



# Ocean Springs Middle School

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Request Sheet

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

At OSMS you will have 7 classes, therefore your total units should add up to 7 at the end of the column. If the classes you choose do not add up to 7, the counselor will choose elective classes for you. Use the chart below to fill in your requested courses. The elective choices are on the back of this form. It is your responsibility to read each course and their pre-requisites.

\* = High School Credit: These classes will be on your permanent high school record; keep in mind that certain electives count as HS credit

\*\* = Advanced or honors courses; placement is based on required pre-requisites, grade averages, and placement scores

Course Name	Unit – (1/2 or 1)
English Choice: Circle or highlight one <b>English 8</b> or <b>**Honors English 8</b>	1
*Math Choice: Circle or highlight one <b>Math 8</b> or <b>**Algebra 1</b> (Pre-requisite for Algebra 1: Compact Math)	1
Science Choice: Circle or highlight one <b>Science 8</b> or <b>**Honors Science 8</b>	1
*Social Studies Choice: Circle or highlight one <b>MS Studies/World Geography</b> or <b>**Honors MS Studies/Honors World Geography</b>	1 (World Geography and MS Studies are ½ credit each)
*Technology: Circle or highlight one <b>ICT 2</b> or <b>**App Creators (S1)/Computer Science for Innovators and Makers (S2)</b>	1 (App Creators and Computer Science are ½ credit each)
1 <sup>st</sup> Elective Choice:	½ or 1
2 <sup>nd</sup> Elective Choice:	½ or 1
3 <sup>rd</sup> Elective Choice:	½ or 1
4 <sup>th</sup> Elective Choice:	½ or 1
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>7</b>

The school reserves the right to change subject selections for the school year based on student achievement, student performance, and the availability of classes. If the above elective course selections are not available, the following alternate elective course choices will be used to substitute. (**Note: If alternate classes are not chosen by the student, they will be chosen for the student in the event of a schedule conflict.**)

Use the table below to list 4 Elective Alternates.

Course Name	Unit - Circle One
1 <sup>st</sup> Alternate:	½ or 1
2 <sup>nd</sup> Alternate:	½ or 1
3 <sup>rd</sup> Alternate:	½ or 1
4 <sup>th</sup> Alternate:	½ or 1

By signing below you are indicating that you have read all of the above information as well as the requirements for each class on the back of this form. Course requests are not guaranteed. Honors and other advanced classes are based on achievement (class grades, placement test scores, state testing, etc.) **and** section availability. Math 8, World Geography, MS Studies, Algebra 1, ICT 2, Spanish 1, French 1, App Creators, and Computer Science are high school courses and will be on your permanent record.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2018-19 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course descriptions

Ocean Springs Middle School runs on an eight period – modified block schedule. Please view the bell schedule [here](#). The students have eight periods total and attend math for two of those periods. The following classes are required each school year: Math, English, Science, Social Studies and ICT (or equivalent). The students can select electives to fill two class periods. At least one semester of physical education is required every year in middle school. If a student takes band or choir for a full year, he/she is excused from PE. At Ocean Springs Middle School we offer several elective options ranging from Art, Language, Music, and STEM courses. Please note that each class with a (\*) is a high school credit which will remain on the student's permanent high school record. Please carefully read all class descriptions and their requirements before you sign up for classes.

### Mathematics Courses

**\*Math 8:** In Grade 8, instructional time will focus on three critical areas: (1) formulating and reasoning about expressions and equations, and solving linear equations and systems of linear equations; (2) grasping the concept of a function and using functions to describe quantitative relationships; (3) analyzing two- and three-dimensional space and figures using distance, angle, similarity, and congruence, and understanding and applying the Pythagorean Theorem. **(1 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**

**\*Algebra 1:** This course emphasizes simplifying algebraic expressions, solving equations, factoring, rational expressions, applications, inequalities, graphing and irrational numbers. Algebra I placement to be determined by a combination of the following: 7<sup>th</sup> grade Compact Math end of year average and a qualifying score on placement test. **(1 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**

### English Courses

**English 8:** This course develops the student's communication skills, especially through writing, with emphasis on developing skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. The student's reading, reasoning, and comprehension skills are developed by utilizing varied high-quality literary and informational texts and reading materials. The course also enhances the student's use and knowledge of language skills.

**Honors English 8:** This class is designed for highly motivated students who have mastered the general curriculum. The class includes an in depth study of grammar, composition, and literature. It also fosters development of language skills, the writing process, and an appreciation of literature. Students will be required to compose original poems, essays, and a critical analysis. Honors placement to be determined by a combination of the following: 7<sup>th</sup> grade English/Honors English end of year average and a qualifying score on the placement test.

### Science Courses

**Science 8:** Eighth grade science is designed to build connections that link technology and societal impacts to topics such as properties and changes of properties of matter, motions and forces, energy transfer, structure and function in living systems, and the structure of the Earth and space systems. Throughout the teaching process, inquiry, safety skills, the scientific method process, measuring, use of scientific equipment, current events, environmental, and hands-on activities should be emphasized.

\* Indicates a high school credit (Carnegie unit) that will be reflected on permanent high school record

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**Honors Science 8:** This course will follow the MS science framework as stated in the science description. While mastering the objectives, this course will also expect students to: engage intellectually to develop conceptual understanding, generate their own ideas, questions, and propositions, interact collegially with one another to solve problems, and employ appropriate resources for inquiry-based learning. Honors placement to be determined by a combination of the following: 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science end of year average and a qualifying score on the placement test.

### Social Studies Courses

**Introduction to World Geography:** This course includes the study of maps, landforms, our physical environment and the impact humans have on the environment and the influence the environment has upon our history and life styles. The design is to help students better understand the nature of the world and the events that take place in the world. This course is required for high school graduation and is taken with Mississippi Studies. Honors placement to be determined by a combination of the following: 7<sup>th</sup> grade US History end of year average, qualifying score on placement test. **(1/2 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**

**Mississippi Studies:** Mississippi Studies is a one semester course designed to foster appreciation for the state, its history and its culture. Students will understand and develop an appreciation for the geography, history, government, literature, art, and music of Mississippi. This course is required for high school graduation and is taken with Introduction to World Geography. Honors placement to be determined by a combination of the following: 7<sup>th</sup> grade US History end of year average, qualifying score on placement test. **(1/2 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**

### Technology Courses

**\*ICT 2 (Information and Communication Technology):** This required class will teach computer applications in word processing, graphics, databases, telecommunications, spreadsheets, and desktop publishing. This course will integrate communication and mathematics skills, with expanded basics in problem solving, decision making, critical thinking, human relations, career exploration, planning, organization, and personal skills. **(1 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**

**\*Computer Science for Innovators and Makers** - This unit will allow students to discover computer science concepts and skills by creating personally relevant, tangible, and shareable projects. Throughout the unit, students will learn about programming for the physical world by blending hardware design and software development. They will design and develop a physical computing device, interactive art installation, or wearable, and plan and develop code for microcontrollers that bring their physical designs to life. Physical computing projects will promote student awareness of interactive systems, including Internet of Things (IoT) devices, and broaden their understanding of abstract computer science concepts through meaningful and authentic applications. **(1/2 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**. This class must be taken in the same year as App Makers to equal one technology Carnegie unit.

**\*App Creators** - This unit will expose students to computer science by computationally analyzing and developing solutions to authentic problems through mobile app development, and will convey the positive impact of the application of computer science to other disciplines and to society. Students will customize their experience by choosing a problem that interests them from the areas of health, environment, emergency preparedness, education, community service, and school culture. Because problems in the real world involve more than one discipline, the unit will introduce students to biomedical science concepts as they work on solutions for the specific problems they choose to tackle. **(1/2 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**. This class must be taken in the same year as Computer Science for Innovators and Makers to equal one technology Carnegie unit.

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## Elective Course Descriptions

### Foreign Language Courses

**\*Spanish 1** – This Spanish course is open to 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who meet the pre-requisites. Students must have a 90 average in English (85 in Honors English) and an overall 85 average in order to sign up for this class. Year-long course. **(1 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**

**\*French 1** – This beginning level course covers the fundamentals of reading, writing, and speaking the French language. Students must have a 90 average in English (85 in Honors English) and an overall 85 average in order to sign up for this class. Year-long course. **(1 Carnegie Unit – High School Credit)**

**Introduction to Foreign Language** - This semester course introduces students to the concepts common to the introductory levels of the foreign languages of French and Spanish and their cultures. These concepts will be explored, but mastery is not expected at this level. This course is not a prerequisite to French 1 or Spanish 1 at the middle school.

**\*\*If taken in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, do not choose again. One semester course.**

### Music Courses

**Choir** – Audition required. Ensemble, Bella Voce, Show, and Concert choirs offer students a variety of opportunities to express their talents. Students will perform seasonal concerts and competitions will be entered based upon the discretion of the director. Students are required to purchase attire and pay the \$20 fee. Year-long course.

**Introduction to Choir** – Beginner choir course. No audition needed. Must pay \$20 fee and purchase a t-shirt. Year-long course.

**Varsity Band** – Expands and develops concepts learned in Beginning Band. Course covers musical concepts from a beginner to intermediate level. Students must practice every day and are required to attend some after-school rehearsals and performances. Instrument must be provided by the student. Approval from the band director is required. Year-long course.

**Concert Band** – Concert Band will expand and further develop the student's performance proficiency. Students will cover musical concepts at an intermediate level. Grades will be given for all required after school rehearsals and performances. The student must practice daily and shall provide an instrument and accessories of the highest quality possible. Approval from the band director is required. Year-long course.

**Symphonic Band** – Symphonic Band will expand and further develop the student's performance proficiency. Course will cover musical concepts at an intermediate to advanced level. Grades will be given for all required after-school activities, including rehearsals, football game performances, parades, concerts, and all other performances. The student should play on an advanced instrument with accessories of the highest quality and must practice daily. Approval from the band director is required. Year-long course.

**Jazz band** – This course will expand and further develop the student's performance. Students will learn jazz style, jazz appreciation, and jazz improvisation. Grades will be given for all required after-school activities. Students must provide their own instrument. Approval from the band director is required. Year-long course.

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## **Physical Education Courses**

**Physical Education** – Development of sports skills, leadership and sportsmanship. Sports activities may include basketball, soccer, kickball, softball, wiffleball, volleyball, and touch or tag football. Students who choose PE all year must dress out and participate in order to remain in the class for the full year. Semester or year-long course. Fee: \$14.

**Athletic Performance Training (APT)** – APT is a weight training course for student athletes. This class reviews athletic training equipment and trains athletes in basic weight training techniques. To sign up for APT, you must notify your athletic coach of your interest. APT can be taken each semester and will replace regular PE. You will only be added to APT if you are on the list created by the school coaches. The majority of athletes consist of football players, however, other students can sign up.

## **Other Electives**

**Teen Leadership** – Teen Leadership is a program in which students develop leadership, personal, and business skills. They will develop an understanding of Emotional Intelligence, which include self-awareness, self-control, self-motivation, and social skills. Students will develop their public speaking skills, an understanding of personal image, and the need for goal setting. One semester course.

**Art 1** – This class is centered around discussion and application of the 7 Elements of Art, which are covered independently throughout the semester. Each element is partnered with an art project, giving students an opportunity to exhibit comprehension and mastery of subject matter. Students also keep a daily art journal, which they use to complete daily journal entries reemphasizing core concepts covered during class meetings. (if this is too long you can leave out the last sentence). Required: \$8.00 art fee and drawing journal.

**Art 2** -- As an extension of Art I, students will dive deeper into what makes "good art" by applying the Elements and Principles of Art to their assignments. Concentration will be placed on more in depth projects, keeping an inspiration journal, learning how to critique art and understanding why these elements are important to being an effective artist. Required: Passing grade in Art I, \$8.00 art fee and drawing journal.

**Media Communications** – In this class, students will have a first-hand experience learning about media productions. This is an interactive class revolving around filming, editing, and acting. Throughout this one semester class, students will learn about the history of cinema and film techniques. Students will apply this knowledge to producing their own creative movies. One semester course. \*\*If taken in 7<sup>th</sup> grade do not choose again, unless you have teacher approval. Fee: \$5.

## **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Electives**

**Automation and Robotics** - Students trace the history, development, and influence of automation and robotics as they learn about mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Students use the VEX Robotics® platform to design, build, and program real-world objects such as traffic lights, toll booths, and robotic arms. Academic pre-requisites must be met in order to sign up. There are a limited number of classes. If necessary, there will be a drawing for available spaces. One semester course.

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**Design and Modeling** - Students discover and apply the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned to design toys, biomedical supplies and modifications for people with disabilities. Academic pre-requisites must be met in order to sign up. There are a limited number of classes. If necessary, there will be a drawing for available spaces. One semester course.

**Medical Detectives**- Students play the role of real-life medical detectives as they analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene." They solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together to maintain health. This is a rigorous elective class that requires focus and hard work. Academic pre-requisites must be met in order to sign up. There are a limited number of classes. If necessary, there will be a drawing for available spaces. One semester course.

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