

# STELLER SECONDARY SCHOOL

## 2018 - 19 2nd SEMESTER COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### BOB

#### 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

##### PEER-TAUGHT CREATIVE WRITING

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

This Peer-taught Creative Writing class is brought to you by Amanda Parazoo. In this class, students will have the opportunity to practice their creativity through writing. They will exercise various styles of composition so they may diversify the many aspects of writing available to them. Students will receive a prompt at the beginning of the week and develop that into a finished story by the end of the week.

#### PERIOD 3

##### ENGLISH INDEPENDENT STUDY

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12  
**Course Length:** Semester  
**Credit Count:** .50 Varies depending 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.

## PERIOD 4

### PUBLIC SPEAKING

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

This is an introduction to public speaking. Students will learn different forms and styles of speaking in front of an audience. They will have a choice of three-four speeches that they will write and deliver in class. This class will be supportive and will be designed to help students overcome the number one fear in the United States.

## PERIOD 5

### BASKETBALL/ULTIMATE FRISBEE

**Grade Level:** 7 - 12  
**Course Length:** Semester  
**Credit Count:** .50 World Literature / English Elective

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the basic skills and knowledge associated with basketball during third quarter and Ultimate Frisbee during fourth quarter. By applying these principles through active participation, students develop the necessary skills and knowledge to play basketball and Ultimate.

## PERIOD 6

### FILM AS LITERATURE

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

Students will develop a critical appreciation of film as a literary genre while exploring how films communicate and affect the viewer and society. Movies from various genres and time periods will be viewed and analyzed using conventional literary devices. Students will respond to and analyze films through writing, discussion, and projects. In addition, students will build an understanding of visual literacy and the history of film as a literary genre.

# BECKY

## PERIOD 1

### AMERICAN LITERATURE SEMINAR

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

In American Literature, we'll seminar a variety of texts that serve as the foundation of our current day status, looking for cause and effect, correlation, and chance. Students will develop skills in reading fiction, reading nonfiction, writing, speaking and listening, language, art, and collaboration.

## PERIOD 2

### DEBATE

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

Students will learn to research, discover the process of debate, and develop speaking skills. Current Policy and Lincoln Douglas debate topics will be used throughout the class. Students will develop skills in reading fiction, reading nonfiction, writing, speaking and listening, language, art, and collaboration.

## PERIOD 3 & 6

### LITERATURE OF THE NORTH

**Grade Level:** 7 - 8  
**Course Length:** 2 Quarters  
**Credit Count:** .50 Middle School Language Arts Elective

Literature of the North will explore life in the north through fiction, survival techniques, and a variety of experiences. Students will develop skills in reading fiction, reading nonfiction, writing, speaking and listening, language, art, and collaboration.

## PERIOD 4

### WORLD RELIGIONS

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12  
**Course Length:** Semester  
**Credit Count:** .50 World Literature or Social Studies Elective Credit

World literature will focus on ancient religious texts from Babylonia, Hinduism, Buddhism, Shinto-Buddhism, and the monotheistic religions, Judaism, Islam, Christianity, and Ba'hai. Students will develop skills in reading fiction, reading nonfiction, writing, speaking and listening, language, art, and collaboration.

# DANIELLE

## PERIOD 4

### INTERMEDIATE COMPOSITION

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

**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.

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

# 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

### DANCE & MOVEMENT OF THE WORLD

**Grade Level:** 7 - 12

**Course Length:** Semester

**Credit Count:** .50 Physical Education / Elective

Dance and Movement of the World! In this class, we will focus on different dances that are practiced and performed around the world, as well as movement-based disciplines such as yoga, tai chi and other forms of expression. The goal of this course is to broaden students' understanding of their own culture and self-expression through exploring movement from different parts of the world. By the completion of this course students will be able to identify different classic movement styles from various cultures. As well, they will develop greater balance and coordination, improve their physical fitness level, and become more aware of how connected movement is to self-expression.

## PERIOD 4

### 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 5

### SPANISH IV+

**Grade Level:** 9 - 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.

# LUISA

## PERIOD 3 & 6

### 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.

# LEIGH ANNE

## PERIOD 1

### GLOBAL ISSUES

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

**Course Length:** Semester

**Credit Count:** .50 Social Studies Elective

This class 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, North Korea, nuclear weapons, over population, and more.

**Please Note: If you already have taken global geography, you can NOT take this class because it is much of the same content**

## PERIOD 2 & 6

### WORLD HISTORY

**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 4

### SOCIAL JUSTICE SEMINAR

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

**Course Length:** Semester

**Credit Count:** .50 Social Studies Elective or .50 American Literature

This class is a continuation from first semester's social activism class, but new students are welcome to join, if spots are available. This class will be taught using the Socratic Seminar method and will focus on social movements and activism that worked or are working to solve issues of social justice. This semester topics include LGBTQ+ rights, classism, student movements such as the gun control movement from last year, the rights of prisoners, and more. Teaching methods will rely on the Socratic method of coaching in small groups, writing about the written work, and holding seminar discussions as a whole class. ALL students will be expected to participate in small group and whole class discussions.

## PERIOD 5

### STORIES OF SURVIVAL

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

**Course Length:** Semester

**Credit Count:** .50 Literature Elective

What does it take to survive? What causes some people to die and others to persevere during hardships? This course will look to answer those questions by reading about and from those that have survived war, accidents, and tragedies. We will look at those that have survived their ordeals alone and others that were part of a group. Students will read short stories, four books, and watch segments of films to help explore the topic. The whole class will read the book *Endurance* about a group whose ship was trapped in ice in Antarctica and we will probably all read *The Girl who Smiled Beads*, about a survivor of the Rwandan genocide. Students will also read a book in a small group and one individually of their choosing. Students will discuss, write, and complete projects on the books that are focused on.



# KEN

## PERIOD 1 - 3

### UNITED STATES HISTORY

**Grade Level:** 11 - 12

**Course Length:** Year

**Credit Count:** .50 United States History Per Semester

This class is part of the yearlong requirement 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. Credit: US History.

## PERIOD 2

### UNITED NATIONS/INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

**Course Length:** Semester

**Credit Count:** .50 Social Studies Elective

The United Nations portion of this class will focus on the history, role, and activities of the United Nations. Students will choose a country to represent as a delegate to the UN, research the positions of that country relative to the specific issue being debated in the Alaska Model United Nations, and write position papers and resolutions for a General Assembly simulation. Students will be graded on one test, assignments, position papers, resolutions, and participation in the simulation. This class should prepare you well for participation in the AK Model United Nations in February. While participation is not mandatory, students will be able to earn extra credit as delegates.

The second half of the class will focus exclusively on international relations, specifically international politics and how that plays out on the world stage. Students will research specific topics of concern including security, law, morality, economics, health, etc. Grading will be based on projects, tests, and participation.

## PERIOD 5

### WORLD HOT SPOTS

**Grade Level:** 7 - 8

**Course Length:** Semester

**Credit Count:** .50 Middle School Social Studies Elective

This semester-long class will split third and fourth quarters on two areas of concern, international conflicts and current issues. Students will choose topics of their own from a menu of prompts and create presentations demonstrating their expertise while teaching the class about their topic. Assessment will be based on participation, quizzes, assignments and projects.

## PERIOD 6

### ECONOMICS

**Grade Level:** 11 - 12

**Course Length:** Semester

**Credit Count:** .50 Government

Economics is the “psychology of choice” and this class will examine what drives those choices from a personal perspective and a regional/global perspective. We’ll investigate the choices we make to satisfy our 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. Credit: Economics

# SVETLANA

## PERIOD 1

### PEER TAUGHT INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE

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

Interested in the Japanese language and culture? Join this Introduction to Japanese peer-taught brought to you by Olivia Branchaud, and participate in engaging cultural activities, informative projects, and fascinating vocabulary! Learn the difference between the three different Japanese alphabets and how to write in Kanji. Discover the music of taiko, and the history of the samurai, shogun and Japan's involvement in World War II. Final project will be an accumulation of everything you learned and using that information to plan your ideal vacation to the beautiful islands of Japan! This class is a great preparation for students enrolled in the Japan Travel Intensive and all others interested in Japanese culture.

## PERIOD 2, 3, 4

### WORLD GEOGRAPHY

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

The scope of the course will include physical, economic, environmental and cultural geography. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the impact that geography has on the social, cultural and economic life of a region. Students will give examples that demonstrate how people are connected to each other and the environment, use maps and globes to demonstrate specific and increasingly complex geographic knowledge, and identify physical characteristics of places and use this knowledge to define regions, their relationships among regions and their patterns of changes.

## PERIOD 5

### HEALTH

**Grade Level:** 8  
**Course Length:** Semester  
**Credit Count:** .50 Middle School Health

This course offers effective health instruction methods that are active and promote personal responsibility, lifelong learning, critical thinking, cooperation, and use interdisciplinary approaches. The major topic areas include personal health, nutrition, physical development, social development, substance abuse and use. Further studies will include human sexuality. Parents/community are invited to view the materials. These areas are interrelated and lead to total positive functioning of the individual in his/her environment. Health education aids the individual in making informed choices. Students will practice reflective, active observation and examination of their choices and the affect on personal, family and social well-being.

# PHILIP

## PERIOD 2, 4, 5

### DRAWING & DESIGN

**Grade Level:** 7 - 12

**Course Length:** Year

**Credit Count:** .50 Elective

**Class Fee:** \$25

**Supplies:** Students will also need to provide materials as instructed after the first day of class.

Introductory course to drawing materials (pastels, crayon, paint and mixed media, pencil, pen and ink, charcoal), drawing techniques such as contour, gesture, perspective, shading and design concepts. Studio course emphasizing the principles of composition, color theory, value and tonal studies. May be taken 4 times.

## PERIOD 3 & 6

### 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 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.

# MIKE

## PERIOD 1

### Microbiology

**Grade Level:** 11 - 12

**Course Length:** Year

**Credit Count:** 1 Life Science - .50 per semester

*This is a two semester class but you may choose to take one or both semester.*

Semester 1 covers the principles of microbiology with emphasis on microorganisms and human disease. Topics include an overview of microbiology and aspects of medical microbiology, bacterial structure as it relates to staining and antibiotic susceptibility, as well as identification and control of pathogens and disease transmission. Historical aspects of diseases and their impacts, differences in ethical considerations over time, as well as the beginnings of epidemiology as a science will also be covered.

## 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:** Year

**Credit Count:** 1 Physical Science .50 Per Semester

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:** 10 - 12  
**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1  
**Course Length:** Year  
**Credit Count:** 1 Physical Science .50 Per Semester

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, 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.

## PERIOD 3

### PHYSICAL SCIENCE

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 or talk to Brian

**Course Length:** Year

**Credit Count:** 1 Physical Science .50 Per Semester

Do you want to build a mouse trap car that will stop on a dime? Can you design a rubber band plane that will out fly them all? Can you keep time with a chemical reaction? Join me for a class that will blend the application of physics and engineering with creativity and innovation. We will have a Science Olympiad type challenge for each unit of study that will bring the associated science and calculations to life. Success in this class will include improving your ability to use math and science in real life challenges, studying and practicing the application of quantitative science, and applying quality research to design. There will be an opportunity to compete in statewide Science Olympiad Challenges through the formation of a team or in other individual competitions.

# MARLA

## 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

### 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 4

### 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.



## PERIOD 5 & 6

### 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.

# JASON

## 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 & 5

### 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

### CALCULUS

**Grade Level:** 9 - 12

**Course Length:** Year

**Prerequisite:** 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.

# TROY

## PERIOD 1, 4, 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.

## 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 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.