

☰ Seton Catholic Central

70 Seminary Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13905
607.723.5307

▶ **Course Description Guide** **Grades 7 & 8**



Art

English Language Arts

Mathematics

Music

Physical Education

Science

Social Studies

Spanish

Theology

**Seton Catholic Central
70 Seminary Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13905
607-723-5307**

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Prayer of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Lord God, You have given each of us a great deal to do in this world.

We believe that You, God, have come to find us wherever we may be in this life.

We believe that You, Lord God, are always with us.

**Help us to persevere when obstacles are in our way,
for You are our Guide and our Friend.**

**May we always be guided by Your divine will for us,
as we place our trust in You.**

Amen.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – Pray for us!

Phrases in this prayer are excerpts from the writings of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.



For assistance call 607-723-5307

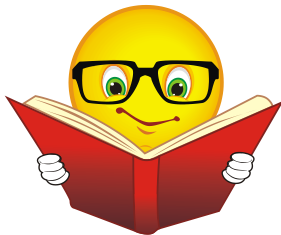
English Language Arts

English 7:

This course is designed to build on the skills students have been developing in 5th and 6th Grade, and emphasize all aspects of the New York State Standards for the teaching of English Language Arts, in preparation for the NYS ELA Exam, usually given in May. Included in the curriculum are reading, writing, speaking, and thinking about various literary genres. Vocabulary development is an important part of this course. Development of expository, descriptive, narrative, and persuasive writing skills is included, along with a focus on the writing process (pre-writing, drafting, editing, etc.). Technological and media literacy will be developed through the use of the school computer labs and projects. Also part of the course is the Independent Reading Program, which encourages students to explore different genres during recreational reading and analyze and report on the books they have chosen through both book reports and creative projects. Assessment is frequent and varied in type, including both objective and essay tests, individual and group projects, class presentations, homework, and class participation.

Objectives:

1. Improve reading and writing skills.
2. Develop successful study skills.
3. Expand horizons regarding preferred literary genres for recreational reading.
4. Prepare for the NYS ELA Exam.



English 8:

This course is similar in structure to English 7. It will build on the skills students have been developing in 5th and 6th Grade, and hone those skills in preparation for what they will encounter as freshmen in high school. This course emphasizes all aspects of the New York State Standards for the teaching of English Language Arts, in preparation for the NYS ELA Exam, usually given in May. Included in the curriculum are reading, writing, speaking, and thinking about various literary genres. Vocabulary development is an important part of this course. Practice of expository, descriptive, narrative, and persuasive writing skills is included, with a focus on the writing process (pre-writing, drafting, editing, etc.). Students are asked to more intensely analyze what they have read in their writing; assigned essays are frequently thematic in nature and focus on the use and development of a thesis statement. Technological and media literacy will be developed through the use of the school computer labs and projects. Also part of the course is the Independent Reading Program, which encourages students to explore different genres during recreational reading and analyze and report on the books they have chosen through both book reports and creative projects. Assessment is frequent and varied in type, including both objective and essay tests, individual and group projects, presentations, homework, and class participation.

Objectives:

1. Improve reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.
2. Develop successful study skills.
3. Expand horizons regarding preferred literary genres for recreational reading.
4. Prepare for the NYS ELA Exam.



Mathematics

Grade 7 Mathematics:

Students will apply skills learned in arithmetic to larger number groups as well as to real-life problems in the areas of probability, percentages, statistics, algebra, geometry and graphing in the coordinate plane. This course follows the New York State curriculum.

Objectives:

1. Develop knowledge of number sense and operations.
2. Understand and use basic knowledge of algebraic expressions and geometric relationships.
3. Develop tools to apply mathematics to real-life scenarios.



Grade 7 Advanced Math:

This course functions as an overlap of Grade 7 and Grade 8 Mathematics curriculum. Students will apply skills in arithmetic to real-life problems. Students will also develop further knowledge of statistics and geometry.

Objectives:

1. Develop skills in algebra and geometry.
2. Prepare students for advancement into Integrated Algebra 1 Regents course.
3. Develop ability to apply mathematics to real-life situations.

(Prerequisites: Average/above average math ability based on teacher recommendation)

Grade 8 Mathematics:

Students will continue to apply skills learned in arithmetic to problems from the real world, especially in the areas of statistics and geometry. Students will develop such skills as finding the area of plane figures, determining the surface area of geometric solids and calculating square roots. This course follows the New York State curriculum.

Objectives:

1. Develop skills in basic algebra and geometry expressions.
2. Expand graphing ability.
3. Recognize application of mathematics to real-life situations.

Grade 8 Advanced Math: Integrated Algebra 1 Regents

This is a first year Algebra course that includes selected topics from Real Numbers, Plane and Solid Geometry, Probability and Statistics. At the conclusion of this course in June, students will take the Integrated Algebra Regents exam. **(Prerequisites: Average/above average math ability based on teacher recommendation)**

Objectives:

1. Develop proficiency in basic algebraic and problem solving skills.
2. Expand understanding of mathematical concepts and the ability to communicate and reason mathematically.
3. Prepare students for the Integrated Algebra Regents Exam.



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Science

Grade 7 Science: Life Science

Students will explore life science by participating in a variety of activities and discussions that allow them to discover by inquiry critical concepts and apply the knowledge they've constructed to their own lives. Throughout the program, students will be building critical skills necessary for lifelong learning. The units of study include: scientific method, structure and function of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems, heredity and evolution, diversity of life, ecology, and the human body.

Objectives:

1. Use and apply scientific concepts, principles, and theories to the natural world.
2. Take a constructivist approach to science investigation. Through inquiry students will discover the living world by formulating hypotheses and drawing conclusions.
3. Acquire lab skills through the use of hands-on activities and the integration of technology as a means of gathering, processing, and displaying data,

Grade 7 Advanced Science: Physical Science

Students will explore physical science by participating in a variety of activities and discussions that allow them to discover by inquiry critical concepts and apply the knowledge they've constructed to their own lives. Throughout the program, students will be building critical skills that will available to them for lifelong learning. The units of study include: scientific method, energy and motion, matter, interactions of matter, waves, light and sound, and electricity and magnetism.

Objectives:

1. Use and apply scientific concepts, principles, and theories to the physical world.
2. Take a constructivist approach to science investigation. Through inquiry students will discover the physical world by formulating hypotheses and drawing conclusions.
3. Acquire lab skills through the use of hands-on activities and integration of technology as a means of gathering, processing, and displaying data,

Grade 7 & 8 Explorations in Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics

As technical and scientific innovation increasingly drives the global economy students must gain the skills necessary to think critically, work as members of groups and independently, and be problem solvers. The curriculum will be driven by discovery, exploratory learning, and require students to actively engage in a situation in order to find its solution. Projects covered will include: robotics (FIRST Robotics), bridge building, rocket science, wind power, solar energy, roller coaster physics, biomedical technology, and civil engineering and architectural design. This is an enrichment course open to all students.

Objectives:

1. Utilize advanced equipment and technology.
2. Design and build engineering projects.
3. Explore STEM related careers and internship opportunities.
4. Compete in STEM related competitions.



Science

Grade 8 Science: Physical Science

Students will explore physical science by participating in a variety of activities and discussions that allow them to discover by inquiry critical concepts and apply the knowledge they've constructed to their own lives. Throughout the program, students will be building critical skills that will be available to them for lifelong learning. The units of study include: scientific method, energy and motion, matter, interactions of matter, waves, light and sound, and electricity and magnetism.

Objectives:

1. Use and apply scientific concepts, principles, and theories to the physical world.
2. Take a constructivist approach to science investigation. Discover the physical world by formulating hypotheses and drawing conclusions.
3. Acquire lab skills through the use of hands-on activities and integration of technology as a means of gathering, processing, and displaying data.

Grade 8 Advanced Science: The Living Environment Biology Regents

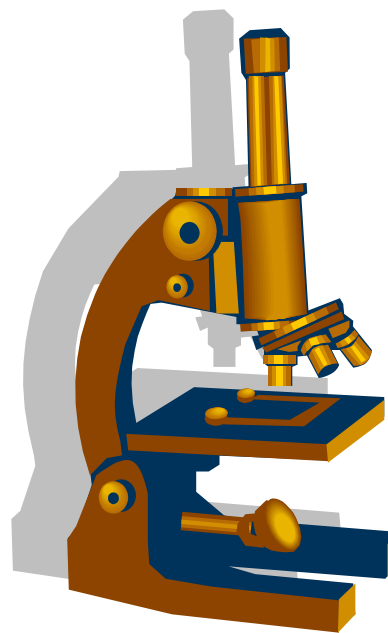
This course is designed for the scientifically oriented student, to provide a broad understanding of the fundamental principles of biology. The course includes the study of current science findings and their moral implications, and enables the student to become more familiar with himself/ herself and the environment. Laboratory investigations, organization and critical thinking are required. At the end of this course, the student will take

the NYS Living Environment Regents examination.

Objectives:

1. Describe an awareness of the natural world.
2. Define basic scientific concepts.
3. Stimulate inductive reasoning while demonstrating laboratory skills required by the New York State Regents syllabus.

(Prerequisites: Average/above average science ability based on teacher recommendation)





For assistance call 607-723-5307

Social Studies, Theology, & Languages Other Than English

Grades 7 & 8 Social Studies:

US History

Social studies content in grades 7 and 8 is a chronological examination of United States history. Course content is divided into 11 units, tracing the human experience in the United States from early Native peoples to the present, and studies/discovers political, geographic, economic, and social trends in United States history. It provides a solid content base in American history. It will provide students a model for the global connections they will discover in the grades 9 and 10 social studies program.

Objectives:

1. Be familiar with the economic, political, and social development and unique characteristics of the United States.
2. Have an understanding of the rights and duties for participatory citizenship.
3. Develop reasoning skills necessary to extend inquiry, expand knowledge, and understand how the past is studied and interpreted.

Grade 7 Theology

The main focus of the 7th grade is instruction in doctrine, Scripture, morality, prayer, liturgy, and the ability to relate what is learned in the classroom to real life decisions.

Objectives:

1. Learn the basic tenets of the Catholic faith.
2. Contribute to the well-being of others through the performance of service in the community.
3. Demonstrate integration of virtues by being respectful of others, compassionate, tolerant, honest, etc.

Grade 8 Theology

The 8th grade course in Theology continues the aim of learning and practicing the basics of the Catholic faith, plus, the knowledge and heritage of their faith, values, and the Bible.

Objectives:

1. Continue to learn the basics of the Catholic faith.
2. Continue to perform service hours, demonstrating the belief that all people need to be respected and helped.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and recognition of the virtues in daily life.
4. Discuss real-life problems and situations and reflect upon how the Catholic faith helps lead to good, moral decisions.

Grades 7 & 8 Spanish 1

The curriculum for Spanish 1 follows the New York State mandate for Checkpoint A of the Regents Languages Other Than English curriculum. This course introduces the student to the basics of the Spanish language and culture. At the end of Grade 8, students will take a department-created proficiency exam to receive credit for one year of high school Spanish.

Objectives:

1. Enable the students to communicate via written and oral expression at the most basic level of the language.
2. Enable students to develop and improve listening and reading comprehension of the target language.
3. Develop cross-cultural skills and understanding, particularly through geography, dance, music, and food.



Physical Education, Music, & Art

Grades 7 & 8

Physical Education

The goal of the Physical Education Program is to guide students in the development and maintenance of fitness levels, acquisition and refinement of sport skills, social skills and sportsmanship and working knowledge of rules and strategies used in game play. In order to reach the needs and interests of all students, a broad-based curriculum is followed.

Objectives:

1. Develop ability to meet the psychological demands made upon the organism, to resist fatigue, strengthen muscles, and increase cardio-vascular efficiency and maximum physical fitness.
2. Acquire basic athletic skills. More emphasis is concentrated on developing these skills once students are proficient in them.
3. Develop the ability to express thoughts clearly and communicate an understanding of sports theories and practices.

Grades 7 & 8 Music

Music content in grades 7 and 8 address areas in creating and performing music both individually and as groups. Students will learn how to use a variety of sound sources to create and perform music. Through the music curriculum, students will learn to develop the capacity to listen to and comment on music. Students will be exposed to a variety of musical genres, styles, and cultures.

Objectives:

1. Create and perform a variety of musical compositions that represent works from people around the world.

2. Enhance knowledge of traditional, electronic, and nontraditional sound sources to create music.
3. Think and speak critically about the aesthetic, structural, acoustic, and psychological qualities of music.



Grades 7 & 8 Art

The art program for grades 7 & 8 includes drawing, painting, graphics, sculpture, and art history. It follows New York State standards is a continuation of the visual art experience. Many of the art projects incorporate work in other disciplines. Students will review the use of art materials and problem-solving techniques.

Objectives:

1. Students will create meaningful works of art to convey an idea.
2. Improve student skills with a variety of art materials.
3. Understand the role of art in past cultures and how we communicate today through visual arts.



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Anticipated Extracurricular Activities and Events

Extracurricular activities offered will vary from year to year depending on the interest of students and the availability and talents of faculty, staff, and parents.

Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Kids apply their creativity to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics.

Science Olympiad is a competition taking place on three levels: Regional, State, and National. Each competition consists of eighteen 2-3 "mini" contests cutting across all science disciplines including chemistry, biology, earth science, physics, technology, astronomy, etc.

Ski Club begins the season with the first Sunday after Christmas vacation. Skiing seven times at Greek Peak, student have an opportunity to learn and improve their skiing and snowboarding skills.

Weather Watch is a program where students observe, gather data, investigate climate conditions, and analyze information to forecast the weather. Students can utilize techniques learned in science classes to make real-time weather predictions.

Spanish Club allows students to explore the Spanish language and culture in more depth through a variety of activities, games, videos, and reading materials.

Student Leadership Team is limited to a selected group of students to act as

representatives of the student body. These students will be called upon to assist with various school programs and events throughout the year.



Student events will be initiated through parent, student, faculty, and staff input. As each school is coming with its own traditions, we will look to continue some traditions while creating new traditions for the combined school. Some categories of events may include:

School dances

Social/Activity nights (movies, athletics, etc).

Field trips

Community service activities



Athletics

Modified Sports are open to all students in grades 7 & 8. Students who are eligible may also try out for junior varsity and varsity athletics.

Modified Sports Currently Offered:

Fall:

- Football (7th, 8th, & 9th)
- Boys & Girls Soccer
- Cross Country
- Girls Tennis

Winter:

- Boys & Girls Basketball

Spring:

- Baseball
- Softball
- Boys Lacrosse
- Boys & Girls Track & Field



Saints

Period	Regular	Activity
Homeroom	8:15-8:33	8:15-8:33
1	8:36-9:17	8:36-9:13
2	9:20-10:01	9:16-9:53
3	10:04-10:45	9:56-10:33
4	10:48-11:29	10:36-11:13
5	L1 11:32-12:02 C2 11:32-12:13 C3 11:32-12:13	L1 11:16-11:46 C2 11:16-11:53 C3 11:16-11:53
6	C1 12:05-12:46 L2 12:16-12:46 C3 12:16-12:57	C1 11:49-12:26 L2 11:56-12:26 C3 11:56-12:33
7	C1 12:49-1:30 C2 12:49-1:30 L3 1:00-1:30	C1 12:29-1:06 C2 12:29-1:06 L3 12:36-1:06
8	1:33-2:16	1:09-1:40 (Activity) 1:43-2:20 (Class)
9	2:19-3:00	2:23-3:00

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