

Fall/Winter 2024

BRIX-BELLEVUE PROGRAM

Course Description





Book Club Grade 1:

This term's theme is **Growing-up and Learning**, and students will explore this theme through classic children's novels, short stories, and poems. This course is designed to introduce young readers to the joys of reading through engaging and age-appropriate literature. The course will focus on building foundational reading and writing skills.

Book Club Grade 2:

This term's theme is **Friendship and Found Family**. This course is designed to deepen young readers' appreciation for literature while enhancing their reading comprehension and writing abilities. The course will focus on developing critical thinking and creative expression skills. Students will engage in interactive discussions, creative projects, and writing activities that highlight the importance of friendship and the concept of found family.

Book Club Grade 3:

This term's theme is **Adventure and Self-Discovery**. This course is designed to expand young readers' understanding of literature while improving their reading comprehension and writing skills. The course will explore exciting journeys and personal growth through literature. Students will participate in discussions and writing activities and delve into various texts that enhance their critical thinking, imagination, and expression.

Book Club G4:

This term's theme is **Courage and Power of Choice**. This course is designed to elevate both reading and writing skills that engages students with complex texts that challenge their interpretive and analytical abilities. Students will engage in in-depth discussions and advanced writing exercises, exploring themes, motifs, and nuanced perspectives that challenge and expand their critical thinking. Throughout the semester, students will develop a deeper understanding of how courage and choice shape narratives and influence character development.



LLW (Literature, Language and Writing) G5:

This term's theme is **Compassion and Understanding**. This course is designed to elevate both reading and writing skills that engages students with complex texts that challenge their interpretive and analytical abilities. Students will engage in in-depth discussions and advanced writing exercises, exploring themes, motifs, and nuanced perspectives that challenge and expand their critical thinking. Throughout the course, students will enhance their ability to empathize with diverse characters and perspectives, deepening their appreciation of the human experience in literature.

LLW (Literature, Language and Writing) G6:


In this course, students will explore various literary genres, focusing on **identity and self-discovery** through poetry, novels, historical articles, and short stories. The course aims to deepen literary analysis skills, connect themes to real-world contexts, and enhance writing proficiency to prepare students for high school. Students will engage in reading and discussing diverse texts, practice various writing forms, and apply grammatical concepts to improve their literacy skills.

LLW (Literature, Language and Writing) G7:

In this course, students will explore various literary genres, focusing on **race and identity** through poetry, novels, historical articles, and short stories. The course aims to deepen literary analysis skills, connect themes to real-world contexts, and enhance writing proficiency to prepare students for high school. Students will engage in reading and discussing diverse texts, practice various writing forms, and apply grammatical concepts to improve their literacy skills.

Core ELA

This core curriculum class focuses on establishing grade-level standards while preparing students for the next academic year. Through engaging activities, students will build foundational skills in



reading, writing, and grammar specific to their current grade. The course emphasizes mastering essential literacy concepts and provides targeted practice to ensure readiness for the next grade level. By reinforcing core skills and introducing advanced topics, students will gain the confidence and proficiency needed for continued academic success.

Creative Writing

This Creative Writing course introduces young writers to the fundamentals of storytelling. Students will explore different genres, learn key writing techniques, and develop their own unique voices. The course focuses on building creativity, enhancing writing skills, and encouraging self-expression through various fun and engaging activities.

Academic Literature G8

This literature course will teach the fundamentals of reading and writing with a literary focus through a wide array of novels, short stories, and poetry on the theme of **hope and dreams** and expand their understanding of these themes through historical readings and current events articles. The class will dive into the key literary and stylistic devices necessary for higher-level analysis of literature and texts and students will apply their knowledge and understanding through academic writing, including opinion writing, expository writing, and analyzing writing, preparing them for the future rigors of high-school classes and AP/IB exams.

Academic Literature G9-10

In this course, students will continue literary reading and analysis, learn to connect literature with the real world through academic text, and hone their writing skills through short responses and essays. Students will read a wide array of novels, short stories, and poetry on the theme of **power and human nature**, and expand their understanding of these themes through academic articles on science and social sciences, news articles, and history passages. To hone analysis skills and synthesize knowledge and understanding of the material, students will write analysis essays on themes, poetry, and prose, which are necessary for both AP and IB English courses and exams.



Evidence-Based Reading and Writing G8-9


In this course, students will hone their reading and writing skills. Through various readings, literature and non-fiction, students will learn how to analyze and annotate texts for main ideas, purpose, and authorial techniques. Students will be able to synthesize their understanding through a myriad of essays including argumentative, narrative, informative, and literature analysis writing. In addition, students will have a head start in preparing for the PSAT. They will learn how to approach the various question types and gain the logic and grammar skills necessary to succeed on the PSAT/SAT, all while expanding on their academic vocabulary. This class will allow students to gain the necessary reading and writing skills necessary in high-school and AP/IB classes while also preparing them for standardized tests such as the SAT/ACT.

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Academic Writing & Writing Competition

This writing course focuses on academic writing, specifically argumentative/opinion and expository/informative writing. Students will learn and practice the basics of argumentative and informative writing which will prepare them to draft and write pieces for the two competitions. We will start from the brainstorming process and continue through the research and outlining process until we reach the final writing, editing, and polishing parts. They will choose their own



topics, research them, and develop them into writing, which will be submitted to the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards (critical essay and/or journalism) and the JFK Profiles in Courage competition (argumentative/expository essay). The topic that the students develop and write about can then be extended to other writing competitions in the spring such as the John Locke essay. Depending on the student's academic performance and academic path, the course moves to an advanced level focusing on research-based writing in preparation for AP Seminar/Research, Capstone Project, and IB Extended Essay.

*****Course syllabus will be sent on the first day of class.**