

 [Print](#) |  [Close Window](#)



THE ENQUIRER

Last Updated: 6:06 am | Friday, January 26, 2007

Courses for kids offered at NKU in March

From math to Spanish to self-esteem

BY HOWARD MCEWEN | ENQUIRER CONTRIBUTOR

Some students at Northern Kentucky University this spring will look a bit young.

NKU's Community Connections outreach program is hosting its first academic enrichment for children and teenagers. It's called Norse Kids.

"We have traditionally offered summer camps and workshops but haven't provided open enrollment programs throughout the school year," said Linda Nesbitt, director of Community Connections. "We believe Norse Kids will help fill this void by providing interested and motivated students academic enrichment opportunities during the school year."

The classes will be on Saturdays in March.

They include Creating Mathematical Minds for ages 4-7, Impressions and Explorations in Art and Basic Spanish for students in grades three to five, Getting Acquainted with the Guitar for grades five to eight, Making the Grade - Effective Study Skills & Strategies for grades seven and eight. For high school students, NKU offers Taking the Sting Out of Test Taking.

"Due to the increasing Latino population in the area, we expect the Spanish class to be the most popular," Nesbitt said.

"We are also seeing strong interest in Creating Mathematical Minds, which pairs student and parent in a class designed to consider mathematical concepts evident in our daily lives and explore ways in which parents may explore real-life activities, concepts and ideas to help prepare their children for early success in mathematics."

"With a granddaughter trying to master the new middle-school experience, I am excited about the 'Character Matters' class," Nesbitt said. Character Matters is "designed to help middle-schoolers discover and use their individual character strengths for self-esteem and happiness."

Instructors will be regular teachers, NKU staff and adjunct faculty.

Costs and program deadlines vary. Go to nkuconnections.nku.edu or call NKU Connect Center at 859-572-5600 for more information.

As director, Nesbitt is responsible for delivering outreach services to the community - something she says the school firmly supports.

"NKU teachers are quite outreach-oriented these days, as the university continues to treat the metropolitan region as an extension of our campus," she said.

This outreach, Nesbitt believes, will reap rewards for NKU.

"Getting P-12 students on our campus for academic enrichment programs, theater and arts, and sporting events helps build in the minds of those students the desire to continue their education beyond high school."

Nesbitt stresses that the classes are not designed for students deemed gifted or high-achieving, but for "kids who want to have fun and learn in a stress-free, interactive environment."

 [Print](#) |  [Close Window](#) | Copyright 2007, Enquirer.com

