

SHE Leads

VILLA MARIA ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

SheLeads sessions are short, dynamic learning experiences created to spark curiosity, confidence, and purpose in our students.

SheLeads Sessions

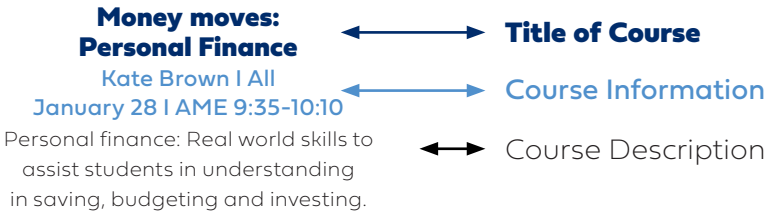
Inspiring Journeys. Empowered Futures.

SheLeads are non-transcripted opportunities for guest facilitators to share the real stories behind their paths to excellence, including both their setbacks and successes. These learning sessions will help to foster the holistic development of each student, helping her to seek out new passions and begin to think about the possibilities in her future. In addition to career journeys, some sessions focus on engaging, relatable, and practical topics designed to empower our students in their daily lives—such as self-defense, business ethics, digital safety, or discovering personal strengths. Whether through story or skill, each session offers meaningful, relevant insight for young women growing in faith and purpose. Rooted in the IHM charism grace of creative hope, SheLeads encourages every girl to lead with integrity, resilience, and the confidence that she is deeply loved and called to make a difference.

Sign Up Process:

Look over our microcourse offerings, check your personal schedules, and talk with your parents and/or trusted adults to find the sessions that best meet your interests, passions, and current needs.
To register, use the Google Form link that will be sent out. Registration must be completed at least 48 hours before the session begins. Once registered, the microcourse instructor will communicate directly with participating students. For any questions or concerns, please reach out to Ms. Harkins or Ms. Findeison.

How to Read the Catalog





Anesthesiologist

Christina Zecca I All

October 8 I AME 9:35-10:10

Christina is a VMA alum and is currently an anesthesiologist. She will be sharing her journey to where she got to today, and what it is like to be an anesthesiologist

Forensic Science

Mr. Byrnes I All

October 15 I AME 9:35-10:10

Learn how forensic investigators can solve crimes by analyzing crime scenes and using DNA to identify victims or perpetrators through Genealogy.

Building a Brand, Leading with Purpose

Marguerite "Marghi" Adzick

October 22 I AME 9:35-10:10

Join the founder and owner of Addison Bay for a conversation about entrepreneurship, leadership, and turning an idea into a successful brand. Students will hear the story behind Addison Bay, from identifying an opportunity in the market to building and growing a women-focused company and learn about the decisions, risks, resilience, and relationships that come with entrepreneurship. The session will also explore what it means to lead authentically, trust your ideas, and create opportunities for yourself and others.

SheLeads in Engineering: Olivia Hall '19 on Math, Innovation, and Leadership

Olivia Hall I All

November 3 I 2:30 PM

Olivia Hall, a 2019 Villa graduate, attended Villanova University, where she received her Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. She has always been passionate about cutting-edge technology, so after Villanova, she joined Innovative Aerosystems in Exton, PA. Working as a systems engineer, she led the engineering effort for the company's aerial refueling programs. Most recently, she transitioned into project engineering, where she applies her engineering skill set while growing her leadership responsibilities. She works on various platforms, including aerial refueling touchscreens, inertial reference units, radios, and more for both commercial and military applications. Math is critical to avionics, and Olivia is excited to share real-world examples of how she and her colleagues use it every day!

Unapologetic: Boldly Lead the Life and Career You Deserve

Nicole Stephenson & Mrs. Scaggs I All

November 19 I AME 9:35-10:10

Meet Nicole Stephenson, IOM Nicole Stephenson, IOM helps audiences rethink success and recognize their potential through engaging storytelling and practical strategies. As a speaker, author, and leadership expert, she encourages individuals to find their voice, embrace their strengths, and take meaningful steps toward their goals. Nicole is the Founder of Narrativa Consulting, a part-time Lecturer at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and author of Unapologetic: Boldly Lead the Life and Career You Deserve. With more than 15 years of experience in marketing, sales, operations, and events, she brings a wealth of experience in leadership and communication. Her work has been recognized with honors including Main Line Today Magazine's 2024 Power Women and Sigma Kappa's 35 Under 35 Award.

Female Leadership/STEM

Dr. Eidam I All

January 21 I AME 9:35-10:10

What does a career in pharma look like for a female? The path to success is not a straight line.

Money moves: Personal Finance

Mrs. Brown I All

January 28 I AME 9:35-10:10

Personal finance: Real world skills to assist students in understanding in saving, budgeting and investing.

Marine Biology

Dr. Jill Ashey I All

February 17 I AME 9:35-10:10

Dr. Jill Ashey is a coral researcher that travels the world learning about reef health, but it wasn't always her dream. Dr. Ashey shares how she first learned she could have a career in science and how she eventually landed at University of Penn as a researcher.

From Villa, to Tennesee, to Ms. Pennsylvania

Izzy Snyder I All

February 26 I AME 9:35-10:10

Ever wondered what the responsibilities are for Ms. Pennsylvania and how it can lead to important advocacy work? Alum Izzy Snyder, current Ms. Pennsylvania International, will discuss her journey from Villa, to going to school out of state, and how it lead to where she is today.



Unite for HER

Sue Weldon & Mrs. Scaggs I All
March 18 I AME 9:35-10:10

Meet Sue Weldon Sue Weldon is the Founder and CEO of Unite for HER, a national nonprofit dedicated to helping women navigate breast and ovarian cancer through integrative care and whole-person support. A breast cancer survivor herself, Sue has transformed her personal experience into a powerful mission to ensure no woman faces cancer alone. Through her leadership, Unite for HER has expanded its programs nationwide, connecting women with resources that support both mind and body throughout their cancer journey. Sue is also a sought-after speaker, wellness advocate, and published author of Heal, Empower, Restore, sharing her expertise and personal story to inspire greater awareness, connection, and access to integrative cancer care. Her leadership and impact have earned national recognition, including the 2021 C2 Catalyst of Care Award.

Continuing the Sisterhood: NPC Sorority Recruitment

Ms. Henderson I Seniors
April 2 I AME 9:35-10:10

You have experienced the "Villa Sisterhood" so have you considered continuing those bonds of Sisterhood by joining a sorority in college? Its quite the adventure but well worth the journey! Ms. Henderson has been involved with sorority recruitment at the local and national level for 30 years and has LOTS of inside information to help you navigate the process!

A Career in Nursing

Mrs. Antonello
April 7 I AME 9:35-10:10

Learn about nursing from our very own Mrs. Antonello. She will share her journey in nursing school, her professional career, and how she ended up becoming a school nurse.

Careers in Psychology

Ms. Findeison
April 22 I AME 9:35-10:10

Come learn with us about different careers in psychology. We will discuss what it looks like to be a psych major, how to make the most of your college experience, and what career pathways are available to you.



REGISTER TODAY!

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