

CSSL: April and May Workshop Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:00-9:30				
9:30-9:45	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting	Morning Meeting
9:45-10:30	Advising	Roleplaying	Chemistry	Civil Rights / Journalism
10:30-11:15	Invention Workshop!	Economics	Cooking	Modelling the World
11:15-12:15	Lunch	Spanish	Lunch	Lunch
12:15-12:30	Afternoon Meeting	Afternoon Meeting	Afternoon Meeting	Afternoon Meeting
12:30-1:15	Movie Making	Philosophy	Movie Making	History
1:15-2:00	Greenhouse + Garden	Algebra	Marine Biology	Craft Circle
2:00-2:45	Greenhouse + Garden	Algebra	Magic: the bettering	Cartooning Club
2:45-3:00	Cleanup Time	Cleanup Time	Cleanup Time	Cleanup Time

fig. 1 -- a schedule, color-coded by staff-member -- figuring out which color is which staff member is left as an exercise for the reader

This is our upcoming schedule up through the end of the year. After April vacation camp there will be a slight reworking on classes -- the Civil Rights class on Thursdays will be swapped out for a Journalism class, and the Magic: the Bettering class on Monday mornings will be moved to a to-be-decided position, and replaced with an "Inventions" class taught by Terry Murray (the Inventor-Mentor!) Also "gym" found its way off of the schedule, but we're still going outside to play every afternoon with anyone who wants to go. Class descriptions follow, but remember that all classes will, to a certain extent, be directed towards the interests of whichever students show up for them. The first couple of sessions of a class are both a good time to express your interests, as well as a good time to try out a new class and see if it's fun or interesting for you!

If there's something that you're very interested in learning or working on, but don't see it on the schedule, please talk to a staff member (perhaps your advisor!) -- we'd love to help you learn or do almost anything, and if we don't have the knowledge or skills to do so, we will do our very best to find someone who does. We all are excited to help you with pretty much anything.

Class Descriptions

Marine Biology -- Zach

From the deepest depths to the shallowest mangroves, we'll explore the ocean in all of its vastness. I bring visuals, videos, and maps to help explain the oceans flora and fauna, formation, history and future.

Debate -- Zach

Hear hear! The debate class will learn the ins and outs of a proper argument. We'll walk through the research of debate topics, the formation of arguments, and tactics used in debates and trials. And of course, we'll debate!

Economics -- Zach

As a continuation of the previous economics classes, this class will look at everyday mysteries in economics like why we pay taxes, what the federal reserve does, and other topics of interest. We'll break out our math skills at almost every class and explore the history of many of these fascinating topics.

Nova -- Zach

After a long week, Thursday afternoons call for peaceful nature documentaries. The videos are about 40 to 50 minutes in length and afterwards (and probably during) we'll discuss questions we had and facts we learned.

History -- Kelly

We will review some of the topics of the Medieval period covered in other semesters, and will be sure to cover topics possibly including (but not limited to): Castles; Knights; Weapons; Kings, Queens, & Popes; Plague; Peasants & serfs; Charlemagne, etc "Holy Roman Emperor"; Islam & the Middle East (Qur'an) (620); Crusades, Templars, Heretics & Jerusalem; Cathedrals: Notre Dame & St. Denis; Illuminated manuscripts; Monasticism; Rise of cities & universities; Witchcraft; Robin Hood; Printing press; Renaissance; Baptism; Fall of Constantinople.

Craft Circle -- Kelly

We'll explore lots of artistic & creative projects! Sewing, bookbinding, tiny boxes, clay, paracord bracelets, wire jewelry, block printing, painting with acrylics & watercolor, oil pastels, drawing with pencils, charcoal, & other projects that we think of! One project that we could explore is creating a t-shirt design for the CSCL, and then making a screen & printing it! Projects are open & kids can drop in any time for as long as they want, and are free to make suggestions & bring in their own project ideas.

Philosophy -- Kelly

As in the fall, this class we will explore a new topic each week, much of which will and primarily take the form of questions being posed by both Kelly & the other participants. Most classes will not require previous reading or preparation, although there may be some readings available ahead of time, as well as suggested preparation work, such as preparing questions on the next given topic. In-class readings by relevant authors & on relevant topics will occur with greater frequency as students become more comfortable with the class format.

Movie Making -- Bryce

In Movie Making we are working as a group to write and produce a short film. The movie will be set at Parts and Crafts where the kids, with the help of an alien named Nachos Nostril and a talking robot stop a group of Ne'er do Wells who are stealing the power from Parts and Crafts and all of Somerville.

We're going to work on the movie every day of the week until the end of the year -- Mondays and Wednesdays will be devoted to pre-production, effects, and editing, and Tuesdays and Thursdays will be for filming.

Cooking -- Bryce

A class in basic cooking technique. How to choose and prepare ingredients, spices, how to make use of a recipe without following it slavishly, an overview of some of the fundamental cooking practices (stir-frying, roasting, baking, steaming, etc...) and what they're good for, what kinds of flavors they produce and destroy, and more generally just how to go from some random food in your fridge to a delicious and reasonably healthy meal.

Civil Rights -- Katie

Civil Rights: This class will look at the contemporary civil rights movement, Black Lives Matter, in the context of the push for anti-discrimination and equal voting rights in the late 1950's to 1960's. Topics will include the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Brown vs. Board of Education, the murder of Emmett Till, Freedom Summer, the Black Panthers, and others.

This semester will wrap up in April looking at contemporary analogues with mass incarceration and the criminal justice system, as well as some final points of the 1960's civil rights movement.

Role-Playing -- Katie

An interactive writing class about twisted fairy tales. Using the Grimm roleplaying scenario as a basis, each kid develops a character and write a story back and forth as we battle trolls, climb impossibly tall mountains, and rescue each other from dire and silly scenarios.

Magic: the Bettering -- Will

How to analyze, think about, and improve at the card game Magic: the Gathering (a recent area of tremendous enthusiasm among CSCL students.) Special focus here will be on competitive play. We will do math, and we will read and discuss the body of writing on Magic: the Gathering theory. And we will play games and test strategies. We may inadvertently take the naive fun out of the game, but we will definitely get better and win more.

Modelling the World -- Will

Another in my ongoing series of classes in computational modelling -- this round we're going to be focusing on physics simulations written in Java and Processing -- we will be using a set of physics simulation libraries to develop a framework to explore interactions between large numbers of particles in a 2-dimensional world connected by springs and manipulated by attraction and repulsion forces.

Chemistry -- Will

A mostly hands-on and experimental introduction to chemistry -- theory and lab-technique -- a continuation of the work from last semester, though new participants are welcome to join. We are primarily following Bob Thompson's CK01A Chemistry Kit Lab manual -- <http://www.thehomescientist.com/kits/CK01/ck01-main.html> -- which "provides a comprehensive, rigorous laboratory component for a first-year high school chemistry course."

Algebra -- Will

A continuation of the first semester's Algebra 1 class, based off of the *Art of Problem Solving: Introduction to Algebra* curriculum.

Tutorials on Offer

Below is an entirely non-comprehensive list of the kinds of things the Parts and Crafts staff are good at and enjoy teaching tutorials on. If any of these things interest you, you should talk to the appropriate staff member and try to set up a time to work and learn together!

Zach

Math
Economy
Biology and other science topics
Photoshop/Illustrator
Wood and metalworking
Bicycles -- how they work, how to make them work better
Locks, mechanisms, and other kinds of object-cleverness
Sewing
Cooking

Will

Test Prep
Math
Guitar
Fencing (the sport, not the method of keeping people out of locations or the practice of selling illegal goods)
Writing
Electronics + Robotics
Computer Programming (including but not limited to the following)
-Scratch
-java/processing
-html/css/web apps
-scientific modelling/simulation -- physics, biology, complexity
-game development in Unity
-Minecraft Modding

Kelly

French, Spanish
Literature/Reading
Writing/Grammar/Spelling
Handwriting/Cursive
Art/drawing
Knitting/Sewing/Crafting
Photography

Bryce

Math
Carpentry/Woodworking
Blender (3D modelling)
Photoshop
Physics
Writing
Computer Programming (including but not limited to the following)
-scratch
-java/processing
-python
-game development in Unity
Boardgame Making

Katie

Math
Writing
Reading
Test prep

