



FEBRUARY 2019 INTERIM COURSE CATALOG

Please take a moment to review the 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

College Week Tour

Description: (For juniors and seniors only) Students can have the opportunity to use **one** Interim during their Beacon careers to visit colleges. Students interested must fill out an itinerary and submit 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

Note:

-Juniors who are full IB will be introduced to the Extended Essay during the morning session of Interim.

-Students who are enrolled in Drivers Education will have class during the morning session each day instead of the Tuesday/Thursday schedule.

Black Mirror

Description: Without question, technology has transformed all aspects of our lives; in every home; on every desk; in every palm - a plasma screen; a monitor; a Smartphone -- a Black Mirror reflecting our 21st Century existence back at us. It is said that the average person spends 6 and a half hours in front of a screen each day. Where could this technology leave us in the future? What draws us to our devices? In this interim we will discuss this and much more every day, using clips from the Netflix hit "Black Mirror" as a focal point for conversation.

Dungeon Mastering

Description: This interim will be about the tabletop role playing game, Dungeons and Dragons. This interim is meant for both people who are already familiar with Dungeons and Dragons and for people who want to get into the game. The course for the interim will be about how to be a good Dungeon Master and will cover skills such as worldbuilding, character development, player and DM relationships, and other aspects of a campaign as well as introducing the game to new players. You don't need to want to be a Dungeon Master to join: if you want to just play Dungeons and Dragons, that's great. Most of the time of the interim will be dedicated to DM's running their own campaigns, so we need players too.

Exploring Evanston

Description: Come learn about Evanston's history, culture, and the issues that it faces by visiting the Evanston History Center, Northwestern University, local and independent restaurants and shops, and hearing from elected officials and/or local journalists.

Hip Hop History

Description: There are four elements to hip hop, and during our week together, we will explore each one and the history behind them all. Students will gain a deeper understanding of the origin of hip hop, how it got its name, and the evolution of hip hop through discussions, documentaries, and clips from Get Down.

PC Building and Maintenance

Description: Have you ever wondered what goes on inside the guts of a computer? If you know a little or have no experience with the inner workings of computers, this interim is a great opportunity for you to learn how these everyday machines are able to carry out all of their many functions. During this course, we will look into how computer components work and what functions they serve. At the end of this course, you will get to use the knowledge you've acquired to put together a working PC. If you're looking to have fun and learn all about a seemingly mundane piece of equipment, this interim is for you.

Fee: \$20

Psychology 101

Description "The curious paradox is that when I accept myself just as I am, then I can change" - **Carl Rogers**. Intro to Psychology will introduce you to the complex and ever-evolving field of mental health. Areas covered will include defining psychology and its history, real-world applications and professions, basics of human development and personality, and review of common mental health disorders and treatment modalities. Class discussion will be augmented by video clips, case studies, self-reflection exercises, and introductory skills practice.

Sports in the 21st Century

Description: Sports is one of the largest economic enterprises in the world, employing professionals with a variety of business skills and specializations who have one common interest: the business of sports. Students will learn about a variety of professions in the sports industry as well as have discussions on how fast the industry has changed in the 21st century.

Winter Hiking

Description: Students will hike and enjoy local nature (i.e. the woods) when it's chilly outside. Activities will include long hikes, tree identification, photography, discussions, solitude, and enjoying the sounds of nature in the cold. Students will enjoy nature during a different time of year and hopefully appreciate something new about our local natural resources.

Afternoon

Beacon Dance

Description: We are going to be launching the beginning of the dance program for our show in May. You do not need to have any experience dancing to join. Students will be asked to choreograph their pieces during interim. We will be doing fun team building activities and have snacks!!

Clay and Studio Time

Description: Students will spend three days at The Pot Shop learning how to throw pots and do some hand building with clay. The remaining two days will be set aside for students to have some free studio time, exploring materials and techniques of their choice.

Fee: \$80

Conspiracy Theories

Description: Is Avril Lavigne dead? What is the Mandela effect? In this interim, we will learn, discuss, and analyze different conspiracy theories. Not only will we be discussing and teaching conspiracy theories but we will also focus on government-based conspiracy theories surrounding 9/11 and other events. Toward the end of the week, we will have a competition where every person pairs up and tries to convince the audience that their theory is real and not a theory.

Ethical Eating

Description: Do you care about the environment and want to reduce your carbon footprint? Do you care about animal rights? Have you ever wanted to go vegetarian, vegan, or decrease your meat intake? Do you just want to learn more? This is the interim for you! We'll be cooking fun recipes, going on some field trips, and having fun!

Hair Braiding, Hair History

Description: Students will learn hair-braiding technique and tricks, though visits from stylists, a trip to an African braids salon, and YouTube tutorials. Students should be comfortable having their hair braided and/or with braiding others' hair. We will discuss the history and politics of hair and hairstyling in various countries, cultures, and subcultures, following student interest.

Fee: \$35 to cover professional tutorial and styling session

Health & Fitness

Description: Explore the variety of fitness classes offered throughout Evanston. Students will be exposed to different physical activities like cycling, yoga, Shred 415, and Spenga.

Fee: \$40

Latino Culture

Description: Learn about Latino culture and its rich history with food, games, music, and much more. You'll get to visit a Latino sweet and snack shop, learn about Latino traditions, and get a glimpse of how Latinos celebrate and have fun. We'll cook, make piñatas, watch telenovelas (Spanish Soap Operas), and have discussions about Latino stereotypes. Everyone is welcome. If you are Latino, you are invited to share your traditions and cultures as well. Brought to you by representatives of Beacon's Latino population!

Poetry Workshop

Description: Interested in the power of poetry? How poems can make you laugh uproariously and cry with abandon, sometimes within the same poem? Poetry is a remarkable medium within which the human voice, heart, and mind can express and explore so much. This interim class will focus on reading, discussing, and writing poetry, much of it driven by your interests! We will also plan on producing our own chapbook of poetry by the end of the week as well as visiting the Poetry Foundation in downtown Chicago.

Science Olympiad

Description: Students will spend time preparing for the regional competition. You do not need to be on the Science Olympiad Team to participate! We will work on and test build Mousetrap Vehicle, Mission Possible, Boomilever, Protein Modeling, practice hands on events like Forensics, Chem Lab, Experimental Design, Thermo, and WIDI and review old tests and work on cheat sheets.