

Weekly Elective Course Descriptions 2020 – 2021 Semester 1

ASB-Leadership (Mr. Davis):

MSJ peer leaders are involved in promoting and organizing school events, fundraising for activities, uniting all students and recycling. Be willing to support your classmates and becoming a role-model for others is required.

Astronomy (Mr. Rowin):

Astronomy is built on two of the most basic traits of human nature: the need to explore and the need to understand. Join us and gain an appreciation of the age-old quest to understand our world and the universe in which we live.

Banking (Ms. Ayon):

This course will provide students practical experience in banking operations. Students will learn about banking policies, procedures, products and other services. They will learn how to make deposits, debits, credits and how to balance their accounts.

Drawing in Pen/ink (Mrs. Jones):

Students will learn and explore techniques to draw in pen. Exercises will become more complex as students work from initial sketches to more developed pieces. While working to gain an understanding of the ink medium, students will be challenged to translate concepts into visual images. It is recommended that you enroll only if you have passed Art 1 with at least a B.

History Through Movies (Mr. Hawkins):

Take a trip through History with blockbuster Hollywood films. Experience the battle of Midway, storm of the beaches of Normandy, and walk alongside Historical figures like Gandhi and Martin Luther King in these Academy Award winning movies.

E-Sports – League of Legends (Mr. Johnson):

Currently, League of Legends will be the game that we will be participating in at MSJ. League of Legends is a fast-paced, multiplayer online battle arena (MOBA) game which requires players to strategize to knock down enemy towers. Players will be required to work together and participate in a group setting and learn team-building skills.

Making Money Investing in The Stock Market (Mr. Bullis):

In this elective, you will explore the ins and outs of the stock market with Mr. Bullis. Learn the history, important terms, how the market works, how to research companies, how to invest in stocks, etc. You will also get to participate in the online Stock Market Game where you will invest \$100,000 in stocks of your choice and compete with other students across the world to see who ends up with the most virtual cash at the end.

Philosophy (Ms. Crossey):

Have you ever wondered - What is the world made of?, What is man?, What is knowledge?, What is good and evil? In this class we will trace the development of these questions as the key to understanding how Western philosophy developed over the last 2,500 years.

Sports Stats and Analysis (Mr. Bagnell):

Students will learn to effectively analyze sports, beginning with football for the fall. Analyze both players and teams and support their analysis with statistics; Create reports on specific players or teams; Make predictions on the outcome of different games based on statistical analysis; Participate in teacher-facilitated fantasy sports leagues (starting with football) and learn to set lineups based on their statistical analysis.

String Design (Ms. Limon):

Transform cardboard, strings, and straws into 2 and 3-dimensional polygon and polyhedra designs. These constructions offer abundant opportunity to learn mathematical vocabulary and concepts. Working with the designs on polyhedra also helps prepare high school students for the 3-dimensional graphs and surfaces encountered in college calculus, analytic geometry, and architecture.

Use Your Imagination (Mr. Fishman):

Learn how to let your imagination soar by writing fictional stories. Science fiction, mysteries, and all other kinds of stories are the focus. Let your mind wander to where its never been before and have fun writing about whatever you want to express.

What's Going On? (Ms. Mosby):

If you're: Interested in current events, Curious about social justice, Want to be engaged in our democracy. If you want to know more about: Protest movements - past and present, Your Civil Rights, Civic Engagement. If you care about: People, Politics, Equity! If these things appeal to you, join this elective. We'll view videos and films, study music, learn about our Constitutional rights, discover how protest movements past and present have (or haven't) changed our society, have lively (but always civil) virtual discussions, and learn how young people (you!) can help to create the change you want to see in the world.

What's That You're Reading? (Mrs. Gershenson/Mr. Favares):

The Civil Rights icon, Malcolm X, said, "People don't realize how a man's whole life can be changed by one book." He taught himself to read while in prison, learning words from the dictionary in the prison library. Educating himself opened up the world for him. In this Zoom discussion class, students will share whatever book they are reading, at any level. It is okay to start with that book you loved in 5th grade, superhero comics, mangia, short stories, even what you are reading to your little sister! A few questions will be shared the day before our class session to help move and deepen the discussion. Have fun sharing what you are learning about the world, yourself, and others and finding new connections to everything!

Yugioh Card Game (Mr. Pelayo):

In this class students will learn how to play the Yugioh card game and take part in Duels with other students. Participants will learn the rules, how to build a deck, and duel during class. Students will be able to try hundreds of different decks and learn the current dueling meta.