

# 2019-2020 Gray Matter Class List

## **Middle School classes listed by subject:**

### **Science**

Earth Science  
Life Science  
Integrated Physics and Chemistry

### **Math**

Math-U-See (multi-level: Epsilon through Pre-Algebra)  
\*2 different classes to choose the right time for you

### **Language Arts**

Middle School English  
Middle School Writing  
Yoga & Creative Writing

### **Social Studies**

Texas History  
US History  
World History & Geography

### **Foreign Language**

American Sign Language  
ASL 2  
Spanish 1

### **Fine Arts**

Drawing & Painting  
Music Appreciation

### **Electives**

Game Studies  
Computer Programming  
Passionate Entrepreneurship & Business Foundations

### **Physical Education**

Yoga & Creative Writing

## **High School classes listed by subject:**

### **Science**

Anatomy & Physiology  
Honors Biology  
Honors Chemistry  
Honors Physics

### **Math**

Math-U-See (multi-level: Algebra 1 through Calculus)  
\*2 different classes to choose the right time for you

### **Language Arts**

Advanced Composition  
High School English  
Introduction to High School Writing  
Intermediate High School Writing

### **Social Studies**

American History  
Government & Economics  
World History

### **Foreign Language**

American Sign Language  
ASL 2  
Spanish 1  
Spanish 2

### **Electives**

Computer Programming  
Game Studies/Ludology  
Passionate Entrepreneurship & Business Foundations  
Philosophy & Literature  
Speech and Debate

# Gray Matter 2019-2020 Course Catalog

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## Science

### **Anatomy & Physiology**

**Teacher:** Achini Mahawanniarachchi

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 3:00 – 4:30 pm

**Duration:** 3 hours per week, 32 week

**Description:** This is an advanced biology course for students interested in human biology. Those students interested in health professions are introduced to the concepts which will provide them a foundation for further studies. The students will perform experiments, organ and other specimen dissections, and use a high-power microscope.

Dissections include, but are not limited to: brain (sheep), eye (sheep), kidney (pig), spinal cord (cow), and uterus (pig). After building upon the basics of cells and tissues, all of the body systems will be covered: integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, circulatory, lymphatic, digestive, respiratory, urinary, and reproductive systems.

**Prerequisites:** Biology

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 2-3 hours per week studying and note taking. There are 2 exams (midterm and final), regular quizzes, and occasional homework.

**Class Materials:** Standard notebook paper (spiral or loose leaf, student's preference), binder, and pens

**Textbook:** TBD (all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>)

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1372.50 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) installments of \$152.50. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$152.50 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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### **Biology [Honors]**

**Teacher:** Achini Mahawanniarachchi

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

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 1:00 – 2:30 pm

**Duration:** 3 hours per week, 32 week

**Description:** This is an honors Biology class for high school students or advanced middle school students. This high school curriculum and can be counted as a high school science class on your transcript.

This is a lab-based class with inquiry-based labs. As usual, we spend about half our time covering concepts and the other half in hands-on labs each week. Topics include cell chemistry, cell structure and function, heredity and genetics, classification, the six kingdoms (dissection), human anatomy, ecology, and evolution. (Your child can skip the dissections without penalty, if necessary.)

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 1-3 hours per week studying and note taking. There are 2 exams - midterm and final, regular quizzes, and occasional homework.

**Class Materials:** Standard notebook paper (spiral or loose leaf, student's preference), binder, and pens

**Textbook:** <https://www.ck12.org/book/CK-12-Biology-Advanced-Concepts/> (Available for free online)

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1372.50 is due at time of registration.
  2. Two (2) installments.
  3. Four (4) installments.
  4. Nine (9) installments of \$152.50. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$152.50 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.
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**Chemistry [Honors]****Teacher:** Katy Gordon**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday**Class Time:** 9:30 – 11:00 am**Duration:** 3 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This is a pre-AP/Honors Chemistry class designed to prepare your student for college-level coursework. Completion of this course fulfills the science credit required for high school.

This is a lab-based class with inquiry-based labs. About half our time will be used to understand concepts and the other half in hands-on labs to demonstrate those concepts each week. Topics include titrating acids, purifying water, testing to identify the anions and cations in fertilizers, testing the percentages of protein, vitamin C, iron, fats, carbohydrates, and water in foods, preparing and testing a carbonate buffer, testing the activity of enzymes at different pH levels, testing air samples for CO<sub>2</sub>, building a cloud chamber and observing the vapor trails from a radioactive particle as well as the effect of a magnetic field on the particle, making esters and so much more!

**Prerequisites:** Algebra I preferred, but can be taken concurrently

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 1-3 hours per week studying and note taking. There are 2 exams - midterm and final, regular quizzes, and occasional homework.

**Class Materials:** Lab manual provided as copies.

Standard notebook paper (spiral or loose leaf, student's preference), binder, pens, and scientific calculator

**Textbook:** *Glencoe Chemistry: Matter And Change*; Student Edition [1st edition]; by Nicholas Hainen, Cheryl Wistrom, Laurel Dingrando, and Kathleen V. Gregg; ©2001; ISBN-13: **978-0-028-28378-4**; Hardback, Published by Glencoe/McGraw-Hill; 976 pages. (all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>)

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1372.50 is due at time of registration.
  2. Two (2) installments.
  3. Four (4) installments.
  4. Nine (9) installments of \$152.50. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$152.50 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.
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**Earth Science****Teacher:** Ian Seamans**Grades:** 5, 6, 7, 8**Class Schedule:** Wednesday Only**Class Time:** 10:45 – 12:15 pm**Duration:** 1.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This class covers geology, meteorology, oceanography, and astronomy. Earth Science integrates biology, chemistry, and physics in a way that makes their application real and meaningful to the student. An understanding of the Earth and the forces that act upon it also provide a foundation of understanding for high school science classes. Almost every class will include at least one lab experiment. We will also regularly view short videos related to the week's subject, and have in-class discussions of topics.

**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 Earth Science for Middle School (Available for free online. Will be distributed prior to first class)

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

## 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.

## Physics [Honors]

**Teacher:** Katy Gordon

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 2:30 – 3:45 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 weeks

**Description:** Completion of this course fulfills a science credit required for high school.

This algebra-based Honors Physics course will take you from kinematics through thermodynamics, vibrations, optics, quantum mechanics, and astrophysics. The course structure builds and enhances physics topics and skills using innovative labs, numerous group discussions and activities, plus problem solving using applied mathematics. Honors Physics incorporates additional mathematics and theoretical concepts beyond the middle school Integrated Physics and Chemistry class.

**Prerequisites:** Algebra I and Geometry. Algebra II can be taken concurrently. Basic trigonometry helps but is not required.

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 2-3 hours per week on chapter readings and regular homework, as well as preparing for exams (2 per semester).

**Class Materials:** Scientific Calculator  
Standard notebook paper (spiral or loose leaf, student's preference), binder, pens, and scientific calculator

**Textbook:** *Holt Physics: Pupil Edition 1st Edition* by Serway and Faughn ©2002, ISBN-13: **978-0-030-56544-1**, HOLT, RINEHART AND WINSTON Hardcover

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1157.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) installments of \$128.56. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$128.56 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## **Math**

### **High School Math (Session 1)**

**Teacher:** Katy Gordon

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

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** High School Math (Session 1) is a work-at-your-own pace math course designed for students taking Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, or Calculus using Math-U-See curricula. Student in all of these high school levels will work in the same classroom getting individual assistance from Mrs. Gordon. It's basically one-on-one tutoring in a classroom setting.

We have what is called a flipped classroom, meaning you watch the Math-U-See lesson using the DVD (see Class Materials) at home and attempt the first page of the workbook for that lesson. This prepares you for our classwork and helps you to ask questions on anything you don't understand. I help you figure out where and why you may be struggling, then individualize the teaching for you. You finish the pages from the workbook in class or at home, grade them in class, and take the test in class. I want you to know, **"Yes, You CAN do math!"**

I help my students to work at a pace appropriate for their abilities. I believe there is no such thing as "behind in math." You are where you are, for who you are, this moment. The question becomes, "Where do you want to go from here?" I'm available to help you achieve your mathematics goals. If your goal is to finish the level you are on within the school year, you should be averaging a lesson per week (video, practice page, review page, and test).

If you are unsure of your student's math level, go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

In Algebra 1, you use all your previous knowledge about whole numbers, fractions, decimals, negatives, exponents, and solving equations to develop stronger problem solving strategies. This includes more work with exponents and solving more complex equations as well as graphing, simultaneous equations, polynomials, unit multipliers, and more. The goal is to use math as the problem-solving tool for which is was designed to achieve deeper understanding of each lesson and acquire a functioning knowledge of math for life-long use. Even if you never solve another equation after school, you will use these problem-solving strategies in your everyday life.

In Geometry, we will learn about points, lines, planes, angles, circles, triangles, quadrilaterals, the Pythagorean Theorem, conic sections, proofs, and more. This helps you obtain a deeper understanding, lifelong learning, and a functioning knowledge of how to use math as the problem-solving tool for which it is designed.

In Algebra 2, we explore topics such factoring polynomials, the quadratic formula, and graphing conic sections. Next is Pre-Calculus where we learn trigonometry, the identities, polar equations, logarithms,

sequences, and limits in preparation for Calculus. If you have completed both Algebra II and Pre-Calculus, I can help you prepare for the AP Calculus test. This helps you obtain a deeper understanding, life-long learning, and a functioning knowledge of how to use math as the problem-solving tool for which it is designed.

**What do I buy?** We use the Math-U-See curriculum and manipulatives. Students are required to have the Instruction DVD, student workbook and test book (sold on Math-U-See website as a student pack) prior to the first day. We also highly recommend the Instructor Manual. Just a caution, it can take a couple of weeks to arrive through the mail. I have a class copy of the Instructor Manual, manipulatives, and any supplementary material.

**Can I just skip Pre-Algebra?** We strongly discourage skipping the Pre-Algebra course and moving directly from Zeta into Algebra.

**Prerequisites:** Placement test results. Go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend about 1-3 hour per week on math outside of class. They will be asked to watch the Math-U-See video for that lesson at home before starting each new chapter. They will be expected to complete at least one practice page, one review page, and the test for each lesson.

**Class Materials:** Math-U-See Algebra 1 Level Up Base Set  
OR Math-U-See Geometry Universal Set  
OR Math-U-See Algebra 2 Universal Set  
OR Math-U-See Pre-Calculus Universal Set  
OR Math-U-See Calculus Student Pack OR Larson Calculus

You can find the student packs at <http://store.mathusee.com/> and other online sources

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1144.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) installments of \$127.12. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127.12 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## High School Math (Session 2)

**Teacher:** Katy Gordon

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

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 1:00 – 2:15pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** High School Math (Session 2) is a work-at-your-own pace math course designed for students taking Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, or Calculus using Math-U-See curricula. Student in all of these high school levels will work in the same classroom getting individual assistance from Mrs. Gordon. It's basically one-on-one tutoring in a classroom setting.

We have what is called a flipped classroom, meaning you watch the Math-U-See lesson using the DVD (see Class Materials) at home and attempt the first page of the workbook for that lesson. This prepares you for our classwork and helps you to ask questions on anything you don't understand. I help you figure out where and why you may be struggling, then individualize the teaching for you. You finish the pages from the workbook in class or at home, grade them in class, and take the test in class. I want you to know, "**Yes, You CAN do math!**"

I help my students to work at a pace appropriate for their abilities. I believe there is no such thing as "behind in math." You are where you are, for who you are, this moment. The question becomes, "Where do you want to go from here?" I'm available to help you achieve your mathematics goals. If your goal is to finish the level you are on within the school year, you should be averaging a lesson per week (video, practice page, review page, and test).

If you are unsure of your student's math level, go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

In Algebra 1, you use all your previous knowledge about whole numbers, fractions, decimals, negatives, exponents, and solving equations to develop stronger problem solving strategies. This includes more work

with exponents and solving more complex equations as well as graphing, simultaneous equations, polynomials, unit multipliers, and more. The goal is to use math as the problem-solving tool for which is was designed to achieve deeper understanding of each lesson and acquire a functioning knowledge of math for life-long use. Even if you never solve another equation after school, you will use these problem-solving strategies in your everyday life.

In Geometry, we will learn about points, lines, planes, angles, circles, triangles, quadrilaterals, the Pythagorean Theorem, conic sections, proofs, and more. This helps you obtain a deeper understanding, lifelong learning, and a functioning knowledge of how to use math as the problem-solving tool for which it is designed.

In Algebra 2, we explore topics such factoring polynomials, the quadratic formula, and graphing conic sections. Next is Pre-Calculus where we learn trigonometry, the identities, polar equations, logarithms, sequences, and limits in preparation for Calculus. If you have completed both Algebra II and Pre-Calculus, I can help you prepare for the AP Calculus test. This helps you obtain a deeper understanding, life-long learning, and a functioning knowledge of how to use math as the problem-solving tool for which it is designed.

**What do I buy?** We use the Math-U-See curriculum and manipulatives. Students are required to have the Instruction DVD, student workbook and test book (sold on Math-U-See website as a student pack) prior to the first day. We also highly recommend the Instructor Manual. Just a caution, it can take a couple of weeks to arrive through the mail. I have a class copy of the Instructor Manual, manipulatives, and any supplementary material.

**Can I just skip Pre-Algebra?** We strongly discourage skipping the Pre-Algebra course and moving directly from Zeta into Algebra.

**Prerequisites:** Placement test results. Go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend about 1-3 hour per week on math outside of class. They will be asked to watch the Math-U-See video for that lesson at home before starting each new chapter. They will be expected to complete at least one practice page, one review page, and the test for each lesson.

**Class Materials:** Math-U-See Algebra 1 Level Up Base Set  
OR Math-U-See Geometry Universal Set  
OR Math-U-See Algebra 2 Universal Set  
OR Math-U-See Pre-Calculus Universal Set  
OR Math-U-See Calculus Student Pack OR Larson Calculus

You can find the student packs at <http://store.mathusee.com/> and other online sources

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1144.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) installments of \$127.12. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127.12 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Middle School Math (Session 1)

**Teacher:** Katy Gordon

**Grades:** 6, 7, 8, 9

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 9:30 – 10:45 am

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** Middle School Math (Session 1) is a work-at-your-own pace math course designed for students taking Epsilon, Zeta, or Pre-Algebra using Math-U-See curricula. Student in all of these middle school levels will work in the same classroom getting individual assistance from Mrs. Gordon. It's basically one-on-one tutoring in a classroom setting.

In Middle School Math, you master fractions (when starting at the Epsilon level) or decimals (starting at the Zeta level) or negative numbers, order of operations, and solving for the unknown (when starting at the Pre-Algebra level). (See the placement tests below to help you pick the math level on which you should begin.) Together we use discovery learning and hands-on activities to understand the basic concepts for your level. This helps

you obtain a deeper understanding, life-long learning, and a functioning knowledge of how to use math as the problem-solving tool for which it is designed.

We have what is called a flipped classroom, meaning you watch the lesson using the learning the Math-U-See DVD (or digital streaming videos in the digital pack) at home and attempt the first page of the workbook for that lesson. This prepares you for our classwork and helps you to ask questions on anything you don't understand. I help you figure out where and why you may be struggling, then individualize the teaching for you. I want you to know, "**Yes, You CAN do math!**"

I help my students to work at a pace appropriate for their abilities. I believe there is no such thing as "behind in math." You are where you are, for who you are, this moment. The question becomes, "Where do you want to go from here?" I'm available to help you achieve your mathematics goals. If your goal is to finish the level you are on within the school year, you should be averaging a lesson per week (video, online quiz, practice page, review page, and test). The in-class activities are based on a pace of one lesson per week.

**What do I buy? Which Math-U-See level do I pick?** We use the Math-U-See curriculum and manipulatives. Students are required to have the Instruction DVD, student workbook and test book (sold on Math-U-See website as a student pack) prior to the first day. We also highly recommend the Instructor Manual.

**Just a caution:** it can take a couple of weeks to arrive through the mail. I provide the teaching textbooks, manipulatives, and any supplementary material. Both Epsilon and Zeta require mastery of the basic operations of adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing.

Go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

**Prerequisites:** Placement test results. Go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend about 1-3 hour per week on math outside of class. They will be asked to watch the Math-U-See video for that lesson at home before starting each new chapter. They will be expected to complete at least one practice page, one review page, and the test for each lesson.

**Class Materials:** Math-U-See Epsilon Level Up Set  
OR Math-U-See Zeta Level Up Base Set  
OR Math-U-See Pre-Algebra Level Up Base Set

You can find this set at <http://store.mathusee.com/> and other online sources

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1,106.00 is due at time of registration.
  2. Two (2) installments.
  3. Four (4) installments.
  4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$122.92. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$122.92 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.
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## Middle School Math (Session 2)

**Teacher:** Katy Gordon

**Grades:** 6, 7, 8, 9

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** Middle School Math (Session 1) is a work-at-your-own pace math course designed for students taking Epsilon, Zeta, or Pre-Algebra using Math-U-See curricula. Student in all of these middle school levels will work in the same classroom getting individual assistance from Mrs. Gordon. It's basically one-on-one tutoring in a classroom setting.

In Middle School Math, you master fractions (when starting at the Epsilon level) or decimals (starting at the Zeta level) or negative numbers, order of operations, and solving for the unknown (when starting at the Pre-Algebra level). (See the placement tests below to help you pick the math level on which you should begin.) Together we use discovery learning and hands-on activities to understand the basic concepts for your level. This helps you obtain a deeper understanding, life-long learning, and a functioning knowledge of how to use math as the problem-solving tool for which it is designed.

We have what is called a flipped classroom, meaning you watch the lesson using the learning the Math-U-See DVD (or digital streaming videos in the digital pack) at home and attempt the first page of the workbook for that lesson. This prepares you for our classwork and helps you to ask questions on anything you don't understand. I help you figure out where and why you may be struggling, then individualize the teaching for you. I want you to know, "**Yes, You CAN do math!**"

I help my students to work at a pace appropriate for their abilities. I believe there is no such thing as "behind in math." You are where you are, for who you are, this moment. The question becomes, "Where do you want to go from here?" I'm available to help you achieve your mathematics goals. If your goal is to finish the level you are on within the school year, you should be averaging a lesson per week (video, online quiz, practice page, review page, and test). The in-class activities are based on a pace of one lesson per week.

**What do I buy? Which Math-U-See level do I pick?** We use the Math-U-See curriculum and manipulatives. Students are required to have the Instruction DVD, student workbook and test book (sold on Math-U-See website as a student pack) prior to the first day. We also highly recommend the Instructor Manual.

**Just a caution:** it can take a couple of weeks to arrive through the mail. I provide the teaching textbooks, manipulatives, and any supplementary material. Both Epsilon and Zeta require mastery of the basic operations of adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing.

Go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

**Prerequisites:** Placement test results. Go to [www.mathusee.com/](http://www.mathusee.com/) to find free placement tests.

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend about 1-3 hour per week on math outside of class. They will be asked to watch the Math-U-See video for that lesson at home before starting each new chapter. They will be expected to complete at least one practice page, one review page, and the test for each lesson.

**Class Materials:** Math-U-See Epsilon Level Up Set  
OR Math-U-See Zeta Level Up Base Set  
OR Math-U-See Pre-Algebra Level Up Base Set

You can find this set at <http://store.mathusee.com/> and other online sources

**Payment Options:**

5. Full tuition of \$1,106.00 is due at time of registration.
  6. Two (2) installments.
  7. Four (4) installments.
  8. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$122.92. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$122.92 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.
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## **Language Arts**

### **Advanced Composition**

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 11:00 am – 12:15 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** Join us as we learn trade secrets for crafting powerful Expository Essays! This class will focus on teaching an explicit series of essay-writing steps, plus all the skills you will need to excel at the two types of argumentation required most in High School and College writing: the Explanatory Essay and the Persuasive Essay.

Since writing well also requires students to access great writing by others, we will draw inspiration from a number of texts and materials, and aim for lively discussions at each class meeting.

By the end of this course students should be confident in their ability to communicate complex ideas through their own writing. They should also feel comfortable enough with argumentation to thoroughly enjoy the writing process.

**Completion of this course fulfills an English credit requirement for high school.**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 2–5 hours per week, depending on student pace.

**Class Materials:**  
Pens/pencils  
Notebooks or paper (or laptop or tablet) for note taking

**Textbooks:** A Professor's Guide to Writing Essays: The No-Nonsense Plan for Better Writing, Dr. Jacob Neumann (\$10).  
MLA Handbook, 8th Edition, The Modern Language Association of America (Any 8th Edition copy will suffice)

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1144.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$127.00. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## High School English

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 9:30 – 10:45am

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This class primarily focuses on literature from the nineteenth and twentieth century with references to older works. Students will learn vocabulary from the works we read. Background information regarding the social, political, and literary issues of the time will be discussed to enrich our learning experience. The student will respond to the literature through various projects. Grammar and spelling will be addressed as well.

**Literature:** The works that will be used are to be determined (*all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>*)

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 2–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

**Class Materials:** 3-ring binder devoted to this class only  
Notebook paper  
Pens/pencils  
Optional: laptop or other writing device

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1,144.00 is due at time of registration
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$127. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## Intro to High School Writing

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 2:30 – 3:30 pm

**Duration:** 2 hours per week, 32 weeks

**Description:** Some basic techniques and skills are just essential to complete the writing tasks of high school and beyond. We

will break those skills down. We will begin at the sentence level, spend more time on paragraphs, and eventually write a few essays. This class will include some gentle work on spelling, but spelling or handwriting do not determine a student's success as a writer.

We will actually be writing often during the class period, so students are encouraged to bring a laptop or other device to class to do their writing.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 2–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

**Class Materials:** 3-ring binder devoted to this class only (1/2 inch)  
Notebook paper  
Pens/pencils  
Optional: laptop or other writing device

**Textbook:** *TDB (all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>)*

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$915.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$101.67 The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$101.67 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Intermediate High School Writing

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 3:45 – 4:45 pm

**Duration:** 2 hours per week, 32 weeks

**Fee(s):**

**Full Tuition**

**Supply Fee**

\$684.00

\$0

**Description:** This class is designed for high school students who have a handle on basic writing skills but are not yet ready to jump into advanced composition. We will begin the year with a few paragraphs, spend most of our time on essays, and finish the year with a small research project. We will be targeting any problem areas we discover, strengthening editing and revising skills, and refining style.

We will actually be writing often during the class period, so students are encouraged to bring a laptop or other device to class to do their writing.

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 2–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

**Class Materials:** 3-ring binder devoted to this class only  
Notebook paper  
Pens/pencils  
Optional: laptop or other writing device

**Textbook:** *TDB (all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>)*

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$915.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$101.67 The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$101.67 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Middle School English A

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 6, 7

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 2:30 – 3:30 pm

**Duration:** 2 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This class includes grammar, reading, and vocabulary. We read several novels during the year plus short stories and poetry. We will build skills in a variety of ways, including written exercises, games, discussions, group activities, and creative demonstrations of knowledge.

The list of novels for 2020-2021 is to be determined (*all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>*).

*NOTE: Students can take this course for up to 3 years. The textbooks, vocabulary, and literature will not be the same from one year to the next.*

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 1–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

**Class Materials:** 3-ring binder devoted to this class only (1/2 inch)  
Standard notebook paper  
Pens/pencils  
Colored pencils  
Optional: laptop or other writing device

**Textbook:** Easy Grammar Grade 6 Workbook ISBN: 978-0-936981-468.  
Vocabulary will be taken from novels we read.

Gray Matter will provide a classroom set of the novels we read so that we can all use the same edition. If a student wants to keep a particular book, they can buy it from me for \$5.

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$885.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$98.34. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$98.34 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Middle School English B

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 7, 8

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 3:30 – 4:30 pm

**Duration:** 2 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This class includes grammar, reading, and vocabulary. We read several novels during the year plus short stories and poetry. We will build skills in a variety of ways, including written exercises, games, discussions, group activities, and creative demonstrations of knowledge.

The following is a VERY TENTATIVE and partial list of novels for 2020-2021. (You do not need to purchase these since I will have a classroom set.)

- The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
- Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes.

*NOTE: Students can take this course for up to 3 years. The textbooks, vocabulary, and literature will not be the same from one year to the next.*

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 1–4 hours per week, depending on student pace.

**Class Materials:** 3-ring binder devoted to this class only (1/2 inch)  
Standard notebook paper  
Pens/pencils  
Colored pencils  
Optional: laptop or other writing device

**Textbook:** Easy Grammar Ultimate Series: 180 Daily Teaching Lessons--Grade 8 Student Workbook (ISBN: 978-0-936981-628)  
Vocabulary will be taken from novels we read.

Gray Matter will provide a classroom set of the novels we read so that we can all use the same edition. If a student wants to keep a particular book, they can buy it from me for \$5.

**Payment Options:**

5. Full tuition of \$885.00 is due at time of registration.
6. Two (2) installments.
7. Four (4) installments.
8. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$98.34. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$98.34 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## Middle School Writing

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 6, 7, 8

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 9:30 – 10:45 am

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** We will do all kinds of exercises and activities to explore our voices and to improve our mechanics and style. This class will include some work on spelling.

We will actually be writing often during the class period, so students are encouraged to bring a laptop or other device to class to do their writing.

**Prerequisites:** None

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

**Class Materials:** Notebook or paper (or laptop or other writing device)  
Pens/pencils

**Textbook:** *100 Words Every Middle Schooler Should Know* (American Heritage Dictionary) ISBN: 978-0-547333-229.

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1,106.25 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$122.92. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$122.92 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## 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:** 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.

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## Foreign Language

### 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.

- 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.

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## 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:**

- Full tuition of \$843.00 is due at time of registration.
- Two (2) installments.
- Four (4) installments.
- 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.

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## Spanish 1

**Teacher:** TBD (all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>) **Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 9:30 – 10:45 am

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** Spanish 1 is designed for students who have little or no experience with Spanish. We will cover the vocabulary and structures that are used most often and those that my students most want to learn. We will learn proper pronunciation, present tense verbs, pronouns, definite and indefinite articles, and gender agreement. We will also enjoy some of the culture of several Spanish-speaking countries. This is a highly interactive class.

**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

No textbook is required.

**Payment Options:**

- Full tuition of \$1,144.00 is due at time of registration.
- Two (2) installments.
- Four (4) installments.
- Nine (9) monthly payments of \$127.12. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127.12 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Spanish 2

**Teacher:** TBD (all updates will be found at <http://www.graymatterdfw.com/enroll-now/>) **Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 11:00 - 12:15 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Fee(s):**

**Full Tuition**

**Supply Fee**

\$720.00

\$50

**Description:** Spanish 2 begins with a review of Spanish 1 grammar with increasing opportunities to use the language through speaking, writing, reading and listening. Students will learn new vocabulary and grammar through comprehensive input. In particular, Spanish 2 emphasizes the preterit and imperfect tenses. We will also enjoy some of the culture of several Spanish-speaking countries. This is a highly interactive class.

**Prerequisites:** Spanish 1

**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

No textbook is required.

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1,144.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$127.12. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127.12 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Social Studies

### American History

**Teacher:** Collin Eye

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 1:00 – 2:15 pm

**Duration:** 2 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** What is America? The culmination of the European Enlightenment, a nation of immigrants, a new world empire, the center of innovation and discovery, the land of the free? The question has a different answer depending on who you asked, and when. In this class, we study the history that's shaped these ideas, from discovery, colonization, and Revolution, to Civil War and Reconstruction, to World War I and Prohibition, to Great Depression and World War II, to Cold War and the Digital Age.

In this class, American History is a problem to unravel, a case to be solved. Each week students are given a series of topics and questions, then go about researching that material, and present their findings in class the following week. Students learn to thoroughly research various topics on their own, and to form a whole picture from various scraps of sometimes-contradictory accounts. Students will present their research to the class in weekly discussions where we'll discuss the discovered material and the research methods used to find it.

Students learn how to effectively search the Internet and the library for first-hand accounts, primary documents, reliable sources, and diverse perspectives.

Completion of this course fulfills a History 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

No textbook is required.

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1,144.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$127.12. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127.12 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:** Thursday Only

**Class Time:** 1:00 – 2:15 pm

**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.

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## High School World History

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 9, 10, 11, 12

**Class Schedule:** Tuesday/Thursday

**Class Time:** 1:00 – 2:15 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This course begins with an examination of the earliest nomads and other recorded early historical civilizations, then moves to Ancient Egypt, Eastern civilizations in China and the Indian sub-continent, follows the Ancient Greeks as they develop political and philosophical frameworks, surveys the ideas that underpin the Middle Ages and lead to intellectual flowering of the Renaissance, and then considers these threads as they continue to expand into the Modern Era.

We will use different media (Audio/ Visual) to experience and learn about key moments in history and as a way to better understand the times that we discuss. Open discussion about history, its morality at the time and seen through the lens of history, and similarities between human actions in ancient and modern eras will take place almost daily. Participation will be expected and encouraged!

Reading for this course includes a textbook (TBD) and excerpts from historical writings throughout history.

**Completion of this course fulfills the World History requirement for High School.**

**Prerequisites:** None

**Homework:** Students can expect to spend 2-5 hours per week.

**Class Materials:** 1/2 inch Binder, dedicated to this class  
Pens/pencils  
Notebooks or paper (or laptop or tablet) for note taking

**Textbooks:** TBD

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1144.00 due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$127. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$127 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## Middle School World History & Geography

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 6, 7, 8

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 1:00 - 2:15 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This course will examine World History by regions of the globe, encompassing six geographical regions (North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Russia/Central Asia, and Oceania), how geography affects the history of the regions, history of the main countries of the region through modern times and the cultures of said regions and countries.

Maps and research will dominate our studies but will be supplemented by the historic literature of the area and study of important players on the national and regional stage, as well as the interactions of the individual regions with each other and the world as a whole.

Reading for this course includes a textbook and a course reader with brief excerpts from texts such as: The Epic of Gilgamesh, Homer's Odyssey, Virgil's Aeneid, Sun Tzu's the Art of War, as well as writings by prominent authors and historians of the regions studied.

**Prerequisites:** None

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

**Class Materials:** 3-ring binder devoted to this class only (1/2 inch)  
Notebook or paper (or laptop or tablet) for note-taking  
Pens/pencils  
Students also need access to a current atlas or the Internet for completing assignments. For example: National Geographic Student World Atlas, 4th edition, ISBN-13: 978-1-426-317751

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$1106.25 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.

- Nine (9) monthly payments of \$122.92. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$122.92 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Middle School US History

**Teacher:** Gaspar Escobar

**Grades:** 6, 7, 8

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 1:00 – 2:15 pm

**Duration:** 2.5 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This class will delve into the pre-history of the United States, its early formation, nascent nation-building, and its rise to a global superpower. We will concentrate on the people and places that shaped the nation, as well as events that guided the social, political, and geographical culmination of the nation we live in today. There will be constant discussion and debate of the events and people to better ground the students in the specifics of what the United States is founded on and how the idea of “America has changed over the years.

**Prerequisites:** None

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

**Class Materials:** Pens/pencils  
Notebooks or paper (or laptop or tablet) for note taking

**Textbook:** History of the United States by Howard Zinn

**Payment Options:**

- Full tuition of \$885.00 is due at time of registration.
- Two (2) installments.
- Four (4) installments.
- Nine (9) monthly payments of \$98.34. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$98.34 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## 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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## **Electives**

### **Computer Programming**

**Teacher:** Collin Eye

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

**Class Schedule:** Thursdays Only

**Class Time:** 2:15 – 3:30 pm

**Duration:** 1.25 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:**

Have you ever wondered how a computer works? We use computers every day, but for many they remain a black box, a magical device which can display images and video, play music and games, hold all our data and send it out over the Internet. If you learned how the magic behind this machine worked you could do anything imaginable! Fortunately, computers are not actually mysterious, in fact, they are quite simple; all they do is a bit of math and logic, which anyone can learn.

Our class focuses on learning how the parts of a computer work. Some of these parts you have heard about, Central Processing Unit (CPU), Random Access Memory (RAM), Storage (HardDrive); however, others may be totally new: register, cache, arithmetical-logic-unit, memory-management-unit. You learn how to manipulate these parts to do what you want them to by programming: the art of transforming data. We cover everything from the lowest level of how electricity flows thru the computer, to the highest level where we can speak to the computer in human-designed programming languages.

The first semester is focused on becoming familiar with a computer, and how we interact with it to write and run programs. The second semester moves on to building more advanced programs by interfacing with the operating system and drawing 2D graphics to the screen.

You will learn about:

- The C programming language
- The logic implemented in circuits and how we use it to move and transform data.
- Data structures, how we organize and think about data in the computer's memory.
- How to think about problems mathematically, and represent processes in an algorithmic way.

Some example projects:

- Simple games such as tic-tac-toe, rock-paper-scissors, connect4
- Random number generators
- Text adventures
- Sentence, image, and music generators
- Conway's Game of Life
- 2D video games!

Students will have access to video lectures which cover the topics. Class time will be spent asking questions, experimenting with computers, discussing ideas with classmates, and showing off projects. There will be weekly assignments which students are expected to be to complete before class.

**Prerequisites:** None

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

**Class Materials:** Every student is expected to have a dedicated computer on which they can program. I recommend the Raspberry Pi 3, as they're much cheaper than other computers, and are easy to experiment with. In addition to the computer they'll also need a monitor, keyboard, and mouse.

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$738.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.

- 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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## 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:**

- Full tuition of \$738.00 is due at time of registration.
- Two (2) installments.
- Four (4) installments.
- 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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## 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.

<b><u>Prerequisites:</u></b>	None
<b><u>Homework:</u></b>	Students can expect to spend 1-3 hours per week.
<b><u>Class Materials:</u></b>	3-ring binder devoted to this class only Notebook paper Pens/pencils Colored pencils Internet access at home for homework assignments
<b><u>Textbooks:</u></b>	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

**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.

## Philosophy & Literature

<b><u>Teacher:</u></b> Dr. Jonathan Hochberg	<b><u>Grades:</u></b> 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
<b><u>Class Schedule:</u></b> Thursday Only	<b><u>Class Time:</u></b> 11:00 – 12:15 pm
	<b><u>Duration:</u></b> 1.25 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This course introduces students to major problems at the intersection of philosophy and literature. It addresses key questions about the value of literature, philosophical puzzles about the nature of literary language, and the surprising uses of literary style in philosophical texts.

An introduction to the some of the most intriguing and illuminating points of intersection between philosophy and literature, with specific attention to the function(s) of literature and to the function(s) of literary form in certain philosophical writings. We will raise the following questions:

Why would a writer whose aims are philosophical produce anything other than a treatise?

Why would a writer whose aims are literary make use of philosophical ideas, motifs, and vocabulary? What, in general, can literary forms achieve that non-literary forms cannot? What is (or can be, or should be) the effect of imaginative literature? Should we think of it as conveying (special kinds of) truth; transmitting idiosyncratic visions; inventing glorious lies; or simply setting up useful make-believe scenarios? Is it a storehouse of philosophical examples, of phenomenological data? Or is it instead a formal model for ways of living one's life? And can literature improve its readers morally? Or does its function precisely depend on a refusal to offer clear positions and adopt definitive stances?

We will explore three general kinds of connection between philosophy and literature:

- philosophy on literature: philosophical approaches to the understanding of literary texts (issues of truth, personal growth, self-discovery, and life lessons);
- philosophy in literature: literary texts that explicitly invoke philosophical problems or approaches, particularly those belonging to the ethical domain and human wisdom of the ages.

Completion of this course fulfills an Elective or Humanities 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:** Dan Brown, The Da Vinci Code  
Hermann Hesse, Siddhartha  
Yann Martel, Life of Pi

**Payment Options:**

5. Full tuition of \$750.00 is due at time of registration.
6. Two (2) installments.
7. Four (4) installments.
8. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$83.33. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$83.33 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

## Speech and Debate

**Teacher:** Ian Seamans

**Grades:** 9,10,11,12

**Class Schedule:** Thursdays Only

**Class Time:** 2:30 – 4:30 pm

**Duration:** 2 hours per week, 32 weeks

**Description:** This class fulfills the speech credit required for high school. Equally important, it prepares students for those many situations in careers, community service, college courses, and even high school classes where they will be expected to speak in front of people. This class will focus equally on debate and public speaking. In-class debates will be held, and we will learn both the informal and formal rules of debate. We will also learn some of the principles of effective public speaking, analyze some great speeches, gain some tools to deal with anxiety, and practice impromptu speaking.

**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.

No textbook required

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$900.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$100. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$100 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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## Fine Arts

### **Drawing & Painting Skills!**

**Teacher:** Erin Nielson

**Grades:** 6, 7, 8

**Class Schedule:** Monday/Wednesday

**Class Time:** 2:30 – 3:30 pm

**Duration:** 2 hours per week, 32 weeks

**Description:** This class is for students of any skill level who are seeking to refine their drawing and painting abilities.

We will explore techniques in acrylics, watercolors, oil paints, and a variety of drawing mediums. We will draw from life and photos, and will gain inspiration from the masters of the past. Students will strengthen their foundational art and design skills, and can expect to create a portfolio of work that displays clear progression and variety of expression.

Please bring a sketch pad and pencil set to every class. All other supplies will be provided.

**Prerequisites:** An interest in art!

**Homework:** Students can expect occasional homework

**Class Materials:** Sketch pad 8\*10  
Basic sketching pencil set  
Eraser.

**Payment Options:**

1. Full tuition of \$885.00 is due at time of registration.
2. Two (2) installments.
3. Four (4) installments.
4. Nine (9) monthly payments of \$98.34. The first monthly tuition payment is due at time of registration. Subsequent monthly payments of \$98.34 will begin the month following the month you registered and will continue until all additional eight (8) payments are collected.

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### **Music Appreciation**

**Teacher:** Ami Campbell

**Grades:** 6, 7, 8

**Class Schedule:** Wednesday Only

**Class Time:** 9:30 – 10:45 am

**Duration:** 1.25 hours per week, 32 wks

**Description:** This class will take a look at the major eras of Western Classical Music, including the Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Modern Eras. The focus will be on Western European Masters, including J.S.Bach, Handel, "Papa" Haydn, W.A. Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Tschaikovsky, Verdi, Shostakovich, and some American composers such as Copeland, Bernstein and Gershwin. We will look at the progression of composition style, and students will learn to hear the differences in style between eras, and distinctive styles of each composer.

Much of the class will be focused on listening in class, and at home. We will touch on the very basics of music theory. Guest artists may visit the class from time to time to acquaint the students with various instruments.

**Prerequisites:** An inquisitive mind!

**Homework:** Students will need to dedicate about 30 minutes a week to listening at home.

**Class Materials:** A standard folder for handouts/worksheets  
A notebook for taking notes  
Pencils  
Some sort of device for streaming music, could be Spotify/Apple Music, or access to YouTube. If student does not have this, we can work around it.

**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.
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## **Physical Education**

### **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.