

## **2024-25 High School Tutorial Class Information**

High school tutorial classes are for students in grades 9-12. Classes will run from Friday, September 6, 2024, through Friday, May 9, 2025, with breaks for Thanksgiving, Christmas, the New Year, and Easter for a total of 32 weeks. Please see the TGIF calendar for specific date information. Unless otherwise stated, classes will meet in the same building as TGIF Specials Day classes.

The class descriptions below are listed in order of class times and give an overview of the class content and topics covered including what texts will be required to purchase. Also listed is the grading scale and information about the teacher. Some courses have separate supply fees that will be used by the instructor to cover materials and expenses for the class.

All classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis and need to meet a minimum of five students in order for the class to proceed. If the minimum is not met by the time registration ends, the class will be canceled and parents of registered students will be notified. Any money paid for the class that was canceled will be refunded.

There is not an aide for high school classes, but during times when Specials Day does not meet, there will need to be another adult in the building during class times in case an emergency arises and also to supervise children of the instructor and other students in the study hall. There are usually 11-12 school days of the year where this is a need and parents of high school students are required to serve in this capacity for the classes their child is registered for. Usually, this means parents will serve two to four times during the year on a day that is convenient for them.

Please register for the desired classes on the TGIF website. An email invoice will be sent to you at a later date. Please do not pay until an invoice is received.

If you have any questions, please contact TGIF's high school representative.

## **Spanish I (1 Credit)**

Class Time: 10:30-11:25 am

Class Fee: \$300

Additional Fees: \$25 (copying/supplies)

Required Texts: Textbook: [Holt McDougal Spanish I Avancemos Level 1](#)

Workbook: [Avancemos Level 1 Workbook](#)

Class Description: This course is an interactive class that will provide an introduction to the Spanish language. Students will learn to speak Spanish by participating in vocabulary games, conversations, songs, and translation exercises. We will move around a lot during this class as we learn how to speak Spanish. We will practice Spanish during immersion experiences which we will act out in the classroom (e.g. shopping at the grocery store, ordering food at the restaurant, shopping for clothing, etc.). Students will learn how to tell time, conjugate regular and irregular verbs in the present, imperfect, and preterit tenses, use reflexive verbs, speak commands, express feelings, describe events in present, past, and future tenses, describe people, use possessive adjectives, and match adjectives with nouns by gender and number. Students will also learn about important traditions in Spanish-speaking countries (e.g. la quinceanera, las posadas, Cinco de Mayo, feast of the three kings, etc.) Students will also read Bible verses in Spanish. Students will have ample opportunity to learn to write and read in Spanish.

Grading Scale: Homework 40%, Class participation 30%, Tests 20%, Quizzes 10%

Instructor-Denise Blair-Nellies: Denise Blair-Nellies has a B.A. in English/Communications from Loyola College and a Master of Education in College Student Personnel from the University of Maryland at College Park. She studied Spanish for four years in high school and three years at Loyola College. She participated in a one-week service experience with the Glenmary Sisters to assist Spanish-speaking families from Mexico. Denise has taught Spanish to students (Kindergarten through 8th grade) at TGIF for approximately 16 years. She also taught high school students Spanish for approximately 8 years in her home. In addition, she taught a weekly Spanish immersion class for a family with six children. Denise has done many presentations in Spanish and has also translated the Chic-fil-A employee handbook into Spanish.

## **Honors Speech: The Art of Oratory (1 Credit)**

Class Time: 11:30-12:25 am

Class Fee: \$300

Additional Fees: None

Required Texts: None

Class Description:

“There is nothing like oratory; it is a skill that can turn a commoner into a king.”

Winston Churchill

According to Merriam-Webster’s Dictionary, oratory can be defined as “the art of speaking in public eloquently or effectively.” In this class, students will study great orators of the past, discuss and evaluate the techniques of various speakers and performers, perform dramatic readings, learn to debate civilly and effectively, and improve their vocabulary. Students will learn speechwriting and memorization techniques and will write, memorize, and deliver speeches. This class will be fast-paced, challenging, and fun. There will be two curriculum options for this class:

Fine Arts or General Elective, Honors: 1 Credit, Letter Grade Scale

The student will be expected to attend and participate regularly in class, to attend a minimum of five field trips and complete assignments relating to them, to participate on a weekly basis in the TGIF Oratory online Canvas page, and to complete homework assignments, evaluations, and quizzes. In addition to field trips, the student should expect to spend 5-6 hours per week on work for this class. While all students will strive to master the objectives above, emphasis for fine arts students will be placed on oral interpretation of literature- plays, poetry, and prose.

Honors English: 1 Credit, Letter Grade Scale

The student will be expected to attend and participate regularly in class, to attend a minimum of six field trips and turn in assignments relating to them, to participate on the TGIF Oratory online Canvas page, and to complete class assignments, evaluations, and quizzes. In addition to field trips, the student should expect to spend 6-7 hours per week outside of class on work for this class. English students should expect a focus on speech writing and delivery in addition to the objectives listed above. A minimum of ten field trips will be planned throughout the year on varying days of the week. Students may use fifty dollars of their class fees towards

field trips; students are responsible for any remaining fees. Students may attend Oratory field trips with or without their parents.

Oratory field trip options may include:

A trip to Washington DC to view the Senate and House of Representatives in session

A local high school play

A dramatic characterization workshop

A local government meeting

A memorization workshop

A performance at the Kennedy Center or Hippodrome

An interview of a public official

A debate workshop

A movie in a theater

A movie at the teacher's home

An interview with a trial attorney

A visit to watch a case argued before the United States Supreme Court

A workshop on inspirational speaking/writing

A dinner theater show

A business luncheon and book discussion

Students will not use a text for this class. A course syllabus will be provided at the beginning of August. The teacher will provide the students with various selections for reading and study.

Grading Scale: Homework 40%, Attendance 15%, Class Participation 15%, Presentations 15%, Field Trips 10%, Quizzes 5%

The instructor grades cumulatively throughout the year and drops the three lowest attendance and class participation grades and the five lowest homework grades.

Homework assignments that are complete and submitted on time with all directions followed correctly receive a minimum grade of 90%.

\*\*\*For returning students, the course title is: Advanced Speech 3: Honors Rhetoric

\*\*\* For students new to the TGIF public speaking sequence of classes who do not have a sibling who has already taken a TGIF speech class with this instructor, it is recommended that the parent contact the instructor to learn more about the class format before registering, due to the extensive class involvement outside of class time. The instructor is happy to answer any questions.

Instructor-Gina Abel: Gina Abel and her husband John been members of TGIF (SCCK) for nineteen years. They have five children and live in Westminster. Gina holds a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Theology from Loyola University, Maryland. As a high school student, she competed regularly in speech and debate and participated in various theatrical productions. Later, she debated in APDA, a national collegiate debating league. She has directed plays and performances at camps and schools, tutored home-schooled high school students, taught Chorale and directed plays at TGIF, and taught The Art of Oratory, The Art of Oratory-Advanced, The Art of Rhetoric, and Advanced Speech in the TGIF high school tutorial. She is an active participant at St. John's Catholic Church in Westminster and serves on the Board of TGIF as the Creative and Performing Arts Representative. Gina believes passionately that teaching students effective speaking skills and helping students to communicate clearly and honestly can improve their self-confidence and interpersonal relationships and help them live the lives to which God calls them. This will be Gina's eighth year teaching in the TGIF High School Tutorial.

## **Spanish II (1 Credit)**

Class Time: 11:30 am-12:25 pm

Class Fee: \$300

Additional Fees: \$25 (copying/supplies)

Required Texts: Textbook: [Holt McDougal Spanish Avancemos Level 2 Student Textbook \(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company\)](#)

Workbook: [Avancemos Level 2 Workbook](#)

Class Description: High School Spanish II (Prerequisite: Spanish I) This course is an interactive class that will give students the opportunity to implement what they learned in Spanish I. Students will broaden their Spanish vocabulary by participating in vocabulary games, dialogues, songs, and written and oral translation exercises. We will move around a lot during this class as we speak Spanish with each other throughout the class. We will practice Spanish by reading Spanish library books and translating the stories together while also discussing what happens in the book with each other. Students will have concrete opportunities to practice their Spanish by making menus for Spanish restaurants, writing recipes for favorite dishes, listing store items and costs, writing brief advertisements for store items, etc. Students will participate in charades games, so other students can guess answers in Spanish (e.g. career, animals, sports, etc.). Students will learn how to conjugate more regular and irregular verbs in the present, imperfect, and preterit tenses. Students will also learn how to conjugate verbs using the subjunctive mood. Students will also learn about important traditions in Spanish-speaking countries (e.g. Dia de los Muertos, Las Navidades, La Semana Santa, etc.) Students will also read Bible verses in Spanish. Students will have ample opportunity to practice writing, reading, and translating from Spanish to English and English to Spanish.

Grading Scale: Homework 40%, Class participation 30%, Tests 20%, Quizzes 10%

Instructor-Denise Blair-Nellies: Denise Blair-Nellies has a B.A. in English/Communications from Loyola College and a Master of Education in College Student Personnel from the University of Maryland at College Park. She studied Spanish for four years in high school and three years at Loyola College. She participated in a one-week service experience with the Glenmary Sisters to assist Spanish-speaking families from Mexico. Denise has taught Spanish to

students (Kindergarten through 8th grade) at TGIF for approximately 16 years. She also taught high school students Spanish for approximately 8 years in her home. In addition, she taught a weekly Spanish immersion class for a family with six children. Denise has done many presentations in Spanish and has also translated the Chic-fil-A employee handbook into Spanish.

### **American Government (.5 Credit)**

**Class Time:** 1:00-1:55 pm **1st Semester Only**

**Class Fee:** \$150

**Additional Fees:** \$25 (copying/supplies)

**Required Texts:** Textbook: [Exploring Government Curriculum Package \(2023 Edition\)](#). This includes the textbook and *We Hold These Truths*. Students will also need a three-ring binder with notebook paper.

\*\*\*Please purchase the 2023 Edition of Exploring Government. The student workbooks are not needed for this class.

**Class Description:** This is a one-semester 1/2 credit class for students 9-12.

Explore the government of the United States from its beginning to the present, with special emphasis on the Biblical pattern for government and on the U.S. Constitution. Learn about the operations of federal, state, and local government, and about issues facing our nation today. Become better equipped to understand, pray for, and be involved in our country's government.

**Grading Scale:** Homework 35%, Projects 30%, Tests 20%, Class Participation 15%

**Instructor-Alana Krispin:** I received my college degree in Elementary Education. I taught 3rd, 2nd, and 1st grades in Carroll County Public Schools. I have a master's degree in Reading. I have been homeschooling my six children since 1996. I have grown in my love of history and American government as I have taught my own children. Not only that, but I have taught American Government to 4 of them and have used the Notgrass material with 3 of them.

## **Exploring Visual Design (.5 Credit)**

**Class Time:** 1:00-1:55 pm **2nd Semester Only**

**Class Fee:** \$150

**Additional Fees:** \$75 (in-class supplies)

**Required Texts:** Students will be required to have a sketchbook and an 11x14 multimedia pad in order to complete their weekly at-home assignments. Other art supplies will be needed, but you will likely already have these supplies at home.

**Class Description:** For this class, I will be teaching from [\*Exploring Visual Design\*](#) which provides a dynamic introduction to design appreciation and exploration using the elements and principles of design. Each week we will focus on one element or principle and create artwork to utilize that particular subject. We will also cover wide-ranging subject matter from notable historic and contemporary artists and cultures. Students will be assigned sketchbook work and a project to complete each week. There will be no tests/quizzes in this class, however there will be a museum assignment that will count for part of their grade. Students do not need to purchase the book for this class unless they want to.

**Grading Scale:** Class Participation 40%, Homework 40%, Museum Project 20%

**Instructor-Randi Mills:** I have been artistically inclined from a very young age and have a real love for the visual arts. As a high schooler, I knew I wanted to work in the art industry. I went to college for graphic design and worked in the design field for 11 years before leaving work to raise our family full-time. So many people say that they “can only draw a stick-figure”, but the truth is, if you’re having fun, you’re an artist. My goal with this class is to not just teach the students about the art elements and principals, but to encourage the students to push their personal boundaries. Art isn’t for everyone, and that’s OK! But it can be fun to try new things and express the creativity that God has given all of us.



## **American Literature and Composition**

**Class Time:** 2:00-2:55 pm

**Class Fee:** \$300

**Additional Fees:** \$25 (copying/supplies)

**Required Texts:**

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

*Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane

*Narrative on the Life of Frederick Douglass*

*The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck

**Class Description:** This American literature course will cover a broad spectrum of American authors and their works. In addition to reading the listed novels, students will also cover a variety of short stories, speeches, and poems by George Washington, Sojourner Truth, Theodore Roosevelt, Flannery O'Connor, Edgar Allan Poe, Ambrose Bierce, William Faulkner, Mark Twain, Susan Glaspell, and Shirley Jackson. Students can expect to participate in class discussions, identify literary techniques, write essays, and sharpen grammar and punctuation skills. Quarterly projects will be assigned as well.

**Grading Scale:** Class participation 30%, Homework 25%, Tests/Quizzes 20%, Projects 25%

**Instructor-Becky Scancelli:** Becky Scancelli has a Bachelor of Arts in American/British Literature with a certification in secondary education. Prior to homeschooling, I taught at a vocational school in Ohio. I have homeschooled for eleven years and facilitated classes at TGIF for six years.