

ROSA'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1 & 2

SPANISH I

Grade Level: 7-12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 World Language / Elective

¡Bienvenidos a todos! A fun introduction to the Spanish language and Spanish/Latin culture. You will have lots of fun learning to speak about yourself, your needs and what you like to do in a new language. Communication will be our emphasis.

PERIOD 3 & 4

SPANISH II

Grade Level: 8-12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 World Language / Elective

¡Bienvenido a tu segundo año de español! Vamos a hablar y leer mucho. También, vamos a estudiar el pasado. This year we will talk about family, friends and vacations. We will read a short novel and perform skits and oral presentations.

PERIOD 5

PASSAGES

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective

This semester-long class is a unique Steller graduation requirement, which allows students to expand their understanding of an area of personal interest. This class will allow students to pursue personal passions and interests, while teaching good research, writing, and speaking skills that they can use throughout their education. Students will write course proposals in any of the following areas: adventure, career exploration, creativity, community involvement, logical inquiry, or practical skills.



ASHLEY'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1

SPANISH III

Grade Level: 9-12

Prerequisite: Spanish II or approval from teacher

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 Elective credit (upon completion of second semester students receive .5 social studies elective credit)

Continuaremos hablar, leer y escribir el español. Mucha participación oral con presentaciones orales, música, composiciones y una novela. We will be studying grammar through reading of a short novel, short stories and current events.

PERIOD 2

NEWS WORTHY AND NOTEWORTHY – CURRENT EVENTS THROUGH MEDIA

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Literature elective

We will be reading about, discussing, and presenting on current events from local headlines to international news. We will interpret and analyze media through online, print and audio sources. We will investigate and evaluate media sources and how information is deemed to be newsworthy. We will also research and synthesize information on topics pertinent to our lives and communities. Various modes of writing and presenting will be used to respond to readings and presentations.

PERIOD 3

SPANISH IV+

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Spanish III or approval from teacher

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 Elective credit

Leeremos cuentos hispanos y los eventos actuales. Estudiaremos la gramática avanzada. Todos van a dar presentaciones orales. This semester we will focus on developing interpretive and interpersonal language skills.

STUDENT AIDES NEEDED: 1st, 2nd and 3rd periods - Please see Ashley



DANIELLE'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 4

INTERMEDIATE COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 9-10

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Intermediate Composition

Students will practice writing for different purposes with a focus on reviewing and improving the expository and persuasive essay and personal essay. Students will also become familiar with citing sources using a standard method of documentation. Understanding writing as a *process* will be a major focus; students will gain a working knowledge of the steps in this process, from pre-writing to final drafts. Special emphasis will be placed on revision as well as building grammar and vocabulary skills.

PERIOD 5 & 6

8th GRADE SEMINAR

Grade Level: 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Language Arts Seminar and .50 Social Studies Seminar

This class is Steller's introduction to Socratic Seminar. The course's reading will cover historical literature, some fiction and philosophy. All of the reading will be done in class. Homework consists of writing responses to what we read in class. Students will learn and practice essay writing in addition to developing their group discussion and critical thinking skills. Acquiring new vocabulary from the readings will also be emphasized.



JEAN'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Education

This Physical Education class will provide each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, team sports, and physical fitness activities. The students will receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities. The class will promote the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition.

PERIOD 3 & 6

ART

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Class Fee: \$20.00

Credit Count: .50 Elective

This is a general exploratory course with a strong emphasis on the elements and principles of design. A variety of art processes and media, i.e., drawing, lettering, printmaking, painting, fiber, layout, jewelry, sculpture and art appreciation may be introduced.

PERIOD 4

ART FUNDAMENTALS

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Class Fee: \$20.00

Credit Count: .50 Elective

Students will explore a variety of art materials, develop art techniques, and use creative thinking skills to express ideas and viewpoints.

Produce meaningful and unique drawings, paintings, prints and sculpture.

Study artists and their works to gain understanding of the artistic process and learn about art produced at different times and in diverse cultures

PERIOD 5

HEALTH

Grade Level: 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective

This class will cover wellness, mental health, disease prevention, consumer health, substance abuse and sexual education. During the semester, students will study these topics, so that they can make healthy choices throughout their lives.



BOB'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester, 2015-16

PERIOD 1

INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Literature

Welcome to Introduction to Literature! Here we will read a number of examples of the short story genre, or style of literature, to access some of the general aspects of literature. The intent of the course is to give you tools to approach any literature confidently. The class will start off by looking at the historical roots of the short story and then dive right into reading different authors, styles, and time-periods. Along the way, you will be learning to search for meaning through many aspects of stories in general: character, plot, setting, theme, etc.

PERIOD 2

ENGLISH - INDEPENDENT STUDY (IS) / SELF DIRECTED LEARNING (SDL)

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: Varies; Dependent upon contract goals

Pirates in the era of Romanticism; Ninjas and the Medieval European Hero Ballad; Did you every want to take an English class Steller has NEVER offered? Then this is the class for you! In this Self-Directed Learning environment you, yes YOU, will develop your curriculum (with guidance from our able-bodied staff), set goals and assignments, and decide on an assessment method that fits with your subject.

Other core-subject-area SDLs / ISs will be taken if there is room for enrollment.

PERIOD 3

TRANSFORMATIONAL GRAMMER

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: English Elective

Do you believe sentence diagramming is boring, but think it might be secretly interesting? Well, here is the class for you! You will learn the most fascinating way to decipher Standard American English as well as ways to understand what goes where. Based on research of the brain, Transformational Grammar will help make sense of the way we speak and write.

PERIOD 4

ESSAY COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Writing

Essay Composition is Steller's introductory writing course. We will focus on the building blocks of writing: plagiarism, sentence structure, grammar and mechanics, paragraph construction, as well as Narrative and Descriptive essays. We will be using a number of different activities to help writers of all levels advance their skills. An emphasis on writing as a process will be used throughout the course.

PERIOD 6

AMERICAN LITERATURE SHORT STORY

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 American Literature, Literature Elective or English Elective

This is a general overview of the styles of American writing through the years using a selection that is representative of the timeframe. The main focus will be on short stories and their authors. There will be some use of Seminar style, so expect to engage in meaningful discussions.



BECKY'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1ST Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1 & 4

ALASKA STUDIES

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Alaska Studies

Native peoples, geography, historic influences, economic concerns, fishing and hunting rights, outdoor experiences, and the future of Anchorage will be included in the wide array of topics in Alaska Studies. Students will develop projects, research, construct maps, and create plans for the future.

PERIOD 3 & 6

DRAMA

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: Language Arts Elective

Drama students will engage in theater production activities in acting, improvisation, set design, costumes, dramatic literature, voice and props. Come to class prepared to play.

PERIOD 5

ADVANCED COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Advanced Composition

Literary analysis, document-based questions, TED talks, recipes, graphic novels, expository writing, persuasive writing, debate, and seminar will be incorporated into this college-preparatory English class. A variety of reading selections and activities, including community involvement, will be necessary to generate all these words.



KEN'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1 & 5

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 United States History

This year-long study of US History will begin with the French and Indian War and bring us to the present. While the potential class content is huge, we'll look at topics that are of particular interest to the class and spend more time on them where appropriate. Course work will include group work, cooperative group work, some lecture, and various other activities. Tests will be essay and some map work.

PERIOD 3

DIGITAL JOURNALISM

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective

Students will learn the basics of electronic journalism including the creation of and responding to blogs. We will learn how to include visual media, including photos and video. Students will also learn how to record and post interviews with members of the Steller community and other persons of interest to our community.

PERIOD 4

PASSAGES

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective

This semester-long class is a unique Steller graduation requirement, which allows students to expand their understanding of an area of personal interest. This class will allow students to pursue personal passions and interests, while teaching good research, writing, and speaking skills that they can use throughout their education. Students will write course proposals in any of the following areas: adventure, career exploration, creativity, community involvement, logical inquiry, or practical skills.

PERIOD 6

FIELD STUDIES GOVERNMENT/GOVERNMENT

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 United State Government

Students will spend the quarter working on a **local political campaign** of their choice doing whatever the campaign manager or volunteer coordinator or both need to have done in support of their candidate. Students are expected to log at least 40 hours on their respective campaigns and may volunteer beyond the end of the quarter to work up to to election. This promises to be a pretty exciting year as many races will be closely contested and that, along with the presidential and state-wide races will make for a lively political season.

The second half of the semester will focus on constitutional issues and the basic structure of the federal government. Course work will include cooperative group work, some lecture, and various other activities. Tests will be essay and some map work.

Grades will be determined by participation, tests, and projects.



LEIGH ANNE'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1

PHILOSOPHY SEMINAR - (WORLD LITERATURE SEMINAR HQ11QALT)

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 World Literature Credit/Literature Elective/English Elective

This class will be taught using the Socratic method, where students read, write, and discuss classic and modern writings from the world's great philosophers. The class will include topics such as knowledge, reality, the mind, freedom, morality, ethics, beauty, and more. We will be reading different philosophers' ideas of each topic. Readings from well-known philosophers, such as Plato and Descartes will be used, along with more modern philosophers. ALL students will be expected to participate in small group and whole class discussions. Students will be assessed throughout the semester based on their participation and written essays. Come prepared to think and discuss.

PERIOD 2 & 5

WORLD HISTORY (H3315)

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 (.50 per semester) of World History

This course will focus on the world's history. The class will be organized thematically, with topics that include early hunter and gatherers, ancient civilizations, exploration, war and conflict, expansion, and the modern era. Geography, humanities, religions, government, economy, society, science, and technology are some of the themes/perspectives by which these areas of the world will be explored. Students will explore these topics through a variety of methods and material, including primary documents, simulations, and projects.

PERIOD 3

SPEECH THROUGH MOCK TRIALS (H0520 OR HQ561QALT)

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Speech or .50 English Elective

Are you interested in the legal system? Thinking of becoming a lawyer? Or do you just like a good debate? This class will explore the court system and trial procedure. During this class, students will work with a law firm to prepare cases, prep witnesses, and participate in trials. They will also stand in as witnesses and jury members during other cases. All students must participate as lawyers and witnesses! Students will be expected to read case files, which can be long.

PERIOD 4

SOCIAL STUDIES SPECIAL TOPICS

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Social Studies

This class will cover a variety of social studies topics through project-based learning. Projects will include both individual explorations and group projects. Possible projects including researching and debating a current issue happening in our world; looking at the change that one person can bring about in history; and a class mock trial. The number and type of projects will depend on student interest, but students will have opportunities to explore their personal passions in the field of social studies and history, and will be given a variety of choices on how to present their findings. Throughout the semester, students will work on research, writing, and presenting skills, as well as time management.



SVETLANA'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2015-16

PERIOD 2, 3, & 5

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Social Studies

This course provides an overview of the major civilizations of the ancient world. Students gain knowledge about the evolvement of ancient societies from primitive agricultural communities to advanced civilizations. This course shows the relevance of ancient civilizations in today's world and triggers critical thinking by considering why civilizations developed where and when they did, why they became dominant, and why they declined. From rise to the fall of the greatest communities and their influence of world cultures, student experience interactive, relevant and comprehensive way to learn about the history that's shaped the world as it's seen today.

PERIOD 4

YEAR BOOK

Grade Level: 8 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective

The Yearbook course offers students total involvement in the production of the school yearbook. Activities include advertising, layout planning, photography, copy writing, and proofing. Students deepen their understanding of advertising.



PHILIP'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 2

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Education

This Physical Education class will provide each student with the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive program consisting of skill development, team sports, and physical fitness activities. The students will receive instruction in rules, skills, and strategies associated with the different sports as well as learning experiences involving physical conditioning activities. The class will promote the spirit of cooperation, leadership, fair play, and friendly competition.

PERIOD 3, 4, & 5

BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 Life Sciences

This course is designed to study life starting from the microscopic and moving into the macroscopic world. The class will emphasize using the scientific method for research, and content areas will include, but not be limited to: chemistry of life, cell structure, genetics, evolution, animal behavior, botany, and ecology.

PERIOD 6

PASSAGES

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: Elective

Passages are personally challenging projects developed by each student in one of six different areas to demonstrate the ability to apply their skills in the real world. The

Passage process includes the writing of a proposal, which is approved by a committee of peers, the advisor and a staff consultant. Mentors and parents are encouraged to participate. The six Passage areas are: Adventure, Career Exploration, Creativity, Community Involvement, Logical Inquiry and Practical Skills.

STUDENT AIDES NEEDED: Please see Philip

MIKE'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1 and 3

LIFE SCIENCE

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Life Science

Life Science is an introductory level course designed to enable students to explore basic biological concepts in a laboratory setting. Students focus on concepts that are shared by all living things such as cell structure, biochemical make-up, and inheritance. As students move into the second semester, the focus is on the diversity of life as they classify the many different species of living organisms into kingdoms and other classification categories. Students finish the year with a unit on ecology that relates the interdependence of living with each other and with their environment.

PERIOD 2

MICRO BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 10-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Life Science

Course deals with the techniques of growing and identifying micro-organisms and general micro-technique. Beneficial and harmless organisms will be grown and discussed. Bacterial counts and studies will be done of many areas in the school and community.

PERIOD 5 & 6

CHEMISTRY

Grade Level: 9 – 12

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

This class provides an introduction into the principals of chemistry. Topics covered include the physical nature of matter, chemical bonding, stoichiometry, types of chemical reactions, as well as the chemical and physical properties of gases, liquids, and solids. Grading will be based on tests, quizzes, as well as the laboratory component of the course.



BRIAN'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 2, 5, & 6

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

Physical Science includes materials covering chemistry and physics, including physical and chemical changes, atoms and elements, mixtures and solutions, the periodic table, states of matter, motion, gravity, density and buoyancy, energy, heat, the properties of waves, and light.

PERIOD 3

PHYSICS

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Algebra 2

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

Designed to give the student an appreciation and understanding of the physical laws of the universe. It is a study of the basic force of nature. Topics include gravity, electricity, magnetism and atomic and nuclear forces.

PERIOD 4

CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

Basic concept shall consist of brief synopsis of classical areas of physics, i.e.; heat, motion, magnetism, mechanics, optics, energy, light, wave behavior, and electricity.

The approach to the above content areas of physics shall be that of an everyday practical application. Areas of study shall also include an examination of current energy and environmental problems from a physical science point of view.



MARLA'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 2

PRE-ALGEBRA

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 Middle School Math

This course is designed to prepare students for success in an algebra course. The emphasis will be on continued development of pattern recognition, computational skills, elementary algebra topics, geometric relationships, problems solving and the use of technology.

PERIOD 3 & 6

ALGEBRA I

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 High School Math (satisfies graduation requirement)

The course reviews and extends problem solving, data analysis, the use of technology (i.e., scientific calculator, graphing calculator, computer), the theory, use and understanding of the fundamental operations on real numbers, expressing quantitative statements in the language of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, polynomials, the use of rational expressions in equations, coordinate graphing, irrational numbers, solution of quadratic equations and related applications.

Middle School Students: To receive high school credit for this course student must earn a grade of C or better.

PERIOD 4

CALCULUS

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Year

Prerequisites: C or better in both Algebra II and Pre-Calculus

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

This course is introductory college level material. The student is expected to meet this college level workload to be successful. This course includes the study of functions and graphs, derivatives and their application, analytic geometry, limits and continuity and includes the use of current technology.

PERIOD 5

PRE-CALCULUS

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Year

Prerequisites: C or better in both Algebra II and Geometry

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

This course covers logarithmic and exponential functions, analytic geometry, introduction to limits and the derivative, sequences and series, circular and trigonometric functions, graphs, laws, identities, inverses and their applications, vectors and complex numbers. The emphasis of this course is on the concepts that build toward understanding calculus. It follows an applications approach and uses graphing calculators and other appropriate technology.



JASON'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 2

PRE-ALGEBRA

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 Middle School Math

This course is designed to prepare students for success in an algebra course. The emphasis will be on continued development of pattern recognition, computational skills, elementary algebra topics, geometric relationships, problems solving and the use of technology.

PERIOD 3 & 6

ALGEBRA II

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Year

Prerequisites: C or better in both Algebra I and Geometry

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

This course includes problem solving, data analysis, the use of technology (i.e., graphing calculator, computer), basic operations with polynomials, solving equations and inequalities, sequences and series, relations and functions, systems of equations in two and three variables, understanding and operations with matrices, irrational and complex numbers through the solution of quadratic functions and polynomial functions of higher than first degree, use and evaluation of the Euler number, and an introduction to logarithms.

Middle School Students: To receive high school credit for this course student must earn a grade of C or better.

PERIOD 4

ALGEBRA I

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

The course reviews and extends problem solving, data analysis, the use of technology (i.e., scientific calculator, graphing calculator, computer), the theory, use and understanding of the fundamental operations on real numbers, expressing quantitative statements in the language of algebra, solving equations and inequalities, polynomials, the use of rational expressions in equations, coordinate graphing, irrational numbers, solution of quadratic equations and related applications.

Middle School Students: To receive high school credit for this course student must earn a grade of C or better.

PERIOD 5

GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

This course is designed to prepare students for success in an algebra course. The emphasis will be on continued development of pattern recognition, computational skills, elementary algebra topics, geometric relationships, problems solving and the use of technology.

Middle School Students: To receive high school credit for this course student must earn a grade of C or better.



TROY'S COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

1st Semester 2016-2017

PERIOD 1 & 2

GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

This course is designed to prepare students for success in an algebra course. The emphasis will be on continued development of pattern recognition, computational skills, elementary algebra topics, geometric relationships, problems solving and the use of technology.

Middle School Students: To receive high school credit for this course student must earn a grade of C or better.

PERIOD 4, 5 & 6

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grade Level: 7 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Education / Elective

In this course we will be participating in a variety of activities based on field conditions and student interest. Students will be exposed to skills associated with, but not limited to soccer, flag football, ultimate Frisbee, kickball, gym hockey, volleyball, and badminton. The first half of the semester will have an emphasis on the first three and the last half of the semester on the latter four. In addition, this course provides students with opportunities to improve physical fitness, acquire knowledge of fitness concepts and practice positive personal and social skills.

