




**8th Grade
Connections
Course Guide**



"Work hard, be
kind, and
amazing
things will
happen."

Conan O'Brien

8TH GRADE CONNECTIONS COURSE SELECTIONS

In 8th grade, some students will be taking Carnegie Credit courses (High School courses that count towards high school graduation credits) in one or more of their four academic courses. All students have the opportunity to be enrolled in up to two High School Credit courses for their Connections Courses.

Many 8th grade students leave EHMS with as many as six high school credits, which is advantageous in order to have more opportunities in high school to pursue academic interests or be eligible for dual enrollment during students Junior and Senior years of high school. For more information regarding graduation requirements or dual enrollment, please visit:

<https://www.hallco.org/boe/site/school-agendas-planning-guides/>

Requests for 8th grade Connections courses are made in the spring of a student's 7th grade year.

A request does not guarantee placement in the course, but every effort is made to place students in the courses they request. A student may not get one of their requests if there is not enough space available or if a prerequisite to the course has not been met. Some students may be placed in a Reading and/or Math support course, if it is deemed necessary that they need the extra support to meet 8th grade level standards.

***Some courses require pre-approval.**

Carnegie Credit courses are year long courses. 8th grade courses without high school credit are semester courses.

Please make your selections carefully. Next year, you will not be able to request a schedule change if you are in one of the courses you selected.

LIST OF 8TH GRADE CONNECTIONS COURSES

Carnegie Credit Courses:

- Intro to Business and Technology
- Intro to Graphics and Design
- Intro to Agricultural Science
- Intro to Healthcare Science
- Automotive Technologies
- Visual Arts and Comp I
- Intermediate Band
- Beginning Chorus
- Health
- Personal Fitness
- Spanish II
- Spanish for Native Speakers II

Notes:

- Health and Personal Fitness are semester courses and both must be selected - if you want to take Personal Fitness, you must also select Health.
- You can not be enrolled in Spanish II or Spanish for Native Speakers II if you didn't take and successfully complete Spanish I or Spanish for Native Speakers I in your 7th grade year.
- Automotive Technologies is a course taken on the campus of East Hall High School. Space is very limited for this course.
- You will not be able to select Band or Chorus. Students enrolled in Band and/or Chorus as a 7th grader will automatically be enrolled into the course for your 8th grade year. You will need written permission to drop the course. Students wishing to add the course who have not previously taken it will need to speak to the Band or Chorus teacher to gain access to the course.

8th Grade Courses (no high school credit):

- PE
- Visual Arts
- Therapeutic Serv/Appl Anatomy
- Math Connections
- Reading Connections

Notes:

You will not be able to select Math or Reading Connections. These courses are by teacher recommendation only. You may be placed in one of these courses if it is determined that you need the extra support.

CTE COURSES

Career Technical Education Courses

CTE courses are not an alternative to college. They are courses which can prepare students for both college and careers. Some CTE courses allow student to receive college credit while in high school and be ready to move into careers after graduating high school. These courses also offer students the chance to earn additional certifications which will show future employers that you are “job ready.”

In 8th grade, the CTE courses that are offered are the introductory courses. Additional courses to complete



Basic Agricultural Science AB ***NEW***

Do you enjoy being outside and hands on learning? This **high school level course** is designed as the foundational course for all Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources Pathways. The course introduces the major areas of scientific agricultural production and research; presents problem solving lessons and introductory skills and knowledge in agricultural science and agri-related technologies. Classroom and laboratory activities are supplemented through supervised agricultural experiences and leadership programs and activities.

Possible Careers:

Horticulture/Landscaping
Veterinary Science
Wildlife/Conservation Agent
Farming
Agricultural Mechanics
Food Scientist
Park Ranger



Introduction to Business and Communication AB

If you are interested in business, leadership, and how technology is shaping today's workplace, this introductory course is a great first step into the Business & Technology or Entrepreneurship pathway. **This is a high school level course.** Even if you are planning on a different route in high school, the skills learned in this course will help you in every high school course and career activity. You will also be eligible to earn the Georgia Best soft skills certificate from the Georgia Department of Labor.

Possible Careers:

Administrative Assistant
Business Analyst
Human Resources Specialist
General Manager
Business Owner



Introduction to Graphics and Design AB

This **high school level course** is designed as the foundational course for both the Graphics Production and Graphics Design pathways. The Graphics and Design course provides students with the processes involved in the technologies of printing, publishing, packaging, electronic imaging, and their allied industries. In addition, the Graphics and Design course offers a range of cognitive skills, aesthetics, and crafts that includes typography, visual arts, and page layout.

Possible Careers:

Graphic Designer
Photographer
Camera Operator
A/V Technician
Public Relations Specialist
Multimedia Artist and Animator



Introduction to Healthcare Science AB

This is a **high school level course** which is the foundational course for all Health Science pathways and is a prerequisite for all other Healthcare Science pathway courses. The concepts of human growth and development, interaction with patients and family members, health, wellness, and preventative care are evaluated, as well as the legal, ethical responsibilities of today's healthcare provider. Fundamental healthcare skills development is initiated including microbiology, basic life support and first aid.

Therapeutic Serv/Appl Anatomy

This is an **8th grade level semester** course which provides students with an exploratory introduction to several healthcare careers and the safety procedures and interpersonal communication skills required for them. The course will enable students to receive initial exposure to healthcare science skills; attitudes applicable to healthcare including the concepts of health, wellness, and preventative care; and responsibilities of today's healthcare provider.

Possible Careers:

Nurse
Pharmacist or Pharmacy Tech
EMT
Physical Therapist
Physician
Lab Technician
Dental Hygienist





Automotive Technologies I AB

Students will learn the basic skills needed to gain employment as a maintenance and light repair automotive technician. Students will be exposed to courses in automotive preventative maintenance and servicing and replacing brakes, and steering and suspension components. In addition, student will learn how to do general electrical system diagnosis, learn electrical theory, perform basic tests and determine necessary action.

**** This course will be taken on the campus of East Hall High school. Transportation will be provided. Written parent permission required.** If you are selected for this class, Mrs. Pritchett will contact you.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish II

****Must have taken Spanish I in 7th grade**

This course builds on what is learned in Spanish I. Students learn to use Spanish at a more advanced level. Students who complete the course will be able to speak, read, understand, and write at a novice level, which is higher than a beginner.

Spanish for Native Speakers II

****Must have taken SNS I in 7th grade**

This course builds on what is learned in SNS I. Students learn to use Spanish at a professional level. Students who complete the course will be able to speak, read, understand, and write at an advanced level.

FINE ARTS



Intermediate Band I AB

***Requires Prior Approval or enrollment**

Students are recommended/placed in this course by the band director. Students are required to have been in band during 6th and 7th Grade and will be required to audition for District Honor Band. Students should have a strong desire to continue in band at East Hall High School.

Beginning Chorus I AB

***Requires Prior Approval or enrollment**

Open to advanced 8th grade male and female students who have passed a rigorous audition. Musical background is required. Students will focus on the study of music at a high school level centered around performance standards.

Visual Arts and Comp I AB

*** Year Long course for high school credit**

This class fulfills the Art I credit at the high school which is a prerequisite for all other art classes. Students explore art through discussion, looking at art, reading and writing about art, and production of art using a variety of techniques and materials. Personal sketch books are required. This is a rigorous class for the serious art student.

Visual Arts 8th Grade -

*** Semester course - no high school credit**



This is a general rotation class open to all 8th grade students. Students will explore the visual arts through discussion, looking at art, reading and/or writing about art, and producing art using a variety of techniques and materials.

HEALTH AND PE



Health and Personal Fitness

Health and Personal Fitness will be available to all upcoming 8th graders interested in completing their Health and Personal Fitness credit before entering High school. Topics covered in the course include flexibility, proper workout procedures, stress, cardiovascular health, muscular strength and endurance, nutrition, CPR, Mental Health, Safety and First Aid, Nutrition, Disease Prevention, Substance Abuse, Family Health, and the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program (ADAP) required for their driver's license.

Both Health and Personal Fitness are semester long courses. They both must be selected in order to receive the full credit that is required. These are high school credit courses and more is required than a regular 8th grade level PE or health class.

(These courses are also available online as a 7th / extra period – work for the online course must be completed at home. Students taking the online Health or Personal Fitness must have a teacher recommendation and are subject to seat availability. You will need to get an application for this course from the front office.)

8th Grade PE

Students in physical education will participate in daily physical activities while learning fitness and skill concepts. This will include a variety of sports, team building, dance, and motor skills. They will also gain understanding of the importance of these attributes in a positive and encouraging environment!

MATH AND READING SUPPORT


Math Connections/Reading Connections

Students selected for these course are recommended by teachers and who are below grade level in math. The course is designed to provide extra support for the regular academic math or ELA course.

Watch the video below to learn how to go into Infinite Campus to make your Connections Course requests for your 8th grade year.

Make your selections carefully, once the window closes for making requests., you will not be able to change to a different course.

Next year, you will not be allowed to request a schedule change if you are enrolled in one of the courses you requested.

Choose Carefully. You will not be able to request a schedule change next year if you are already in one of the courses you have requested. 

Think carefully about your requests. You need to be prepared to be in any of the courses you request, including alternates. All your choices will be considered for scheduling.