

## TFT Class Offerings and Descriptions

### Subject Area: Social Studies

#### 1. American Government—Joshua Reish

This class will focus on the basics of the American system of government, beginning with federalism and the three branches of government. We will examine each of the branches, executive, legislative, and judicial in detail. Other topics include elections and their effect on policy, the constitutional convention, and state and local government. (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; 1 semester US Gov)

#### 2. The History of Freedom--Joshua Reish

This class examines the origins of democracy in Ancient Greece all the way to some of the world's newest democracies in Iraq and Afghanistan. Each lesson will cover a different historical event such as the American Revolution, the struggle to end slavery in England, the French Revolution, and the Reformation. (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; 1 semester World History)

#### 3. American History Survey—Joshua Reish

This class gives a wide view of American history starting with Native American societies and the first European colonists through the September 11th attacks. Special emphasis is paid to the changing American society through the centuries as well as the impact Christianity has had on America. (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; 1 semester US History)

#### 4. Economics—Joshua Reish

This course introduces the major concepts of microeconomics, such as supply and demand, the three major markets, and how the financial capital markets work. It will also cover macroeconomic concepts such as GDP, aggregate supply and demand, inflation and international trade. (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; 1 semester Economics)

#### 5. US History and Government Combination—Joshua Reish

This class gives a wide view of American history starting with Native American societies and the first European colonists through the September 11th attacks. Special emphasis is paid to the changing American society through the centuries as well as the impact Christianity has had on America. All of the American history in this course is taught simultaneously with US Government. (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 3 hour class; 1 semester US History and 1 semester US Government)

## **Subject Area: Public Speaking (all levels) and Debate**

### **6. Elementary and Middle School Speech—Joshua, Cami, Kara, and/or Jonathan Reish**

This is a gentle introduction to speech. Students will learn outlining techniques, several types of speeches, dramatics skills and more. Games, activities, and fun speeches will be used to teach basic communication skills in the class. (Upper 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class)

### **7. High School Speech and Debate Combination—Joshua, Ray, Cami, or Kara**

This class introduces speech techniques. Students will learn how to write a speech, physical delivery, and vocal delivery. The class will cover several different types of speeches including impromptu, the three point speech, persuasive, informative, and (speech with props). Students in this class speak on average ten+ times more than our kids have spoken in college speech classes through our teach-practice-apply method of teaching and learning! This class will also cover the key elements of debate, including listening skills, note taking, research, refutation, and logic. Students will learn and practice debate theory through practical, and even fun, mock debates. (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 3 hour class; 1 semester Public Speaking and 1 semester Debate)

### **8. High School Speech Only—Joshua, Cami, Kara, and/or Ray Reish**

This class introduces speech techniques. Students will learn how to write a speech, physical delivery, and vocal delivery. The class will cover several different types of speeches including impromptu, the three point speech, persuasive, informative, and (speech with props). Students in this class speak on average ten+ times more than our kids have spoken in college speech classes through our teach-practice-apply method of teaching and learning! (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; 1 semester Public Speaking)

## **Subject Area: Literature**

### **9. Literary Analysis—Joshua Reish**

This class examines three classic literary works. Students are taught how to analyze the various aspects of the work through in class discussions, followed by writing an analysis of each work. Works studied in this class are moderate to easy in difficulty, such as *To Kill a Mockingbird* or *Pride and Prejudice*. (8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; 1 semester English/American Literature or Composition)

## Subject Area: Composition

10. Introduction to Composition—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish  
This class introduces the composition process to upper elementary students (or older in the case of remediation) through TFT's *Meaningful Composition 4 I: Sentences, Paragraphs, and More*. This class will focus on components of a sentence and paragraph; how to do the Key Word Outline on given material; how to complete the Checklist Challenge; how to write various types of paragraphs (descriptive, definitions, informative, and personal); and how to put paragraphs together to create multi-paragraph works. (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class)
  
11. Beginning Middle School Composition—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish  
This class continues the composition process to upper elementary/middle school students through TFT's *Meaningful Composition 5 I: Writing for Real*. This class will focus on multi-paragraph writing; using sources; beginning source citations; including quotations in writing; how to do the Key Word Outline on given material; how to complete the Checklist Challenge; and how to write various types of short, yet-multi-paragraph reports and essay (descriptive, biographies, informative, and personal. (Upper 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write sentences and paragraphs)
  
12. Creative Writing for Middle School—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish  
This book switches gears from TFT's composition and essay classes to focus primarily on creative writing, using TFT's *Meaningful Composition 5 II: Creative and Clever*. Students will learn to finish given stories; write what-if essays, basic poetry, simple stories, descriptive writing, book reports, and newspaper articles; and create comic text and interview essays. (Upper 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays)
  
13. Junior High Composition—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish  
This class continues the composition process for junior high students, using TFT's *Meaningful Composition 6 I: Longer and Stronger*. This class will focus on more research based writing, as well as letter writing, story writing, biographical writing, and essay writing. Students will be taught

how to complete the Key Word Outline on given material at higher levels and how to complete TFT's Checklist Challenge. This is a good remediation course for junior high and high school students who have not written much in the past/ (Upper 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays and key essays and reports on the computer)

14. Creative Writing for Junior High/ Lower High School—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish

This book switches gears from TFT's composition and essay classes to focus primarily on creative writing, using TFT's *Meaningful Composition 7 II: Completely Creative*. Students will learn to write "back-in-time" stories, poetry for greeting cards or children's books, time capsules, interviews, and more. (Upper 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays)

15. Research Reports for Upper Junior High and Beginning High School—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish

This class will introduce the basic components of Modern Language Association's citation method through a pain-free, incremental approach in TFT's new "research reports only" book, *Meaningful Composition 7: Research Reports*. Students will complete three large writing projects while learning the basic aspects of researching, outlining, and citing sources. (Upper 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays and key essays and reports on the computer; having completed any previous MC books from TFT a real plus in this course)

16. Beginning High School Composition—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish

This class will continue with TFT's directed writing approach for students who are ready for more challenging, lengthier reports and essays of various types using *Meaningful Composition 8 or 9: High School Essays and Reports*. This class includes some research-based reports, as well as persuasive, analogous, and personal essays. Students will be introduced to the five-paragraph essay and timed essays for testing purposes. (Upper 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays; research from multiple sources; and key essays and reports on the computer)

17. Five Paragraph Essays and SAT Prep—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish

This class will teach the format for the five-paragraph essay and introduce students to the "tricky" aspects of SAT writing, so they do not get tripped up on extra wording or instructions that are commonly found in test

essays. Students will learn to use what they know to formulate five paragraphs that persuade and inform. Timed essays for test taking are focused on for at least the last one third of this class. (Upper 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays; research from multiple sources; and key essays and reports on the computer)

18. High School Composition—Joshua, Donna, or Kara Reish

This class will continue with TFT's directed writing approach for students who are ready for more challenging, lengthier reports and essays of various types using *Meaningful Composition 9 or 10: High School Essays and Reports*. This class includes some research-based reports, as well as persuasive, analogous, and personal essays. Also includes allegorical story. Students will be introduced to the five-paragraph essay and timed essays for testing purposes. (Upper 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays; research from multiple sources; and key essays and reports on the computer)

19. Story Writing—Joshua

In this class the student will learn the basics of fiction writing and will write a short story of their own. Topics include how to write descriptions, how to come up with original story ideas, how to create conflict in the story, developing setting and characterization, etc. (Upper 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—ability to write multi-paragraph reports and essays and key essays and reports on the computer)

20. Research Paper—Joshua or Donna

This class will teach the full length MLA style research paper of fifteen to thirty pages with at least eight sources. This class will use *Meaningful Composition 12: The Research Paper*. Peer editing techniques will be taught and utilized as well as heavy editing by the teacher. This class will prepare upper level high school students to do research-based writing at the college level. (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade level; 90 min class; prerequisite—should have written at least ten to twelve paragraph research based reports with multiple sources; prefer extensive researching skills and practice too.)