

STELLER SECONDARY SCHOOL

2017-18 1ST SEMESTER COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ROSA

PERIOD 1 & 2

SPANISH I

Grade Level: 7-12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 World Language / Elective - .50 Per Semester

¡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 2 & 5

SPANISH II

Grade Level: 8-12

Pre-requisite: Spanish I or approval from teacher

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 World Language / Elective - .50 Per Semester

¡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 4

PASSAGES

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 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.

ASHLEY

PERIOD 1

SPANISH III

Grade Level: 9-12
Pre-requisite: Spanish II or approval from teacher
Course Length: Year
Credit Count: 1 Elective - Upon completion of 2nd semester, students receive .50 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

PE - Soccer & Dance

Grade Level: 7-12
Course Length: Quarters 1-2
Credit Count: .50 Physical Education
Class Fee: No Fee - shin guards are required

During the first quarter we will be participating in soccer. The focus of the course will be conditioning, injury prevention, and technical skill fundamentals. Weekly we will work on conditioning, drills, and small-sided games with a 12v12 game once a week (space permitting). We will play outside as long as the weather permits. During the second quarter we will switch things up completely and move inside to learn social dance. We will learn the basics of partner dancing and fundamental steps/moves for contra dance, swing, merengue, bachata, and salsa, as well as other dance styles students are interested in. There will be weekly Zumba as well as basic conditioning.

PERIOD 3

SPANISH IV+

Grade Level: 10-12
Pre-requisite: Spanish III or approval from teacher
Course Length: Year
Credit Count: 1 Elective

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 or 3rd Period - Spanish student preferred
2nd Period - Experienced Soccer Player

DANIELLE

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.

SEMINAR COACHES NEEDED - CONTACT DANIELLE DIRECTLY

BOB

PERIOD 1

LANGUAGE ARTS SPECIAL TOPICS

Grade Level: 7-8
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 English Elective

This class is designed to cover the basics of studying the material found in Language Arts. The end goal is to teach skills and tools so that students can research, learn, and complete work in the Language Arts independently. We will look at the different methods of note taking, study the different genres of literature, and cover the most common assessment activities within Language Arts. The semester will culminate with a month-long project that incorporates all of their practice, plus focus on goal setting and time management.

PERIOD 2

ENGLISH INDEPENDENT STUDY

Grade Level: 9-12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 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 IS's will be taken if there is room for enrollment.

PERIOD 3

AMERICAN LITERATURE SEMINAR

Grade Level: 9-12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 American Literature, Literature Elective or English Elective

This course is designed to be a survey of American Literature, Seminar Style! We will focus on many different genres of writing, mainly about what makes an American author, well, American. The course will focus on utilizing coaching groups, pre- and post-writes, and seminars. As such, students need to prepare to speak within small-group and large-group formats along with put their opinions in cohesive writing.

I am always going to be searching for students who want to be coaches within the class as well.

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 MODERN 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. Authors and stories will begin with the start of the 20th century.

BECKY

PERIOD 1 & 5

ALASKA STUDIES

Grade Level: 9-12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 AK Studies Social 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, seminar, construct maps, and create plans for the future.

PERIOD 2

PEER-TAUGHT BY ISA: NORSE WORLD LITERATURE

Grade Level: 9-12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 World Literature

Norse and Viking literature will be the focus with many activities, seminars, reading, and writing. Expect to work hard and play hard in this world literature course taught by an expert.

PERIOD 3 & 6

SCIENCE FICTION MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH

Grade Level: 7-8
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Middle School English Literature

The epic quest, hard science, fantasy, and alternate worlds will be explored while students read, write, speak, listen, and develop projects independently and in groups. Self-directed learning skills will be incorporated throughout the class and will inspire both creative and critical thinking.

PERIOD 5

ADVANCED COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 11-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 English Composition

Literary analysis, synthesis, research, interpretation, persuasive writing, TED talks, recipes, 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

PERIOD 1 - 4

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: .50 United States History Per Semester

This class is part two of the yearlong US History requirement. This semester we'll focus on the events of the late 18th century to the present when the US "closed" the frontier and became a world power. Assessment will be based on quizzes, assignment/projects, and participation.

PERIOD 3

PASSAGES

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 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.

PERIOD 5

DIGITAL ART

Grade Level: 7-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective

Class Fee: \$10 for Access to Class Blog

Digital Art and Photography I is an exciting, fast paced course designed to expose students to a variety of digital art and photography projects. These projects will examine the following topics and much more: depth of field, portraiture, selective focus, composition, decisive moments, self-portraiture, and student choice. Students will discover tips for taking exceptional photographs, while learning strategies to manipulate their photos in digital art programs. Furthermore, students will observe a variety of digital artists and photographers from around the world. At the end of this course students will gain a deeper understanding of contemporary digital art, as well as, photography by creating a portfolio of their digitally created artwork.

SUPPLIES: Students are responsible for bringing their supplies to class everyday

* Small 3 ring binder or folder(for this class only)

* USB flash drive: I recommend at least 32 GB of memory to save all your documents, photos, and digital artworks

* Digital camera: megapixels equate to better image quality and camera focusing/ clarity abilities. The more megapixels a camera contain the better of your pictures. Students may use a regular point and shoot digital camera or a digital SLR camera (removable lenses) check out dpreview.com to check out the camera you want and read reviews, prices, and suggestions. The camera must be able to take photographs in RAW format as these will allow editing with processing programs such as Photoshop. ***Camera phones are too limited in capabilities to work for this class.***

PERIOD 6

GOVERNMENT

Grade Level: 11-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 United State Government

This semester-long class will focus on the origins of government, the US Constitution, the structure of the Federal Government, participation and policy, civil rights, and foreign policy. Grades will be determined by participation, tests, and projects.

LEIGH ANNE

PERIOD 1

WORLD LITERATURE: The Holocaust & Genocide through Literature, Film, & Writing (H0410SALT)

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 World Literature, Literature Elective or English Elective or
.50 Social Studies Elective - The Holocaust & Human Behavior
H3513

This class will combine history with language arts to look at the Holocaust and genocide. We study history so that we will never repeat it? Right? Well, as often as the Holocaust is studied, there are many other examples of genocide in our world's history. First quarter of this course allows students to explore, in-depth, one of the most fascinating yet tragic events of the twentieth century: The Holocaust. Students will examine the root causes that led to the rise of the Nazi party and the reaction of Germans—and the world—to Hitler and his plans of genocide. Second quarter will focus on other examples of genocide, including Rwanda, Armenia, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iraq, Ukraine, and many more. We will explore the International laws that deal with genocide and crimes against humanity. We will also think about what can be done to fight genocide when it does happen. For example, what should be we doing as a world, nation, or individual to help stop genocide? We will study these topics through readings, literature, discussions, projects, movies, and more. Specific book and movies possibilities include Night, Maus, Schindler's List, Hotel Rwanda, and others based on student choice.

PERIOD 2 & 6

WORLD HISTORY (H3315)

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Year

Credit Count: 1 (.50 per semester) 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 TRIAL (H0520)

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

PERIOD 1, 4, 5

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

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 evolution 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 its seen today.

PERIOD 3

YEARBOOK

Grade Level: 8-12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Social Studies

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

Student Aides Needed - Contact Philip Directly

PERIOD 2

HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

Grade Level: 11-12
Pre-requisite: Biology
Course Length: Year
Credit Count: 1 Life Science - .50 per semester

This year long course is the study of the structure and function of the various portions of human anatomy and their corresponding physiologies. This course is recommended for those students who are interested in medical/health related careers.

PERIOD 3 & 6

ELEMENTS OF ART AND PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN

Grade Level: 7-12
Course Length: Year
Credit Count: .50 Elective
Class Fee: \$25
Supplies: Students must provide a 9x12 sketch book with 100 pages or more and 2 fine tipped sharpies or other comparable marker style.

The elements and principles of design are the building blocks used to create a work of art. Elements of Art are the visual "tools" that artists use to create an artwork and the principles of Design are the ways artists use the Elements of Art in an artwork. This course will explore the elements and the principles through daily practice, project based art work, and direct instruction in a studio environment.

PERIOD 4 & 5

BIOLOGY

Grade Level: 9-12
Course Length: Year
Credit Count: 1 Life Science - .50 per semester

This course is designed to study life starting from the microscopic and moving into the macroscopic world. The class will emphasis 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.

MIKE

PERIOD 1, 2, 4

BIOLOGICAL/CHEMICAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Qtr

Credit Count: 1 Life Science - .50 per semester

1st Quarter students will study Biological Science and 2nd Quarter student will study Chemical Science. No other information available at this time.

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

PERIOD 1

Physics:

Grade Level: 7-12 (7-8 see Brian for approval)

Prerequisite: Algebra 2/Geometry or Higher

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

Physics expands on our experiences by studying the phenomena that surround us everyday. Learning physics is a journey that makes just about everything in life easier to understand, with the added benefit of developing critical thinking skills. The first semester course progression includes: scientific measurement, the study of motion, and learning how everything works... or in physics language that is units/vectors, kinematics in one and two dimensions, and Newtonian Mechanics. This knowledge is required to understand the deeper content in the second semester.

PERIOD 2

EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE

Grade Level: 9-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Science Elective

Do you have a lingering question, interest, invention, project, problem, etc that you don't quite know how to answer, solve or explore? In this class we will progress with our ability to apply science towards a wide range of situations.

In the first part of the class, we will use independent and peer-supported work to develop our ability to understand and apply the scientific method in new ways. The second part of this class will require applying this knowledge to an independent project. Perhaps your project will grow into a candidate for Science Fair, part of a Passage, spur a Patent application, or connect Steller to the community.

PERIOD 4

ADVANCED PHYSICS

Grade Level: 10-12

Prerequisite: Physics

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

Advanced Physics will acquaint students with the basic physical laws of our world. The major areas of study are in measurement, light, waves, motion, forces, energy, electricity, magnetism, and atomic physics. Laboratory work serves to promote understanding and to illustrate the experimental nature of physics. Algebra and geometry are used extensively in this course. As an advanced course, this course goes beyond the curriculum expectations of a standard course offering by increasing the depth and complexity. Students are engaged in dynamic, high-level learning. The pace of an advanced course may be faster than that of a “standard” course.

PERIOD 5 & 6

PHYSICAL SCIENCE SEMESTER 1

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

You need to know this stuff! Physical Science will help you understand the world through the lens of science and help you communicate your results scientifically (use these skills to win arguments with your friends?).

The course uses an interactive notebook model which allows you to build strong organizational and study skills as you create your own textbook based on the course’s topics.

Semester 1 covers the science that rules your everyday life, called Newton’s Laws. Also, you will learn what ‘energy’ really is and how it works for and against us. In case understanding your world isn’t enough, we will also improve our knowledge of scientific measurements.

MARLA

PERIOD 1 & 2

ALGEBRA 1

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 3

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 5

Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 11-12

Course Length: Year

Prerequisite: 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.

PERIOD 6

STATISTICS

Grade Level: 11-12

Course Length: Year

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

Credit Count: 1 High School Math

This course is designed to provide a basic understanding of descriptive and inferential statistics. Statistics is a High School Electives Course that includes the topics - measures of central tendency, standard deviation, combinations and permutations, probability, sampling, and various distributions. Emphasis is on applications of statistical concepts.

JASON

PERIOD 1

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 2 & 3

ALGEBRA II

Grade Level: 7-12
Course Length: Year
Prerequisite: 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

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

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

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

SIMONE

PERIOD 1-4

STUDY SKILLS: Special Education students only

Grade Level: 7-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective toward area of study

SALLY

PERIOD 1-4

ORCHESTRA

Grade Level: 7-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective

MR. TOBA

PERIOD 1-4

BAND

Grade Level: 7-12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Elective