



ISHALL
Intensive Study of
Humanities, Art, Language
and Literature
2014-2015



GATE
GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION

Audience

Forty-six (46) students, grades 7-10, participated in the ISHALL program. Twenty-nine (29) students were female, Seventeen (17) male. Eleven (11) 10th graders, twenty – two (2) 9th graders, and nine (9) 8th graders, and four (4) 7th graders. Eligibility criteria for ISHALL are: SAT Critical Reading score of 520, or an ACT English score 21 and Critical Reading of 22. They must also complete the ISHALL diagnostic test composed by MSU professors.

Funding

Program funding for ISHALL is provided by student tuition. Some local school districts pay all or some of the tuition for their students.

Objectives

The program is designed to provide a challenging, accelerated curriculum for highly academically able language arts students. The ISHALL program is designed for participating students in grades 7-10 to learn in two academic years, the content usually assigned to the traditional four-year high school English language arts curriculum. Students completing the program will be prepared to take AP English at their home school.

Description

Students attend class Wednesday mornings from 7:45 AM -10:10 AM. A Sunday afternoon study session, staffed by an English TA, are also available for students to receive individualized assistance on their class work. The program content follows the Michigan Department of Education's High School Curriculum Expectations. Students also have access to ANGEL for assignments and for communication with their professor. Instruction for each of the two classrooms is provided by an MSU English professor. Each class is limited to twenty (20 students). Contact time: 90 hours

Outcomes

ISHALL students and their parents were asked to complete post-ISHALL evaluations. Student results:

- * 92% of the ISHALL Year 2 students stated that this program increased their interest in the arts & humanities

One ISHALL 2 student stated, "GREAT teacher, friendly atmosphere and peers. We really became like a family over the year(s). The assignments this year were fun and class discussion helped me broaden my knowledge of certain things."

Parent survey results:

- * 90% of the ISHALL 2 parents were happy with the instructor of the course
- * 81% of the ISHALL 2 parents said their child was happy with the course
- * 87% of the ISHALL 1 parents did not feel the program pressured their child

One parent stated, "I am very happy with the confidence my child developed in her ability to work with other high achievers. I am also happy with her increased independence and her increased ability to take responsibility for the work expected of her."

Additional Significant Information

The ISHALL program began in fall semester 2008. The office of Gifted and Talented Education has been approached to set up satellite ISHALL programs. One unexpected result of the ISHALL program was the tight community students formed. Many continued to meet outside of class after completing the program.

Contact Information

Gifted and Talented Education
Kellogg Center
219 S. Harrison Road, Room 8
East Lansing, MI 48824
517-432-2129

E-mail: gifted@msu.edu

Website: <http://www.gifted.msu.edu/programs/academic-year-programs/ishall>

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