All Aboard: Virtual Field Trips

Each semester of this class stands alone.
You do not need to participate in Fall to take Winter or Spring.
Come join us and see the world!

Grades: 4th – 8th

Day of Week: Monday
Time of Class: 11:00 am – 12:30 pm ET
Length of Class: 10 weeks
Semester: Winter 2019
Tuition: $300.00

Class Dates:

Week of January 14

Week of January 21

Week of January 28

Week of February 4

Week of February 11

Week of February 18

Week of February 25

Week of March 4

Week of March 11

Week of March 18

Make Up Week: Week of March 25

Instructor's Name: Jessica Elkins
Instructor's Email: heartfelthomeschool@gmail.com
Instructor's Phone: 859-490-6029

Description of Class:

Virtual field trips have completely changed the way learners experience the world outside our four walls; they are incredibly engaged through these virtual learning experiences and get excited to visit new places and see where we are traveling to next. Come along and join us!

A virtual field trip, if done correctly and in an educationally sound fashion, can provide many of the identical cognitive and affective gains that an actual real-life field trip can provide. (

See Buettner, 1996, and Goldsworthy, 1997, for accounts of how students incorporated the Internet into their classroom field trip experiences.)

The trick is to give the activity the same care and credibility as one would give to a real-life curricular excursion. Simply going to an interesting Web site would not constitute a curricular field trip in and of itself, just as an off-campus excursion to an amusement park would have limited curricular value.

I've chosen a list of locations we will virtually visit that will meet the criteria I've set below. Therefore, each class will begin with a few slides from a presentation I've made that will cover some basic information for our field trip. I'll use different methods for each trip including additional slideshows, videos, and more to help students grasp the class's subject.

Online games will be used when possible and available, and offered for out of class practice if desired. Students will fill out slotted notes and their travel journal during each class. Students will choose our last two field trips; I will give ideas for inspiration if needed. Then, I'll research, and compile information based on the student's choices. We will finish our class with a slideshow review. This class may be appropriate for younger or older learners, depending on the individual learner. You're welcome to message me if you'd like to discuss this!

Goals:

A virtual field trip, when conducted in the same meticulous fashion as a real-life field trip, gives students the ability to acquire the same cognitive and affective gains that previous research has found. When this is possible, an entirely new world of experiences will be opened to all students; I've also found that virtual field trips provide opportunities for young people to collaborate and discuss important issues with their peers.

Textbook:

None

Additional Supplies/Resources Needed:

Webcam
Microphone
Notebook
Pencil
Paper

Weekly Homework:

Less than thirty minutes per week.

Homework Policy:

Homework is due 48 hours before the next class begins to ensure I have time to adequately review. Late homework will neither be counted nor reviewed. I am flexible in cases of extreme emergencies or if I'm notified at least 72 hours before our next class, and this policy will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Evaluation:
Students will be evaluated based on their participation in class and comprehension of the course contents.

Grading Scale:
Pass or Fail

Anticipated Weekly Course Schedule:

Winter 2019

Week	Topic
Week 1	Lockheed Martin: Deep Space Exploration
Week 2	Hertzfeld Poultry Farm
Week 3	Ford's Theater
Week 4	A Behind the Scenes Look at the Discovery Channel Telescope
Week 5	Kilimanjaro Expedition
Week 6	Careers that Count: A Virtual Field Trip with the NBA
Week 7	The Uffizi– Florence, Italy
Week 8	Museo del Oro– Bogota, Colombia
Week 9	Student's Choice
Week 10	Student's Choice