Real World: Tacoma
Stephanie Skaggs, Adam Brastad

This is the true story of 40+ students, picked to be in a Miniterm, to work together to figure out how to be adults, to find out what happens when people stop being high school students...and start getting real.

In Real World: Tacoma, we will explore topics that are often neglected in school, such as: personal finance and budgeting, job seeking skills, healthy meals on a budget, the complexities of adult relationships, professionalism, investing, how to find housing, knowing your legal rights, developing a strong post-high school plan, and generally navigating the journey from trifling kid to competent young adult. We will be seeking advice from local experts through trips around the community. Students will become experts in one topic and will be compiling their research into a project to share with their classmates and community at Showcase.

RENT
Emily Wickman/Mark Kloeppeer, Gabriel McPherson, Mark Thomason

This class is reserved for students who auditioned for and were accepted into the RENT cast & crew in the spring of 2018. If you are not sure if this applies to you, see Gabriel McPherson or Mark Thomason.

The Art of Competing to Win
Garvin Morlan, Amy Alwert

Students will learn how to compete to win finding a passion for the English language, Mathematics, Science, or Art and learn how to improve skills through competitions. Pit yourself against others who share you passions and find ways to win. Students will work on individual and group projects preparing them for submission into competitions where their projects will be judged in comparison to other similar projects. Students will study all aspects of competition and look at many examples of both successes and failures in the competitive process.

Improv 4 Humanz
Barrett Vandiver, Harris Levinson

Whether classmate, parents, or stranger, we all like to make people laugh. Improv for Humanz will show you how to use improvised comedy as a tool to connect with people using humor, quick wit, and empathy. We will be moving around, doing improv games, and learning how to use our stage-time to spoof the world of today. The course will culminate with a live show somewhere in Tacoma for all our fans.
College Leadership
Jennifer Boutell

As the first in your family to go to college, are you (or would you like to become) a leader in helping your peers succeed in high school and college? *You* are needed to help design a student-led support system for first-generation college going students at SOTA, SAMI, and IDEA. In this miniterm, we will explore the college admissions and financial aid process, visit on-campus support services at local colleges, investigate different models of student support in place at other schools, examine the history of college admissions disparities, and work together to create a college support network at our schools.

This is It! The Michael Jackson Miniterm
Dana Raike, Michele Shepard Savage, Laurie Fisher Woodward

Are you feeling “Bad?” Do you consider yourself a “Smooth Criminal?” Do you even know who “Billie Jean” is? “You Are Not Alone.” This is It! The Michael Jackson Miniterm is here. We will explore the life and work of the King of Pop, dance some of his famous choreography, and study the controversies and complexities of his life. Come prepared to sing, dance, read, write, discuss, and create work inspired by Michael Jackson. No singing or dance experience necessary! “If you want to make the world a better place, take a look at yourself and make that change!”

Old Fools and Pro Tools: Podcasting Tacoma’s Landmarks
Derrick Robinson, Dave Mylet

Do you listen to podcasts like 99% Invisible, Radiolab or Hardcore History? Have you ever wanted to wander through Tacoma landmarks looking for clues to the past? This is your chance to explore, research and record your own podcast! For students curious about the layered history of Tacoma and how the past of our city has shaped how downtown and other neighborhoods look today. Through field trips, guest speakers and research we will reveal and record the stories of Tacoma’s buried past.

Justice or Just Ink
The Michael Hagmann, Doris Conrath

“The aim of activist artists is to create art that is a form of political or social currency, actively addressing cultural power structures rather than representing them or simply describing them.” Look at art that combines image and word. Make art about justice and social action. Combine historic text, your own words, photography, and the chemistry of paper and ink to make art that is a social commentary calling for action.
Warning: This Miniterm is Rated F
Aaron Shamp, Kristina Lewin

In this course we will research the science and psychology of fear. We will look at the physiologic response in the body and the evolutionary reasons for why we feel fear. We’ll investigate ways in which people release fears (without actively “facing fears”) and explore current scientific research on the topic. Students will then express these ideas through the art of film as a final project. We are looking for any visual and performing artists. Visual artist, performing artist, costume design, team players, out-of-the-box thinkers are all welcome regardless of film experience! Expect to take part in educational field trips, film viewings and engage with guest speakers.

Important to note we will be discussing and exploring topics that cause fear and anxiety in people. Some topics may feel raw, sensitive or even triggering. We will do our best to warn about any potentially triggering concepts as they arise.

Raven and the Box of Daylight: Art, Storytelling and Social Justice
Lucie Kroschel, Terri Placentia, Melissa Moore

What is the intersection between art and storytelling? Whose stories get told and whose stories get lost? How and in what ways does art, can art or should art offer us a means to greater understanding of a person, people, history or issue? In this course, through a partnership with the Museum of Glass, students will explore the current and internationally renowned art of Preston Singletary, and his new exhibit Raven and the Box of Daylight. As a Native American artist, Singletary has combined his passion and expertise in glass art with Pacific Northwest Native traditional art in order to push our understanding of how glass may be seen as a medium for storytelling. This course will look at Native traditions of storytelling through the incredible creation story of the Raven, consider fine art as a storytelling mechanism, look at art as a tool for social change, and explore historical issues around cultural appropriation, equity and social justice particularly for Native peoples in the Tacoma area.

We will spend days in and around downtown Tacoma at the Museum of Glass, visiting other local exhibits, and working with local artists to create art to tell personal histories.
Visual Poetry with a Rhythm: Bring your story to life!
Kristen Orlando, Joshua Nunez

If you have a desire to learn and share your story through a beautiful collision of visual art, poetry, culture, and music, consider joining this unique opportunity for artistic expression. You will embark on a journey that will lead from the research and study of intriguing artists and global musicians to the inception and production of expressive art, combining both spoken and written words with illustrations and music. You will view and re-view artists’ work through your cultural lens, creating a multimedia artistic project. Then you will have the opportunity to perform and/or exhibit your work in the community. As a group, we will have first look at the new Benaroya Wing to the Tacoma Art Museum. You will see the collection before the public. Your response to the art (painting, glass, sculpture, and fiber) will be integral to your project as you re-interpret your favorite pieces through your own cultural world view and bring that interpretation to your final product. We will meet at the 1950 Building and we will check out the art in the Tacoma Art Museum, the Museum of Glass, the Children’s Museum, and on the streets of Downtown Tacoma. We will also work with local artists, poets, and graphic designers to plan and create your work.

Camp Seymour Outdoor School
Diane Savge, David Savage, Margi Cabrera
This mini term will give students the opportunity to work with 5th graders at local elementary schools and also in an overnight camp environment. Our students will be cabin counselors for these 5th grade students as they head to outdoor school. Students will spend one week at Camp Seymour, working with four different elementary schools: Arlington, Blix, Mann, and Sheridan. This course is open to all 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students. In order to register for this course, students will need PRE-APPROVAL FROM THE CO-DIRECTOR OF THEIR SCHOOL. The cost for the one-week stay at camp is $125 which includes three meals per day and sleeping accommodations. PLEASE DO NOT LET THE COST KEEP YOU FROM APPLYING!

Red Cross A-Team
Debbie Shapiro, Anthony Blake
Are you willing to help save lives and become a leader in your community? We invite you to join the SOTA/SAMI/IDEA “Red Cross A-Team” and become part of a highly trained team of teen First Responders who are ready to assist those in need. Join us to learn about the history of the Red Cross and its work locally and across the globe. Get hands on training and practice in first aid and disaster relief. Understand the process of donation, maintenance, and delivery of a fresh blood supply. Help to start the “Sound the Alarm” smoke detector installation program in our local community. Wear comfortable weather-appropriate clothing for indoor and outdoor training and activities.
Visual Poetry with a Rhythm: Bring your story to life!
Kristen Orlando, Joshua Nunez

If you have a desire to learn and share your story through a beautiful collision of visual art, poetry, culture, and music, consider joining this unique opportunity for artistic expression. You will embark on a journey that will lead from the research and study of intriguing artists and global musicians to the inception and production of expressive art, combining both spoken and written words with illustrations and music. You will view and re-view artists’ work through your cultural lens, creating a multimedia artistic project. Then you will have the opportunity to perform and/or exhibit your work in the community. As a group, we will have first look at the new Benaroya Wing to the Tacoma Art Museum. You will see the collection before the public. Your response to the art (painting, glass, sculpture, and fiber) will be integral to your project as you re-interpret your favorite pieces through your own cultural world view and bring that interpretation to your final product.
We will meet at the 1950 Building and we will check out the art in the Tacoma Art Museum, the Museum of Glass, the Children's Museum, and on the streets of Downtown Tacoma. We will also work with local artists, poets, and graphic designers to plan and create your work.

Comics: The Art and Industry
Brian Regimbal, Cornelius Brudi, Brian Regimbal

The development of comics as a medium has a long and rich history in this country. From Winsor McCay to Gerard Way, what makes a comic can be seen from a lot of different perspectives. The development of comics as a graphic design medium is essential to understand how we communicate as an American society today. We will explore a variety of different techniques and approaches to the making of comics; including inking, shading, lettering, framing, character development and storytelling. You will be asked to stretch your skills from simple paneled boxes to full color cover pages. Expect to start with an investigation into a variety of different styles and skills, but then delve more deeply into the reality of making comics for a living in America. There will be a shorter assessment leading to the culminating project where you will act as one member of a creative team.

Sports Psychology: This Is Your Brain on Sports!
Maria Jost, Matt Sherls

What does it take to be successful in sports, and in life? In this miniterm, you will explore the psychological attributes of peak performance, psychoanalyze superstars from many major sports, participate in physical activities to assess your own mental makeup, and promote the full potential power of your body and brain. Come prepared to learn about the physiology of the nervous system, the backstories to several iconic figures in sports, and engage with guests from various areas of expertise. Be prepared to push yourself physically and honestly reflect on your strengths and areas for growth. You deserve to be the best you can be!
Sherlocking: Make your own mystery and crime scene
Dustin Matthews, Shelby Jawer

Come read, then watch, Sherlock Holmes short stories and study the forensics behind Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s mysteries. Each week, students will study a new mystery and complete forensic labs associated with the mystery of the week. Then teams will have their go at Sherlocking: Write a mystery and create its forensic crime scene. Scientists and mystery writers will use their deductive logic to solve each other’s crimes. Bring your observation, math, science and creative thinking skills to make and solve mysteries all month long.

Let’s Make Some Music
Julie Whalen, Tim Chalberg

Do you hum often? Do you sing in the shower? Are you the person who always asks the teacher if you can listen to music while you are working? We’ve got a miniterm for you! Join us to explore the building blocks of music - rhythm, pitch, and how we combine them to create performances. Musical background and training is welcome but far from required. You only need an insatiable interest in tunes, jingles, and figuring out the patterns behind them that make them pleasing to our ears. Come prepared to learn how to create your own instruments and write original arrangements of tunes, both familiar and new, that you will perform in small groups.

You Are What You Ate Project
Tracy Le, Sandy Farewell

The You Are What You Ate Project challenges you to become food scientists as you apply physical science, biology and chemistry concepts to the development of a new food product. Through a series of laboratory exercises, classroom activities, and assignments, you will learn the stages of product development and apply this knowledge to the development of an original food item.

SAMI Podcast: Villain Psychology
Carol Brouillette, Rob Felix

We’re making a podcast! We will learn some psychology so we can talk about our favorite literary and historical villains and put it on the internet. Want to talk about Darth Vader and Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs? Want to talk about Voldemort’s Id, Ego, and Superego? Want to talk about the Joker and Psychopathy? Come talk into a microphone.
The Evolution of Ocean Waste
Ben Warner, Kevin Heinrich

We will be exploring how ocean waste connects to human culture and the environment through history. This will be a hands-on class: we will be magnet fishing to remove objects from the Puget Sound, understand how it got there, and then create art with it to represent humans’ impact on our oceans.

Computer Programing and Micro-Controllers
Troy Hashagen, Doss Bradford

This class will focus on exploring and developing skills for students who are interested in Computer Science Careers. The main focus of this program will be Java and learning programming skills. This class aims to academically challenge you, promote your own inquiry into comp. sci. and help you apply your new knowledge using code to create a final project. It is encouraged that you have previously taken Exploring Comp. Sci., Exploring Tech., or have some prior computer science experience.

Renewable Energy Technologies
Jacob Hansen, Brett Knisely

Are you interested in emPOWERING the future? The world is changing and we need to adapt on how we generate our energy. In this miniterm we will be looking at the different ways that we generate and collect the energy that powers our society. Students will leave with an understanding of what energy is, how energy is generated and collected, and the renewable energy sources that are currently available. Students will be using the engineering design process to create their own renewable energy technology.

Painting Our History - A Tacoma Mural Project
Duncan White, Mary Mann

CALL TO ARTISTS- The instructors of this miniterm are seeking artists to participate in creating paintings that reflects the cultural history of Tacoma and the history of Point Defiance Park. We will be working with professional artists who specialize in restoring buildings while preserving the historical integrity of their communities. We will be working in teams to design artwork for the McMenamins renovation of the Elks Lodge in Downtown Tacoma. All skill levels welcome, enthusiasm for art is recommended.
Having Fun: A Serious Look at Recreation Through a Cultural Lens
Lupita Bojórquez, Carla Parker, Kayo Mackley

Come play, dance, tell stories, listen to music, try new sports and games, create food, and more with us! Experience how people of other cultures have fun through a wide variety of recreational activities. What do different cultures value? What does this teach us about our own? On our journey, you will use statistical methods to draw mathematical comparisons between cultures. You will ultimately share your unique angle on cultural "fun" with the larger community after a deep delve into recreation in a culture you choose.

Whale of a Time!
Ralph Harrison, Elizabeth Gordon

Let’s get nautical! With over 3000 miles of coastline, Washington state has long had a love affair with its waterways- its feeds our bodies and our souls. We have the world’s largest octopus, starfish, and moon snail. We’re going to look for them in this Salish sea- tide pools, aquariums, and on our own Tacoma coastline. We’re also going to tackle the world’s largest mammal the whale, or is it a fish? Literature will battle science as we attempt to harpoon American literature’s own Moby Dick, Moby Dick. Maritime culture will also be explored through scrimshaw, sea shanties, folklore, pirates, and sea monsters. We’ll also complete the two-year articulation of the whale skeleton for the ELC. Be prepared to read, discuss, work, observe, and be on beaches in January.

Early XPlorers
Tanja Owenby, Zach Hightower

Description: Are you interested in a career involving children? Do you want to learn what it takes to be an elementary teacher, day camp counselor, or another career involving early childhood education? Do you want an internship or a summer job working with children? If so, this mini-term is for you!

Gain hands on experience working with preschoolers in SAMI’s Early Learning Center and learn how to support early xplorers as they become curious about their surroundings and discover all that the zoo and forest have to offer. Learn how to build positive relationships with children, how to write and facilitate lessons, and how to engage students in group activities. This mini-term class is co-taught by staff from Next Move, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, and Metro Parks. Mini-term participants will have the opportunity to do a spring internship in SAMI’s Early Learning Center or another internship involving youth. Participants will also be invited to interview for a paid summer job with the Summer Xplore Program, YMCA, Metro Parks, and Boys and Girls Club.
SOTABots: Project Mu  
Rich Williams, Ken Luthy, Sara Siemens-Luthy

Project Mu: Our 12th Year!!! Students ranging from beginner to experienced level of ability will build and operate robots for the FIRST Robotics Competition with this year’s theme of “Destination: Deep Space.” Design, program, construct robots. Learn and refine your business, public relationship and media skills. You will have opportunities to travel and compete with the team after mini-term across the Puget Sound and possibly at the world championships (in Houston). It’s one the most fun and hardest work experiences you’ll ever have.

Music Makerspace Live  
Johnny Devine, Peter Rutter, Paul Eliot

Attention all artists, dreamers, and music lovers: this may be the miniterm for you. Through a combination of physics, mathematics, and engineering, you will design and create unique musical instruments that are digital, analog, and/or acoustic in nature. You’ll then combine their creations with other likeminded artists to form a band and create musical pieces. The miniterm will culminate in a one-of-a-kind evening performance at a local venue.

The French Connection  
Robin Jaecklein, Kelilah Anders,

Description: “How could I have known that murder could sometimes smell like honeysuckle?” In this miniterm, you will access French culture through the crime-ridden, black and white, stylish drama of film noir. Embody your inner gangster or femme fatale. Set the scene, write the script, lights, action. Dress to impress on the red carpet to watch your films at our French Connection film festival. Be prepared to watch, analyze, and research French films. Be prepared (and dressed) to dance every day. Long, evening gloves and fedora are encouraged, but not required.

Be a Trailblazer: Forge Your Own Path to a Career in STEM  
Linnea Bostrom, Nichol Everett

Interested in a STEM career but not sure which path to take? Join us as we delve into the variety of ways to enter STEM related fields. This course will take a particular look at underrepresented populations and their role in STEM industries, as well as unique opportunities for the next generation. A significant focus will be placed on seeking out jobs in STEM and identifying what makes a competitive candidate for STEM positions. Students will leave the course with a digital portfolio and other resources for practical use in obtaining a job. The course will include field trips and guest speakers and is designed for students who are looking to access opportunities in STEM fields.
Fabricated Habitats: Humans and Pollinators
Lauren Anderson, Blake Hansen

Why are bee hives shapes the way they are? How can you build human structures that support biodiversity? In this class we will design and build structures that help people and nature live closer together using natural materials, biomimicry and multiple fabrication techniques. This class will meet in and use the shop space so be prepared to dress appropriately.

Permeable Pavement
Matt Lonsdale

Description: In the United States, there are 2.7 million miles of paved roads and highways. Between 2011 and 2013 China paved so much of their country that combine, it would completely cover an area the size of the Hawai‘i’s big island. In most United States cities, between 30-40% of all the surfaces are pavement. All this change to the top layer of Earth is having huge impacts on the environment. In December of 2018 iDEA is installing a new parking lot that is pavement, but instead of the pavement of our past, they are installing pavement of the future. This pavement is permeable, meaning all the rain water that lands on the pavement flows through the pavement and ends up in the ground instead of the storm water drains that flow untreated into Puget Sound. In this class we will partner with the City of Tacoma, Boeing, Washington Green Schools, and Skillings (the contractor installing the pavement) to test the rain water flowing through the permeable pavement as well as look at how we can engineer our future cities using this technology to lessen our impact on the natural environment.

Revision[ing] Your World: this is your future, afterall
Mary Thiersch, Mary DeWine

This is a Class About Your Future: will start in Seattle at the Gates Foundation Museum where students will learn about the The United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. Eighteen goals address global challenges, such as poverty, clean water, health, gender equality, peace and justice andclean energy. We will dive deep into these challenges and identify projects that could be carried out between all three schools. January will be a time to develop your voice and leadership style and to look and learn globally, yet act closer to home to positively change the world we share. Revision your world will be an on-going project that starts with this mini-term and then radiates out. Fridays will be days to celebrate our cultures and the ones we learn about with food, music and dancing.
Thailand Service and Study Tour
Bethany Schmidt, M. Shutler, D. Iverson

Visit the legendary “Land of Smiles” on a journey to Thailand! Located in the heart of Southeast Asia, Thailand can boast of breathtaking natural beauty and warm hospitality. Long a haven for tourists, Thailand’s wildlife is sought after, yet facing threats—often from the very travelers looking to visit and interact with Thailand’s ecology. Working with Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium and its field conservation partners, this SST will dig deep into what it means to be an ecotourist and responsible global citizen. We will visit wildlife centers throughout the Northern region, from the Clouded Leopard Project to the Elephant Nature Park, and learn about the incredible efforts being made to preserve Thailand’s unique biodiversity. Become immersed in Thai culture and wildlife while helping some amazing organizations on this once-in-a-lifetime trip.

Nepal Service and Study Tour
Melissa Moffett, Jon Ketler

Prepare for a rugged adventure in Nepal with an instructor who served there in the Peace Corps, currently serves as Board President for Friends of WPC Nepal, and who speaks the language fluently. First, we will work with the Women’s Protection Center which provides a safe home, education, and vocational skills for women and girls rescued from human trafficking. Second, we will work with the Gorkha Foundation in the district at the epicenter of 2015’s devastating earthquake to paint the organization’s newly-constructed schools, provide basic dental hygiene training with a dentist from Wisdomtooth, and converse with and train English teachers. Additionally, we will visit numerous World Heritage sites. Students must be physically fit, able to hike long distances, and be asthma-free.

Italy Study and Service Tour
Brian Scannell

The Service and Study tour to Italy will be an exploration into the art, architecture, and literature of the Italian Renaissance. Our time in Italy will take us to four key cities: Rome, Florence, Milan, and Venice. Some of the highlights of this trip will be seeing Da Vinci’s Last Supper at the church of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan, viewing Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel and Pieta and Raphael’s School of Athens at the Vatican in Rome, and touring Brunelleschi’s Duomo in Florence. We will also explore the historical backdrops that gave birth to two seminal works of literature: The Divine Comedy and The Prince, works that continue to be highly influential today. For the service component of this trip we will team up with a non-profit called Creative Corner, whose mission is to bring arts education to everyone. We will work with them in conjunction with local schools to bring arts education to low-income communities around Florence. While in Florence we will also tour several international arts colleges.

Miniterm 2019
January 7-30, 2019

www.tsota.org | www.tsami.org | www.ideatacoma.org