



# Course Descriptions

Persevere. **B**elieve. **L**ead. **A**dvocate.

At Regis University 3333 Regis Blvd. Denver, CO 80221

## Porter-Billups Leadership Academy

To give deserving candidates a hand up, not a hand out.



The PBLA community promotes academic excellence, values the individual, exemplifies life-long learning, and encourages students to develop 21st century leadership skills.

“PBLA is where dreams of a fulfilling future began.”

—Miriah Abram, PBLA Graduate

Thank you for your interest in the Porter-Billups Leadership Academy. This Academy grew from a desire to see young people with ability achieve their potential. Both Coach Lonnie Porter and Chauncey Billups grew up in inner city neighborhoods. They credit their success to the people who challenged them at a young age to work hard and get an education. The Academy is a way for both men to do for low-income youth what others did for them.

Each summer, Coach Porter and a team of Colorado educators work with youth from grades 4 to 12 for three weeks to develop leadership, critical thinking, teamwork, and conflict resolution skills. Though they may not be straight A students, the Academy helps them become leaders among their peers, learn that education is a path to success, and offers the skills to prepare them for college.

Once the students reach college age, additional financial support is needed to ensure qualified students have the resources to receive a college education. The Porter Billups Academy Scholarship at Regis recognizes this need and extends the Academy’s educational opportunity to include attending Regis University. The ultimate goal of Academy is to awaken students to the opportunities available to them, while encouraging them to be thoughtful and engaged members of their own growth and development.

We would like to invite you to experience a small part of what the Academy offers to these young people. Thank you for joining us at Regis University today. We look forward to answering any questions you might have.

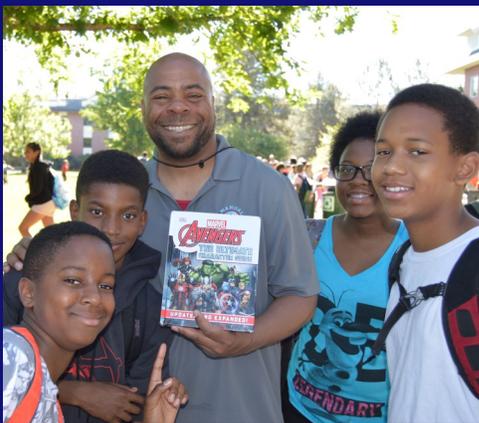
Again, welcome!

# PBLA LEADERSHIP CLASSES

## 4th Grade Jackie Robinson's Nine Values

Sharon Jones, Instructor

As an introduction to leadership and the expectations of the Porter-Billups Leadership Academy, 4th graders will focus on character traits that leaders need to be effective. The class examines Jackie Robinson's nine principles to live by and looks at his biography as a guideline to determine what a leader does. Robinson's nine principles are: Courage, Determination, Teamwork, Persistence, Integrity, Citizenship, Justice, Commitment and Excellence



## 6th Grade Transitions —Paul Roberts and Angela Sidhu, Instructors

Students entering sixth grade are embarking on a whole new adventure in school. In order to assist our students as they transition to middle school expectations, we have created a class called Transitioning to Leadership. This class focuses on the soft skills that are not always taught, but are necessary for academic success. This class is taught in a computer lab, as technological literacy is key. It also addresses other essentials such as self-advocacy, organization, time management, and problem solving. Additionally, we will explore resources to support students academically as they make the transition to taking responsibility for their own learning.



## 5th Grade—The Leader in Me

### 5th Grade A— Megan Parker, Instructor

**The Leader Within**—We all have a story to tell. What will your story be? We will examine our stories and craft memoirs about turning point moments in our lives. Students will utilize a writing process and organize a writer's notebook. We will study the stories of leaders that have inspired us along the way.

### 5th Grade B— Dr. Franita Ware, Instructor

Students will cultivate an appreciation for the quote *"Those to whom much is given, much is expected"* as the foundation of the curriculum for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. They will explore their purpose and responsibilities in the Porter Billups Leadership Academy and how this experience is a foundation for developing the genius and greatness in their lives. We will explore the following topics: What is a leader and what are the types of leadership? How do leaders behave and support the growth of others? What types of leaders are scholar-activists, entrepreneurs, and philanthropists? Why is financial literacy an element of leadership?



### 7th Grade Human Rights Alicia Turner, Instructor

The topic of Human Rights is compelling and important. We'll discuss the rights set in place by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who led the United Nations to know there must be policies and procedures for all nations in order to care for the people of the world. These rights were written and sworn in during FDR's presidential term in the USA. Now, if these rights are abused by any nation, they take the risk of losing their place in the United Nations and are considered a nation who cannot follow rules and regulations.



8th Grade Social Justice — AVID/Literacy  
Brian Moland, Instructor

Integrates and contextualizes current events and controversial issues through reading, writing, public speaking and presentation skills. Students will identify and research a social issue and prepare a written and videoed proposal. Students will practice AVID organizational strategies, and participate in Socratic Seminars and Philosophical Chairs.



9th Grade Transition to High School  
—Alina Acosta, Instructor

In order to better navigate the transition to high school, the rising 9th graders will be writing about their own life goals, as well as the different paths they can take in ultimately achieving their own "legend." The unit will culminate in a persuasive essay in which students reflect on their life thus far, and their goals for high school, college, and beyond.

11th Grade Introduction to Social/Emotional Leadership —William Anderson, Instructor

People and events in history challenge student leaders to see the past, present, future, and themselves differently. Students use literacy strategies to get on a path of self-discovery using reading, writing, and discussion at a critical thinking level. We will address the social and emotional well-being of great leaders.



10th Grade — The Complexity of Compliance  
Ryan Turk, Instructor

Students will work through modern-day racial relations (1960s-present) in America by analyzing Nic Stone's *Dear Martin* and thoroughly discuss their interpretations of society's ills. Our intent is to use literature and history to address complex issues that challenge and strengthen our critical thinking skills. Students will address current issues in society, and the novel, and discuss/propose solutions. Each of them will filter through Stone's characterizations of modern day adolescents and decide which are beneficial and/or detrimental. This process will require a large amount of self-reflection and analysis that improves leadership skills.



12th Grade Managing your Relationship Portfolio —Jason Perry, Instructor

Every person's life is made up of a collection of relationships - a portfolio. Just like with financial investments, wise choices need to be made about who is included in your portfolio. How well you manage your relationships will determine how successful you will be in your life. This class will look at five types of relationships - Self, Family, Friends, Romantic and Professional and seek to give students insights and skills for getting the best return on their investment.



Art —

Robin Segura, Instructor

Self-expression is an important form of communication. This year, students will have the opportunity to express themselves through art. Students will be asked to bring in an item that inspires them, and they will create a painting, drawing, or collage based on the picture or item they select.



Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship through YouthBiz-Out of the Box — a program of Young Americans Kelley Dawkins, Instructor

Students will create business teams around shared interests and complementary skills. They will select a product they want to create, choosing the materials and procedure they need to make 20 high quality, finished goods. Students will complete all of their own financial calculations, marketing, and advertising to culminate in a real world marketplace for students to sell their products. Finally, they will calculate their revenue, sales tax and profit.

Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship through YouthBiz-StartUp— a program of Young Americans Bryan Bayham, Instructor

Students will create business teams around shared interests and complementary skills. They will select a product they want to create, choosing the materials and procedure they need to make. Students will then participate in a “pitch contest” which will be judged by local business men and women.

## Classroom in a Backpack — Conor Simbeck, Instructor

Classroom In A Backpack is a place-based health education program that combines structured academic activities and unstructured outdoor play to share with young people the health benefits of experiencing nature. Using the Arboretum of Regis University as their classroom, 6th graders explore the award winning trees and landscape to become advocates for reducing screen time and increasing time in nature. 7th graders will learn survival skills such as preparing a survival pack, setting up a tent, and set a life time goal of hiking at least one “fourteener”. This year, in collaboration with Lincoln Hills Cares, both groups will experience first hand African American Heritage



## Life Skills — Angela Sidhu and Megan Parker, Instructors

Life Skills are essential to learn and master in order to be successful in any endeavor. This year's focus will be on how to make a lasting and positive impression. Young people today are not always perceived in a positive manner. By addressing specific skills such as dressing and speaking for your audience, etiquette in different situations, handling peer pressure, negotiating conflicts, and the art of conversation, we will focus on making positive impressions.



## Life Lessons — Jason Perry, Instructor

### 8th grade Moving from Good to Great

If LeBron James is such a great basketball player, why did it take him so long to begin winning championships? This class will look at the changes that he needed to make in order to become the winner that everyone thought he had the potential to become. Our class will examine how students can make those same changes in their own lives to unlock their potential to win at every level of life.

### 9th and 10th Grade 'Becoming CAPTAINS'

"If you want to change the direction of a ship, you don't look to the sailors, you identify the Captain. Our class this year is about 'Becoming CAPTAINS'. CAPTAINS are transformational leaders are people who can influence others and change in the world. We will be examining 8 things that transformational leaders understand- Community. Accountability. Purpose. Teamwork. Academic Success. Integrity. Next Generation. Service.

### 11th Grade The Pathway to Leadership

The Pathway to Leadership course will seek to empower our students to build on the foundation of leadership they have been given in their years at PBLA and seek to help them become the transformational leader we believe they have the potential and responsibility to be. Through group discussion, personal reflections, media analysis and classroom instruction, we will explore 7 important road markers on this pathway to leadership: Developing a Life Code; Knowledge; Personal Discipline; Perseverance; Purposeful Living; Respect for Others.

### Seniors — College Prep

#### — Sean Malloy, Instructor

Seniors will research scholarship opportunities, write their college entrance common application essays, and tour the Regis University campus. They will engage in mentor opportunities with younger students. Finally, they will prepare for their PBLA graduation speech.



## STEM I — Martha Britt, Instructor

This Introduction to STEM course provides an overview of the engineering process that is taught in a middle school and STEM classroom. Students experience true integration of topics from science, technology, engineering and mathematics taught in a purposeful, meaningful manner. Emphasis will be placed on engineering and practice, regarding 'failure' and reflecting on what inspire students to engage in learning. The topics covered in this introductory course include designing and creating original ideas, objects, and structures according to certain specification using concepts and skills from math and science. The goal of this class is to grow students' capacity for creativity, fun, leadership, and confidence in the engineering cycle. Each grade will begin the summer with an engineering challenge to practice the engineering cycle. They will then each apply the engineering cycle to a different engineering project and present their work to their peers.



## STEM II

### —Alina Acosta, Instructor

Students explore and learn computer programming through various outlets. The 8th grade course introduces students to basic programming and problem solving strategies. The course will involve students in the development, building and programming of a LEGO Mindstorm robot.

## STEM III — Steven Guydo, Instructor

The 9th grade course students enter the world of computer science by learning how to create animations, computer games, and interactive projects with the program scratch. In the 10th grade course students will learn how to program animations and drawing using JavaScript and the JS processing library. In the 11th grade course will get a basic understanding of HTML and CSS to begin developing their own webpages. As they progress through the STEM II classes the programming will become more difficult and utilize the same programs that computer scientists use to develop our technical world.

# Curriculum

## Partners:



We have partnered with Lincoln Hills to enhance our outdoor education program. This year the 6th and 7th graders will take a field trip to Lincoln Hills to participate in outdoor activities that they might never have a chance to experience. These activities include: Fly Fishing, Archery, History Hike, and Equestrian Skills.

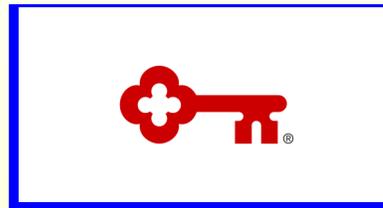


## Cyber Tech Security at Regis University

It is predicted that the global cybersecurity workforce will have more than 1.5 million unfilled positions by 2020. Additionally, the security industry is a fast-growing market, with the IDC estimating that it is becoming a \$101 billion opportunity by 2020. By introducing and exposing students to cybersecurity at an early age through the PBLA, students might be interested in pursuing this degree through Regis University's new cybersecurity program as a potential career path. Learning future-ready skills such as cybersecurity is a great pathway to the for PBLA students.



## Financial Partners:



## Sooper Credit Union & KeyBank

Students are receiving financial literacy classes in cooperation with Sooper Credit Union and KeyBank. The topics include: savings accounts, credit cards, interest rates, and the differences between banks and credit unions.



# Delaware North