

2009 CSS Seminar II Courses

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

Writer's Workshop

Students attending this seminar will have the opportunity to experience what it might be like to attend a national writer's workshop/retreat and literary conference. This seminar will introduce students to the craft and charisma that is inherent in various types of writing settings. Students will be asked to write, share work with one another, and give feedback to one another. Students may write and experiment with any genre they like from song writing to graphic novella. Day one of the seminar, students will travel to the Shoshoni Yoga Retreat in Boulder. Students will stay in dorms and "unplug" from all use of technology. They may participate in meditation and yoga while there, but are not required to do so. We will meet as a group periodically for writing sessions. After our overnight stay in Boulder, students will return to Colorado Springs and begin getting ready for the Literary Conference on the 19th at the Penrose House where they will both lead and participate in a full-day Student Literary Conference with as many as 53 fellow participants from a mix of five area schools. Pikes Peak Poet Laureate, Aaron Anstett will be the Keynote Speaker. The final day of Seminar will be devoted to wrapping up the conference (thank you cards, mailing lists, etc.) and putting together a creative digital display of all Seminar Participants' work.

Instructor: Mrs. Gutierrez

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. Finally, you will explore companies that are using technology in original ways.

Instructors: Mrs. Carpenter and Dr. Hemenway

Man's Best Friend

This seminar will focus on career possibilities involving man's best friend. Students will meet with a variety of people in the Colorado Springs area who work with dogs every day. Dog trainers, handlers, and caretakers will all provide interesting and insightful information about their professions. Do you ever wonder how they teach a police dog to sniff out drugs and not dirty socks? In addition to guest speakers, possible field trips include a veterinary clinic, a blood bank, the Humane Association, a dog training facility, a daycare, and Search and Rescue sites. We will also look into some veterinary specialties including dentistry, physical therapy, acupuncture,

anesthesia, emergency medicine, and adult stem cell therapy. Volunteer opportunities that will help students gain valuable experience in pursuing a career with dogs will also be explored. Although the focus of this seminar is canines, there may be contact with other domesticated animals. Please consider any animal allergies. Student assessment will be based on participation, daily work, and a final project showing what the students have learned during the seminar.
Instructor: Ms. Eustice

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, illustrate books, work as art therapists, manage galleries, craft beautiful things from wood, and design web pages and advertising. 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 the newly opened RedLine arts center. A trip just up the road from CSS will take us to the studio of Michael Hague, a renowned children's book illustrator whose latest graphic novel is being made into a movie. We've been invited to a woodworking shop to make a wooden masterpiece with a lathe and joiner. We also will spend a day at a ranch outside of Woodland Park experiencing some mountain arts that include big skills like welding, soldering, creating stained glass, and metalworking. Because we will have the opportunity to work with art materials every day and take home some of our creations, the fee for this seminar includes the added cost of these materials.

Instructor: Mrs. Hannigan

Who Were They, Why Did They Come, What Did They Leave Behind?

We will be taking a trip back in time to discover where the founders of Colorado Springs came from, where they settled, what they did here, why they came, and the legacies they left behind from which we all benefit. Our journey will begin with a trip to Glen Eyrie, the home of General William Palmer, where we will explore his life, times, and contributions. From there we will move on to researching the "Pikes Peak or Bust" Gold Rush with a behind the scenes look at our Pioneer Museum and its current exhibit. The museum's curator will take us on tour, and we will take on the personas of those who came searching for promised wealth. Next, we will learn about Winfield Scott Stratton's rags to riches story through a ground's tour of the home he dedicated to his father. A visit from Winfield himself is also scheduled! Continuing our investigation into our city's history, we will be guided through the more recent unique addition to our city, the Olympic Training Center, and learn how it came to be located in Colorado Springs. Our pilgrimage will culminate with a look into the life of Spencer Penrose through a presentation by the author of his newest biography, Speck, and a trip to Penrose's famous hotel, The Broadmoor, hosted by the hotel's curator. Along the way our travels will shed light on the legacies that these men left for us to enjoy, how they were able to provide us with such lasting gifts, and how we are able to participate in bringing such rich history to others through careers related to museums, writing, and maintaining public awareness of our forefathers.

Instructor: Mrs. Rich

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 Canon 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 that 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

An Exploration into the Medical Field

“Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also a love of humanity.”

– Hippocrates

This seminar will focus on career possibilities in medicine. Students will meet a variety of people in the area who work in the medical field. Doctors, nurses, paramedics, and technicians, to name a few, will all provide information about their professions. They will discuss the schooling requirements and the day-to-day responsibilities of their respective jobs. In addition to guest speakers, possible field trips include the University of Colorado Medical Center in Denver, Beth-El Nursing School in Colorado Springs, local clinics, and labs -- even a fire station to explore emergency medicine. We will discuss volunteer opportunities and educational opportunities available that will help students gain valuable experience in pursuing a career in medicine. Student assessment will be based on participation, including interaction with professionals, daily work and reflection, and a final presentation showing what the students have learned during the seminar.

Instructors: Mr. Lara