

## **Advanced Humanities A/B: Philosophy and Film**

We are pleased to offer a new class through the Gifted and Talented Coordinator. This class is available to all Campus Middle School students.

The curriculum for the Advanced Humanities class will rotate on a three-year cycle, allowing a student to take it for consecutive years while enjoying a different learning experience each year. The Film and Philosophy class, therefore, will not be offered again until we complete the three-year cycle.

Please take a few minutes to review the course description and discuss with your child whether s/he might be interested in the class. This will be a rigorous class, so students will be expected to engage in challenging Socratic seminars, think deeply, and write thoughtful and coherent responses to essential questions such as: What is a good life? When is it right to be wrong? What does it mean to be human?

### **Advanced Humanities: Philosophy and Film**

What is a friend? What is the difference between a best friend and fair-weather friend? What is a good friendship and a failed friendship? How are friendships different from other types of relationships? Can a book be your friend? Playwright Goethe says that friends “enhance each other,” that is, they make us a better person. Then, are teachers friends of their students? If a friend does something that hurts you, but is done so with your best interests at heart, is that person really your friend? Do friends not judge us? Or, are friends the only ones who can really judge us and offer constructive criticism? In the film *Casablanca*, the protagonist Rick Blaine wrestles with many of these issues as he struggles to figure out his moral obligation to his friends. This class uses various films to generate philosophic investigations into enduring questions that have long entertained philosophers. This class will push you to think deeply, critically, and logically. The course will not give you the answer to a philosophical question; rather, it will provide you skills, philosophical ideas, and critical approaches to use so you can find your truth. Make no mistake, this is a thinking class. You learn philosophy by doing philosophy. If you have a curious mind and want to make better sense of your world, then this class is for you.

This class is offered as both a 1-quarter or 2-quarter class.

If your student would like to take Advanced Humanities: Philosophy and Film, please follow the link below to a Google form for sign up.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdEsC0iujWpnZ1yXUmwKRjXiW3-w9uHM0hObMeB3TyldRm7Cw/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdEsC0iujWpnZ1yXUmwKRjXiW3-w9uHM0hObMeB3TyldRm7Cw/viewform?usp=sf_link)

Students will need to decide which elective/s they'd like to drop in order to take Advanced Humanities. The dropped elective/s will automatically be assigned as an alternate. Current Campus students in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grades may see which classes they've signed up for by logging in to PowerSchool and clicking on the Class Registration tab. If your student is a current 5<sup>th</sup> grader (rising 6<sup>th</sup>), you can indicate which elective/s you'd like to drop, or we can make the placement for you.

For questions, please get in touch with Jennifer Loehr, [jloehr@cherrycreekschools.org](mailto:jloehr@cherrycreekschools.org).