



## FALL 2018 INTERIM COURSE CATALOG

Please take a moment to review this fall's interim offerings. Students will hear about each course at an upcoming Community Meeting and will be asked to sign-up for two courses: one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Please note that some courses offered do have fees associated with them.

### All Day

#### Cemeteries of Chicago

*Description:* Long riddled with mystery and taboos, cemeteries are coming into their own as an explorational stop for locals and tourists. Students will have the opportunity to visit the graves of people who have had an impact on Chicago. We will visit Rosemont, Graceland, and Oak Hill cemeteries.

*Fee:* Students will need to pay for public transportation

#### College Week Tour

*Description:* (For juniors and seniors only) Students have the opportunity to use *one* Interim during their Beacon careers to visit colleges. Students interested must fill out an itinerary and submit it to Mr. Freeman for approval. Upon completion of their trip, students must also submit a written reflection to Mr. Freeman. *This is a one-time opportunity for students during their time at Beacon.*

### Morning

#### Bass Fishing

*Description:* Gone fishing! Students will get an introduction to fishing and fishing techniques and do some actual fishing! Come prepared to spend some time on the water, enjoy nature, and appreciate the art and practice (and patience!) of fishing.

*Fee:* \$150

#### Book Club: Bad Blood

*Description:* Book club will read the fascinating story of how a billion dollar biotech company was built off lies. The group will read and discuss *Bad Blood: Secrets & Lies of a Silicon Valley Startup*. We can venture out to coffee houses, parks, libraries, etc as we discuss how so many people were deceived by a greedy founder. Here is one review of the book: "In 2014, Theranos founder and CEO Elizabeth Holmes was widely seen as the female Steve Jobs: a brilliant Stanford dropout whose startup "unicorn" promised to revolutionize the medical industry with a machine that would make blood

testing significantly faster and easier. Backed by investors such as Larry Ellison and Tim Draper, Theranos sold shares in a fundraising round that valued the company at more than \$9 billion, putting Holmes's worth at an estimated \$4.7 billion. There was just one problem: The technology didn't work. A riveting story of the biggest corporate fraud since Enron, a tale of ambition and hubris set amid the bold promises of Silicon Valley."

*Fee.* Students will need to purchase book

### **Empty Bowl**

*Description:* Students will begin planning an Empty Bowl fundraiser that will take place in January. The students will research and select a non-profit to support. The group will figure out together how to get bowls donated and make bowls one day at The Pot Shop. Students will partner and plan with Euresst and Rotary to get soup for the bowls and sell to those in the Rotary building. We will set pricing to cover costs, figure out how to involve the rest of the Beacon community in the event....and more!

### **LGBTQ Films**

*Description:* We will watch a variety of films that reflect the changing times, struggles, and celebrations of the LGBTQ+ community. We will watch clips from and discuss films about LGBT people, discuss how different subject matter is portrayed, and how (LGBT) film has changed over time.

### **Modern Music History: 1910 - Present Day**

*Description:* Spanning from 1910 to present day, this interim looks at how musical genres have evolved over time. It includes a focus on Chicago genres such as blues, jazz, and house, and culminates with a trip to an exhibit at the Chicago Cultural Center on Friday.

### **Sketching with the Urban Sketchers Chicago community**

*Description:* This opportunity is for students to connect with the Urban Sketchers Chicago community. Urban Sketchers is a network of artists around the world who draw the cities where they live and travel to. The mission is to "Show the World, One Drawing at a Time." We draw on location, indoors or out, capturing what we see from direct observation. This kind of sketching tends to be very popular with architects and designers. You will get a chance to meet and sketch with quite a few folks in that field, but this is open to anyone who wants to explore and go on a sketch crawl. No prerequisite skills needed. All you need is a will to draw, and your material can be what you like -- even if it is just a ballpoint and scrap paper.

### **Something from Nothing: Devised Theatre**

*Description:* This interim will feature two artists-in-residence from Filament Theatre who will lead Beacon students in a process of creating theatre from scratch (aka devising). The group will start with the idea of natural pollinators--birds, bees, and other bugs--and work together towards a brand-new performance around that theme. After this interim, ideas from Beacon students will then be incorporated into a new production for young audiences at Filament Theatre in fall 2019, sponsored by the Brushwood Center at Ryerson Woods. This process will offer Beacon students the opportunity to be original collaborators on a world premiere production that they will then be able to see performed by professional actors at Filament. This interim is open to all students, with or without theatre experience, but it is especially recommended for those in IB theatre (or with an interest in taking IB theatre in the future).

## True Crimes

*Description:* Spend some time learning about and unpacking what it means to tell the "true" story of a crime, from newspaper accounts of Jack the Ripper to *In Cold Blood* and *Devil in the White City* to podcasts like *Serial*. Read and listen to how we define criminals, solve crimes, and use these stories to help understand ourselves and society.

## The Art of Public Speaking

Learn the art of public speaking and how to give the perfect presentation. This is useful information that can be used throughout your life! We will examine the functionality of Google Slides and other (free) presentation software with the goal of eventually giving a short presentation on a topic of your choosing. We will also discuss public speaking techniques, tips, and tricks to help you clearly present your ideas and win over your audience.

## Afternoon

### Analyzing Short Films

*Description:* In this interim we will watch a variety of short films and learn how to analyze them in a group discussion. Students will discuss topics like plot, themes and tones, acting and characters, direction, score, cinematography, special effects, editing, pacing, and dialogue. You will leave this course with a deeper appreciation of how films are made and the effect they have on us.

### Bioethics

*Description:* We will examine some of the major ethical issues facing science today. As science continues to progress, we are forced to face moral and ethical issues that were unfathomable in the past. Some of the issues we will address are abortion, euthanasia, genetic and reproductive technologies, and the allocation of medical resources. The essential question that we will begin to address is: how can doctors and scientists ethically make decisions about their patients and research?

### Everything Italian!!

*Description:* This interim class will be a combination of the art and food of Italy. We will be visiting a local Italian restaurant for lunch, making Italian food at school, and creating personal mosaics. If there is time, we might even try marbling paper! Should be a fun week of ART and FOOD!

### Health and Fitness Management

*Description:* This course will teach students how to take care of their bodies, learn how to work out smarter, how to get the most out of their workouts, and learn about different ways of exercising. You will learn a variety of different exercises including Crossfit, MMA, and yoga. You will be sore and happy by the end of the week!

*Fee:* Students will need to pay for public transportation

## Inclusion Council

*Description:* This interim will provide time to work on inclusion projects that were started last year (including Calling In and Race and Racial identity projects) or start a new project for the school. You don't have to be on Inclusion Council to join. If there is something you are passionate about, this is a great interim to help you get started on it! Exact plans for the interim will be decided collaboratively by participants on Monday morning. At times we'll all be working together, at other times, we'll be working in small groups or individually on projects.

## Taste of Chicago

*Description:* Join us for a culinary adventure as we explore some of Chicago's best foods. We will venture to Chicago's top-rated restaurants for an insight into the city's diverse food culture.

*Fee:* \$10-\$15 a day for food

## Essential Eats & Homemade Awesomeness

*Description:* Have you ever wanted to bake your own bread, pickle stuff, or thought about what else you could make rather than buy? During this interim you will learn how to buy less, make more, save thousands of dollars in the long term, AND save the Earth. We are going to use the most basic ingredients to cook awesome eats, pickle things, make dressings, cleaners - you name it, we can make it.

## FIFA - A History

*Description:* This course is focused around the world football organization. Students will learn about the history of FIFA, discuss controversy surrounding the organization, review male and female World Cups, have guest speakers, and weather permitting – play!