

WEST OSO *Junior High*

2007-2008



Course Catalog



Planning For Your Future

To the Graduation Classes of 2011, 2012 and 2013 and Their Parents:

*You have an exciting future ahead of you. This handbook has been developed to help you plan for your future. The primary purpose of the **West Oso Junior High Course Catalog** is to provide students, parents, and staff valuable information related to the entire junior high instructional program and policies of the West Oso Independent School District. Also presented are brief descriptions of all required and elective courses available to the West Oso High students, so that students, parents and staff may better work together in meeting the needs of each student.*

This course catalog will assist you through the scheduling process for the 2007-2008 school year. The counselor, administrators, and faculty at West Oso Junior High are available to help you select the most appropriate courses for your child. For help, please call 361-806-5950 ext. 404 and ask for the counselor or administrator.



SCHEDULING AND PLACEMENT INFORMATION

REGISTRATION

The junior high registration process begins each spring when students are given course descriptions. The course offerings provide a solid foundation of academic study and also allow adequate flexibility for students to select some courses based solely on interest. Students should take time to consider options carefully. Group advisements and orientations will be scheduled for students and parents during the second semester. Parents and students should watch for the announcements for these sessions and attend these informative meetings. The counselor will meet with 5th, 6th & 7th graders to discuss choices for their next grade level.

The advisement process will incorporate teacher input, parent consideration, placement data, and student/parent choice. A student who enrolls after school begins, the counselor determines placement on the basis of grades and other information brought by the student, District criteria, and elective choices.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Advisement for the next year begins in early spring and extends over several months. In the process of registration, it is in the best interest of the student that course choices be carefully considered. Schedule changes for any reason during the school year can be considerably disruptive to the rest of the student's course assignments. Schedule changes will not be made solely to change the period the class is held or to change teachers.

Course or class changes may be considered in the following circumstances and would take place only at the end of a grading period such as the six weeks or semester.

- * When the student is evaluated and needs to be placed in or out of reading class or moved to a different level reading class
- * When the student is no longer meeting the requirements of an accelerated class
- * When a student's performance indicates the need for a change in level

Special consideration for other course changes will be made on a case by case basis. Seat availability, the time of the change, the effect of the change on the student's schedule, the basis for the request and other factors will be considered in these potential changes.

ACADEMIC PLACEMENT

Students are enrolled in academic classes according to District-wide programmatic criteria in the areas of English/Language Arts, reading, mathematics, science and social studies. Placement criteria include factors such as prior academic performance as well as scores from the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills. In the case of students with disabilities, the ARD Committee will make placement decisions that designate Special Education and/or Regular Education placement.

Parents are given placement information for the following year during the second semester. If there is concern about a student's academic placement, the parent may request reconsideration of the placement. This process begins when the parent calls the counselor. The junior high staff will administer the procedures for class placement.

Placement in courses is determined by performance of students in current courses, grades, available test data, mastery of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, and in some instances, programmatic criteria. The following levels of classes are offered.



PRE-AP PROGRAM INFORMATION

Pre-AP courses are designed to challenge motivated students and prepare them for success in college-level coursework taken during high school and college. These courses typically move at a faster pace, are more academically challenging and require more independent learning and homework than academic courses. In order to assist in the placement decision, the guidelines provided in this catalog are intended to provide a profile of students who typically experience success in Pre-AP course.

Pre-AP is based on the following two important premises. The first is the expectation that all students can perform at rigorous academic levels. This expectation should be reflected in curriculum and instruction throughout the school such that all students are consistently being challenged to expand their knowledge and skills to the next level.

The second important premise of Pre-AP is the belief that we can prepare every student for higher intellectual engagement by starting the development of skills and acquisition of knowledge as early as possible. Addressed effectively, the middle and high school years can provide a powerful opportunity to help all students acquire the knowledge, concepts, and skills needed to engage in a higher level of learning

New students

The counselor and principal may place a new student in a Pre-AP class immediately, if records are available which indicate that the student meets the criteria, or place the student in an on-level class for three to six weeks for observation and testing, if necessary.

Transfers from On-Level Class to Pre-AP

Students must have a teacher recommendation to transfer from an on-level class to a Pre-AP class during the current school year.

Exit Considerations for Pre-AP

When a student has a grade between 70 and 79 for two consecutive six week grading periods in an Pre-AP course, the teacher will make a parent contact to discuss the student's continuation in that course. A conference will be held with parents for any student with a six-week grade of 69 or below to discuss the student's continuation in that course. If a student has a grade below 80 at the time progress reports are issued during any grading period, the teacher will issue a progress report for that student.

NOTE: Algebra I follows the high school curriculum for which a high school math credit may be earned. Since Algebra I is the foundation course for all high school math courses, special care must be taken to ensure adequate preparation for future classes. If a student's grade is below 80 for any six-week period, the teacher will make a parent contact to discuss the student's continuation in Algebra I.

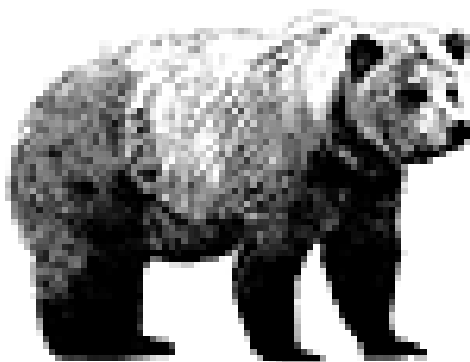


CREDIT FOR HIGH SCHOOL COURSES TAKEN IN GRADE EIGHT

Students who satisfactorily complete high school courses in grades eight shall receive high school credit for those courses. These credits shall apply to satisfy both State graduation requirements and unit requirements in subject areas. Once high school credit is awarded, a course cannot be repeated. If a student wishes to remediate his/her learning, the district encourages students to take the course for no credit. The high school courses presently offered at West Oso Jr. High are Algebra I, Spanish I, and Keyboarding (1/2 credit)

NEW GATEWAY GRADE LEVEL

Beginning with the 2007-2008 school year, all 8th grade students will be required to pass the TAKS Reading and Mathematics tests to be eligible for promotion to the 9th grade. Students will have three opportunities to meet the passing standard for each required TAKS test.





REQUIRED COURSES

<i>Grade 6</i>	<i>Grade 7</i>	<i>Grade 8</i>
Language Arts 6 or Language Arts 6 Pre-AP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing 	Language Arts 7 or Language Arts 7 Pre-AP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing 	Language Arts 8 Language Arts 8 Pre-AP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading • Writing
Mathematics 6 or Mathematics 6 Pre-AP	Mathematics 7 or Mathematics 7 Pre-AP	Mathematics 8 or Algebra 1
Science 6 or Science 6 Pre-AP	Science 7 or Science 7 Pre-AP	Science 8 or Science 8 Pre-AP
Social Studies 6 or Social Studies 6 Pre-AP	Social Studies 7 or Social Studies 7 Pre-AP	Social Studies 8 or Social Studies 8 Pre-AP
Physical Education	Physical Education	Keyboarding/Career Investigation
Electives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beginner Band • Art • Theatre Arts • Choral Music • Spanish I • TAKS Math 	Electives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JV Band • Varsity Band • Spanish II • Art • Theatre Arts • Choral Music • TAKS Math • Athletics (in lieu of P.E.) • Business Venture 	Electives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JV Band • Varsity Band • AP Spanish • Art • Theatre Arts • Choral Music • TAKS Math • Athletics • Business Venture



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR WEST OSO JUNIOR HIGH

ENGLISH

Language Arts/PreAp 6 **02800000**
Integrates thematic literature, vocabulary development and oral and written language skills. Emphasizes research skills and reflective writing techniques.

Language Arts/PreAP 7 **03200520**
Integrates literature, oral and written language skills, grammar usage, and vocabulary development. Emphasizes research skills and reflective writing techniques. Provides enrichment and remediation as needed.

Language Arts/PreAP 8 **03200530**
Analyzes and evaluates selected literature while integrating vocabulary, Oral and written language skills, and reflective writing techniques. Enrichment and remediation provided as needed.

English as a Second Language 6 **02940000**
English as a Second Language 7 **03200400**
English as a Second Language 8 **03200500**
Provides instruction in oral and written language skills. Addresses students' learning needs in organized instructional groups in laboratory or classroom, and provides remediation as needed.

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics/PreAP 6 **02820000**
Focuses on using ratios to describe proportional relationships involving numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability, and adding and subtracting decimals and fractions; Problem solving, communication, and real-world connections are emphasized.

Mathematics/PreAP 7 **03103000**
Focuses on using proportional relationships with numbers, geometry, measurement, and probability, applying addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of decimals, fractions, and integers; uses statistical measures to describe data. Problem solving, communication, and real-world connections are emphasized.

7th Grade Algebra Preparatory **03103000**
Includes and expands on all TEKS for Mathematics 7 and 8. Develops advanced skills for students seeking to enroll in Algebra 1 while in Grade 8, emphasizing a study of the language of algebra, abstract thinking, and problem solving using multiple representations.



Mathematics 8

03103100

Focuses on the use of basic principles of algebra to analyze and represent proportional and non-proportional relationships, and using probability to describe data and make predictions. Problem solving, communication, and real-world connections are emphasized.

Algebra 1

03100500

Develops fundamental algebra concepts and skills including algebraic thinking and symbolic reasoning, using functions to represent and model problem situations, and setting up and solving equations and inequalities using multiple representations and methods. (Earns 1 credit toward graduation requirements)

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6/PreAp 6

02660060

Focuses on populations of the world. Provides instruction in geography, history, cultural contributions of social and ethnic groups and the influence of geography and economics on the unique character of Texas.

Texas History and Geography 7/PreAP 7

03343000

Presents significant issues, events, and conflicts in Texas history. Includes a study of the cultural contributions of social and ethnic groups and the influence of geography and economics on the unique character of Texas.

United States History and Citizenship 8/PerAP 8

03343100

Emphasizes significant historical and political events in United States history to 1877, including exploration, colonization, struggles for independence, building a new nation and system of government, westward expansion, and Civil War and Reconstruction periods. Stresses the cultural backgrounds and the rights and responsibilities of American citizens.

SCIENCE

Science/PreAP Science 6

03060600

Science/PreAP Science 7

03060700

Science/PreAP Science 8

03060800

Integrates life, earth/space, and physical science concepts into five objectives: (1) nature of science; (2) interdependence of living systems and the environment; (3) structures and properties of matter; (4) motion, forces, and energy; (5) earth and space systems. Laboratory and field investigations focus on applying scientific methods, critical-thinking skills, and problem-solving strategies while utilizing tools to collect and analyze data.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Personal Education/Wellness and Personal Fitness 6

02860000

Provides a balanced program of activities that stresses physical fitness; fosters personal and community health and safety. Teaches students how to assess, develop, demonstrate, and maintain an acceptable level of health-related fitness in order to allow students to develop a personal plan for an active lifestyle.

Physical Education 7

03823000

Provides a balanced program of activities that stresses physical fitness and skill development. Places emphasis on the rules and strategies of various sports, as well as on the development and maintenance of total body fitness.

Boy's Athletics 7/8

03823000

Provides male students with opportunities to participate in competitive athletics such as football, basketball, and track; each participant is required to abide by all policies, procedures, and rules of the West Oso I.S.D. Athletic Department. May be taken in lieu of 7th grade P.E.

Girl's Athletics 7/8

03823000

Provides female students with opportunities to participate competitive athletics such as volleyball, basketball, and track; each participant is required to abide by all policies, procedures, and rules of the West Oso I.S.D. Athletic Department. May be taken in lieu of 7th grade P.E.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Keyboarding (8th grade only)

03580120

Develops psychomotor ability to operate the keyboard by touch with initial development of acceptable speed and accuracy levels, introduces a minimal amount of formatting, and develops keyboarding speed and accuracy with correct technique. (Earns ½ credit toward graduation requirements)

Career Investigation (8th grade only)

12721100

Career Investigation course stresses economic, social, and technological factors related to career opportunities; emphasizes skills for self-appraisal and career opportunities.

Technology Applications

03580100

Provides students with technology terms, concepts, and data input strategies to access, analyze, and evaluate information. Students select technology appropriate for a task, create solutions to real-life problems, evaluate results, and communicate information in a formal presentation.



ELECTIVES

Beginning Band

03154101

In beginning band, the emphasis is on developing fundamentals of instrumental music. The course is designed to prepare students for participation in a performing group during high school. The beginning band performs at least two concerts each year. Students receive small group instruction organized by the instruments which they play. .

Jr. Varsity Band

03154503

Varsity Band

03154537

The band director's approval is required for Jazz, Mariachi, and Varsity Band. Students will learn proper instrument techniques and musical theory. They will also have the opportunity for creative self-expression, physical conditioning, and cultural growth. Students will develop their mental and physical discipline, as well as citizenship through working as a musical ensemble. Students are assigned to Jazz, Mariachi, and Jr. Varsity/Varsity Band based on their ability level. Students must be able to practice and participate in activities after school hours. Varsity Band students will be involved in numerous competitions that include solo and ensemble. They will also be required to participate in many performances. Band must be taken both semesters.

Art 6

02880000

Students will learn and apply the elements and principles of design to each unit of study, to include: drawing, painting, sculpture, art history, ceramics, design, and printmaking. Encourages artistic development to create original works of art in printmaking, sculpture, fibers, and ceramics and provides opportunities for art appreciation and creation of artworks.

Art 7

03503001

Students will learn and apply the elements and principles of design to each unit of study, to include: drawing, painting, sculpture, art history, ceramics, design, and printmaking. Stresses the use of various media and techniques with opportunities to learn the value of self-expression, develop and appreciation for aesthetics, develop critical-thinking skills, and create original works of art.

Art 8

03503002

Students will learn and apply the elements and principles of design to each unit of study, to include: drawing, painting, sculpture, art history, ceramics, design, and printmaking. Develops problem-solving skills in order to create original works of art in a variety of media; integrates critical and creative thinking skills in the study of art criticism, aesthetics, and art production.



Theatre Arts 6 **02900000**
Introduces interpretative drama skills that may include pantomime, role-laying, improvisation, puppetry, and readers' theatre; Includes performances in theatrical events. (One semester)

Theatre Arts 7 **03253001**
Students will learn perception, creative expression/performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation provides broad, unifying structures for organizing knowledge and skills students are expected to acquire. Through a variety of theatrical experiences, students communicate in a dramatic form, make artistic choices, solve problems, build positive self-concepts, and relate interpersonally.

Theatre Arts 8 **03253002**
Develops acting skills through performance in individual and group dramatic productions; Provides opportunities for the application of theatre production skills in theatrical events.

Choral Music 6 **02920000**
Choral Music 7 **03154301**
Choral Music 8 **03154504**
The goal of choral music is to introduce students to choral techniques and a variety of literature. The development of choral skills and an appreciation for music is stressed. Attendance at rehearsals and performance is required.

Office Practice Experience (8th only) **850000P8**
Provides opportunities to experience activities unique to office work. Requires Principal's Approval.

TAKS Math 6/7/8
Review of basic math and reading skills with a focus on the TAKS. Other test taking strategies will be taught and reviewed.

Technology Applications (8) **03580120**
Provides students with technology terms, concepts, and data input strategies to access analyze, and evaluate information. Students select technology appropriate for a task, create solutions to real-life problems, evaluate results, and communicate information in a formal presentation.



Spanish (8)

03440100

Develops language skills in a proficiency-oriented curriculum in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasizes speaking and comprehending Spanish. Students are acquainted with the culture and civilization associated with the Spanish language. The student is encouraged to actively participate in using the language through a variety of activities. (Earns 1 credit toward graduation requirements)

Exploratory Spanish 6/7

02446000

Introduces basic language skills and concepts of the Spanish-speaking culture

**West Oso Middle School
6th Grade Course Selection
2007-2008**

Student _____ *ID#* _____ *Sex* _____

D.O.B. _____ *Parent/Guardian Name* _____

Required Subjects		
Language Arts/Reading		Social Studies
Math	Science	Physical Education
<i>For those who qualify, Pre-advanced placement courses are available in all of the above courses except P.E.</i>		

Exploratory Electives	
<i>Use a "1" for your first choice, a "2" for your second choice, and a "3" for your third choice.</i>	
_____ Theatre arts	_____ Art
_____ Choir	_____ Spanish I
_____ Beginner Band	

Student Signature _____ I understand there will be no schedule changes unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Parent Signature _____ I agree to the choices my child has made and I understand my child may not receive his/her elective choices. Schedule changes will only be made under extenuating circumstances.

For Office Use Only				
Language Arts/Reading	Reg	SE	PreAP	ESL
Math	Reg	SE	PreAP	TAKS
Social Studies	Reg		PreAP	
Science	Reg		PreAP	

**West Oso Middle School
7th Grade Course Selection
2007-2008**

Student _____ *ID#* _____ *Sex* _____

D.O.B. _____ *Parent/Guardian Name* _____

Required Subjects		
Language Arts/Reading	Science	Social Studies
Math		Physical Education
<i>For those who qualify, Pre-advanced placement courses are available in all of the above courses except P.E.</i>		

Electives		
<i>Use a "1" for your first choice, a "2" for your second choice, a "3" for your third choice, and a "4" for the fourth choice.</i>		
_____ Athletics FB VB BB TR	_____ Choir	_____ Art
_____ JV/Varsity Band	_____ Technology Applications	
_____ Theatre Arts	_____ Spanish II	

For Office Use Only				
Language Arts/Reading	Reg	SE	PreAP	ESL
Math	Reg	SE	PreAP	TAKS
Social Studies	Reg		PreAP	
Science	Reg		PreAP	

Student Signature _____ I understand there will be no schedule changes unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Parent Signature _____ I agree to the choices my child has made and I understand my child may not receive his/her elective choices. Schedule changes will only be made under extenuating circumstances.

**West Oso Middle School
8th Grade Course Selection
2007-2008**

Student _____ *ID#* _____ *Sex* _____

D.O.B. _____ *Parent/Guardian Name* _____

Required Subjects

Language Arts

Social Studies

Math

Science

Keyboarding/Career Investigations

For those who qualify, Pre-advanced placement courses are available in all of the above courses except P.E.

Electives

Use a "1" for your first choice, a "2" for your second choice, a "3" for your third choice, and a "4" for the fourth choice.

_____ **Athletics**
FB VB BB TR

_____ **Choir**

_____ **Art**

_____ **JV/Varsity**
Band

_____ **Technology Applications**

_____ **Theatre Arts**

_____ **Spanish 1**

_____ **OPEX (Office)**

Student Signature _____ I understand there will be no schedule changes unless there are extenuating circumstances.

Parent Signature _____ I agree to the choices my child has made and I understand my child may not receive his/her elective choices. Schedule changes will only be made under extenuating circumstances.

For Office Use Only

Language Arts

Reg

SE

PreAP

ESL

Math

Reg

SE

PreAP

TAKS

Social Studies

Reg

PreAP

Science

Reg

PreAP