

Welcome to the Global Studies Academy!

MHS academies are designed as learning communities that meet students' social and academic needs in a more personalized learning environment. The goal is for students to collaborate with a small support team of teachers, counselors, administrators, and other school staff to better understand themselves as learners and develop goals for their future. Academies are also designed to expose students to experiences that will engage their interest in school and education, generate ideas on post-secondary education and careers, prepare them with the skills to be successful in the 21st Century, and push them to understand the importance of their voice. In addition, academies are a focus for our work to provide a wide variety of real world experiences beyond classroom walls that provide students with the skills that are often not emphasized in traditional classroom settings but are increasingly necessary in our world.



**\*\*As MHS students work towards our vision of a graduate which include the following capacities, [Capacities Link](#) we believe the work of the academies is to help students articulate their strengths in these areas.\*\***

In the Global Studies Academy we are thrilled to offer students opportunities to broaden their global understandings and develop an appreciation of heritages and values of people from various cultures. Active participation in coursework and experiential learning supports students' exploration of academic ideas and career interests from a local and global perspective. Some areas of students' career interests in this Academy include Business, Art, Culinary & Baking Arts, Entrepreneurship, Science, Government and Public Relations, Law, Hospitality and Tourism, and Human Services. Students also have the option of focusing on a separate Element within GSA. The **Truth** Element allows students the opportunity to take Truth Seminar courses that focus on exploring questions from philosophical and interdisciplinary frameworks, such as, "What is true?" and "How can truth be known?" Students interested in hands on real-world experience working in school based kitchens, restaurants, bakeries, stores and catering businesses should consider the **SILK** (Students In Love with the Kitchen) Element. The **Entrepreneurship** Element supports students exploration of economic and business issues through a global lens. And, the **World Languages & Cultures** Element facilitates students' learning about the languages and cultures of Spanish, French, Italian, Chinese and Latin. One of our big goals as a community of students, staff and families working together is to find meaningful ways to support each student in making positive contributions as a global citizen within both the GSA and MHS community.

Here are just some of the things you can expect and be a part of as a member of GSA:

Grade 10 - GSA Seminar: Ms. Seaha provides an opportunity for students to better understand each of the elements within the Global Studies Academy as she introduces students to the complexities of living, learning and working in a globalized world.

Core Classes: You might have the opportunity to be in GSA sections of core classes (i.e. English, Social Studies, Spanish) with a GSA teacher who can support your involvement in various events, field trips, etc.

Field Trips: During the Harvest Pack project students and staff pack nutritious foods that are shipped to a country in need. Students may also enjoy visiting restaurants and kitchens, participating in a negotiation simulation at the University of Connecticut with UCONN staff from the School of Business and a field trip to the 911 Memorial in New York City.

Certifications & Internships: Students have the opportunity to become ServSafe certified and with a certification which allows students to assist community members with their tax returns, at no cost. Students also have the opportunity to gain internship experiences.

Events and Clubs: Be a part of the GSA Student Council and get involved in organizing events, such as the Harvest Pack and Chef's Challenge or take the initiative and create a new opportunity for students!

Academy team- Room 108:

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We are always looking for opportunities to partner with students, families and our Manchester Community in continuing to grow and develop our academy experiences for our students. If you have any questions, concerns, ideas or an interest in becoming a partner in the academy, please feel free to contact any of our staff.