

2024 - 25 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(semester 2)

ALLISON

TOB and Community Service (Alternative Passage Opportunity)

Grade Level: 7-12

Course length: semester

Credit Count: elective

This semester-long class is a unique Steller class which could be structured to meet your Passages Community Service graduation requirement. This class allows students to expand their understanding of service learning. This class encourages students to plan, organize, and to run community service projects including, but not limited to: Temple of the Bean, fundraisers, clothing drives, Souper Steller, volunteering at non-profits, etc. Through this self-directed class, you'll learn organization, leadership, and communication skills.

Feminist Literature 3rd and 4th Wave

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5 World Lit or US Lit or Lit. Elective

This course is created to allow you to choose your own credit adventure, with the intent to take a year-long class, although students can join or leave the class at semester. Pick from American Literature or World Literature credit. In this Semi-Self-Directed Class, we will analyze the writing and speeches of the strong women who furthered the feminist movement. We'll explore themes of empowerment, identity, and social justice. Some literary novels to read could be *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, *Infidel*, *The Color Purple*, and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. We'll dissect narratives, challenge norms, and amplify diverse perspectives. Get ready to ignite discussions, flex your critical thinking, and celebrate the power of storytelling in shaping our understanding of gender, equality, and human experience.

Student Led Seminar from a Global Perspective

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5 World Lit. Elective

This class is for anyone who would like to explore their own seminar topics through a global lens. Some ideas could be: Should schools get rid of grading? How much influence should countries have on global politics? What is Social Media's role in politics? What are the effects of Fast Fashion and its global impacts? How does modern warfare and UN involvement affect the world? What are the cultural effects of genocide? How do we, as humans, navigate this new and ever changing world? Teaching methods will rely on the Socratic method of coaching in small

groups, writing about the written work, and holding seminar discussions as a whole class. ALL students will work in groups to lead their own seminars. We'll be looking at texts, essays, articles, art, podcasts, etc. that address global issues.

Sacrifice, Suffering, Solitude: Exploring WWII through Middle School Lit

Grade Level: 6-8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 English Elective

In this class, students will journey through powerful stories of WWII, uncovering the themes of sacrifice, suffering, and solitude experienced by individuals in trying times. Through literature, we'll explore personal accounts, fictional narratives, and historical perspectives that reveal the resilience and courage needed to navigate a world at war. We'll hold seminars, read novels of choice, craft art, write analytical reflections, and practice essay writing techniques.

World Mythology: Deep Dive

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5 World Lit

This second semester of World Mythology will allow students to deep dive into a world culture of their choice. They will explore various myths that established social and cultural norms. Students will end the semester with a dramatization of a cultural epic of their choice. Options may include: Beowulf, The Arabian Nights, Mahabarata, The Monkey King, Popul Vuh, The Tale of Genji, etc. This class will be heavy on reading analysis and performance art, with lots of opportunities to explore creativity through project based learning.

BOB

The Western

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 American Literature, Literature Elective, English Elective

The Western is a genre that tries to encapsulate the spirit of the American experience. This class will follow the formation of the genre, looking at important short stories, novels, and movies. The class will also explore the impact this American genre has had on world storytelling.

Debate

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 Speech or English Elective

This is an introductory look at the sport of Debate. Introduction to research techniques and delivery, the different styles of debate (C-X, Lincoln-Douglas, and Crossfire), and the tools

necessary to compete effectively will be the main focuses. The class will participate in building arguments, backing them up with evidence, and participating in their own debates. Topics will vary. Experienced students will be warmly welcomed.

Essay Composition

Grade Level: 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: Writing

Essay Composition is Steller's introductory writing course. We will focus on the building blocks of writing: plagiarism, sentence structure, grammar and mechanics, paragraph construction, as well as Narrative and Descriptive essays. We will be using a number of different activities to help writers of all levels advance their skills. An emphasis on writing as a process will be used throughout the course.

English Language Arts Independent Study

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5; Varies; dependent upon contract goals

Pirates in the era of Romanticism; Ninjas and the Medieval European Hero Ballad; Did you ever want to take an English class Steller has NEVER offered? Then this is the class for you! In this Self-Directed Learning environment you, yes YOU, will develop your curriculum (with guidance from our able-bodied staff), set goals and assignments, and decide on an assessment method that fits with your subject.

Other core-subject-area I.S.s will be taken if there is room for enrollment.

Passages

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 Passages (Elective)

Passages are personally challenging projects developed by each student in one of six different areas to demonstrate the ability to apply their skills in the real world. The Passage process includes the writing of a proposal, which is approved by a committee of peers, the advisor and a staff consultant. Mentors and parents are encouraged to participate. The six Passage areas are: Adventure, Career Exploration, Creativity, Community Involvement, Logical Inquiry and Practical Skills.

Candace

History of Modern Art

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 Social Studies

Students will learn about the historical events of the early 20th century through exploring the artists and artistic movements from this fascinating time.

Creative Writing

Grade Level: 6-8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 English

Calling all creative writers! This class is an opportunity for you to grow as a writer through exploring a broad range of creative writing genres from poetry to the short story.

Creative Writing

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 English

Calling all creative writers! This class is an opportunity for you to grow as a writer through exploring a broad range of creative writing genres from poetry to the short story.

Intermediate Composition

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 Composition

This class will focus on studying and writing in three main genres: informational, narrative and argument. Students are encouraged to choose topics that are meaningful and relevant to them. We will focus on the purpose, the format, and the audience of the work. The course will also familiarize students with the MLA style of documentation. Understanding writing as a process will be a major focus with special emphasis on revision. Students will be encouraged to form habits of writing and reading through daily writer's notebook responses and independent reading time.

LEIGH ANNE

Middle School Speech

Grade Level: 6-8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Language Arts Elective

This class will introduce students to basic speech techniques, including how to give a persuasive speech, engage your audience, and use your voice. Students will explore various types of speeches through reviewing, writing, practicing, and presenting their

own speeches. Students will have lots of opportunities to choose topics and styles that they are most interested in. They also get to participate in simulations, such as mock trials that will allow them to apply their speaking skills.

I am looking for a high school student that would be interested in **co-teaching** this with me, especially one that has theater experience and wants to help add some improvisational activities into the curriculum.

Ethics Seminar

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5 World Lit

Do you love to debate moral questions and dilemmas? Did you find yourself thinking about the train problem and other moral issues presented in *The Good Place*? If so, this class is for you. This class will be taught using the Socratic Seminar method and will focus on ethics. Students will read and discuss topics that could include right and wrong, happiness, justice, virtue, world hunger, animal rights, and the meaning of life. Readings will come from the great ancient philosophers, as well as modern ones. Teaching methods will rely on the Socratic method of coaching in small groups, writing about the written work, and holding seminar discussions as a whole class. ALL students will be expected to participate in small group and whole class discussions.

Economics

Course Level: 11 and 12

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5 Economics

Students will examine the fundamental principles of economic theory and how they apply to their lives and the world around them. Students will learn the economic way of thinking as they study the role of consumers, producers and government in the economy. They will explore a number of microeconomic and macroeconomic issues, international markets, and financial literacy

U.S. Government (without field studies)

Grade Level: 11-12 social studies requirement

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5

This course is founded on the belief that to become an informed and active citizen, an understanding of government is essential. This course will feature both the structure of government and the function of politics. In this semester-long class we will look at the philosophical foundations of government, the origins of American government, the Constitution, federalism, the branches of government, civil liberties, civil rights, and how the government functions in our daily lives. Students will work independently and in groups on various assignments, projects, and activities.

Seminar Social Studies/Language Arts

Grade Level: 8

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5 Language Arts Seminar and .5 Social Studies Seminar

This class is Steller's introduction to Socratic Seminar. Students will develop their critical thinking skills through close-reading, writing, active listening, and discussion. A seminar discussion is shared inquiry, not a debate: Students are encouraged to share their ideas and questions and to respond to the ideas and questions of others. The course's readings will include fiction, philosophy, primary historical documents, and poetry. Most of the reading will be done in class in small groups. Acquiring new vocabulary from the readings will also be emphasized.

****Juniors and seniors interested in being seminar coaches should talk with their advisor and email Leigh Anne at bonney_leigh@asdk12.org****

Seminar Coach (Periods 3 and 4)

Grade Level: 11 and 12 on approval by Leigh Anne

Course Credit: .5 Speech/.5 ELA Elective and .5 Community Involvement

Passages/.5 Elective

Description: High school students work with 8th graders as Seminar Coaches, leading small group discussions and guiding students to help with understanding. Coaches also work with students to help with their written work. Students meet weekly to help plan with Leigh Anne.

****Juniors and seniors interested in being seminar coaches should talk with their advisor and email Leigh Anne at bonney_leigh@asdk12.org****

FIELD STUDIES GOVERNMENT

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 United States Government

Description: This is a class for those that want to be politically involved. Students will spend the quarter working on a **local political campaign** of their choice doing whatever the campaign manager or volunteer coordinator or both need to have done in support of their candidate. Students can also work for the election process in a non-political setting, such as Get out the Vote campaigns. Students are expected to log at least 40 hours on their respective campaigns and may volunteer beyond the end of the quarter to work up to the election. This promises to be a pretty exciting year as many races will be closely contested and state-wide races will make for a lively political season. The second half of the semester will focus on constitutional issues and the basic structure of the federal government. Course work will include cooperative group work, some lectures, and various other activities.

JOE

World History

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 0.5 per semester / Social Studies

This is a **year-long class broken into a two-semester course** that will focus on the world's history. The class will be organized thematically, with topics that include early hunter and gatherers, ancient civilizations, exploration, war and conflict, expansion, and the modern era. Geography, humanities, religions, government, economy, society, science, and technology are some of the themes/perspectives by which these areas of the world will be explored. Students will explore these topics through a variety of methods and material, including primary documents and projects.

Peer Taught - Lyrical Analysis

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: Semester

Credit Count: 0.5 / Elective

Music is an incredibly important and unique medium of artistic expression, often packed with personality, stories, emotions, and much more. While it's easy to appreciate the soundscapes of music, an equally important element that often goes overlooked are the lyrics. In this course, students will become familiar with how to inspect and understand the stories and statements told through lyrical content in songwriting, and gain a deeper understanding of how lyrics contribute to the artistic expression in the medium.

U.S. History

Grade Level: 10-12

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 0.5 per semester / Social Studies

This is a **year-long class broken into a two-semester study** of US History beginning with the French and Indian War and bringing us to the Industrial Revolution and the rise of the US as world power. While the potential class content is huge, we'll look at topics that are of particular interest to the class and spend more time on them where appropriate. The second half of this year-long course will be offered in the second semester. Course work will include group work, research essays, projects, quizzes, and roleplay activities.

Social Studies 6-8: Modern U.S. History

Grade Level: 6 - 8

Course length: Yearlong

Middle school social studies will focus primarily on a standards-based, thematic approach to United States history from Reconstruction to the contemporary era. The curriculum emphasizes historical thinking skills, geography and spatial thinking skills, civics, economics, and literacy skills.

JASON

Calculus AB

Grade Level: 11-12

Course Length: 1 Year

Credit Count: 1.0 Mathematics

Prerequisite:

First semester--at least one of the following:

1. A grade of "C" or better in **Algebra II and Pre-Calculus**.
2. Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor.

Second semester--at least one of the following:

1. A grade of "C" or better in first semester Calculus.
2. Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor

Description: The course focuses on the two main ideas in calculus: the derivative and the integral. Students will apply skills learned in algebra II and pre-calculus about functions, the unit circle, slope, and area to see how to calculate values when multiple variables are changing. Students are expected to use formal definitions of limits to initially find derivatives and integrals, before learning the theorems that simplify the process. Students will learn real-world applications of calculus and will get to practice problem solving using technology and online resources.

Algebra II

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: 1 year

Credit Count: 1.0 Mathematics (fulfills algebra requirement)

Prerequisite:

First semester--at least one of the following:

- A grade of "C" or better in Algebra I and Geometry.
- Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor.

Second semester--at least one of the following:

- A grade of "C" or better in first semester Algebra II.
- Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor.

Description: This course includes problem solving, data analysis, the use of technology (i.e., graphing calculator, computer), basic operations with polynomials, solving equations and inequalities, sequences and series, relations and functions, systems of equations in two and three variables, understanding and operations with matrices, irrational and complex numbers through the solution of quadratic functions and polynomial functions of higher than first degree, use and evaluation of the Euler number, and an introduction to logarithms. Students that successfully complete algebra II are ready for pre-calculus or statistics.

Pre Calculus

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: 1 year

Credit Count: 1.0 Mathematics

Prerequisite:

First semester--at least one of the following:

A grade of "C" or better in **Algebra II**

Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor.

Second semester--at least one of the following:

A grade of "C" or better in first semester Pre-Calculus.

Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor

Description: This course builds upon concepts learned in Algebra II and introduces the area of trigonometry, which is useful in many engineering fields. Pre-calculus gives students the opportunity to learn about more functions and their applications. Students will learn how to solve systems of equations using matrices, how to use the unit circle, solve trig equations, and expand on their problem solving abilities. Students that successfully complete pre-calculus are ready for calculus AB.

Financial Mathematics

Grade Level: 10-12

Course Length: 1 Semester

Credit Count: .5 Mathematics

Prerequisite: Successful completion with passing grade in Algebra I.

Description: This one semester class will integrate mathematics standards and the national standards for financial literacy. Topics include earning income, buying goods and services, using credit, saving money, financial investing, and insurance. Upon completion of this course, students will have strategies for life after high school, including finding a job, paying for rent, utilities, transportation, and food, and budgeting for unknown circumstances. Students will explore credit and interest as they relate to spending and saving money.

Analyzing and Displaying Data

Grade Level: 10-12

Course Length: 1 Semester (semester 2 of Financial Literacy)

Credit Count: .5 Mathematics

Prerequisite: Successful completion with passing grade in Algebra I.

Description: This one semester class will provide students with the opportunity to investigate different ways to look at data. How can you use data to your advantage or disadvantage? We will conduct studies, surveys, and collect data from a variety of sources in order to learn what it all means.

CLARE**Video Production**

Grade level: 8 - 12

Course length: Yearlong

Credit count: 1.0 elective

Video Production is a hands-on course on digital media creation. Learn how to shoot, edit, and produce high-quality audiovisual content for school and community audiences. The focus will be on broadcast journalism, communications, marketing, and community building. Skills you can learn include camera operation and cinematography, audio recording and video editing with Adobe Creative Suite, broadcast journalism and news production, and marketing communication strategies. You will have the opportunity to showcase your work through broadcasting online and in school.

Pre-algebra III

Grade Level: 6-8

Course length: 1 year

Credit Count: 1.0 MS Mathematics

Description:

Students will focus on improving their number sense, mathematical reasoning, and problem solving. Students will practice basic math facts, learn the relationship between various number representations, begin looking at variables as agents of change, and practice the process to solve word problems. Students must work in an organized manner, use technology, practice communicating about math, and be willing to listen to differing viewpoints. This class will focus on using centers to practice needed skills and small group instruction to target individualized areas of need. A student that successfully completes this course will be ready for Algebra I.

Geometry

Grade Level: 7-11

Course length: 1 year

Credit Count: 1.0 Mathematics

Prerequisite:

First semester--at least one of the following:

A grade of "C" or better in Algebra I.

Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor.

Second semester--at least one of the following:

A grade of "C" or better in first semester Geometry.

Recommendation or approval of student's most recent math instructor

Description: The course focuses on using inductive and deductive reasoning to complete formal and informal proofs of geometric concepts. Students also learn how to use traditional and digital tools for making formal constructions. Students must keep an organized notebook of postulates, definitions and proven theorems. Conceptual understanding and application of learned skills is emphasized over rote memorization of facts. Students must use communication skills and be able to see an idea from multiple viewpoints.

To receive high school credit for this course being taken in Middle School, the student must earn a grade of C or better.

BRIAN

Algebra I

Grade Level: 7-12

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 Mathematics

Yes, this is a required class... however Brian is excited to implement new curriculum that is designed to not only be fun occasionally, but to only leave students with actual transferable math skills rather than a hodgepodge of unconnected facts. Students will leave the new algebra curriculum seeing connections between topics of study and be better prepared to tackle the endless Algebra problems of life from the financial (budgeting, investing) to the practical (project management, construction, etc).

Physics

Grade Level: 10-12 Algebra 1 Required

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 physical science

Are you planning to go to college? Considering a science major? If so, you need to take physics in high school so you are prepared to pass required courses in college and so you have familiarity with precise lab equipment like Vernier sensors.

As a physics student, you will be studying some topics that have been taught for thousands of years (rigor varied!) while also learning how and why modern physics progressed from Newton to relativity, quantum mechanics, and GUTs. Topics of study include: kinematics, mechanics/forces, work/energy, momentum, waves, electromagnetism, optics, and circuits/electricity.

PLTW Computer Science Principles (Project Lead the Way)

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 science

Using the Python language as a primary tool, students learn the fundamentals of coding, data processing, data security, and task automation, while learning to contribute to an inclusive, safe, and ethical computing culture. The course promotes computational thinking and coding fundamentals and introduces computational tools that foster creativity. Computer Science Principles helps students develop programming expertise and explore the workings of the Internet. Projects and problems include app development, visualization of data, cybersecurity, and simulation.

Math 8 / Survey of Algebra

Grade Level: 7-12

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 Mathematics

This course uses the traditional Algebra 1 curriculum and focuses on skill development in algebraic processes rather than mathematical practices. Therefore, this course can be taken before Algebra 1 as it will strengthen the skills students need before they focus on mathematical

practices, or arrangements can be made with Brian to move onto Geometry after the completion of this course if students earn an A.

MADI

Integrated Science

Grade Level: 6-8

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 MS Science

Explore life science, physical science, and earth and space science through hands-on activities and inquiry-based learning. Build your own interactive notebook, allowing you to build strong organizational and study skills as you create your own textbook based on the course's topics. Topics may include, but are not limited to: weather and climate, matter, energy, cells, ecosystems, space systems, the history of Earth, forces, waves, chemical reactions, engineering, and computer science.

Chemistry

Grade Level: 10-12 Algebra 1 Required

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 Physical Science

Chemistry provides an introduction into the principles of chemistry. Topics covered include the physical nature of matter, chemical bonding, stoichiometry, types of chemical reactions, as well as the chemical and physical properties of gasses, liquids, and solids. Grading will be based on tests, quizzes, as well as the laboratory component of the course.

Environmental Science

Grade Level: 10-12 Biology Required

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 0.5 Physical Science & 0.5 Life Science

Explore how human activities impact ecological systems and the ways in which human systems affect and are affected by environmental systems. Learn about local environmental issues, climate change, natural resources, pollution, and energy. Address bias and misunderstandings to develop informed opinions and solutions to address present and future environmental challenges. This is a lab and field based course.

PHILIP

Biology

Grade Level: 9-12

Course length: Year Long

Credit Count: 1.0 Life Science

Description: This course is designed to study life starting from the microscopic and moving into the macroscopic world. The class will emphasize using the scientific method for research,

and content areas will include, but not be limited to: chemistry of life, cell structure, genetics, evolution, animal behavior, botany, and ecology.

Art Studio

Grade Level: 7-12

Course length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 Art Elective

The instructional goals of the Steller Studio Art program can be described as follows:

- Encourage creative and systematic investigation of formal and conceptual issues.
- Emphasize making art as an ongoing process that involves the student in informed and critical decision making.
- Help students develop technical skills and familiarize them with the functions of the visual elements.
- Encourage students to become independent thinkers who will contribute inventively and critically to their culture through the making of art.

Students will explore different mediums and create unique pieces of artwork. Each piece will be drafted, critiqued, and displayed with student choice as the driving force for the projects in this class.

Passages

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 Passages (Elective)

Passages are personally challenging projects developed by each student in one of six different areas to demonstrate the ability to apply their skills in the real world. The Passage process includes the writing of a proposal, which is approved by a committee of peers, the advisor and a staff consultant. Mentors and parents are encouraged to participate. The six Passage areas are: Adventure, Career Exploration, Creativity, Community Involvement, Logical Inquiry and Practical Skills.

JULIA

Spanish 1

Grade Level: 7-12

Course Length: Year long course

Credit Count: .5 World Language per semester

This is an introductory Spanish course designed to give students a general overview of Hispanic culture and the Spanish language. The emphasis in this class is on basic communication and cultural knowledge.. Students are encouraged to contribute their ideas and creativity to class stories and activities as we build language skills and work on vocabulary together. By the end of this course a student should be able to discuss their likes or dislikes, hobbies. They should also be able to talk about weather, plans and give descriptions of people and places. We will also cover colors, time, the calendar, basic animals, family, food, clothing, and the most common verbs in present tense. This is a fun class that does not require any background in Spanish, although extra information is always helpful!

Peer Taught Japanese

Grade level: 9-12

Course length: 1 semester

Credit count: .5 elective credit

An intro to Japanese class taught by Brynn Sharp and Eleanor Poe. Learn how to use simple greetings, introduce yourself and ask important questions in Japanese. You will also learn to read and write the hiragana alphabet! This course is for everyone interested in Japanese culture and language, and will be especially helpful if you are going on the Japan intensive.

Spanish 2

Grade Level: 8-12

Course Length: Year Long course

Credit Count: .5 World Language per semester

It is recommended for students that have already taken a year of high school Spanish or received the equivalent before taking this course. We will continue to expand on student's vocabulary in the present tense, and delve into the past tense while we explore topics such as travel, education and daily routine in various countries, common celebrations and traditions, and family stories and legends. This course is designed not only to enhance the student's understanding of different cultures but hopefully to by doing so promote a greater awareness of the student's own unique cultural heritage.

Spanish 3/4:

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Year long course

Credit count: .5 World Language per semester

It is recommended that students have already taken at least two years of high school Spanish or received the equivalent before taking this course. In this stacked course of Spanish 3 and 4 we will continue to expand student's vocabulary via rotating higher level topics like health, immigration, the environment, human rights, technology. Discussions and readings will also include cultural topics like food, celebrations and relationships. Higher level grammar will be introduced over the year so we can talk about the future, give commands, what we would like out of life, and so on. We will continue to compare and make connections between the issues and culture of Hispanic countries and find parallels with our own unique cultures.

BRANDIN

Physical Education

Grade level: 6-12

Course length: semester, .5 PE credit

The purpose of this course is to offer a variety of activities to the student who enjoys the fun of games and activities, indoors and out. The games will be recreational in nature and include both

indoor and outdoor activities. Activities may include: speedball, ultimate frisbee, floor hockey, non-contact lacrosse and many other activities based on student interests. In addition, this course will provide opportunities to improve physical fitness, acquire knowledge of fitness concepts, practice positive personal and social skills and gain an understanding of how a wellness lifestyle affects one's health, fitness and physical performance.

KATHERINE

Integrated Science

Grade Level: 6-8

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 MS Science

Explore life science, physical science, and earth and space science through hands-on activities and inquiry-based learning. Build your own interactive notebook, allowing you to build strong organizational and study skills as you create your own textbook based on the course's topics. Topics may include, but are not limited to: weather and climate, matter, energy, cells, ecosystems, space systems, the history of Earth, forces, waves, chemical reactions, engineering, and computer science.

Health 6

Grade Level: 6

Course length: 1 semester

Credit Count: .5 Health

Sixth grade Health is a required course for all students. This course provides information for the student in order that they will be able to make healthy choices by setting goals based on information they have learned in the areas of genetic health problems, environmental health issues, recognizing eating disorders, and understanding issues related to adolescent development. Students will practice refusal, coping, and decision making skills.

Health 8

Grade Level: 8

Course length: 1 semester

Credit Count: .5 Health

One semester of 8th grade Health is a required course for all students. This course offers effective health instruction methods that are active and promote personal responsibility, lifelong learning, critical thinking, and cooperation. The major topic areas include personal health, nutrition, physical development, social development, mental health, human sexuality, substance abuse and use. These areas are interrelated and lead to total positive functioning of the individual in their environment. Health education aids the individual in making informed choices. Students will practice reflective, active observation and examination of their choices and the effect on personal, family and social well-being.

LAURA

Pre-Algebra I

Grade Level: 6-7

Course length: 1 year

Credit Count: 1.0 MS Mathematics

Description:

Students will focus on improving their number sense, mathematical reasoning, and problem solving. Students will practice basic math facts, learn the relationship between various number representations, begin looking at variables as agents of change, and practice the process to solve word problems. Students must work in an organized manner, use technology, practice communicating about math, and be willing to listen to differing viewpoints. This class will focus on using centers to practice needed skills and small group instruction to target individualized areas of need. A student that successfully completes this course will be ready for Pre-Algebra II.

Pre-Algebra II

Grade Level: 6-8

Course length: 1 year

Credit Count: 1.0 MS Mathematics

Description:

Students will focus on improving their number sense, mathematical reasoning, and problem solving. Students will practice basic math facts, learn the relationship between various number representations, begin looking at variables as agents of change, and practice the process to solve word problems. Students must work in an organized manner, use technology, practice communicating about math, and be willing to listen to differing viewpoints. This class will focus on using centers to practice needed skills and small group instruction to target individualized areas of need. A student that successfully completes this course will be ready for Pre-Algebra III.

Integrated Science

Grade Level: 6-8

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 MS Science

Explore life science, physical science, and earth and space science through hands-on activities and inquiry-based learning. Build your own interactive notebook, allowing you to build strong

organizational and study skills as you create your own textbook based on the course's topics. Topics may include, but are not limited to: weather and climate, matter, energy, cells, ecosystems, space systems, the history of Earth, forces, waves, chemical reactions, engineering, and computer science.

JESSICA

Imaginative Lit: (The Battle of Light and Darkness: Good vs. Evil: The Great Conflict in Literature

Grade Level: 6-8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 English Elective

In this course, students will explore the timeless battle between light and darkness, good vs. evil. Through various engaging novels, students will encounter heroes, villains, and other complex characters who blur the lines between right and wrong and challenge our thinking about morality and justice. Students will use their critical thinking skills through discussion, creative projects, and analytical writing. Students are invited on a journey into the heart of the human struggle and realize that even in the darkest times, choices have the power to shape our destinies.

20th Century History

Grade Level: 6-8

Length: 1 semester

Credit Count: .5 Social Studies

Students will focus on modern history in the United States and the rest of the world, starting at the turn of the 20th century. There is an emphasis on project-based learning to encourage active participation in our democratic society. Students are introduced to historiography, the use of chronological thinking in conjunction with historical comprehension, historical analysis, and interpretation. Geography, economics, government, and the humanities are used as a basis for examining the United States during these historical periods. There will be a focus on art, music, and literature as a form of human experience.

BONNIE

Art Studio and Design

Grade level: 6 - 8

Course length: semester

Credit Count: .5 Elective

Description: Do you love art but you don't think of yourself as an *artist*? This introductory art class is for you! Spend the semester exploring 2D and 3D art with a touch of art history and study of contemporary artists. We will learn techniques and tips to help you while exploring painting, sculpture, drawing, and collage. Learn the basics then use your imagination to take off with individual projects and creations.

Ceramics

Grade Level: 6-8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 Elective

This semester-long class introduces students to the craft of working with clay. Students will experience hand-building techniques including pinch, coil, and slab. Students will have an opportunity to try out throwing on the wheel. We will experiment with objects from nature and found objects to create designs, textures and forms. We will learn about the science of glazing and firing the kiln. Students will use their creativity to create unique functional objects such as mugs and plates, sculptures and vessels.

KYLE

Orchestra

Grade Level: 7-12

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: .50 per semester

Description: Orchestra is a fun, engaging, and safe environment for students to express creativity and be themselves. We are a growing string family comprised of bassist, violist, cellist, and violinist. Course content is structured by the ASD Fine Arts music curriculum, and that of the educator. In Orchestra, students set their own goals, hold themselves and peers accountable, and master string techniques necessary to perform well on their instrument.

The educator facilitates student learning of music through self-directed activities, which include homogeneous and heterogeneous instrumental groupings. We perform a plethora of genres such as movie hits, pop, rock, jazz, contemporary, and traditional. The Steller Orchestra partakes in performance opportunities beyond school such as community shows, district level solo and ensemble, large festival, and soon All-State. Orchestra is a place where you shine, make new friends, and create Steller musical magic. Let the music begin!

Beginning Orchestra

Grade: 6 - 9

Course length: Yearlong

Credit Count: 1.0 fine arts elective

Beginning orchestra is for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of music through playing an orchestra instrument (i.e. violin, viola, cell, bass). Basic left and right hand

techniques, proper care of the instrument, and reading musical notation will be learned in a large group setting.

NOBUO

Band

Grade level: 7 - 12

Course length: yearlong

Credit count: .5 fine arts elective/semester

Prerequisite: Intermediate Band or Director's approval. Students will experience advanced technical training through group and individualized instruction. Students will increase individual concepts of tone control, nomenclature and musical awareness through the study of band literature as well as technique materials drawn from standard study books. This course provides an increased emphasis on musical style and interpretation. Performances outside of class are required. Repeatable unlimited times.

Beginning Band

Grade level: 6 - 9

Course length: yearlong

Credit count: .5 fine arts elective/semester

Beginning band is for students who wish to learn the fundamentals of music through playing a wind or percussion instrument. Correct breathing, tonguing, posture, proper care of the instrument and reading musical notation will be learned in a group setting.

AMYE

Study Skills

Grade Level: 7- 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 elective

Study Skills is an elective class for students with a Special Education IEP. This course is designed to provide instruction and support in study skill strategies such as time management, test-taking skills, and organizational skills. Students are also given time to complete classwork, plan for future projects, and keep themselves organized.

Jana

Civil Tactics:

Grade level: 7 - 12

Course length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 elective

Hone the skills you need to get along and get ahead. This elective class gives you the skills and practice to be effective in any community by paying attention to your environment and the effect you have on it. While designed with special education IEP students in mind, this is a class for anyone who wants to improve their people skills. Learn and practice skills such as self-advocacy, emotional regulation, communication, self-presentation and self-perception, relationships, and problem solving. Individual needs and concerns will be addressed on a student-by-student basis (the class adapts to meet the needs/wants of students in the class).

Puzzles and Problem solving

Grade Level: 6- 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .5 elective

This elective class uses games, roleplay, and mindbenders to learn and practice solving problems and facing challenges. We will work together to make and break all sorts of puzzles, challenging our minds and our fortitude. The class meets IEP requirements but it's designed for students who don't want to let obstacles get in their way. Students will develop logic tools and creative thinking as well as teamwork.