

# Eagle Ridge Middle School

## 2009-2010 Eighth-Grade Course Catalog

Eighth-grade students are assigned to interdisciplinary teams. A group of two to four teachers share the same schedule and the same students. The teachers meet daily to plan instruction that crosses all curricular areas. All district and state requirements in each curriculum area are met. **In order to be placed in a Pre AP course, students must complete and turn in the Parent/Student Accelerated Course Contract with this course selection request card.** The following areas are included in the interdisciplinary teams:

### Required Year-long Courses for Eighth-Grade Students

Course Number	Core Subject	Course Description
118098	English 8	This course emphasizes and integrates reading, writing, speaking, and listening with language and literature. Students will continue to learn the skills, strategies, and processes of reading while also improving their vocabulary, grammar, and research skills. The goals of this course are to challenge students to write for varied purposes and audiences, and to read a variety of literary genre.
118198	Pre-AP English <b>(Accelerated course: contract required)</b>	This course is recommended for students who want take Pre-AP English 9. It emphasizes and integrates reading, writing, speaking, and literary analysis skills by exposing students to a variety of genres. Skill acquisition in vocabulary, grammar, and research will also be a component. The goals of this rigorous course are to challenge students to write for varied purposes and audiences.
128098	General Math 8	Math 8 is a yearlong course that will expand the skills acquired in seventh grade and concentrate on an introduction to algebra (writing and solving one, two, and multiple step equations), integers, rational and real numbers, and applications with proportions, percents, probability, statistics, linear functions and graphing, and two and three dimensional geometry. Evaluation of knowledge will include investigations, problem solving activities, along with formative assessments.
128198	Algebra <b>(Accelerated course: contract required)</b>	This is a full year course equivalent to Algebra course offered at the 9 <sup>th</sup> grade level, and will be counted as a High School Algebra credit. It will serve as the prerequisite, however, for Pre-AP Geometry, Geometry, and Introduction to Statistics. This course is designed to teach students how to solve problems that involve variables and work with rational numbers. Students will learn the basic structure of the real number system and recognize techniques for solving equations and inequalities, graphing, operations with polynomial expressions/equations, techniques of factoring, systems of equations and quadratic equations. Evaluation of knowledge will include presentations, projects, reports, and tests.
138098	Physical Science	Students will study the teaching of Earth and Physical Science with an emphasis on New Mexico geology, Oceanography, Astronomy, Physics and Chemistry. Skills of measuring and testing the world by working with the concepts of motion, force, and energy will be the under-lying theme. Emphasis is given to laboratory techniques, cooperative work, math analysis and interpretation of data for all students to grow as problem solvers.
138198	Pre-AP Physical Science <b>(accelerated course: contract required)</b>	The Pre-AP Science 8 course is for students who have an interest in the sciences in addition to having a well-defined work ethic, cooperation with others, and a demonstration of self-discipline toward their own learning. Pre-AP Science 8 a yearlong course devoted to teaching Earth and Physical Science at an advanced level. The areas of concentration are New Mexico Geology, Oceanography, Astronomy, Physics, and Chemistry. Skills of measuring and testing the world by working with the concepts of motion, force, and energy will be the under-lying theme. Emphasis is given to laboratory techniques, cooperative work, math analysis and interpretation of data for all students to grow as problem solvers.
148098	American History	This course covers United States history from the age of exploration through the Civil War and Reconstruction. During the first semester key attention will be heeded to the colonization, Revolutionary, and Constitutional eras. Students will learn about the consequences of colonization and the resultant Revolution and creation of a more just government as provided by the US Constitution. The second semester will further develop students reasoning skills and their ability to show evidence of this through writing. Westward expansion, industrialization, immigration, the scourge of slavery, and the causes and consequences of the Civil War will provide the hub that the curriculum will extend from. Throughout this course students should develop their ability to research historical events, interpret these events, and defend their interpretations using fact-based evidence.

148198	Pre-AP American History ( <b>accelerated course: contract required</b> )	This course is recommended for students who desire to enroll in high school AP Social Studies courses. By implementation of a rigorous curriculum centered on extensive writing, reading, and research, instructors will guide students through the span of US history from the age of European exploration through the US Civil War. As the year progresses students will hone their ability to write thoroughly while researching and reporting on the historical and intellectual origins of the United States and our democracy. Key attention will be heeded to the Colonial, Revolutionary, and Constitutional eras during the first semester. Students will learn about the consequences of colonization and the resultant Revolution and creation of a more just government as provided by the US Constitution. The second semester will further develop students reasoning skills and their ability to show evidence of this through writing and research. Westward expansion, immigration, the scourge of slavery, and the causes and consequences of the Civil War will provide the hub from which the curriculum will extend. Throughout this course students should develop their ability to research historical events, interpret these events, and defend their interpretations using fact-based evidence.
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**Special Education:** Eagle Ridge Middle School offers a continuum of Special Education services designed to meet individual needs while facilitating the development of independent skills.

**Related Arts** classes will be offered to seventh-grade students in the following manner: students may choose three semester-long elective courses or one year-long elective course and one semester long course. One semester of PE is required for all 8<sup>th</sup> graders. All Related Arts classes follow an "A/B" year curriculum. This means that if a student wants to repeat a Related Art class in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade that she took in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, the curriculum taught will be different.

### Full-Year Classes\*

Course Number	Course Name	Course Description
161228	Beginning Band	This class is for all students who wish to play a band instrument. No previous experience is necessary to enroll in this class. Students will learn the basics of playing a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Performance uniforms will be black pants/skirts and a white shirt/blouse with black dress shoes. . Some school instruments are available for a fee. Fundraisers may be done during the school year. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
163228	Advanced Band	This class is open to all students who already play a band instrument. Previous musical experience is necessary to enroll. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory unless prior arrangements have been made. Uniforms will be black pants/skirts and white shirt/blouse with black dress shoes. Fundraisers may be done during the school year to help pay for trips we take during the year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. Placement in this class is through teacher approval only. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
161238	Beginning Orchestra	This class is for all students who wish to play a stringed instrument. No previous experience is necessary. Students will learn the basics of playing a violin, viola, cello or bass. Daily practice is essential. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Uniforms for concerts is black pants/skirts, white shirt/blouse and black dress shoes. Fundraising may be done during the school year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
163238	Advanced Orchestra	This class is open to all students with at least one year of experience with the violin, viola, cello or bass. Students who play the harp may be admitted upon the recommendation of a private teacher. Attendance at all performances is mandatory. Uniforms for concerts is black pants/skirts, white shirt/blouse and black dress shoes. Fundraising may be done during the school year. Some school instruments are available for a fee. A class fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
164218	Mixed Chorus	This course is open to any student who enjoys singing and performing. No previous choir experience is necessary. Students will learn proper singing techniques, basic music reading skills and sing a variety of musical styles. The Chorus students will have the opportunity to go on several field trips throughout the school year. Attendance at concerts and competitions is required. Some fundraising will be done during the school year. A fee will be assessed for music and other supplies.
398098	Gifted Seminar 8	The curriculum varies according to each student's needs and interests. Class members are encouraged to work with the teacher to design projects which will allow them to examine their intellectual passions and how they relate to their future goals. Also, group projects are offered to help develop interpersonal skills and an understanding of the importance of valuing everyone's unique perspective. <b>An IEP is required to enroll in this class.</b>
170098	Leadership	This course is associated with the US Air Force Auxiliary. The class will touch on a number of NM Benchmarks and Standards through the aerospace education program. Standards include science, technology, engineering and math. Additionally, leadership skills involving marching, physical fitness, exercise, color guard and teamwork will be emphasized. A fee may be assessed.
183008	AVID 8	Avid is designed to prepare students for 4-year college eligibility. The curriculum consists of reading and writing strategies, inquiry, team building, collaboration techniques and organizational skills. Weekly tutoring and additional support is provided to assist students in advanced classes along with motivational activities to encourage college aspirations. <b>Acceptance into this program is through an application process.</b>

111808	ESL	The goal of English as a Second Language (ESL) class is to strengthen the speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills of students who first learned a language other than English. Special emphasis is on vocabulary development, reading comprehension, and grammatical structure. <b>Students are placed in ESL based on their proficiency score on the New Mexico English Language Proficiency Assessment, or NMELPA.</b>
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### Semester Related Art Classes\*

Course Number	Course Name	Course Description
49008	Art	This course is designed for both first time art students as well as those students who have had exploratory art. The focus will be on studio experiences that further develop application of art principles and skills. Students will apply an awareness of art through history and various cultures to their own art. The course is designed with a strong emphasis on problem solving and understanding of the creative process.
190008	Consumer Science	This course is designed to provide students with opportunities to develop skills for life. The focus will be on nutritional food choices and food preparation. Once they have learned the basics of nutrition, students will learn how to read and follow recipes. They will also practice basic math skills that will help them make and keep budgets as they relate to food preparation. Students will learn the names, purposes, and proper use of cooking equipment. The class includes individual and group activities.
170108	Computer Concepts A	An intermediate approach to the use of a computer. Students will receive an introduction to Microsoft Office (Word, Power Point and Excel). Additionally, Microsoft FrontPage is utilized to create individual websites.
170308	Computer Concepts B	It is the goal of this program to introduce students to complex problem solving skills utilizing hands-on activities, cooperative groups and computer simulations in a positive and creative learning environment. Improvement of writing skills will also be emphasized.
158008	PE 8	PE offers students opportunities to participate in a variety of sports and fitness activities which promote team as well as individual skill development. Physical fitness will be emphasized.
189308	Aide	This class provides students with opportunities to assist classroom teachers, front office staff, or the Librarian in a variety of capacities. Students must <b>submit an application</b> which should be obtained and returned to Student Services at the time of Pre-registration.
189208	Office Aide	This class gives students the opportunity to assist front office staff in a variety of capacities. Students must <b>submit an application</b> which should be obtained and returned to Student Services at the time of Pre-registration.
188018/188028	Study Skills Reading	This course is offered to help struggling students with reading comprehension, fluency and vocabulary. Students are identified for this program by their teams using data obtained from NWEA and SBA reading scores. Students read fiction and non-fiction booklets accompanied by skills-based handouts and quizzes. Whole class literacy instruction is also provided. <b>This course is assigned to students based on teacher recommendations and reading scores.</b>
188218/188228	Study Skills Math	This course is offered to help struggling students with math skills. Students are identified for this program by their teams using data obtained from NWEA and SBA math scores. Individualized instruction as well as whole group instruction is used to assist students struggling to obtain proficiency. <b>This course is assigned to students based on teacher recommendations and math scores.</b>
118018/118028	Read 180	The READ 180 elective is designed to deliver individualized, adjusted reading instruction to move students who are currently 2 or more grade levels behind in their reading skills to their appropriate reading level. The program provides practice and application skills in multiple contexts to increase achievement by supporting and motivating students through the use of sophisticated software and motivating literature which helps students break out of the failure cycle and become confident, successful, lifelong readers and learners. <b>NWEA and SBA reading scores as well as teacher recommendations are used to place students in this class.</b>

\*Related Art classes are dependant on sufficient funding.