
Genesis Courses 2019

Courses offered in Spring 2019

[Kemetic Mathematics \(Open to 9th and 10th grade students traveling to Washington D.C.\)](#)

Mathematics, as an academic discipline, began in Ancient Egypt as a method to perform multivariate analyses of intersecting and parallel trajectories arising from human relations and community development. Additionally, these same ancient scholars created the first methods of astronomy, physics and architectural design in order to honor human and spiritual orbits. Furthermore, in 1790, the founders of the United States of America sought to design their new capital to emit power and superiority. Thus, they transported several distinct elements from another great civilization, Ancient Egypt. This course seeks to engage students in mathematics by reintroducing them to the original purpose of mathematical computations, the understanding of symbiosis, with the aim of establishing a more amicable relationship between the subject and students who often struggle to grasp relevant concepts. Secondly, this course seeks to engage students in project-based learning and hands-on lessons that illuminate foundational concepts while simultaneously creating salient lessons in communal ethics. Over the course of the semester, students will complete several problem-solving projects, pushing them beyond perceived limitations. Projects include a two-story egg drop, a popsicle bridge that can hold their own weight, a marble run with specific obstacles and a model of Foucault's pendulum. The course culminates in the construction of a model city with elements related to both Washington D.C. and Ancient Egypt.

[Africana Philosophy \(Open to 11th and 12th grade students traveling to Ghana\)](#)

This is a unique course designed to critically engage youth in complex philosophical concepts through the intellectual grapple of both perception and reality in an effort to prove that solutions to the issues they face, oftentimes, begin with the shifting of perspective. The course examines the numerous philosophical constructs developed by traditional African communities, enslaved Africans in the Americas, anticolonial intellectuals and contemporary thinkers. The objective of this course is three-fold. First, students will understand the benefits of DuBois's veil. Second, students will have the critical thinking skills to deconstruct the obstacles separating them from the futures they seek to create for themselves. Third, students will have the necessary information to intellectually and emotionally digest the Genesis trip, making their brief voyage more salient and long-lasting. After returning, students will examine their own thinking on race, power and privilege before and after Ghana and measure any changes, preserving the transformation and preparing Genesis youth to be change-makers in their own communities.

Upcoming courses:

Genesis students will participate in one college-level course each semester over their four high school years. Based on the rotation, youth will never take the same course twice and will accumulate an unassailable toolkit necessary for their future academic success. Students benefit from the cohort model with two distinct units: 9th & 10th grade (blue) and 11th and 12th grade (green)

African American Literature

- Designed to strengthen basic linguistic skills through the analysis of relevant, provocative and engaging material.
- Final Project: Written Portfolio

Introduction to Ethics

- Challenges youth to examine their own decision-making processes through framed situational conflicts and examination of historical models.
- Final Project: Personal Code of Ethics

Contemporary Cultural Analysis

- Utilizes contemporary cultural production as context for historical cultural development.
- Final Project: Cultural Production Showcase

Communal Psychology

- An introduction to the unique psychological and behavioral health challenges facing opportunity youth and their families through the examination of established prosocial models.
- Final Project: YPAR Community Solutions Project

Entrepreneurial Economics

- A critical examination of prevailing economic models and the repercussions of those models through product and company development.
- Final Project: Shark Tank

Political Affairs

- A seminar on contemporary events within the local and national political arena examined through a social justice lens.
- Final Project: Candidate Debate