



This document is an overview of our Spring 2022 course offerings. The overview is listed by courses; however, the presentation of this curriculum will be experiential with students involved in activities, projects, and field experiences addressing several course areas at once. While these course descriptions are subject to modification as the curriculum is finalized, they should help students and parents know what to expect.

HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

WAR AND PEACE CLUSTER – *students will be placed into all of the following:*

Every American under the age of 20 has lived their entire life in a nation at war. However, most of us spent the war comfortably untroubled by it, insulated from the realities of combat. What does it mean to be at war? As we emerge from the longest armed conflict in US history, we should look back at the realities of conflict, and how we as a society understand the conditions of war and of peace. This cluster will examine the social, philosophical, historic, technological, economic, and artistic products of wartime, and the efforts to transition into peace. We will learn and practice strategies for peace, with the goal of equipping students to act against conflict and destruction.

Literature of Wartime

.50 English

Marley Simmons-Abril

What makes propaganda effective at controlling public opinion? What creative modes of protest have authors used to voice opposition to forces beyond their control? We often feel overwhelmed and powerless when confronted with large-scale conflict like war, but throughout history individuals have found clever ways to push back against violence and disorder. Authors and filmmakers use satire to highlight the absurdities of war; visual artists publicly protest through posters and graffiti; everyday citizens combat propaganda by learning how it works. Theater, film, persuasive speeches, and graphic art will round out our exploration of wartime storytelling. This class will explore the literary and rhetorical techniques common to wartime, and we will use these skills to encourage peace.

History of Peacebuilding

.50 SS: US

Quinn Wilson

History is filled with conflict and war, but there are just as many stories of war averted. From royal marriages to nonviolent movements to the Geneva Convention, this class will study examples of peacebuilding and how violence was successfully resolved or brought back from the brink. In the process we will try to understand the root causes of conflict in society, and steps we can take to create a better future.

The Physics of Archery

.50 Science

Quinn Wilson

The bow and arrow has been used as a tool of war for over 10,000 years. Yet this simple machine, a mere stick and string, embodies many key principles of physics and engineering. For the modern sport archer, properly tuning their equipment requires understanding of gravity, inertia, and the storage and transference of energy to create the most accurate and efficient system. In this class we will learn projectile motion, and use physics and our understanding of energy and Newton's laws to build and experiment on different arrows, quantify efficiency, and make predictions.

MATHEMATICS COURSES -- students will be placed into the most appropriate of the following:

Algebra I

.50 Mathematics

Frank Kuhl

Algebra as we know it today is an amalgamation of the works of many mathematicians from third century Greece, eighth century Persia and sixteenth century France on up to the present day. This course will present students with the requisite concepts for familiarity and facility with this basic dialect that serves as a foundation for the language of mathematics.

Geometry

.50 Mathematics

Daniel Rommel

Geometric Properties & Reasoning will focus on developing proof based arguments. Starting with the foundations of axiomatic reasoning we will develop logic based justifications for the characteristic properties of traditional Euclidean shapes. Ultimately, we will transfer into conic sections and the relationship between dimensions.

Calculus

.50 Mathematics

Daniel Rommel

Calculus is defined as the branch of mathematics that deals with the finding and properties of derivatives and integrals of functions, by methods originally based on the summation of infinitesimal differences. The two main types are differential calculus and integral calculus. We will focus on abstract set theory and number quantity which will develop through the language of set notation. Introduction to geometric series and limits will culminate into the understanding of the derivative as the foundation of calculus.

WORLD LANGUAGE & CULTURE COURSES -- students will be placed into the most appropriate of the following:

Spanish I

.50 Language

Rodrigo Garcia-Berguecio

Spanish I is designed to introduce you to the Spanish language through theme-based units that will provide a meaningful context for listening, reading, speaking, and writing. In this course we will also explore some of the many facets of Hispanic culture in order to facilitate authentic communication. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Students will increase communicative abilities through readings and discussions in the target language. Evaluations will be based on tests, assessments, projects, and daily work. In this class your ability to focus on the lesson is essential; this is a class where participation is mandatory!

The average student who completes Spanish I can expect to understand most Spanish spoken at a slower than normal pace and some Spanish spoken at a normal pace; answer and ask questions on a variety of everyday topics, describe people and places, and narrate mostly in the present tense; and read almost any simple Spanish text.

Spanish II

.50 Language

Rodrigo Garcia-Berguecio

Spanish II is designed to improve your understanding of the Spanish language through theme-based units that will provide a meaningful context for listening, reading, speaking, and writing. In this course we will also explore some of the many facets of Hispanic and Latinx culture in order to facilitate authentic communication. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Students will increase communicative abilities through readings and discussions in the target language. Evaluations will be based on tests, assessments, projects, and daily work. In this class your ability to focus on the lesson is essential; this is a class where participation is mandatory!

The average student who completes Spanish II can expect to understand most Spanish spoken at a slower than normal pace and some Spanish spoken at a normal pace; answer and ask questions on a variety of everyday topics, describe people and places, and narrate mostly in the present tense, and read almost any simple to moderate Spanish text.

ELECTIVES -- students will choose *one* of the following:

Archery

.50 Elective

Quinn Wilson

This course is designed for the beginning or novice archer with a focus on modern target shooting. We will learn about the safety protocols, equipment, technique, and scoring using the NASP and USAA frameworks, culminating in participation in a local tournament. Time will be given to compound, traditional, paralympic and non-western styles, as well as the history of archery across cultures, but the class will be first and foremost about putting arrows downrange!

Passion Projects

.50 Elective

Marley Simmons-Abril

If you could earn school credit for doing something you're passionate about, what would you do? Build a solar-powered motor? Write a graphic novel? Compose an album? Design a skyscraper? A passion project is something that you find great satisfaction and joy in, but might have trouble making time for. This project-based elective gives you the opportunity to explore a curiosity that is off the beaten path, or not covered in your usual classes. Each student will be able to plan, pursue, and practice an authentic interest of their choosing. The course will balance lots of independent work time with focused lessons in communication, goal-setting, resourcefulness, and follow-through. Students in this elective will have access to Bellingham Makerspace and other tool libraries. Students have the option to design their project for credit in a specific subject area. What do you want to create?

Bushcraft Skills

.50 Elective

Dashiell Potter

In a world dominated by technology, life can seem materialistic and shallow. By exploring basic wilderness skills we can begin to develop a deeper understanding with the natural world around us. Bushcraft by definition is "the use and practice of skills, in order to survive and thrive in a natural environment." In this course we will introduce knowledge and skills useful for living outdoors. Topics may include: natural shelters, animal tracking, fire by friction, wilderness first aid and more!

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSES -- students will choose *one* of the following:

*Note: Our group hikes and backpacking trips will also be included in our physical education curriculum. Students who are enrolled in sports or other athletic programs may choose to count their program hours towards PE in place of yoga or games class but are still expected to participate in outdoor excursions.

Yoga

.50 PE

Pat Cavit

Yoga can improve flexibility, strength, and stress relief with adaptations that make it accessible to anybody. The classes will move through breath exercises, stretches, poses, and flow sequences with a focus on alignment and personal development. No experience is necessary; all levels are welcome. This year backpacking trips will also be included in our physical education curriculum. Hiking is healthy!

Group Games

.50 PE

Daniel Rommel

PE this term will include a variety of activities spanning individual and team sport exercises. Students should come equipped each day with appropriate footwear and attire suitable to the activity and to Bellingham's changeable weather. The goal of this course is to maintain a healthy body and encourage interdynamic personal skills needed for team oriented success.

SENIOR CAPSTONE -- seniors will be automatically enrolled in:

Capstone II**.25 CTE****Marley Simmons-Abril**

This class will provide skills, resources, and community to seniors as they work independently to complete their Capstone Projects. We will execute your course plans laid out in Capstone I class, and work together to develop your Capstone presentations and report at the end of the year.

MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

OUR WORLD CLUSTER – *students will be placed into all of the following:*

Our world is a mixture of things we can see and touch and what we feel within us. It is ever changing and evolving. How did our past shape our present? Do our choices now affect our future? In this cluster, students will utilize lateral thinking skills to address problems in the service of their vision for the future and identify the most upstream problems to address within their sphere of influence. We will explore our world through physical interaction, musical expression, and discovering new ideas. We will gain a deeper understanding of what it means to live on Earth and envision the kind of future we want and start working towards it.

Hamilton

.50 English

Kayla Condos

Alexander Hamilton had a vision of the legacy he wanted to leave behind. He saw a future worth fighting for and worked nonstop for its success. We will be using *Hamilton* the musical to gain an understanding of how our past shaped the world we live in today and inspire students to think about the legacy of their future. Is there a problem that they can address within their influence? Can we develop a vision for their community? Students will have the opportunity to determine their own destiny and make decisions that will shape their future.

World Religion

.50 Social Studies

Kayla Condos

Religion is an organized system of beliefs, morals, behaviors and practices. Understanding today's world and how nations interact, requires some degree of awareness of different religious traditions. What role does religion play in our ability to connect cross-culturally? Does religion allow for the capacity to experience the world from another perspective? Together we will be exploring a variety of agnostic, monotheistic, and polytheistic religions. Students will understand the connection between religion and society, and the many ways these two ideas are intertwined.

Earth Science

.50 Science

Dashiell Potter

Here in Bellingham we are blessed with diversity of the land. With the ocean out our front door, the mountains on the horizon, and the old growth in our forest we live in an incredible place. This term we strive to look further into how these amazing things came to be. How do the tides *actually* work? How did the cascades come to be where they are? How are tsunamis formed? In earth science we let curiosity drive our classroom. Using modern and ancient technology side by side we will become even more astounded by the place we call home.

MATHEMATICS COURSES -- *students will be placed into the most appropriate of the following:*

Number Systems

.50 Math

Daniel Rommel

Students will learn how to apply and extend their understanding of multiplication and division into manipulation and application of fractions. Students will start an introduction to number theory and analyze systems of sets up to irrational numbers. Students will be introduced to algebraic manipulations in order to solve single variable equations. Lastly, real world application will center around geometric surfaces with introductory probability and statistics. Assessments will be a combination of project oriented learning and relevant demonstrative transfers of knowledge.

Pre-Algebra

.50 Math

Daniel Rommel

Students will extend their knowledge of number sets into irrational numbers. Expressions and equations will be explored in both radical and integer exponents. Students will analyze the structure of polynomial equations centered around predictive availability of linear models. Students will further practice single variable manipulation with recently imported concepts. Lastly, real world application will continue around advanced geometric surfaces with probability and statistics. Assessments will be a combination of project oriented learning and relevant demonstrative transfers of knowledge.

Algebra I**.50 Math****Frank Kuhl**

Algebra as we know it today is an amalgamation of the works of many mathematicians from third century Greece, eighth century Persia and sixteenth century France on up to the present day. This course will present students with the requisite concepts for familiarity and facility with this basic dialect that serves as a foundation for the language of mathematics.

WORLD LANGUAGE & CULTURE COURSES -- *students will be placed into the most appropriate of the following:*

Exploratory Spanish**.50 World Language****Rodrigo Garcia-Berguecio**

In an increasingly globalized society, the ability to communicate effectively with diverse linguistic groups is paramount. Middle School students will explore the Spanish language and culture. Grammatically, we will focus on present tense conjugations. We will use speaking and listening activities to simulate actual everyday situations, and related written assignments will utilize students' meta-linguistic capabilities. Further, students will experience aspects of Hispanic culture through films, music, and periodicals, learning skills that prove invaluable to taking the language beyond the classroom.

Spanish I/II**.50 World Language****Rodrigo Garcia-Berguecio**

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Spanish III/ IV**.50 World Language****Rodrigo Garcia-Berguecio**

Spanish II is designed to improve your understanding of the Spanish language through theme-based units that will provide a meaningful context for listening, reading, speaking, and writing. In this course we will also explore some of the many facets of Hispanic and Latinx culture in order to facilitate authentic communication. This course is conducted entirely in Spanish. Students will increase communicative abilities through readings and discussions in the target language. Evaluations will be based on tests, assessments, projects, and daily work. In this class your ability to focus on the lesson and participate is essential; this is a class where participation is mandatory!

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ELECTIVES -- *students will choose **one** of the following:*

Archery**.50 Elective****Quinn Wilson**

The art form of launching arrows with bows has been around for thousands of years. Originating in hunting and combat, it is largely experienced as recreation in our society today. In this course we will learn the protocols that make it one of the safest sports, practice the 11 steps to archery success, and hone our skills through continual practice. Along the way we will discuss archery around the world, and investigate what this pastime can contribute to our everyday lives.

Passion Projects**.50 Elective****Marley Simmons-Abril**

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