

BARD SEQUENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COLLEGE ALGEBRA

College algebra enables students to polish their algebra skills in order to study more advanced math; the course also serves students who intend to focus on areas outside of mathematics and the sciences in their college studies. The algebraic tools studied includes those required for precalculus and calculus, as well as for the study of probability, statistics, computer science, and other quantitative fields. Students learn about graphs, polynomials, rational functions, exponential functions and logarithmic functions.

POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY

Study in the field of Psychology often focuses on where things go wrong: pathology, deficit, trauma, etc. But there is another side to the human mind and the human experience as well. This course, Introduction to Positive Psychology, focuses on the psychology of when things go right, including happiness, self-esteem, empathy, friendship, leadership, love, achievement, creativity, mindfulness, spirituality, and humor. Through reading, discussion, and our own experimentation and activities, we will explore the science behind these human capacities, their historical and cultural context, and of course their application in our lives.

THE SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

This course will explore what's behind the climate change through a scientific lens and study how environmental and chemical factors, compounded by human activities, contribute to the issue. To help you better understand their importance individually, we will examine each factor in depth and expand to the impacts of energy, natural elemental cycle and environmental pollution on the climate that in turn affects the ecological and human systems. Finally, we will incorporate these considerations into a simulation model for predictions and understand how they guide the regulations and decision-making processes.

PRE-CALCULUS

In this college-level precalculus course, you will prepare for calculus by focusing on quantitative reasoning and functions. You'll develop the skills to describe the behavior and properties of linear, exponential, logarithmic, polynomial, rational, and trigonometric functions.

GENDER STUDIES

What is "gender trouble"? This provocative question was posed by the philosopher and gender theorist Judith Butler in 1990, and it continues to echo with meaning today. In fact, it seems to refract into multiple questions, including: What is the trouble with gender? How do societal concepts of gender cause us trouble? How do we trouble those societal concepts to better serve or describe ourselves as individuals? These are just a few of the questions that we will explore in this course through an array of literary and theoretical texts that touch upon the concepts of gender, sex, and sexuality.

WRITING AND COMPOSITION

Writing is a crucial skill in any major and field. This course seeks to provide students with an introduction to composition in a variety of different forms, chief among them the academic or argumentative essay and the personal essay (including the college essay). Throughout three different writing "progressions," students will familiarize themselves not just with the mechanics of constructing a strong piece of prose, but the process of editing and refining their writing, both on their own and with the help of their peers.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL CHANGE

What entices communities to start movements of change? How do we best address social injustice? How do we empower ourselves as citizens to protect ourselves and our communities against inequity? What strategies can we employ to effect meaningful social change? Civic engagement is an act of problem-solving. As such, we will use moments in the long history of social justice movements in the U.S. and abroad to uncover the most thoughtful and impactful theories and practices for social action. Along the way, we will read, learn about, and discuss what strategies and processes we can use to effect social change in the communities in which we live.