

Clonlara School Online Program 2020—2021



Middle School Online Course Catalog
Teacher Supported





Welcome to Clonlara School's Online Program

Welcome to Clonlara's Online Program for Middle School students in 6th through 8th grade.

The Clonlara Online Program difference:

- ◇ An individual advisor for each student
- ◇ A teacher for each course
- ◇ Self paced, flexible learning

Clonlara School was founded in 1967 by Pat Montgomery to support students who were looking for an alternative approach to learning. Clonlara School is fully accredited, with a Campus School in Ann Arbor, MI, a worldwide Off-Campus Program, and an online curriculum program for grades 6 through 12.

Clonlara School recognizes that students learn in many different ways. We celebrate and fully support every student's unique learning styles, talents, and strengths. Clonlara School Online Program students will have an individualized curriculum, opportunities to create their own learning, and to work whenever and wherever it fits their schedule.

The program is designed to be accessed 24/7. You work at your own pace and according to the time you have available. There are no deadlines or any requirements to log in at certain times of the day. Clonlara's Online Program is completely flexible and can fit around the busy schedules that many athletes, musicians, and dancers have.

Students will have up to a whole calendar year to complete a course from the time they first log into their course. Each course is teacher supported by highly qualified, experienced certified teachers.

You will work alongside your teachers and they will give you ongoing feedback and help as needed. Your teacher will grade your coursework.

Each online student is assigned a Clonlara Educational Advisor who will help throughout the entire time of enrollment. The Advisor will help you plan and select courses, identify your short term and long term goals, design your own learning, suggest resources for the self designed courses and help with middle school course planning. Your teacher and Clonlara Advisor will be available to you during your enrollment and will respond to you within 2 business days after contact.

Fulltime enrollment gives each student the ability to complete five year-long online courses and at least one self designed course with the aid of an Advisor. Each student will complete at least one self designed course per school year to further explore their own talents and interests.

Our students are joined together by a deep appreciation for lifelong learning, and the confidence that comes from knowing that they participated purposely and eagerly in their own educations.

Questions?

If you are an enrolled student, please speak with your Clonlara Advisor for more detailed information on your options for taking individual courses from this catalog

If you are a prospective student, please call us at (734) 769-4511 and ask to speak with an Enrollment Associate.

Part time enrollment gives a student the ability to enroll in the Off-Campus Program on a full time or part time basis, and then pay for individual courses or a whole semester's course load to fit their interests and needs.

We hope you enjoy looking at the course offerings in this course catalog! We are very excited to be able to provide this program to students. We believe that the support of both a Clonlara Advisor and teachers knowledgeable in their subject area will assure the success of our students.

We hope you will contact us anytime, to enroll, to ask questions, or to make suggestions!

Enjoy!

Clonlara School is welcoming: We do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, nationality or ethnic origin in administration of our educational and admissions policies.



Middle School English Courses

Middle School English courses are arranged in themed units, each containing three to six lessons. Each lesson includes a variety of activities such as direct instruction, application of skills, performance tasks, and formative and summative assessments. Students engage with the subject matter in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through course content and demonstrate their learning through computer- and teacher-scored assignments.

English 6

2 semesters

English 6 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills. Reading comprehension lessons strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing lessons combine free-response exercises with drafting strategies and exemplars to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative, and explanatory styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening lessons guide students as they evaluate clips and readings from speeches and discussions. In language lessons, students build foundational grammar skills they need to articulate their ideas and understand challenging words.

English 7

2 semesters

English 7 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills. Reading comprehension lessons strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing lessons combine free-response exercises with drafting strategies and exemplars to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative,

argumentative, and explanatory styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening lessons guide students as they evaluate clips and readings from speeches and discussions. In language lessons, students build foundational grammar skills they need to articulate their ideas and understand challenging words.

English 8

2 semesters

English 8 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build students' communication and reading comprehension skills. Reading comprehension lessons strengthen students' critical analysis skills as they study how nonfiction and literature can be used to share ideas. Writing lessons combine free-response exercises with drafting strategies and exemplars to help students communicate clearly and credibly in narrative, argumentative, and explanatory styles. To develop skills specific to public discourse, speaking and listening lessons guide students as they evaluate clips and readings from speeches and discussions. In language lessons, students build foundational grammar skills they need to articulate their ideas and understand challenging words.

Middle School Math Courses

This course arranged in themed units, each with three to five lessons. Each lesson includes a variety of activities such as direct instruction, application of skills, performance tasks, and formative and summative assessments. Students engage in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through standards-aligned content and demonstrate their learning through computer- and teacher-scored assignments. By constantly honing the ability to apply their knowledge in abstract and real-world scenarios, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order skills required to demonstrate their mastery.

Math 6

2 semesters

Math 6 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to develop computational fluency, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply mathematical practices. Course topics include ratios and rates, fraction and decimal operations, and signed numbers. Students continue to build their algebra skills by plotting points in all four quadrants of the coordinate plane and solving equations and inequalities. Geometry topics include area, surface area, and volume, and statistical work features measures of center and variability, box plots, dot plots, and histograms.

Math 7

2 semesters

Math 7 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to develop computational fluency, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply mathematical practices. Students gain a deep understanding of proportions and their use in solving problems. They extend their fluency with operations on rational numbers and translate among different forms of rational numbers. Algebra topics include simplifying and rewriting algebraic expressions and solving more complex equations and inequalities. Students also sketch geometric figures and explore scale drawings, investigate circle properties and angle relationships, and deepen their

understanding of area, volume, and surface area. They see how statistics uses sample data to make predictions about populations and compare data from different data sets. Students gain a fundamental understanding of probability and explore different ways to find or estimate probabilities.

Math 8

2 semesters

Math 8 delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to develop computational fluency, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply mathematical practices. In this course, students focus on understanding functions — what they are, how to represent them in different ways, and how to write them to model mathematical and real-world situations. In particular, students investigate linear functions by learning about slope and slope-intercept form. Students' understanding of linear functions is extended to statistics, where they make scatter plots and use linear functions to model data. They solve linear equations and equations involving roots, and explore systems of linear equations. Additional topics include exponents, powers of ten, scientific notation, and irrational numbers. Students learn about transformations, and extend that understanding to an investigation of congruence and similarity. Other geometric concepts explored include the Pythagorean theorem, angle relationships, and volumes of cylinders, cones, and spheres.

Middle School Science Courses

Each Middle School Science course contains two to three lessons. In each unit, activities make complex ideas accessible to students as they discover the nature of science through focused content, interactive mini-investigations, multi-modal representations, and personalized feedback. Each lesson includes a variety of activities such as direct instruction, application of skills, performance tasks, and formative and summative assessments. Students engage in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through standards-aligned content and demonstrate their learning through computer- and teacher-scored assignments.

Science 6

2 semesters

Grade 6 Science delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts such as the flow of energy and matter through both living and nonliving systems, including Earth's systems; Earth's weather and climate; the interaction between humans and the environment; the relationship between structure and function; and growth, development, and reproduction in organisms.

Science 7

2 semesters

This course delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts such as the structures and properties of matter; chemical reactions; the flow of energy through systems, including Earth's living and nonliving systems; and the history of Earth.

Science 8

2 semesters

This course delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts such as waves and electromagnetic radiation, energy and forces on Earth and in space, genetics and natural selection, and engineering design.

Physical Science

2 semesters

Middle School Physical Science delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts including the interactions of matter; motion and stability; waves and their technological applications; and energy.

Life Science

2 semesters

Middle School Life Science delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts including the relationship between structure and function, the flow of energy and matter through living systems, heredity, and the diversity of life.

Earth and Space Science

2 semesters

Middle School Earth and Space Science delivers instruction, practice, and review to help students develop scientific literacy, deepen conceptual understanding, and apply scientific practices. Students explore concepts including Earth's systems, engineering design, the nature of the universe, and the interaction between humans and the environment.

Middle School Social Studies Courses

Middle School Social Studies courses are arranged in themed units, each with three to six lessons. In each unit, activities make complex ideas accessible through focused content, guided analysis, multi-modal representations, and personalized feedback. Each lesson includes a variety of activities such as direct instruction, application of skills, performance tasks, and formative and summative assessments. Students engage in an interactive, feedback-rich environment as they progress through course content and demonstrate their learning through computer- and teacher-scored assignments.

World History

2 semesters

Middle School World History delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' knowledge of world history, from the Neolithic Revolution through the Middle Ages.

U.S. History

2 semesters

Middle School U.S. History delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' knowledge of U.S. history, from the peopling of North America through the era of Reconstruction.

Contemporary World

2 semesters

Middle School Contemporary World delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' knowledge of contemporary world geography, cultures, civics, and economics.

Civics

2 semesters

Middle School Civics delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' understanding of the political and governmental systems of the United States and the roles played by citizens.

Middle School Elective Courses

Foreign Languages

Foreign Languages available upon request.

Middle School Fitness

1 semester

Are you physically fit? What does being fit mean to you? Physical fitness is a lot more than just a number on a scale – and that's exactly what you'll learn in this course! This course will help you understand the basics behind what it means to be physically fit; allow you to gain a deeper understanding about how your body functions; learn the complex science behind exercise; explore what it means to be mindful and what inspires you; and determine how you can test your current level of fitness. Being and staying physically fit is a lifelong endeavor and, just like human beings, there are many complexities involved! Learning about and improving your physical fitness is a smart choice to make at any age – and by signing up for this course, you will be doing exactly that! Consider this course to be the first step on your exciting journey to understanding and improving your physical fitness.

2D Studio Art

1 semester

Close your eyes and imagine you're standing in an art studio—the smell of paint, the heat of the kiln, and the infinite creative possibilities that linger in the air. This is where art is born, and in 2D Studio Art, you'll learn how to bring your art visions to life. Whatever medium you prefer—painting, drawing, photography—this course will teach you the design elements and principles needed to create a work of art, explore your artistic inspirations, travel back in time to look at art in different cultures, and gain insight about the art of critiquing. If you've ever dreamed about making a living as an artist, this course will give you the tools and background that you need to turn those dreams into a reality.



Middle School Elective Courses, continued

Digital Art & Design

1 semester

There are so many different types of art in this world—fine art, classical art, visual art—but the impact of digital art and design is all around us, often in ways that you probably aren't even aware of! After taking Digital Art and Design, you'll enjoy a deeper understanding and appreciation for all things digital as you explore this special genre of art found in everything from advertising to animation to photography and beyond. In this course, you'll learn about the evolution of art, the basic principles of art and design, and the role of art in politics and society. Additionally, you will actually create your own digital art and make it come alive. Give your creative side a boost with this Digital Art and Design course.

Photography 1a: Introduction

1 semester

Photographs are all around us, and each helps to tell a story. Now it's time for you to create your story through photos you learn how to take in this course. Learn the basics of using a camera, lighting, and how to choose great subjects to create magazine-worthy photos and amaze your friends and family with your skills.

Photography 1b: Introduction

1 semester

Do you have vacation photos or pics of your pet that need a little editing? How about getting ready to add that new selfie you took to your social media platform? Taking photos is an art, and editing photos is a skill that many photographers seek to master. Explore how to manipulate angles and lighting, the purpose for different types of photo files, how to use different software to edit photos, and safe places you can store them. You'll be well on your way to being an editing guru when you're done with this course.

Exploring Music

1 semester

What comes to mind when you hear the word 'music'? Do you think about your favorite band or artist? Do you think about instruments and scales and chords? The word 'music' means something different to everyone. This is why in Exploring Music there is a little bit of something for everyone! You will learn about how we hear music and how music affects our lives. You will explore important elements of music like rhythm, pitch, and harmony, as well as different musical genres. You will discover more about your singing voice and musical instruments and composition while taking in the history and culture of music over the years. Tune up your understanding and appreciation for all things music by signing up for this course.

Coding 1a: Introduction

1 semester

Do you find yourself wondering how your favorite apps, websites, and games were made? Maybe you want to try building your own. Well, now you can! In Middle School Coding 1a, you will learn all about the technology you use in your day-to-day life as well as explore how the internet functions. Get an introduction to the basics of computer science and discover how to create and build your very own website using HTML and CSS. You'll also become familiar with programming languages like JavaScript and Python Programming. You will leave the course with your very own portfolio of work that will showcase your skills and all that you've created.

Coding 1b: Learning Python and Javascript

1 semester

Building on the prior prerequisite course, students will expand their knowledge of programming languages and web development by further exploring Advanced Python, HTML, and JavaScript. Students will also analyze the differences between web development and web application development, while growing their portfolios, which highlight everything learned and created in the course.



Middle School Elective Courses, continued

Game Design 1a: Introduction

1 semester

We all 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 Middle School Game Design 1, an interactive and hands-on course that will teach you all the ins and outs of making your own game. You will learn the importance of game structure and discover what makes a game fun, challenging, and interesting to players just like you. You will also have the opportunity to explore the design and creative process involved in game creation, learn block-based programs, and experiment with character and story development. As a bonus, you will leave the course with a digital portfolio of everything you created in class.

Game Design 1b: Creating a Game

1 semester

Building upon the prior prerequisite course, students will further advance their knowledge of game design by taking this course. Delving into the development process, students will create details and add component pieces in a game while learning to prototype, troubleshoot, and test. Additionally, exploring how to critique a game and advertise it will strengthen the student's ability to create a fully functioning game from start to finish.

Exploring Information Technology

1 semester

Are you interested in creating a website or app, or managing various technology solutions, but not sure where to start? If so, then it's time to explore the different career options available to you in IT and learn the foundations of IT to get you started. Examine various IT pathways of web and digital communications, information and support services, network systems, and programming and software development. Let's investigate which career pathway is right for you!

Career Exploration I

1 semester

How many times have you heard, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" When you close your eyes and picture yourself in the future, what do you see? Police officer? Doctor? Farmer? Pilot? Teacher? Really, the possibilities are endless. And with so many careers to pick from, it can be confusing knowing where to start your search. In Middle School Career Exploration, you will have the chance to explore more than 15 different career areas including energy fields, human resources, the law, transportation, and more. Discover which careers you might enjoy the most and which ones you'll be best at.

Career Exploration II

1 semester

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 Explorations 2 we'll explore more careers and what they takes to succeed. You'll learn more about what steps are needed 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.

Journalism

1 semester

Are you someone who likes to get the story straight? Do you always want to know more? Who? What? When? Where? How? These are the details that make for a great story. Knowing how to find these key facts and then write them up in a way that makes it easy for others to read about it is the skill of a true journalist. In Middle School Journalism: Tell Your Story, you'll learn how ask the right questions, look for the details, and find the story in any situation. You'll learn how to gather information effectively, organize ideas, format stories for media production, and edit your articles. Get ready to break that news.