

## FRIDAY OFFERINGS 2019-2020

**WRITING I, Level B (1<sup>st</sup> semester):** This course uses the *Excellence in Writing*, Level B curriculum, targeting students in middle school. The Schoolhouse Review Crew 2015 Blue Ribbon Awards calls IEW curriculum the "#1 pick for English composition." Along with structure, students will be taught stylistic techniques. Divided into 9 units, structure includes: note taking, summarizing from notes, narrative stories, references, writing from pictures, research reports, inventive writing, formal essays, and critiques. Stylistic techniques encompass a combination of a variety of writing enhancements, taught one by one. Style checklist rubrics guide students, providing frameworks for writing, and promoting editing skills. Because this class meets for just one semester, students will cover at least six units, but not all nine. Plan on two hours of homework per week. Materials fees: \$19.00 per family for required IEW binder, and \$8.00 for copies. Taught by Julie Shorey.

**WRITING I, Level C (2<sup>nd</sup> semester):** This course uses the *Excellence in Writing*, Level C curriculum, targeting students in high school. The Schoolhouse Review Crew 2015 Blue Ribbon Awards calls IEW curriculum the "#1 pick for English composition." Along with structure, students will be taught stylistic techniques. Divided into 9 units, structure includes: note taking, summarizing from notes, narrative stories, references, writing from pictures, research reports, inventive writing, formal essays, and critiques. Stylistic techniques encompass a combination of a variety of writing enhancements, taught one by one. Style checklist rubrics guide students, providing frameworks for writing, and promoting editing skills. Because this class meets for just one semester, students may not cover unit 9. Plan on two hours of homework per week. Materials fees: \$19.00 per family for required IEW binder, and \$8.00 for copies. Taught by Julie Shorey.

**WRITING 2:** (offered this year on Tuesdays in Attleboro and Fridays in Cranston) This class reviews all the basic Excellence in Writing techniques learned in Writing I and adds more advanced stylistic devices, while also putting more emphasis on the cohesiveness, clarity, and content of the student's writing. Students will write a variety of paragraphs, as well as expository, argument, and narrative essays. Conducting research is a major emphasis of Writing II, so students write a 12-paragraph research paper. For this they learn invaluable skills such as how to choose reliable sources, construct a thesis statement, organize an outline from multiple sources, integrate supporting quotations, and cite their sources. In addition, students spend time analyzing and imitating famous authors, writing descriptively from pictures using imagery and figurative language, and learning the structural forms and language of poetry. For creative writing, students work all year on an anthology of their own original poetry. Prerequisite: Students must have taken and successfully completed Writing I or Writing I Plus without much help from their parents; otherwise, Writing II may not be a good fit for them at this time. Also, because of the research paper, even if younger students have successfully completed Writing I, this class is best suited for 8<sup>th</sup> grade and up. Any student younger than 8<sup>th</sup> grade must get permission from the instructor in order to take this class. Although grammar is taught contextually in this course, it is paramount that students have completed some formal grammar BEFORE taking this class. Instead of a textbook for this class, students will build a comprehensive binder so they will need at least a two-inch binder with 7 tab dividers. Please note: The source texts used for

many of the larger assignments vary every other year so that students can take this class for two consecutive years if they need to. Copy fee \$25.00. Taught by Allison Desautell.

**INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE** (for students in 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade, offered on Tuesdays in Attleboro and Fridays in Cranston) In this middle school class students gain a solid foundation for high school literary analysis, strengthen their reading comprehension skills, and learn how to discuss books in a group setting. Students will practice the Socratic method of questioning what they read, grounding everything they say with evidence from the text, and drawing conclusions from what is implied in the story. Identifying basic plot elements, conventional story patterns, figurative language, and common literary devices are also important aspects of every class. Incremental lessons ensure that writing a variety of different paragraphs and one literary analysis essay are manageable for all students. Students will read books from a variety of genres that are chosen for their text complexities, such as: multiple characters and plots, symbolic elements, archaic language, non-linear time sequence or varied points of view. This year the books we will use include: *Tales from Shakespeare* by Charles and Mary Lamb, *The Cay* by Theodore Taylor, *Prince Caspian* by C. S. Lewis, *Wonder* by R. J. Palaccio, and *Tuck Everlasting* by Natalie Babbitt. Each week for homework students will need to read in the required book, complete work in study guides or reading response journals, along with writing one literary paragraph. Please note: The books for this class are rotated every other year, so that students can take Introduction to Literature for two consecutive years during middle school. *Tales from Shakespeare* is used every year; however, different stories from the book are studied each year. Copy fee \$25.00. Taught by Allison Desautell.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF LITERARY ANALYSIS:** (offered every other year; this year on Tuesdays in Attleboro and Fridays in Cranston) This foundational high school class is open to any high school student who has never taken a formal high school, discussion-based literature class, but it is ideal for those in 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade. It is also appropriate for an 8<sup>th</sup> grader who has taken GCT's Intro to Literature class and has the instructor's approval to take a more mature literature class. In addition to learning the basics of literary analysis, time will also be spent learning how to interpret an author's worldview from a Biblical perspective and recognizing Christian symbolism. Incremental lessons enable all students to learn to successfully write a literary analysis essay. Texts are intentionally chosen for an author's worldview and for a variety of text complexities, such as: multiple characters, narrators, and plots; non-linear time sequence; symbolic elements; or archaic language. Students will read from a wide variety of genres, including: *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson, *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, *Animal Farm* by George Orwell, *The Magician's Nephew* by C. S. Lewis, *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway, and *Much Ado about Nothing* by William Shakespeare, along with short stories by O. Henry, Edgar Allan Poe, and other notable authors. Homework each week consists of reading, journaling or study guide work, and a manageable amount of writing. There are many reasons to take this class, but the three most important skills your student will develop will be discerning an author's message and worldview, learning how to annotate and respond to a text, and mastering the art of discussion. Please note: There is no prerequisite for this class, but the content of the novels studied is geared for high school, not middle school, so please keep that in mind. Copy fee \$25.00. Taught by Allison Desautell.

**ENGINEER IT:** Ideal for students in grades 5-7. The lessons and challenges in this class are rotated every other year, so that students can take Engineering for two consecutive years during middle school. \* New Lessons and Challenges will include Fluid Power Engineering, Architectural Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Chemical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. This hands-on science class will lead students through the engineering design process. Students will learn to ask questions, research/brainstorm, plan, build, test and redesign their solutions. In class time, they will work in teams to problem solve and think creatively. During the week, they will learn about different aspects of engineering and complete their own challenges by using a variety of curriculum including *Teachengineering.org*, *Design It!*, online videos and *Middle School Engineering Projects*. Students will learn new vocabulary, research famous engineers and engineering history and complete a report each month. An "Engineering Design Notebook" (provided) will be used for all homework assignments and is graded monthly. Up-cycling materials will be used as much as possible. Materials Fee: \$35. Taught by Denise Mudge.

**GENERAL SCIENCE:** This Apologia junior high school level course is the foundation for all the upper level Apologia high school science courses due to its easy introduction to areas of biology, chemistry, physics and anatomy and physiology in a simple and approachable manner. Labs and fun projects will be done in class while bi-weekly tests will be proctored at home. Apologia science courses follow a routine and rhythm that helps the students and that routine is established effectively in this foundational course. Required Materials: Apologia *Exploring Creation with General Science*, 2nd edition, by Jay Wile; Composition Notebook (for labs), 3 ring binder with single subject notebook. Materials/lab fee: \$20.00. Taught by Denise Mudge.

**BIOLOGY** (1½ hour tutorial): This well-narrated Apologia high school biology course covers topics in general biology including species classification, bacteria, fungi, biochemistry, cell structure, genetics, micro and macroevolution, ecology, plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates. The students observe both microscopic and macroscopic specimens and learn how to write and present lab reports. Dissections include the earthworm, crayfish, fish, frog, and flower (pending availability). The classroom experience covers lectures, games, discussion and laboratory work. Homework includes a written study guide, quiz, and test for each unit. Required Materials: Apologia - *Exploring Creation with Biology*, 2nd edition, Jay Wile and Marilyn Durnell. (hardcover) Strongly Recommended (in addition to the hardcover book): Apologia - *Exploring Creation with Biology*, 2nd edition Student Notebook (softcover) Materials/Lab fee: \$25.00. Taught by Renee McInnis.

**CHEMISTRY** (1½ hour tutorial): This Apologia high school chemistry class provides each student with an introduction to measurement, matter, atomic structure, chemical equations, acid and base chemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics and reduction/oxidation reactions. The publisher recommends a basic knowledge of algebra in solving for variables. The experiments observe changes in matter. Classes include lecture, experiments, construction of molecular models, and games. Homework includes a written study guide, lab report, quiz and test for each unit.

Required Materials: Apologia - *Exploring Creation with Chemistry*, 3rd edition. (hardcover) Strongly Recommended (in addition to the hardcover book): Apologia - *Exploring Creation with Chemistry Student Notebook*, 3rd edition. (softcover) Materials/Lab Fee: \$30.00. Taught by Renee McInnis.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE AND CODING:** (full year course) This class designed for 5th-7th graders will introduce students to the world of computers. Basic computer skills, such as hardware familiarity, file management, keyboarding, and internet safety will be covered. Students will also have fun learning the programming skills by using block based computer coding language to create their own games. An extended resource use of hands-on lessons, hand-outs, and on-line curriculums will be used. Materials: 3 Ring Binder with Pocket Holders for papers. Copy Fee: \$20. Taught by Denise Mudge.

**US GEOGRAPHY:** This middle school class will survey the United States using *Trail Guide to U.S. Geography* curriculum. Students will create a US Geography Notebook, which includes detailed information on all 50 states. Each week, we will cover two states from a specific region. Students will strengthen their research skills, learn how to use an atlas, and take notes to complete weekly homework assignments. Also, they will gain greater understanding of this nation, by learning how each state became part of the United States. Assignments will include, but are not limited to: geographical landforms and features; famous landmarks; statehood facts; agriculture; industry; state capitals and important cities. In class, they will enjoy hands-on activities, class discussions, and educational games. Please plan on 30 to 45 minutes per day to complete daily assignments and projects. They need access to a computer for research. Required Text: *Desk Atlas of the United States*, published by Geography Matters, which can be purchased at <https://home-school-curriculum.com/pages/u-s-geography> (ISBN: 9781931397728), and a 2-inch wide 3 -ing binder with clear plastic cover. Materials/Copy Fee: \$25.00. Taught by Rachel Young.

**INTRODUCTION TO LAW ENFORCEMENT: (1st semester)** Whether students are exploring a potential career or want to deepen their understanding in order to be more informed citizens, they will enter the world of law enforcement, and learn critical thinking skills while studying and learning about the criminal justice system in this course for high school students. Taught by Detective Lieutenant Matthew Blair of the Coventry Police Department, a 16 year veteran of the force, with extensive experience in all areas the course will explore, topics will include: a Biblical view of law enforcement, intro to law enforcement, intro to the court system, basic forensics, patrol operations, SWAT team operations, use of force (firearms, tasers, less-lethal options, and the proper application of force in police work), undercover operations, and more. Investigative homework and classroom presentations will help build life skills and help students understand the material, which they will undoubtedly find exciting and useful in their future endeavors. Materials: \$10.00 Taught by Matthew Blair.

**UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES:** (offered on all three days) Don't let your high school student graduate without this course by Summit Ministries which focuses on comparing six fundamental worldviews of Western Civilization: Marxist Leninism (communism), Secular Humanism, Cosmic Humanism (New Age movement), Islam, Post-Modernism, and Biblical Christianity, all easily discovered in the current culture. Students quickly learn to do that, as well as being grounded in answers for them. Students learn to understand how worldview affects all other disciplines and how to defend their own faith. Those questioning their beliefs are encouraged to ask questions. Try taking this excellent (and free) worldview test yourself and then have your high schooler do it, to perhaps obtain some real insight into the need: <http://www.secretbattlebook.com/checkup.html> Where apologetics is mostly studying the basics of the Christian faith from the Bible, this course involves studying what the other worldviews believe and how they compare to Christianity, also using the Bible as the final authority. You have heard the statistic that 50% of professing Christian students leave the faith in college? The number is even higher now, but instruction in the biblical worldview dramatically changes the statistic. The lively discussion/application format is very effective in encouraging students to interact about the things that really matter, and it is what the students love most

about this class, along with the video lectures by experts in every field we study. Check out the college credit option at <http://understandingthetimes.com/college-credit/>. The material was written for juniors and seniors in high school, but, though challenging, it need not be limited to that age. This class meets for 1½ hours per week. Materials fee includes hard cover textbook, student manual, access to online video lectures, and copy fee. Materials: \$75.00. Taught by Julie Shorey.

**TREBLE CHOIR - CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD: (1<sup>st</sup> semester)** Choir this fall will focus on the higher (treble) voices. Our unique Christmas repertoire has been selected from various places around the globe (Africa, Germany, Puerto Rico...) while also featuring a fair selection of our favorite music from the USA. In this class we will work on quality of sound & presentation, while having some fun learning about Christmas traditions in other places! Choirs from Attleboro and our Cranston location will combine in concert at Cranston Christian Fellowship. Mandatory dress rehearsal and concert dates/times will be provided soon. Open to all Sopranos & Altos (guys & gals) grades 5-12; new singers or experienced! Please contact Mrs. Baker at [carolsjenny@gmail.com](mailto:carolsjenny@gmail.com) if you have any questions regarding vocal placement. Internet access is crucial to this class, as students will use [goodcompanychoirs.wordpress.com](http://goodcompanychoirs.wordpress.com) for supplemental instruction. In addition, CD's *may* be handed out for learning music at home. Students need a black 2", 3-ring binder with their name inside & designated choir pencil. **\*\*\*No audition necessary! But NEW students must email Mrs. Baker at [carolsjenny@gmail.com](mailto:carolsjenny@gmail.com) to complete registration (in addition to GCT registration form).** Materials: \$22.00. Taught by Jennifer Baker.

**CHOIR: (2<sup>nd</sup> semester)** Choir returns to SAB format (Soprano, Alto, Baritone) with eclectic repertoire from a broad range of genres which gives us ample opportunity for developing choral skills as well as creating a very interesting presentation at the end of the semester! Our theme is TBD. A one day "choir retreat" for fun & extra rehearsal time may be provided mid-semester pending provision of a venue. Details TBD. Our concert will be held at Cranston Christian Fellowship. Mandatory dress rehearsal and concert dates/times will be provided soon. Internet access is crucial to this class, as students will use [goodcompanychoirs.wordpress.com](http://goodcompanychoirs.wordpress.com) for supplemental instruction. In addition, CD's *may* be handed out for learning music at home. Open to students grades 5-12. They will need a black 2", 3-ring binder with their name inside & designated choir pencil. **\*\*\*No audition necessary! But NEW students must email Mrs. Baker at [carolsjenny@gmail.com](mailto:carolsjenny@gmail.com) to complete registration (in addition to GCT registration form).** Materials: \$22.00. Taught by Jennifer Baker.

