

Gamble Montessori High School

Course Selection Handbook

Prior to completing a course optioning sheet each year, a student and their parents should review these important requirements and considerations:

Honors diploma requirements:

The student who completes the high school Academic Pathway for an honors diploma must meet at least **seven of the following** eight criteria:

1. Earn four units of English;
2. Earn at least four units of mathematics which shall include algebra I, algebra II, geometry and another higher level course, or a four-year sequence of courses which contains equivalent content;
3. Earn at least four units of science including one unit of physics and one unit of chemistry*;
4. Earn four units of social studies;
5. Earn three units of world languages (must include no less than two units for which credit is sought), i.e., three units of one world language or two units of two different languages*;
6. Earn one unit of fine arts;
7. Maintain an overall high school grade point average of at least 3.5 on a four-point scale up to the last grading period of the senior year*; or
8. Obtain a composite score of 27 on the American college testing services' ACT assessment (excluding the optional writing test) or a combined score of 1210 on the College Board's SAT verbal and mathematics sections* (excluding the required writing section).

Items marked with an “” indicate elective coursework and/or individual achievement standards. All other requirements are met by completing a Gamble Montessori course of study.*

**James N. Gamble Montessori Graduation Requirements
Class of 2016 and 2017**

CORE CREDITS – 15 UNITS

- English Language Arts – 4 Units
- Mathematics – 4 Units
- Science – 3 Units
 - 1 Physical Science
 - 1 Biological Science
 - 1 Additional Science
- Social Studies – 3 Units
 - 1 American History
 - 1 Modern World History
 - 0.5 Government / 0.5 Economics
- Health – 0.5 Units
- Physical Education – 0.5 Units

ELECTIVE CREDITS – 9 UNITS

- Fine Arts – 2 Units
- Foreign Language – 2 Units
- Intersession – 2 Units
- 3 Additional credits including (but not limited to);
 - A 4th year of science and/or
 - A 4th year of social studies and/or
 - 2 additional fine arts units (indicating a major in fine arts) and/or
 - 2 units of college-preparatory work

NON CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

- Senior Project
- All required community service
- Pass all 5 parts of the OGT

**James N. Gamble Montessori Graduation Requirements
Class of 2018 and Beyond**

CORE CREDITS – 15 UNITS

- English Language Arts – 4 Units
- Mathematics – 4 Units
- Science – 3 Units
 - 1 Physical Science
 - 1 Biological Science
 - 1 Additional Science
- Social Studies – 3 Units
 - 1 American History
 - 1 Modern World History
 - 0.5 Government / 0.5 Economics
- Health – 0.5 Units
- Physical Education – 0.5 Units

ELECTIVE CREDITS – 9 UNITS

- Fine Arts – 2 Units
- Foreign Language – 2 Units
- Intersession – 2 Units
- 3 Additional credits including (but not limited to):
 - A 4th year of science and/or
 - A 4th year of social studies and/or
 - 2 additional fine arts units (indicating a major in fine arts) and/or
 - 2 units of college-preparatory work

NON CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

- Senior Project
- All required community service
- 18 exam points OR remediation free score on ACT or SAT
 - ACT Remediation Free Scores
 - English – 18
 - Reading – 21
 - Math – 22
 - SAT Remediation Free Scores
 - Writing – 430
 - Critical Reading – 450
 - Math - 520

Gamble Montessori High School Course Descriptions Fall 2015

50 Best Short Stories of All Time

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

You will read, write about and discuss several short stories each week: sad and shocking tales, pop culture classics, twist endings, fairy stories and fables, sci-fi, short story cycles, and more. You will also study the major elements of a short story: setting, characters, conflict, plot, and theme. You will rewrite story endings and write short stories of your own.

Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

An introduction to agricultural and Environmental systems. In this urban erdkinder class, students will examine principles of food science, natural resource management, and bioscience through hands-on work in gardens, woods, and other terrains.

Anthropology

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Starting with early hominids and moving into various cultures, we will explore humanity's origins and our place in an ever-changing world in this introductory course. And, along the way, we may find out what it means to be human.

AP 2D Studio Art

Prerequisite: None Gr: 11/12 Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

AP Studio Art is designed for juniors and seniors and emphasizes making art as an ongoing process that involves the student in informed and critical decision making. Portfolios are designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. Students submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year.

AP Environmental Science

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them

AP Human Geography

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

The purpose of the AP Human Geography course is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications.

Art: Ceramics

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Working regularly with clay and associated tools, and a kiln, students will learn to make pottery for aesthetic and practical purposes.

Art: Two and Three-Dimensional Media

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

This course will concentrate on the production and process of making art projects, focused on creative thinking and use of the elements of art and design.

College and Career Options 1

Prerequisite: None Gr: 11 Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

College and Career Options is designed to assist students in preparation for life after high school. The structured curriculum assist students in identifying strengths as a learner and a worker, identifying productive ways to apply and grow their skills, and complete the transition from high school student to productive citizen. Work includes researching fields of study, researching and visiting two and four year colleges, completing career readiness inventories, writing a resume and college applications, and more.

Communications

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Students will learn skills involving journalism, television, and radio. Students will create an online school newspaper, school commercial, television show, and public relations for a company. The teacher will introduce skills in communication associated with media events and broadcast applications.

Computer Applications

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Computer Apps is a course designed to familiarize you with and strengthen your skills in various 21st century computer applications, including the Google suite, GarageBand, iMovie, Prezi, Sketch-up, and others. We will also do some basic coding practice with Automator and HTML.

Cultural Literacy

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

An adventure in multimedia literacy through cultural perspectives and issues. The course will provide literacy enrichment using a variety of 21st century media and traditional formats with focuses on writing techniques, reading strategies, and critical thinking.

Fiction and Film

Prerequisites: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Read stories and investigate how elements of these stories are retained, altered, or deleted in the translation to film.

Forensics

Prerequisites: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Investigate crime scenes using science and scientific methods to sort out fact from fiction.

Fundamentals of Journalism

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

You will be introduced to the study of journalism including principles of good journalism, what makes the news, interviewing, researching, writing, and editing. You will also learn about issues such as bias, libel, objectivity, fairness and accuracy in reporting. You will examine the media field and write articles in a variety of journalistic genres: inverted pyramid news, feature, sports, editorial, and movie, music and restaurant reviews.

Gamble Montessori HS Band

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

A performance class where students will focus on playing various instruments, reading music, and performing music from a variety of eras and genres. Evening school performances will be required. Previous experience preferred.

Gamble Montessori HS Choir

Prerequisite: By selection Gr: HS Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

A performance class focusing on vocal production, score reading, and performance skills with a variety of music spanning 400 years! Community Outreach, and evening school performances will be required. Previous experience preferred.

Gym

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.25

Students will learn about a wide range of physical activities including major sports and pastimes, while improving their personal fitness. Improve leadership through active participation in group initiatives.

Korean I

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

In Korean I, students will be introduced to the culture and language of Korea. Students will be expected to learn to write and speak Korean, and to participate in a variety of cultural experiences at school and in the field.

Korean II

Prerequisite: Korean I Gr: HS Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

In Korean II, students will explore the culture and language of Korea. Students will be expected to learn to write, read, and speak Korean, and to participate in a variety of cultural experiences at school and in the field.

Math exploration

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Students will explore math experientially through projects, experiments and experiences.

Physics

Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Phys. Sci. Gr: HS Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

Designed for students who are seeking multiple years of science as preparation for a scientific, mathematical, or medical field in college, physics is the world where math and science collide!

Science and Technology of Food (Ag Ed)

Prerequisite: AFNR Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Students will use principles and practices of food processing and packaging to develop solutions for problems in food production, handling, and storage.

Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature

Prerequisite: none Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

This course will help students collaboratively define science fiction and fantasy literature and explore common themes of both genres. We will read several short stories and novels and have seminar on some of these texts. Students will also write their own science fiction and fantasy stories.

Spanish 2 Remediation

Prerequisite: Spanish Credit Deficiency Gr: 11/12

Dur: Yr/Sem Cr: 1.0/0.5

A previous Spanish failure of 1 or more semesters, or students who (for various reasons) have had schedules that did not allow them to take Spanish 1 and 2 should select this course.

Spanish 3/4

Prerequisite: Spanish 2 (& 3) Gr: 11/12 Dur: Yr Cr: 1.0

Required for an Honors diploma from Gamble and ODE, Spanish 3 focuses on conversational Spanish and developing fluency in reading and speaking. For college-bound students.

Steel Drum

Prerequisite: By Selection Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Learn new and classic tunes on the steel drum. Learn the history of this fascinating instrument, and perform at Gamble events including concerts and Open House.

Study Skills

Prerequisite: IEP/Other Gr: HS Dur: Yr/Sem Cr: None

Students who have been identified as needing additional help with their studies will be assigned to this class. Many, though not all, of these students will have IEPs to address identified learning disabilities.

Teen Fiction

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

There is a wealth of fiction created especially for teens that deals with the possibilities and problems of contemporary life. In this class, we will explore these stories and novels written specifically for ages 12-18, including Monster and Slam! by Walter Dean Myers, Forged by Fire and Romiette and Julio by Sharon Draper, and I Am The Cheese by Robert Cormier. If you enjoy reading, then this is the class for you!

Topics in Applied Math

Prerequisite: None Gr: HS Dur: Sem Cr: 0.5

Students will study a variety of applications involving basic math concepts. Learn about math in ancient cultures and

change your own understanding of how math works and why it exists.