



SOUTHERN JUNIOR - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

REGISTRATION HANDBOOK

2022-2023

It is the policy of Southern Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of gender, disability, race, color, religion, marital status, age or national origin in its education programs, administration, policies, employment or other district programs.

INTRODUCTION

This booklet is designed to give you information concerning the course requirements and course descriptions of course offerings at Southern Junior/Senior High School. The booklet is divided into three main sections.

The first section gives parents and students general information about registration, including graduation requirements and items which may be of interest when scheduling classes. The second section lists classes available to all senior high students (grades 9-12). The third section of the booklet lists junior high (7th and 8th grade) classes.

High school is a very important period of time to begin planning for the future. Therefore, it is important that students and their parents spend some time in discussing what classes will best prepare the student for his/her future goals.

Our School Counseling Office has current information on each student's academic progress/credits earned toward his/her high school diploma. Please contact this office if you have any questions about your student's progress or credits needed for graduation.

Mr. Jeff Murphy
Principal

REGISTRATION HANDBOOK

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7-12 GRADE SCALE

99-100 = A+
96-98 = A
93-95 = A-
90-92 = B+
87-89 = B
85-86 = B-
83-84 = C+
80-82 = C
78-79 = C-
75-77 = D+
72-74 = D
70-71 = D-
Below 70 = F

GENERAL INFORMATION

Graduation Requirements

Students graduating from Southern High School need 230 credits to receive a high school diploma.

For the Class of 2023, 155 credits must be accumulated in the following areas:

English	40 credits
Social Studies	30 credits (to include 1 sem of Govt and 1 sem Econ)
Math	30 credits
Science	30 credits
Business	10 credits (to include 1 semester of Personal Finance)
Physical Education	10 credits
Fine Arts	5 credits

The remaining required 75 credits are electives.

For the Classes of 2024 and 2025, 165 credits must be accumulated in the following areas:

English	40 credits
Social Studies	30 credits (to include 1 sem of Govt and 1 sem Econ)
Math	30 credits
Science	30 credits
Personal Finance	10 credits
Vocational Education	10 credits (Business or Agriculture courses)
Physical Education	10 credits
Fine Arts	5 credits

The remaining required 65 credits are electives.

For the Class of 2026, 165 credits must be accumulated in the following areas:

English	40 credits
Social Studies	30 credits (to include 1 sem of Govt and 1 sem Econ)
Math	30 credits
Science	30 credits
Personal Finance	10 credits
Vocational Education	10 credits (Business or Agriculture courses)
9th Grade PE/Health	10 credits
Fine Arts	5 credits

The remaining required 65 credits are electives.

Required Classes for High School Students

All students in grades 9-11 are to be in attendance for a full school day. Students must be registered for the following classes at the grade level listed.

9th Grade students must be enrolled in: English 9, World History, Science 9, Math, Health & PE

10th Grade students must be enrolled in: English 10, American History, Biology, Math

11th Grade students must be enrolled in: American Literature, Chemistry or Advanced General Science, Math

12th Grade students must be enrolled in: English 12 or Composition

All seniors must be enrolled in at least 20 credits of classes offered through Southern High School unless a schedule of fewer credits is approved by administration.

Other Information

Class Offerings: This booklet lists possible class offerings for the upcoming school year. Some classes listed in this registration guide may not be offered due to small class enrollments or other circumstances.

Enrollment: Some classes may be limited to a maximum number of students. Priority placement in these classes will be decided upon by a student's need for graduation requirements and/or dated return of registration forms.

Prerequisites: Some classes may be limited to a specific listed grade level, indicate a class that must be passed before the student takes a particular class, and/or indicate the minimum grade level a student must have obtained before being allowed to enroll in that class.

Credits: Unless otherwise noted in the course description, all senior high classes meet for five days a week for the entire year. Five (5) credits are granted per semester for passing grades in these classes.

OT Classes: Pull-out classes that are offered to students with an individualized educational plan. Enrollment is with case manager permission only.

Work Program: Opportunity to practice job skills on the job. Contract between employer, student, parents/guardians and administration must be in place.

Out Periods: Seniors are allowed up to two out periods, which must be scheduled consecutively (i.e. 1st and 2nd, 7th and 8th) or scheduled 1st and 8th periods. If a student chooses only one release period, that period must be either 1st or 8th period. Students must have parent permission for out periods.

Additional Credit Opportunities

Southern High School offers some “non-traditional” opportunities to earn high school and/or college credit. For more information on any of the programs listed below, contact the school counselor.

Southeast Nebraska Career Academy Program (SENCAP): This program is a cooperative effort with Southeast Community College. High school juniors and seniors can choose from specified courses within career pathways. The majority of the classes are taught on-line. SCC covers half of the tuition cost and the student is responsible for the other half. Students may be responsible for purchasing the required instructional materials. The “portfolio” grade will be recorded on the student’s high school transcript. Students will also have the option of having the college course grade recorded on their high school transcript.

Online College Classes: The pace of these courses is accelerated from the normal high school class so as to help prepare the students for taking college level classes in the future. Fees for tuition and books must be paid by the student. Students will have the option of having the college course grade recorded on their high school transcript.

Odysseyware Classes: These high school classes include credit recovery classes and classes not offered at Southern High School.

SENIOR HIGH CLASSES

ENGLISH

All students must be enrolled in an English class.

English 9: English 9 includes speech, creative writing, and various facets of grammar, language structure, vocabulary, prose, classic novels, and expressive readings. Particular emphasis is placed upon the usage of language and its application in our society.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing

English 10: English 10 combines world literature with grammar and writing units to emphasize the use of language. Particular importance is placed on language usage and its application in society.

Prerequisite: 10th grade standing

American Literature: American Literature emphasizes American Literature beginning with Early American writing. This class includes short reading assignments as well as several novel selections. Grammar and writing skills are also studied throughout the year, with an emphasis on ACT preparation.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing

English 12: English 12 includes reading several novels and writing literary analysis essays to challenge students' critical thinking. In addition, students will learn how to create a resume, cover letter, and other business/professional writing. Students also do group assignments that involve research and presentations.

Prerequisite: 12th grade standing

Composition: Composition focuses on several modes of writing, with emphasis placed on college-level expectations. This class includes several grammar chapters to improve understanding of language structure and usage, as well as upper-level novel selections to increase reading comprehension and reflection skills. In addition, students will learn how to create a resume, cover letter, and other business/professional writing.

Prerequisite: 12th grade standing

MATHEMATICS

All 9th, 10th and 11th grade students must be enrolled in a math class. The students' previous math teacher will recommend placement in math classes.

Basic Math: The focus will be on pre-algebra skills to prepare students for future algebra classes.
Prerequisite: Math teacher recommendation only.

Algebra I: The emphasis in this course is on the symbolism, structure and manipulation of equations. Also covered are factoring and practical application through problem solving. Students will work on computers doing Accelerated Math. There will be short tests showing mastery of algebraic concepts.
Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Geometry: This course will include, but is not limited to, the following concepts: parallel and perpendicular lines, the coordinate plane, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, trigonometry, congruence and similarity, surface area, volume, and transformations. Prerequisite: Algebra I

Algebra II: This course will include, but is not limited to, the following concepts: linear equations, inequalities, graphs, matrices, polynomials and radical expressions, quadratic equations, functions, exponential and logarithmic expressions, sequences and series, and probability.
Prerequisite: Grade of A or B in Algebra I and Geometry or instructor permission

College Prep Math: This course is part of the Nebraska Math Readiness Project. The goal of this course is to prepare qualifying high school juniors and seniors for college-level math at any Nebraska community college. It is an individualized and self-paced online class facilitated by a high school math teacher. This class is limited to 6-8 students.
Prerequisite: Algebra II

Pre-Calculus: Pre-Calculus is highly recommended for college-bound students. This course will include, but is not limited to, the following concepts: polynomial functions and their inverses, complex numbers, logarithmic and exponential functions and their applications, trigonometric functions, trigonometric identities, application of trigonometry and selected topics in probability and statistics. Students need to demonstrate a strong work ethic. This course can be taken for dual credit "College Algebra" through Peru State College.
Prerequisite: Grade of A or B in Algebra II or instructor permission

Calculus: This course will include, but is not limited to, the following concepts: limits, derivatives and integrals involving logarithmic and trigonometric functions, as well as the applications of these concepts.
Prerequisite: Grade of A or B in Pre-Calculus or instructor permission

SCIENCE

All 9th, 10th and 11th grade students must be enrolled in a Science class.

Science 9: An introductory course dealing with the basic principles of earth science and physical science. Laboratory work is used to strengthen and further develop principles and facts introduced in class discussions. Problem solving is included to further aid in the understanding of the material presented.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing

Biology: This course will introduce students to topics such as cell structures, cell functions, growth, cell division, mutations, inheritance of traits, evolution, ecology and zoology.

Prerequisite: 10th grade standing

Advanced General Science: Students will learn in depth topics from Life Science, Earth Science, and Physical Science, as well as perform labs to learn about the nature of science. Topics will include ecology, cells, anatomy, geology, weather, astronomy, basic chemistry, and basic physics. This class is intended to prepare students for basic level science at the college level and for the ACT/state test.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing

Chemistry: An introductory course in preparation for college and vocational areas requiring a chemistry background. Lab work and problem solving are used to strengthen and further develop principles introduced during class discussions.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing

Anatomy/Physiology: This class provides a basic understanding and working knowledge of the human body. The course deals with the anatomy of the body systems, the physiology (functioning) of each system and the disorders, which prevent the system from working correctly.

Prerequisite: 12th grade standing and Biology

Physics: This mathematically oriented course in physics includes the study of motion, force, matter, energy, heat, light, electricity and nuclear reactions.

Prerequisite: 12th grade standing and Algebra II

SOCIAL STUDIES

All 9th and 10th grade students must be enrolled in a Social Studies class. All students will take Government and Economics as a Junior or Senior.

World History: World History is a course that will familiarize the students with the development of Western and non-Western Civilizations from a historical, geographic and cultural perspective.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing

American History: (Progressive Era to Present Day) This course will give students an opportunity to examine events in history including the Progressive Era, World War 1, Roaring 20s and the Great Depression, World War 2, Cold War, Civil Rights, Vietnam, America in the 80s and 90s, and the 21st Century.

Prerequisite: 10th grade standing

Government: The content of this class is designed to acquaint students with the origins, concepts, organizations, and policies of the United States government and political system.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing (Semester course opposite Economics)

Economics: The content for this social studies class includes the study of economics. While each unit will focus on the works of capitalism in the United States, other topics include: basic economic terms, supply & demand, markets in the United States, credit & investing basics, and economic cycles /global trade.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing (Semester course opposite American Government)

Psychology: This course is a study of how humans develop, learn, and relate to others. Areas of study include how humans learn, memory, growth and development, intelligence, psychological disorders, methods of therapy, and sensation and perception.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing

Sociology: This course is the study of human society and social behavior. This class will study how people relate to one another and influence each other's behavior. Sociology focuses on group behavior rather than individual behavior. Some issues studied in this course are cultural diversity, formal organizations, adolescents in society, adults in society, social control, deviance, poverty, dating, marriage and the family, race and gender, and education and religion.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION (vocational)

Membership in FFA requires student enrollment in an Agriculture Education class.

Intro to Skilled & Technical Sciences: This course provides the skills and technical knowledge for a beginning student in the areas of industry, safety, material, equipment, and process understanding. The student will develop awareness of the basics in the skilled and technical sciences areas.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Intro to Agriculture: This course will introduce students to a brief introduction of production agriculture. Units covered include, ag business, ag mechanics, crop production, leadership skills, livestock production, and record keeping. Students will also be introduced to Future Farmers of America (FFA) and what the program has to offer. Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Animal and Plant Science: This course will introduce and discuss the different species involved in ag production. We will cover breeds of each species, selection of animals, anatomy (both internal and external), feeding livestock and meat production. We will explore the different products produced from livestock and how they directly affect us.

This course will also introduce and discuss the different row crop production, growing cycles of different plants and external and internal plant id. We will also explore the different products produced from plants and how they directly affect us.

Prerequisite: Intro to Agriculture

Advanced Animal Science: This course will expand the animal science curriculum. We will discuss livestock breeding, nutrition, and selection. Students will also discuss genetics and artificial insemination, including techniques and record keeping for a year's production. (Semester course opposite Agronomy)

Prerequisite: Animal and Plant Science

Agronomy: This course will expand the plant science curriculum. We will explore planting populations, GPS, fertilizing and chemical rates, and harvesting data. Students will design a row crop farm, including prices and recordkeeping for a year's production. (Semester course opposite Advanced Animal Science)

Prerequisite: Animal and Plant Science

Ag. Business: This course will explore the different business structures and management options. We will explore record keeping for a business, how to make a sale for an ag product, and discuss what job skills are needed in agriculture. (Semester course opposite Ag. Entrepreneurship)

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing or higher, Intro to Agriculture

Ag. Entrepreneurship: The course emphasizes basic economic concepts, basic financial concepts, and functions of business, business technology, and career preparation. Students will be exposed to various aspects of the agribusiness world. Such topics to be discussed are: marketing, management, economics, accounting, finance, business law, and entrepreneurship. Students will be exposed to various careers in agribusiness. Furthermore, students are introduced to the steps and research necessary to create their own business. (Semester course opposite of Ag. Business)

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing or higher, Intro to Agriculture

BUSINESS EDUCATION (vocational)

All students will take Personal Finance as a Junior or Senior.

Information Technology Applications I & II: This course allows students to demonstrate basic skills in the areas of word processing, spreadsheet applications, database applications, electronic presentation, Internet use, and electronic communication. Students will learn to manage computer operations and file storage. (2 semester course)

Prerequisite: 9th grading standing or higher

Introduction to Business, Marketing & Management: This course is designed to give students an overview of the business, marketing and management career field and as an introductory study of business in our economy. Units of study include scope and ownership, legal and ethical issues in business, business career opportunities, business in the global economic environment, business organization and management, and business operations and technology. (Semester course opposite Marketing)

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Marketing: This course develops basic student understanding and skills in the functions of marketing, including channel management, marketing-information management, market planning, product/service management, project management, promotion, pricing, and selling. Emphasis is placed on marketing strategies, the selling process, the use of data in marketing decision-making, and career opportunities in marketing. Fundamental economic concepts are also integrated in the course. (Semester course opposite Intro. to Business)

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Accounting I: This course is the study of the fundamental principles involved in the preparation and maintenance of financial records concerned with business management and operations. It provides a comprehensive introduction to basic financial accounting including recording, summarizing and reporting, principles of income measurement and asset valuation, accounting systems, and controls.

Prerequisite: 10th grade standing or higher

Accounting II: This course includes partnership and corporate accounting, adjustment in inventory control systems, budgetary control systems and further enhancement of accounting skills.

Prerequisite: Grade of A or B in Accounting

Careers: The first portion of this class focuses on post-secondary planning. Students will search for career and college options and receive information to prepare them for decisions they will make about life after high school. Requirements include 4-8 hours of job shadowing, career and post-secondary investigation, and exploring financial aid options. The second portion is designed to provide the knowledge and skills needed for effective preparation to enter the job market. Students will develop skills in the areas of career search, preparation of job application documents, interviewing, and employability/soft skills (communication and personal interaction). Word processing knowledge is required.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing or higher

Personal Finance: This course is designed to inform students of their various financial responsibilities as a citizen, student, family member, consumer, and active participant in the business world. Students will discover new ways to maximize their earning potential, develop strategies for managing resources, explore skills for the wise use of credit, gain insight into different ways of investing money, and learn about various types of insurance.
Prerequisite: 11th grade standing or higher

FINE ARTS (Art, Instrumental Music, Vocal Music)

Art I: A year long beginning art course geared for students having little to no prior art experience. Students will create both two and three dimensional works of art using a variety of mediums and techniques. Assignments will help students establish a solid foundation of art skills and knowledge and introduce them to several art forms that they can explore in more depth in the future.
Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Ceramics: Students will explore the basic technique of creating functional pottery, primarily through the exploration of basic hand-building techniques (pinch, slab, and coil techniques). Emphasis will be placed on craftsmanship, creativity, and application of elements and principles of design. This class may be repeated multiple years. (1 semester)
Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Sculpture: Students will explore various types, techniques and materials used in creating three dimensional art. Students will gain experience with a variety of sculptural processes using a variety of different materials. The goal of this course is for students to acquire technical skills, learning safe and appropriate use of tools and materials, learning to problem solve creatively and exploring the expressive diversity of three dimensional art. This class may be repeated multiple years. (1 semester)
Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Drawing: Students will learn a variety of drawing mediums. The elements and principles of design will be studied and applied to the creative process of planning and executing various drawing challenges. Personal interpretation and design exploration are strongly encouraged. This class may be repeated multiple years. (1 semester)
Prerequisite: Art I

Painting: The course provides the foundation of painting, its application and materials. Various painting mediums, techniques and paint manipulation will be explored while we develop an understanding of composition, color theory and each student's individual artistic point of view. We will use historical and contemporary artists to help inform and empower each student towards recognizing the variety of ways that painting can be used to communicate an idea while developing the technical painting skills of each student. This class may be repeated multiple years. (1 semester)
Prerequisite: Art 1

Printmaking: Printmaking is an introduction to the elements and principles of design as they apply to printmaking. Students will work with a wide range of materials and processes from block printing and linoleum cutting to screen printing and drypoint. Both press and non-press techniques will be explored and students will produce limited edition prints on various types of paper. An emphasis will be placed on technical skills, aesthetics, and on traditional and contemporary expressions of this art form. This class may be repeated multiple years. (1 semester)
Prerequisite: Art 1

Senior High Band: This course includes marching band, pep band and concert band. Entrance is by approval of the instructor and/or the successful completion of an audition inclusive of major scales and chromatic scale and sight-reading. Students are responsible for miscellaneous expenses.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher, approval of the instructor

Stage Band: An ensemble of instrumental students selected by audition and/or experience. The group studies and performs jazz, pop, and contemporary music. ***The group rehearses outside of school time during the months of late October-May.*** Students are responsible for the required uniform. (2.5 credit hours)

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher, auditions may be necessary. Open to Junior High students by request of the director.

Beginning Guitar: This class is designed for the beginning guitar student. Students do not need music reading skills to participate in this class. The school provides acoustic guitars and music free of charge. They need a CD player at home so they can work with book accompaniment CDs. An estimated 60 minutes of weekly home practice will be expected. Students are also expected to perform in all concerts.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Advanced Guitar: This will be a continuation of Beginning Guitar class.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and a grade of C or higher in Beginning Guitar

Music Technology: Students will explore the world of creating music digitally through digital audio workspaces (DAWs), notation software, and other means. Students will learn basic music theory, basic composition skills, and audio recording skills to use in different projects (music for documentaries, commercial music, creation of special effects, music for video games, and creation of electronic music).

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Chorus: This is the primary performing group in the vocal music department. Members participate in at least three public performances during the year in addition to various clinics and contests. As part of the grading procedure students are required to attend concerts, which may occur during the evening or on weekends. Students will be required to wear black shoes, black slacks and purchase a T-shirt. Audition and demonstration of ability to match pitch may be required.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Revolution Show Choir: An ensemble of vocal students chosen through open auditions in the Spring. Southern Harmony makes public performances throughout the year, which must be attended by members and wearing required costumes, make-up, choir T-shirts, etc. as needed for each performance. ***The group rehearses outside of school time.*** (2.5 credit hours)

Prerequisite: Audition

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

All 9th graders will take PE and Health.

Health: Senior high health is a class that discusses a variety of health issues focusing on topics that improve your daily life. You will be responsible to write and read reports, discuss the topic of the day, and complete daily assignments. This is a writing intensive course.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing (Semester course opposite PE)

Physical Education (PE): This class uses an instructional philosophy that emphasizes providing intensive instruction in the motor and self-management skills needed to enjoy a wide variety of physical activity experiences, including competitive and noncompetitive activities. The goals of the class are to increase students' activity level, build students' confidence in their physical abilities, influence moral development by providing students with opportunities to assume leadership, cooperate with others, and accept responsibility for their own behavior and have fun!

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing (Semester course opposite Health)

Weight Training: This class is designed to teach students how to apply their knowledge of basic fitness principles in a health club setting. Students will learn how to properly structure workouts designed to meet their own personal fitness goals making use of cardiovascular equipment, machines and free weights, plyometrics, medicine balls, etc.

**There is no semester limitation; however, to repeat the class you must have earned an A or instructor approval.

Prerequisite: 10th Grade standing or higher

WORLD LANGUAGE

Spanish 1: This course centers on attaining basic proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish with an emphasis on vocabulary and simple grammatical structures (Examples: subject pronouns, nouns, adjectives, verb – present tense) *If continuing on in Spanish, it would be advisable to keep all vocab lists/notes as you will be expected to know this information when encountered in the subsequent course.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Spanish 2: This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. The learner will obtain a deeper understanding and more complex ability to speak, listen, write, and read in Spanish. The emphasis in this course is on more advanced vocabulary and grammatical structures (Examples: direct object pronouns, reflexives, past tense, commands, etc.) *If continuing on in Spanish, it would be advisable to keep all vocab lists/notes as you will be expected to know this information when encountered in the subsequent course.

Prerequisite: Grade of C- or better for second semester of Spanish 1

Spanish 3: This course focuses on a stronger immersion into the Spanish language. The learner uses higher level thinking strategies as the course contains Spanish literature, learning techniques to teach Spanish at the elementary level (if applicable), and strategies to apply Spanish more effectively in authentic situations. This course emphasizes complex vocabulary and grammatical structures (future tense, formal commands, giving opinions, indirect object pronouns, etc). There is also an emphasis on advanced translation techniques (books, movies, conversations, etc.). *If continuing on in Spanish, it would be advisable to keep all vocab lists/notes as you will be expected to know this information when encountered in the subsequent course.

Prerequisite: Grade of C- or better for second semester of Spanish 2

Spanish 4: This course is the highest level of Spanish offered and continues to advance the learner in vocabulary and grammatical structures (Examples: subjunctive, passive voice, opinions, debate, etc.) This class may be taught at the same time as Spanish 3, and may not be offered if there is not sufficient interest.

Prerequisite: Instructor permission

OTHER ELECTIVES

Digital Media I: A course designed to educate students on the ever-changing digital world, as well as to provide hands-on experience. Students will be encouraged and inspired to become the next generation of developers, filmmakers, photographers, journalists, and designers. Students will have the opportunity to learn new-age skills with programs like Adobe Premiere, Canva, and Google Sites. In these programs, students will learn to create graphics, animation, films, stories, social media posts, etc. Throughout the course, students will be assessed on their projects, creativity, and participation. Students may be required to attend activities and events outside the normal school day. Students must be willing to go above and beyond the “normal” school day to achieve the objective of the story. Prerequisite: 11th grade standing or higher

Digital Media II: A course designed to educate students on the ever-changing digital world, as well as to provide hands-on experience. Students will be encouraged and inspired to become the next generation of developers, filmmakers, photographers, journalists, and designers. Students will have the opportunity to use their knowledge and experience from Digital Media I. Students will have the opportunity to create and write stories, movies, and report on what is happening in the life of everyday students at Southern. Students will also work on Senior Slide Show and Raider Report. Throughout the course, students will be assessed on their projects, articles, creativity, and participation. Students will be required to attend activities and events outside the normal school day and write articles about the event with pictures that they take. Students must be willing to go above and beyond the “normal” school day to achieve the objective of the story. Prerequisite: Digital Media I

Digital Publications: A course designed to provide a practical experience for those students interested in the areas of journalism, business communications/graphic design, or commercial art. The aim of the class is to teach the principles of computer-generated layouts and graphics that are needed to create effective and marketable multi-page publications. Students will learn and practice advanced journalism writing and production skills as they produce the yearbook. Advertising, sales, design and book promotion will also be emphasized. Students will be required to attend activities and events outside the normal school day and write articles about the event with pictures that they take. This course can be taken in both 11th and 12th grade.

Prerequisite: 11th grade standing or higher

Speech I: Speech I will help students become more confident in all areas of communication. The emphasis is on the organization and presentation of many different kinds of speeches.

Prerequisite: 9th grade standing or higher

Speech II: Speech II the emphasis is on research and presenting information gathered through formal debate skills.

Prerequisite: Speech I

Teacher/Office/Library/Staff Aide: Teacher's Aide is not considered a class, but a scheduled activity where students will be completing assigned tasks agreed upon by teacher and student. Students can be an Aide for one period each semester. The student must be carrying 20 high school class credits offered through Southern High School or have administrative permission. A student may be assigned to a junior or senior high teacher during his/her planning time or when there is a junior high class scheduled; a student may also be a Teacher Aide for an elementary teacher. (2.5 credit hours Pass/Fail)

Prerequisite: 12th grade standing with teacher's approval.

7th and 8th GRADE CLASSES

CORE COURSES

English 7: The goal of English 7 is to teach the students basic essentials of grammar and to expand those essentials into a basic knowledge of sentence and paragraph composition. An appreciation of literature is developed through the reading of short stories, plays, poetry and novels.

English 8: The goal of English 8 is to provide the student with the basic structure of the English language through the study of grammar and the reading of literature. Emphasis is on the process of communication in which the students are encouraged to form opinions and express themselves, through oral recitation, individual reading and written composition.

Math 7: This course is a continued maintenance, review and extension of all computational skills, first with whole numbers, then with fractions and decimals. Attention is also given to structure with emphasis on both the "how" and the "why" of concept application. Some plane geometry and an introduction to three-dimensional geometry are included. State standards will be covered in both semesters.

Math 8: This course continues the study of rational numbers. Exponents, decimals and real numbers precede a study of the metric system. Basic geometric concepts are presented in preparation for a construction unit. Second semester includes a concentrated study of open number sentences and basic pre-algebraic concepts as a foundation of and preparation for high school mathematics.

Algebra 8: This course is the same course as Algebra I in High School. Freshman may be enrolled in the same class period with 8th graders.

Prerequisite: 8th grade standing, grade of A or B in Math 7 with a teacher recommendation and a strong work ethic.

Science 7: An introductory course dealing with the basic principles of physical (matter, energy and chemistry), life (ecology) and earth sciences (layers of the earth, earthquakes, volcanoes and other energy of the earth). Laboratory work is used to strengthen and further develop principles and facts introduced during class. Problem solving is included to further aid in understanding of the materials presented. Student work is completed mostly online.

Science 8: An introductory course to such scientific areas as astronomy, meteorology, and the basic principles of physics, including forces and energy. Laboratory work is used to strengthen and further develop principles and facts introduced in class discussions. Problem solving is included to further aid in the understanding of the material presented.

Social Studies 7: In this course, students will learn about the basic terms in the world of geography as well as the continued development of map skills. Additional study will focus on world geography (land, resources, history, culture, etc...) in various regions of the world. Some of these regions include North America, Middle America, and South America & Europe.

Social Studies 8: Content for 8th Grade US History includes the study of the United States from the beginning of America through the Civil War. Emphasis will be on key events, people, & documents in US history and how these have framed the country we have today. In addition, students will learn basic American history vocabulary that will strengthen their knowledge as young citizens in our country.

Physical Education/Health 7: The goal of this course is to develop the student physically, mentally, socially and emotionally. Units and activities will lead to development of strength, coordination, agility and endurance. The student will learn the responsibilities of team membership, through participation in fitness testing, flag football, ultimate frisbee, pickleball, tennis, volleyball, basketball, bowling, and other activities. In health, the students are exposed to making good personal choices with regard to relationships, alcohol, tobacco and other drug use, as well as fitness, nutrition and STD's.

Physical Education/Health 8: A continuation of physical education skills and attitudes introduced in seventh grade.

EXPLORATORY COURSES

Junior High Band: This course is an introduction to concert band. It includes studies of the fundamentals of music and will provide performance opportunities. As part of the grading procedure students are required to attend junior high concerts and contests, which may occur during the evening or on weekends. Dress clothes are required for performances. Prerequisite: Approval of the instructor; junior high standing and at least 1 year experience of playing an instrument.

Junior High Choir: This is a combined choir of seventh and eighth graders who enjoy singing. Emphasis will be on part-singing, sight singing and ear training with some theory involved. This class is optional for junior high students. As part of the grading procedure, students are required to attend junior high concerts, which may occur during the evening or on weekends. Students must be able to work well with others. Students are required to dress-up for performances. Khaki or black pants with a shirt for boys. Khaki or black pants or skirt and blouse or dress for girls. Prerequisite: Junior high standing, approval of the instructor

Computer Applications 7: This is a course designed to give the students an overview of Computer Applications including current terminology and an introduction to computer hardware, software applications, and procedures. They will learn and develop skills of these subjects:

- Google Drive/Google Classroom
- Computer Basics
- Computer Parts
- Keyboarding
- Word Processing using Google Docs
- Presentations using Google Slides
- Excel with Google Sheets

This course also develops students' digital literacy skills. Students will complete learning modules to develop knowledge in digital responsibility. Students will participate in classroom discussions and view videos to gain knowledge about being responsible and safe online. (1 semester)

Reading 7: This course is designed to provide students with additional opportunities to grow in the areas of reading comprehension, fluency, vocabulary and spelling through a variety of activities. (1 semester)

Art 7-8: A beginning art course that introduces the basic elements and principles of design along with a variety of materials and techniques. (1 semester)

Spanish 7-8: This course will begin introducing basic Spanish concepts. This course has a primary emphasis on vocabulary to build familiarity with Spanish structures. Topics include: personal information, time, dates, weather, classes, likes & dislikes, and describing self. (1 semester)

STEM 7-8 (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math): STEM is a course designed to integrate science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Students in this course will apply concepts they are learning about to engineering based problem solving. Students will be expected to participate in projects and experiments to solve real-world problems. (1 semester)

Strategy and Logic 7-8: As a junior high student, it is important to develop the strategies that will result in a student being able to handle a variety of different challenges that will be presented at a new school. In order to introduce these new skills and help apply them effectively, students will be studying several different strategy-based games. As they learn the games, they will be required to pass homework and quizzes showing that they understand the basics as they become better and better at the strategies for each game. Students will also be asked to demonstrate how they will use similar strategies with real-world problems in their classes, study habits, and homework. (1 semester)

Career Exploration in Ag Literacy 8: This course will examine the history of agriculture in Nebraska and explore careers in the ag industry. We will also examine shop, farm, and livestock safety. (1 semester)

Multi-Cultural Education 8: The goal of multicultural education is to help students understand and appreciate cultural differences and similarities and to recognize the accomplishments of diverse ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic groups. It is a practice that hopes to transform the ways in which students are instructed by giving equal attention to the contributions of all the groups in a society. (1 semester)