

DA VINCI DESIGN GRADE 12

**FAMILY
NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER
2019**



WELCOME TO SENIOR YEAR!

Stay tuned for monthly updates. Each month, the 12th grade team will publish a newsletter to keep you informed. You can find this newsletter on DVD's blog @ dvd.davincischools.org

If you would like to receive this monthly blog via e-mail please request by e-mailing Frank Solis at fsolis@davincischools.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**No School (pd day)
Friday September 20**

**SLCs October 7-10.
Schedule coming soon.**

**Parent information
letter about exhibition
coming soon.**

New to Team 12

Megan Fowler-Mendoza Katy Wright



English 12



Resource
Support

GOVERNMENT

Students are currently learning about the constitutional principles that can be found in the U.S. Constitution. They are learning about limited government, separation of powers, checks and balances, federalism, popular sovereignty and judicial review. They are taking a deep dive into Article I, II and III of the Constitution before they learn about the Bill of Rights and civil liberties.



Frank Solis
fsolis@davincischools.org

STATISTICS

In Statistics, we have recently been reviewing how to represent the spread of data graphically using histograms and box plots. We are currently learning how to represent the spread of data using numerical calculations, especially variance and standard deviation. In Statistics this year, we are employing a three-pronged approach to calculators: TI-84 handheld graphing calculators (class set), the Desmos free only graphing calculator, and Google Sheets. The inclusion of spreadsheets is intentional, as this is a valuable skill in many offices, professions, and fields of study.



Austin Anderson
aanderson@davincischools.org

CALCULUS

In Calculus, we have been reviewing the properties of functions, particularly those aspects of functions that have special importance to calculus, such as continuity, asymptotes, and end behavior. Soon we will begin our initial investigations of the slope behavior of curves as well as the relationship between position and velocity functions.

PSYCHOLOGY

We've gotten off to a fantastic start in Psychology class! We have looked closely at the definition of Psychology, learned about the differences between science and pseudoscience, and took a deep dive into mindfulness. We have examined and defended Psychology as a legitimate science. We will be moving on to the brain unit towards the end of September. Please remind your student to bring a copy of "Brain Rules" by John Medina to class by 9/16. Thanks!



Erin Naymark
enaymark@davincischools.org

ENGLISH

Students are reading Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse. We've spent some time getting to know the novel's characters as well as the recurring themes present throughout the book. Since the novel looks at human suffering, students are working on a project that revolves around this topic. Their first project component was a proposal and their next steps will be a speech and presentation. This entire project is done with a partner with some independent components



Megan Fowler-Mendoza
mmendoza@davincischools.org

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS

Students will begin to fill their brag sheets for potential college/work letters of recommendation, take self-assessment surveys through Naviance and begin to reflect on who they are as learners. We will focus on using our past challenges/failures and embracing those opportunities for growth and learning. Furthermore, students will begin to apply to desired colleges and develop a post-secondary action plan for the future.



Edwin Maldonado
emaldonado@davincischools.org

ARCHITECTURE

This course will expose students to the design and construction of residential and commercial building projects, design teams and teamwork, engineering and building standards, technical documentation, and various other career related skills. Students will get first-hand experience by working with industry partners on a real design project. Currently, students are researching different architectural styles and creating presentations and are reviewing the basic design elements and principles as they relate to architecture.



Katherine Simon
ksimon@davincischools.org

GRAPHIC DESIGN

This year we are kicking off the studio projects, focusing on social justice issues relevant to the world today. Students working in groups are tasked with creating a poster campaign concentrating on said issues in any art medium they so desire, as long as it can be presented in a poster format. Students must establish an industry connection and an artist connection for feedback throughout the project. The task comes full circle with a gallery showing of the work in which parents and artist are invited to attend.



Ralph Villalobos
rvillalobos@davincischools.org

COUNSELORS

It's college application season! Counselors walked Seniors through how to use Naviance for college exploration. Counselors have presented to Seniors their first semester timeline which can be found on the Naviance homepage. Counselors are meeting with Seniors one-on-one for their Senior Family Meeting where we focus on their individual plan. The Common Application (Common App) and UC app, opened on August 1st. Seniors who are applying were asked to create their accounts. The Cal State application (Cal State Apply) will open October 1st. Seniors should be focusing on completing their Brag Sheet and researching colleges to create their balanced college list. If Seniors have not asked teachers to write letters of recommendation, they should do so asap.