DESTINATIONS
CAREER ACADEMY
of COLORADO

POWERED BY K12

Middle School Course Catalog 2021–2022

Destinations Career Academy's mission is to inspire our students through meaningful, individualized, and engaging learning opportunities to prepare our graduates for successful careers in the 21st century.

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Middle School Course Offerings By Semester

Codes	Recommended Grade Level	Fall Semester	Codes	Recommended Grade Level	Spring Semester
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MTH07A	7th Grade	Summit Math 7A	MTH07B	7th Grade	Summit Math 7B
MTH08A	8th Grade	Summit Math 8A	MTH08B	8th Grade	Summit Math 8B
MTH128A	8th Grade	Algebra 1A (HS course)	MTH128B	8th Grade	Algebra 1B (HS course)
ENG06A	6th Grade	Summit Language Arts 6A	ENG06B	6th Grade	Summit Language Arts 6B
ENG07A	7th Grade	Summit Language Arts 7A	ENG07B	7th Grade	Summit Language Arts 7B
ENG08A	8th Grade	Summit Language Arts 8A	ENG08B	8th Grade	Summit Language Arts 8B
SOC08A	6th Grade	Summit Intermediate Global Studies A	HST07B	6th Grade	Summit Intermediate Global Studies B
HST07A	7th Grade	Summit World History II A	HST08B	7th Grade	Summit World History II B
HST06A	8th Grade	Summit American History Since 1865 6A	HST06B	8th Grade	Summit American History Since 1865 6B
SCI06A	6th Grade	Summit Earth Science 6B	SCI06B	6th Grade	Summit Earth Science 6B
SCI07A	7th Grade	Summit Life Science A	SCI07B	7th Grade	Summit Life Science B
SCI08A	8th Grade	Summit Physical Science A	SCI08B	8th Grade	Summit Physical Science B
WLG MS 1A	*Any Grades*	*MS Spanish 1A*	*WLG MS 1B*	*Any Grades*	*MS Spanish 1B*
WLG MS 2A	*7th/8th*	*MS Spanish 2A*	*WLG MS 2B*	*7th/8th*	*MS Spanish 2B*
CAR005-PBL	*6th/7th Grade*	*MS Career Explorations 1*	*CAR005-PBL*	*6th Grade*	*MS Career Explorations 1*
CAR007-PBL	*7th/8th Grade*	*MS Career Explorations 2*	*CAR007-PBL*	*7th and 8th Grade*	*MS Career Explorations 2*
	All Grades	*Microsoft Office*		*All Grades*	*Computer Literacy*
	All Grades	*Game Design 1*		*All Grades*	*Game Design 2*
ART06	*All Grades*	*Summit Intermediate American Art II*	*TCH005-DYN*	*Any Grades*	*Photography*
CAR095-PBL	*Returning 8th*	*IT Programming Explorations*	*OTH08A*	*Any Grades*	*PE*
CAR045-PBL	*Returning 8th*	*Agriculture Explorations*	*CAR095-PBL*	*Returning 8th*	*IT Design Explorations*
	Returning 8th	*Nutrition for Health Sciences*		*Returning 8th*	*Nutrition for Health Sciences*

Course Descriptions

MATH

Summit Math 6

In the Summit Math 6 course, students deepen their understanding of multiplication and division of fractions to apply their knowledge to divide fractions by fractions, with an additional focus on increasing efficiency and fluency. Students gain a foundation in the concepts of ratio and rate as an extension of their work with whole number multiplication and division, and in preparation for work with proportional relationships in Grade 7. Students also make connections among area, volume, and surface area, and continue to lay the groundwork for deep algebraic understanding by interpreting and using expressions and equations.

Summit Math 7

In the Summit Math 7 course, students focus on real-word scenarios and mathematical problems involving algebraic expressions and linear equations and begin to apply their understanding of rational numbers with increased complexity. The course lays the foundation for exploring concepts of angle, similarity and congruence, more formally addressed in Grade 8, as students work with scale drawings and construct and analyze relationships among geometric figures. Students also develop and apply understandings of proportional relationships.

Summit Math 8

The Summit Math 8 course prepares students for more advanced study in algebra as students solve linear equations and systems of equations, work with radical and integer exponents, gain conceptual understanding of functions, and use functions to model quantitative relationships. To prepare students for more advanced study in geometry, the course emphasizes the Pythagorean theorem and a deepening exploration of similarity and congruence.

Algebra 1- HS

Algebra 1 course is intended to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. Because it is built to follow revised middle school math courses, the course covers slightly different ground than previous versions of Algebra. In this course, students deepen their understanding of linear and exponential relationships by contrasting them with each other. Students also apply linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. The course also covers analyzing, solving, and using quadratic functions.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Summit Language Arts 6

Grade 6 Language Arts equips students with the essential language arts skills needed throughout their academic careers. Students read and analyze a variety of informational and fictional texts. Instruction and reading strategies accompany reading selections to help engage students in the text and sharpen their comprehension. Students express their ideas and knowledge using standard (formal) English in written and oral assignments. Writing expressive, analytical, and procedural compositions helps students develop communication skills necessary in today's world. Vocabulary is taught explicitly and through an array of vocabulary acquisition strategies that give students the tools to independently increase their vocabulary. Students study grammar, usage, and mechanics; and practice sentence analysis, sentence structure, and proper punctuation. Portfolios created by students provide a platform for them to set goals, monitor their progress, and reflect on their accomplishments and challenges. The course includes discussion activities that engage students in the curriculum while creating a sense of community.

Summit Language Arts 7

Grade 7 Language Arts continues the development of comprehension and analysis of informational and fictional texts with an ongoing emphasis on reading strategies. Students express themselves using standard (formal) English in written and oral presentations. Students analyze and practice the form and structure of various genres of writing to enhance their communication skills. Students study a variety of media to understand informational and persuasive techniques, explicit and implied messages, and how visual and auditory cues affect messages. Grammar, usage, and mechanics skills are deepened. Students continue to widen their vocabulary and apply acquisition strategies. Portfolios created by students provide a platform for them to set goals, monitor their progress, and reflect on their accomplishments and challenges. The course includes discussion activities that engage students in the curriculum while creating a sense of community.

Summit Language Arts 8A

Throughout Grade 8 Language Arts students engage in literary analysis and close reading of short stories, poetry, drama, novels, and informational texts. The course focuses on interpretation of literary works, analysis of informational texts, and the development of oral and written communication skills in standard (formal) English. Students read "between the lines" to interpret literature and go beyond the text to discover how the culture in which a work of literature was created contributes to the theme and ideas it conveys. Analysis of the structure and elements of informational texts and media helps students develop the skills needed for academic success and the navigating the world. Students continue to acquire knowledge and skills in grammar, usage, mechanics, and vocabulary. Setting goals, self-monitoring progress, and reflecting on successes and challenges help students become metacognitive learners. The course includes discussion activities that engage students in the curriculum while creating a sense of community.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Summit American History Since 1865

The second half of a detailed two-year survey of the history of the United States, this course takes students from the westward movement of the late 1800s to the present. Lessons integrate topics in geography, civics, and economics. The course guides students through critical episodes in the story of America. Students examine the effect of the settlement of the American West; investigate the social, political, and economic changes that resulted from industrialization; explore the changing role of the United States in international affairs from the late nineteenth century through the end of the Cold War; and trace major events and trends in the United States from the Cold War through the first decade of the twenty-first century

Summit World History II

Continuing a survey of World History from prehistoric to modern times, K12 online lessons and assessments complement the second volume of The Human Odyssey, a textbook series developed and published by K12. This course focuses on the story of the past from the fourteenth century to 1917 and the beginning of World War I. The course is organized chronologically and, within broad eras, regionally. Lessons explore developments in religion, philosophy, the arts, and science and technology.

Summit Intermediate Global Studies

In this course, students take a detailed look at the physical and cultural world around them. Beginning with the study of geographic themes that provide a framework to analyze different parts of the world, students turn their focus to each geographical region of the world—North America; South America; Europe; Asia; Africa; and Oceania, Australia, New Zealand, and Antarctica. They learn more about the physical and cultural traits that makes each region unique and study their commonalities as well. Students also look at issues such as trade, globalization, the environment, conflict, and other topics that influence the world today. Students also learn and apply research skills as they undertake research projects that give them a more in-depth focus on specific regions of the globe.

SCIENCE

Summit Earth Science 6

The Summit Earth Science curriculum builds on the natural curiosity of students. By connecting them to the beauty of geological history, the amazing landforms around the globe, the nature of the sea and air, and the newest discoveries about our universe, the curriculum gives students an opportunity to relate to their everyday world. Students will explore topics such as the fundamentals of geology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy; Earth's minerals and rocks; Earth's interior; plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes, and the movements of continents; geology and the fossil record; the oceans and the atmosphere; and the solar system and the universe. Lesson assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the science of our planet.

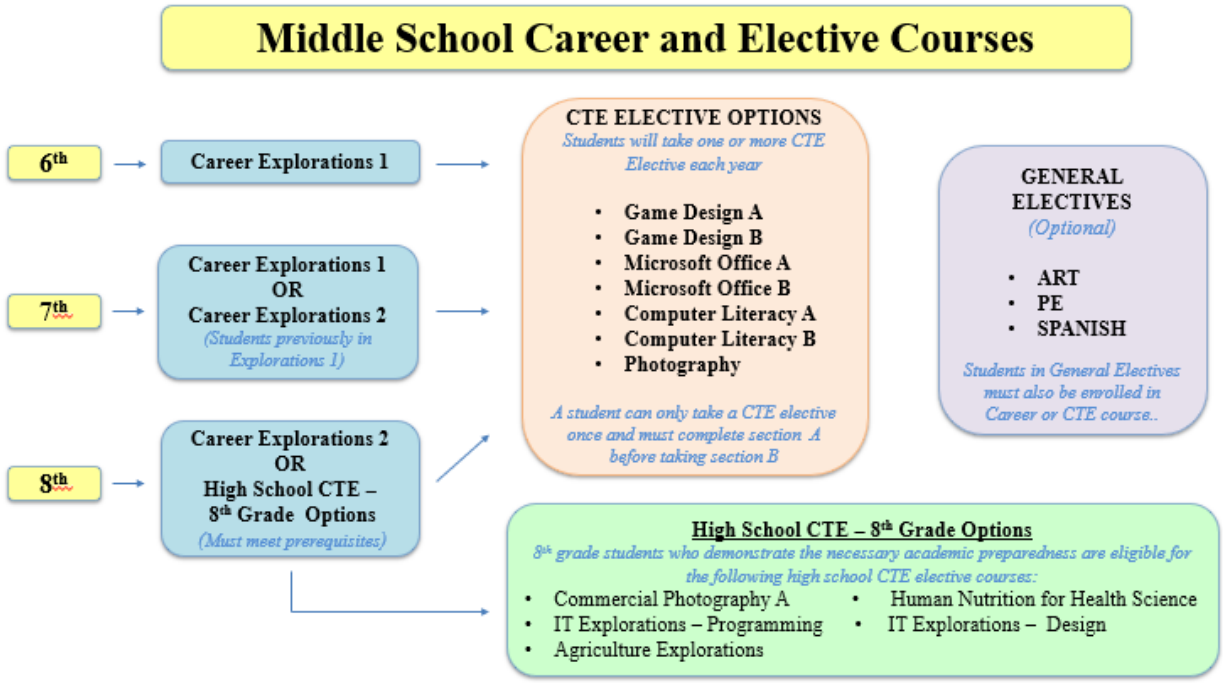
Summit Life Science

The Summit Life Science program invites students to investigate the world of living things--at levels both large and small—by reading, observing, and experimenting with aspects of life on Earth. Students explore an amazing variety of organisms, the complex workings of the cell and cell biology, the relationship between living things and their environments, and discoveries in the world of modern genetics. Students tackle such topics as ecology, microorganisms, animals, plants, cells, animals, species, adaptation, heredity, genetics, and the history of life on Earth. Lesson activities and assignments help students discover how scientists investigate the living world.

Summit Physical Science

The Summit Physical Science program introduces students to many aspects of the physical world, focusing first on chemistry and then on physics. The course provides an overview of the physical world and gives students tools and concepts to think clearly about matter, atoms, molecules, chemical reactions, motion, force, momentum, work and machines, energy, waves, electricity, light, and other aspects of chemistry and physics. Among other subjects, students study the structure of atoms; the elements and the Periodic Table; chemical reactions; forces, including gravitational, motion, acceleration, and mass; and energy, including light, thermal, electricity, and magnetism.

CODCA CAREER ELECTIVE INFORMATION



Required: Students will take one Career Explorations Course and one CTE Elective each year. These career based electives will be in the opposite semesters.

Optional: Each semester, students can take one additional elective of their choosing. This elective can come from either the CTE Elective or General Elective categories.

CAREER EXPLORATIONS 1 and 2

Students will take at least 1 semester of Career Explorations each year

MS Career Explorations 1

When you think about your future, what careers do you see? Police officer, nurse, farmer, or restaurant manager? In Middle School Career Exploration, you'll explore careers in over fifteen different career areas. From the energy field to human resources and from law to transportation, you'll learn more about what careers are available and what you need to do to get there. In addition, you'll examine how to choose the career that is best for you based on your own unique personality and interests as well as how you can begin developing your leadership skills now. Middle School Career Exploration will help you prepare for your future now!

- ***Required: 6th and 7th graders in first year at CODCA***

MS Career Explorations 2

Imagine that it's 20 years from now. What career do you see yourself in? What do you imagine that you'll be doing? Will you be fighting forest fires or engineering the next rocket into space? With all the careers available, it can be difficult to narrow them down. In Middle School Career Exploration II we'll explore more careers and what it takes to succeed in them. You'll learn more about what steps to take to prepare for your career and how to compare the pros and cons of different career choices. Finally, you'll get the chance to try out parts of different careers to see if you're a perfect fit!

- ***Required: 7th and 8th graders that took Career Explorations 1 the previous school year and 8th graders in first year at CODCA***

CTE ELECTIVES

Students will take at least 1 CTE Elective each year in the semester opposite Career Explorations 1 or 2

Microsoft Office A and B

This course is a Project Based Learning course (PBL). This course is for students who wish to learn core skills in Microsoft Word and PowerPoint. Students work through real-world, hands-on projects to hone skills in formatting text, page layout, images, charts, and a vast variety of commonly used word processing and presentation tools.

Computer Literacy A and B

Computer Literacy is a two-semester introductory computer course. The course introduces students to the fundamental concepts necessary to use computers; use word processing software to create documents; develop skills in spreadsheet software to format cells, work with data, and use advanced formulas and functions; and use presentation software to create dynamic slide shows featuring text, objects, animation, and transitions. The course prepares students for further study via computer-related courses. The use of hands-on learning experiences ensures important computer concepts are thoroughly understood. In addition to learning the essentials of word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software, students examine the building blocks of microcomputers, Microsoft Windows, and using the Internet wisely.

Photography

What do you think makes a photograph great? Do you want to take fun, interesting photographs of people, places, and pets to post for your friends or hang on your wall? Photo images are everywhere today. Sometimes we see hundreds in one day. But it's obvious that not all photographs are the same – some are definitely cooler than others. In Middle School Photography: Drawing with Light, you'll learn how

to take those excellent, jaw-dropping photographs that you see in magazines and on your favorite social media sites. You'll learn the basics of using a camera and how to avoid common photography mistakes. Once you get the hang of this process, you'll be taking photos that will amaze your friends and have them wondering how you do it!

- ***Requirement: Students must be able to have access to a digital camera OR a camera on a smartphone.***

Game Design Fundamentals A

We love to play video games, but have you ever wanted to build your own? If you are interested in a career in technology but also want a creative outlet, Game Design might be the field for you. Learn how to build a game from the ground up in this interactive and hands-on course that will teach you all the ins and outs of making your own game.

Game Design Fundamentals B

It's time to take your Game Design knowledge up a level! You built your game design skills and Scratch techniques in the first part of this course. By the end, you wrote your game design document. Now you are ready to start developing that game! You'll create details and add component pieces in a game while learning to prototype, troubleshoot, and test.

- ***Prerequisite: Game Design Fundamentals A***

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Students must take Career Explorations or a CTE elective in conjunction with a general elective.

American Art

Lessons include an introduction to the artists, cultures, and great works of American art and architecture from the end of the Civil War through modern times. Students will investigate paintings done in various styles, from impressionism to pop; learn about modern sculpture and folk art; discover how photographers and painters have inspired one another; examine examples of modern architecture, from skyscrapers to art museums; and create artworks inspired by works they learn about.

- ***Co-Requisite: Career Explorations or CTE Elective***

PE

Through K12's physical education course, students are exposed to diverse activities and learn a wide variety of fitness concepts that they can use in their everyday lives. Students learn skills for lifelong activities, such as strength training and power walking, as well as several options for aerobic activities. They are able to measure their progress and accomplishments through the completion of fitness tests. On completing this course, students will have the knowledge to stay fit and active well beyond middle school.

- ***Co-Requisite: Career Explorations or CTE Elective***

MS Spanish 1 and MS Spanish 2

This fun, interactive course for middle school students is filled with diverse, multimedia language activities. Students begin their introduction to Spanish by focusing on the four key areas of foreign language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. There is a strong emphasis on providing context and conversational examples for the language concepts presented in each unit. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, become familiar with common vocabulary terms and phrases, comprehend a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in simple conversations and respond appropriately to basic conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by ACTFL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages).

- ***Co-Requisite: Career Explorations or CTE Elective***

8th GRADE CAREER EXPLORATIONS

These 8th grade Career Explorations are High School level classes and designed for students that are motivated and eager to start a specific pathway**.**

Nutrition for Health Sciences

This one-semester elective course provides students with an overview of good nutrition principles that are necessary for physical and mental wellness and a long, healthy life. Instructional materials include discussions of digestion, basic nutrients, weight management, sports and fitness, and lifespan nutrition. The Nutrition and Wellness course emphasizes an understanding of today's food and eating trends and gives students the capacity to intelligently evaluate all available sources of nutrition information and make informed decisions.
The course is organized in six units: Course Introduction; Wellness and Food Choices in Today's World; Digestion and Major Nutrients; Body Size and Weight Management; Physical Fitness, Sports Nutrition, and Stress; and Life Cycle Nutrition.

- ***Prerequisite: MS Career Explorations 2***
    - ***Achieving a C or better in all classes the semester prior to this class***
- ***Course Length: One Semester***
- ***Meets Graduation Requirements In: High School credit in electives***

Agriculture Explorations

Agriculture has played an important role in the lives of humans for thousands of years. It has fed us and given us materials that have helped us survive. Today, scientists and practitioners are working to improve and better understand agriculture and how it can be used to continue to sustain human life. In this course, students learn about the development and maintenance of agriculture, animal systems, natural resources, and other food sources. Students also examine the relationship between agriculture and natural resources and the environment, health, politics, and world trade.

- ***Prerequisite: MS Career Explorations 2***
    - ***Achieving a C or better in all classes the semester prior to this class***
- ***Course Length: One Semester***
- ***Meets Graduation Requirements In: High School credit in electives***

Commercial Photography

Students will learn about photographic composition and lighting, develop an understanding of using a digital camera and the basics of preparing a digital darkroom. Students will also learn color theory and the fundamentals of image processing. Software skills are taught through practical, hands-on activities that get students involved in the learning process and help them retain the content. By the conclusion of this course, students are capable of producing their own unique and highly personalized images. Creativity and successfully composed photos are a large component of success in this course. This course is designed for the student with beginning to intermediate experience in photography.

- ***Prerequisite: MS Career Explorations 2***
  - ***Achieving a C or better in all classes the semester prior to this class***
- ***Course Length: One Semester***
- ***Meets Graduation Requirements In: High School credit in electives***

IT Explorations- Programming

This course is designed as an exploration of the Information Technology (IT) Programming pathway. Students begin with a survey of different IT careers to show them the many career possibilities available in this field. Students learn some of the basics of computer programming by using the Python programming language as a model. They learn to use code to draw lines and shapes. Students compare code written in different programming languages; learn about coordinates and comments; write code to draw spaces; and organize functions. They learn about values and variables. Students use object-oriented programming, event-driven processes, modular computer programming, and data manipulation algorithms to produce finished software programs. They also practice debugging techniques. Students explore a simple model of software development. They learn about clients, phases of software development, common programming team roles, specifications, programming paradigms, coding principles, and usability testing. By the end of this course, students will have a solid foundation for further study in computer science.

- ***Prerequisite: MS Career Explorations 2***
  - ***Achieving a C or better in all classes the semester prior to this class***
- ***Course Length: One Semester***
- ***Meets Graduation Requirements In: High School credit in elective***

IT Explorations - Design

This course is designed as an exploration of career pathway IT Design. Students get an introduction to this field so that they can better assess if they'd like to pursue the design pathway. The course provides a comprehensive introduction to the essentials of Web design, from planning page layouts to learning how to use HTML to design their own Web pages. The course covers basic HTML tags for formatting text, as well as more advanced tags. Through real-world design scenarios and hands-on coding projects, students create compelling, usable websites using the latest suite of free tools. They will also explore other career opportunities in the design field as a way to effectively communicate their ideas.

- ***Prerequisite: MS Career Explorations 2***
  - ***Achieving a C or better in all classes the semester prior to this class***
- ***Course Length: One Semester***
- ***Meets Graduation Requirements In: High School credit in electives***