

## Dordt Discovery Days Class List 2026

### MORNING CLASSES

#### **A Week at the Spa: Renew, Refresh, and Radiate (Morning Class)**

*Angela Perigo, Dordt Co-Director of Children's Worship Initiative*

Treat yourself to a fun and educational week of self-care and creativity! Come journey into the world of wellness where together we'll learn all about the art of nail care, makeup application, and trending hair styles while exploring the secrets behind glowing skin and effective relaxation techniques. Discover the science of wellness through hands-on experiences in skin treatments, gentle massage methods, deep breathing, and stress-relief exercises designed to recharge your spirit, mind, and body. It's the perfect blend of pampering and practical skills to help you radiate confidence and embrace lifelong health!

#### **Basketball Strategies – Girls (Morning Class)**

*Klay Byker, Western Christian High School Educator of English and Head Girls Basketball Coach*

This session is designed for young athletes to learn and develop fundamental basketball skills in a fun, engaging environment. Boys (afternoon) and girls (morning) will participate in separate sessions, each focusing on age-appropriate skill development. Participants will work on basic dribbling, shooting, passing, and defense, while playing basketball-related games that reinforce these skills. Along the way, campers will deepen their understanding of the game, build teamwork, and enjoy friendly competition in a positive, supportive setting. Whether new to basketball or looking to sharpen skills, this session is a great way to have fun and grow as a player!

#### **Beekeeping (Morning Class)**

*Phil Westra and Ron Rynders, Dordt Alumni*

Are you interested in different kinds of animals and exploring how God's creation works? You may have taken care of a pet or helped with animals on a farm, but how do we take care of honeybees? This class will introduce you to the life of honeybee colonies and get you involved in hands-on beekeeping, from opening and inspecting beehives to harvesting honey. You will also make lip balm, roll beeswax candles, and fill a small jar of honey to take home. Protective gear is provided.

#### **Comic Books and Graphic Novels (Morning Class)**

*Shaun Stiemsma, Dordt Professor of English*

Spend a week exploring comics and graphic novels! Together, we will read sample stories, develop an understanding of storytelling with pictures and words, and practice creating our own short graphic novels. Readings will include superhero and adventure comics, popular YA graphic novels, and memoirs.

### **Cooking with Karinda (Morning Class)**

*Karinda de Boom, Western Christian High School Educator of Art and Life Skills*

Even if you've never advanced beyond making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or licking the spoon, this class will show you how to rustle up some grub sure to impress your friends and your mom. Learn how to make healthy snacks, main course dishes, even drinks and desserts. A trip to the grocery store will make ingredient shopping less of a mystery, and if it all pans out, you'll take home a DDD cookbook! Both guys and girls are welcome to learn basic cooking skills that will put you somewhere between Chef Boyardee and Rachel Ray.

### **Creative Worship Music Lab (Morning Class)**

*Jeremy Perigo, Dordt Co-Director of Children's Worship Initiative and Professor of Theology and Worship Arts*

Come jam with us in this high-energy, hands-on class where we'll create worship music together through improvisation and writing our own melodies. Designed for band and orchestral instruments, guitarists, and pianists (no drums or vocals this time), you'll grow your ear, strengthen your melodic skills, and learn how to confidently make music on the spot. Bring your instrument, come ready to try new ideas, and be sure to practice your major scales ahead of time—they'll be the building blocks for everything we create!

### **Dance and Cheer (Morning Class)**

*Mel Knobloch, Dordt Head Dance and Cheer Coach*

Let's Go! Let's Go! L-E-T-S G-O! This high energy class will get you moving and shaking, leaping, and jumping, and even tumbling and stunting! You will learn everything dance related from hip hop, to ballet, to Zumba, and maybe even some country line dancing! You'll also get to cartwheel, flip, and stunt your way to the top as we learn what it takes to become a cheerleader. No experience necessary.

### **Discover the Organ (Morning Class)**

*Carrie Groenewold, Dordt Professor of Music*

Curious about the "King of Instruments?" Discover the thrill of playing the organ with private and group lessons, field trips, and other hands-on activities. Pre-requisite: 4 years of piano lessons recommended. Enrollment is limited to five students. Submit a note of recommendation from your parent or piano teacher emailed to Dr. Carrie Groenewold, [carrie.groenewold@dordt.edu](mailto:carrie.groenewold@dordt.edu) from the Dordt University Music Department.

### **Down on the Farm (Morning Class)**

*Mike Schouten, Dordt Agriculture Stewardship Center Director*

Feed the calves! Vaccinate the steers! There are farm chores to do at Dordt's Agriculture Stewardship Center! Learn about caring for farm animals and about growing food for them in a real farm setting. Because farm safety is important, you'll learn firsthand how to properly use equipment like a skid

loader. You might even get to harvest from the garden and process the food into tasty treats. (Think strawberry jam and homemade ice cream!) Don't pass up this chance to be a farm kid for a week! No repeaters, please.

### **Engineering (Morning Class)**

*Justin Vander Werff and Joe Driewer, Dordt Professors of Engineering*

Have you ever thought about how God sustains you each day by using things that have been engineered? From transportation-related items like cars and bridges to productivity-related items like computers and cell phones to basic-use items like chairs and pencils, the results of engineering are all around us. Have you ever imagined designing things like these yourself? Join us to learn a little more about the amazing world of engineering that keeps us moving forward every single day, and to put some of this engineering into practice!

### **Fly Fishing for Beginners (Morning Class)**

*Don Mulder, Fly Fishing Expert*

Take a step beyond traditional rod and reel fishing into the realm of fly fishing! There will be teaching sessions for fly casting and fly tying. Instruction will include learning about fish diets, behaviors, and habitats. Hands-on teaching throughout the week will include knot tying, fishing methods, and actual fly fishing. All materials will be provided. Both boys and girls are welcome.

### **Game Quest 2.0 (Morning Class)**

*Tom Clark, Dordt Professor of Mathematics*

Strategize! Outwit! Cooperate! Game Quest 2.0 is a great choice if you have experience playing board games or have completed Game Quest 1.0 and want to play some more advanced games. Test your social deduction in games like Coup and Cockroach Poker. Expand your strategy with worker placement and deckbuilding games like Mintworks and El Dorado. Take a deeper dive into Settlers of Catan by adding an expansion. Travel to Egypt to test your predictive skills in Camel Up. Dig into other games like Arboretum, Kingdomino, and Welcome To. You'll also have some free-play time to play your favorite from the week with over 70 games to choose from.

### **Imagination and Improv (Morning Class)**

*Clark Stiemsma, Dordt English and Theatre Arts Student*

Learn how to take a crazy idea and run with it through improv games! Whether or not you think you're funny, improv comedy can teach you how to tell a good story, think on your feet, and help out your friends. You'll get to create funny, goofy, and crazy situations and bring them to life all through your imagination!

### **Imagination Station (Morning Class)**

*Shauna Vander Kooi, Unity Christian High School Educator of Art*

Have you always wanted to learn how to draw different characters or objects in unique styles? Do you have a passion for doodling or want to learn more about drawing? This class is for you! Let's have fun trying new materials and styles while creating unique masterpieces.

### **Lego Robotics (Morning Class)**

*Bryce Enger, DSST Montview Middle School Educator of STEM Lab and Dordt Alumnus*

Calling all Master Builders! So, girls and guys, you're ready to move past building Emmet-style double-decker couches, and take your Lego skills to the next level? Or maybe you've always been fascinated by robotics and would like to try your hand at building and programming one for yourself? Sounds like you're ready to create functional robots, using Lego Mindstorms kits! We will build several different robots throughout the week, as we team up to conquer design challenges and hone our programming skills. By the end of the week, we're pretty sure you'll be singing along: "Everything is Awesome!"

### **Miniature Making for Beginners (Morning Class)**

*Becky Donahue, Dordt Theatre Department Costume Manager and Arts Events Coordinator*

Step into the tiny world of miniature making! In this hands-on class you will learn the basics of creating detailed miniatures using a variety of materials like clay, cardboard, paint, and recycled objects. From tiny furniture to miniature food and décor, campers will develop skills in sculpting, painting, and assembling small-scale creations.

### **The Money Game (Morning Class)**

*Sandy Vanden Bosch, Dordt Instructor of Business*

Ready to play a game where you learn how paychecks work, how to invest in yourself first, how to create financial freedom, what are needs vs. wants, how money works, and what does it mean to save vs. spend vs. share? We will explore all these concepts, with you being the moving game piece in this highly interactive game. Activities in addition to the money game will include learning how to write checks, going on a shopping trip for Operation Christmas Child, investing in different types of assets, and designing a store for a business you would want to run.

### **Nursing (Morning Class)**

*Faculty of the Dordt Nursing Department*

Ever wondered what it's like to be a nurse? In this hands-on class, you'll get the chance to give shots, check blood pressure, practice CPR, and even work with our simulated patients and other nursing manikins. You'll explore how your body works and discover the best ways to take care of it, from first aid to healthy eating tips. Whether you're thinking about a future in healthcare or just want to explore nursing in a fun interactive environment, this course is a great way to dive in! Note: If students are willing, we will test their blood sugar, which involves a finger stick with a sterile lancet using proper technique and protective gear. No repeaters, please.

### **Outfit Alchemy: How to Thrift, Flip, and Style (Morning Class)**

*Rachel Brown, Dordt English Student, and Carson Noteboom, Dordt International Business and Linguistics Student*

Discover the excitement of thrifting! Learn how to thrift, flip, and style outfits, all while showcasing your God-given creativity in a tangible and sustainable way. Join Dordt students Rachel and Carson on a four-day creative journey to discover and customize your personal style. In this workshop, we will venture to a special thrifting experience designed specifically for YOU, compare the pros and cons of thrifting versus fast fashion, study the do's and don'ts of styling, learn how to upcycle clothing, and piece together a banger thrifted fit.

### **Photography 101 (Morning Class)**

*Becky Vanden Brink, Owner of and Photographer at Picture This Photography*

Photography helps us express ourselves in a way that words sometimes can't. Join me for a week of learning how to use a DSLR camera while exploring more about who God made you to be through the gift of photography. In this class you will learn about the different modes and settings of a camera and how to use them to get exactly the shot that you want. We will also learn about composition and how to apply it to get great photos. This class is project-based so get ready to grab a camera and go explore!

### **Poetry Lab: Find Your Voice (Morning Class)**

*Rose Postma, Dordt Professor of English and Academic Enrichment Center Director*

We will explore poetry that's funny, powerful, mysterious, and even a little weird. We'll read poems from writers like Shel Silverstein, Langston Hughes, and Naomi Shihab Nye—and discover how poetry can tell stories, capture emotions, and make us see the world differently. We will experiment with imagery, metaphor, and gain tools to express what matters to you. No boring rules—just creativity, curiosity, and courage.

### **Racquet Sports (Morning Class)**

*Craig Stiemsma, Dordt Professor of Kinesiology*

Do you want to learn the rules, strategies, different serves, and many different shots in pickleball, badminton and racquetball? Do you want to learn the rules and strategies for singles and doubles in these very popular racquet sports? Learn all this and more about pickleball, one of the hottest new sports in the country, as well as racquetball and badminton, which is an Olympic sport. We will have many different competitions and tournaments during this week.

### **Ready, Set, Grow! (Morning Class)**

*Jaclyn Vander Waal, Dordt Alumna*

Get your hands dirty as you plant and propagate your very own leafy companions! Not only will you become a master of house plant care, but you will also learn about trending house plants varieties. You may even leave with a new potted friend or two!

### **Sewing 101 (Morning Class)**

*Kara De Berg, Dordt Entrepreneurial Business Student and Business Owner*

Do you get "sew" excited about working with pretty fabrics or tinkering around with a needle and thread? If you're eager to learn more about the world of sewing, this is the class for you! We'll start by covering the basic tools and fabrics you need to get started and getting to know the sewing machine. Then we'll jump in with a few projects that you'll be proud to show off to your friends and family while covering important skills such as how to install a zipper, get perfect points, choose fabrics, and more! This class will equip you with the skills you need to keep creating at home and give you a chance to practice your stitching with an experienced sewist.

### **Survivor (Morning Class)**

*Sunday Ford, Assistant Director and Environmental Education Coordinator for Sioux County Conservation*

Spend each morning learning survival skills and having lots of outdoor fun! You'll learn the basic survivor skills: how to build shelters, make a campfire, use a GPS unit and more! This involves hiking on and off trail. \*Please bring jeans and old clothes you don't mind getting a little dirty. Closed-toed shoes are also required. We will be outside as much as possible. No repeaters, please.

### **Watercolors with Bailey (Morning Class)**

*Bailey Stetson, Dordt Alumna*

In this fun and colorful class, you'll learn how to design and create your own unique watercolor cards! Whether you're making cards for a special occasion or just for fun, you'll explore the magic of watercolor painting and discover how to use vibrant colors, different painting techniques, and creative designs to make your cards stand out.

### **The Wonderful World of Gaming (Morning Class)**

*Brad Hickey, Dordt Director of Gaming and Student Support Specialist*

Together we will explore the world of gaming together and discover how God's love for us includes the games that we play! This adventure will include playing various games together while focusing on developing good gaming habits and ways to use our gaming to love others and grow in our faith.

### **Yard Games (Morning Class)**

*Chad Hanson, Dordt Men's Volleyball Head Coach*

Yard games are an increasing aspect to neighborhood and church gatherings. Learn techniques and strategies for games like Corn Hole, Kan Jam, Spike Ball, Bocci, Kub, and more. These games are low exertion, and anyone can learn and play, no prior experience required. This class is open to both boys and girls.

## **AFTERNOON CLASSES**

### **A Week at the Spa: Renew, Refresh, and Radiate (Afternoon Class)**

*Angela Perigo, Dordt Co-Director of Children's Worship Initiative*

Treat yourself to a fun and educational week of self-care and creativity! Come journey into the world of wellness where together we'll learn all about the art of nail care, makeup application, and trending hair styles while exploring the secrets behind glowing skin and effective relaxation techniques. Discover the science of wellness through hands-on experiences in skin treatments, gentle massage methods, deep breathing, and stress-relief exercises designed to recharge your spirit, mind, and body. It's the perfect blend of pampering and practical skills to help you radiate confidence and embrace lifelong health!

### **Agriculture and Food: How It's Produced (Afternoon Class)**

*Rich Vyn, Dordt Professor of Agriculture*

Have you ever wondered where our food comes from and how it's produced? This class will explore how a variety of agriculture and food products are produced, such as ice cream, cheese, eggs, and ethanol. You'll visit production facilities and farms to learn more and see for yourself how food is produced. Then you'll play the Farming Game to see if you have what it takes to make money farming!

### **Animal Doc 101 (Afternoon Class)**

*Holly De Vries, Dordt Professor of Agriculture*

Do you dream of becoming a veterinarian, vet-tech, or animal caretaker? Then this class is for you. Whether you are interested in farm animals or pets, you will have a hands-on learning opportunity to experience what it's like to be an animal doctor and discover how God created each animal unique and a beautiful part of creation. We will visit a local veterinary clinic, learn how to do a physical exam, practice giving injections and stitching, perform a dissection, tour a farm, and more! Come prepared to get your hands and clothes dirty!

### **The Art of the Piano (Afternoon Class)**

*John MacInnis, Dordt Professor of Music*

This intensive workshop offers experienced young pianists the opportunity to refine their technique and artistry through private coaching, masterclasses, and an exploration of the piano's history, repertoire, and mechanical inner workings. We will go beyond the notes to discuss how we translate a composer's intentions into a living performance. Prerequisites: 1) Minimum of four years private piano study. 2) Currently studying or completed repertoire at the level of a Clementi Sonatina. Enrollment is limited to seven students. Please email a brief description of piano study background to Dr. John MacInnis at [john.macinnis@dordt.edu](mailto:john.macinnis@dordt.edu).

### **Become a Brilliant Baker (Afternoon Class)**

*Rhonda Van Donge, Unity Christian High School Educator of Spanish*

Everyone loves the baker! Become the person everyone cheers for when you walk in with a pan of goodies - because they know whatever you bake will be delicious! The best treats are usually the simplest. Learn how to perfect the basics so you can take everything you bake to the next level. Each day we will bake different treats and learn tricks for improving and tweaking each one. We will learn to bake basic recipes for bars, cookies, cupcakes, and then change them each into something more. So, by learning one recipe, you will have the skills to make a number of variations. It's all about creativity in the kitchen!

### **Basketball Strategies – Boys (Afternoon Class)**

*Klay Byker, Western Christian High School Educator of English and Head Girls Basketball Coach*

This session is designed for young athletes to learn and develop fundamental basketball skills in a fun, engaging environment. Boys (afternoon) and girls (morning) will participate in separate sessions, each focusing on age-appropriate skill development. Participants will work on basic dribbling, shooting, passing, and defense, while playing basketball-related games that reinforce these skills. Along the way, campers will deepen their understanding of the game, build teamwork, and enjoy friendly competition in a positive, supportive setting. Whether new to basketball or looking to sharpen skills, this session is a great way to have fun and grow as a player!

### **Beach Volleyball (Afternoon Class)**

*Chad Hanson, Dordt Men's Volleyball Head Coach*

Playing outdoor beach and grass volleyball is a lifelong opportunity for community and fellowship. Learn skills and strategies of the sport at appropriate levels to your abilities. This class is open to both boys and girls.

### **Beekeeping (Afternoon Class)**

*Ron Rynders and Phil Westra, Dordt Alumni*

Are you interested in different kinds of animals and exploring how God's creation works? You may have taken care of a pet or helped with animals on a farm, but how do we take care of honeybees? This class will introduce you to the life of honeybee colonies and get you involved in hands-on beekeeping, from opening and inspecting beehives to harvesting honey. You will also make lip balm, roll beeswax candles, and fill a small jar of honey to take home. Protective gear is provided.

### **Bookworms (Afternoon Class)**

*Jen Wielenga, Orange City Christian School Librarian*

This class starts with homework you are going to love! Read a BOOK! We'll choose a couple of books, you read your favorite of those, and we will discuss and enjoy them together. We will talk about genres,

classics, and favorite authors. We'll sprinkle in some library visits, and of course have you read a book while on campus. It is the best of reading worlds! Bookworms RULE!

### **Cooking with Karinda (Afternoon Class)**

*Karinda de Boom, Western Christian High School Educator of Art and Life Skills*

Even if you've never advanced beyond making a peanut butter and jelly sandwich or licking the spoon, this class will show you how to rustle up some grub sure to impress your friends and your mom. Learn how to make healthy snacks, main course dishes, even drinks and desserts. A trip to the grocery store will make ingredient shopping less of a mystery, and if it all pans out, you'll take home a DDD cookbook! Both guys and girls are welcome to learn basic cooking skills that will put you somewhere between Chef Boyardee and Rachel Ray.

### **Expeditions in STEM (Afternoon Class)**

*Bryce Enger, DSST Montview Middle School Educator of STEM Lab and Dordt Alumnus*

Get ready for an adventure that blends fun, creativity, and problem solving! In our class, you will dive into the exciting world of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. You'll learn cool math games to stump your friends, how to program a robot to do exciting challenges, and how to engineer something to tackle a real-world problem in a way that truly makes a difference. This class is all about unlocking your potential through fun activities that give you skills that could shape your future! So, if you are ready to tackle challenges, explore robotics, and unleash your imagination, this class is for you! By the end, we are certain you will say this class was pretty STEM-tastic!

### **Game Quest 1.0 (Afternoon Class)**

*Ryan Zonnefeld, Dordt Associate Dean, Academic Affairs*

Strategize. Agonize! Cooperate. Instigate! This board game extravaganza hones your game playing skills while having a ton of fun. You'll learn games like Acquire, Settlers of Catan, Carcassonne, and Ticket to Ride where strategy is of vital importance. Social deduction plays a role in the Sheriff of Nottingham and Resistance while teamwork saves the day in Forbidden Island. Game Quest 1.0 is a great choice if you love to play and learn new games. You'll even have some free-play time to choose from over 70 games to play.

### **Imagination and Improv (Afternoon Class)**

*Clark Stiemsma, Dordt English and Theatre Arts Student*

Learn how to take a crazy idea and run with it through improv games! Whether or not you think you're funny, improv comedy can teach you how to tell a good story, think on your feet, and help out your friends. You'll get to create funny, goofy, and crazy situations and bring them to life all through your imagination!

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Ready to play a game where you learn how paychecks work, how to invest in yourself first, how to create financial freedom, what are needs vs. wants, how money works, and what does it mean to save vs. spend vs. share? We will explore all these concepts, with you being the moving game piece in this highly interactive game. Activities in addition to the money game will include learning how to write checks, going on a shopping trip for Operation Christmas Child, investing in different types of assets, and designing a store for a business you would want to run.

### **Movie Date (Afternoon Class)**

*Dave Mulder, Dordt Professor of Education*

Lights...camera...ACTION! Get in the director's seat as you learn more about your favorite movies. We'll watch a wide variety of clips from movies from all across the ages. We'll explore how levels of violence have changed in the past decades, how to recognize a film's message or theme, and how special effects promote the plot. We'll even check out the history of movies and what movies were like in the "old days." Of course, we're having snacks and popcorn the whole time! As a group, we'll become film critics, learning how to view films through our Biblical glasses and figure out what movies are "good" and why. You'll definitely give this class two thumbs up!

### **Nursing (Afternoon Class)**

*Faculty of the Dordt Nursing Department*

Ever wondered what it's like to be a nurse? In this hands-on class, you'll get the chance to give shots, check blood pressure, practice CPR, and even work with our simulated patients and other nursing manikins. You'll explore how your body works and discover the best ways to take care of it, from first aid to healthy eating tips. Whether you're thinking about a future in healthcare or just want to explore nursing in a fun interactive environment, this course is a great way to dive in! Note: If students are willing, we will test their blood sugar, which involves a finger stick with a sterile lancet using proper technique and protective gear. No repeaters, please.

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### **Printmaking (Afternoon Class)**

*Vaughn Donahue, Dordt Professor of Art and Design*

Come spend a week printmaking relief prints with linoleum blocks, mono prints with Gelli plates, and maybe even some screen printed posters in the Dordt Art and Design Department! We'll turn a sketch or digital design into real ink on real paper, and we'll get plenty messy along the way.

### **Puzzled (Afternoon Class)**

*Lisa Mouw, Dordt Instructor of Education*

Conquer escape rooms, solve mysteries, complete and create scavenger hunts, and solve a variety of puzzles from jigsaw to sudoku, logic problems, and word scrambles. Your adventure awaits! Are you up for the challenge?

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### **Social Work and Service (Afternoon Class)**

*Erin Olson, Dordt Professor of Social Work and MSW Program Director*

In the Bible God calls us to love and care for our neighbor, but who is our neighbor? And how do we love and care for him/her? In this class, you'll learn what it means to be a helper and how by helping others you can actually help yourself and work to strengthen God's kingdom here on earth. You'll learn how to become a better and more effective listener (and talker!) for your friends and family. You'll also learn how changing your own self-talk can help your own outlook on life. As another part of the class, we will learn about how we can help our community members in need by joining the work of local non-profit organizations. We'll visit a thrift store, and food pantry, a shelter, and other organizations to learn about what they're doing to help those in need and then we'll volunteer some of our time to help those organizations continue to do their good work!

### **Watercolors with Bailey (Afternoon Class)**

*Bailey Stetson, Dordt Alumna*

In this fun and colorful class, you'll learn how to design and create your own unique watercolor cards! Whether you're making cards for a special occasion or just for fun, you'll explore the magic of watercolor painting and discover how to use vibrant colors, different painting techniques, and creative designs to make your cards stand out.

### **The Wonderful World of Gaming (Afternoon Class)**

*Brad Hickey, Dordt Director of Gaming and Student Support Specialist*

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