

Public Service Careers

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a state legislator making laws for your fellow citizens, determining spending priorities for taxes, or hearing and answering your neighbors' concerns? How about responding to medical emergencies or fires in a crowded city? Imagine having to work on a power pole dozens of feet in the air during a blizzard in order to restore or maintain power to the city. Through a combination of visits to facilities and guest speakers, you will learn the requirements for entry into these career fields and some of the challenges these professionals face on a daily basis. Hopefully, the orientation you receive will lead you to consider one of these vital career fields for your future employment.

Instructor: Mr. Kelly

Outdoor Careers Seminar

Students involved with this seminar will be exposed to careers that involve the use, management, and protection of our country's natural resources. They will have the opportunity to hear from various professionals such as cave experts and wilderness guides and will participate in numerous field trips and excursions. They will have the opportunity to go underground in Fly and Marble Caves near Canyon City to better understand speleological resources. The students will also participate in a winter survival course on Hoosier Pass led by expert Greg Wiggins, the head of AlpenQuest and survival trainer for the military. They will learn such skills as body management, shelter building (including snow caves), and responsible minimum impact camping techniques important in using our natural resources wisely. Students will have the opportunity to snowshoe and even stay overnight in the shelters they construct. In addition to daily assessment activities, students will develop a culminating presentation for the middle school to share their experiences and the knowledge they have gained related to the management of our nation's natural resources.

Instructor: Mr. White and Mrs. Pereda

Careers in Zoology

During this seminar students will be exposed to various careers where people have direct contact with wild animals. Our group will spend a day at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo meeting keepers, trainers and veterinarians. We will meet with ornithologists who band birds and study populations and bird behavior. We will also interact with area wildlife managers and rangers who patrol and defend against wildlife offenders. We will travel to Westcliff and visit Mission Wolf, where we will volunteer our services and get a chance to meet several wolves. This seminar spends about 80% of its time outdoors so come well dressed for the weather.

Instructor: Mr. Tucker

Careers in Technology

You're sitting at your laptop playing an online game with friends around the world. You probably haven't given a second thought to all of the innovations that allow you to participate in such a seemingly simple game. In this seminar you will examine in-depth the computer that you use everyday. You will explore circuit design and software development. You will get a glimpse into chip design, basic programming techniques, and those same applications used elsewhere – robotics and diesel engines, to name a few. You will learn how to do software updates, as well as explore companies that are using technology in original ways.

Instructors: Mrs. Carpenter and Dr. Hemenway

An Exploration into the Medical Field

In order to become better acquainted with the medical field, students will spend three days learning about how to obtain a medical degree, studying some of the different fields available, and getting hands-on experience in medical offices. From talking to neurosurgeons and acupuncturists, to getting certified in CPR and first aid, students will gain a first hand perspective on the rigor and rewards that a career in the medical field brings. Students involved will learn about volunteer opportunities that are available to them right now, as well as learn what to expect from college all the way through a private practice.

Instructor: Mr. Lara

Civil Rights Seminar

While most of us are fortunate enough to not have to think about fighting for basic rights, much of the world's population is still not so lucky. This seminar will introduce students to the current and ongoing issues and struggles related to human rights and social justice. Activities may include:

- Visiting with (or video conferencing with) Valerie Morgan Alston (you may remember she was our Founder's Day presenter, CSS class of '69) who was a Magistrate Judge in Denver and now works for the Department of Health and Human Services based out of Chicago
- Driving to Denver to collaborate with the Ricks Center students on a Service Learning project
- Driving to Santa Fe, NM to spend two days with the Taos Pueblo Native American community
- Speaking with Mr. Benson about his involvement with the Fongo Tongo school in Cameroon
- Re-familiarizing ourselves with the Pennies for Peace initiative

Instructor: Mrs. Gutierrez

Crafting a Career in Art

Do you like the creative feeling you get in art class? Do you appreciate the opportunity to engage in self-expression? Even if you are not the next Picasso, you can find a job in the art field. On this seminar, students will explore art careers. They will visit and workshop with artists who own studios, teach college classes, work as art therapists, manage galleries, craft beautiful things from natural materials, and design interiors. Possible artists include those who sell their work nationwide like Duke Beardsley in Denver as well as struggling up-and-coming ones who rent space at our local Cottonwood Center for the Arts. We will take an overnight to a ranch outside of Woodland Park and experience some mountain arts that include big skills like welding, soldering, stained glass, and woodcarving. Because we will have the opportunity to work with art materials every day and we will spend a night at the Aspen Valley Ranch, the fee for this seminar includes the added costs of these experiences.

Instructor: Mrs. Hannigan

Global Marketplace

As our world seemingly gets smaller all of the time, our lives are affected more and more by economic influences from outside of our home region. Our seminar will focus on identifying what “global marketplace” means, how and where it takes place, its daily effect on each of us, and how we locally contribute to this wide reaching exchange of goods, services and people. Hands-on activities will give us personal experience with the global economy we create. Economic experts and businessmen involved with international commerce will share their personal experiences. Visits to businesses, retail locations, and other sites involved daily with the real global marketplace will provide us insight into just how small the world is becoming due to international trade.

Instructor: Mrs. Rich