



Executive Functioning, Personal Finance, and Life Skills

Lydian Academy is excited to offer three NEW Elective courses this summer in the areas of Executive Functioning, Personal Finance, and Life Skills. Students who register for one of these courses will earn a semester of elective credits and a grade upon completion, and may choose to take the course in-person, online, or via hybrid modalities. Students may choose to register for the course 1-on-1 with their Lydian teacher for a completely individualized experience, OR they may also choose to register with a friend or sibling for discounted pricing and a 2:1 student:teacher ratio.

EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

Executive Functioning is a one-semester course that promotes the development and application of crucial meta-cognitive skills necessary for academic success and overall well-being. Some of the topics to be covered include: time management, note taking, organization skills, stress management, goal setting, study skills, and self-regulation, with content individualized to meet the needs of each particular student. The goal is to empower students in honing skills that are essential to their success - not just academically, but also personally and professionally on the road ahead.

PERSONAL FINANCE

Personal finance is a one semester course that is designed to support students in building an essential foundation in financial literacy that will aid them in making informed decisions about real-world financial issues in this ever-evolving 21st century global landscape. Students will explore possible career pathways, goal setting, and earning potential, and learn how wise decision-making takes into account the multi-faceted domains of income, taxes, money management, credit, saving, and investing in order to achieve personal financial success.

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- 2) **Lydian Menlo Park - (650) 321-0550; 815 El Camino Real, Menlo Park; staff@lydianlink.com**



LIFE SKILLS

Life skills is a one semester course that supports students in the development of pertinent independent living skills that are required to aid a successful transition into adulthood. Students will synthesize and apply inter-disciplinary competencies in career preparation (i.e., resume writing, interviewing, the job application process), health and nutrition, consumer math (i.e., personal banking, credit, budgeting), goal setting, inter-personal relationships (i.e., roommates), travel and home management (i.e., navigating public transportation, grocery shopping, laundry), and more.

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Summer 2024 Writing Seminars

The Art of Storytelling: Creative Writing Seminar

Creativity is fundamental to language learning. This writing seminar provides students with an introduction to storytelling that will not only help students tap into their creativity, but will provide them with a solid foundation from which to become better analytical thinkers and writers. Students will develop a positive relationship to writing and learn more about themselves in the process. Seminar participants will explore interesting and engaging themes to help spark their imagination. They will be encouraged to use self-expression, develop critical thinking skills, and gain confidence. Students will read short stories, write in response to a variety of intriguing prompts, and create their own short stories. At Lydian, we believe that every student has a story to tell. We aim to help nurture students' creativity and facilitate an understanding that writing can be a fun endeavor! This workshop is open to both middle and high school students.

Teachers will assess foundations, fill in gaps, and help students to:

- Develop a positive relationship to writing, learn how to use self-expression, and gain confidence as authors
- Engage in dynamic, creative writing tasks, and practice meaningful, structured writing
- Use their imaginations while also learning how to evaluate, summarize, create, and extrapolate
- Develop critical thinking, listening, and reading comprehension skills

Tackling the Formal Essay: Expository Writing Seminar

Many times, students find themselves struggling to write the perfect essay. Some might even experience confusion when it comes to the essay writing process and how to approach writing in general. This seminar will help students develop their formal essay writing skills by systematically breaking down the steps involved in the process. Students will write on topics of interest and will produce four types of formal essays (narrative, descriptive, expository, and argumentative). Students will learn how to effectively brainstorm, outline, draft, and revise a paper. The goal of the seminar is to get students to the point where they feel more confident in their formal essay writing and can use the skills they learn to become self-directed writers in

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their academic courses, and better writers in general. This seminar is open to both middle and high school students.

Teachers will assess foundations, fill in gaps, and help students to:

- Differentiate between formal and informal writing, and learn how to write narrative, descriptive, expository, and argumentative essays
- Understand and break down the writing process in order to make writing more manageable
- Produce essays that have a strong and clear voice, craft effective thesis statements, and gain the confidence required to become self-directed writers
- Understand how to both summarize and analyze, construct productive topic sentences, and learn how to use in-text citations and create bibliographies

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Summer 2024 Conversational Spanish Seminars

Learning a foreign language requires learning vocabulary, grammar, and culture, and practicing inside and outside of class. Most students develop receptive skills much more easily than expressive skills, and learning a foreign language can be quite frustrating when a student is struggling to express themselves verbally or in written format. Summoning up the words from a brand new and ever-growing, mental word bank can be quite the challenge. When a language-learner puts their recently acquired knowledge into practice and activates receptive and expressive skills, they are more likely to achieve fluency and enjoy learning the language if they are able to use it more naturally. Most students feel nervous, intimidated, or shy to speak up in class but when you add a new language to the mix, there tends to be less active participation. Lydian Academy's conversational Spanish boosters will allow students to put their skills into practice comfortably and confidently.

¡Hablemos! Beginner Conversational Spanish Seminar

This immersive three-week seminar is designed to strengthen students' conversational skills in Spanish. As this course is not for credit, the emphasis will not be on mastery but rather on engagement with the language. For that reason, teachers will carefully assess students' foundations to help them develop a positive relationship with the language through self-expression.

Prerequisite: completion of Spanish level 1. Ideal for students going into level 2 or 3.

In this seminar, students will learn how to

- apply vocabulary in natural conversation by
 - introducing and describing themselves
 - telling time, talking about schedules and routines
 - chatting about the weather
 - discuss family chores, organizing parties, shopping, vacations, health, and more!!
- apply grammar and syntax in natural conversation by
 - discussing the above topics using the present and preterite tenses

Above all, students will

- ✓ develop speaking skills in conversation with their teacher
- ✓ gain confidence by engaging in dynamic speaking tasks and conversations that are structured and meaningful

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¡Hablemos! Intermediate Conversational Spanish Seminar

This immersive three-week seminar is designed to strengthen students' conversational skills in Spanish. As this course is not for credit, the emphasis will not be on mastery but rather on engagement with the language. For that reason, teachers will carefully assess students' foundations to help them develop a positive relationship with the language through self-expression.

Prerequisite: completion of Spanish level 3. Ideal for students going into level 4+

In this seminar, students will learn how to

- apply vocabulary in natural conversation by
 - introducing and describing themselves
 - telling time, talking about schedules and routines
 - chatting about the weather
 - talking about jobs, sports, recreational activities, the environment, volunteering, and more!
- apply grammar and syntax in natural conversation by
 - using the past tense to tell stories and share memories
 - using the future tense to make plans for travel
 - comparing and contrasting
 - giving commands
 - making polite suggestions and expressing hopes, fears, and opinions with the subjunctive mood

Above all, students will

- ✓ develop speaking skills in conversation with their teacher
- ✓ gain confidence by engaging in dynamic speaking tasks and conversations that are structured and meaningful

Our aim is to facilitate conversational Spanish as both a practical and fun endeavor! This seminar is conducted in Spanish and open to both middle and high school students.

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