

Monsey group 2019/2020

I have been asked to teach a small group of homeschooled high school students—this is such a great pleasure for me as it has been a few years since I have taught high schoolers in person!

Here's what I am offering:

I need a minimum of 5 students—maximum 12. These sessions are for 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. I have worked extensively with mixed aged high schoolers so I can accommodate the needs of all sorts of students!

**The main requirement is that the student is excited about doing the work, willing to do it, and able to communicate if there are any issues. Students must be willing to complete all assignments by the times requested as conversation based on reading, research, writing and artistic projects will form the basis of much of our sessions together.**

The cost is \$500 per student for the Fall. A \$50 nonrefundable deposit (due by 1 August at the very latest) and various filled in forms secures a place. This class could be very popular so do get in touch as soon as possible if you are serious about attending!

**Registration closes 1 August to ensure there is enough time for the students to do their pre-class work.**

We will meet every other Wednesday: 4, and 18 September; 2, 16 and 20 October; 6, 13 and 20 November (to allow for Thanksgiving); and 4 and 18 December.

There will be a novel to be read and possibly other work **due the first day of class.** We will work on different kinds of essays and creative pieces. There will be artistic assignments based on student interest and abilities. Final projects will be due 23 December, returned early January.

**Our time together will be in a media-free, cell phone-free, space. If students need to bring cell phones, these must be kept in jackets or backpacks and not used until the end of our day (except of course in emergencies).**

Notes during class will be taken by hand though papers will be typed in Word. I need an email for each student and they will have each other's emails so they can communicate with each other. The students will be expected to do research for some of their assignments and some of this will need to happen on the Internet.

There will be a number of books that the students need to have. There will also be handouts provided by me.

\*\*\*

Each Wednesday will look like this:

Students dropped off at my home in Monsey NY (near Spring Valley/Chestnut Ridge) no later than 10am.

10.15—12 noon language arts (with a short break for snack)

12—12.20 eurythmy

12.30 shared potluck lunch

1.15-2.45 history (or similar subject)

Go home!

It is possible that one of the parents will organize fencing classes for the late afternoon. More details to follow!

\*\*\*

**Language arts**—a focus on creative writing and on essay writing (and reading); poetry; a novel or two; short stories; speech work; and a bit of SAT-related work.

**A study of Africa**--differences and similarities between countries and regions; geography; art and literature; history (pre-colonial where possible); the effects of colonialism and imperialism and their legacy today. There will be a great deal of reading, discussion and essay writing and at least one art project.

Both classes are taught seminary-style. All students are expected to participate (though allowances will be made for the shy!)

At the end of the semester each student will receive a written description of the class and a written evaluation. These can be used for transcripts if desired.

\*\*\*

## 2020

### Jan/Feb

Something new from Christopherus—a 4-week ‘main lesson’ meeting 4 mornings a week via an online webinar site so we can see each other, look at work, at a board and so on. This will be on Art History. This is for students aged 16 (or almost 16)—19.

### Feb/March

Another 4-week online main lesson for students aged 16—19 focused on the French, American and Haitian Revolutions.

**April/May**—resume in-person Monsey Group at my home. Assuming at least some of the students from the Fall would like to carry on, in the late fall we can decide together what to focus on for the spring.

Contact Donna Simmons [www.christopherushomeschool.org](http://www.christopherushomeschool.org) to find out more about Donna and her work and abilities ( ‘About Us’ and the page dedicated to high school are a good place to start).

[donna@christopherushomeschool.org](mailto:donna@christopherushomeschool.org) for further details and to let me know if you or your son/daughter would like to attend these classes. There will be a cap on how many students I will take for this class, so the sooner one gets in touch and sends a deposit and fills in the forms, the better.