

## **RFH Summer Academy 2025 Courses**

### **STEAM Course Offerings**

**1. The Graphic Design & 3D Printing Lab**

Learn how to think creatively and have fun doing it in our state of the art iMac lab! Students will engage in various graphic design and 3D projects learning about the Principles of Graphic Design and 3D Printing. Students will produce and get feedback on 3-4 projects.

**2. Web Design and Coding**

Have you ever looked at a web page and wondered how it was created and the code that creates the page? Learn how to code with HTML, CSS, and Java Script. You will be able to create a four page website by the end of the course.

**3. Click & Create: Exploring Digital Photography**

Have fun this July by taking pictures on and around the beautiful RFH campus during the vibrant summer season! You will then learn how to edit your photographs in the Mac lab using Adobe Photoshop. Students will learn the basics of good photo composition and how to manipulate the digital camera. Students will walk away with prints of their top photographs.

**4. AP Computer Science Prep**

Are you planning on taking AP Computer Science A in the future? Better yet, are you taking it next school year? Then this course is perfect for you! This course will give you a head start on learning the wonderful world of Computer Science and coding with the Java Programming Language. Java is a popular, object-oriented programming language that can be used to create a variety of applications. It's used to develop desktop apps, mobile apps, web apps, and more.

**5. Algebra Skills**

Want to be more successful in every math class? Algebra Skills can get you there! We'll review algebraic equations, terminology of algebra, word problems, factoring, slope-intercept, and gain confidence to support future math course endeavors. This course is open to any student taking Algebra 1 next year.

**6. Geometry Prep**

Sizes, shapes, angles and dimensions: all of these topics await you in geometry next year. This course will review algebra skills necessary to succeed as well as cover introductory topics that you will be seeing in your geometry course this coming school year. This course is open to any student taking Geometry next year.

**7. SAT Math Prep**

Taking the SAT in the future? Come and join us to learn strategies you can use on the SAT math section to help you increase your score and get into the dream college! This class helps students to focus on exactly the areas they need to work on most.

**8. Rise to the Challenge: Algebra Topics**

This course is designed for students in college prep-level math who are ready to take the leap into Honors Algebra 2 or need to strengthen their algebra skills to prepare for Precalculus. Strengthen your foundation by filling in the gaps, reinforcing algebra skills, and refining your critical thinking skills to help you tackle the next level of math. This class will cover essential algebraic topics you may have missed or need to review, giving you the skills and confidence needed to excel next school year!

**9. Rise to the Challenge: Advanced Algebra Topics**

This course is designed for students in college prep-level math who are ready to take the leap into Honors College Precalculus, Honors College Calculus, or AP Calculus. Strengthen your foundation by filling in the gaps and mastering key honors-level concepts. This class will cover essential topics you may have missed, giving you the skills and confidence needed to excel next school year!

## **10. Smart Money**

This practical and engaging course teaches high school students essential money management skills, from budgeting and saving to investing and credit. Through Excel, real-world scenarios, interactive activities, and hands-on projects, students will gain the confidence to navigate banking, taxes, loans, and more. Whether you're planning for college, a career, or just want to be smarter with money, this course will give you the tools to make wise financial choices for life!

## **11. Physics 9 Prep**

This course is meant to be a jumpstart into the world of mechanics and electricity/ magnetism. Students will be introduced to concepts studied throughout physics including dynamics, kinematics, circular motion, gravitation, waves, and electricity through a combination of hands-on activities, discussion, and practice.

## **12. Studio Art**

This is a studio course for artists of all levels: Beginners who have never made jewelry to experienced artists who just want the studio time or learn something new. This summer we will focus on wire techniques, beading techniques, use of tools, clasping, and basic soldered jewelry. Experienced students can use the course for open studio time. Middle schoolers through adults welcome!

## **Humanities Courses**

### **1. Debate and Speech: Getting Comfortable with Public Speaking**

Does the act of speaking in front of a group make you bite your nails? Would you rather sit in silence than voice your opinion? Participating in Debate and Speech Club in high school can make you more confident, give you a leg up in your academics, and even help you get into college--it's true! According to the National Debate and Speech Association, speakers and debaters have higher GPAs and SAT scores, and are more likely to get into colleges of their choice! This course will aim to help students become acquainted with speech and debate, with the aim of having students join the speech and debate team that attends events and competitions in the fall. If you are looking to join an extracurricular activity and grow your speaking skill set, this is the course for you!

### **2. AP Language and Composition: Rhetorical Analysis Bootcamp**

Have you signed up for AP Lang and Comp? Are you unfamiliar with the art of rhetorical analysis and looking to get a leg up on the content? If this is your first AP or Honors English course or you are seasoned in the rigorous English courses at RFH, this course aims to prepare you for the rigors of AP Lang and get you speaking the language of rhetorical analysis quickly.

### **3. 9th Grade Social Studies Boot Camp**

Now is your chance to learn everything you'll need to know in order to be successful for your freshman year history course! In this course, you'll learn how to write better essays, take effective notes, read/ outline informative texts, and practice research skills, including MLA citation format. This class is open to all incoming 8th and 9th graders.

### **4. Shark Tank Startup Challenge**

Ready to think like an entrepreneur? In this fast-paced, hands-on business class, high school students will brainstorm, develop, and pitch their own startup ideas—just like on *Shark Tank*! Students will learn the basics of business planning, marketing, and financial strategy while working to create and refine their pitches. The class will culminate in a final pitch competition where students present their ideas to a panel of "sharks". Whether you dream of launching your own business or just want to sharpen your creativity this class will challenge you to think big and sell your vision!

**5. Summer Reading Prep**

Summer Reading Prep allows students to work on their summer assignments with teacher guidance. This summer course is available for students taking the following courses next year: English I, English IH, English II, English IIH, English III, English IV. We will discuss reading strategies, as well as review characters and plot points from students' selected summer text. While focusing on the summer reading book, students will be building reading, writing, discussion, presentation, and group work skills. This course lets you walk into Day 1 of your 2024-2025 school year feeling prepared and confident! Please note that students do NOT need to read their book prior to this class; we will have time for reading during our sessions.

**6. Writing Skills for English Language Arts**

This will be a workshop-style course that allows students to practice writing, peer review, editing, and utilizing feedback. We will focus on brainstorming, outlining, writing for a variety of purposes, reading rubrics, and presenting written work. Students will also work on writing skills for purposes outside of the traditional 5-paragraph essay, such as composing emails, crafting letters, and answering short response questions on assessments. Our focus areas include persuasion, literary analysis, and research

**7. Canvas & Quill: Art and Literature in Conversation**

In this immersive summer course, students will explore the dialogue between historical context, art, and literature. Students will cultivate their art history and literary analysis skills through a variety of engaging activities, close readings, and creative projects (ranging from paintings to poems). Each day, the course will focus on one piece of art as a lens, establishing the history of that piece and connecting its influence to other major works throughout time. "Canvas & Quill" is designed for anyone with interest in expanding their understanding of art, history, or the written word.

**Counseling & Wellness Courses**

**1. High School Ready: Skills for Success**

Make your high school experience a success with this essential transition course! Designed for incoming freshmen, this class focuses on key skills like time management, organization, effective study habits, and clear communication. Learn how to balance schoolwork, extracurriculars, and personal time while developing strategies for note-taking, test preparation, and staying on top of assignments. Through interactive activities and real-world tips, you'll build confidence, reduce stress, and set yourself up for success in high school and beyond. Get ready to start strong, stay organized, and make the most of your high school journey!

**2. Future Ready: Essential Skills for Upperclassmen**

Prepare for life after high school with this essential course for sophomores, juniors and seniors! Learn time management, organization, study strategies, and professional communication while balancing academics, extracurriculars, and college applications. Get a jumpstart on essays, recommendations, and deadlines, plus tips for test prep and decision-making. This class will help you stay organized, confident, and ready for your next steps!