



HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC ELECTIVE CURRICULUM

Art of War

This elective course will focus on crucial conflicts throughout history, from the Greco-Persian wars to Vietnam. Students will study the causes and consequences of these conflicts as well as important battles, relevant personalities, and modern parallels.

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Child Development

Child development offers the opportunity to develop a positive understanding of the growth and development of children and parenting skills. Class activities and projects will emphasize the responsibilities and challenges of parenting. Students will learn theories of development and growth as well as techniques to use when working with children. Content topics include: Introduction to Child Development and Psychology; Observing Children; Child, Family, and Community Connections; Prenatal Development; Postnatal Period; Infancy; Toddlerhood; Preschool; School Age; Special Challenges for Children.

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Creative Expression

Creative Expression is a course that allows students to experience various forms of self-expression. This course encourages students to engage in the creative process in order to learn a new set of skills that will assist them in exploring their untapped creative abilities. Students will be introduced to new, unconventional as well as conventional forms of art. Students will practice and develop their abilities to design, create, and perform. Some activities may include: Slam Poetry, Sculpture, Photography, Readers Theater, Design, Creative Written Expression, and various forms of creation.

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Crime and Evidence

In this course, students will learn about the history of policing, theories of policing, as well as police and the law, such as search and seizure, arrests, warrants, and interrogations. Students will then learn the importance of crime scene investigating (CSI) team and their role in bringing criminals to justice. Students will learn the responsibilities of the CSI, what the different types of evidence are, including fingerprints, hair, blood typing, blood splatter patterns, and DNA. Students will also learn how to search for and gather evidence and the importance of the chain of custody. Students will then learn how the district attorney uses the gathered evidence to determine whether to try a suspect or not. They will understand how the suspect

moves through the court system from the time of the arrest until they have been sentenced. Students will then learn about the correctional system, including jails, prisons, and probation. Students will learn what probation is and what the individual's responsibilities are while on probation.

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Film Studies

Students will gain an understanding of the different genres of film through viewing, discussing, and analyzing them. They will also be able to distinguish different cultural aspects, past and present, which are portrayed through film medium.

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Health and Wellness

This course examines the various aspects of nutrition and provides a broad overview of the factors that impact health and wellness. Topics include the nutritional requirements specific to human life cycles, nutrition to promote health, nutrition and disease processes, food safety, environmental and nutritional implications of food processing, genetic modifications, and current agricultural practices. This course also addresses the impact that drugs and alcohol have on the brain and body.

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

It's Lit

This elective course is designed to provide readers and non-readers with a fun and interactive setting to get hooked on young adult novels. Students will gain knowledge surrounding the novels chosen and will be given the opportunity to have open discussions and debates about the characters, plot, and dialogue. Not only will this course allow readers and non-readers to discover the power and joy behind books, but it will give them the opportunity to truly reflect with their peers and gain new insight and perspective. Students will be encouraged to share the books they are reading outside of the elective with their classmates, in order to allow a vast multitude of fictional worlds to be reached and realized. Additionally, students will examine book to film adaptations, allowing for the coverage of a variety of forms of media within the elective. There is no experience like it. This course turns muggles into wizards, paupers into princes, wimps into heroes, and so much more! It's Lit!

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Personal Finance

This course covers the basic skills requisite for independent living as a young adult. Examples of skills taught and practices would include getting an apartment, completing tax forms, determining an appropriate budget, applying for credit, purchasing a car, etc.

Grades: 9-12

Length: 1 Semester

Prerequisite: None

Sociology

This class is designed to give student the opportunity to study the social structure of society. Sociology is a branch of learning that deals with human society. In this class, students will take a look at what sociology is, why it is a benefit to society, look at sociological theories, and explain how social behavior affects individual behavior. The focus of the class is not on the individual, but entire groups of people.

Grades: 9-12**Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: None****Survey of World Religions**

This course will provide a historical survey of the religions, beliefs, texts, and practices of the world's major religious traditions, including Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Hinduism, Native American, and African Religions.

Grades: 9-12**Length: 1 Semester****Prerequisite: None**