

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013/2014**

## **Ashley VanHemert & Danielle Sjoden**

### **Period 1: Español IV+ (Ashley)**

**Grade Level:** 11-12

**Course Length:** Year

Leeremos cuentos hispanos y los eventos actuales. Estudiaremos la gramática avanzada. Todos van a dar presentaciones orales.

**Credit Count:** 1 Elective credit

### **Period 2: Intermediate Composition (Ashley)**

**Grade Level:** 9-10

**Course Length:** Semester

Students will practice writing for different purposes with a focus on reviewing and improving the expository and persuasive 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 publishing. Special emphasis will be placed on revision as well as building grammar and vocabulary skills.

**Credit:** .50 Intermediate Composition

### **Period 3: Español III (Ashley)**

**Grade Level:** 10-12

**Course Length:** Year

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.

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

### **Period 5/6: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Seminar (Danielle)**

**Course Length:** Semester

This class is Steller's introduction to Socratic Seminar. The course's readings 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.

**Credit:** .50 English Seminar and .50 Social Studies Seminar

# **Course Descriptions 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2013/2014**

## **Bob Vandergriff**

### **Period 1: Conference**

### **Period 2: Advanced Composition**

**Grade Level: 11-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is the final stop in Steller's writing courses. We will begin with different ways to focus a literary analysis. The final projects will be research-based papers of different types. Grammar, punctuation, spelling, formatting, and general mechanics will be studied throughout the quarter.

**Credit Count: Advanced Composition**

### **Period 3: Special Topics – Language Arts**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Credit Count: English Elective**

### **Period 4: Art as Literature**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

The old adage says "a picture is worth a thousand words." We will be putting this to the test by taking inspiration from different artwork for personal creative writing projects. Artwork has been the basis for a number of great pieces of literature and we will be trying the same in this class.

**Credit Count: Writing, English elective**

### **Period 5: Passages**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Credit Count: Elective; other credit may be petitioned**

### **Period 6: Creative Speaking**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

Creative Speaking is a way to learn how to speak for entertainment and enjoyment. The class broadens your understanding of literature in a format you do not always find: your voice. We will be focusing on three different formats: reciting poetic works, competitive speaking events from the Forensic category of DDF, and original student pieces.

**Credit Count: Speech or English Elective**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013/2014**

**Chris Selin**

## **Period 1: Cross-Training: H6760 Lifetime Activity Course.**

**Grade level: 7-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is an introduction to Cross-training and Fitness. Students learn and practice a variety of activities with the goal to increase in strength, conditioning, aerobic endurance, flexibility and coordination. Students will develop a personal fitness plan, and an appreciation of how it feels to be physically fit. Repeatable.

## **Period 2: Conference**

## **Period 3: Pottery**

**Grade Level 7-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is a class of creating art with clay and the basics of pottery, form and function. Students will learn clay-handling, firing and glazing; projects involve hand-building and wheel-throwing. The function of pots and pottery is explored, including use of pots to benefit causes in the community. If repeated for credit, those students will increase their skills and understanding of clay design with each semester enrolled in a course. Materials fee required: \$25

## **Period 4: Visual Arts II**

**Grade level: 7 – 8**

**Course Length: Semester**

Students will expand artistic practice through creative projects and discussion, using drawing, painting, sculpture and mixed media. Topics will explore history and culture, thinking with a global perspective. Students will learn to value their own art, evaluate works of professional artists, and investigate visual arts-related occupations. Fall semester stays focuses on 2-d art, while spring semester continues with 3-dimensional art.

Materials fee required: \$25

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Chris Selin**

## **Period 5: Art I: H5311**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: 2 Semesters**

Students focus on creative projects with a variety of media, with an emphasis on Visual Elements and Principles of Design. Along with studio skills, students will employ techniques toward art analysis, critique and art history. Styles of representation, tradition, abstraction and conceptual art will be covered through semester. Fall semester stays mainly with 2-d art, while spring semester continues with 3-dimension. Students are encouraged in self-evaluation, reflection, and putting into context work other artists. Materials fee required: \$25

## **Period 5: Advanced Art II: H5312.**

**Grade Level: 10-12**

**Course Length: 2 Semesters**

Students who wish to continue in the arts will create works focusing on themes, big ideas, and portfolio development growth. Over the course of two years in Advanced Art I and Advanced Art II, students will increase their skills with various media while developing a personal style. There will be opportunities for display of work outside the school (in community venues and for community service), and for scholarship applications, college entrance, and personal post-secondary studies, and/or careers in the visual arts. Art Fee required

## **Period 6: Drawing and Design: H5070 Prerequisite: None.**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

Students are introduced to 3-dimensional drawing techniques, especially shading, depth of field and perspective using various materials including pencil, pastels, conte, charcoal, paint, and mixed media. Composition and design will also be practiced. Students in spring semester will focus more on design projects. If repeated for credit, the student will advance in project difficulty with each semester enrolled in the course. Required materials fee: \$20

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Danelle Avellino**

## **Period 1: Conference**

## **Period 2: Physical Science**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is a basic course in physical science that will introduce the general principles of physics. The physics topics will include motion, Newton's Laws, momentum, energy, electricity, waves, and simple machines. Students will conduct laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigation, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving.

**Credit Count: .5 Physical Science**

## **Period 3: Chemistry      Prerequisite: Algebra I**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is a beginning course that will include the following concepts during the second semester: chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, solutions, and acids & bases. Laboratory skills will include measurements of mass, volume, temperature, and density, graphing, interpretation of data, observation, description, and recording.

**Credit Count: .5 Chemical Science**

## **Period 4: Environmental Science**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is a basic course in environmental science. Topics will include ecosystems and biomes, living resources, natural resources (land, soil, air, water, and energy), and impact of human/environment interaction. Students will be participating in the Salmon Tank project during the first part of the semester. In addition, students will learn how to use GIS (Geographic Information Systems) and incorporate those skills into a community based environmental science project.

**Credit Count: .5 Physical or Life Science**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Danelle Avellino**

## **Period 5: Physical Science**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is a basic course in physical science that will introduce the general principles of physics. The physics topics will include motion, Newton's Laws, momentum, energy, electricity, waves, and simple machines. Students will conduct laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigation, and make informed decisions using critical thinking and scientific problem solving.

**Credit Count: .5 Physical Science**

## **Period 6: Chemistry**

**Prerequisite: Algebra I**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is a beginning course that will include the following concepts during the second semester: chemical bonding, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, solutions, and acids & bases. Laboratory skills will include measurements of mass, volume, temperature, and density, graphing, interpretation of data, observation, description, and recording.

**Credit Count: .5 Chemical Science**

**\*\*STUDENT AIDES WELCOME ALL CLASS PERIODS \*\***

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

## **Gerald Brown**

### **Period 1: Physical Science**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

Students will learn the concepts of Newtonian physics and the relationships between forces, vectors and energy. They will learn the different types of energy and how they affect motion. The relationships between speed, velocity and acceleration will also be studied. The concept of friction will also be studied.

### **Period 2: Ecology**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

Students will study the past, present and future of resource management and conservation. Topics studied will include the human population challenge, world hunger and the nature of soils, soil conservation and sustainable agriculture.

### **Period 3: Integrated Science 9**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

Students will learn about life science: covering cell structure, single and multicellular organisms, DNA structure, and biotic-vs-abiotic factors.

Students will also cover astronomy and earth science. Students will also cover atomic structure and magnetic forces.

### **Period 4: Physics**

**Grade level: 10-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

Topics covered this semester will include fluid mechanics, heat and thermodynamics, vibrations and waves, sound and light in terms of reflection, refraction, interference and diffraction.

### **Period 5: Conference**

### **Period 6: Health**

**8<sup>th</sup> grade (Me – Z)**

**Course Length: Semester**

This class will cover wellness, mental health, disease prevention, consumer health, substance abuse and sexual education.

# **Course Descriptions 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2013-2014**

**Jen Neff**

## **Period 1: Algebra B**

**Grade Level: 10-12**

**Course Length: Year**

This 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 and linear equations, graphing linear equations in a variety of forms and work with data, equations, and functions. The course will cover systems of linear equations, quadratic functions, exponential functions, polynomial functions, rational functions, and discrete math using appropriate related applications. ***This course is equivalent to the second semester of Algebra 1.***

**\*\*In order to take this course a student can NOT have earned credit for the second semester of Algebra 1 or any higher level of math course**

**Prerequisite:** Completion of the first semester of Algebra B, or the recommendation from the most recent math teacher.

**Credit Count: Math credit .25 per quarter**

## **Period 2: Conference**

## **Periods 3: Calculus**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Year**

The class will be learning about continuity, limits, derivatives, derivative applications, and the basic rules of differentiation including implicit differentiation. Evaluation will be based on tests and weekly assignments/quizzes, and there will be a cumulative final.

**Prerequisite:** C or better in Pre-Calculus

**Credit Count: Math credit .25 per quarter**



# **Course Descriptions 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2013-2014**

**Jen Neff**

## **Periods 4 and 6: Geometry**

**Grade Level: 7-12**

**Course Length: Year**

This class focuses on deductive and inductive reasoning. This first semester focuses more on deductive reasoning.

Prerequisite: A "C" or better in Algebra 1 both semesters.

**Credit Count: Math credit .25 per quarter**

## **Period 5: Pre-Calc**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Year**

This math course will consist of one semester of advanced algebra and one semester of trigonometry. First semester we will focus on advanced algebra and further our knowledge of equations, functions, inequalities, linear systems, quadratic functions, and probability. Evaluation will be based on homework, in-class assignments, notes, projects, tests, and a cumulative final.

Prerequisite: A "C" or better in Algebra II both semesters.

**Credit Count: Math credit .25**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Jennifer Wadsworth**

## **Period 1: American Literature**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This class is designed to supplement the traditional anthology used for American Literature and to encourage students to do independent reading and critical thinking. We will choose two works from a prepared list and these will be our outside reading choices. After choosing one of four options with which to view your choices, a creative project and a writing assignment related to each individual work will be completed, one at the end of each quarter. Class time will involve reading selections chosen for their use in the study and analysis of literature.

**Prerequisite: None**

**Credit Count: American Literature**

## **Period 2: Film as Literature**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

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 such as theme, plot, diction, character, mood, setting, and style. We will respond to and analyze films through extensive writing, discussion, and projects, including written essays, storyboards, and film writing and production. In addition, students will build an understanding of visual literacy and the history of film as a literary genre.

**Prerequisite: None**

**Credit Count: English Literature Elective, English Elective**

## **Period 3: Conference**

**Planning Period – no class**

# **Course Descriptions 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester 2013-2014**

**Jennifer Wadsworth**

## **Period 4: American Literature**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This class is designed to supplement the traditional anthology used for American Literature and to encourage students to do independent reading and critical thinking. We will choose two works from a prepared list and these will be our outside reading choices. After choosing one of four options with which to view your choices, a creative project and a writing assignment related to each individual work will be completed, one at the end of each quarter. Class time will involve reading selections chosen for their use in the study and analysis of literature.

**Prerequisite: None**

**Credit Count: American Literature**

## **Period 5: American Literature**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

This class is designed to supplement the traditional anthology used for American Literature and to encourage students to do independent reading and critical thinking. We will choose two works from a prepared list and these will be our outside reading choices. After choosing one of four options with which to view your choices, a creative project and a writing assignment related to each individual work will be completed, one at the end of each quarter. Class time will involve reading selections chosen for their use in the study and analysis of literature.

**Prerequisite: None**

**Credit Count: American Literature**

## **Period 6: Essay Composition**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

This course incorporates an approach to the teaching of writing with a focus on descriptive and narrative essays. We will participate in both oral and written presentations. Compositions will emphasize a structured study of descriptive and narrative writing. We will study sentence structure, grammar, and punctuation as well. Class time will be spent in various writing exercises. Essays will be written outside of class time.

**Prerequisite: None**

**Credit Count: Writing**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Ken Varee**

## **Period 1: US History**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: 2 Semesters**

This class is part of the yearlong requirement US History requirement. This semester we'll focus on the events of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present when the US "closed" the frontier and became a world power. Students will be evaluated on the basis of essay tests, projects and presentations, a number of assignments, and participation.

**Credit: US History.**

## **Period 2: Conference**

## **Period 3: Global Geography**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

The focus of this class will be world regional geography, using current events as the method of exploring the human and physical geography of a region. We will also make extensive use of maps, especially digital maps using the GPS capabilities of Google Maps. Students will be evaluated on their projects, tests, and participation.

**Credit: Social Studies**

## **Period 4: United Nations / International Relations**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Credit: Elective**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Ken Varee**

## **Period 5: Global Geography**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

The focus of this class will be world regional geography, using current events as the method of exploring the human and physical geography of a region. We will also make extensive use of maps, especially digital maps using the GPS capabilities of Google Maps. Students will be evaluated on their projects, tests, and participation.

**Credit: Social Studies**

## **Period 6: Economics**

**Microeconomics/Macroeconomics**

**Grade Level: 11-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

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 how the “science” behind them. This is not a class about money management, but choice management, on a personal and governmental level. Students will be evaluated on the basis of two essay tests, current events presentations, one project/paper, numerous assignments, and participation.

**Credit: Economics**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

## **Leigh Anne Bonney**

### **Period 1: Global Geography**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Credit: .50 Global Geography (Meets the 9<sup>th</sup> grade requirement)**

### **Period 2: World History**

**Grade Level – 10-12**

**Course Length: 1 year**

This course will focus on the world’s history. Included in the first semester curriculum are the geographic regions of Europe, Asia, and Africa. Some of the major events that will be explored are the ancient civilizations of Greece, Rome, India, and China. 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.

**Credit: .50 per semester of World History**

### **Period 3: Sociology Seminar**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

The goal of this class is to create an environment where students can respectfully and intelligently discuss topics that are important to them and society. Sociology is the study of society and humans within that society. Topics will include society, culture, socialization, deviance, social stratification, minority issues, etc. Sample questions in Sociology include: What roles do families play in society? What role does money play in creating groups in society? How do schools shape human behavior? Why do people join gangs? This is a SEMINAR class and we will be using the SOCRATIC METHOD. This means we will read and discuss pieces on these topics using the seminar method including coaching, prewrite, seminar, and post-write. Pieces can be written, visual, or other mediums. Participation is mandatory in the class. **Credit: .50 Social Science Elect**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Leigh Anne Bonney**

## **Per. 4: Global Geography**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Credit: .50 Global Geography (Meets the 9<sup>th</sup> grade requirement)**

## **Per. 5: Middle School U.S. History**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

This course will focus on early American history. Who was here before Columbus arrived and what happened when he and other Europeans did? The Thirteen Colonies and colonization will be studied. We will also study the American Revolution, the forming of a new nation, and early United States history. Students will learn through readings, discussions, classroom activities, and a variety of teaching methods.

**Credit: .50 Middle School History**

## **Per. 6: Peer Taught Electronic Music Production and Composition**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

This is a Peer Taught class taught by Tim Thorndike. This class is an introduction to the art of electronic music production. You will be using Reason 6, a program developed by Propellerhead Software, to compose and produce original music. My goal in this class to provide each of you with the tools necessary to push yourselves creatively and express yourselves artistically. I believe that the only way to develop skills in this art form is to experiment and practice, so I will attempt to give you as much time as possible to do so.

**Credit: .50 Elective Credit**

**Class Fee: \$30**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Marla Sanders**

## **Period 1 and 3: Algebra 1**

**Grade Level: 7-12**

**Course Length: Year**

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.

Prerequisite: C or better in Pre-Algebra

**Credit Count: Math credit .25 per quarter**

## **Period 2: Basic Math**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Year**

Basic Math explores basic math topics such as fractions, decimals, 1-2 step equations to prepare you for pre-algebra.

Prerequisite: Math Teacher recommendation

**Credit Count: Math credit .25 per quarter**

## **Periods 4 and 5: Algebra II**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Year**

Graphing calculators are required (TI-83 plus will be used by the instructor) and integrated into the class presentations. You will be responsible for learning your graphing calculator should you select one that is not Texas Instruments. The class will be expanding their knowledge of the language of Algebra. We will do this by learning more about equations, inequalities, graphing, matrices, probability, direct variation, compound functions, and quadratic equations. Evaluation will be based upon a combination of homework, tests, in class activities and a cumulative final.

Prerequisite: C or better in both semesters of Geometry

**Credit Count: Math credit .25 per quarter**

## **Period 6: Conference**



# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Nobuo Toba**

## **Period 1: Band**

**Course Length: All Year**

Prerequisite: Prior experience with a traditional band instrument in elementary and/or secondary school

Course Description: This class is designed to improve student's technical skills on their instrument. Students will experience an awareness of music through theory and history of band music. Concert participation is mandatory. Full semester commitment is required. Repeatable

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Philip Fleckenstein**

## **STUDENT AIDES NEEDED ANY HOUR!!!**

### **Period 1: Conference**

### **Period 2: Advanced Human Anatomy and Physiology**

**Grade Level: 10-12**

**Course Length: Year**

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.

**Prerequisites: Biology**

### **Period 3: Special Projects**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

**Prerequisites: none**

This class is designed to cover the basics of the scientific method. We will look into the ways in which scientists gather information through hands on activities. Students will then use the knowledge gained to conduct their own original research and present it at an end of semester science fair. Opportunities to compete in the Intel Alaska Science fair may be an option.

**Credit Count: Science**

### **Period 4: Biology**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Year**

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.

**Prerequisites: none**

**Credit Count: Life Science**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

## **Philip Fleckenstein**

### **Period 5: Biology**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Year**

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.

**Prerequisites: none**

**Credit Count: Life Science**

### **Period 6: Passages**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Prerequisites: none**

**Credit Count: Elective, others upon petition.**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Rosa Hohnstein**

## **Period 1: World Literature**

**Grade Level: 9-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

Students will meet daily to discuss selected readings from different parts of the world. This course will include writing from Africa, Latin America, Asia, and Europe. Together we will develop an understanding of common themes and values that are represented in these works as well as deepen our awareness what we as readers bring to a reading. This is my favorite English class to teach!!!!

**Credit:** .50 English – specific credit will vary by student

## **Period 2: Español I**

**AIDE WANTED: Spanish student preferred**

**Grade Level: 7-10**

**Course Length: Year**

¡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.

**Credit Count:** .25 Elective credit (upon completion of quarter 4, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders receive .25 social studies credit)

## **Period 3: Español II**

**Grade Level: 8-11**

**Course Length: Year**

¡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.

**Credit Count:** .25 Elective credit

## **Period 4: Español II**

**Grade Level: 8-11**

**Course Length: Year**

¡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.

**Credit Count:** .25 Elective credit

## **Period 5: La Conferencia**

## **Period 6: Español I**

**AIDE WANTED: Spanish student preferred**

**Grade Level: 7-10**

**Course Length: Year**

¡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.

**Credit Count:** 1 Elective credit (upon completion of quarter 4, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders receive .25 social studies credit)

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

## **Sally Jungreis**

### **Period 1: Orchestra**

Welcome to Orchestra!

Below are the basic guidelines for what to expect each day in class.

Supplies

- Instrument
- Folder
- Pencil

In-Class Expectations

FULL YEAR COMMITMENT

- Attend all classes.
- Have required materials always in hand.
- Keep a positive attitude and show willingness to try!

Outside Class Expectations

- PRACTICE!
- Participate in all orchestra concerts and events.
- Be on time to concerts, and come appropriately dressed as well.

Grading

Daily participation and behavior 25%

Playing tests/paper tests 25-50%

Practice sheets 25%

Concerts 0-25%

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Svetlana Jackson**

## **Period 1: Conference**

## **Period 2 : World Cultures**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Course Length: Semester**

## **Period 3 : World Cultures**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Semester**

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.

**Course Length: Semester**

## **Period 4: Yearbook**

**Grade Level: 8-12**

The yearbook course offers the student 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.

**Prerequisite: None**

**Credit Count: Elective**

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

**Svetlana Jackson**

## **Period 5& 6: Library & On-Line Courses**

**Grade Level: 11-12**

**Course Length: Semester**

Online courses offered through iSchool, an online program providing high school students in the ASD with opportunities to earn credit through online course work. Students are provided with high quality online courses that overcome scheduling challenges and meet student needs. LPF and Alaska Studies included. Course descriptions, application procedures, and deadlines are at

<http://www.asdk12.org/schools/asdischool/pages/>

Application required.

# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

## **Troy Fast**

### **Period 1: Pre-Algebra**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Year**

Students will continue to practice and improve their number sense, measure sense, and estimation skills. They will review and extend their arithmetic, calculator, and thinking skills by working with fractions, decimals, percentages, large and small numbers, and negative numbers, variables, expressions, equations, graphing, and other algebra topics. Successful completion will prepare a student for Algebra.

### **Period 2: Pre-Algebra**

**Grade Level: 7-8**

**Course Length: Year**

Students will continue to practice and improve their number sense, measure sense, and estimation skills. They will review and extend their arithmetic, calculator, and thinking skills by working with fractions, decimals, percentages, large and small numbers, and negative numbers, variables, expressions, equations, graphing, and other algebra topics. Successful completion will prepare a student for Algebra.

### **Period 3: Conference**

### **Period 4: Net Games**

**Grade Level: 7-12**

**Course Length: Quarter**

The purpose of this course is to introduce to some and to hone for others, skills in net games. These may include such games as Volleyball, Ping-Pong, Pickle Ball, and Badminton. Students will learn through active participation, the basics of the games and the rules.

**T.A.'s Welcome**



# **Course Descriptions 2nd Semester 2013-2014**

## **Troy Fast**

### **Period 5: Basketball**

**Grade Level: 7-12**

**Course Length: Quarter**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to basic skills and knowledge associated with basketball. By applying these principles through active participation, students develop the necessary skills and knowledge to play basketball. In addition, this course provides students with opportunities to improve physical fitness, acquire knowledge of fitness concepts, and practice positive personal and social skills. Students will gain an understanding of how a wellness lifestyle affects one's health, fitness and physical performance.

**Credit Count: P.E.**

### **Period 6: Soccer**

**Grade Level: 7-12**

**Course Length: Quarter**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to basic skills and knowledge associated with soccer. By applying these principles through active participation, students develop the necessary skills and knowledge to play soccer. In addition, this course provides students with opportunities to improve physical fitness, acquire knowledge of fitness concepts, and practice positive personal and social skills. Students will gain an understanding of how a wellness lifestyle affects one's health, fitness and physical performance.

### **Period 7: Independent Study P.E.**

**Grade Level: 7-12**

Students may receive physical education credit through independent study. This would include students that are involved in sports at other schools. If you are in a high school sport and want a K waiver do not sign up for this class. All other students are welcome. Students must have the contract in by "add drop" and must register for the class during registration. Students must meet the conditions of the contract to receive credit

**Credit Count: P.E./ Elective**