

STILLWATER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



9TH GRADE

COURSE DESCRIPTION GUIDE

2025-2026

STILLWATER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2025-2026

CURRICULUM GUIDE

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTORY

TELEPHONE 533-6420

**DOUG STAFFORD- PRINCIPAL
JOHNNA HAYES- ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
ADAM ELGHADI- ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

COUNSELORS

TELEPHONE 533-6422

**SUZANNE BIRDWELL
SUSAN BRIEN
ANDREA LYON**

ACCREDITED BY

OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STILLWATER JUNIOR HIGH REQUIREMENTS

Students in the ninth grade are required to enroll in six units of work. Ninth graders enroll in four required courses: English, Oklahoma history / government, mathematics, and physical science. Students choose two, year long, electives.

OKLAHOMA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CURRICULUM

TWENTY SIX UNITS OF CREDIT ARE REQUIRED TO GRADUATE FROM STILLWATER HIGH SCHOOL

- 4 UNITS OF ENGLISH**
- 3 UNITS OF SCIENCE**
- 3 UNITS OF MATHEMATICS**
- 1 UNIT OF AMERICAN HISTORY**
- 1 UNIT OF WORLD HISTORY**
- ½ UNIT OF OKLAHOMA HISTORY**
- ½ TO 1 UNIT OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**
- ½ TO 2 UNITS OF FINE ARTS**
- 2 UNITS OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE OR COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY**
- 1 ADDITIONAL UNIT OF ANY OF THE ABOVE LISTED COURSES**

THE REMAINING UNITS TO TOTAL 26 SHALL BE ELECTIVES.

OKLAHOMA'S PROMISE

The Oklahoma's Promise is a program intended to provide college tuition fees for students from families with limited incomes. Students must also meet certain academic requirements. Applications must be submitted in 8th, 9th, 10th or 11th grade. Applications are available at www.okpromise.org or from your counselor.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

TO ENTER ALL OKLAHOMA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES , A STUDENT MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING HIGH SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS:

ENGLISH	4 UNITS
MATH	3 UNITS (*MINIMUM - ALGEBRA I, GEOMETRY, ALGEBRA II)
LAB SCIENCE	3 UNITS
HISTORY	2 UNITS (INCLUDING 1 COURSE IN AMERICAN HISTORY)
CITIZENSHIP SKILLS 1 UNIT	(ECONOMICS, GEOGRAPHY, GOVERNMENT OR NON-WESTERN CULTURE) (WORLD HISTORY WILL SATISFY NON-WESTERN CULTURE OPTION)
OTHER	3 UNITS (ADDITIONAL ENGLISH, MATH, SCIENCE, HISTORY, OR CITIZENSHIP SKILLS COURSES OR COMPUTER SCIENCE OR FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES)

These course requirements have to be met in order for any student to enter any junior college, regional college, or university in Oklahoma. These same curriculum requirements must be met in order to enter the Oklahoma Technical Institutes in Oklahoma City and in Okmulgee.

Universities and colleges in other states have different entrance requirements. Some require more math and science and as many as 3-4 units of foreign language.

ICAP OK CAREER GUIDE



WHAT IS AN INDIVIDUAL CAREER ACADEMIC PLAN (ICAP)?

An ICAP is a multi-year process that guides students as they explore career, academic and postsecondary opportunities. Family, student and educators collaborate to develop the ICAP, which equips students with the awareness, knowledge and skills to create their own meaningful exploration of college and career opportunities. The ICAP is an evolving document that reflects students' changing passions, aptitudes, interests and growth.

WHY IS AN INDIVIDUAL CAREER ACADEMIC PLAN (ICAP) VALUABLE?

Life beyond high school requires different competencies than in the past, and are ever-changing. By 2025, three of four Oklahoma jobs will require education or training beyond high school. When students complete an ICAP, they discover which pathways fit their talents and what kind of academic preparation and experiences will prepare them for in-demand careers, some of which may not even exist when they graduate from high school.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

9TH GRADE

All 9th grade courses provide .5 unit of high school credit upon earning a passing grade at the end of each semester.

CORE COURSES

ENGLISH I - 1010

This course has two major components: literature and composition. Within literature, students read a variety of texts, which include short stories, nonfiction texts, a drama, an epic poem, and a novel. Throughout the literature portion of the curriculum, there is an emphasis on literary elements, figurative language, and academic and domain specific vocabulary. In the composition/grammar unit, the focus is on argumentative and research writing, grammatical concepts such as phrases, clauses, verbals, and parallelism. Throughout the course, the students will improve their speaking and listening skills with the use of individual and group presentations and projects.

ADVANCED ENGLISH I - 1015

This course is designed to equip students with strategies and skills to prepare them for Advanced English II while also laying the foundation for AP language. Curriculum of the course includes several different genres such as, nonfiction, drama, novels, short stories, and epic poetry. The course focuses on identifying what elements the author uses to convey the larger meaning of the text. Accompanying the in-depth literature study is an array of writing styles. Students will hone their writing skills with literary analysis, argument, synthesis, and creative writing. Along with writing, students will continue to develop their rhetorical skills through individual speeches and presentations. Students and parents must sign an advanced enrollment slip and meet proficiency and recommendation criteria. **This is not a GPA weighted course.**

ALGEBRA I - 3010

The course will cover all the Oklahoma Academic Standards for Algebra 1. The OAS objectives are listed under 4 main standards: Numbers & Operations, Algebraic Reasoning & Algebra, and Data & Probability. The course counts as a math credit for High School Graduation. The pace of the class is very rigorous, so the student must be prepared to complete daily homework assignments. A scientific calculator is recommended.

GEOMETRY - 3040

Prerequisite: ALGEBRA I (GRADE AVG: A OR B IS RECOMMENDED)

This course is designed for those students who have successfully completed Algebra 1 earning a grade of 80 percent or above. It will cover the Oklahoma Pass Objectives for Geometry. The OBS objectives are listed under 5 main categories: Reasoning & Logic, Geometry: Two-Dimension Shapes, Geometry: Three-Dimension Shapes, Geometry: Circles, Geometry: Right Triangle Trigonometry. The curriculum will show the interrelationship between Algebra 1 and many geometric concepts as well as develop the skills of writing geometric proofs. This course counts as a math credit towards high school graduation. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator will be used as an integral part of the class and will be available in the classroom only. The pace of the class is very rigorous, so the student must be prepared to complete daily homework assignments. A scientific calculator is recommended.

US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS - 2020

Government is the study of the basic functioning of the American government. This course will include the history, structure, and running of government. It also focuses on individual rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens. The U.S. Constitution will be used to show the structure and laws of the American government.

OKLAHOMA HISTORY - 2010

Oklahoma history is the study of Oklahoma's rich heritage both before and after statehood. Our natural resources, geography, economy, current events, and especially the men and women who have contributed to our state's development are emphasized throughout this course.

ADVANCED US GOVERNMENT - 2025

Both students and parents must sign an Advanced enrollment slip and meet proficiency/recommendation criteria. Government is the study of the basic functioning of the American government. This course will include the history, structure, and running of government. It also focuses on individual rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens. The U.S. constitution will be used to show the structure and laws of the American government. This course will prepare students for future advanced placement coursework by incorporating higher level thinking skills, research skills, and analysis of our government. **This is not a GPA weighted course.**

ADVANCED OKLAHOMA HISTORY – 2015

Both students and parents must sign an Advanced enrollment slip and meet proficiency/recommendation criteria. This course is the study of Oklahoma's rich heritage both before and after statehood. Our natural resources, geography, economy, current events, and especially the men and women who have contributed to our state's development are emphasized throughout this course. Students will study our state's economic, political and social development prior to and since statehood. This course will prepare students for future advanced placement coursework by incorporating research and analysis of the history of our state. **This is not a GPA weighted course.**

PHYSICAL SCIENCE - 4010

This course involves the study of the basic principles of physics and chemistry. The use of laboratory experiences, mathematical problem-solving, and engineering projects are incorporated to teach the principles and interactions of matter and energy. It serves as a prerequisite for high school chemistry and physics and counts as a lab science for college entrance requirements. **Passing this course is required for High School graduation.**

ADVANCED PHYSICAL SCIENCE - 4015

Students must have a permission slip signed by their parents or guardians and meet proficiency requirements. This is a fast-paced, rigorous physics/chemistry course for the highly motivated student. It is intended to prepare the student for AP physics and AP chemistry courses at the high school level. The student should be prepared for content requiring abstract thinking and above-average study skills. This course includes the use of laboratory experiences, mathematical problem-solving, and engineering projects to teach the fundamentals of matter and energy. It also serves as a lab science for college entrance requirements. **This is not a GPA weighted course. Passing this course is required for High School graduation.**

ELECTIVE COURSES

PEER ADVOCATE – 9046

This class provides an opportunity for 9th grade students to build positive relationships with Stillwater Junior High students with exceptional needs. Peer Advocates will assist students with class work, social interactions, activities, field trips, and Special Olympics. There will be a short application for the students to fill out as being a Peer Advocate is considered a privilege. Two per class will be chosen. Peer Advocates are positive role models for students to learn social as well as academic skills. Therefore they will be required to maintain passing grades and positive behaviors.

ATHLETICS – 8000

This elective is for all 9th grade students interested in competing in the following 9th grade athletic programs: **Fall** (cross country, volleyball, football, softball), **Winter** (girls basketball, boys basketball, swimming, wrestling) and **Spring** (baseball, golf, soccer, tennis and track & field) sports and off-season programs. Students will be enrolled in their designated sport(s) and will travel to practice during 6th hour. During their off-season, students involved in sports that do not offer an off-season program will remain enrolled in Athletics and will stay at SJHS during 6th hour.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – 8001

Students cannot take both Physical Education & Athletics.

The goal of physical education at the junior high is to aid in the physical, mental, emotional, and social development of students through a well-balanced program. In order to accomplish this goal, students will actively participate in unit activities, as well as complete unit specific assignments and assessments throughout the course of the year. These activities will be based on state mandated guidelines. Activities include: ultimate frisbee, disc golf, kickball, team handball, football, basketball, baseball, soccer, floor hockey, volleyball, pickleball, physical fitness testing, and assorted one day activities. Students will also participate in a designated workout day once a week that includes: mile run, pacer test, or workout stations. We will also be covering a Health Curriculum that covers the Oklahoma Academic Standards. The Oklahoma Academic Standards for Health Education are divided into eight standards. An overview of each standard, along with the abbreviations used in the coding of the standards, are provided below. Standard 1: Essential Knowledge, Standard 2: Analyze Influences (AN), Standard 3: Access Information (AC), Standard 4: Interpersonal Communication (IC), Standard 5: Decision Making (DM), Standard 6: Goal Setting (GS), Standard 7: Self-Management (SM), Standard 8: Advocacy (AD).

All units are two to three weeks long unless otherwise stated.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SPANISH I - 5010

Spanish 1 strives to integrate and develop the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages five content areas: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities. Students will be expected to:

1. Understand spoken or written Spanish, in context, given the vocabulary studied in the course.
2. Use vocabulary studied, in context, and in various situations, to describe things and people in their daily life.
3. Form and answer questions, in Spanish, using the vocabulary studied.
4. Readings and videos in both Spanish and English will be used to offer students the opportunity to develop an awareness and understanding of Hispanic culture.

It is imperative for the Spanish 1 student to have strong English skills, including reading comprehension and grammar. Students should achieve a grade of at least 70% C in Spanish 1 to expect to continue successfully through Level 2, or it may be repeated. Successful completion of this year-long course counts as one credit toward the graduation requirement of two consecutive levels (one and two) of the same foreign language, for both eighth and ninth graders. The grade earned counts toward the GPA for both eighth and ninth graders.

SPANISH II – 5020

A student may enroll in Spanish 2 if they pass Level 1 with at least 70%.

Spanish 2 strives to integrate and develop the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages' five content areas: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities. We work to help students move from Novice, into Intermediate level language skills. Students will be expected to:

1. Understand spoken or written Spanish in context, given the vocabulary studied in the course.
2. Communicate by writing or speaking about different events or topics of daily life in the past as well as the present tense, as needed.
3. Be able to ask and answer questions for information, to request that someone else do something, and make comparisons within the topics studied.
4. Expand awareness and understanding of Hispanic culture. Readings and videos in Spanish will be used.

Successful completion of Spanish 2 fulfills the graduation requirements of two consecutive levels of a foreign language.

FRENCH I - 3111 This beginning course introduces students to French language and Francophone cultures. Students learn basic vocabulary and grammar and develop speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills so that they can communicate about themselves, their families and friends, their daily lives at school and in their community. Students have the opportunity to compare and connect French language and culture with their own and learn about the world wide French speaking community. Skits, presentations and small research projects are required.

CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY

FUNDAMENTALS OF TECHNOLOGY - 6000 This course will provide students with the fundamental concepts, principles, and ideas needed to understand how business is operated and managed in a rapidly changing global environment, which is needed for success in business-related careers. This course also provides job readiness skills and soft skills that are critical for success in any workplace setting.

DESKTOP PUBLISHING (YEARBOOK) – 6001

Students will acquire skills in visual design with the primary emphasis of this course being desktop publishing and working with graphics. Students will learn basic photography and reporting skills as they create the annual yearbook. Students will also use interviewing and video-editing skills to create the biweekly news show 'Neer News. Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Technology.

COMPUTER SCIENCE ESSENTIALS (STEM)– 6002

Computer Science Essentials (CSE) is designed to be a full-year course (180 day) implemented in the 9th grade. This course is an excellent entry point for new high school computer science (CS) learners. And students who have prior CS experiences will find ample opportunity to expand upon those experiences in this course. All students who take CSE will have many opportunities for creative expression and exploration in topics of personal interest, whether it be through app development or connecting computing with the physical world.

PLTW CSE introduces students to coding fundamentals through an approachable, block-based programming language where they will have early success in creating usable apps. As students sharpen their computational thinking skills, they will transition to programming environments that reinforce coding fundamentals by displaying block programming and text-based programming side-by-side. Finally, students will learn the power of text-based programming as they are introduced to the *Python* programming language.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES BASICS - 9001

FACS Basics curriculum provides students with basic information and skills needed to function within the family and an ever changing, complex society. Students develop competencies in the areas of nutrition and wellness, food science, housing and interior design, early childhood, textiles, interpersonal relationships and career exploration. The student will gain basic life skills that promote a positive influence upon the quality of their life. Leadership opportunities are offered through the student organization, Family, Careers and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA).

INTRODUCTION TO AGRI-SCIENCE - 9020

Designed to teach students more about where their food comes from, students will take part in hands-on learning through livestock, plant, and fruit production. Students will travel to the school farm for classes that center around learning by doing. In addition, students will take part in metal working, public speaking, and greenhouse management. Finally, all students in this course will automatically be members of the National FFA Organization.

AVIATION I - AV90

The ninth-grade Aviation 1 course provides the foundation for advanced exploration in flying, aerospace engineering, and unmanned aircraft systems. Students will learn about engineering practices, problem-solving, and the innovations and technological developments that have made today's aviation and aerospace industries possible.

Students will look at the problem-solving practices and innovative leaps that transformed space exploration from the unimaginable to the common in a single generation. Students will also gain a historical perspective, from the earliest flying machines to various modern aircraft.

FINE ARTS

9TH GRADE CHOIR – 7074

SJHS Treble Choir

This performance-based vocal music class is intended for Soprano and Alto singing voices going into 8th or 9th Grade. Students enrolled in this ensemble will continue to advance their singing and performing skills, including proper vocal technique & health, music reading & literacy, and movement & dance. Students will learn to sing with expression and musicianship in a varied repertoire of music, ranging from early Renaissance & Classical to more contemporary styles heard on the radio. Students will also navigate music of different cultures and languages, learning the proper diction and pronunciations. As a performance-based class, this group will require time outside the normal school day for rehearsals, concerts and contests. Singers will also have the opportunity to participate in district, state and regional level honor choirs and solo & ensemble, and Large Group Choir Contests.. Uniform requirements for this class include an informal and formal option. The informal uniform will consist of the purchase of a choir shirt (around \$15.00), black bottoms and close-toed shoes. The more formal uniform will consist of dressy all-black attire of the students choosing. We also take a spring trip each year, which will require a fee to go. If there is any financial problem, we will work to make sure each student has what they need to participate. This is a full-year elective and requires successful completion of a performance-based ensemble (choir, band, orchestra or musical theater) as a 7th or 8th grader and an audition.

SJHS Tenor-Bass Choir

This performance-based vocal music class is intended for Tenor, Baritone and Bass singing voices going into 8th or 9th grade. Students enrolled in this ensemble will continue to develop

singing and performing skills, including proper vocal technique & health, music reading & literacy, and movement & dance. Students will learn to sing with expression and musicianship in a varied repertoire of music, ranging from early Renaissance & Classical to more contemporary styles heard on the radio. Students will also navigate music of different cultures and languages, learning the proper diction and pronunciations. As a performance-based class, this group will require time outside the normal school day for rehearsals, concerts and contests. Singers will also have the opportunity to participate in district and state level honor choirs and solo & ensemble contests. Uniform requirements for this class include an informal and formal option. The informal uniform will consist of the purchase of a choir shirt (around \$15.00), black bottoms and close-toed shoes. The more formal uniform will consist of dressy all-black attire of the students choosing. We also take a spring trip each year, which will require a fee to go. If there is any financial problem, we will work to make sure each student has what they need to participate. This is a full-year elective and requires successful completion of a performance-based ensemble (choir, band, orchestra or musical theater) as a 7th or 8th grader and an audition.

Theatre - 7080

The 9th Grade Theatre Course is a continuation of the study of theatre. An extension of basic acting and auditioning techniques, film acting techniques, technical theatre, literature, terminology, history, voice and diction and play production will be examined. Students will further develop the production process through performance, design, technical design, directing and collaboration. There are a variety of in-class and outside of class performances, as well as opportunities to improve their leadership and public speaking skills. Prerequisite: NONE

Musical Theatre -7079

The Musical Theatre Course is a continuation of the study of theatre with an emphasis on musical theatre. An extension of basic acting and auditioning techniques, technical theatre, literature, terminology, history, voice and diction and play production will be examined. Students will further develop the production process through acting and musical theatre performance, design, technical design, directing and collaboration. There are a variety of in-class and outside of class performances, as well as opportunities to improve their leadership and public speaking skills. Prerequisite: Audition/Application Based Class

ART 1 - 7010

Art 1 is designed for both students who have taken art classes in the past and for students with no previous art experience. Students will develop their creativity, observation and technical skills, and the ability to express themselves through a variety of projects. A wide variety of art media will be introduced including: drawing media (graphite, oil and chalk pastel, ink), watercolor, tempera, acrylic, clay, and others. Students will also learn about the larger world of art through art history and art appreciation activities. **A supply fee of \$30 is required for this class.**

HIGH SCHOOL BAND (GRADES 9-12) – 7060

Ninth grade band students are enrolled in the Stillwater High School "Pioneer" Band. The High School marching band is active during the first nine week period of the school year. The band attends pioneer football games, and enters selected marching contests and parades. The concert bands are active during the second nine week period and the second semester. Emphasis is placed on advanced instrumental skills. Students are encouraged to participate in honor band auditions and solo/ensemble contests. Enrollment is subject to approval of the director

9TH GRADE ORCHESTRA – 7061

Students will study advanced rhythms, scales, etudes, solos, and small ensembles to improve their musicianship. Membership in this organization is by permission of the instructor or successful completion of a previous orchestra class. This is the main performing orchestra of SJHS and competes in various contests, workshops, and school functions. Experience in this group prepares the students for participation in the high school symphony orchestra.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Special education programs are offered to eligible students.