

The Humanities

The Historical and Literature courses offered in the humanities are paired during the 9th, 10th & 11th grades. Students are required to successfully complete 4 Carnegie Units in English and 3 Carnegie Units in history for graduation. Additionally, all students are required to complete one semester of US Government.

9th Grade***Literature of the Ancients***

Aligned with Ancient World Civilizations, this course explores the question of what literary themes have remained important throughout history. For example, why has tragedy endured for millennia? What attributes make up a good hero? Literature of the Ancients will also read stories and poems that are more contemporary in order to learn the literary terms we use as we question and interpret literary themes and genres. All forms of writing will be explored (creative, interpretive, imitative, journalistic, and research writing), and grammar will be addressed according to each student's abilities and needs. Public speaking, poetry recitation, and the art and etiquette of group discussion will also be important as we go through the year.

This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.

Ancient History

Is it important to study the history of the ancients? Do we have anything to learn from their discoveries and ideas? Yes! Students will explore these discoveries and ideas by looking at the events, the culture and societies from the dawn of human life through the Reformation. Aligned with Literature of the Ancients, this course investigates the great civilizations of the past found in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, China, India and the Americas.

This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.

10th Grade***Modern World Literature***

Modern World Literature approaches selected literary works from the perspective of relevant philosophical themes. Over the course of a year, students inquire into such questions as: What is the nature of reality? Is free will a possibility? What is knowledge? Are there different kinds of knowledge? What is truth? What is good? How should we live? What is the nature of a human being? Students explore the stories, characters, and themes in a selection of literature from around the world. Each work of literature embodies the geographical place as well the historic era in which it was written, and each author mirrors a reader's truth, reality, and human experience in different ways. Students practice skills to strengthen their own critical ability by writing persuasively; completing creative projects; and giving research-based presentations. Selections of texts may include: short stories of Hans Christian Andersen; *Reynard the Fox* translated by James Simpson; *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson; *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens; *Candide* by Voltaire; *The Nicomachean Ethics* by Aristotle; *The Prince* by Machiavelli, and *Usurper of the Sun* by Housuke Nojiri. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Modern World Civilizations

Aligned with Modern World Literature, this course explores important world events and interactions between cultures from 1500 to the present. In other words, we will explore how the modern world was created and why today's map looks the way it does. Students will gain an understanding of how literature, art, music, philosophy, new inventions and ideas, and popular culture of the time period influence the present. At the same time, students are encouraged to develop their own opinions beyond the textbook by focusing on group work, projects, writing, class discussion, primary sources, personal research, and introspection. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

11th Grade***American Literature***

This year-long course in American literature explores themes of American life from varying perspectives and aims to include voices of American authors that represent the unique political and social history of this Nation. Essential questions are posed that embody the ideals of American people - such as liberty, happiness, freedom, equality, identity, family, self, environment and success. Students explore the values that define what it means to be an American through the stories, characters and themes of America's great poets, novelists and playwrights. By reading literary works located in the heart of the American experience, students make connections between historical events, as well as understanding the global influences that shape the experience of Americans. During second semester, students complete a Junior research project in conjunction with the US History course. Students write literary responses in the form of essays, as well as engaging in creative projects and completing research-based presentations. Texts may include: *The Great Gatsby* by Scotts Fitzgerald, *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston, *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven* by Sherman Alexie, *O Pioneers!* by Willa Cather, *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck, and *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

American History

Aligned with American Literature in theme or chronology, American History is a one-year course for students who are (or maybe aren't) interested in learning about, reading and writing about, thinking about, and discussing the history of the United States. It looks at history from the perspective of the other, while also studying the vast knowledge of the great thinkers of the last 500+ years. In this course, we read the words of those who lived the history and "get into their heads" so that students can relate to the past. During the second semester, students will write and present a Junior Thesis, a persuasive research paper on a topic of the student's choice. Questioning basic assumptions of history is encouraged, and discussing and writing about these assumptions is required. Many tools are used to achieve these goals including historical quotes, books, movies, letters and diaries, simulations, the Internet, field trips, and of course, students' minds. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

12th Grade***The Search for Meaning***

From Creation Myths to *Rebels without a Cause*, this course investigates the question: what is man's place on Earth? After studying the reality of the American Dream and American coming-of-age stories, the students will write interpretive essays as well as personal pieces exploring their own journey through adolescence and search for identity. As students prepare for graduation during the spring, they discuss and interpret classic American coming-of-age films. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Honors English – Great books and Literary Classics

11th and 12th grade students are eligible for this course by recommendation only.

Who are the greatest authors of the world's cultures, and what literary classics are a part of self-exploration and educated discussions throughout life? This one semester course will use the Great Books Shared Inquiry method to explore and discuss essays and stories by Aristotle, Dewey, Lavin, Plato, Kafka, and Woolf. We will also study the classic novels *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Heart of Darkness*, and study the play *Death of a Salesman*. Students will write interpretive essays and creative pieces. The study of *The Elements of Style* by Strunk and White will also contribute to improving student writing. (Honors credit) *11th and 12th grade students are eligible for this course by recommendation only. This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Senior Seminar***Offered Spring Semester Only***

Senior Seminar consists of two components, the Senior Project and Senior Mysteries. Both are intended to show off your strengths and to challenge you as independent and creative learners. One of our goals is to support you in your growth in time management and organization of a long term project. The Senior Project will consist of a thesis paper you will write both in your English 12 class and in this class and a product which you will complete in Senior Seminar. Another goal of this course is to plan, prepare, practice, and execute a formal presentation of your research and product. Senior Mysteries will involve various activities and assignments that will encourage your transition from a high school student to a self-directed, young adult. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit*

American Government

Offered Fall Semester for Seniors only.

This class is a one-semester course, usually for twelfth graders. It will attempt to give the student an understanding of how the American political system works from the federal perspective, as well as from the perspective of political parties and voters. During the semester, students will be asked to think about the role of the United States in the world, and how they themselves fit into that role. Various methods will be used in class to learn and digest the information, including reading, writing, discussing, debating, presenting and role playing, working in small groups, and going on field trips. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Humanities Electives

Psychology

Offered Spring Semester only to 11th & 12th grade students

This course will provide students with a broad snapshot of the many disciplines in the field of psychology. As a group, we will explore topics in experimental methods, development, thinking and intelligence, neuroscience, learning, memory, and social psychology as well as optional group topics including sensation and perception, psychopathology, and other topics of student interest. Additionally, students will expand on a topic of interest to explore further in a long-term, supported project that will allow them to pursue a specialized interest of their own within the field of psychology. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Mathematics

A minimum of 3 Carnegie Units of college preparatory mathematics courses are required for Graduation All students are required to purchase a TI-84 Graphing Calculator

Math Fundamentals

New students with math deficits/without math documentation.

By the nature of our school, students enter with varying levels of ability and credit. Math fundamentals is designed to prepare an incoming student for success in our system. It could be classified as a pre-algebra course. The purpose of this class would be to provide the students in need with some extra time with the basics. This would build the student's base so that the remaining 3 years could be spent completing the required sequence of Geometry, and Algebra I and II. Student progress in the class will be tracked individually. A student may be required to take this class based on placement test scores. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Algebra I

Algebra is the branch of math that studies the properties of numbers and the rules that govern their interactions. Algebra class has students working with these rules to solve and graph equations, mostly in the abstract; applications (story problems) of algebra are shifted into the second year. This class focuses on establishing rules for number and operations properties, mathematical communication, expressions and equations; solving linear and nonlinear equations, systems of equations and inequalities. Graphical, tabular, analytical, and tactile (manipulatives) methods will be used to demonstrate these properties of rules. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Geometry and Logic

Pre-requisite: Algebra I

Geometry and Logic is the study of the shape, size, and properties of movement and position in space. Logic is the study of formal and informal reasoning. The two are combined in this class to use geometry as a vehicle for developing formal and symbolic logical thinking, and to use logic as a way to evaluate spatial objects and relationship. Students will use both formal and

informal geometric proofs as a way to communicate mathematical thinking, and they will develop a deeper understanding of the laws of geometric reasoning as a way to model real-world concepts of space and motion for the purpose of developing abstract reasoning. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Algebra II

Pre-requisite: Algebra I

Algebra 2 is the last of the three required math courses for high school graduation. This course will extend the topics learned during the prior two courses, combining them to describe new ideas. Previous topics are raised to a new level of complexity. Students will be introduced to a variety of new types of functions. This course is taught with the SAT and ACT in mind. Since the majority of students will be taking this class in their Junior year, these tests are close to home. To that end the class will be taught with the goal of mastery of recognition and application of material. We will also become familiar with graphing calculators allowed on these tests. This class was formerly Functions, Statistics, and Modeling. We will continue to model topics with hands on experience when possible. There will be periodic use and discussion of statistics to increase fluency helpful in real life. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Math Concepts

Pre-requisite: Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II

This class is designed as a fourth year math option. It covers topics such as budgeting, credit, credit cards, stocks, goal setting and fulfilling. It will explore software and technology that exist to aid in these pursuits. Both of these facets will pair to model standard and unexpected financial stresses and how to cope/plan for them. Further we will discover non-typical money making and saving ideas and compare different lifestyles based on income and their advantages and disadvantages. All this is done while integrating statistics fluency to a level of Standard Deviation. Student will also learn to utilize different math tools such as graphing calculators. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Trig/Pre-calculus

Pre-requisites: Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II

Pre-calculus teaches students the more formal mathematics of functional algebraic manipulation and analysis in preparation for calculus. Topics include polynomial, trigonometric, logarithmic and exponential functions, as well as statistics and limits. Students will be working on their own and in groups, both with and without technology, in order to gain a thorough fundamental understanding of the math that will be required for success in calculus. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Calculus

Pre-requisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and Trig/Pre-calculus

This class covers the mathematics of change. The three main topics are limits, derivatives, and integrals. Students will work with these in several ways (analytical, numerical, graphical, and

verbal), and show how they both interrelate and apply to real world situations. In addition, students will be working on improving mathematical communication and developing the skill to read math books. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

The Sciences

A minimum of 3 Carnegie Units of Lab Science courses are required for Graduation

Biology 1

As an introduction to the sciences at Leelanau, the first year Biology course is designed to teach both content and skills. Learning how to think like a scientist and to communicate like a scientist is essential as students immerse themselves in studying the biology of the world around us. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Chemistry

Pre-requisite: Biology 1

Chemistry at Leelanau means something a little different. Several years ago we adopted a curriculum developed by the University of California, Berkeley, entitled Living by Chemistry. It is divided into several thematic units but, most importantly involves student discovery, group work and lab activities. Daily activities in guided inquiry allow students to have first-hand experience and opportunities for discussion and decision making with peers. This course is designed to make sure students have an in-depth understanding of foundational concepts of physical science and chemistry. These include atomic theory, bonding, structure, naming, physical constants and inverse and direct relationships. These things as well as a strong understanding of the periodic table, the history of the development of modern theories, nuclear reactions, functional groups, pressure, volume and temperature relationships are major topics covered. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Environmental Science

Pre-requisite: Biology 1

During the course of this class, we will ask ourselves the question: “What is the impact that Humans have had on the World we inhabit?” By examining first hand and up-close the ecosystems that surrounds us we will be able to observe what nature intends to happen and how we alter it. Throughout the year, we will monitor how the inhabitants of the ecosystems have adapted and compare them from season to season. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Physics

Pre-requisite: Biology 1 & Chemistry

Physics at Leelanau is a combination of hands on experiences and small group activities. We use Hewitt’s Conceptual physics to give students a strong understanding of the major concepts of physics without the major emphasis on math. We make sure that we cover all kinematics concepts but move through them fairly quickly to make sure that we get to topics that help

students make connections with their lives and the concepts of the physics world. We use Conceptual physics not because math is de-emphasized but to emphasis students connection to the world and to tap the knowledge they already have of their surroundings. Many students enjoy this class not because it is easy, but because they can easily comprehend material they previously thought to be beyond their reach. Rather than using physics to teach math, we use it to serve a higher purpose; to teach students to think. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Astronomy

Pre-requisite: Physics or Conceptual Physics

The purpose of the Astronomy class is to introduce students to the history, techniques, materials, and methods of Astronomy, and by extension, natural science. We intend to stretch our imaginations to be able to visualize the geometries of the very small and the very large. We hope to get comfortable with difficult concepts regarding the cycles of all structures within the cosmos, including our own planet and the solar system, all types of stars and their life cycles, galaxies and their component parts, clusters of galaxies, and the past, present, and future of the universe as it has been and is currently understood. Mostly we want to develop in students a delight in empirical scientific inquiry and an abiding curiosity about how the natural world works. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Biology 2

Pre-requisites: Biology

This course is designed to be a continuation of Biology 1 and will cover the following topics: Invertebrate Zoology, Biochemistry, Cell Division, and Microbiology. Students will use themes such as evolution, taxonomy, anatomy, physiology, and reproduction for the invertebrate zoology section. In the biochemistry section, topics will include DNA, RNA, and protein synthesis. Cell division will include mitosis and meiosis. The microbiology unit will include viruses, bacteria, protozoa, algae, and fungi. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Anatomy & Physiology

Pre-requisites: Biology & Chemistry

An introduction to all of the major organ systems of the body. Each system of the body will be looked at with particular emphasis placed on correct terminology and an understanding of the individual organ anatomy and function. Throughout the year students have the ability to present material in a large variety of formats. Video production, collage, power point, song writing, skits, and traditional evaluations are all utilized to help the students with this vocabulary heavy course material. Sculpture, artistic rendition, dissections, and skeletal reconstruction, field trips and guest speakers all add to the diversity of the classroom. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

World Languages

A minimum of two consecutive years of a world language are required for graduation. Winter Term courses **do not** replace portions of the Spanish 1 - Spanish 2 sequence.

Spanish**Spanish 1 “¿Qué pasa?”**

Spanish 1 introduces students to “*What’s happening?*” in the culture and language of the Spanish speaking world. Students will learn practical Spanish that will allow them share information and ask questions at a basic level. Some of the themes include: greetings, speaking about leisure activities, school, food, and family. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Spanish 2 “¡Vámanos!”

Pre-requisite: Spanish 1 or equivalent

“*Let’s go!*” Spanish 2 is designed for students to “*go ahead*” by reviewing and building upon material presented in Spanish 1. The spiraling format (returning to previous knowledge and adding more vocabulary and grammar) allows students to continue to improve accuracy and expand communication and written skills. The themes (greetings, food, travel, shopping, sports, etc.) continue to concentrate on building a practical Spanish base that students to use in everyday life situations. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Spanish 3 “¡Adelante!”

Pre-requisite: Spanish 2 or equivalent

“*Come on in!*” Spanish 3 is for a student who wishes to “*go ahead*” in knowledge and understanding of Spanish language and culture. Students will continue to develop communicative competence both orally and in writing on a variety of topics using more complex structures in Spanish and moving from concrete to more abstract concepts. The majority of class will be conducted in Spanish. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Spanish 4 “¡Ay, caramba!”

Pre-requisite: Spanish 3 or equivalent

“*Wow!*” Spanish 4 allows students to have some fun with the language. While all areas of language learning (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are the goal, students will be given the opportunity to help chose the themes studied in class. Students will improve accuracy through a review of grammar interspersed with study of culture, literature, geography, and current events. The majority of the class will be conducted in Spanish. A variety of mediums will be used for including film, music, art, dance, literature, and authentic internet sources to enhance student interest. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

The Arts

A Minimum of 2 Carnegie Unit in the Arts is required for Graduation

Arts Elective***Creative Writing***

Offered Fall Semester only

Why is it important to improve your ability to convey your thoughts through writing? Presented in the style of a writers' workshop, writing skills will be developed through pre-writing, editing, re-writing, and critiquing. By examining a variety of work we will explore different genres including poetry, songs, stories, plays, monologues, dialogues, and reviews. Additionally, students must be willing to share their work; that is, they must be willing to read aloud and share their ideas with the group. Students will be asked to critique their own work and the work of others in a positive and gentle manner. Students will research critically and/or commercially successful authors to find out their secrets to success. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Visual Arts***Photography I***

What is unique about black and white photography? This course is a basic overview of black and white of photography. Students will learn about the traditions and techniques of the medium, which will include: camera and darkroom basics, how to expose and develop film, and how to correctly make and present photographic prints. Students will also learn about the aesthetics of photographic composition. An additional lab fee is required for this course. *This is a 1-semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit. (Maximum 7 students.) This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Photography II

Pre-requisite: Photography I or Approval of Instructor

How can photography be an important tool for personal expression and cultural connection? This course is designed to enhance students' understanding of photography. Students will work on visual literacy and advancing their technical abilities with the camera and in the production of photographic images. The course will further explore the history of photography as a modern medium, the traditions of photography over time, and aspects of digital photography (time permitting). Students will also work on the creation of a portfolio and continue with their understanding of presentation. An additional lab fee is required for this course. *This is a 1-semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit. (Maximum 7 students.)*

Studio Art Exploration

How does an understanding of tools, materials and processes affect how artists work creatively and interprets the world around them? Studio Art focuses on tools, materials and techniques for making art. The projects are diverse and engage students in a number of ways in order to help

them develop solid creative problem-solving skills. By creating both two and three-dimensional works students develop their own visual vocabulary as they work to tap into their own ideas and inspirations. Each project also provides for an opportunity to reference art history in terms of art forms, artists, traditions and trends within the various media. An additional lab fee is required for this course. *This is a 1-semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Digital Foundations

What is the dynamic connection between technology, communication, presentation and creative expression? Digital Foundations is a cross-over course that is designed to teach students how to use technology as a means for creativity. While learning about basic art and design principles, students will also be learning about the various tools available to them through creative software. Students will learn about digital imaging, illustration, typography, design, animation, and movie editing. The class will focus on creative problem-solving and there will also be an opportunity to integrate digital processes with hand processes. An additional lab fee is required for this course. This is a 1-semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit. (Maximum 8 students.) An additional lab fee is required for this course. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Applied Design

Pre-requisite: Studio Art, Photography 1 or Digital Foundations

(Recommended for upperclassmen)

How can learning about design help student processes and facilitate to connect to the real world? The Applied Design course is constructed to provide students with practical applications to design by approaching real world problems. While the primary goal of the class is the design of the school's yearbook, the class undertakes a number of projects throughout the year that provide experience in a variety of creative software, which includes InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, and Dreamweaver. With a focus on the basics of the design process, students gain a solid understanding of working with words and images for the purposes of presentation in a number of formats. The process of working problems from beginning to end also fosters collaboration, teamwork, and effective communication in providing a service to clients. An additional lab fee is required for this course. *This is a 1-semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit. (Maximum 8 students.)*

Pottery

Beginning with a short section on hand building, students progress quickly to wheel and throwing techniques. The balance of the year is spent developing skills based around the form students are working on including basic cylinders, bowls, cups and mugs, vases, plates and platters and lidded forms. Each stage provides opportunities to research form and sketch ideas for investigations. Process is emphasized from the beginning and it is expected that each student learn the skills necessary to being a good member of a studio. An additional Lab fee is required for this course. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Performing Arts

Beginning Guitar

This full year course is for the student that has never played the guitar before or has very limited knowledge of the guitar. We will be covering basic guitar skills including; reading chord charts, right hand strums in several different meters, reading basic tablature, playing and singing simple melodies and learning some of the basic vocabulary of music. Our text will be a collection of songs put together by Mrs. Hood, songs from the internet and YouTube videos. There will be informal performance opportunities for this class, including community gatherings and evening coffeehouses. We will also take a look at the many different styles of guitar music, and the musicians throughout history that have influenced these styles. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Advanced Guitar

Pre-requisite: Beginning Guitar

This year long course is for the student that has taken Beginning Guitar, or who comes in with a solid background in the guitar. We will continue to learn chords in more difficult keys, read more advanced tablature, work with bar and movable chord forms, and begin to understand the entire neck of the guitar. We will also work with several different scales, lead guitar solos and more complex finger picking patterns. We will explore music of different traditions including; rock, blues, fingerstyle, traditional, and folk and students will gain the understanding of the vocabulary that is necessary to discuss these varying styles. There will be more opportunities for performance, such as our fall Arts Collaboration, Parents' Weekend, quiet period and Leelanau School coffeehouses. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Mighty Snappy

Students are eligible for this course by recommendation or audition only

Students interested in being a part of this Leelanau School ensemble must be recommended by Mrs. Hood, or have a solid background from their previous school. Students may be asked to audition to join this class. Mighty Snappy is a musical ensemble that plays music of many different styles; rock, jazz, folk, traditional and classical music. This ensemble typically includes a rhythm section, a wind and string section and several vocalists. Students will be working with standard notation, lead sheets, and the basic concepts in music theory. In this class, students work together to create arrangements of the chosen songs that will challenge and highlight each of the members of the ensemble. Mighty Snappy has many opportunities for performance inside and outside of our school community; touring to schools in the area and playing for area events as well as performing for our Leelanau School gatherings. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Music Theory

Music theory will be a one semester course designed for those who wish to continue their musical studies in college. This is a course to prepare our more serious musicians for the challenges of college music theory courses. We will be covering standard notation, scales, key signatures, rhythms, chords and harmonization. All of the concepts we cover will be played on

the student's main instrument as well as on the piano. We will also be doing written work as well as using our composition software called Sibelius. Sight singing, ear training and rhythmic and melodic dictation are also part of this course. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Instrument Exploration

This is a one semester course that will give students the opportunity to try several new instruments. Students do not need to have any previous musical experience to take this class. We will cover the basic techniques on four different instruments; trumpet, saxophone, violin and piano. This will include learning to read standard notation, care for the instrument, and playing in an ensemble. Students will learn about the development of these instruments and the musicians that played them throughout history. There will be an extra lab fee for this course, due to the fact that we will have to rent several instruments from Marshall Music. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

The History of Rock and Roll

This one semester course is for the student that loves to listen to and discuss music of different styles. We will be covering American Pop music from its conception in Minstrel Shows and the beginnings of Jazz, to the British Invasion and Classic Rock, all the way to the West coast Punk Rock and East coast Hip Hop scenes. This class will include discovery of the historic events that influenced the music, and in turn how each musical style impacted that period in American history. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Sound Garden

This one semester course will be a hands on discovery of the Physics of sound. We will begin with an understanding of several ways in which sound is produced, such as the vibration of strings or a drum head, or the movement of air through a cylinder. We will then put these concepts into practice in the design and construction of our own instruments. We will begin with very simple structures such as a carrot flute and box guitar. By the end of the semester, each of the students will be able to use their knowledge and creativity to design their own project. There will be an extra lab fee for this course. *This is a 1 semester course worth ½ of a Carnegie Unit.*

Foundations of Drama

Foundation of Drama introduces students to the contemporary world of drama and theater. By exploring a range of approaches to acting, students develop practical communication skills for dramatic performance. Students "learn by doing" and are encouraged to playfully engage in scene-work. Learning to give and receive helpful feedback from their director-teacher is an ongoing process, and students learn to give and receive helpful feedback from their peers. This class familiarizes students with the work of notable playwrights and students experience working with dramatic texts from the perspective of performance. Students create and develop original work for the stage and work together as an ensemble. Presentations of polished monologues, scenes and works-in-progress are presented throughout the duration of the class, and selected works are presented to the wider school community. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Advanced Drama

Pre-requisite: Drama I

Advanced Drama builds on existing student strengths and experiences as they continue to learn about the contemporary world of drama and theater. Students understand and experience dramatic art by working with fellow performers who have a wide range of skills and experience in the performing arts. Students continue to develop practical communication skills for dramatic performance by setting practical goals and accomplishing them. Students define their own areas of interest and focus such as: musical theater, dance and choreography, acting, radio, television and film, writing for the stage, and comedy. Students create and develop original work for the stage and work together as an ensemble - and performers assist and help each other to complete advanced projects. Through an engaged dialogue, students learn to listen and to take direction, as well as to ask good questions. Presentations of polished monologues, scenes, works-in-progress, and final works are presented throughout the duration of the class, and selected works are presented to the wider school community. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*

Improvisation

Improv is a full-year course meant to hone and solidify the tools needed to produce a quality, professional production. This class is performance based. Improvisation skills will be improved, as well as comfort on stage, rules of play, techniques and stage movement. The Second City style of improvisation will be taught. Character development will be explored and enhanced. Repeat year students will be expected to take on larger roles and help lead by example. At least two performances will be produced over the course of the year. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit*

Learning Skills

Students who are recommended for this course must complete the full year. This course is graded Pass/ Fail. Permission for a waiver can only be obtained in special through the Academic Administrator.

The Learning Commons builds upon the Leelanau School's mission of igniting a passion for learning through academic engagement and celebration of everyone's unique styles by providing an additional nurturing and supportive learning environment where students use resources to bridge personal learning gaps leading to success with the school's college preparatory curriculum. One aspect of this support is the Learning Skills class.

Learning Skills classes are designed to help students develop academic skills and strategies that will enhance their classes at Leelanau and prepare them for college. The learning specialists work closely with the classroom teachers and residential faculty to ensure that students are transferring their acquired skills into their subject based classrooms and residential houses. Learning skills classes are grouped by grade level in order to target specific, age appropriate skills and to allow the learning specialists to work as a team with those grade level teachers and residential faculty. Outside of whole group skills lessons, the learning specialists work with each of their individual students to develop goals for academic growth at the month, semester, and annual level. They use class time each day to work with those students on their individual needs and goals. *This is a full year course worth 1 Carnegie Unit.*