

STAC of GA 2025-2026

Course Descriptions

Information is subject to change.
Courses are grouped by instructor; please contact instructors directly with inquiries.

Lisette Ariola

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Elementary History

Target Ages: 6-10 (young to middle elementary)

Min/Max Students: 4/8

Class Time: Thursdays at 11 am

Class Dates: Full STAC Year (one floating holiday per semester TBD)

Cost: \$300/year

Description: This class will begin with the question, “What is history?” and move from ancient nomadic peoples to around the time of the Punic Wars. Using Susan Bauer’s first volume of “The Story of the World” as well as corresponding picture and story books, we’ll learn about the customs, mythologies, battles, foods, and other stories about the people that came before us. Most class times will include an activity (craft, game, etc.) and I will be conducting a few classes outside as weather permits. Materials are included in class pricing. No homework, though suggestions for additional reading, videos, and activities will be provided with most lessons.

Prerequisites/Requirements: Ability/willingness to listen to short stories and follow simple instruction.

Elementary Science

Target Ages: 6-10 (young to middle elementary)

Min/Max Students: 4/8

Class Time: Tuesdays at 1 pm AND Thursdays at 10 am

Class Dates: Full STAC Year (one floating holiday per semester TBD)

Cost: \$425/year (one floating holiday per semester TBD)

Description: For this class we'll be using "Biology for the Grammar Stage" by Paige Hudson. We'll cover Animals, the Human Body, and Plants, conducting simple experiments or activities with each lesson. This is a 36-week course that I'm attempting to fit into 26 weeks, so depending on the lesson, we'll fit in either one or two lessons per week. I will provide most materials for experiments but may ask parents to bring random items as needed (shoe-boxes, toilet paper tubes, newspaper, plastic soda bottles). Each student will also need a 3-ring binder. Homework will be OPTIONAL and may include supplemental reading, vocabulary words, field trip suggestions, and/or narration exercises.

Prerequisites/Requirements: Ability/willingness to listen to short stories and follow simple experiments.

Rachel Berning

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Around the World With Literature

Target Ages: Grades K-4

Min/Max Students: 3/10

Class Time: Thursdays at 2 pm

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: \$175 per semester

Description: Let's go on an adventure! Join me as we travel around the world, learning about different countries and their cultures using picture books, fables, and folktales. In addition to reading stories, we will listen to music and view and create art. We will learn about traditional foods, the people, holidays, and wildlife that make each place special and unique. This year, spending approximately 3 weeks in each country, we will visit the continents of Europe and South America. Some of the countries include France, Sweden, Great Britain, Chile and Peru.

Biographies in Picture Books

Target Ages: Grades K-4

Min/Max Students: 3/10

Class Time: Fridays at 10 am

Class Dates: One Semester (13 weeks)

Cost: \$175

Description: In this one semester class, we will focus on famous people throughout history using beautiful picture books. Some of the people we will learn about are Jane Goodall, Eugenie Clark, Levy Strauss, and Hypatia. We will learn about how one person can make a difference, about empathy and the power of imagination. As well as reading together, we will do some projects that are related to the book we read.

History of Science Year 2

Target Ages: Ages 10-13

Min/Max Students: 3/10

Class Time: Thursdays at 1 pm

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: \$200 per semester

Description: This will be part history and part science. Using the 2nd volume of Joy Hakim's book, *The Story of Science: Newton at the Center*, students will learn about Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, Descartes and Isaac Newton. We will recreate experiments and learn about the people who figured it all out. We will learn about gravity, motion, colors and the Earth's place in the universe.

Homework: There will be some homework, mostly reading the chapter, about an hour a week. Audios, or parents reading to students is completely fine!

Note: This class is assisted homeschooling, which means that parents are expected to be actively involved in supporting their students at home, especially with time management and accountability.

World History - CLASS IS FULL!!

Target Ages: High School

Min/Max Students: 5 minimum

Class Time: Fridays at 11 am

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: \$225 per semester

Description:

- This class will be taught in collaboration with Kelly Elmore's World Literature and Mythology.

- We will cover key events that impacted the history of the world, from ancient times to more modern events.
- Classes will be a mixture of class discussion, group projects and interactive assignments.

Join us as we travel through the past, studying major world history and key events that helped to shape our present. We will cover subjects from Ancient Egypt to the Magna Carta to the Cold War and more, corresponding our topics with Kelly Elmore's World Literature and Mythology class. Classes will involve a mixture of class discussion, group projects, and interactive assignments.

Homework: Homework assignments should take three hours or less per week.

Note: This class is assisted homeschooling, which means that parents are expected to be actively involved in supporting their students at home, especially with time management and accountability.

Melanie Coombs

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United States Geography

Target Ages: 3rd - 8th grades

Min/Max Students: 3/12

Cost: \$200/ semester

Class Dates: Full year

Description: In this class, we will take a trip around the country! We'll learn how to find and identify each state on a map, including their regions and major natural geographical features. Students will also create a notebook with information about each state, including capitol, state facts, historical details, and other fun trivia. Information and activities will be scaled based on students' understanding and abilities, so everyone is welcome, no matter their current reading and writing confidence.

Middle School Science

Target Ages: 5th - 8th grades

Min/Max Students: 3/12

Class Dates: Full year

Cost: \$225/ semester

This class is for upper elementary and middle school students, taking advantage of their ability to perform multi-step experiments, but without the intense reading and information cramming of upper-level science classes. Starting with the fundamentals of the scientific method, we'll then explore how those concepts apply to various areas of scientific research. Areas of study will be driven, in part, by what the students want to learn. We will be performing experiments and completing fun, hands-on projects whenever possible. Lab and materials fees are included into the registration fee.

Kelly Elmore

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Intermediate High School Writing

Target Ages: 13+ (with appropriate writing experience)

Min/Max Students: 5 minimum

Class Time: Fridays at 10 am

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: \$225 per semester

Description:

- For students with a foundation in academic writing (Contact me to ask about your student's readiness.)
- Individualized projects (advanced high school academic writing, creative writing, writing in other genres, and personal writing).
- Some whole class, small group, and individual instruction (all students not engaged with me will work on their own writing projects individually or with peers).
- Parent, student, and teacher collaboration to find the best next steps for your student

Note: This class is assisted homeschooling, which means that parents are expected to be actively involved in supporting their students at home, especially with time management and accountability. Almost all student writers need someone to help them get started and to check in on their progress regularly, and many younger high school

students need someone to sit with them as they work. Early in the year, I will hold a meeting for parents on how to be an effective writing tutor for your students.

World Literature and Mythology - CLASS IS FULL!!

Target Ages: 13+

Min/Max Students: 5 minimum

Class Time: Fridays at 12 pm

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: \$225 per semester (does not include books that must be purchased)

Description:

- Class collaboration with Rachel Berning's World History
- Covers novels, plays, short stories, and poems from different time periods and regions of the world, as well as historical documents.
- Includes mythology, legends, and folklore.
- Hones skills in close reading, interpretation, imagination, and empathy.
- Focused on class discussion, Socratic seminars, and reading aloud together.
- Will not include literary essay writing, but will include smaller writing projects (check out my high school writing class if you are interested in learning literary essay writing)

Note: This class is assisted homeschooling, which means that parents are expected to be actively involved in supporting their students at home, especially with time management and accountability.

Middle School Literature: Mythology

Target Ages: mature 10-13

Min/Max Students: 5 minimum

Class Time: Fridays at 11 am

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: \$200 per semester

Description:

- Read myths, legends, and folktales from around the world
- Discussion based: start learning how to have classroom discussions about books
- Homework light: almost all assignments will be reading (audio or read aloud is fine!), maybe occasional projects to complete outside of class

Playground Games

Target Ages: aimed at elementary aged kids, but everyone is welcome (playing is what primates do!!)

Min/Max Students: 5 minimum

Class Time: Fridays at 1 pm

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: Free! But signing up helps me know what ages and personalities I can tailor the games to.

Description:

- Learn all kinds of playground games that they can play together during PCL
- Play card games, board games, and other kinds of games during bad weather
- Great way to make friends at STAC
- Class may not run for the full hour

Armelle Garner

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French 2

Target Ages: 11+

Min/Max Students:

Class Time: Tuesdays at 11 am AND Thursdays at 10 am

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost:

Description: For returning French 1 students

Misty Holm

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LingoLab: Survey of 5 languages

Target Ages: Middle School

Min/Max Students:

Class Time: Thursdays at 10 am

Class Dates: 20 weeks with floating holidays (TBD). If I am able to offer more weeks, I will create an additional “package” and extend the class at the same per-week price.

Cost: \$300 (20 weeks x \$15 per week)

Description: Not sure what foreign language your student would like to study for High School? This course will help them decide! We will spend several weeks on each of 5 languages: Swedish, French, Japanese, Hindi, and Swahili. Each unit will focus on basic phrases, vocabulary, and grammar, as well as lots of fun culture! We will incorporate games, songs, tongue-twisters, etc. Students will get a feel for the flavor of each language while also learning about the people who speak it.

Reading and Writing Japanese: Hiragana and Katakana

Target Ages: 12+, including adults

Min/Max Students:

Class Time: Thursdays at 11 am

Class Dates: 20 weeks with floating holidays (TBD). If I am able to offer more weeks, I will create an additional “package” and extend the class at the same per-week price.

Cost: \$300 (20 weeks x \$15 per week)

Description: This class is for anyone who is studying or has studied Japanese on their own, or who has always wanted to be able to sound out the Japanese that you see around you, or who just wants to learn something new and fun. Our focus will be the phonetic systems known as Hiragana and Katakana. We will also learn a handful of Kanji (Chinese characters) that are commonly used in Japanese writing. And while we will spend some time in class practicing writing, a good amount of our time will be spent moving around the classroom, using fun memory games to help us learn. Please note: this is not a Japanese Language course, although we will be learning some vocabulary and culture.

Homework: roughly 30 minutes of homework per week

Great Discussions

Target Ages: High School

Class Time: Thursdays at 1pm

Class Dates: 20 weeks, with floating holidays, TBD (If I am able to offer more weeks, I will create an additional “package” and extend the class at the same per-week price)
Cost: \$300 (20 weeks x \$15 per week)

Description:

Great Discussions engages students in discussions about universal themes ranging from friendship and compassion to prejudice and death. Depending on the students and their interests, we can veer towards topics pertaining to religion, sexuality, really anything that piques their interest. Active discussion helps them develop their ideas, while also practicing the difficult but important skill of active listening. Great care is taken to ensure fair and balanced discussion. As such, this course can be a great fit for students who love to speak their mind, as well as for students who tend to be more reluctant speakers.

Kat Jensen

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Pre-Algebra (Co-Instructor: Melanie Coombs)

Target Ages: 10-15

Min/Max Students:

Class Time: Thursdays at 2 pm

Class Dates: Full Year

Cost: \$380 for full 28 weeks

Description: Math doesn't have to be scary or overwhelming! In this class, we'll offer a supportive and accessible introduction to pre-algebraic concepts. We'll cover fundamental topics such as factors and multiples, equations and inequalities, order of operations, percentages, and basic variable expressions, emphasizing understanding and building a solid mathematical foundation in a low-pressure setting. With two teachers in the class, we'll be able to address students' individual needs more effectively and offer different perspectives for learning concepts.

SOLE Class

Target Ages: 5-10

Min/Max Students: 4/10

Class Time: Thursdays at 1 pm

Class Dates: Full Year with one floating week off each semester

Cost: \$180 per semester

Description: Self-Organized Learning Environments are the vision of education reformer Sugata Mitra, winner of the 2013 TED prize. In his talk, "Building a School in the Cloud," Mitra introduces the idea of SOLEs, which are collaborative, internet-based research efforts for kids in elementary and middle school. Think of SOLE class as an internet sleuthing class, where kids work together to discover everything they can about a topic by searching different sources on the internet. They use their class time to find out everything they can about that week's mystery topic, working together in groups of 4 or 5 on laptops or iPads (provided by me). They write, draw, build, and speak about what they are learning. At the end of each class, the kids have about 15 minutes to share what they have learned with each other. The teacher guides the groups only as necessary through open-ended questions about the topic and methodology, but the children are the primary drivers in accomplishing their task. We can accommodate different learning styles, abilities, and skill levels, which is one of the reasons that this class can work well for so many different kids. Kids are taught how and then expected to work independently and collaboratively with each other with minimal direction for the majority of each class period. This class is aimed at beginners and younger kids, ages about 5-10. Emerging and non-readers can be successful in this class, as well as kids with limited computer or internet experience.

Requirements/prerequisites: None

Libby Mathis

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Artistic Creations

Target Ages: 10-13

Min/Max Students: 4/8

Class Time: Fridays at 1 pm

Class Dates: full 28 weeks with 2 floating weeks off

Cost: \$450 (includes cost of materials)

Description: This class will be best suited to students ages 9 and up and will have more complex projects than the Little Artist class. It will include a variety of techniques using oil pastels, watercolors, and chalk pastels. We will be learning about perspective, texture, pattern, shading, warm and cool colors, and observation drawing. We will also

explore creating 3-dimensional art with a variety of materials including papier-mâché, air dry clay, etc.

Materials: provided

Little Artists

Target Ages: 5-9

Min/Max Students:

Class Time: Fridays at 12 pm

Class Dates: full 28 weeks with 2 floating weeks off

Cost: \$450 (includes cost of materials)

Description: This class will introduce our youngest artists to a variety of materials and techniques. I love working with young children and believe it is important to give them the opportunity to use quality art supplies beyond the standard crayons and washable markers at this age. We will be using oil pastels, watercolors, tempera paints, and more! The students will learn about color, lines, patterns, texture, and how to mix mediums to create wonderful works of art. We will learn about famous (and not so famous) artists and explore how these artists use elements of design in their work. There may be days when the supplies we use are not washable, so please make sure to dress your child in appropriate clothes that can get messy.

Materials: provided

Sketchbook / Drawing Skills

Target Ages: 12-15

Min/Max Students: 4/8

Class Time: Tuesdays at 1 pm

Class Dates: full 28 weeks with 2 floating weeks off

Cost: \$450 plus \$10 materials fee for sketchbook

Description: This class will focus on improving drawing skills. We will use a variety of drawing materials including pencils, colored pencils and charcoal. Students will keep a sketchbook and will be encouraged to spend time each week outside of class practicing their drawing skills.

Materials: provided

Diane Overton

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“Gentle” Algebra

Target Ages: 12+

Min/Max Students: 4/8

Class Time: Thursdays at 2 pm

Class Dates: Full Year (26 weeks, one floating holiday per semester, TBD)

Cost: \$225 per semester

Description: This class will be a gentle flow of a traditional Algebra 1 class, where the goal is for students to continue to develop their math confidence. Since it's a slower pace, we will cover the main Algebra 1 topics well, but we won't attempt to cover every possible topic. Lessons will include Solving Multi-Step Equations, Linear Graphs, Linear Inequalities, Systems of Equations and Inequalities, Simplifying Radical Expressions (Square Roots), Graphing and Solving Quadratics, and Graphing Exponential Functions. During our weekly meetings, we will explore Algebra 1 concepts through instruction and practice. Hands-on manipulatives will be used whenever possible. At home, students will complete pages in their textbooks.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra (list of prerequisite skills is available upon request)

Homework: ~1-2 hours of homework per week

Materials: Calculator (good options are TI-36X Pro, TI-30XS Multiview, or Desmos online), Textbook: No-Nonsense Algebra 2nd Edition by Richard W. Fisher/Math Essentials (*not* the Practice Workbook)

Pre-Calculus

Target Ages: 14+

Min/Max Students: 4/10

Class Time: Thursdays at 1 pm

Class Dates: Full Year (26 weeks, one floating holiday per semester, TBD)

Cost: \$225 per semester

Description: This class will cover the topics in a traditional high school Pre-Calculus course. This will include Trigonometry, Composite and Inverse Functions, Conic Sections and Polar Equations, Vectors, Probability, and Sequences and Series. During our weekly meetings, we will explore Pre-Calculus concepts through instruction and practice. At home, students will complete videos and assessments in Khan Academy

and/or practice problems on provided worksheets (no textbook).

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 (list of prerequisite skills is available upon request)

Homework: ~2-3 hours of homework per week

Materials: TI-84 Graphing Calculator (or access to Desmos online graphing calculator), access to Khan Academy online

Julianne Robbins

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Elementary Spelling Confidence

Target Ages: 5-11

Min/Max Students: 4 minimum

Class Time: Fridays at 11 am

Class Dates: 28 weeks with 2 floating weeks off

Cost: \$175/semester

Description: We will use phonics and games to grow confidence with spelling. We will utilize the phonograms and spelling guidelines as laid out by the Logic of English methodology. Students need to know the alphabet, the letters' basic sounds, and how to write the letters. This class may also help with reluctant readers.

Materials: Provided

High School Biology

(Counts for the HS Biology credit and lab credit)

Target Ages: 13+

Min/Max Students: 4 minimum

Class Time: Thursdays at 11 am

Class Dates: 28 weeks with 2 floating weeks off

Cost: \$275 per semester (includes most supplies, any textbooks not included)

Description: This class will cover the topics required for the High School Biology and lab credits. These topics will include (but not limited to) Cell Biology (Prokaryotic & Eukaryotic cells, animal & plant cells, structure, function, mitosis, etc.), basics of

Biochemistry, DNA, genetics, Ecosystems & Biodiversity, Biological classification, and more. We will learn the basics of keeping a laboratory notebook and the Scientific Method.

Homework: ~2 hours of homework per week

Materials: Composition Notebook, Textbook (Title TBA)

High School Physics (Algebra based)

(Counts for an upper level HS science credit and a lab credit)

Target Ages: Upper level HS (Algebra prerequisite)

Min/Max Students: 4 minimum

Class Time: Friday at 1 pm

Class Dates: 28 weeks with 2 floating weeks off

Cost: \$275 per semester (includes most supplies, composition notebook and any textbooks not included)

Description: This class counts for an upper level high school science credit and lab credit. Topics will include (but not limited to) Forces of Motion, Energy, Work, Momentum, Thermodynamics, with basics of Electricity & Magnetism (circuits, magnetic fields, etc.), Electromagnetic waves, radiation, and more. We will practice keeping a laboratory notebook and utilizing the Scientific Method.

Prerequisite: Algebra

Homework: ~2-3 hours of homework per week

Materials: Composition Notebook, Textbook (Title TBA)

Radical Health

Target Ages: Middle School - Adult

Min/Max Students: 4 minimum

Class Time: Tuesdays at 10 am

Class Dates: 28 weeks with 2 floating weeks off

Cost: \$175/semester (cost is per family)

Description: In this class, we will learn how to self-educate so you can take control of your health, make educated decisions, and no longer be a bystander in your own health. It is a discussion and journaling based class with a focus on reading-up on current research and listening to interviews with experts on the cutting edge of their fields. As the class will inspire questions and deep thinking, I am offering the option for parents to participate as well so they know what their child is listening to, reading, & learning (especially for younger students)----pricing is set per family.

Topics included (but not limited to):

- How hormones work and change through our lives (birth to post menopause)
- Brain health & current Alzheimer's & Dementia research
- What is Insulin Resistance & why is everyone suddenly talking about it?
- Does our Microbiome really matter?
- Understanding how the current medical system works & how to advocate for yourself
- Evolutionary biology of how humans & food have changed from the hunter-gatherer days

Homework: ~1-2 hours of homework per week

Materials: Journal or Composition Notebook, Texts (TBA)

Play! Create! Learn! (PCL)

Target Ages: All Ages

Class Times: Fridays at 2-4 pm

Class Dates: All year

Cost: \$80 per family, per year

Description: Our goal is to cultivate a relaxed atmosphere where parents and children can come together to create community. Be prepared to engage with all ages, contribute ideas for activities, and most of all to have fun!!

Libby and Mel will facilitate some of the activities but will not be acting as supervision for the children. Parents (and children) are expected to follow the general supervision policy that you sign when you join STAC.