

MERRYHILL MIDTOWN  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
ELECTIVE COURSE BOOKLET  
2022–23:THIRD TRIMESTER



## Third Trimester Secondary Courses

<b>COURSE A SELECTIONS</b> <b>WEEK 1 - M,W,F</b> <b>WEEK 2 - T,TH</b>	
<b>PE</b> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> PE	With the help of Merryhill's talented physical education staff, students will build and apply movement skills, participate in activities to improve physical fitness, and explore a variety of health topics. PE uniform and dress out required.
<b>Fantasy Art</b> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> Arts	Use drawing and painting techniques like shading, proportion and perspective to create fantasy worlds and mythological beings. Develop your skill and imagination as you make convincing dragons, monsters, aliens and dream-like worlds. Class projects will include mostly drawing, some painting and one sculpture project.
<b>Cartoon History</b>	In Cartoon History and Exploration, students will have the pleasure of viewing cartoons from Ari Fleischer and early Disney, all the way to modern day cartoons and anime. Students will discover how cartoons were used to do everything from teaching life lessons, indoctrinating propaganda, and simply making people laugh with zany silliness. In class, after viewing a cartoon, students will take part in a discussion on their opinions of what they just saw, and if it still has place in today's society. Be ready to laugh!
<b>Student Council*</b> Will only be placed in class if you are elected into office	Student council officers are responsible for planning and executing a variety of student activities including dances, rallies, spirit week, community service, and more. The officers will run meetings and plan events. This course requires independent workers with a desire to get involved in the school community. If you run for office and are elected you will be placed in this class. Students in this class will have opportunities to audit classes that support being an officer.
<b>Advanced Rock Band</b> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> Arts	This third trimester elective is open to students with experience playing guitar (electric or acoustic), bass, keyboard, common band instruments or drums. Basic understanding of music theory and the capacity to read notes or tabs is recommended. The student enrolling in this class provides his/her own instrument with the exception of piano/keyboard or drum set, which is provided by the school. We'll choose songs to play based on class ability and explore rock, pop and other styles of music. Priority given to students who are already in the Advanced Rock Band Elective.
<b>M2News</b> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> Arts/Tech	Have you ever wanted to pursue a career in newscasting or journalism? With the help of Merryhill's talented tech team, our Midtown middle schoolers will create short news pieces on events around the campus, participate in the Monday Morning Mustang announcements, and work in tandem with the yearbook team to collect school photos.  <i>Student council members will also audit this class at various times during the trimester.</i>

## COURSE A SELECTIONS

WEEK 1 - M,W,F

WEEK 2 - T,TH

<b>Midtown Media</b> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>Tech</i>	<p>All the world has photos at their finger tips. This class will help support the yearbook squad at taking photos for yearbook, learn and master photo editing, and start to work with graphic design for posters and flyers for the campus and more! Students will also take on other forms of media such as drone footage and clip editing skills.</p> <p><i>Student council members will also audit this class at various times during the trimester.</i></p>
<b>YA Fiction Book Club</b>	<p>In this survey literature class, students will read 2-3 young adult fiction novels. Novel selections will include both classic and contemporary texts. The class will also focus on close reading of the texts as well as critical responses to the texts.</p>
<b>Zines!</b> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>Arts</i>	<p>In Zines, students will have the opportunity to collaborate in making a number of zines (small circulation publications of original or appropriated texts and images). Each zine will focus on a different topic or theme selected by the students, and each student in the elective will be responsible for a section/ column in each zine. Students will have the opportunity to choose which element of zine writing or drawing they would like to contribute (i.e. comic, poem, social commentary, drawing, recipe, joke, etc.). Students will work together to produce and assemble each edition of the zine and distribute it to their peers.</p>
<b>Theme Park Manager</b>	<p>In this class we will take on the grueling role of an amusement park manager and having all the roles that go with that. You will need to manage your finances, keeping your spending down so that you can research new attractions for your park. You can even get a loan so that you can build that new rollercoaster for your park. Manage employees to keep the park running smoothly, looking great and safe. You may have your imagination run wild when you build a physical coaster in class. You will need to manage all this and more while striving to reach your goals.</p> <p><b><i>Elective Cost- \$25</i></b> <i>*This elective is for students who have not taken this class before.</i></p>

## COURSE B SELECTIONS

WEEK 1 - T,TH

WEEK 2 - M,W,F

<b>PE</b> <i>Fulfills requirement:</i> <i>PE</i>	<p>With the help of Merryhill's talented physical education staff, students will build and apply movement skills, participate in activities to improve physical fitness, and explore a variety of health topics. PE uniform and dress out required.</p>
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## COURSE B SELECTIONS

WEEK 1 - T,TH

WEEK 2 - M,W,F

<b>Digital Art</b> <i>Fulfills requirement: Tech or Arts</i>	The projects and activities in this course are for both beginners and experienced artists alike. They will encourage students to express themselves, develop their creative confidence, and reveal undiscovered abilities. Artists will use digital drawing and photography tools to create expressive word art, Sketchnotes, along with sketches of objects, landscapes and portraits. They will also explore still life art, logos, infographics and motion graphics, that will culminate in a digital art portfolio project at the end of the course.
<b>Calligraphy</b> <i>Fulfills requirement: Arts</i>	Learn, practice, and create artistic lettering using pens and brushes. The calligraphic line gracefully changes from thick and thin by using pressure, angles and precision. Use your skills to write inspirational quotes, design posters and create cards to brighten someone's day.
<b>Trivia Masters!</b>	In Trivia Masters!, students will be creating an assortment of different trivia games. Trivia themes will cover topics from core classes, sports, pop culture, current events and more. Students will also complete miniature research projects on the subjects that they are building quizzes for. THIS is the most thrilling, team building, school encompassing elective. What is— Trivia Masters!
<b>Garageband</b> <i>Fulfills requirement: Arts</i>	Students will learn how to create songs using GarageBand for iPad. Students will learn how to make beats, use loops and several other building blocks for song creation. Along with using the app, students will learn the basics of music theory and piano skills.
<b>Midtown Made</b> <i>Fulfills requirement: Tech</i>	The joys of design lab return to the middle school landscape. From using the 3D pens to create unique designs, to cutting and adhering cardboard to build structures based off of a design plan, students will relive the glory days of elementary Design Lab with a middle school twist. In this class students will be able to tap into their creative side making but not limited to the following projects: Stop Motion Movies, Embroidery, Cardboard creations, vinyl creations, clay designs, wood burning, sewing, and digital drawing portfolios.  <b><i>Elective Cost:\$35</i></b>
<b>Intro to Drama</b> <i>Fulfills requirement: Arts</i>	Do you like to act? Express yourself? Go crazy in an organized fashion? This class will teach monologues, screenwriting, improv, and much more. Students will practice their acting skills to the fullest in this fun class. Remember, this class requires active participation!
<b>Middle School Success</b>	This course is designed to help support students in middle school who need additional support and study hall time. Throughout this course, students will learn a variety of skills related to organization, time management, planning, communicating, and self-advocacy. In addition to reinforcing academic and organizational skills, this course will also provide students with some additional extended study hall time.

**COURSE B SELECTIONS**

**WEEK 1 - T,TH**

**WEEK 2 - M,W,F**

**Introduction to Relief Printing**

*Fulfills requirement:  
Arts*

Block printing is a relief printing technique that uses a carved material, such as linoleum or rubber to transfer ink onto fabric or paper. The block serves as a stamp, with the final product resulting in a mirror image of the carving. Block prints can range from small images intended to be repeated in a pattern to large works of art that require a large printing press to print. Students will be creating block prints using a variety of techniques.

***Elective Cost: \$25***

**Life Toolkit:  
Financial Literacy**

Students in this course will receive an introduction to topics, such as how to budget, banking basics, how to buy a house, how loans and taxes work, as well as internet safety and digital wellness. Students will participate in game-like lessons, mini projects, and class discussions while learning valuable real-world skills.