

1st Block

Raven Literacy: Perspectives

Instructor: Emily Dietrich

Course Description: Ravens will start the year by reading widely with short pieces and excerpts from authors from a wide variety of experiences to focus on the skills of empathy and analysis. Developing the skills to observe and discuss other forms of expression, we'll explore art, music, and film as well. To encourage writing fluency we'll write journals and impromptu essays. We'll explore methods for reading with purpose and deeper understanding, working toward an understanding of each learner's best academic practices. Using the forms of paragraphs, short essays, well-crafted sentences, poetry, and story, we'll experiment with self-expression for a variety of purposes: academic, therapeutic, social connection, social action.

Texts:

Night by Elie Wiesel

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

The Wind's Four Quarters by Ursula K. LeGuin

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Quest

Meets once a month in lieu of regular 1st block

Instructors: Erika Wright & Lauren Mathews

Course Description: The monthly "Quest" class explores social-emotional learning and character development through delving into supplemental/relational identity and core identity as well as character traits like responsibility, fairness, trustworthiness, empathy, etc. As a group and through individual and partner work we will focus on explorations of personality traits, growth mindset, conflict styles, communication, and listening. Through a combination of individual journaling, team-based challenges, whole-class discussions, art projects, role-playing skits, various debate formats, and games, the learners will discover more about themselves, their peers, and their communities.

Meeting Dates: 10/11, 12/6, 1/17, 2/28, 4/17, 5/22

2nd block

Raven Science: World Tour

Instructor: John Mannion

Course Description: It's a year to explore this amazing planet. Together, we'll move from continent to continent and uncover new findings — from landscapes and ecosystems to plants and animals. At each stop, students will have the opportunity to move deeper into a point of interest, and then present their findings to the rest of the class. Want to learn more about the aye-aye, a long-fingered lemur native to Madagascar? Want to find out which vegetation can survive the cold of Antarctica? Want to spend time investigating one of the 516 national parks of Australia? In this class, you can.

Throughout the year, students will be encouraged to understand their points of interest through the lens of interconnection. We will ask questions like: Has this ecosystem impacted the local lifestyle? In what ways has the topography of a region played into its history? Do common cultural beliefs in an area connect in any way to the plants and animals there?

Class learning will be supplemented by readings and videos, as well as interviews with people who have lived or currently live on other continents.

3rd block

Math with Jeanie Iida or Jeremy Thomas

4th block

History of the Pacific Northwest (WA State History)

Instructor: Dylan Ruef & Emily Dietrich

Course Description: History of the Pacific Northwest is a course which will explore the history of one of the last regions of North America to be conquered and colonized by Europeans. The class will survey topics including but not limited to the indigenous people who predated the Europeans, explorers like James Cook and the Corps of Discovery, the Oregon Trail, mining and gold rushes, trapping, the impacts of World War II on the region, and modern concerns like the plight of salmon or the spotted owl. The course will feature a rigorous writing component where students will be challenged to develop and express their own perspectives and thoughts in multiple reflections and assignments.

Text:

The Pacific Northwest: An Interpretive History By Carlos Arnaldo Schwantes

5th block (Monday/Tuesday; Wednesday Electives TBD)

The Icelandic Sagas (*Raven and High School*)

Instructor: Jeremy Thomas

Course Description: Sagas are a literary form from Scandinavia used throughout the middle ages. There are many types of saga but we will be focusing on the family sagas which tell the stories of the people and families who settled Iceland, although we will also look at a legendary saga – the tales of magic and dragons. These stories played a vital role in the development of literature in Europe, influencing authors throughout the continent all the way to the modern age (one saga has a tale of a traveler finding a ring in a cave that turned him invisible). The time in which they were written was a time of great change in Europe, and the sagas are part of the conversations about who should hold power, the role of violence, the development of the law, consent in marriage, and many of the issues that led to Europe's transition away from feudalism and towards the systems we have today. They are also full of poetry, jokes, fights, romance, epic travels, trolls, the colonization of Canada, and more.

Text: *The Sagas of Icelanders* by Robert Kellogg

Others TBD

Creating Worlds Through Words (*Raven & High School*)

Instructor: John Mannion

Course Description: In this class, we'll move through four major categories of creative writing: screenwriting, fiction, playwriting, and graphic novels. Students will learn the basic structure for each form and read several examples of each. Students will then be able to try their hand at any form of interest and have the opportunity to share their work. They could create a short piece of work in each form or a longer piece in a single form. Throughout the class, we will consider the nature of creativity, the therapeutic effects of creative writing, and how we can use our words to empower, entertain, and ask good questions.

American Sign Language (*Raven & High School*)

Instructor: Catherine Lewis

Course Description: Learners in this hands-on class will dive into the history and practice of American Sign Language in the context of the Deaf community. In addition to growing our receptive and expressive skills by understanding and practicing the language itself, we will also explore the realities, joys, and challenges of deafness and the culture and strength of the Deaf community. Topics such as the science of hearing, various communication modalities, and

controversies such as cochlear implants will also be explored. Learners will leave this class with basic conversational skills in ASL as well as a deeper understanding and appreciation for the Deaf identity.

Thursday Program Preview

Additional classes and sign up with fee details will go out later this month!

Fall Theater Lab

Instructor: Trent Latta & Kjerstine Anderson

All Ages

9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Course Description: This workshop will explore the fundamentals of storytelling, including character development, themes, plot structure, conflict, and resolution. They will also introduce filmmaking techniques to students. To facilitate effective learning, the older students will be grouped into small teams consisting of two to three students, based on their age and subject interests. Each group will have the opportunity to write, cast, direct, and act in their own short film using smartphones or other video devices. Students will learn the basics of film editing using a basic, but effective and easy-to-learn software called Filmora by Wondershare. Trent will be available to assist the students in editing their films. Younger students will focus on learning the same storytelling elements but will not participate in the filmmaking aspect of the class. Instead, they will write and perform their own short plays (two to three).

The students' films and plays will be showcased in December 2023!

Spring Play

Instructor: Trent Latta

Ages 8 & Up (with options for learners under 8)

9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Course Description: The Attic's tradition of showcasing a school play, concluding with a live production continues! Throughout the rehearsal process, students will receive guidance in stage acting and, depending on interest, will receive instruction on the theater industry (auditions, agents, casting) as compared to the film industry. For those who choose to assist the production with a technical job, they will be expected to learn about a specific area of interest in technical theater and to write a paper on the subject. For example, they may choose to explore different stage lighting techniques, stage scenery techniques, or any other aspect of technical theater that fascinates them. Trent and Kjerstine will provide instruction and support to students undertaking the technical learning aspect, helping them develop their papers.

The play will be scheduled to be performed in May 2024 at the Bellevue Youth Theatre or another suitable professional or semi-professional venue. The exact performance dates will depend on the Attic's calendar and, more importantly, the availability of the chosen venue. This semester's activities will be limited to children aged nine and older, and enrolled students will be

expected to participate in rehearsals. *Children 8 and younger may participate the last week of rehearsals; please contact Trent Latta if your child is interested in joining.*

Literacy & Mathematics Through Tabletop RPGs - Fall & Spring

Instructor: Nick Satnik
Merganser, Raven, & High School
9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Course Description: Coming soon!

Thursday Program

Instructors: Various
All Ages

Course Description: Thursday Program offerings will be determined by student enrollment and interest. Jeremy Thomas is offering a Computer Science course for Raven and High School students. If you are interested in this course, please indicate that on your sign up form. Students will take a 30 minute lunch break during this session.

Computer Science - Fall & Spring

Instructor: Jeremy Thomas
11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Course Description: A structured look at computer science in theory and practice. We will start the basics of computation: how do computers represent data or do math including a close look at how the hardware is organized and functions. Then we explore the general ideas behind computer software and hardware and see how those ideas are implemented in different languages: specifically the industry standard languages of Python, Java, and C++. Each week will focus on an important topic like conditionals, loops, classes, etc, and then work on projects which demonstrate its use and importance. We will also study computer science theories and paradigms like object oriented, functional, or aspect oriented programming as well as development processes like code versioning and iterative design. As we enter the second semester you will get to choose how we proceed: keep going as we have been, work on an all class project, add in the robots, or work on individual projects. The class will not be as free form as an elective, we will keep it professional with the goal of designing, implementing, and debugging working software.

Fall Morning Study Session

Instructor: Jeanie Iida
Raven and older
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

Course Description: Thursday Study Session is a time of productivity and one on one support for Raven and high school students. Jeanie is available for help with Attic math classes or

Community College classes. The expectation is that you come ready to work! For planning purposes you must be signed up the Wednesday prior to your Thursday time slot.