

Gray Matter 2019-2020 Course Catalog

TUESDAY ONLY

American Sign Language

Teacher: Ariel Higginbotham

Grades: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesday Only

Class Time: 9:30 – 10:45 am

Duration: 1.25 hours per week, 32 weeks

Description: American Sign Language is an amazing and beautiful language. It is the 3rd most used language in the United States, and is a great way to communicate with friends and family when you aren't allowed to use your voice!!

Students will be learning vocabulary and grammar of American Sign Language. We will also be learning about the history of this fascinating language and Deaf Culture.

Completion of this course fulfills a Foreign Language credit requirement for high school.

Prerequisites: An eager heart for learning a new and fun language!

Homework: Students will have homework assignments which will involve a variation of videos and practicing the vocabulary for the week.

Class Materials: Folder, notebook paper, pencil, and your hands!
Master ASL! Level One DVD (\$30) (<http://store.signmedia.com/1711.html>)

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$843.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$93.67. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$93.67 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

American Sign Language 2

Teacher: Ariel Higginbotham

Grades: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesday Only

Class Time: 11:00 – 12:15pm

Duration: 1.25 hours per week, 32 weeks

Description: Students will continue learning vocabulary and grammar of American Sign Language adding to what they learned in ASL 1. We will also be learning about the history of this fascinating language and Deaf Culture.

Completion of this course fulfills a Foreign Language credit requirement for high school.

Prerequisites: Completion of ASL 1

Homework: Students will have homework assignments which will involve a variation of videos and practicing the vocabulary for the week.

Class Materials: Folder, notebook paper, pencil, and your hands!
Master ASL! Level One DVD (\$30) (<http://store.signmedia.com/1711.html>)

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$843.00 is due at time of registration.
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3. Four (4) installments.

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Game Studies/Ludology

Teacher: Collin Eye

Grades: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesday Only

Class Time: 2:15 – 3:30 pm

Duration: 1.25 hour per week, 32 wks

Description: **This class can serve as a high school elective, or a humanities credit.**

Games such as Chess and Go have been with us for ages, but computers have given games a new expressive ability to explore ideas and tell stories only possible in an interactive medium. It's important to think critically about any media we consume, and while we have a rich history of doing this with literature, art, music, and film, far too little thought is put into how and what video games communicate.

We play and discuss several genres of games, each type offering unique perspectives:

Games that

- * improve problem solving and critical thinking,
- * present thought experiments about how time and space behave
- * foster a sense of empathy by taking on other roles in life
- * allow experimenting with the consequences of one's actions
- * require planning and strategic thinking
- * explore themes of choice and fate

Students will do "close readings" of games and analyze how the game communicates ideas thru the mechanics of play. We will play and discuss games in class, and there will be weekly assignments of videos, lectures, or writings on games. Students will also write several analysis papers on these games.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: 1-3 hours since they'll have some writing/reading/watching assignments.

Class Materials: None

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$738.00 is due at time of registration.
 2. Two (2) installments.
 3. Four (4) installments.
 4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$82. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$82 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.
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Government & Economics

Teacher: Ian Seamans

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesday Only

Class Time: 9:30 – 10:45am

Duration: 1.5 hours per week, 32 wks

Description: This class prepares students with both the theoretical underpinnings of economics and government as well as the practical education needed for them to be successful and active members of their community. Government will be covered at all levels, from city, to state, to international. Micro and macroeconomics will be covered, as well as life skills including financial and information literacy.

We will use in-class discussions and debates, work-sheets, presentations, and projects in class, and textbook reading out of class in order to engage students and avoid long lectures.

Prerequisites: None

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

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

Textbook: The readings will consist of articles in scientific journals, book excerpts, or online resources. Most readings will be available online, while others can be downloaded from Canvas.

Payment Options:

1. Full tuition of \$661.50 due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$73.50. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$73.50 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

Passionate Entrepreneurship & Global Business Foundations

Teacher: Dr. Jonathan Hochberg

Grades: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Class Schedule: Tuesdays Only

Class Time: 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Duration: 1.25 hours per week, 32 wks

Description: In our school systems we are not doing enough to inspire, model and teach creativity and innovation to our children. **Youth who learn about passionate entrepreneurship and the 3P's (Profit, People & Planet) will have greater opportunities and success in the new global economy.** Many of today's traditional jobs will continue to be lost to the emerging giants of China and India. So, let's get started helping our teens to learn these skills by doing! I find most things in life are learned experientially.

Student will learn with a step-by-step approach of how to become a successful entrepreneur by creating their own micro-business and including:

- How to dream/brainstorm a new business from their passions
- How to write a mission and vision statement for an eco-friendly and socially conscious enterprise
- How to learn and model from other successful entrepreneurs
- How to find and access adult mentors
- How to target markets for their products/services
- How to make a perfect pitch video.

There will also be successful entrepreneurs as guest lecturers.

In today's complex global and uncertain environment, **innovation** is important to achieving business success. In this course, students will examine how to be an **effective creative leader** who can readily **apply imagination** to resolve complex problems. Additionally, students will explore methods to **establish a team environment conducive to creative thinking**. Students will gain a set of proven methods, skills, and strategies that enable innovative breakthroughs to occur in a much more deliberate and predictable manner. Topics include: an overview of the concepts of cross-cultural awareness, outsourcing, trade and investing overseas, global competition, global competition, emerging markets, and creative thinking styles. The second semester will focus on learning about the **complexities of globalization and global business and its impact on consumers, businesses and nations.**

Completion of this course fulfills an elective credit required for high school.

Prerequisites: None

Homework: Students can expect to spend 1-3 hours per week.

Class Materials: 3-ring binder devoted to this class only
Notebook paper
Pens/pencils
Colored pencils

Internet access at home for homework assignments

Textbooks: Screw It, Let's Do It: Lessons in Life (Quick Reads) by Sir Richard Branson
Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson
Life Safari by John P. Strelecky

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