

Applied Math (Krug): Throughout this course students will focus on various math skills including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. Additionally, students will learn to identify and understand the value of coins and paper money. Students will apply these learned skills by counting money and using it to purchase items independently. The goal of the course is for each student to increase their knowledge and understanding of basic mathematics and its practical applications.

Applied Math (Thompson): In this course students will be focusing on the skills of balancing checkbooks; able to identify and understand prices on sale/coupons; making bill payments; estimating costs; budgeting and credit/debit. Also students will be participating in role playing situations in real life circumstances where money handling issues may happen and how each student should handle it, (they may get cheated with incorrect change, not having enough money to purchase, and being overcharged). This course will help students become more increasingly comfortable with handling money and also skills in handling real life situations.

Banking: Each student of this course will have a bank account at the campus bank. Balances must be maintained at \$50 or above. This course will provide direct instruction and practice in banking procedures. Students will work with parents to create budgets for weekly school-related activities such as Metro Access, lunches, and other needs. During class, they will write checks for cash needed for the week, and determine what denominations they will need. They will then go to the campus bank to make their deposits and withdrawals. On return to class, they will record their transactions and balance their accounts against the bank total. This course will support students in the development of money management skills necessary to their personal and professional lives. The culminating evidence of their learning will be their balancing of personal records with bank records and their graduation to independent management of their accounts — that is, they will perform all banking activities without staff support.

Blackboard: This course is designed to provide students exposure to online learning system using Blackboard. The course will enhance students' skills in using technology, enable students to gain experience with internet learning, and develop skills communicating through the discussion board.

Community Access: The purpose of this course is to broaden students' knowledge of how to find community services and points of interest, and to build confidence in using public transportation. Students will spend class time planning trips from local maps and bus schedules, and in following the plans they made. The skill developed in planning times and routes will be valuable to students throughout their lives, allowing them to get to work places and leisure opportunities on their own. Students will log their trips, with comments on the success of the planning, and on the accomplishments of each trip. Trip logs will be saved for an end-of-year review.

Current Events: The purpose of this course is to provide students with opportunities to increase skills in reading and interpreting current events. Students will learn the elements of reporting, including observing current events. Students will be required to develop their own news report on a topic of their choice. The course will equip students with a greater appreciation of news as a form of media and the process of fact collection and presentation.

Employability (Freshman & Sophomores): This course will focus on providing basic skills which will support student employment pursuits. Each student will learn the concepts in creating a resume for future employment opportunities. Students will learn how to write their own resume and the important components that need to be included in a successful resume. Additionally, students will explore and discuss their job interests and job skills. Students will also learn interviewing skills and practice interviewing for employment opportunities.

Employability (Juniors & Seniors): This course is designed for junior and senior Mason LIFE students to get hands-on job training. Students will work on campus every other week during our class time. When students are in class we will be reviewing job skill development. This course will equip students with the necessary skills to obtain employment, to solve and troubleshoot common workplace situations they may encounter in their professional lives.

Featured Writing (AT Lab): Throughout the course, students will explore various types of writing, including poetry, non-fiction, short story, and graphic novels. Students will apply the different styles to their own writing. Additionally, students will choose their favorite piece to include in our Mason LIFE Literary Anthology at the end of the semester.

Featured Writing (Thompson): This course will give students the opportunity to explore different styles of writing, including poetry, nonfiction, fiction, and graphic novels. Students will study examples of each of these types, write their own samples, and frequently share their writing orally with instructors and classmates. The culminating assignment will be a reading of their favorite piece from the semester, which will be included in the Mason LIFE Literary Anthology.

Finance Management: This is a creative project where students will be provided an opportunity to increase their financial management and explore practical choices in developing independent life experiences. Joining in a collaborative effort, students will identify the specific components of fulfilling the expectation of living independently through actively planning a practicum living environment. Some topic for specific lessons will include choosing a house mate, financial division and responsibility, and interior planning and property maintenance. In addition, students will learn how to seek and acquire means of local transportation and recreation opportunities in order to complete a realistic application of this project.

Human Growth & Development: This course is designed to develop knowledge of human growth and development. It will focus on gaining an understanding and awareness of human sexuality. Collectively, Part I and Part II of the prepared series covers over 500 slides. Part II curriculum presents information pertaining specifically to the moral, social, and legal aspects of sexuality and socialization.

Interdisciplinary Studies: This course will bring speakers from GMU and surrounding communities to introduce varied subjects and activities to students. Students will participate in an activity as part of each presentation. Students will also compile information from each presentation to create a resource notebook. At the end of the semester, students will review their notebook and write comments about which subjects and/or activities they would like to pursue further.

Literature 1: This course will mainly focus on the reading of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet from the start - to - finish book series. In addition, other works of fiction such as short stories and novels will be used to support this course. Students will be required to read these works through a variety of activities in order to improve spelling, vocabulary, comprehension and fluency. Students are also expected to participate in group discussions to facilitate comprehension of the text. Weekly assessments will be given testing in all these areas. This course will enable students to continue skill development in the areas of reading, vocabulary and spelling. Students will complement their class work reading by participating in the production of Romeo and Juliet. This will contribute to their personal growth in theatre arts.

Public Speaking: Throughout this course students will focus on skills related to presentations, group/partner activities, and individual projects. Additionally, students will learn the proper way to speak in public when giving any speech or presentation. At the end of the semester, each student for their anchor project is to create a Power Point presentation about them selves. The goal of this course is for each student to be able to become more comfortable speaking in public and in any future social events they may attend.

Social Skills: This course will help students to further develop their social skills. Students will be involved in role-play activities including real-life situations. Students will be asked to share with instructors and classmates situations in which they have been using or will use the skills focused on in this course. This course will equip students with the skills necessary for effective social interaction.

Theatre Arts: During this course students will be participating in group presentations of designated scenes. Each student will be in charge of learning and memorizing their line(s) and cue(s). The goal of this course is for the students to be comfortable with speaking in front of an audience and being able to listen to directions and follow them.

Yearbook: This course will provide students the opportunity to develop and apply communication, organizational, analytical, and creative skills with the use of varied technology. The students will create pictures and design pages for the yearbook. Additional opportunities for in-depth exploration will be provided in using software programs such as Microsoft Publisher and Snagit. They will improve their skills in photography, writing, editing, graphic design, and publishing.