

# 2009-2010 Young Women's Academy Course Offerings – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

## **Language Arts**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts**

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: None

This course integrates reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students read a variety of literary and informational text, and receive instruction in reading skills and strategies that support comprehension. Students develop skills in conventions, grammar and spelling, and in the effective use of the multiple-step writing process to create writing pieces in the expository, persuasive, narrative and imaginative modes. Students develop speaking and listening skills by writing and performing speeches and by working cooperatively in a variety of settings.

## **Math**

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

Grade: 6

Prerequisite: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade math

This class is designed to prepare students for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Pre-Algebra. Students will solidify their understanding of elementary topics including: factors, multiples, statistics, two-dimensional geometry, fractions, decimals, percents, area and perimeter, algebraic explorations, and probability. Students are expected to be organized and responsible as they study major concepts through class work and group work. They should expect regular review/practice of concepts through homework assignments. They must demonstrate understanding of major concepts through tests, quizzes, common assessments, projects, work samples. Students are expected to adhere to the following community principles: teamwork, respect, effort, participation, positive attitude. These behaviors will create and sustain a community of learning and rigor in the classroom environment.

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade math

This class is designed to prepare students for 8<sup>th</sup> grade math. Students will explore pre-algebra concepts including variables, graphing constant change, coordinate graphing, similarity, ratio, proportion, percent, integers, scientific notation, volume and surface area, fractions, probability, and describing change using tables, graphs, words and equations. Students will be introduced to and use graphing calculators for this course. Students are expected to be organized and responsible as they study major concepts through class work and group work. They should expect regular review/practice of concepts through homework assignments. They must demonstrate understanding of major concepts through tests, quizzes, common assessments, projects, work samples. Students are expected to adhere to the following community principles: teamwork, respect, effort, participation, positive attitude. These behaviors will create and sustain a community of learning and rigor in the classroom environment.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Math**

Grade: 8 or by teacher approval

Prerequisite: Proficiency in pre-algebra concepts from 7<sup>th</sup> grade level mathematics: integers, rates, proportions, volume, surface area, probability, coordinate graphing and/or exceeding score of grade-level math.

This class is designed to prepare students for HS Algebra and Geometry. Students will be introduced to algebraic and geometric concepts including: linear relationships, the Pythagorean Theorem, symmetry, transformations, exponential relationships, data analysis, statistics, quadratic relationships, order of operations and writing equations. Students will be proficient in using graphing calculators to solve complex problems during this course. Students are expected to be organized and responsible as they study major concepts through class work and group work. They should expect regular review/practice of concepts through homework assignments. They must demonstrate understanding of major concepts through tests, quizzes, common assessments, projects, work samples. Students are expected to adhere to the following community principles: teamwork, respect, effort, participation, positive attitude. These behaviors will create and sustain a community of learning and rigor in the classroom environment.

## **Science**

### **Life Science (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science)**

Grade: 6

Prerequisite: None

The Life Science course focuses on all aspects of the living world. Students will use microscopes and models to examine the structures and functions of individual cells as well as complex organs and systems in multi-cellular organisms. Students will explore individual adaptations and well as group inter-relationships that allow organisms to survive in various conditions. Students will analyze the relationships between organisms (including humankind) and their environment. Students will apply scientific reasoning and procedures to investigate the dynamics of these relationships. Finally, students will participate in Outdoor School activities during the 6<sup>th</sup> grade year.

## **Social Studies**

### **The Ancients (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies)**

Grade Level: 6

Prerequisite: None

Working independently and cooperatively, students learn to “think like historians” by analyzing and interpreting artifacts, timelines, and maps by describing and comparing the major characteristics, developments, contributions, and historical influences of ancient civilizations, and by comparing various aspects of the past to the present and to their own experience. Study will focus on ancient times in the following civilizations: *Mesopotamia, Indus River Valley, Egypt, China, Greece, and Rome.*

# Health & Physical Education

## **Health/Wellness\***

Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite: None

\*Students will take Health/Wellness in each grade in middle school.

This course is designed to assist students in obtaining accurate information, developing lifelong positive attitudes and behaviors, and making wise decisions related to their personal health. Study will include personal and community health; mental, emotional, and social health; injury prevention and safety; nutrition and physical activity; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; disease prevention; growth, development, and sexual health.

Central themes are the acceptance of personal responsibility for lifelong health, respect for and promotion of the health of others, an understanding of the process of growth and development, and informed use of health-related information, products, and services. Course will focus on the development of health literate skills including: decision-making, goal setting, analyzing influences, interpersonal communication, self-management, accessing information, and advocacy.

## **Electives**

### **Art Foundations**

Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite: None

This is a year-long course that introduces middle school students to basic art materials and techniques. Students will also develop an understanding of aesthetics and art history through multicultural and cross-curricular project work and assignments.

### **Literary Magazine**

Grade Level: 6-11

Prerequisite: None

In this course, students will study and practice literary journalism. Students will explore creative writing through the publication of short stories, poems, drawings, and photography. Students will examine artistic print media for the social or political message and identify the language or visual strategies used to express such messages. Students will use this knowledge to create their own print media combining art and language.

### **Marine Biology**

Grade: 6-8

Prerequisite: None

The marine biology course focuses on all aspects of the water world emphasizing fish, sharks, whales, and invertebrates. Students will use models to examine structures and functions. Students will explore individual adaptations as well as group inter-relationships between organisms. Students in this course are involved in and supported by the Salmon Watch Program.

# Special Education

## English/Language Arts

Grade: 6-11

Prerequisite: Students must have an active IEP

In this basic structured Language Arts course students will expand and solidify their reading, writing and comprehension skills. High school students are able to receive an elective credit towards a modified diploma for this special education course.

## General Math

Grade: 6-11

Prerequisite: Students must have an active IEP

In this basic structured Math course students will expand and solidify their basic math skills which will include addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, time, money, fractions, decimals and percentages. High school students are able to receive an elective credit towards a modified diploma for this special education course.

## Study Skills

Grade: 6-11

Prerequisite: Students must have an active IEP

Students receive specialized academic instruction in areas designated on their Individual Education Plans (IEP), particularly math, reading, writing, communication, and study skills. Students are also supported and monitored in mainstreamed classes for academic progress, attendance, and behavior. Study Skills teachers collaborate with general education teachers to promote academic success.

## Structured Learning Class

Grade: 6-11

Prerequisite: Students must have an active IEP

The services in this classroom focus on assisting the students' social and emotional growth. Classroom instruction helps students gain greater independence and improve behavior patterns while working on academic goals as needed.

# English Language Development (ELL)

## ELL Courses

Grade Level: 6-11

Prerequisite: None

\*If you are an ESL students, Ms. Tews will let you know which courses you should be taking.