

2019-2020 8th Grade Course Information Sheet
Holman Middle School

Understanding the scheduling process is one of the most important steps you can make to ensure success in middle school. Your school counselor, along with your current teachers, will assist you every step of the way.

- Course selections for next school year will be done online through PowerSchool. This form explains the 8th grade required courses and available elective options. Please refer to the “**Important Scheduling Information and Dates**” page to view the time-frame of the scheduling process and read the information concerning the parent online process.
- Eighth grade students will take a total of 8 classes. There will be six **REQUIRED** classes: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health and PE, and PRIDE.
- Each student will also take **TWO** elective classes. Students will choose TWO elective options and one alternate, in case the first or second choice is dropped, full, or presents a scheduling conflict with a required course.
- School counselors will be meeting with students to review course selections, however if your child has an interest in attending a specialty center please be sure to communicate this with your child’s school counselor. Some specialty centers have course requirements and your child’s school counselor can review these requirements with you to be sure you are aware.

REQUIRED COURSES: Course numbers are in parenthesis. Italicized courses award a high school credit.

1) English/Language Arts – All English courses have a summer reading requirement; One course level will be recommended by current teacher.

- English 8 (1120)
- English 8 Advanced (1120V)
- English 8 Collaborative – IEP (1120I)
- Functional English for MS Students – IEP (7801)

2) Math – One course level will be recommended by current teacher.

- Math Course 3 (3112)
- Algebra I (3130MS)*
- PSC Geometry (3143MS)*
- Math Course 3 Collaborative – IEP (3112I)
- Functional Students for MS Students – IEP (7802)

3) Social Studies - One course level will be recommended by current teacher.

- Social Studies 8: Civics/Economics (2220)
- World History & Geography I (2215MS)*
- Social Studies 8: Civics/Economics Collaborative – IEP (2220I)
- Functional Social Studies for MS Students – IEP (7803)

4) Science - One course level will be recommended by current teacher.

- Physical Science 8 (4125)
- Earth Science (4210MS)*
- Physical Science 8 Collaborative – IEP (4125I)
- Functional Science for MS Students – IEP (7804)

5) **Health and Physical Education - One course level will be recommended by current teacher.**

- Health & PE 8 (7200)
- *Adapted Health & PE 8 (7205)

6) **ELECTIVES:** In addition to the required courses, students will choose **two** elective courses from the list below. Students will choose two full year courses. Students **must** also choose one alternate in case the first or second choice is dropped, full, or presents a scheduling conflict with a required course. The alternate choice must be different from the first choice electives. An asterisk (*) means that a teacher recommendation or application is required for the course and italicized courses means that the course awards high school credit.

- Art 8 (9115)
- **Art I, Discovering Art (9120MS)*- Application due 2/15 to Mrs. Kolar, Room 1505
- **Digital Media, Art and Design I (9153MST)* – Application due 2/15 to Mr. Elza, Room 1504
- *MS Intermediate Band (9230)
- *MS Advanced Band (9247)
- MS Advanced Chorus (9275C)
- *MS Small Vocal Ensemble (9276)- Auditions 2/13 & 2/15 with Mrs. Williamson, sign-up in room 1401
- *Intermediate Strings (9253MS)
- *Advanced Strings (9254MS)
- Foundations of French Pt. B (5115)* – Must currently be in Foundations French Pt. A
- Foundations of Spanish Pt. B (5515)* – Must currently be in Foundations Spanish Pt. A
- French II (5120MS)*– Must currently be in Foundations of French Pt. B
- Spanish II (5520MS)*—Must currently be in Foundations of Spanish Pt. B
- Independent Living (8219MS)*
- Technology Foundations (8403MSC)*
- Exploring Computer Science (6670MS)*
- Introduction to Game Design and Coding (6642MST)* -- Application due 2/15 to Ms. Edmondson, Room 1512
- Theatre Arts (1409)
- Speech and Dramatics (1389)
- *Make it Your Business (8112) – (Yearbook course) Application due 2/15 to Ms. Edmondson, Room 1512
- **21st Century Inquiry and Leadership (9840)* - For identified Gifted Learners only
- *MS Reading 8 (IEP) (1179)
- *English as a Second Language (5710MS, 5720MS, 5730MS, 5731MS, 5733MS) – For identified students only

If you have questions about the recommended courses, please consult with your child's current teacher(s) or school counselor. Please note that the above identified elective options are listed as choices but are not guaranteed. Final course offerings will be based on course registration information and teacher availability.

Important Scheduling Information and Dates

Holman Middle School/Rising 8th Grade Students

- Getting Started:** Review the [Course Information Sheet](#) and the [Planning Guide for Students and Parents, 2019-20](#). Course descriptions can be found in the guide. The [Planning Guide](#) is available online and has also been uploaded to all HCPS student laptops.
- Teachers will make course recommendations for the next school year in PowerSchool.
- Parents/Guardians will login to their PowerSchool account through the Parent Portal (<https://sis.henrico.k12.va.us/public/home.html>). Once successfully logged into PowerSchool, parents/guardians will be expected to accept the recommended core courses and select elective courses and alternates with their child.
- If parents/guardians do not yet have a PowerSchool account, they will be required to create a login using their child's 11 digit identification number. Parents/guardians should be sure they know their child's 11-digit student information number prior to starting this process. This number can be found on your child's report card or schedule.

Important Dates to Remember:

- January 10 - January 14:** Counselors will meet with current 6th and 7th grade students to discuss course scheduling for next school year
- January 18 – January 25:** Current academic and certain elective teachers will make course recommendations in PowerSchool.
- January 24:** Rising 7th & 8th Grade Parent Meeting @ 5:30 PM in the Holman Auditorium
Annual HMS Curriculum Fair (6:00 – 7:00 PM); Parents and students are encouraged to walk around freely. All academics and electives will be showcased.

Snow Date: If the Curriculum Fair is cancelled due to inclement weather the event will be held on January 29, from 6:00-7:00. The Rising 7th & 8th Grade Parent Meeting will also be held at 5:30 on January 29.
- February 4-15:** Parents will review/accept teacher recommendations and select electives online, in PowerSchool.
- February 15** – Deadline to submit application for Yearbook, Art I, Digital Media Art & Design I, and Introduction to Game Design and Coding.
- February 13 & 15** – Auditions for chorus
- May** - Course Request Verification Sheets will be distributed to students
- June 14** - Deadline to request schedule change. Changes will only be honored if space is available in the course being requested.