

Celina Jr. High School

Grade 8

Course Descriptions 2019-2020

Grade 8 Required Courses	Grade 8 Elective Courses
English Language Arts and Reading Math (8) 8th/Algebra DB, Algebra Science US History Tech Apps	Full Year Offerings: Yearbook (application required) Athletics PE Band Choir Spanish I # Art HS # Theatre Production # STEM II Principles of Applied Engineering Video Production

#earns High School credit – no GPA Awarded

Electives Note: While in (grades 6-8), Texas students must earn four (4) semesters of PE credit and one (1) Fine Arts credit. Fine Arts consists of Art, Band, Choir, and Theatre. Each Fine Arts class earns one credit.

Celina Jr. High School Advanced/Accelerated Course Notes:

Students choosing to enroll in Grade 8 Advanced/Accelerated courses should expect a rigorous academic curriculum requiring additional demands on time, personal organization, and commitment. Jr. High school level advanced courses are specifically designed to support and prepare capable students for high school Advanced Placement (AP) courses. More information can be found on the PreAP Agreement.

GRADE 8 REQUIRED COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

English Language Arts and Reading 8

Grade 8 students will have a choice of English Language Arts and Reading 8 (**ELAR 8**) or Advanced Placement English Language Arts and Reading 8 (**ADV ELAR 8**), or English Language Arts and Reading 8 GT (**ADV/GT ELAR 8**).

Either... English Language Arts and Reading 8 (ELAR 8):

Students will continue to enrich reading skills including decoding, vocabulary building, and comprehension. ELAR 8 students will continue working on comprehending and creating meaning from abstract ideas, using a variety of genres and texts as a starting point for the writing process. Using language as a tool for expressing ideas for a variety of purposes, students will also refine their skills in both written and oral communication by addressing these important areas: parts of speech, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, sentence variety, and composition. Students will also continue strengthening their research skills.

OR... ADVANCED ELAR 8:

ADV ELAR 8 is a class designed to give students the opportunity to practice skills, through enriched activities, enabling them to be successful in the PreAP and AP classes at the high school level and ultimately in college work itself. This course is designed to encourage students to become self-directed, skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, as well as skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. This course will stress the study of literary elements, higher level vocabulary development, and understanding the author's purpose for writing. Critical thinking skills, cooperative learning, and problem-solving are developed as integral parts of activities. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purpose, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to the effectiveness in writing.

OR... ADVANCED/GT ELAR 8:

Prerequisite: Identification as Gifted and Talented according to CISD guidelines.

ADV/GT English Language Arts and Reading 8 is also designed to prepare students for the expectations and activities required by the AP program with the shared goal of laying the groundwork and foundation for success, in AP high school courses and ultimately college. The course, which uses a differentiated curriculum developed by Celina ISD is designed to respond to gifted learners' characteristics, integrating the PreAP English Language Arts and Reading 8 goals in literary analysis and interpretation of a variety of texts, written and oral communications, research methods and citations, critical thinking skills, cooperative learning and problem solving with the advanced content and interdisciplinary concepts and themes of the ADV/GT ELAR curriculum.

Math 8

Either...

Math 8:

Grade 8 math will focus on proportionality; expressions, equations, relationships, and foundations of functions; and measurement and data. Students use concepts, algorithms, and properties of real numbers to explore mathematical relationships and to describe increasingly complex situations. Students use concepts of proportionality to explore, develop, and communicate mathematical relationships. Students use algebraic thinking to describe how a change in one quantity in a relationship results in a change in the other. Students connect verbal, numeric, graphic, and symbolic representations of relationships, including equations and inequalities. Students begin to develop an understanding of functional relationships. Students use geometric properties and relationships, as well as spatial reasoning, to model and analyze situations and solve problems. Students communicate information about geometric figures or situations by quantifying attributes, generalize procedures from measurement experiences, and use the procedures to solve problems. Students use appropriate statistics, representations of data, and reasoning to draw conclusions, evaluate arguments, and make recommendations.

OR...

8th Math / Algebra 1 Double Block:

This course is a high school accredited course. The students must Master 7th STARR test to be considered for this accelerated course. The students will over 8th and Algebra 1 in a double block class. The students will give up one of their electives in order to be in this class. Students will receive high school credit for this course. (Students in this class will have the option to drop Tech Apps class in order to still have three electives.)

Algebra I:

Prerequisite: Accelerated Math 7

This course is a high school accredited course. Students who successfully pass this course are urged to take Geometry the following year and should intend to take Calculus later in high school. This course introduces the properties and operations of the real number system as well as the use of algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities. Students learn to construct graphs of linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and to use graphs and equations to solve problems. Students are given opportunities to work with concrete manipulatives, utilize calculator and computer technology, and apply algebraic thinking and problem solving to everyday life.

Science 8

8th Grade Science: Interdisciplinary in nature, grade 8 science emphasizes scientific investigations and reasoning in order to learn about natural phenomena. The content focuses on Earth and Space Science while integrating concepts from Chemistry, Physics, and Ecology. Students are expected to master the learning objectives by using hands-on activities, laboratory experiments, and projects.

History 8

US History: The curriculum of grade 8 American History includes geography and historical events through the Reconstruction Era. Objectives of this course include providing the student with a basic survey of historical facts in addition to promoting critical thinking skills such as: cause and effect, categorizing, generalizing, analyzing and evaluation. An intense study of the United States.

Technology Applications

Tech Apps: Class will provide students with an opportunity to learn basic and advanced technology skills. Students will participate in a variety of projects, digital citizenship activities, keyboarding, internet safety, and research skills.

GT Tech Apps: *Prerequisite: Identification as Gifted and Talented according to CISD guidelines.*

The class will provide students with an opportunity to learn basic and advanced technology skills. Students will participate in a variety of projects, digital citizenship activities, keyboarding, Internet safety, and research skills. Students will work on research that is aligned with the ADV/GT ELAR class.

Grade 8 ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students in Grade 8 will have 3 elective periods each semester in addition to the required Note: “7/8” indicates that this elective choice may include both 7th and 8th-grade students.

Courses listed are subject to availability and dependent upon numbers of students and faculty. No offerings are guaranteed, but every effort will be made to make each course available to every interested student.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE 7/8(Year): This activity course is geared to fitness and healthy lifestyles. Students are expected to participate in general fitness activities designed to promote healthy living habits. Students may take PE for one or two semesters. *Cannot take if enrolled in Athletics.*

OR...

Boys/Girls Athletics(Year): Students who wish to play *Football, Basketball, Volleyball, Track and Cross Country* should select this option. Students in this section will be allowed to try-out for any of the above sports.

Athletics is governed by the Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL). Participants are expected to participate in all organized practices and games.

All students registered into Athletics will go through a general strength and conditioning program during the daily athletic period. Mandatory before school and after school practice time requirements are frequent. Bus transportation services will **NOT** be provided to students required to attend before or after school practice times.

Additional requirements include:

1. UIL Sports Physical
2. UIL and District Acknowledgements
3. UIL Academic Requirements for Competition
4. UIL Concussion Form

FINE ARTS & OTHER ELECTIVES

Yearbook 7/8(Year): Prerequisite: Application required.

Students enrolled in Yearbook- will create, design and produce our school's yearbook. They will apply all skills associated with layout and design, digital imaging, photo-composition, journalism, and most importantly, collaboration and cooperation between staff members. Yearbook participants are expected to spend time outside of school hours to cover campus events and complete required assignments by deadline. Students will attend various workshops offered by Jostens throughout the year. No additional supplies are needed for this class. **Note: Students enrolled in this course must have permission for local and district use of student images.**

Art 2 8 (year): High School Credit

Art High School is a year-long course offered to 8th graders **for high school credit**. The coursework has specific guidelines and objectives but remains open-ended enough to allow for individuality and imagination. Student projects may include, but are not limited to: drawing in a variety of media, origami, printmaking, paper sculpture, plaster sculpture, painting in a variety of media, mixed media, collage, textiles, and ceramics.

Band 7/8(Year): The following are requirements for any Band 7/8 class:

1. Instrument purchase or rental
2. UIL and District Acknowledgements
3. UIL Academic Requirements for competition
4. Before/After school rehearsal will be expected at various times throughout the school year.

5. Band members will perform at selected school events and various concerts and contests.

Auditions will determine placement in one of the performing ensembles.

Boys/ Girls Choir 7/8(Year): The following are requirements for any Choir 7/8 class:

1. Performance Attire purchase or rental
 2. UIL and District Acknowledgements
 3. UIL Academic Requirements for competition
 4. Before/After school rehearsal will be expected at various times throughout the school year.
 5. Choir members will perform at selected school events and various concerts and contests
- Auditions will determine placement in Choir.

Spanish I 8 (Year): : Spanish I is an introductory course to the Spanish language and the vast and diverse culture of the Spanish-speaking world. The student will gain insight and knowledge on the connection between culture and the Spanish language. Spanish 1 will provide the student with Novice proficiency ability to understand, speak, read, and write Spanish on topics dealing with the everyday life of a student. The course instruction is conducted in Spanish the majority of the time. **This is a rigorous and challenging High School level course that will award High School graduation credit. Successful completion of this course will provide the prerequisite for Spanish 2 at the High School.**

Principles of Applied Engineering: 8 (Year) Principles of Applied Engineering STEM Endorsement Pathway(Year):

Prerequisite: Must have had STEM in 7th Grade and have read “Getting Things Done for Teens” by David Allen

Principles of Applied Engineering provides an overview of the various fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and their interrelationships. Students will develop engineering communication skills, which include computer graphics, modeling, and presentations, by using a variety of computer hardware and software applications to complete assignments and projects. Upon completing this course, students will have an understanding of the various fields of engineering and will be able to make informed career decisions. Further, students will have worked on a design team to develop a product or system. Students will use multiple software applications to prepare and present course assignments. **This is a High School level course that will award High School graduation credit.**

Theatre Production 8(Year): High School Credit

Theatre Production provides practical hands-on experiences in acting and stagecraft through the preparation and public performances of plays. This course focuses on all aspects of theatrical production: acting concepts and skills, production concepts and skills, and technical concepts and skills. This will include improvisation, character analysis, and duet/group acting. Some out-of-school commitment is required. Theatre Production will present 2 shows annually. Students in this course will be required to attend before/after school practices.

Video Production 8 (Year): This course will introduce the students to movie making. The course is designed for students to investigate and increase their understanding of producing a video. Using hands-on problem solving, the students will produce special edition videos over various topics according to specific campus needs, as well as acquire “in front of cameras” experience. Students will learn successful operation and care of video equipment, computer video editing software, framing techniques, script writing, and storyboarding experience. Students may not take this class more than once.