



LEARNING
joyfully

100%
EXPERIENTIAL

WORKING WITH
experts

13
DIFFERENT
CLASS OPTIONS



ONE WEEK.
ONE CLASS.
ZERO GRADES.

NEW
friendships

4
GRADES WORKING
TOGETHER



MPA
i-TERM 2023

MPA MIDDLE SCHOOL i-Term

Week of February 27-March 3, 2023

PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW

Mounds Park Academy's i-Term provides students in grades five through eight with a unique opportunity to embody MPA's mission of thinking independently and learning joyfully by participating in a one-week enrichment experience. i-Term courses are designed to provide inquiry-based, experiential learning beyond the classroom. The project-based, focused nature of i-Term offerings enables students to learn new skills, do things that are not possible within a normal school setting, and be exposed to things they would not be otherwise. Students will venture into the community, work with experts in a particular field, and create new friendships along the way during this signature experience.

STUDENT OWNERSHIP

While students are required to participate in i-Term, they are empowered to select a course that will either deepen their current understanding of a topic or introduce them to a new area of interest.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

Students will be asked to select three courses for i-Term. While class sizes are purposefully kept small to ensure an intimate learning environment, every effort will be made to match students with their top choices. Once a student is registered and confirmed in a course, no changes will be made.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Course fees are used to offset the cost of transportation, field trips, community and guest speakers, and other excursions. Once course selections are finalized, course fees will be assessed through the Business Office and TADS. If the course fee associated with your student's preferred i-Term experience presents a financial hardship for your family, please contact Jenn Milam to discuss options.

USING THIS DOCUMENT

i-Term courses are divided into three categories—Making & Design Thinking, Culture & Community Explorations, and Creative Arts & Play. They are color coded as indicated below. Use this document to review course content and select your ideal i-Term course.

MAKING & DESIGN THINKING

CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS

CREATIVE ARTS & PLAY

i-TERM ONLINE:

moundsparkacademy.org/iterm

SCENT-SATIONAL SCIENCE: AROMATHERAPY

COST: \$50

This interactive class will explore and discover the world of aromatherapy and essential oils. Ever wanted to be a potion master and make your own diffuser blends? Have a need for an elixir to enliven your windowsill with fresh smelling cleaner that you made yourself and is safe for household use?! Come mix oil blends, delve into the alchemy of soap making, and learn the science behind scent. Together you can get creative with items you can take home and use. Come learn with us!



MAKING & DESIGN THINKING

STRATEGY GAMES AND DESIGN

COST: \$45

Would you like to experience different genres of games by learning to play a deck-building game called Dominion, a cooperative game like Pandemic, a bluffing game called Coup, and a tile design game like Azul? Playing strategy games develops analysis and problem-solving skills and helps build communication and negotiation ability through face-to-face competition and cooperation. Join us as we learn how to play, analyze, and form winning tactics and strategies for several different genres of strategy card and board games. We will also travel to Fantasy Flight Games in Roseville to interact with game designers, see how games are produced, and (if our timing is right) act as game testers. Afterward, we will develop and design a prototype for an original strategy game. If you love games and strategy, this is the i-Term course for you!



MAKING & DESIGN THINKING

WOODWORKING: CREATING AND FINISHING FURNITURE

COST: \$55

This woodworking course will allow students to build a piece of furniture that is completely made from wood. Within this course, students will learn how to use different machinery and power tools that allow them to cut, shape, and create their work. Students will also learn how to sand and paint/clear coat their pieces of woodwork. While students will have to follow directions on how to build their product, they will have the opportunity to add their own personal flare to their project. Students will be able to choose one project to build from a list of different pieces. In addition to students building their own product, they will take a field trip to see how a business interacts with people who do woodworking daily or as a hobby.



MAKING & DESIGN THINKING

FRENCH IMMERSION TRIP TO QUEBEC, 2023

STUDENT COST: \$2,495

ADULT COST: \$2,800

We are thrilled to announce an iTerm language and culture immersion trip Québec City, Canada! This trip offers the chance to sample a taste of Europe in North America with its historic walled city and its French language and heritage.

During this five-day adventure, we'll explore Canada's oldest neighborhood on foot and visit the interactive Musée de la Civilisation to learn about Quebec's history and people. We'll engage in multiple interactive games and activities at the Musée du Fort and Soldat de la Tour in Martello Tower as we explore le Vieux Québec. We'll also enjoy seasonal activities like snowshoeing, tobogganing on the famous Dufferin Terrace and visiting the impressive Ice Hotel. We'll head into the mountains to enjoy a traditional meal at a Sugar Shack, while taking in traditional music and dance.

But that's not all! Our visit will also include a traditional breakfast at Huron-Wendat Village, including a guided visit of the village with interactive games. We'll also explore the Beaupré Coast and visit Montmorency Falls Park with a cable car ride to the top of the falls. Our visit to the Beaupré Coast will also include a visit to the Copper Museum, with tools and copper awaiting us for the challenge. No visit will be complete without a guided visit of Cathédrale Ste Anne de Beaupré, a world-famous pilgrimage site. Our visit to Canada will end with a tour of Montreal and a visit to the world-famous farmers' market, where we'll get to practice our French as we order our final Canadian meal before we head home.



CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS



CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS

A vertical strip of tropical foliage, including palm trees and other green plants, runs along the left edge of the page.

COSTA RICA 2023: ADVENTURE, VOLUNTEER, PURA VIDA

\$2,100–2,500 (final cost is dependent upon airfare at time of booking)

This unique trip promises experiential learning alongside exceptional adventure experiences and meaningful volunteer opportunities. In beautiful Costa Rica, travelers will kayak, hike, and explore Pacific Ocean waters, waterfalls, and mangroves, and rainforest. Learning about unique flora and fauna will be an integral part of volunteer opportunities with sea turtle restoration efforts and reforestation projects, and trip participants will get to share experiences partnering with a local efforts in sustainability and environmental preservation.

In partnership with Morgan Expeditions, travelers will stay at the Guava Lodge, just minutes from Playa Linda beach. We've planned surf lessons and lots of activities for the adventure seeker!

This course is open to all students. Parents are invited to travel as well and are highly encouraged if the student traveling is younger than 12.

MUSEUMS OF THE TWIN CITIES

COST: \$55

Museums serve to provide learning experiences for people of all ages and challenge us to see the world in new ways across cultures, artistic mediums, time periods, and geographic regions. This iTERM course will spend the week exploring the incredible museums of the Twin Cities and both examine and reflect upon the power and possibilities of museum education. Whether art, natural science, technology, or cultural, a stroll through a museum has the potential to empower and inspire. Join us for a week of exploring all the Twin Cities Museum scene has to offer!



CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS

BREAKING BREAD: BREAD & CULTURE

COST: \$55

Flour, yeast, and water have created a food that's been around since the beginning of recorded history. Not only is bread one of the oldest human-made foods, but it has remained a touchstone of history, culture, and community to this day. Every culture has their own bread-like food; baguettes, sourdough loaves, naan, injera, frybread, challah, pita, and arepas are only a sampling of the types of breads that cultures around the world have created using yeast, flour, and water. Yes, that previously mentioned list is mouth-watering, but the more important question is this: what can we learn about culture and community through studying and baking breads from around the globe? That question is what this course aims to explore. Not only will students learn to bake a variety of breads from around the world, but they will also learn the history of bread and why it's often thought of as a science. Students will hear from guest speakers, professionals, and go on field trips around the Twin Cities to Mill City Museum, Bakersfield Flour, and Great Harvest Baking Company.



CULTURAL & COMMUNITY EXPLORATIONS

ARCTIC ADVENTURES

COST: \$550

This course invites students to embrace winter with outdoor activities and learning about the Inuit culture. Participants will travel to Ely for four days to go dogsledding and learn about wildlife and tracking, stopping at the Wolf Center along the way. Students will depart on Monday and spend four days, three nights exploring the northern Minnesota wilderness while learning the training and care of these fantastic working dogs.

NOTE: Priority for this trip is given to eighth grade students, and enrollment for this course is limited to 16 participants.



SKATEBOARDING & DECK DESIGN CAMP

COST: \$150

Strap on that helmet and buckle on those knee pads, we're going skating! Minneapolis' 3rd Lair Skatepark will be providing skateboarding instruction for riders of ANY experience level. From folks who have never ridden a skateboard to advanced riders who know all the tricks, the amazing instructors will be teaching everyone new and awesome techniques in 3rd Lair's indoor skatepark. Participants will be broken into smaller groups based on their experience, giving everyone the time and attention, they need to master some new skills. We'll be at the park every morning, from 9:00a-12:00p, and returning to MPA for lunch and skateboard deck design in the afternoons.

No equipment is needed; all rental fees are included in the cost of the class: helmets, pads, and skateboards. If you have your own gear, feel free to bring it along if you'd like. Each student will also receive a blank skate deck to design and bring home at the end of the week. Waivers will be needed for all participants prior to class. For more info about 3rd Lair and to see pics of their massive skatepark, visit the [website](#).



MUSICAL THEATER

COST: \$75

Have you ever dreamed life was a stage? Do you know all the songs from *The Greatest Showman*, *Six*, or *Hamilton*? Do you enjoy acting, but also want to dance and sing? Or maybe you don't know what the Tony's are, but would like to explore acting, singing, and dancing, in a safe and supportive environment!

Highlights of this iTERM course include drama games, acting scenes, working with a guest choreographer and musical director, and performing a showcase for all – starring YOU and your friends! We might even see a show if there is one available during the week.



HOGWARTS WIZARDING SCHOOL

COST: \$200

Unleash your inner wizard and attend Hogwarts Wizarding School for iTerm. Share your love with all things Harry Potter and join us on a week-long experience that will begin with sorting ceremony, Potions, Care of Magical Creatures, Quidditch and becoming Ollivander's apprentice to master wand-making. The week will also require you to write fan fiction, poetry, and art about the characters as young students at Hogwarts. The week will include Wizarding Treats, Harry Potter trivia, Horcrux scavenger hunt, and much more to help your house with the Peacock Wizarding Cup. Register now to ensure our owls send you your acceptance letter.



SEW WHAT?

COST: \$60

Have you ever gone clothes-shopping and thought: "I could make that!" or "That would be so cute if only it had different sleeves!"? Have you had a brilliant design idea and wanted to put it on a t-shirt? If so, this is the course for you! We will learn some sewing basics and apply those skills to create new garments, rework existing garments, and design t-shirts using a variety of methods. We will explore sustainability by using recycled garments and materials to the greatest extent possible.



FAB, FIT, FUN!

COST: \$100

Are you looking to have some fun and be active no matter what the weather is like? This course will allow you to explore a variety of individual activities that you can do at any time of the year – bowling, archery, roller skating, indoor water park fun, rock-climbing and maybe more!



“ i-Term at MPA is
a week-long adventure
of the mind, body, and
spirit. When students
and teachers engage
together with topics
about which they are
both passionate, great
things happen and all
of us grow as learners
and people. ”

DR. JENN MILAM, MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTOR