

Dear Renaissance 8th grade Families,

We are in the process of putting together middle school student schedules for the 2017-18 school year. Below you will see a list of required and elective courses available to all 8th grade students. Your student will be automatically registered for all required courses and placed in an '8th regular' or '8th honors' section in Math, Language Arts, Science and US History dependent on teacher recommendation from 2016-17. Students will also be automatically registered for the appropriate World Language course by their 2016-17 teacher.

Please email all completed 2017-18 8th grade course selection forms to Mrs. Nettie Naumann at nnaumann@renacademy.org as soon as possible. MS student schedules will be available for collection from the office upon receipt of MS fees from Friday 11th August 2017.

2017-18 RA 8th grade required courses (all courses are full-year duration unless otherwise stated)

Math
Language Arts
Science
US History
World Language (Spanish, Arabic or Chinese)
PE (one semester only)
Digital Literacy (one semester only)

2017-18 RA 8th grade elective courses (all elective options are one semester duration)

Please rank the following elective courses in order of preference. 8th grade students participate in two elective courses per semester (i.e., period 4 and 7). Your students period 7 elective (i.e., 7A or 7B) will depend on their world language course placement.

***Please note** - If your student has already taken an elective course listed below in 2016-17 please do not list it as a preference option (with the exception of Study Skills/Math Lab).

7A Elective Options

Semester 1 (Please rank in order of preference from 1-5)

_____ Physical Education 2
_____ Space Tech
_____ Painting
_____ Musical Theater 1
_____ Study Skills/Math Lab

7A Elective Options

Semester 2 (Please rank in order of preference from 1-5)

_____ Physical Education 2
_____ Civics
_____ Art Foundations 2
_____ Musical Theater 2
_____ Study Skills/Math Lab

7B Elective Options*Semester 1 (Please rank in order of preference from 1-5)*

_____ Physical Education 2
 _____ Civics
 _____ Art Foundations 1
 _____ Musical Theater 1
 _____ Study Skills/Math Lab

7B Elective Options*Semester 2 (Please rank in order of preference from 1-5)*

_____ Physical Education 2
 _____ Space Tech
 _____ Art Foundations 1
 _____ Chorus
 _____ Study Skills/Math Lab

8th Grade Period 4 Elective Options*Semester 1 (Please rank in order of preference from 1-2)*

_____ Journalism
 _____ Creative Coding

Semester 2 (Please rank in order of preference from 1-2)

_____ Creative Writing
 _____ Video Productions

Course Descriptions:

Study Skills- this course is designed to provide academic support to students in their core content coursework.

Space Tech- in this course students will create and run missions in Renaissance Academy's space center. Students will learn and practice leadership skills, learn basic coding, engage in acting, and lead younger students through educational experiences related to their grade's curriculum.

Musical Theatre 1- students will learn and practice basic acting skills.

Civics- this course will provide students with a general understanding of the governmental, political, and legal systems of the US.

Physical Education 2- this PE class can be taken as an elective in addition to the core-required PE class.

Art Foundations- this course is designed to provide a broad overview of some basic visual art skills using different art mediums, related materials and concepts, exposing students to fundamental observational drawing and shading skills, painting and other 2D art media.

Art Foundation 2- this course is designed to provide an enhanced experience with the artistic issues of Foundations 1 through traditional, two-dimensional art media. There is a continuing emphasis on studio production.

Painting- this course is designed to provide an enhanced art experience with painting as the main media.

Choir- this course provides opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through singing in a choral mixed ensemble.

Musical Theatre 2- this intermediate level drama course will focus on more advanced acting skills and produce and participate in a theatre production.