

# SAMPLE COURSE LIST



## **BLOOD & GUTS**

Since we know it's not crazy glue, bobby pins, rubber bands, or engines that keep us together and going, let us see exactly what does. We will be examining some of the important organs and systems in our body to determine how they function to keep us on the go. Be prepared to dissect chicken legs, sheep's eyes, brains, and hearts to better understand what is inside of you. You will get some bones and have to guess what they are or what function they serve by examining their shape. You will learn how to take your blood pressure, find out what nearsighted and farsighted really means, and you will never take your thumb for granted again. Who knows how many doctors launched their careers in Blood and Guts!

## **BRAZIL!**

Yes, the country is known for their amazing soccer teams, but what else can we learn? Brazil is the 5th largest country in the world and Portuguese is the 7th most spoken language on the planet. We'll learn about Carnaval, futebol, bossa nova, capoeira, Amazonia, feijoada, and pão de queijo! Learn some basic words and idioms that might come in handy at a churrascaria in Boston, or on a trip to Bahia for vacation. Explore the language and culture through Brazilian music and literature. Study soccer, and the country's greatest player of all time, Pelé. Know Rio, the biggest carnival celebration in the world. Chart the Amazon, the world's largest intact forest. Are we ready? Nos vemos em abril! Até lá!

## **CHASSÉ, PIVOT TURN, SHUFFLE-BALL-CHANGE!**

Learn to chassé, pivot turn, shuffle-ball-change, jazz square, high kick, and all that jazz! Students will take to the stage and learn choreography to songs from famous musicals like Wicked, Seussical, The Lion King, West Side Story, and many more! We will practice strong dance techniques, and work on acting out the storytelling of a musical through movement. Students will leave this course with a background in different approaches to Broadway dance, that they can show-off at their next audition!

## **CLAY TIME**

Do you love to roll up your sleeves and get dirt on your hands? Or should we say "clay" on your hands? In this new course, students will be encouraged to express themselves by working on the pottery wheel, learning the fundamentals of hand-building, and glazing and decorating their clay pieces. An example of one project will be "Make a Cup for a Friend"! After a discussion about the meaning of friendship, students will choose a specific person and then design the cup based on images that symbolize their friendship. Let's get started and "clay" around!

## **COOL WORLD 3D**

This is your chance to start working in a totally new dimension. Just like the 3D modelers who created Finding Nemo and Shrek we will teach you how to think and work in 3D. Using a program called Tinkercad, and your imagination, you will learn how to build 3d models on the computer. After only a few short tutorials you will start building basic 3D models and will then work your way up to more complex projects. We will also produce a 3D print of one of your creations in plastic for you to show your family and friends.

## **CREATE YOUR OWN COMPUTER GAME**

You've played computer games. You've used word processors and Web browsers. But where did all that software come from? Did it come from someone's magic wand? No, of course not! It was created by a process we call "programming." In this course you'll learn how to design and write software as a beginning programmer with an exciting, and easy to learn program called Scratch. In five weeks you'll create a small but working computer game and will learn the skills that you need to continue further on your own.

## **DARKROOM PHOTOGRAPHY**

Here's your chance to learn some new skills that are not only a lot of fun, but could become a life-long hobby, help you do awesome projects for school, or even help you in many future jobs. Did you know that there are many, many ways to experiment with photography? In this class we will explore the creative potential of light and light sensitive materials by making photograms, sun prints, and slide shows. We will use the Milton Academy darkroom where we will learn how to use special equipment and chemicals to develop and print our own pictures. We'll make postcards that you can send to your friends, tone photographs so that they'll look old-fashioned, and hand-color black and white pictures. Take this course and you will discover how much fun photography can be!

## **DIGITAL ART**

Come and learn about the elements of art and the principles of design to create digital art using your digital skills. In this project-based class, students will also learn about digital art tools used in Google Drawings such as shapes, border, polyline, cropping, masking, and editing a picture. All skill levels are welcome.

## **DRAW, PAINT, CREATE**

Come and have fun with the elements of art: line, shape, form, space, color and texture. Each week you will experiment with different media to create your own piece using pencils, charcoal, oil pastels, mixed media, clay and more. At times we will observe a work of art to see how famous artists used these elements. You will use your imagination, observation and sometimes collaboration to create your art. At the end of the five-week session you will take home a portfolio filled with your work. The only thing that you need to bring is your imagination to draw, paint and create!

## **EARTH WARRIORS**

In this course you can flex your muscles for the earth! We'll explore the school garden, plant seeds, and learn to identify flowers and plants that the spring brings! We'll discuss some current hot topics including the work being done by Greta Thunberg and Autumn Peltier. From your own passionate perspective, we'll create a list of action steps to share with the Saturday Course community and beyond to build awareness of composting, recycling, water use, forest and animal species preservation and more!

## **FICTION WRITING**

Do you have a favorite book? Do you wonder how authors create such amazing stories? Do you want to write stories yourself? This might be the class for you. In Fiction Writing we will learn writing techniques, strategies about plot, characters, settings, dialogue, and how to write a good ending. You will get feedback from the teacher and will be able to share your writing with other classmates.

## **LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION!**

In this fun course, we will be looking at how to take a monologue or a scene from a show and make interesting character choices using our voice and our body. We will help build your confidence so that you are ready for your next show or audition!

## **MAKE YOUR OWN CITY**

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to build a city? Well, get ready to find out because, street by street, we will build our own, spectacular, astounding, never-before-seen metropolis. You say no cars allowed, just horses? You want this city under the sea? You got it. We'll buy our land, plan the development, and negotiate any compromises that need to be made, pay taxes, and watch the city and our investments grow. Your neighbor may have lots of ideas too. We'll all work together to create our city - we'll have to move fast because people are moving in soon.

## **MAKERSPACE**

Do you like to design? Build? Challenge yourself and your peers? In this course, you will use the engineering design process as you sketch, both on paper and the computer, build models, and test your final prototype. Each project culminates in a race with your one-of-a-kind vehicle. You'll get a chance to learn about engineering and physics through challenges that will pit you and your classmates against several more formidable opponents: gravity, friction, pressure, and wind. Expect the unexpected! Do you have what it takes to accept the challenges?

## **MYSTERY CLASS**

It is highly recommended that you avoid this class at all costs. It is full of lies, deception and illusions. It is not about mysteries — not in the Sherlock Holmes sense, though some students may spend weeks wondering “what is this class actually about?” Students who want more information may possess the curiosity required for the class, but they must be willing to brave the frustrations of coded messages, boxes they are forbidden to open, and some mild experimentation upon their brain.

## **PHANTASMAGORIA**

Where does reality end and fantasy begin? Artists like Dali, Magritte, Oldenburg, and Skoglund are famous for creating surrealistic art to ask and answer that question. In this class students will use drawing to create fantasy art. We will create illusions that are comical, strange, and wacky venturing into the realm of dreams, monsters, and alien life. In each class we will create an image that asks: “How is that possible?” An example would be: “What would you get if you crossed an iguana and a skyscraper?” Attention: Please bring your imagination!

## **ROBOTS RULE!**

Can your robot pass a driving test? Can it move through a challenging maze? In this exciting robotics class, students will work in teams to build robots using Lego Mindstorm Kits. Through trial and error, students will reprogram and reengineer robots to complete individual tasks. Robots rule!

## **SUPER SCIENCE**

Electrostatics, chemical reactions, rocket propulsion, aerodynamics, electric circuits, light behavior and color, parachutes, enzyme biology, and more! We will explore various hands-on activities from the areas of engineering, physics, chemistry, and biology in this course. Demonstrations, lab projects, and design competitions will be included as we investigate the cool world of STEM. We will learn some important scientific concepts, how these ideas apply to real-world situations in our lives, and we will learn about each of them by fully-interactive activities.

## **THEATRE – AN ACT OF RESISTANCE**

Have you ever thought something was unjust? Have you ever wished your voice could change something! Do you see Theater as a vehicle to make change? Theater of the Oppressed, founded by Brazilian political activist and theater practitioner Augusto Boal does just that! Now, so can you. You will have a chance to think about issues that concern you and that you care about. You will create stunning images and improvisational scenes based on trying to turn injustice into justice, oppression into resistance. You will become directors and actors who are part of social change!

## **TRIAL COURT**

Can you think fast and win a case? Become a lawyer and participate in cases presented before a jury; be a witness and testify ; or be a juror who must decide if the defendant is guilty. We'll take a look at cases that are making headlines today as well as some that have helped to shape the laws of this nation. The outcome of any case is never known until the jury decides! As we play a variety of games and run our own trials, you will become familiar with the judicial system.

## **WEATHER WATCHERS**

Every day professional and amateur meteorologists are seeking to make sense of the many signs in our environment in order to predict major weather events so that all of the world and its inhabitants can be best prepared. Are you someone who wants to get their creative juices flowing, and are willing to push yourself to explore and experience what it means to study the weather and storm systems? We will be exploring the science of weather by taking an observational and hands-on approach to weather and the climate. We will also focus on major types of weather events - tornados, hurricanes, nor'easters, and more - and how they've been exacerbated by the impact of climate change. In addition to a basic understanding of the weather and meteorology, this course aims to develop important life skills like the ability to assess a problem, analyze environmental data, be open to others' ideas, think critically about our own ideas, and present one's observations and conclusions clearly in the form of your own weather presentation. If schedules allow, we will also have a visit from an actual meteorologist!

## **WOODWORKING**

Have fun learning the correct use of basic woodworking tools or improve upon the woodworking skills you already have in a relaxed and comfortable environment. Design, create, build, and paint a project of your choice. Make a box for storing your possessions or build a lamp for your bedside table. Create a pair of bookends to keep your library in order, or construct a shelving unit for your room. Chisel a personal plaque engraved with your name or perhaps create a game, toy, or bird house. This course offers a hands-on approach to learning as you discover the satisfying feeling of creating your very own masterpiece from a plain plank of lumber. You'll leave with work you have created and, equally importantly, with improved skills that you can continue to use for a lifetime.

## **YOGA**

Embark on a course of self-discovery! You will learn yoga postures, explore mind-body concepts like moving with your breath, and developing inner focus. Many believe that in order to do yoga, one has to be flexible and relate yoga to meditation. While a yoga practice will make someone more flexible and more centered, the outcome of yoga surpasses even these lofty goals. You'll learn how to quiet down your mind, feel more calm, and develop new ways to handle challenges in your life.

## **YOUR TURN!**

Do you like to play board games? Are you the inventor of the next Chess, Monopoly or Scrabble? Did you know that there are kids under the age of 10 who invented board games and have had them published by major companies? In "Your Turn!" we will spend some time learning about some great games and discuss what the aspects of a good board game are. You will also learn how to work in small groups brainstorming and designing your final project which will be a game developed and designed by you. During this class you will also develop life skills such as participating in brainstorming sessions, learning how to communicate your ideas through presentation and most importantly you will have some fun. The only things you really need to bring to class are your imagination and a desire to play and be creative.