

CATALOG

New and Notable

ACADEMIC Course Catalog

2021
2022



New and Notable Courses 2021-2022

ARTS

Musical Theater Dance

Musical Theater Dance is a studio technique course that develops jazz technique and performance quality for the stage. Students will examine the styles of well-known Broadway choreographers, such as Bob Fosse (*Chicago, Pippin*), Jerome Robbins (*West Side Story, Fiddler on the Roof*), and Michael Bennett (*A Chorus Line*). In addition to creating new choreography as a class, students will also have a chance to learn pieces of original Broadway choreography.

Modern/Contemporary Dance

Modern/Contemporary Dance is a studio technique course that allows students to develop expression through movement. This style of dance focuses on body and core strength, spatial awareness, and the use of breath, body weight, and release/recovery. Students will build from the techniques of modern dance pioneers José Limón and Martha Graham. By the end of the term, students will have learned a full-length dance utilizing these techniques.

Introduction to the Performing Arts

Introduction to the Performing Arts is an exploratory course focused on performance art. Integrating the study of world music, instruments, artistic theory and history with the practice of singing, playing, acting, and dance, the course introduces students to a variety of performance opportunities and arts knowledge.

Students will be challenged to create, practice, and perform each day as they discover different ways they are interested in interacting with the arts. Topics to be introduced include but are not limited to: percussion and rhythm, instrumental practice, choral singing, spoken word, songwriting, improvisation, music in social justice, production, and dance, as well as brief introductions to some of the visual art offerings at Eagle Hill. This class is a prerequisite for EHS Chorale, Jam Band, and IB Music.

Making Oversized Models

In this course, students will explore model making in a new and bigger way. First, students will decide on a model they want to make, then cut a prototype from balsa wood using the laser cutter. No prior use of the laser is necessary. Once the prototype model is complete, students will create a plan for “blowing it up” to a larger scale. Students may use any of the processes available in the makerspace to complete their models (wood, metal, 3D printing).

Making with Resin

Students in Making with Resin will explore the different applications of epoxy resin. Using resin, students can create anything from custom dominoes to a resin-based guitar. Faux stained glass,

coasters, ocean art, and river pours are just a few other projects that students can create in this exploratory course.

Making with Metal Exploratory

In this course, students will learn the basics of cutting metal, shaping metal, MIG welding, and turning steel/aluminum on a metal lathe. Students will have the opportunity to practice their new skill in the making of an individual project.

Making the Mobius: Community CNC Sculpture

In Making the Mobius, students will work on a portion of a STEM building sculpture which will be located in the math wing breakout space. Students will help prepare and run the CNC machine to make hundreds of pieces which will be finished in the shop and then assembled in place over the course of a school year.

DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Driving the Green Book

The Driving the Green Book course will look at the historic travel guide for African Americans during the height of segregation. Using first person testimonies and texts, this course will provide a new perspective on the legacy of those who lived through this era and fought for equality.

SCIENCE

Anthropology

The Anthropology course introduces the study of biological and cultural anthropology. First, the course will cover the discipline of biological anthropology; tracing the origins and evolution of humans. This would involve a comparative perspective on what makes humans unique in their physical, behavioral, and ecological adaptations. Next, the course would look at forensic anthropology as a continuation of the study of human biology but with an emphasis on cultural and social information that has been gathered from examining archeological sites. This would include both artifacts that have been discovered, as well as the ecological features of these sites. The end of the course will focus on past and present-day ethnography, examining social and cultural customs throughout time and the world.

History and Philosophy of Science

In the History and Philosophy of Science course, students will explore the evolution of scientific thought from the early Greek natural philosophers, through the Renaissance and the emergence of modern scientific practices, to the present day and how scientific methodologies and modern technologies allow us to study what we can't see. A major theme of class will be the interaction of science and technology across time and how advancements in one area led to advancements in the other.

Epidemiology

Epidemiology introduces students to the fundamental methods used to determine the causes of disease in a community, how the disease spreads, and how the spread can be controlled. The course addresses health issues in communities, and the ethical issues surrounding many health problems.

ENGLISH

All About Love: A Writing Journey

This course invites students to consider and write about the many meanings of love, including self-love, romantic love, moral love, agapic love, and mutual love. Students will also examine how “love” is shaped through language and what language has to do with love, passion, and desire. Projects will include research and analytical writing, keeping a commonplace book and delight log, and assembling collage poems and love blueprints.

Our Uncanny World: Writing Peculiar Histories

Our Uncanny World focuses on writing through the lens of offbeat events in American and world history. Covering a variety of types of writing tasks, from formal research to creative writing, students in Our Uncanny World will learn about fascinating historical events that may not be covered in traditional history classes. Topics can easily be customized to suit the interests of any given group of students, but may cover such historical oddities as the Boston molasses flood, which dumped 13,000 tons of industrial molasses on the North End of Boston in the early 1900s or the radium girls, whose employer in the 1920s actively encouraged them to lick radioactive paint “because it was beneficial to their health.” Students will both learn about the targeted event and also examine its impact and legacy on current society and modern history.

Writing Cultures

This course is playfully titled after the famous anthropology text *Writing Culture* (Clifford Geertz). Students in this class will research the cultural communities of which they are a part, as well as how culture structures home, work, play, and society. Students will also research and write about popular culture, media culture, and multiculturalism.

Renaissance Literatures

A renaissance is a revival of art and literature in the midst of national, social, political, economic, and religious changes. In this course we will be reading, discussing, and writing about three renaissance periods: the Italian and English renaissances emerging from the dark ages; the American renaissance of the mid to late 1800’s to the Civil War; and the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s. Students will have opportunities to read from a wide range of authors, including Dante, Giovanni Boccaccio, Christine De Pizan, William Shakespeare, Edmund Spenser, John Milton, EA Poe, Emily Dickinson, Fredrick Douglass, Langston Hughes, Claude McKay, Zora Neal Hurston, and many others.

Sound

How do we interact with the sounds of the world we inhabit? Natural experiences, man-made noises, music and instruments, scientific anomalies, technological innovation, and even silence shape our perceptions and alter our emotions. We are surrounded by opportunities to recognize the powerful role that sound plays in our lives: past, present, and future. This course is a one-term, multi-modal exploration of the magnitude of SOUND'S power and role, and an exciting opportunity for students to investigate the sounds of our world through S.T.E.M., the arts, history, and the other humanities.

Post-Modern Literature

In this course, students delve into the rich diversity of the post-modern literary world, from the middle of the 20th century to the present. While reading challenging works by authors such as Kurt Vonnegut, Thomas Pynchon, and Zadie Smith, common features of post-modern literature such as metafiction and irony will be analyzed. In reading, discussing and writing about the texts chosen for this class, students will explore themes often encountered in post-secondary literature courses while still in high school so an open mind and a measure of maturity are expected on the part of interested students.

Sports Journalism

The Sports Journalism class introduces students to the basics of journalism through writing about sports. Students write articles covering sports events, using the traditional inverted pyramid method of newspaper writing, and focusing on the who, what, where, when, why and how of each story. Students will also research and read published sports articles in order to develop appropriate diction and style of writing for their own coverage of professional sports events, including published articles about Eagle Hill School athletics events.

Classic Film as Text

We love movies, which have been called “sacred dramas for a secular society” (Howard Suber, UCLA), yet many people appreciate film just for its surface elements of plot or character. This course will teach students to read films more critically by making apparent the aspects of film that might otherwise remain invisible: performance, direction, cinematography, editing, production design, composition, costume, and dialogue, among others. Students will read academic theory and film criticism while viewing, discussing, and writing about a wide range of films. Coursework will include in-class discussion, nightly reading and writing assignments, and analytic projects both written and visual in nature.

Greco-Roman Drama

Pride, anger, joy, wisdom, madness—the drama of classical Greece and Rome captures the best and worst of the human condition. From Aeschylus and Sophocles to Seneca and Terence, the class reads the great tragedians and charts the evolution of drama from hillside festival to civic spectacle. The course explores modern interpretations, and also studies the conditions of classical performance in Eagle Hill's amphitheater. Evaluation is based on reading, class discussion, and writing assignments both brief and long. This class fulfills part of the requirement for the Certificate in Classical Studies - Literature Track.

The LGBT Experience in Literature

In this course, students read, discuss, and write about both fictional and non-fictional accounts of the LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual & Transgender) experience. From novels and short stories to memoir, poetry, plays, movies and documentaries, there is a rich pool of texts and media to choose from in exploring this topic. Students will discuss themes often encountered in post-secondary literature courses while still in high school so an open mind and a measure of maturity are expected on the part of interested students.

Writing for Publication

Have you started a big story and need time to write with the guidance of an experienced editor? Do you have a completed manuscript that you'd like to get published, but you know it's rough and you need help with editing and proofreading? Would you like to be able to share your writing with your peers and a supportive teacher—and hear their constructive criticism? Do you have a great idea for an essay, or a group of poems, or a film script, but haven't started turning that idea into reality? If any of these apply to you, Writing for Publication may be your course. This course invites students to consider as part of their writing aesthetics, ethics, electracy, materiality, and curation across literary forms.

Banned Books

The Banned Books course provides an opportunity for students to be exposed to works of literary merit that for various reasons are or have been kept off the shelves at other institutions of learning. In reading, discussing, and writing about the texts chosen for this class, students explore themes often encountered in post-secondary literature courses while still in high school, so an open mind and a measure of maturity are expected on the part of interested students.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Advanced Coding with Python

In the introductory course, students learned the basics of Python and coded small segments. In this course, students will learn how to design a program from scratch. They will learn to separate interface from implementation and how to break a program into small interacting parts and code modules for each part. Along the way, they will learn how to calculate the efficiency of their code and look up algorithms of greater efficiency.

Stop-Action Animation

Stop-action animation is an early form of animation in which a still picture of a physical scene is taken, small movements in the scene are made, and another still picture is taken. This process is repeated to create the illusion of motion when all the still pictures are played in sequence. It is a very satisfying art form for students who are into art and crafts. In this course, students will make several short animations of varying lengths. Some will involve common objects (e.g., coins, shoes, etc.). Others will involve making a physical scene with craft items (e.g., construction paper, pipe cleaners, clay, Legos, etc.) or 3D printing some of the needed items. The animation app is very easy to use requiring only a few minutes of instruction.

Extended 3D Design

This course is for students who would like more class time to improve their 3D design skills and challenge themselves to design more complicated objects. Students will have already taken “3 Design Software: Introduction” or “3D Design Software: Short Introduction” before taking this current class.

Advanced 3D Design: Gears and Motion

After learning many skills in the introductory class for making a single objects, students will take on the challenge of creating parts that move relative to each other using gears or some other mechanism of motion. This task requires a great deal of precision in the size and shape of the parts and how they fit together.

Entrepreneurial Product Development

Following their interests, students will select a product area, find a gap, and create an original product to fill that gap. At the end of the course, students will have created a prototype of their product. Along the way, students will learn aspects of intellectual property law, business law, market research, design, manufacturing, and marketing.

HISTORY

Important American Speeches

The purpose of this class is for students to develop familiarity with significant issues and events in American history through the analysis of a selection of notable speeches. Students will investigate the historic issue that prompted a particular speech and the manner in which the speaker addressed it. The course may include not only well-known speeches such as the Gettysburg Address or FDR’s speech to Congress after the bombing of Pearl Harbor but also less-remembered ones such as Reagan’s speech after the Space Shuttle disaster or Teddy Roosevelt’s “The Liberty of the People.” This innovative approach will not only familiarize students with an array of important historic events but will also afford an opportunity to consider the rhetoric of influential people who tried to shape the narrative around those events, all in a brief and accessible format.

PRAGMATICS

Sociology

The sociology course is designed to provide students with a foundational background of how groups and/or social structures have a profound influence on the way we think, feel, and act. Students will explore the history of sociology, research approaches, culture, and society as a whole. Students will gain knowledge and understanding of the three main sociological perspectives and theories and apply these theories to present-day social problems. The course includes small group work, lectures, discussion, and scientific research.

General Psychology I

The General Psychology I course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the basic concepts and techniques of psychology as a behavioral science. Topics include a basic understanding of the scientific method and an overview of research methods, familiarity with writing techniques used in psychology, the endocrine system, the brain, consciousness, and operant and classical conditioning with a focus on terminology and the application of concepts. The course uses small group activities, lectures, discussions, films and other media.

General Psychology II

The General Psychology II course is designed to as a continuation of the topics presented in General Psychology I for students who wish to pursue seriously their psychology studies after high school. Topics include sensation and perception, memory, language and intelligence, motivation, social psychology, and personality. Through the study of human behavior and personality development along with activities and critical thinking skills, students will develop an increased knowledge and understanding of themselves and others. The course uses small group activities, lectures, discussions, films and other media.