the 2012 - 2013 school year for Language Arts, Literature, and Mathematics during the week of February 6th. Social Studies and Science courses are not leveled therefore they are being assigned for each student.

Students may select 3 Related Arts courses. All students are required to take Physical Education which will make the 4th Related Arts class. This course is being assigned for each student. Students choosing to take Band or Strings should only select one additional elective as Band and Strings are year long courses and take the place of 2 courses.

All students are assigned to two Related Arts courses during the 1st Semester (the first two nine weeks) and switch into two different Related Arts courses during the 2nd Semester (the remaining two nine weeks).

Students should also select 3 alternative Related Arts courses in the event that the chosen courses are full. Every effort will be made to honor requests in the order of preference. If a student fails to sign up for Related Arts courses, they will be selected for him or her.

Greenville Middle's "Global Studies" Related Arts course is labeled Exploratory 6 .

Each student is expected to take each Related Arts course at least once during Middle School.

Course Descriptions

English

Title: English GT 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: Identified as GTA (Gifted and Talented Academic) with a MAP RIT score >236

This course is designed to meet the needs of academically gifted and talented students who were identified through the standard measures implemented by The School District of Greenville County. The curriculum designed specifically for this course meets the guidelines set forth by the South Carolina State Department of Education as criteria for Gifted and Talented instruction. Students should expect to find the curriculum challenging in a number of ways: text complexity, analytical writing, problem solving, creative endeavors, and accelerated pace.

Course Number: 10013200

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Literature Strategies 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite:

Students should meet one or more of the following criteria: Teacher recommendation ; PASS score of Not Met in 4th grade; 5th grade MAP RIT scores of <213

This course is designed to meet the needs of students transitioning from elementary to middle school instruction in reading. Instruction will continue to reinforce foundational skills in reading and provide ample scaffolding for those students whose reading skills are still developing.

Course Number: 10013300

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Literature Studies 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite:

Students should meet two or more of the following criteria: Teacher recommendation; PASS score of Met in 4th grade; 5th grade MAP RIT scores of 213 - 236

This course is designed to meet the needs of those students whose reading skills are sufficient to allow them to read more difficult texts, analyze what they have read more deeply, and respond without difficulty to the text in writing. The students in this course do not require foundational instruction in reading strategies; however, they will continue to receive instruction in more sophisticated reading practices that prepare the student for literary analysis. Students can expect instruction to move at an accelerated pace.

Course Number: 10013400

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Lang Arts Strategies 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite:

Students should meet one or more of the following criteria: Teacher recommendation; PASS score of Not Met in 4th grade; 5th grade MAP RIT scores of <213

This course is designed to meet the needs of students transitioning from elementary to middle school instruction in language arts, writing and research. Instruction will continue to reinforce foundational skills and provide ample scaffolding for those students whose skills are still developing.

Course Number: 10013600

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Language Arts Studies 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite:

Students should meet two or more of the following criteria: Teacher recommendation; PASS score of Met in 4th grade; 5th grade MAP RIT scores of 213 - 236

This course is designed to meet the needs of those students whose writing skills are sufficient to allow them to write fluently and cohesively. The students in this course do not require foundational instruction in writing strategies; however, they will continue to receive instruction in more sophisticated practices preparing the student for different modes of writing. Students can expect instruction to move at an accelerated pace.

Course Number: 10013700

Duration:

Short Title:

Title: Journalism 6

Unit Credit: 0.00

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: None

In this class, students plan, write, and publish the student newspaper. Students understand, practice, and learn strategies necessary to generate ideas, report, and write stories. They conduct research, interview, prioritize information, and master editing and proofreading skills. In addition, students analyze the journalism Code of Ethics and identify common photojournalism practices.

Course Number: 10990200

Duration:

Short Title:

Math

Title: Math 6

Course Number: 11100600

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

This standards-based sixth-grade course is designed to help students begin the transition from arithmetic to algebraic thinking. It includes concepts, operations, and problems solving with decimals, fractions, and percents in addition to an introduction to integers and ratios. Students will develop algebraic thinking through the investigation of patterns, the use of simple equations and inequalities to represent relationships, and the use of tables and graphs to solve problems. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on the process standards of problem-solving, communication, reasoning, representations, and connections.

Title: Math 7 for 6th Graders

Course Number: 21100900

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: Must meet district criteria including Teacher recommendation

The emphasis in this standards-based seventh-grade course is on algebraic thinking and on extending the understanding of the real number system to include integers, rational numbers, and irrational numbers. Students will investigate applications of number theory and will acquire skills in adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing integers. Students will solve applied problems by using one-step equations and inequalities, percents, and proportional reasoning. Students will develop algebraic thinking by analyzing patterns to discover relationships, by representing information through symbolic, graphical, and tabular methods, and by identifying relationships that are linear. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on the process standards of problem-solving, communication, reasoning, representations, and connections.

Science

Title: Science 6

Course Number: 12010000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

The focus for science in sixth grade is to provide students with inquiry based experiences that develop science concepts in the following areas: Structures, Processes and Response of Plants-structure and function of plants; Structures, Processes and Responses of Animals-structure and function of animals; Earths Atmosphere and Weather-atmospheric properties and processes; and, Conservation of Energy-properties of energy, work, and conservation of energy.

Social Studies

Title: Social Studies 6

Course Number: 13010000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

Sixth grade social studies expands students' understanding of history through the study of people, places, and events to the era of European exploration and settlement. Students focus not only on facts about various cultures but also on the significance of geography in history, their everyday lives, problems, and accomplishments of people, and their roles in developing the social, economic, and political structures of major civilizations. Instruction should emphasize the elements of social studies literacy—the tools, strategies, and perspectives necessary for understanding how history, geography, economics and government are interwoven.

Arts

Title: Art 6

Course Number: 15010000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

The purpose of this course is to enable students to communicate ideas and concepts through a variety of artwork, including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, arts, and crafts. A study of artists and their work will help students understand the techniques, skills, and diverse intentions of artists from many cultures and times. Students will focus on developing creative problem-solving skills, visual literacy, and personal expression.

Title: Drama 6

Course Number: 15210000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

This course explores theater arts through the use of creative dramatics, diction, vocal expression, improvisation, dramatization, technical theatre, audience etiquette, and theatre appreciation. Performances will be an outgrowth of study.

Title: Band 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15310000
Duration:
Short Title:

This course provides beginning-level instruction on brass, woodwind, and percussion instruments. No previous musical experience is required. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and band techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts.

Title: Chorus 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15410000
Duration:
Short Title:

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop fundamental vocal musicianship, technical skills, and aesthetic awareness through the study and performance of varied middle school choral literature. The curriculum for Chorus 6 includes vocal technique, part singing, music fundamentals, and singing music of various historical and world styles through large and small group participation. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of the musical concepts.

Title: Strings 6 Violin and Viola
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15511003
Duration:
Short Title:

This course provides beginning-level instruction on violin and viola. No previous musical experience is required. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and string techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Some larger instruments are available at the school, and parents should coordinate with the director for their use. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts.

Title: Strings 6 Cello and Bass
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 15511004
Duration:
Short Title:

This course provides beginning-level instruction on cello and string bass. No previous musical experience is required. The curriculum includes the development of fundamental skills, concepts, composition, cooperative learning, music as it relates to history and culture, and string techniques. The class will include an expectation for the purchase or rental of an instrument and individual practice at home. Some larger instruments are available at the school, and parents should coordinate with the director for their use. Concert performances will be an outgrowth of the study of musical concepts.

Foreign Language

Title: Spanish 6 Beginner Level
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 16500000
Duration:
Short Title:

Aligned with the district's vision, philosophy, and goals for world language education, this beginner course introduces students to the second language through high-quality learning experiences. Not only do students gain an understanding of what it means to learn a new language, they also experience progress over time and are likely to be motivated to continue language study. Students learn enough language to ensure that they will not be total beginners when they take another course in the same language. The goal of this course is to develop some language competence.

Physical Education

Title: Phys Education 6
Unit Credit: 0.00
Grade Level: 6
Prerequisite: None

Course Number: 14400000
Duration:
Short Title:

Enrollment in this course fulfills the regulation that all students will complete one quarter of physical education each year in grades 6 – 8. Course content focuses on teaching students the four SC Middle School PE Student Performance criteria as mandated by the SC Department of Education. Students will demonstrate the abilities, concepts, knowledge, and skills required to: 1) demonstrate competence in modified versions of activities in three movement forms as identified in the SCPEAP standards; 2) demonstrate knowledge of the five components of fitness and the F.I.T.T. principle on a written test; 3) participate regularly in health-enhancing physical activity outside the physical education class; 4) meet the gender and age group health-related physical fitness standard as described by the National Association for Sport and Physical Education.

Career and Tech

Title: Keyboarding6

Course Number: 18510000

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to provide an opportunity for students to master the skill of entering alphabetic, numeric, and symbolic information on a keyboard and a ten-key pad using the touch method of keystroking. Emphasis is placed on development of accuracy and speed, proper techniques, and correct fingering. Formatting of basic documents will be introduced.

Miscellaneous

Title: Exploratory 6

Course Number: 17010100

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: None

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore and learn information and skills that will enhance their academic and personal lives in middle school.

English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Title: ESOL 6

Course Number: 17990300

Unit Credit: 0.00

Duration:

Grade Level: 6

Short Title:

Prerequisite: Guidance Placement

This course is designed for the student who has a primary language other than English, and is not proficient in listening, speaking, reading, writing, or comprehension in the English speaking classroom. Instruction will be provided in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and comprehension to assist students in classrooms where English is the language of instruction. Students will receive skills to aid in the transition to all academic areas, as well as help in the preparation for middle school formal tests. Limited English proficiency should be determined by an approved language assessment instrument.