

Gray Matter 2019-2020 Course Catalog

MONDAY ONLY

Life Science

Teacher: Ian Seamans

Grades: 5, 6, 7, 8

Class Schedule: Monday Only

Class Time: 10:45 – 12:15 pm

Duration: 1.5 hours per week, 32 wks

Description: This class will cover foundational information about living organisms, ecology, the human body and evolution. We use hands-on labs to explore cells and cell activity, DNA, classification of organisms, the human body, radioactive dating, fossils, and evolution among others. An important aspect of this class is learning the scientific method and creating and documenting experiments.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: Students can expect to spend 1-2 hours weekly reading the textbook, completing lab notes, watching videos, and completing take-home quizzes.

Textbook: CK-12 Life Science for Middle School (Available for free online.)

Class Materials: Laptop, tablet, or smartphone
Home internet access
Three-ring binder
Writing utensils.
Laptops can be supplied on request.

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$736.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) installments of \$81.78. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$81.78 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

Texas History

Teacher: Mary Kimble-Hellen

Grades: 6, 7, 8

Class Schedule: Monday Only

Class Time: 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Duration: 1.25 hours per week, 32 wks

Description: The story of Texas is expansive, heroic, colorful, dramatic, electrifying, tragic, consequential, and noble. The list of adjectives is never-ending. Join us as we explore, historical facts, but also data interpretation, geographic diversities, and cultural heritage from Texas' ancient origins to the 21st century. Plenty of hands-on activities, supplemental websites, videos, biographical profiles, and field trip suggestions help bring to life and personalize students' experiences as they discover the rich history of this great state.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: Students can expect to spend 1-2 hours per week.

Class Materials: Bound composition book
Colored pencils, pens, pencils
Notebook paper

Textbook: Celebrating Texas: Honoring the Past, Building the Future; McDougal Littell; (Grades 6-8, Student Edition); ISBN-10: 0-0-618-15512-0 ISBN-13: 978-0-618-15512-5. Published by: McDougal Littell, Hardcover, 736 pages

Caution: Be careful to order the right textbook. Several books on the market have the title Celebrating Texas. Check the ISBN-13 number for the correct one! New and used textbooks are available online or at Home Educator's Resource in Lewisville.

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$675.00 is due at time of registration.
 2. Two (2) installments.
 3. Four (4) installments.
 4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$78.96. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$78.96 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.
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Yoga & Creative Writing

Teacher: Mary Kimble-Hellen

Grades: 6, 7, 8, 9

Class Schedule: Monday Only

Class Time: 9:30 - 10:45 am

Duration: 1.25 hours per week, 32 wks

Description:

This course offers basic instruction in the study of yoga asana and breathing practices. The student will have opportunities to express himself or herself and find joy through movement. Students will be exposed to writing from a prompt, free form writing, poetry, and personal narrative.

Creative writing will enhance students' observation skills and self-confidence. When wandering imaginations and yoga come together, the student will find themselves in the perfect flow to write. Writing tends to be a head activity, and yoga one of the body, but both can be whole-body experiences with remarkable results. Yoga can be a way to bring energy to the page. Through yoga you find breath and through writing you give your breath voice. Pairing writing exercises with physical yoga poses leads to insights and inspirations that make writing fierce and original.

Format:

Approximately 30 minutes guided yoga practice, 20 minutes writing, 25 minutes student reading and discussion. A final group writing exercise completes the class. Weekly reading and writing exercises will be explained.

Dress:

Loose clothing suitable for flexible movement. No skirts or dresses.

Prerequisites:

None

Homework:

A Complete weekly reading and writing exercises. Every 6 weeks students will have 7-10 minutes to present one of their favorite writing samples, which could be a response paper, illustrated poem, essay, or reflection.

Creative Writing Final Exam will be a collection of 10 typed writing samples and illustrations from their journals, creatively organized in a portfolio for easy viewing.

Additionally, each student will take turns facilitating an individualized yoga class as a final exam in yoga.

Class Materials:

Yoga mat and blanket. The instructor will provide additional props.
Bound Composition Journal
Colored pencils, pencils, pens,
Portfolio for final exam

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$681.39 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$75.71. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$75.71 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.