

STELLER SECONDARY SCHOOL

2017-18 2ND 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 3 & 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

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 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

DANIELLE

PERIOD 4

PURSUING WELLNESS

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Education/Health

Looking for ways to earn P.E. credit beyond a traditional gym class? This course is designed to help students develop healthy life skills to promote physical, mental and emotional well-being. We'll cover a variety of topics including nutrition, fitness, sex education, stress management techniques and other student-selected topics. Each week we will spend time working on personal fitness goals and exploring teen issues through discussion, activities, and guest speakers.

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.

****Juniors and seniors interested in seminar coaching should talk to Danielle before registration.****

BOB

PERIOD 1

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 2

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Speech / English Elective

This course teaches the methods and skills needed to speak well in front of a large audience. Focus is on enunciation, voice projection, organization, posture, and eye contact. Students research many subjects in order to write their own speeches. Practice time with peers allows for an enriching environment to prepare for the public speaking events that are the culmination of their projects.

PERIOD 3

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 4

CREATIVE SPEAKING

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

This is an introduction into the world of Forensics. No, not the stuff from “CSI,” but the art of dramatic delivery. Events include Humorous Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, and Duo Interpretation, among others. Students will select pieces and perform them in class.

PERIOD 5

PEER TAUGHT BY IRIS TULLAR: INTRODUCTION TO CHINESE

Grade Level: 7 - 12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Elective Credit

Interested in Chinese language and/or culture? Want to become a more informed individual? Join this Mandarin peer-taught and participate in engaging cultural activities, informative projects, and fascinating vocabulary! Learn the basics of Chinese in a studious and fun learning environment! No previous Chinese knowledge is needed but feel free to build upon whatever current skills you may possess! Discover the basics of how to write, speak and read Chinese characters (simplified and traditional) while exploring Chinese culture through projects and activities involving history, politics, geography, art, and food. This is a “don’t miss” Chinese class for the citizen of the world!

This course does not count toward World Language credit.

Maximum Class Size: 15

PERIOD 6

SHAKESPEARE

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

To experience or not to experience the greatest writer of the English language, THAT is the question. This class will read, discuss, and submerge itself within the three main types of plays Shakespeare wrote: Tragedy, Comedy, and History. The end of the semester will be focused on student projects surrounding a Shakespearean play.

BECKY

PERIOD 1

ADVANCED COMPOSITION

Grade Level: 11 - 12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 English Composition

Advanced Composition is a college-preparatory writing class that will focus on analysis, interpretation, research, documentation and assessment of sources, persuasion and synthesis. The idea is to use a variety of sources and to make this as entertaining as possible. Projects and interactive assignments will form the basis of some of the writing, while others will be developed from reading.

PERIOD 2

PEER-TAUGHT BY JASON CUSTER: GREEK, EGYPTIAN, & JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY

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

Jason Custer will teach students from the Greek *Odysse*, Egyptian *Book of the Dead* and the Japanese *Kojiki* to learn about the origins, endings, gods, animals and humans in mythologies from these countries around the world. Students will explore the tales, why the tales were recorded, and why the heroes and gods were worshipped.

Maximum Class Size: 15

PERIOD 3 & 6

MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE

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

Multicultural Literature will take a look at a variety of cultures within the United States. The focus will vary from people's families, to location, to history, to religion, to food preferences, to jobs, to recreation. A variety of activities will keep students engaged and learning skills; including speaking and listening, reading, writing and language.

PERIOD 4

AMERICAN LITERATURE: SLAM

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

In American Literature, students will link science, literature, art and music from specific times in American history starting with present times. All of these will serve as primary source documents to determine the status of our country; culturally, politically, and socially at each given time. Students will search for science, art and music to accompany American Literature. Speaking, listening, reading, writing, researching and discourse will be the skills addressed by this course.

PERIOD 5

SCIENCE FICTION

Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 English Elective

Four varieties of science fiction including hard science, alternate worlds, epic quest and fantasy will be explored through a variety of class sets of books and activities. Students will write a short story based on a TED talk to study hard science. The class will create and populate an alternate world. The epic quest and fantasy units are up for negotiation. Speaking, listening, reading, writing, researching and discourse will be the skills addressed by this course.

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

GLOBAL GEOGRAPHY THROUGH CURRENT EVENTS

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Social Studies Elective

This class will focus on current world events through the lens of geography. We'll use the themes of location, place, human interaction, environment and movement. This class will clear up many of the misconceptions about the world event by illuminating their underlying causes. Assessment will be based on projects, assignments, participation and quizzes.

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 student 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

MICROECONOMICS / MACROECONOMICS

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Economics

Economics is the "psychology of want" and this class will examine what drives that want from a personal perspective and a regional/global perspective. We'll investigate the choices we make to satisfy those wants and the "science" behind them. This is not a class about money management, but choice management, on a personal and governmental level. Assessment will be based on quizzes, assignment/projects and participation.

LEIGH ANNE

PERIOD 1 & 4

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Global Geography

This class will explore the issues that affect people worldwide. We will study the physical and human geography of our world and look at our impact and relationship with our environment. This course will focus on the social, political, cultural and geographic forces that have created contemporary world "hot spots". We will spend much of our time "unpacking" current events that are happening worldwide and trying to reach an understanding of the causes of these conflicts and problems. We will look at how these events are tied to the land, people, and history of where they are happening. We will also look at major issues our planet faces, such as carrying capacity, and globalization. The class will be taught using a variety of methods, including projects, discussions, debates, research and more. Major topics of discussion might include the conflict in the Middle East, Syria, refugees, North Korea, nuclear weapons, over population and more.

PERIOD 2 & 6

WORLD HISTORY (H3315)

Grade Level: 9 - 12
Course Length: Year
Credit Count: 1 (.50 per semester) World History

This course will be a continuation of first semester world history, with the focus on expansion and interconnection, wars and conflicts and the future. Topics studied will include the Renaissance, exploration, the Black Death and colonization. Geography, humanities, religions, government, economy, society, science and technology are some of the themes/perspectives by which these topics will be explored. A variety of methods and materials will be used including document reading, essays and projects.

PERIOD 5

INDEPENDENT STUDIO ART

Grade Level: 9 - 12

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Fine Arts

Students will develop and carry out their own art projects by using the National Art Standards and project proposals. Students may combine multiple art standards to work on a longer quarter or semester project or do multiple shorter projects throughout the semester. Students will decide which materials and methods to use. Students will be responsible for going through the project process, documenting their experience and sharing it with the class. Because this is an independent art class, there is **no class fee**. Students will need to provide their own supplies so should plan on having to buy some supplies. **NO supplies will be provided.**

SVETLANA

PERIOD 2, 4, 5

WORLD CULTURES

Grade Level: 7 - 8
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Social Studies

This course is designed to make students reflect upon their own cultural mindset and worldview by examining other cultures with different practices and beliefs. The students will understand the effects of the geographical, political, and economic factors on the development of each distinctive culture. This approach will be based on the need to build understandings that bridge cultural and ethnic difference. In the process, students will defy their own stereotypes, learn valuable tips for cultural coexistence, and better understand themselves as members of a diverse global community.

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.

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

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

ASTRONOMY / EARTH SCIENCE

Grade Level: 7 - 8
Course Length: Quarter Each Per Section
Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

This course consists of both Astronomy and Earth Science. The Astronomy portion is designed to further the students understanding of the earth's space relationship. Emphasis will be toward the development of astronomical concepts such as Planetary Motion, Structure of Galaxies, and various theories of the Formation of the Universe. Earth Science explores the changing earth's surface. We will study mountains, volcanoes, glaciers, rivers, canyons, the rocks that them up and the forces that bring them down.

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: 9 - 12
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

COMPUTER SPECIAL TOPICS

Grade Level: 7 - 12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Elective

Students will learn the basics of programming and coding through computers, robots, and by completing a final project. Google's choice-driven curriculum, CS first, provides modules through which students will advance from graphical interface programming to actual coding with javascript and other languages. Similarly, the Sphere robots have the ability for students to experience the tangible side of programming and coding, as well as to design their own programs.

PERIOD 3

PEER TAUGHT BY DAVID HUGHES: SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY

Grade Level: 10 - 12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Elective

Social Psychology is the scientific study of how people's thoughts, feelings and behaviors are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of others. Senior David Hughes will be teaching the class and will be using lectures, archival videos, experiments and other methods. Assessment will be based on daily assignments, quizzes, and projects. 15 Students Maximum

Maximum Class Size: 15

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

ENERGY, ELECTROMAGNETISM & EARTH

Grade Level: 7 - 8

Course Length: Semester

Credit Count: .50 Physical Science

This class covers the less physically obvious world of physics around us. Joules replace Newtons as we look at the world through the eyes of energy. Through the study of waves, we will explore the world of electromagnetism and how energy travels in the technological modern world. Finally, we will connect these ideas to see how the atmosphere and weather are the product of energy flows.

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: 9 - 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.

PERIOD 4

GEOMETRY

Grade Level: 9 - 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.

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: 9 - 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.

PERIOD 4, 5, 6

RECREATIONAL GAMES

Grade Level: 7-12
Course Length: Semester
Credit Count: .50 Physical Education

The purpose of this course is to offer a variety of activities to the student who enjoys the fun of games. The games will be recreational in nature. These activities may include: dodgeball, ultimate frisbee, floor hockey and kickball. This course will also provide opportunities to improve physical fitness, acquire knowledge of fitness concepts, practice positive personal and social skills and gain an understanding of how a wellness lifestyle affects one's health, fitness and physical performance.