

Jan Term 2017

Academic Course Offerings (Mornings)

1. Alfred Hitchcock: The Master of Suspense

In this class we will view, discuss, and analyze the films of Sir Alfred Hitchcock (1899-1980), widely regarded as one of the greatest movie directors in film history. Hitchcock was known for his use of creative camera angles, the buildup of suspense, his macabre sense of humor, and unexpected plot twists and surprise endings. We will view and analyze at least 3 of Hitchcock's greatest films: Psycho, North by Northwest, and Rear Window. Students who take this course will be expected to participate in class discussions, successfully complete a major research project and class presentation, and display an interest in, and enjoyment of, classic Hollywood movies.

Required Materials: *The Art of Alfred Hitchcock: Fifty Years of His Motion Pictures*. This book can be purchased used or new on Amazon.com for as little as \$2.

2. A Search for Self

“Who am I?” is an intriguing and compelling question. Personal self-discovery will be the focus of this class. You’ll learn more about your personal characteristics by reviewing the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator test (a personality test). Also, you’ll reflect on dream analysis and the qualities of women who you admire and who inspire you. Ultimately, you will create a “self-portrait shrine” that symbolizes your unique spirit and aspirations. This class is only a beginning step in your own journey of self-discovery.

Special Requirements: A fee of \$3.00 per student will be for materials to decorate the self-portrait shrine. Also, each student will need to provide a sturdy shoe box to build their individual self-portrait shrine.

3. Understanding Relational Aggression

Do you remember your middle school years when girls started to pick on one another and gossip was spread rapidly about any and everybody? Have you ever wanted to help a middle school student figure out how do best handle those hard times? This class will be learning about relational aggression – what it is, what causes it, and how to resolve it. Each student will be trained to lead a curriculum to use with younger students. The students will be partnering with the 4th grade girls from Summit School and will serve as mentors to them. Each mentoring team will have a group of 4th graders to meet with daily and lead through the curriculum. This is your chance to make a difference in the lives of younger girls!

Course Requirements: This is a 2-period class, so you will only be allowed to take two other courses. Also the class is limited to 8-10 students.

4. Women Warriors and Rebels

Following the Pentagon's decision to lift its ban on women serving in combat roles, Capt. Kristen Griest and 1st Lt. Shaye Haver became the first female soldiers to successfully graduate from The Army Ranger School in August 2015. Inspired by their accomplishment, this course will focus on famous female figures who played a prominent military role in history. We will examine the tradition of women and warfare throughout history from myth and legend to actual women leaders. We will look at women who tried to win an empire, women who defended their countries from foreign invasion, and women who led men in battle.

5. Flower Arranging

We will have fun with flowers and greenery while learning the fundamentals of flower arranging and ending with a judged flower show in our reception rooms. We will learn both botanical and common names for greenery and flowers and will put all of this into a context of the history of flower design from both Eastern and Western traditions. That is, we will learn about Ikebana as well as Classical European inspirations.

Special Requirements: To help defray costs of supplies, each student is asked to pay \$10.

6. From Classroom to 5k!

It's post-holiday. It's January. It's cold. What do you want to do? NO! Don't get back in that bed! Yank on that hoodie, lace up those sneakers, and grab that water bottle. We're going running! Or walking, or jogging, or prancing... Whether you are simply wanting to get outside and breathe in crisp air, or jog your way to completing a 3.1 miles course, or push your time to a sub-8 minute mile, this is the class for you. We will spend the first 30 minutes of the class running/walking the grounds of the Academy and College, followed by a guided writing prompt that will document your ten day training experience. On Friday, January 20th, the last day of the course, we will run our previously mapped 3.1 course. All fitness and writing levels are welcome!

Special Requirements: Running shoes and a composition notebook

7. Robotics for Newbies

Come and learn about the world of Robotics. We will learn the basics of robotics by building and programming a small robot and using virtual world challenges. This could prepare you for being part of the competition team in the future or give you a glimpse into the world of Robotics and Programming. The RobotC language will be used. Note: This class will not be working on the FTC Challenge.

8. Disney Heroines

Mulan. Belle. Rapunzel, Pocahontas, and Snow White. For generations, these Disney princesses, as well as others, have shaped the views of young girls, both for good and for ill. In this course, we will study what makes a "Disney Princess" by analyzing clips of various Disney movies. We will compare these movies to their source material, particularly the early fairy tales, as well as to more modern, "darker" adaptations, such as Maleficent and Snow White & the Huntsman, to see how the idea of a "Disney Princess" has evolved over time. The major project for the course will be you designing your own "Disney Princess" and then writing a short fairy tale featuring your heroine.

9. Seeing Your World Through a Camera Lens

Do you enjoy taking photographs? What makes a good photograph good? How do I decide what kind of camera to buy? How do I use the many features in my camera? This course is designed to help you learn how to take good photographs and to have FUN while doing it. We will look into the history of photography and the camera, and study the works of some great photographers. We will learn about composition, exposure and the features and limitations of our cameras. You will take many photos as you practice what you learn, and you will begin to assemble your own portfolio of photographic art. There is no prerequisite for this course, and you need not be an artist to participate or to benefit from it. All you need is a camera and the will to experiment and practice. Typical homework assignments will include simple research in the library and on the internet, critiquing others' photographs and, of course, taking many pictures. Your grade will be based on your learning of basic photographic theory and on your effort in the assignments.

10. Chinese Calligraphy

Chinese calligraphy is an art that has developed over thousands of years. This course introduces students the basic knowledge of drawing Chinese characters and the technique of writing with brushes and ink. By participating in our beautiful projects, such as making stamps and paintings, students will produce artworks and may find inner peace through the experience. No knowledge of Mandarin Chinese is needed.

11. What You Wished You Had Learned in Math

Many people make it through advanced level mathematics during their educational journeys, and yet, they find themselves without some of the most important and useful mathematical skills necessary for surviving as an adult. During this course, students will learn how to mentally calculate the tip at restaurants; determine the cost of items/clothes that have a percent discount; shop online using codes while earning cash back; use paper and digital coupons to save money on groceries; determine gas mileage and travel times; write a check and pay bills; understand credit cards, bank accounts, and the importance of good credit; determine measurements of

walls/rooms/floors in order to do home decorating; and read & convert units in recipes in order to cook/bake.

12. **Robotics and First Tech Challenge Competitions.**

Current Robotics team members will work on their robot and programs in preparation for the 2016 qualifying competition in February. The Java programming language will be used. Video of this year's challenge can be viewed at <http://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/ftc/game-and-season>.

Course Requirements: This is a two-period course and is restricted to current FTC Robotics Team Members.

13. **Social Media & Blog Takeover!**

Do you use Facebook? Instagram? Snapchat? Twitter? Pinterest? Do you like blogging? If you answered yes to any of those questions, then this is the class for you!! With full access to the Academy's social media pages you are being given the opportunity to participate in a "**Jan term Takeover!!!**" What kinds of posts do you think applicants and their parents want to see on our social media that will make them want to come to Salem Academy? Get creative! Have fun! And help us reach out to our future students through exciting and engaging posts that help outsiders see what life is like on the inside. AND, you will be the first group of students to help launch the **NEW** Salem Academy blog!! Help us to design the format of the webpage, brainstorm topics to write about, and launch an awesome new addition to the Academy website! In this class you will have the opportunity to use photography skills, creative writing skills, and computer skills. For those interested in any of these topics for future careers, products produced as a result of this class will make a great addition to your college portfolio.

Special Requirements: This is the only class you will ever take where cellphones will be required! And please bring a laptop if you have one as well to write blog posts!

14. **Children's Literature**

"Do you like green eggs and ham? I do not like them Sam I am." Join me for a trip down memory all the way back to Kindergarten! We will Romp with the Wild Things and eat one piece of cake, an ice cream cone and a pickle with The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Spend time reading some of your old favorites, researching authors and writing your own children's book to be shared with some very special elementary students at the end of the course.

Special Requirement: Students need to pay \$3.00 to cover the cost of their publishing center.

15. **Rabble Rousers, Revolutionaries, and Change Agents: Examining Girl Power in the Medieval Era**

The Middle Ages are often touted as a dour and dirty period in history, and this course will illuminate some of the revolutionary roles that female philosophers and change agents played during this time. Students will read and discuss diaries and essays written by teenagers during this historical period in class, and learn about how teenagers made a significant impact on society. After reading historical documents from this period, students will compose their own writings written in the style of medieval female leaders, including Joan of Arc, Heloise and Hildegard von Bingen. Along with exploring the byways of Paris' Latin Quarter, which shaped numerous thinkers from this time, students will complete research on a medieval historical figure and attend class in character!

16. The Science of Color

Do you love colors? Ever wonder where color comes from or how we see in color? In "The Science of Color," we will learn about the importance of colors in all areas of life: physics, biology, cultural symbolism, advertising, therapy, and more! We will also learn how our brain interprets and misinterprets colors to cause color blindness and infamous optical illusions like "The Dress." Join this course if you'd like to learn a lot, enjoy peaceful coloring sessions, and appreciate the beauty of all the colors around us.

17. Mad About Mythology

Why do people like mythology? Are they just epic tales of gods and goddesses who are gallivanting about the earth and achieving all sorts of impossible tasks? In this course we will discuss and study the major gods and goddesses from mythology. We will explore them together but you, the students, will also give presentations about these intriguing figures. If you have a laptop (it is not required), we will use it for some of the class days.

Enrichment Offerings (Afternoons)

You need to sign up for 1 two-hour class or 2 one-hour classes. Afternoon classes begin at 1:00 p.m. and end at 3:00 p.m., excluding Driver's Education.

1. Sculpture and a Movie

Students will take an international trip through culturally based films, while creating sculptural forms either indigenous to that area of the world or referenced within the film. An example of this connection is the Iranian Film, "The Color of Paradise", about a visually impaired child who apprentices with a visually impaired wood sculptor. Students will produce small wooden sculptures while watching the film. The course will include 5 films and 5 different sculptural forms; including wood, clay, paper, and more. (2 hours)

2. Musical Theatre: Comparing and Contrasting

In this class we will look at several musicals and compare and contrast how they have changed over the years by viewing different versions. (1 hour)

3. Shakespeare on Screen

In this class we will view three Shakespeare classics on film, followed by spirited discussion regarding direction, characterization, costuming and use of music. (1 hour)

4. Volunteering at Diggs Elementary School

Students will be assigned a teacher at Diggs Elementary School to work with students and help out in the classroom. Every effort is made to match students with their grade preference. Transportation is provided. NO CELL PHONES are allowed at Diggs Elementary and students must dress professionally. (2 hours)