



***FYI Selectives List***



## *Global Mind Series*

### **Worldview Spectrum**

Students will engage in an active exploration of the major world religions and how these religions influence the worldviews of their followers. Topics of exploration will include religion and societal views, religion and politics, religion and the environment, and religion and gender. Students will utilize social networking tools to explore current and future global trends.

### **World Therapy: Diplomacy and Negotiation**

Students will explore the roles of professional diplomats and political leaders in conducting foreign policy through diplomatic means. Topics of discussion will include psychological perspectives, rational choice perspectives, traditional approaches and international mediation.

### **Human Rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Students will analyze history's most noteworthy human rights cases while exploring the social, political and global attitudes surrounding each case. Students will seek multiple perspectives on the challenges humanity faces regarding human rights in a flat world. Recent events in Iraq, Iran, and America will act as current studies.

### **Small Change Economics: Business on a Budget**

Students who dream of one day opening a business but cannot imagine having the capital to do so will want to explore this course. Through case study and practical application, students will walk through the steps from inception to financing to launching their own small business. Students will understand the multitude of opportunities and limitless funding supplies available to launch a business on a budget.

### **China Rising: Emerging Nations**

Students will immerse themselves in the emerging nation of China. As China continues to make great strides on the world's stage, a number of vital issues must be understood. Students will have opportunities for global collaboration, social networking, and project based learning as they research, analyze and predict the future of a world possibly dominated by the east.

### **A Population of the Verge: Sustaining Exponential Growth**

Students will be posed with the following question: if the world's population continues to grow exponentially, how will the current societal systems continue to function? Searching for the answers, students will engage in research, analysis, projection, and problem solving. Ultimately, students will seek viable solutions to the potential problems awaiting future generations.

### **Speak Truth to Power: Non-Violent Negotiation**

Students will study the strengths and challenges of negotiation and non-violent action approaches to conflict as well as the contradictions and connections between them. Students will be exposed to case studies, historical conflicts, and current research in non-violent action.

### **No Place like Home: Migration and Diaspora**

Students will explore the historical theories of the original population migration and then study the continuous changing landscape of the expanding world. Today, there are major population shifts occurring across the globe, and the implications of these events are just beginning to be felt. Students will immerse themselves in the shifting world to look at potential conflicts, changing ideologies, and political and economic impacts.

## *Green Planet Series*

### **Climate Change in the Greenhouse**

Students will explore past climate change, search for patterns or causes, explore the effect of greenhouse gases on Earth's atmosphere today, and consider human impact on global warming. As the debate rages over the cause of the warming planet, students will delve into the mysteries behind the planet's temperature shifts and engage in conversation through social networking with students across the globe.

### **Building Green Cities**

Students will be challenged to design the city of the future. Utilizing the latest research, statistics, and engineering advancements, students will work collaboratively across the disciplines to forge their new city. Building Green Cities will encourage and facilitate voluntary design and construction of energy efficient buildings.

### **Making a Difference: Challenging Social Norms**

Students will analyze the development of the social norms prevalent in today's society. In order to understand the current challenges of "going green," students will explore the social norms of each of the world's nations and how each is challenged to change their behaviors. Finally, students will collaborate and engage their peers in a global discussion of how to best plant the seeds of change.

### **A Fertile Planet Can Feed the World: Resource Management**

Students through research and exploration will uncover the connections between population growth and diminishing natural resources. As the world's supply of water, farm land, and clean air continue to disappear, it will be up to the future generations to find ways to manage the remaining resources effectively. Students will study the myths and the truths about food and water.

### **Managing Your Carbon Footprint**

Students will turn their focus inward for this course as they study the impact of their own behaviors on the planet. Every great movement begins from within, and in this course students will research the impact of a human life on the planet. Topics will include establishing a personal belief system, effects of culture on habits, and effects of societal philosophy on attitudes toward preservation of materials.

### **Powering the Globe: Renewable Energy**

Students will search for meaningful energy solutions by studying the sun, wind, rain, tides, and geothermal heat. First, students will look to the past to see how past attempts have fared both politically and economically. Developing questions, conducting research, and exploring the current and future goals of renewable energy usage, students will prepare a global plan for initiating the use of more renewable energy.

### **Endangered Ecology**

Students will visit ecosystems across the globe to explore the vast beauty of the earth's most treasured environments. Students will compare those that are flourishing to those that are dying, and then isolate the reasons for the endangerment. Working collaboratively

### **Diet for a Small Planet**

Students will explore the benefits of community sustained agriculture. This course will ask students to immerse themselves in the earth and look for ways to minimize reliance on chemicals, artificial preservatives, and hormone induced food sources. Exploring the global health issues, students will research food production from around the world while developing new ways to feed the planet.

## ***Emerging Science Series***

### **Hey, Wasn't that a Science Fiction Story?**

Students will explore works of science fiction in both film and literature in order to discover the connections between the ideas presented and their relevance to today's society. Students will come to understand the conditions across the major disciplines (Science, Math, technology, architecture, space exploration) of the past that lead to the discoveries of the present and those still to come. Topics will include apocalyptic, cyberpunk, tech noir, dying earth, post futurism and cyber fiction.

### **Exploring Time in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Existing in Real Time**

Students will explore the power of the Internet and its transformative power on the concept of time. Information is no longer a commodity and students will analyze and research the effects this is having on the global environment. Topics will focus on the scientific implications of existing in real time related to medicine, technology, engineering, politics and international collaboration.

### **Galactic Voyage: The Search for Sustainable Planets**

Students will explore the structure and diversity of planetary systems. As the world's population continues to imagine a time when we will be forced to inhabit a distant planet, NASA is currently cataloguing the galaxy's planetary population. Students will explore, research, and imagine what this future will look like.

### **Looking through You: Medical Technological Advances**

Students will understand the greatest medical technological advances of the past and the advances of the future. There are more accurate and more rapid diagnostic techniques to be devised in the future, as well as new treatments that are also more personalized. Many of these advances will promote regeneration of the organism.

### **Size Matters: Nanotechnology**

Students will delve into the world of nanotechnology, the future manufacturing technology that will make most products lighter, stronger, cleaner, less expensive and more precise. During the course of study, students will explore the beginnings of this technology, then analyze and research the current and future prospects. Finally, students will work collaboratively to design prototypes and develop uses for new and advanced creations.

### **The Dynamic Web**

Students will explore the vast expanse of interconnectedness that makes up the World Wide Web. Through exploration of web 2.0 interactivity, databases, content management systems, and social networking advancements that allow for the dynamic collaboration in the creation of new content, students will come to understand the viability of the Internet as the necessary tool for the proliferation of knowledge on a global scale. If the world will change, the Internet will facilitate it.

### **I, Robot: Exploring Artificial Intelligence**

Students will analyze mankind's fascination with artificial intelligence through the study of film, music, and literature. This study will serve as the foundation for exploration into modern and future advancements of A.I. Students will then explore the benefits and possible uses of artificial intelligence as a way to better mankind. Students will also research and imagine the negative possibilities of relying on this type of technology.

### **Animal, Vegetable or Mineral: Genetic Engineering**

Students will explore the history of genetic engineering in order to understand the arguments behind the moral, societal, and cultural dilemmas presented by the resulting creations. Genetic Engineering continues to be a hot button issue, and students will research, collaborate, and communicate globally in order to better understand the future viability of genetic engineering.

## *Transformative Art Series*

### **The Cinematic Agenda: Film as Literature**

Students will examine the transformative agenda beneath some of the most influential films of the last 100 years. Taking a global perspective, students will cover films from America, Asia, South America, and Europe. Major topics will include independent film, major studio productions, foreign films, animation, short films and documentaries.

### **Mashing Lights and Sound: Digital Storytelling**

Students will examine the increasing relevance and power of digital storytelling in the Internet age. Students will gain expertise in using the tools necessary to create powerful digital stories. Topics will include the history of digital storytelling, using the tools, understanding the power of collaboration and the digital storytelling workshop.

### **Bridging the Generational Gaps: Exploring the Poetry of Hip Hop and Rap**

Students will explore the meteoric rise of hip hop and rap while examining the power of the genre's poetry to change societal perceptions. Each genre is thriving in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and students will come to understand the birth, rise, and influence the genre has had on themselves as well as their parents. Major topics will include the birth, the artists, the business, the media, the generational divide and the future.

### **Empowering Voices: Graffiti and Urban Art in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

Students will examine the societal conditions that lead to the rise of the graffiti artist and their subsequent struggle for survival. Born of rebellion, graffiti and urban art have persevered against all odds and become the anti-corporate equivalent of the independent film. The course will explore the spirit of the artists, the impact of the art form, and the societal battles waged against it. Students will study forms of art from around the globe while examining the politics of art.

### **Navigating the Blogosphere: Journalism of the People**

Students will explore the impact of social networking on a society previously reliant on professional journalists for its news. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, everyone has the potential to shape the news. This course seeks to answer the question: what is the impact of this on the globe? Students will create, maintain, and advertise their own social networking sites as research. Topics include 24 hour news networks, major media outlets on the Internet, blogs, twitter, and viral video. Students will also explore the global environment and look at how media freedom is treated across the world.

### **The Transformative Power of Photoshop: Search for Truth**

Students will master the art of Photoshop while exploring both the positive and negative influences of its use in society. Media entertainment has come to rely on Photoshop, but more recently, once well respected news organizations are utilizing Photoshop for personal gain. Students will learn how to navigate between what is real and what is invented.

**Designing Fashion for an Evolving Planet**

Students will explore the world of high stakes fashion. Designers across the globe are inventing the next wave of clothing and accessories. Students will come to understand the societal, economic, and global trends that gave birth to some of history's greatest fashion trends before exploring the present and future of the fashion industry.

**The Green World: Environmental Art**

Students will trace the rise of environmental art from its birth during the 60s to its place in today's green conscious world. Students will explore the greatest artistic designs as well as the politics surrounding their creations. As the world focused on the future of the green planet, students will find the world of environmental art to be relevant and vital to the conversation.