



HomeLink Education
Course Description Fall 2010 – 2011

Middle School Courses

MATH

Saxon Algebra 1: This course is made up of five instructional components: Introduction of the new increment, examples with complete solutions, practice of the increment, daily problem sets, and cumulative tests. Algebra 1 covers topics typically treated in a first-year algebra course. Pretest recommended. Text: Saxon Algebra 1 Third Edition, plus answer key.

Advisor: Mrs. Sharon Russell Grade level generally 8th or 9th Course length: 2 semesters Time: 10:30 – 11:30

MATH Saxon Algebra 1/2: Algebra ½ thoroughly prepares the student for Upper Grade Math with culmination of pre-algebra mathematics and skills, plus relevant topics from discrete mathematics (used for engineering and computer sciences) and geometry. Pretest recommended. Text: Saxon Algebra ½ 3rd Edition

Advisor: Mrs. Sharon Russell Grade level generally 7th or 8th Course length: 2 semesters Time: 3:00 – 4:00

Saxon Math 8/7: Includes a range of upper-level skills and concepts such as scientific notation, complex statistics, arcs, sectors, and the Pythagorean theorem. Text: 3rd Edition, pretest recommended

Advisor: Sharon Russell Grade Level: 7th – 8th Course length: 2 semesters Time: 11:30 – 12:30

Saxon Math 7/6: The unique structure of Saxon Math promotes student success through the sound, proven educational practices of incremental development and continual review. *Saxon Math 7/6* introduces new concepts your child will need for upper level algebra and geometry. After every tenth lesson there is an investigation and extensive examination of a specific math topic, discussed at length to ensure solid understanding.

Advisor: Sharon Russell Grade Level: 6th – 7th Course length: 2 semesters Time: 11:30 – 12:30



Financial IQ: This course will give young students an early understanding of finances; teaching life-long lessons in cash flow management. They will become familiar with terms as assets, liabilities, types of income, and the difference between expenses that are essential and optional. Using a hands-on, fun method, students will have a financial head start as they learn to invest, keep accounts, and watch the result of their financial choices. (Mathematics credit)

Advisor: Sharon Russell Materials fee: \$5.00 Course length: 8 weeks Time: SPRING TERM

SCIENCE

Apologia General Science: This course is designed to be a student's first systematic introduction to the sciences. The course covers such topics as the scientific method, designing experiments, simple machines, archaeology, geology, paleontology, biology, and human anatomy and physiology. Experiments will be conducted in class.

Textbook: Exploring Creation with General Science, 1st Edition

Advisor: Barbara Lorenz Course length: 2 semesters Materials Fee: \$15.00 Time: 12:00 – 1:30

Learning with Legos:

LEGO MECHANICAL PRINCIPLES (PHYSICS)



This course is designed to help young students discover basic concepts of physics in a creative hands-on method through building LEGO models. They will begin with understanding **SIMPLE MACHINES**, such as wheels and axles, gears, levers, and pulleys. Next, the students learn how to incorporate simple machines together to make **COMPOUND MACHINES**. The models are then brought to life by using motors to make **MOTORIZED MACHINES**. They will learn about powered forces, motion, measurement, energy, magnetism, and gravity. In the last quarter of the course, they will study **PNEUMATICS**. Students build air-powered mechanical LEGO devices using air tanks, pumps, and pistons while they learn about properties of air molecules, air pressure, vacuums, different energy forces, and airflow circuits. Throughout this course, students discover problems and invent solutions by making their own discoveries along the way. Working in pairs, students develop communication and cooperation skills as they collaborate to solve problems that are fun, engaging, and relevant to real life situations.

Advisor: Ashley Obranic Grade Level: Upper Elementary level Course length: 2 semesters, 1.5 hours

Materials fee: \$30/semester Class limit: 10 students

Time: 9:00 – 10:30, and 10:30 – 12:00

LEARNING WITH LEGOs:

LEGO ROBOTICS ENGINEERING *

Students will use their creativity and teamwork to design, create, and build full-fledged LEGO robots that are programmed to complete tasks by using computers. The students will program the robots that they build using light, touch, and sound sensors to perform tasks. The students will learn how to do age appropriate computer programming while they expand their knowledge of physics from the previous year's **LEGO MECHANICAL PRINCIPLES** course*. This is a fun way to learn robotics and is a must for any aspiring engineer and young inventor!!

*This is the second course for students that have completed the year-long **LEGO MECHANICAL PRINCIPLES** class.

Completion of year one is a **required prerequisite** for this ROBOTICS ENGINEERING class.

Advisor: Ashley Obranic Grade Level: Elem/MS Course length: 2 semesters, 1.5 hrs

Materials Fee: \$20.00

Time: 12:00 – 1:30



Apologia Exploring Creation with Physical Science: This course is designed to be the last science course the student takes before high school biology but can also be taken as a 9th grade science credit. The course discusses such topics as the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, weather, the structure of the earth, environmentalism, the physics of motion, Newton's Laws, gravity, and astrophysics. The author especially concentrates on the myths generated by the hysterical environmentalist movement. The many hands-on experiments will be completed in class. It is an excellent course for preparing the student to take a college-prep high school science curriculum. Textbook: Exploring Creation with Physical Science 2nd Edition

Advisor: Jonathan Rupprecht Course length: 2 semesters, 1.5 hrs Materials fee: \$15.00 Time: 10:30 – 12:00

Dissection Labs: Students participate in weekly dissection labs which will compliment their science classes. Specimens are from each major animal phylum: Sponges, Crayfish, Starfish, Grasshoppers, Earthworms, Perch, Mussels, and Frogs; studying internal and external anatomy. Students should have a basic knowledge of animal kingdom studies to best benefit from this course. Lab fee: \$20.

Advisor: Linda Notle Course length: 8 weeks 1.5 hours Grade Level: 7 - 12th Time: 2:30 – 4:00



LANGUAGE ARTS



Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW) presents a system of structural models and stylistic techniques applicable for students of all ages and aptitudes. Unlike many creative writing programs, this classical system stresses modeling and builds a firm foundation of specific skills. As students practice each format and master each technique, they develop confidence and creativity.

Middle School Level IEW I: Students will improve their critical thinking and study skills as they learn to take notes, outline, create oral and written summaries, improve their vocabularies, analyze plot outlines, write basic reports and creative short stories, and “dress-up” their writing with stylistic techniques. As students master each structural model and stylistic technique, they develop greater confidence and creativity. Consequently, they may even discover that they enjoy writing! Students will use theme-based writing materials, along with their own notes and writing, to compile personal handbooks and portfolios. They will be able to take any source text and totally rewrite it in their own words, creating reports and essays.

Advisor: Jamie Gregory, Stephanie Gonzalez Length: 2 semesters Text available from Instructor (\$26.00)

Times: 9:00 – 10:30 and 12:00 – 1:30

IEW Intermediate: presents a system of structural models and stylistic techniques applicable for students of all ages and aptitudes. Unlike many creative writing programs, this classical system stresses modeling and builds a firm foundation of specific skills. As students practice each format and master each technique, they develop confidence and creativity.

Prerequisite complete IEW Elementary History Theme-Based Text

Advisor: Jennifer Obranic

Course Length: 2 semesters

Time: 9:00 – 10:00

Speech: Gr 3-6 A wonderful foundation will be given to the students during these formative grades to help them develop the confidence and ability to prepare presentations in public speaking and oral interpretation. Younger speakers tend to have fewer inhibitions and can really blossom as they gain the boldness to present information and literature for an audience. Additionally, this course will provide a platform to prepare the students to take their performed presentations to compete in a local Fine Arts competition in the spring if desired.

Advisor: Andrea Gardner

Grade Level: 3rd – 6th

Course Length: 2 semesters

Time: 2:00 – 3:00

Speech: Gr 7-12 Confidence, articulation, and boldness will be learned through presentations from oral interpretation to public speaking. The students will learn how to improve their everyday conversational skills, organize and present speeches regarding topics of which they are passionate, and learn how to take literature and make it come alive through interpretation. Then the students will be given the option/ opportunity to participate in a Fine Arts competition to share their class presentations with others.

Advisor: Andrea Gardner

Grade Level: 7th through 12th

Course Length: 2 semesters

Time: 3:00 – 4:00

Reader's Theater: Readers' Theater is an oral presentation in which a group of interpreters adapt poetry or prose literature into script form. Through shared and individual lines, group body arrangement, and vocal use, the group brings the piece alive as they face full front to the audience and tell the story. This interactive class will give plenty of experience in developing confidence in front of an audience while working together to perform.

Advisor: Andrea Gardner

Grade Level: 4th through 8th

Course Length: 2 semesters

Time: 1:00 – 2:00

Basic Grammar and Composition: This course will provide a sound foundation in grammar and usage ability using the text *Easy Grammar Plus* for comprehensive novel studies covering spelling, vocabulary, comprehension, listening, grammar/punctuation, analytical and critical thinking, writing and projects through enjoyable learning in a group setting.

Text: *Easy Grammar Plus Student Workbook*

Advisor: Julie Thompson

Grade Level: HS/MS

Course length: 1 semester

Time: 11:00 – 12:00

American Short Stories: Students will study classic short works of fiction providing opportunities for literary analysis, critical thinking, vocabulary enrichment and enhance reading skills. Reading and discussing works by great American authors as Poe, Crane, Fitzgerald, Hemingway and Faulkner will develop a love for fiction and an appreciation for literature.

Advisor: Julie Thompson

Grade Level: MS/HS

Course Length: 1 semester

Time: 9:00 – 10:30

SOCIAL STUDIES

Patriot Camp

Mrs. Poppycock is a blue-blooded English woman known for her "inside information" about what's happening in America. Since her husband is so close to King George and his military officers, she's privy to juicy tidbits she can't wait to share. Mrs. Poppycock is an original character created by Michelle Putnik as a humorous prelude to each week's lesson. Student's patriotic American roots will bloom when they realize and appreciate the sacrifices of the Pilgrims, and the bravery and Godly character of their Founding Fathers. This course is also designed to introduce students to our electoral process, why the Declaration of Independence and Constitution were written, and an introduction to the different ideologies (Socialism, Communism, Marxism, Capitalism). This hands-on class will also provide for debate as students learn how a bill is written becomes law.

Advisor: Michelle Putnick Grade level: 7th – 8th grade and up Length: 1 semester Time: 1:30 to 3:00

US History: Explorers to Present Day



This course presents the history of America from the 1490s to the present with special emphasis on the personalities and events that shaped the American character. Take an exciting trip back in time as we discover the heritage of the United States! During this course, middle school students will learn about God's "His Story" of this great nation. Historical events will come to life as early political, cultural, economic, and intellectual developments and the lives of the presidents of the U.S. are explored from its earliest beginnings to today.

Advisor: Jenn Obranic Grade Level: 7th – 8th Length: 2 semesters Text: *Land I Love-Abeka* Time: 10:00 – 11:00

Florida History and Florida History through Architecture

Quarter One will cover Florida history beginning with its earliest inhabitants, the Spanish and French rule, Florida's part in the American Revolution, becoming a territory, the Seminole Wars, the effects of WWI, WWII, the railroads, and on to the present including state geography and resources. Students will create their own journal. Little Red Schoolhouse field trip is included.

Quarter Two will focus on our local Florida Heritage Education, including figures as General Worth, Frank Dimick, Henry Flagler, Addison Mizner, including architectural history. Class sessions will comprise slide lectures focusing on the early history of Palm Beach and its architecture. Field trips will include local tours of land marks and the Flagler Museum. The final activity is the design and construction of a model house building. Text: Florida USA by Silver Burdett.

Advisor: Stephanie McLaughlin

Grade level: 4th grade and up

Course Length: 1 semester Time: 11:00 – 12:00

Mystery of History Volume II: The Early Church and The Middle Ages

This exciting world history course begins with the study of the early church, the Pentecost, and continues throughout history into the Middle Ages. It covers the years 29 A.D. to 1456 A.D. Your students will create many projects like a Medieval Siege Tower, a Faux Metal Indian Bell, a Viking Runestone, a Pagoda Birdfeeder and so much more. Students will dig deeper into their lessons using map skills, making a timeline, and making memory flash cards. This course will surely hold your student's attention while realizing how important it is to know God and appreciate Him throughout the ages.

Advisor: Stephanie McLaughlin Grade: MS Course length: Year course Materials fee: TBA Limited: 12 students 10:00-11:00

Computer Programs: Microsoft Word 2007 & Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 (2 in 1)

Microsoft Word 2007 -

This course will start from the beginning and will take students step-by-step through features as templates, menus, toolbars, basic and advanced styles useful for creating research papers, book reports, cover letters, newsletters, basic webpages, etc. This course also provides necessary computer skills for higher education and job placement. Students must have access to a lap top on class days.

Microsoft PowerPoint 2007 -

This course will help students understand how to create PowerPoint presentations that bring ideas to life and communicate ones message, while providing a useful skill for higher education and job placement. Students must have access to a lap top on class days.

Advisor: Peter Torres Textbook(s) provided: \$20.00 (\$10.00 ea.) Grade Level: MS/HS Course length: 1 semester

Material Fee (optional): \$20.00 for a licensed copy of **Microsoft® Office Enterprise 2007 Suite Software**, which includes Word 2007 & PowerPoint 2007 (unless you already have it on your laptop) Time: 2:00 – 3:00

ELECTIVES

Wilderness and Survival Skills: Come and learn survival skills that can actually save your life! In this class, students will learn wilderness and emergency techniques including fire starting, knot tying, and shelter building. Additional survival concepts include map, compass, and GPS navigation, as well as finding food. The instructor of the course is a Green Beret-trained Eagle Scout with extensive experience in wilderness survival training. This class is great for both non-experienced and experienced outdoor adventurers. Get ready for survival in the great outdoors!

Course Instructor: Jonathan Rupprecht Course Length: 1 1/2 hour class Materials Fee: \$20 Grade Level: ages 8 - 14 Time: 9:00 – 10:30 and 12:00 – 1:30

Latin I FIRST FORM LATIN

Grade: Middle/HS school

First Form sets up the framework for learning Latin from a classical, trivium based approach. It is the ideal text for all beginning MS or HS students, or is a great follow-up to for a younger student who has already had a year of Latin.

First Form's grammar-first approach focuses on grammar forms and vocabulary because those are the grammar stage skills suitable for the grammar stage student. However, the *First Form Series* is for students of all ages because all beginners, regardless of age, are in the grammar stage of learning. Syntax (how to use the grammar) and translation are logic and rhetoric stage skills, respectively, and quickly overwhelm the student unless they are introduced at a slow, gentle pace. After mastering *First Form*, the student will have a solid grasp on the six active tenses, of the first two verb conjugations, five noun declensions, first and second declension adjectives, and 185 vocabulary words.

The most practical reason for Latin study is that it gives students the tools to decode many of the unfamiliar English words. It is the key that opens the door to not only the English language but also to the Roman languages.

Advisor: Charlotte K. Ferri. Course length: one year. **Text:** *First Form student textbook and workbook*. Can be purchased at www.Memoria Press.com Completion of *First Form Latin* earns the HS student a credit in foreign language.

Grade Level: MS/HS and completion of year one.

Time: 9:30 – 10:30

Spanish I:

This course is designed to teach students the basic elements of Conversational Spanish, which includes: the Spanish alphabet, numerical system, sentence-building, pronunciation, Spanish culture and etiquette. Students will learn parts of speech and sentence structure to expand conversational patterns and teach Spanish syntax.

Advisor: Rosa Madrigal Text: TBA

Course length: 2 semesters

Time: 11:00 – 12:00

American Sign Language I (ASL): This course will focus on developing the basic expressive and receptive skills necessary to communicate with deaf persons. Course content includes signs, fingerspelling, numbers, and grammatical and cultural information. Classroom exercises, homework and other activities are designed to help students feel comfortable and confident using the skills they acquire during this course.

Advisor: Hilary Ainbender

Course length: 2 semesters

Text: *Learn to Sign the Fun Way!* By Penny Warner

Time: 10:00 – 11:30

Hands-on Fine Art and Career Knowledge

BEHIND AND AROUND THE DOERS OF ART Grade: 6-8

The first semester will focus on drawing skills; contour drawing, line, texture, mass, proportion, and shading will be taught through various drawing assignments. Afterwards we will investigate color and its role through different techniques and media. Throughout the course the student will make their own drawings, paintings, and sculpture and will be required to answer some questions (in writing at home) about the projects we are doing.

The second semester will introduce careers in the arts and their disciplines; Architecture, cartoon art, design, film, illustration, layout, printing, painting, pottery, stage and costume, sculpting....The student will then research an area of interest and make a final product in this medium.

Advisor: Charlotte K. Ferri. Course length: 1 ½ hours one year Material fee: \$20 each semester (directly to advisor please)

Time: 1:30 – 3:00



Textiles in Weaving and Stitchery

This course will explore the ancient art of weaving as students will learn the technique of warp and weft on their own constructed looms. They will experiment with texture, color, embellishing their designs with flexible materials as wool, ribbon, yarn, fabric strips, raffia, and twigs as they design their work. The stitchery unit will introduce students to basic embroidery stitches as they stitch with yarn on burlap. Students will create a sampler of stitching work incorporating their skill creating a wall hanging or framed design.

Advisor: Henny Bulten Grade Level: Elem Length: 1 hour, 8 weeks Materials fee: \$10.00 Time: 11:30 – 12:30

Pottery: MS/HS students will hand-form clay designs using slab construction, coil, and free-form. Clay techniques will be developed as they prepare projects for firing. Also included will be learning terminology and the history of ceramics.

Advisor: Henny Bulten Grade level: MS/HS Course length: 8 weeks Materials fee: \$20.00 Time: 10:00 – 11:00



Intro to Guitar I: This course is designed to provide training and experience at the beginning level of guitar playing.

Course content will focus on development of basic music reading, basic music theory, composition, strumming and picking, first position melodies and chords.

Advisor: Alex Wooldridge Course length: 2 semesters 1 hour Materials fee: TBA Time: 3:00 – 4:00

Guitar II Advanced: to be added

Time: 2:00 – 3:00

Beginners Handbell Choir Ringing in a handbell choir teaches students to read music, enhances their appreciation of music and gives them an opportunity to work as a musical team. Students do not need musical experience as they will be instructed in basic music principles including music theory, rhythm, musical notation as well as how to handle and ring handbells. They will begin with a single bell, adding more as they develop their skill. This is an excellent approach to musical awareness and preparation for future instrument instruction. There will be a performance at the close of the 8 week session.

Advisor: Jennifer Obranic Materials fee: TBA Grade Level: MS/ upper EL Course Length: 1 semester Time: 3:00 – 4:00

Study Skills: This course prepares students for success in learning. It covers valuable topics as organizational skills, studying and listening skills, test taking, reading strategies, note-taking, critical thinking, and problem solving. Mastering these skills can result in increasing the student's school work by one letter grade.

Advisor: Stephanie Gonsman Class fee: \$5.00 copy fee Grade Level: MS/HS Course Length: 1 semester Time: 10:30 – 11:30

Red Cross Babysitting Course: This course will provide the knowledge and skills needed to provide safe and responsible care for children and infants. Topics cover leadership, safety, child development, emergencies, and first aid. Students will receive certification at completion of the course.

Advisor: Anne Mejeur Course length: 8 weeks Grade level: upper elem/MS Materials fee: \$15:00 Red Cross Book/CD Rom OFFERED OCTOBER