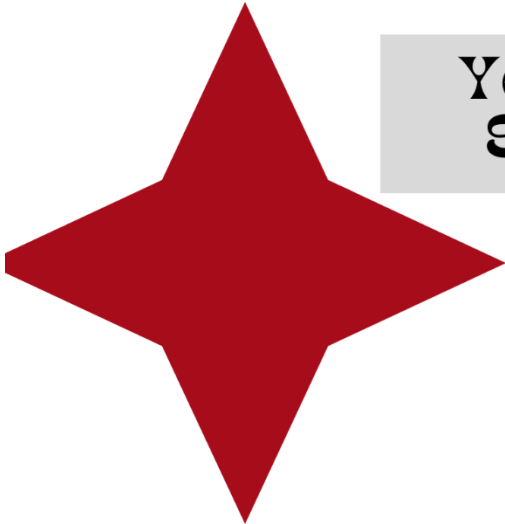


Rutland
High School



Year End
Studies



OVERVIEW - Student cover artwork by: Tory Juarez

Year End Studies (YES Plan) offers a variety of learning experiences for all Rutland High School students. The program is designed to provide half-day and full-day courses, seminars, field experiences, internships, community service and other teaching and learning opportunities. No students receive financial compensation for any of these learning experiences. Students are offered a myriad of enrichment courses giving them the opportunity to explore or enrich their learning beyond what has traditionally been offered during the school year. **All students are encouraged to participate in a School to Work program prior to graduation.** A normal and expected course load includes either: one (1) full-day YES Plan course or two (2) half-day YES Plan courses. **Students may not repeat YES Plan Enrichment courses they have already taken.**

SCHEDULE*

Credit Recovery	8:00AM	-	8:55 AM
Morning Class	9:00 AM	-	11:15 AM
Lunch	11:15AM	-	11:40 AM
Afternoon Class	11:45 AM	-	2:00 PM
Credit Recovery	2:05 PM	-	3:00 PM

*Some YES Plan experiences may require specific schedules appropriate to course and PLACE (formally School-to-work) needs.

ATTENDANCE

Year End Study Dates: May 29 to June 12, 2024 (Dates are subject to change pending school cancellations). Students must attend and participate in Year End Studies, an integral element of the academic year. School attendance policies and all school rules and procedures remain in effect. Students must attend 11 of the 12 days during YES Plan, which includes Open House, in order to receive credit. **The Attendance Committee will consider special and unique circumstances, but only upon rare occasions will exemptions be granted. YES Plan daily absentee lists will be published at the end of the day.** Seniors are required to attend YES courses through and including the AM session the day before graduation.

CREDIT

Successful participation in Year End Studies for each year at Rutland High School is a graduation requirement except for students enrolled in Stafford Technical Center's full day programs. A special note to seniors: a failed Year End Studies course by a senior will result in that senior not being eligible to participate in the graduation ceremonies. The senior will receive a diploma upon successful completion of a Year End Studies option (see options below). These options are available only after the end of the school year.

OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS WHO FAIL 2024 YEAR END STUDIES

Note: All options must be pre-approved by the Rutland High School Principal.

- Take a summer course for credit.
- Take a summer academic camp course for credit.
- Take a night course at Stafford Technical Center, Community College of Vermont or other educational facility.

- Perform thirty (30) hours of community service for each half day class (60 hours for a full day), which must be approved by the guidance counselor and the Rutland High School principal. A journal is required.

COURSE FEE WAIVERS

Students should consider all course options. Any additional costs for programs should not be a determining factor. For programs that incur additional fees, (admission fees, travel expenses, etc.) student fees may be waived by the YES Plan Committee or other arrangements may be made to allow student access. **Independent Study and PLACE experiences are not eligible for course fee waivers.**

COURSE FEE REFUNDS

Students who select courses that require a fee will only be eligible for refunds until May 1. Students will forfeit their fee if they make schedule changes after May 1.

ENROLLMENT

Class enrollments will be limited to the number listed in the course description. Students will select their course choices in February, 2024, through an online scheduling process. This process will be explained in detail to students prior to their selection.

GRADING

Student grades will be determined by the degree to which a student has demonstrated proficiency in identified course standards. Teachers will use the school-wide transferable skills and proficiency scales to grade students at the conclusion of YES plan. Final Grades will be reported on a 0 through 4-point scale with half point increments. This grade will not be calculated into the student's GPA, nor will it be credit bearing, but successful completion is required for graduation. Grades will be entered into Jump Rope and tied to a specific transferable skill. The standard will be calculated as a part of the student's transferable skills transcript. Grades will also be entered into Infinite Campus and become a part of the student's academic transcript. A half-day YES plan will hold a weight of 10, and a full-day will have a weight of 20.

4- In addition to score 3.0 performance, the student demonstrates in-depth inferences and applications that go beyond what was taught.

3 – The student has met the standard.

2 – The student has gained an understanding of the vocabulary and simpler processes of the standard.

1 – With help, the student can demonstrate partial success with the vocabulary and simpler processes of the standard.

0 – Little or no evidence of achieving the standard.

GLOBAL STUDIES/STEM CONCENTRATION

Notations are provided for Yes Plan courses that fulfill Global Studies or STEM Concentration requirements.

Full Day Courses

Community Service (Global)

Elizabeth Sampson, Paul Cherrier

Full Day

20 Students

Students must provide transportation; Students must be able to take part in physical labor.

Students will volunteer for different organizations in the Rutland area and learn about some of the issues that our community is facing today. Students will have the opportunity to volunteer in multiple capacities to meet the needs of various organizations. They can expect to do tasks such as cleaning, landscaping, painting, sorting items, organizing things, window washing, etc. These organizations may include the Wonderfeet Kid's Museum, Rutland Free Library, Community Cupboard, Open Door Mission and more. Students will be responsible for choosing one of the organizations at the beginning of the course to report on at the YES plan open house. Journal entries with photos and comments on daily experiences will be required. Students who sign up for this YES plan should be ready to work for the entire day and represent RHS well in the community. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from all locations!

Cookies and Crimes

Shannon Bonsignore, Madeline Pritchard

Full Day

20 Students

Welcome to the most thrilling and delectable class you'll ever experience – "Cookies & Crime: Baking up Mystery"! If you've ever dreamt of combining your love for baking with the excitement of solving crimes, this is the class for you. Get ready to embark on a mouthwatering journey where cookies and clues collide in the most delicious way possible!

Dungeons and Dragons: The World's Greatest Roleplaying Game

Heather Finch

Full Day

20 Students

Unleash your imagination and embark upon an epic journey into the world of Dungeons & Dragons (D&D)! Whether you're a seasoned player or brand new to the game, this course offers an opportunity to dive deeply into the realms of fantasy, strategy, and storytelling. You will learn the rules, explore world-building, create unforgettable characters, and embark on adventures in this iconic tabletop role-playing game. By the end of our journey, you will be well-prepared to further your Dungeons & Dragons adventures as a player or Dungeon Master. Whether you're looking to join an existing gaming group or start your own, this course will equip you with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to bring your epic tales to life in the world of D&D. So, grab your dice, ready your character sheet, and prepare to set forth on a thrilling adventure in the realm of Dungeons & Dragons. Will you be the hero who saves the day, or the villain who challenges fate? The choice is yours!

Estuaries and Wetland (STEM)*Dawn Adams Michael Ellis***Full Day**

10 Students

Students must provide transportation

Discover the wonders of Rhode Island estuaries and Vermont wetlands in Estuaries and Wetlands. In part one of this YES plan, spend three days and three nights at the Narragansett Bay Estuarine Research Reserve (NBERR) located on Prudence Island in Rhode Island. Learn about rocky shore, open bay, and salt marsh ecosystems on the New England coast through classroom and hands-on experiences and learning games. Participate in an invasive Asian shore crab study and a sampling survey of salt marsh plants. Learn challenges facing migratory birds due to habitat loss and climate change. Identify birds by their song as well as by sight. Contribute to a stewardship habitat restoration project. In part two of this YES plan, learn about Vermont wetlands through classroom activities and day field trips in Rutland County. Help restore wetlands in Rutland County, by participating in community service projects and/or gathering data for water quality studies at various locations. Collect and analyze authentic data on climate change in both Rhode Island and Vermont. STEM credit. Enrollment limited to 10.

Exploring Hauntings in New England*Eric Snay, Clarena Renfrow***Full Day**

20 Students

This YES plan will explore ghost stories and hauntings in New England through film and day trips to historically haunted sites in Vermont. Students will learn about and reflect on the history and stories linked to these haunted areas. Additionally, students will learn to use ghost hunting tools to explore these supposedly haunted houses! Let's hunt those ghosts!

Exploring the Historical Landscapes of Vermont (Day Hikes)*Michele Geisler, Casey Giordano***Full Day**

22 Students

Students must provide transportation

Students will be exposed to the natural history of Vermont through a rigorous hiking program. Students can expect to travel by foot between six and 10 miles a day on the steep, rugged and remote trails of Vermont and upstate New York. To meet the strenuous demands of the course, students are expected to be in excellent physical condition. Students should be equipped with proper footwear and clothing, and should bring plenty of food and water each day. Students must provide their own transportation. Since community service is a requirement of the course, the students will perform trail work at Pine Hill Park to foster a sense of teamwork and community. Finally, students are required to keep a reflective and comprehensive journal that details their learning, including the area's flora and fauna, as well as their sense of accomplishment.

Hollywood and the Holocaust

Michael Carmolli

Full Day

16 Students

The objective of this YES Plan is to look at how films about the Holocaust both preserve and pervert history. Most movies based on actual events are not very historically accurate. That does not necessarily mean they are bad movies. And being historically accurate does not automatically make for a good movie. A movie is essentially a visual method of telling a story. The filmmakers, (writers, directors, producers, and actors,) are all story tellers. Some of these people regard the actual events which inspired the film as guidelines, or suggestions rather than requirements. Others do not consider the historical record to be optional, and go to great lengths to ensure authenticity. We will watch a number of films during this course. Each of them tells a different Holocaust story. Some are more historically accurate than others. I hope you will enjoy the films I've selected, and learn a little history as well.

Jazz Ensemble

Brent Barnett

Full Day

22 Students

The YES Plan Jazz Ensemble course is limited to the year-long members of this performing group and is a continuation of the Jazz Ensemble course.

Keep It Local

Marisa Astin & Tegan Kirk-Elkin

Full Day

20 Students

Making and eating food? Petting alpacas? What's not to love? Join this YES Plan and you will have the joy of doing these things and much more. We will explore Vermont to discover the many products produced right here in our own backyard. Vermont has a rich history of dairy, agriculture, and manufacturing that we will be researching both through field trips, guest speakers, and outdoor exploration.

Land Navigation and Backpacking Skills

Taborri Bruhl, Jody Sabatato

Full Day

16 Students

Students must provide transportation

In this hands-on, outdoor course, students will learn about and practice the skills that long-distance hikers need to accomplish such feats as hiking the Appalachian Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail, or European trails such as the Camino Santiago. The course will focus on reading topographic maps, the use of magnetic compasses and GPS to navigate off-road, backpacking gear and clothing, proper footwear, cooking meals in the back-country, training for thru-hiking, planning for long-distance trips, and dealing with inclement weather and wild animals. On most class days we will meet outdoors, and will be out on trail and will learn by doing. We will use trails in Bomoseen State Forest and other natural areas in the area such as Killington Mountain, Pine Hill Park, and Silver Lake in Brandon. Most class meetings will be within 20 miles of RHS. Students should be prepared to hike two to five miles per day and be dressed properly for the weather and hiking conditions. Students should bring a lunch each day; we will eat lunch in the field. Students must be able to drive and provide their own transportation!

Logic and Fun Rolled Into One: Strategy Games (STEM)

Susan Ponto

Full Day

12 Students

Do you like cooperative or competitive gaming? Do you want to learn to play new games or relearn ones you have been taught in the past? This course will offer directions in how to play and how to win different strategy games. Some examples RISK, Castle Panic, Whitehall, Firefly, Mancala, along with others. You will be asked to complete a project to finish the course. Come and Enjoy a few days of Fun and Games.

PLACE Lifeguarding

Brett Lertola, Jennifer McNeil

Full Day

24 Students/155/\$175 See below

Students must provide transportation

This YES Plan will be in coordination with the Rutland Recreation Department. The cost is \$155.00 for Residents of Rutland City and \$175.00 for students outside the City.

Classes take place at the Rutland Recreation Department and White’s Pool.

STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN TRANSPORTATION.

In order to take lifeguarding, students **MUST:** Be at least 15 years of age; Be able to swim a minimum of eight laps; and Be able to tread water for a minimum of two minutes. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be certified lifeguards.

PLACE Work Experience

Kevin Browne, Mary Haskell, Brett Lertola, Jennifer McNeil, Kim Ransom

Full Day

30 Students

Students must provide transportation

This is a full-day YES Plan that allows 10th - 12th grade students the opportunity to explore a career that interests them. Students will be at a worksite of their choosing that is approved by the PLACE Coordinators. There, students will shadow a mentor and spend their time engaged in a work-based learning experience. Students will be responsible for keeping a log of hours, completing journal entries, and making a final presentation at the YES Plan Open House to talk about what they have learned. **STUDENTS MUST PROVIDE THEIR OWN TRANSPORTATION** to and from their job site. Students enrolled in this Yes Plan will receive a Work Experience Application Packet to use when approaching their preferred job site. Students who do not turn in their Application Packet by the deadline May 3, 2024, will be removed from this course and required to enroll in another YES Plan. See Mrs. McNeil or Mrs. Ransom no later than March 1, 2024, for an application packet for this work experience.

Poetry & Production*Michael Reinertz***Full Day**
12 Students**Students must provide transportation**

In this YES plan, students will explore poetry and the art of prosody (i.e. the rhythm and sounds that make poetry...well, poetry). Far from confining our exploration to the written word, students will be probing the boundaries of what is considered "poetry," producing music and visual art in an attempt to uncover the expanse of poetic practices and how they color the world around us.

She Kills Monsters - a Dungeons and Dragons Play*Matt McDonough, Cathy Archer***Full Day**
More than 24 Students

Dungeons and Dragons.....now that I have your attention. She Kills Monsters is a play about finding yourself and a younger sister you only thought you knew through playing dungeons and dragons. This will be a full production. Students will be the actors, designers, builders for this production. There is a possibility that it will be performed on the Paramount stage. This is a full day YES plan.

Unified Sports and Adventures*Catherine Wark, Jason Cassarino, Adrienne Weld***Full Day**
30 Students

Have you wanted to get involved in Unified Sports and it did not fit in your schedule? Here is your chance to get involved! Special Olympics Unified Sports® brings together athletes with and without intellectual disabilities to train and compete on the same team. By pairing peers with and without disabilities on the same team, students are given the opportunity to build more inclusive schools. Unified Sports promotes equality on and off the field. We currently offer six Unified Sports® competition experiences for schools and local programs: Bocce, Bowling, Basketball, Soccer, and Team Building Games. This year we will offer this opportunity for Year End Studies. This course will bring Unified Sports to the next level! Students will have the opportunity to go on Adventures on and off campus while applying Social Emotional Learning (SEL) to help build positive relationships and Adventures. The motto for Unified Sports is "On the field we're teammates and off the field we're friends".

AM Only Courses

Advanced Physical Computing and Robotics (STEM)

AM ONLY

Greg Styles

15 Students

Come learn about microcontrollers (robot brains), sensors, and motors. Build a smart device and a robot with an authentic, real-world development system. Physical computing is creating smart devices that interact with the world around them. These devices can be a robot, a smart IOT controller, or whatever you can think of. A physical computer senses its environment, processes that information, and then performs some action. This “sense – think – act” cycle can also be used to define a robot. Learn a little electronics, connect some sensors, motors, LEDs, then write some code to make something interesting!

Bridge to Honors

AM ONLY

Michele Farkas

15 Students

This class is designed to help students move from CP level math classes into honors level math. Upon successful completion, this course will provide students who have completed Integrated Math 1 & 2 CP the opportunity to move into Integrated Math 3 & 4 Honors the next year. This class will focus on quadratic functions, the methods used to solve these functions, and additionally explore complex numbers. The pace will be rigorous and students will be expected to complete nightly practice problems. Students are placed in this YES Plan offering with the recommendation of their current math teacher.

Coastal Navigation with STEM (STEM)

AM ONLY

Glenn Williams and Sarah Hardy

16 Students

Students will learn the practical skills necessary for navigating a boat from point to point in coastal waters using a STEM approach (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Students will learn how to read and interpret nautical charts (maps) and use appropriate tools. Topics covered include projections, latitude, longitude, spatial relationships, points, lines, planes, angles, scale factor, time, distance, properties of parallelism, weather, and current. Student teams will compete against each other in a mock sailboat race as well as plot each and every leg of a week-long sailing trip—including distance and compass headings—following given constraints. (Please note that the entire course takes place in the classroom and not on the water.)

Great Books: The Grapes of Wrath**AM ONLY***Stephen French*

12 Students

In this in-depth study of John Steinbeck's famous novel, you will learn about the difficulties of life in 1930s America, including the Great Depression and Dust Bowl. We will also explore the broader impact of Steinbeck and his novel on American popular culture, by considering other interpretations of the story in film and other books. To earn credit for the class, students will participate in daily discussion, keep a daily journal, and complete a final project.

Human Rights and Walking (Global)**AM ONLY***Nancy Ivey, Roman Schmiechowski*

24 Students

This course will introduce students to the International Declaration of Human Rights and what it is all about. Students will research one of the Human Rights and present to the class. After the lesson, we will get outside and go for a walk around the community each day. Students should dress comfortably and come with good walking shoes.

Knit for Good (Global)**AM ONLY***Joy Kogut*

12 Students

Have you ever wanted to learn how to knit? Or you want to improve your technique in knitting? Join Knitting Squares for Good to learn how to knit basic and advanced stitches and then donate our products to needy children in South Africa through Knit A Square (<https://knit-a-square.com/>). We will practice and experiment knitting squares and then these squares will be sewn together to make blankets. By the end of the YES Plan, you need to knit at least one square to pass (and last year most people knit 2 – 5 squares). Beginners welcomed!

Leadership through Coaching and Officiating**AM ONLY***Jason Venezia, Nathan Bellomo*

20 Students

Leadership through coaching and Officiating: The goal of this class is for students interested in studying leadership and learning about coaching and officiating. They will be required to understand and implement leadership qualities into one or both of the areas of coaching or officiating. They will do this through activities, video and written materials.

Life Changing Movies! (Global)**AM ONLY***Chris Siliski, Hilary Poremski*

15 Students

Lots of great stories and well-loved movies contain the secret to a happy life because they follow a pattern called the "Hero's Journey" In this course, you'll learn about the hero's journey and how to identify it in classic movies like: Rudy, Rocky, The Pursuit of Happiness, October Sky, Hidden Figures, Good Will Hunting, and more. Through movies, journaling, discussion and creative activities, you'll also understand how the hero's journey applies to your own experiences, including what it takes to achieve your goals and become the "hero" of your life.

Needle Arts Through the Ages**AM ONLY***Dina Spafford, Karrie Etzler*

20 Students

Students will learn the basic sewing and embroidery skills as they replicate designs from different time periods in history. Cross stitch, applique, and embroidery techniques will be explored. The final project will be to design an original piece of needle art.

The History of Sports Through 20th Century Film**AM ONLY***Michael Tully; Karen Davidson*

20 Students

This course is an exploration of how sports have been portrayed, celebrated, and critiqued in film throughout the 20th century. From the iconic victories to the heartbreaking defeats, witness the transformation of sports narratives and their reflection of broader cultural, political, and historical contexts. Engage with a diverse array of films that span various genres, showcasing the profound impact of sports on society. By critically analyzing cinematic depictions of sports, students will gain insights into the broader cultural dynamics that have shaped and been shaped by athletic pursuits on the big screen. Immerse yourself in the triumphs, challenges, and poignant moments that define the history of sports through the lens of 20th-century film.

The Psychology of Intelligence**AM ONLY***Ellie Davine*

15 Students

Human intelligence is the focus of this course. How are YOU smart? Are you "book smart" "street smart" or "art smart"? Have you ever wondered why some subjects come easy for you, while others subjects are difficult? Participants in this course will explore the different theories of human intelligences and the history of intelligence testing in the United States. Participants will personally reflect on their own intelligences and explore how this understanding can be beneficial to life choices. The culminating activity will be to plan an experience, based on Howard Gardner's theory of Multiple Intelligences, for YES Plan Open House.

World Peace Game (Global)**AM ONLY***Michael Callahan, Makayla Boisvert*

16 Students

The mission of this game is simple: achieve world peace. Sometimes though, the start is nowhere near the finish. As is the case for this game. Each group will have benchmarks set by the game maker to ensure that they can survive in the world. This game is riddled with obstacles, trials, and tribulations to test your mettle and your resolve to achieve world peace. Some tasks will be easier than others, just as some events can hurt you as much as they can help you. Choose each step wisely, as it could benefit you or it could bankrupt your country. Also, keep in mind that nations cannot achieve everything overnight. You need a vision. Developing your nations takes time. Be patient and good things will come to those that wait. On the other hand, be aggressive, and the world could be yours. You can decide what you would like your country to be and how you are perceived in the world. At any rate, your mission is to achieve world peace.

PM Only Courses

Books and Cookies

Hilary Poremski, Ellie Davine

PM ONLY

20 Students

Do you miss the days when you had time to curl up with a book of your own choosing, maybe even while enjoying freshly baked cookies and a glass of milk? Or have you not yet had the pleasure of this sublime experience? The goal of this course is simple: You will select books you want to read, get lost in them, and read (devour) as many of them as you can in these final days of the school year. Best of all -- you will not be required to write essays about them! Rather, you will keep track of your pages, complete short activities in response to your books, and complete a final, creative (fun!) project of your choice, based on your favorite book. Your teachers and fellow students will sign up to bring treats for our daily "cookie break," a perfect opportunity to chat with classmates about your reading and other common interests. We will read in comfortable spaces on school grounds and outside, when weather permits, and we'll take a field trip to Phoenix Books downtown for some browsing & book-buying. The student who reads the most pages over the course of YES Plan will be awarded a prize at the end of the course.

Creatures of the Country (STEM)

Sarah Hardy

PM ONLY

12 Students

Come outside to meet the creatures and plants you share Rutland with! In this half-day course, we will spend part of the time outside, collecting, sketching, tracking and photographing organisms. We will set up a game camera to check out nocturnal critters! The rest of the time we will be inside identifying the specimens and drawing or preserving them. You do not need any artistic ability, just a desire to want to know the flora and fauna around you! Our end product will be a sketchbook you can take home. In addition to sketches we will include pressed plants, leaves and photographs (with common and scientific names).

Exploring the Cities of Europe (Global)

Roman Smiechowski, Nathan Bellomo

PM ONLY

20 Students

The emphasis of this YES plan course will be discovery and learning. We will explore several cities in Europe and learn about the culture, and people of significant importance. Students will also, virtually visit a variety of cities. Each day in class students will conduct research and participate in discussions to enhance their understanding of cultures beyond the borders of United States. Historical locations, museums, economy, and quality of life will be studied and students will be required to complete and end of the course Power Point presentation. Cities to be explored are: Gdansk, Warsaw, Paris, London, Rome, Barcelona, St. Petersburg, Prague, and Palermo.

Lifetime Leisure Skills**PM ONLY***Jennifer Trudo and Lea Pettis*

12 Students

This course will introduce you to many different hobbies, including cookie decorating, gardening, and playing games. It doesn't matter if you are a beginner or professional, we just want you to come and discover new hobbies.

Physical Computing and Robotics For Beginners (STEM)**PM ONLY***Greg Styles*

15 Students

Come learn about microcontrollers (robot brains), sensors, and motors. Build a smart device and a robot with an authentic, real-world development system. Physical computing is creating smart devices that interact with the world around them. These devices can be a robot, a smart IOT controller, or whatever you can think of. A physical computer senses its environment, processes that information, and then performs some action. This “sense – think – act” cycle can also be used to define a robot. Learn a little electronics, connect some sensors, motors, LEDs, then write some code to make something interesting!

Restorative, Mindful, and Calming Coloring**PM ONLY***Joy Kogut*

12 Students

Want to learn more ways to calm down when feeling stressed? This course provides an opportunity for students to learn calming techniques including meditation, chair yoga, and coloring. We will practice relaxing, destressing, and being productive members of the community. We create group coloring projects as well that people can add their individual spin to. Beginners welcomed.

Social Change and Music (Global)**PM ONLY***Michael Callahan and Makayla Boisvert*

15 Students

Music can play a pivotal role in our lives and weaves throughout the social fabric of our nation. Songs can serve as anthems for new generations and unite us under a common goal or idea, or that same song can divide us and leave long-lasting scars from political and social unrest. This course will explore many different political and social movements in the United States as well as overseas, and will provide students with a growing appreciation for the music that they love and a newfound respect for what it represents.

Speech! The Art of Moving People with Language**PM ONLY***Stephen French*

12 Students

Public speaking has struck fear into the hearts of many. This class will help you overcome that fear by teaching you specific strategies to help you persuade your audience with your words. You will study famous speeches of the past, along with key rhetorical strategies, and will write and deliver your own speech in the safe and pressure-free environment of the class.

Stock Market Investing (STEM)*Chris Siliski***PM ONLY**

12 Students

After working and saving money their whole lives in the richest country in the world, less than 10% of Americans are able to retire with their pre-retirement income intact every year. Learn how to be in this 5 to 10%. If you do and are in this 10%, it will not only help at the end of your career; you will have the safety, security and resources to achieve other dreams of financial independence such as better vacations, a nicer house, etc. throughout your whole life. We'll learn about how to get started, different strategies, different investment options, and more.

String Orchestra Boot Camp*Sarah Koon***PM ONLY**

15 Students

Have you ever wanted to play a string instrument? Join the school orchestra? In this course, you will have the chance to give it a try! Learn the basics of violin, viola, cello, or string bass and participate in an informal performance at the end of the class! Current Orchestra students may join to assist new players and/or try out a secondary instrument. Bring your own instrument if you have one. Instruments will be provided for those who don't. Every effort will be made to give students their first instrument choice, but it will depend on the available inventory.

Tales of the Unexpected*Glenn Williams***PM ONLY**

20 Students

Students will view and reflect on a series based on author Roald Dahl's numerous short stories presented in a classroom setting using a video format. The title of the series is "Tales of the Unexpected." Two or possibly three short stories will be presented daily for each day of YES Plan. Student reflections will be conveyed by lively classroom discussions and extensive journaling. Students can expect to be graded on their thoughtful contributions to classroom discourse and the quality of their journalistic reflections and compositions. Student journals will be presented and collected for a grade on the final day of YES Plan.

You Design It! (STEM)*Michele Farkas***PM ONLY**

12 Students

Have you ever wanted to design your own structure? A tree house? Gazebo? Sugar House? Shed? Do you think you might want to build a small structure in the future? A Playhouse? Ice Shanty? Covered walking bridge? Well then, this course is for you! You will learn from architects and construction experts in the field about how to create your own designs. You will visit structures such as covered bridges and apply their truss systems to your own building plans and corresponding model of the small structure that you could build someday. It could happen!

AM and PM Courses

Animals All Around the World (Global and STEM)

AM and PM

Ann Marie Mahar

12 Students

Are you an animal lover? Do you want to have fun learning about different animals around the world? We will dive into the science of animal adaptations, natural history, and management. We will also look into animal cultural connections, animal spirit guides, the expressions about animals that have crept into our language, and how animals have been depicted in art and media. Students will see how ONE Health is an approach that recognizes that the health of people is closely connected to the health of animals and our shared environment.

Beats (STEM)

AM and PM

William Vandall

12 Students

Beats: Are you the type of person who always hears music in your head? Do you always hum, or have lyrics in your mind, as a "soundtrack" to your life? Are you interested, or do you already record, mix, arrange and create music? Do you wonder about how to create music, and publish it, and how to make a passion of yours to the next level? This may be a course that you want to take. We will explore writing and arranging, mixing and sound mastering, and finally publication on various internet-based platforms. The main platform we will use is Sound trap. You can download onto your Chromebook. This is a great course for someone new to the field of audio engineering, or someone who is already mastering and publishing songs. The end product for the course is to create a three (3) song demo, publish that demo on Sound trap, and play that demo for a group of students as a performance. Ideally you will come to this class, with a personal computer for recording and arranging your music. Computers are not provided. Also, highly suggested (and not provided) are quality headphones, not earbuds.

Ceramics Boot Camp

AM and PM

Beth McReynolds

15 Students

Do you love clay? Who doesn't, it's an amazing material. Have you ever wanted to try a ceramics class and it has not fit into your schedule? Have you taken a ceramics class and want to take your skills to the next level? Students at all levels of experience are welcome. You will have the option of creating functional or sculptural objects. We will explore both wheel throwing and hand building and a wide range of surface decoration and glaze techniques.

It's the Journey Not the Destination: A Look at Novels that Highlight how Personal Growth Occurs While Striving to Reach a Goal **AM and PM**

Brandon Conrad

12 Students

In this YES Plan we will look at two novels that highlight how personal growth occurs while striving to reach a goal. The two novels (The Alchemist & Siddhartha) follow the protagonist through their highs and lows while striving to find that certain something they feel their life is missing. We will explore how the wonderful things in life are not always at the end of the journey, but during the process of discovery. We will discuss the importance of "stopping to smell the roses" instead of racing toward the finish line, as the finish line is often anti-climatic. These two whimsical novels are perfect for aspiring travelers, those that love to escape in their imagination to far off places, and for those that need to be reminded that the good things in life happen each and every day.

Microwave Meals: Healthy, Easy, and Cheap!

AM and PM

Carolyn Gregory & Cindy Trevino

16 Students

Come learn how to make healthy food on the cheap! Are you a student living in hotel with limited resources, a student transitioning into the workplace and living on their own for the first time, or a college-bound student? You will learn lifelong skills such as how to budget meals, plan meals, shop for healthy options at the grocery store, follow a recipe, and use the microwave in new and creative ways. At the end of this course you will be able to make at least 3 healthy meals in the microwave and will have put together a recipe book to use at home. *Please bring your favorite microwaveable mug if you have one!

Music, Dance, Film, and Art in the Spanish Language Classroom

AM and PM

Karen Rogers

12 Students

Spanish is more than just conjugating verbs! Here is your opportunity to learn more about the Spanish-speaking world. You will be exploring the FUNdamentals of language and culture through music, dance, film, and art. You will learn some of the basic steps to some of the more popular Latin dances. You will sing along to a variety of music styles found in the Spanish-speaking world.. You will study various artists and watch Spanish-language film. Presentations on dance, music, art, or film are required. Prerequisite- Completion of Spanish 2

Grove Street Campus Programs

Grove Street Learning Kitchen

Laurie Bullock, Ellada Siliski

Full Day

12 Students

Students will become aware of the healthy choices available to them on a limited budget and plan healthy, affordable dishes. Under the supervision of guest chefs and teachers, participants will also learn various cooking techniques, while reading and following the directions for a variety of nutritious recipes. By preparing each dish in school, students will learn not just what to do but how to do it. Students will increase their nutrition, budgeting shopping and cooking skills. Students will learn a variety of ways to cook; crockpot, stove, and microwave.

School-To-Work

Ellada Siliski, Laurie Bullock, Conrad Tuerk

Full Day

More than 24 Students

Students in grades 10 – 12 may participate in a School to Work Experience by writing a proposal using the guidelines provided by the School to Work Instructors. Students may pursue job shadowing experiences in the community as alternatives to the regular YES Plan courses being offered on campus. These off-campus opportunities should be career and/or skill oriented. If a student has participated in a STW YES Plan in previous years, they will be required to propose an alternative placement unless they can demonstrate new learning as the importance of this opportunity is to explore options for the future. Students will need to complete a guided journal, Learning Experience Plan, Learning Agreement, Hourly Activity Log and present a Final Project on the last day of YES Plan.

Outdoor Education - Grove Street Campus

Conrad Tuerk

Full Day

12 Students

Students will be exposed to the natural history of Vermont through a rigorous hiking program. Students can expect to travel by foot between three and six miles per hike on the steep, rugged and remote trails of Vermont and upstate New York. To meet the strenuous demands of the course, students are expected to be in excellent physical condition. Students should be equipped with proper footwear and clothing, and will be provided food and water each day. A community service project is another major component of the course as the class will help build trails at Pine Hill Park to foster a sense of teamwork and community. Finally, students are required to keep a reflective and comprehensive journal that details their learning, including the area's flora and fauna, and sense of accomplishment.