

The background of the slide is a light cream color with a pattern of scattered dots in two colors: a muted orange and a dark purple. The dots vary in size and are distributed across the entire page. On the right side, there is a dark grey rectangular box with rounded corners and a thin white border. Inside this box, the title is written in white serif font.

Making Choices for 7th Grade

Ms. Goodwyn and Ms. Ortiz

Agenda

Today we will discuss:

- Courses offerings for 7th grade, including electives
- Graduation requirements
- Process for 7th grade course selection

Seventh Grade Classes

English

**U.S History, Civics and
Economics 1865-present**

Science

Math - Math 7, Pre-Algebra for 7th
graders, Intensified Algebra I
Recommendations in spring

Elective

Elective

Health and PE

Electives

- All students have room for **2** elective classes. These can be filled by:
 - **4** semester classes (2 classes per semester)
 - **2** semester classes, and **1** full-year class
 - **2** full-year classes
- Students are asked to pick their choices, and provide alternates(back ups)
- World Languages are only offered as full year courses

Electives-Semester Classes

- Digital Input Technologies (*typing, word processing, technology applications*)
- Inventions and Innovations (*engineering and technology, design prototypes, use tools in the production laboratory*)
- Teen Living (*nutrition and wellness, creating textile products*)
- Theater Arts (*theater history, technical theater, dramatic theater*)
- Visual Arts (*exposure to a variety of artistic techniques and processes*)

Electives-Courses offered as Full Year only

Music Courses

- Band
- Orchestra
- Chorus

Electives- High School Credit Courses -offered as Full Year only

- Arabic I
- Chinese I
- French I
- Latin I
- Spanish I
- Spanish for Fluent Speakers I
- American Sign Language I **Subject to staffing availability-students must pick an alternate*
- Computer Programming

Electives- Courses Offered by Staff Recommendations or IEP

- Reading Strategies 7
- Math Strategies 7
- Instructional Studies

International Baccalaureate (IB)

- Rigorous global perspective learning
- Development of life skills
- Classes focusing on writing, thinking, communicating, & experimenting
- Involvement in service learning and extracurricular activities
- Preparation for college level studies & advanced college credits

Important when considering language and math courses

- students must have 2 consecutive years of language in middle school and be in Algebra 1 or greater in 8th grade

Refer to WL's website for additional information.

<https://wl.apsva.us/international-baccalaureate-program/>

Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST)

- Fairfax County high school that emphasizes science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
- Interested students apply in 8th grade and are evaluated on their grade point average (GPA) and performance on a student portrait sheet activity and problem-solving essay
- In order to be eligible to apply, students must:
 - Be enrolled in Algebra 1 Intensified in 8th grade
 - End 7th grade with a final GPA of 3.5 or higher
- To learn more, contact TJ or visit: <https://www.fcps.edu/tjadmissions>

Arlington Tech

- Rigorous project, based learning: Students collaborate on open-ended projects and apply classroom content to real-world problems and relevant questions.
- Collaborative problem solving
- Prepares students for college courses and workplace
- *Highly recommended* to be in Algebra I in 8th grade

Diploma Options and Graduation Requirements

- **Standard Diploma**
 - 22 credits and 5 verified credits
 - no language requirement
- **Advanced Studies Diploma**
 - 26 credits and 5 verified credits
 - Students must take world language to earn an advanced studies diploma
 - Students must take either 3 years of one language, or 2 years of one language and 2 years of another (for example, 3 years of Spanish or 2 years of French and 2 years of Latin)

Graduation requirements

Credit = *class*

Verified credit = *Passed class SOL **AND** class*

Learn more by reading the program of studies found here:

<https://www.apsva.us/instruction/curriculum-instruction/program-of-studies/>

Next Steps

- Counselors will share a video with this information for students, which will be shown in class and available on the Counseling Canvas page
- Counselors will visit classrooms to answer students' questions
- Students will make their course selections at home with a parent/guardian through a Google form that will be available on the Counseling Canvas page
- Students must fill out the Google form no later than **Friday, February 25th**
- In the spring, families will receive an email regarding math placement



Questions?

Counselor contact information:

Laura Goodwyn

Counselor for students with last names A-O

laura.goodwyn@apsva.us

Melissa Ortiz

Counselor for students with last names P-Z, English Learners 1-4

melissa.laraortiz@apsva.us

