

Duke Ellington School of the Arts  
2018-2019 LL General Exploration I Class Syllabus

**Instructor:** Mr. Seth Brecher

**Instructor Contact Information:**

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202-282-0123

**Course Overview:**

The *General Exploration I* course aims to provide students with a deeper foundation in their career exploration, post-secondary transition, and self-advocacy skills, specifically in the following areas:

- *Completing a Career Interest Inventory*
- *Evaluating Career Paths and Opportunities*
- *Creating a Post-Secondary Application Strategy*
- *Developing a Draft College Personal Statement*
- *Developing a Draft Data Driven College List*
- *Understanding the Basics of Financial Planning and Success*
- *Developing a Personal Budget*
- *Creating a Summer 2018 Plan for Success*

In addition to post-secondary transition planning and related projects, students will also be provided with the time, technological resources, and guidance to complete academic/artistic assignments, projects, and study guides. One of the goals of the Learning Lab is to make sure that students are prepared for success in all of their classes.

Students will be required to check their Aspen class progress accounts at the beginning of each class period. Students and the class instructor will complete Aspen checks before each class which will provide areas of focus and next steps in the Learning Lab.

**Grading:**

Student grades will be based on the following grading categories:

- Class Participation – **10%**
- Assessments – **40%**
- Practice and Application – **50%**

**Please Note:** Class participation grades will be assigned multiple times over the course of an advisory. In-class assignments, contribution to class discussions, and student attendance are all factors that will be considered in the *Class Participation* grade category.

**Materials:**

Students will be required to bring the following materials to each *General Exploration I* class period:

- 3-ring binder with loose-leaf paper OR dedicated *General Exploration I* notebook
- 2 Pens (blue or black ink only) and 2 Pencils
- Access to the Aspen class management portal

**Class Policies and Procedures:**

- Grade scales and the consequences of tardiness and truancy are consistent with DCPS' attendance policy and related protocols.
- In the case of all absences, students are expected to contact a friend and/or contact the course instructors prior to the commencement of the next class, to find out what assignment is due. There are very few acceptable reasons for unpreparedness.
- Practice and Application component will be based on both *General Exploration I* related projects and assignments as well as projects and assignments for academic and arts classes.
- Parents and students please feel free to contact Mr. Brecher with any questions related to the *General Exploration I* class and curriculum.

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**Parent/Guardian and Student Signatures:**

I have read the course requirements as outlined above. I understand the Course Overview, Grading, Materials and Class Policies and Procedures information, and agree to adhere to the policies as outlined above.

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**Student Signature**

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**Date**

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**Parent/Guardian Signature**

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**Date**

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**Parent/Guardian Email**

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**Parent/Guardian Phone Number**