

Countryside Montessori High School Fall 2009 Elective Courses

Course Title: Literary Magazine and Publication

Students in this course will produce Countryside Montessori's literary magazine. Students will perform all editorial duties, including reading submissions, designing the layout, promoting the issue, and distributing the finished product. We will devote special attention to expanding the magazine's web presence. Students will understand the process required to produce a periodical publication, improve their ability to organize tasks around a deadline, and refine skills to read and evaluate submissions as editors. Students will also work towards having student work published locally or nationally in magazines, newspapers, books, and/or online.

Course Title: Music Theory and Composition

Students will learn both the history of music and the theory behind how different note and interval patterns relate. With an emphasis on contemporary music, this course will offer fun and engaging interaction between classical music the music of today. Starting with the earliest known manuscript of music, the Robertsbridge Codex, students will be challenged with bringing the past alive. Basic song writing skills will be taught and each student will be able to create and showcase at least one composition or song.

Course Title: Percussion Ensemble

In this course students will explore the world of Rhythm including a drum line, steel drums and Percussion instrumentation. Participants in this class will study the form and analysis of percussion patterns and wide latitude will be given for experimentation. There will also be a historic study of percussion and how other cultures have used drums for a variety of purposes.

Course Title: Visual Arts I

Art I is designed to reinforce and build on knowledge and skills developed at the elementary and middle school levels. It is the foundation level for art study throughout high school. The course is primarily devoted to deliberate and systematic presentations of various art processes, procedures, theories, and historical developments. Students will have experiences in producing two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks. The course emphasizes the study of the elements of art and principles of design, color theory, vocabulary, art criticism, art history, and safety in the art room. The approach to art experiences during this time is experimental in terms of materials. Students are provided a strong foundation in design, drawing and vocabulary in a teacher-structured environment. Problem solving and decision making are emphasized throughout Art I.

Course Title: Web Design and Video

This course designed to increase students' knowledge and understanding of web page design, layout, terminology, and advanced mechanisms used to design creative and effective websites. Students will also learn the fundamentals of video design by using Microsoft Movie Maker and creating podcasts. Students will use various online resources for page creation, design, and graphics. At the conclusion of the course, students should be able to design interactive web pages, create dynamic web sites using a variety of elements such as forms, frames, image maps, image rollovers, and animations. They will also be able to produce audio and video podcasts as well as videos from Movie Maker to upload on the completed web pages.

Course Title: Yearbook I and II

This course gives students marketable experience in print media publishing and works toward the completion and selling of Countryside's yearbook. In class, students compose, construct, and edit all elements of computerized text layout, graphic art, and digital photography. Yearbook students learn to improve their writing, reporting, editing, photography, graphic design, advertising, public relations, leadership, and time management skills. Out of class and after school, students will be required to attend sporting events and social gatherings to acquire needed photography

