



Olney Friends School

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Elective Endeavor Descriptions 2016—2017

Cycle Q3A: Third Quarter, First Cycle

09 January 2017 — 02 February 2017

Agriculture and Animals

Jake, 8 weeks (during Breakfast—starts 7:15)

Drawing

Alaine, 4-8 weeks (B Period)

Guitar

Jamie, 4 weeks (C Period)

Unblocking Through Journaling, Art, and Essential Oil Process

Alaine, Akiko, 4 weeks (C Period)

Quakerism

Jamie, 4 weeks (D Period)

Digital Filmmaking

Roger, 8 Weeks (D—long blocks)

Wer bist du?

Connie, 4 weeks (D—long blocks)

Ceramics on the Wheel

Alaine, 6-8 weeks (E Period)

Code Talkers: Native Americans in WWI and WWII

Cynthia, 4 weeks (E Period)

Writing Lab

Jessa, 8 weeks (E Period)

Why Work With Wood?

Dan, Jake, 4 weeks (E Period)

Writing Wonderful Words

Jake, Lucy, 8 weeks (F Period)

Literary Magazine and Yearbook

Jessa, 12 weeks (F Period, Wednesdays)

Dinner Theater

Jamie, 4 weeks (G Period)

Into the Wild, Jon Krakauer

Rowan, 4 weeks (Book Club)

Love Beyond Time, Bethany Claire

Jessa, 4 weeks (Book Club)

Asian Art

Alaine, Abraham, Jake, 6-8 weeks (J Period)

Student Leadership

Micah, 4 weeks (J Period)

Agriculture and Animals (Community Service)

Jake, 8 weeks

Meets Breakfast Period

Description: Students will help me do the morning chores, feeding/watering/bedding goats, pigs, and chickens as well as watering in the greenhouse.

Learning Objective: It will give students a feel for their farm and animals, as well as giving them an understanding of what it is like to be a part of a working farm.

Drawing (Arts)

Alaine, 4-8 weeks

Meets B Period

Description: Want to learn to draw or increase your drawing ability, or earn a drawing letter? This can be an independent study or a small group endeavor. We will figure out what interests you and which drawing skills to work on and go from there.

Learning Objective: Drawing skills: blind and observed contour drawing, creating form with light and shadow, perspective drawing.

Guitar (Arts)

Jamie, 4 weeks

Meets C Period

Description: Learn to play the guitar.

Learning Objective: Guitar Letters (There are six of them)

Unblocking Through Journaling, Art, and Essential Oil Process (Questions of Conscience)

Alaine, Akiko, 4 weeks

Meets C Period

Description: Ever give yourself negative messages? Come on, we all do! Do you know that you have an enemy within or an inner critic who gives you negative messages to block your creativity? Why not banish those negative monsters to the monster hall of shame and be more positive and creative in anything you want to do? Why not try Unblocking Through Journaling, Art, and Essential Oil Process?!

Learning Objective: We will meet daily during C block to facilitate daily practice to unblock what is holding us back. We will attempt to banish the monstrous inner critic. We will read excerpts of The Artist's Way; Creativity as a Spiritual Practice, by Julia Cameron. There will be reflective activity, journaling, doodling, and Zen drawing to help disable the enemy within and awake the creative ally within. We will go through an essential oil program designed to help rebalance energies flows that may be blocked. Akiko is becoming certified in an unblocking technique called Aroma Freedom Technique (AFT). This is developed by a clinical psychologist, Benjamin Perkus. You will unblock your negative emotions and memories that have been buried deep. Through inhalation of high quality essential oils and AFT process, you'll change these negative emotions and memories and create a new affirmation.

Not just for aspiring artists. For anyone who desires to live more creatively and learn to silence an inner critic. It has helped writers, actors, athletes.

Quakerism (Questions of Conscience)

Jamie, 4 weeks

Meets D Period

Description: Learn about the history of Quakerism. Methods include an outline lecture to provide context and then use the time to complete three projects of different varieties on topics of personal interest. Then complete an application letter that sites your work and experience and explains why you should get your Quakerism letter.

Learning Objective: Content should help provide a better understanding of Quakerism. Projects are designed to reinforce multiple learning styles. Summary letter improves self reflective and analysis skills. Application letter also reinforces a helpful skill. The primary focus is the Quakerism Letter. However, projects may be applicable to other letters relating to humanities, philosophy/questions of conscience letters, art, or other disciplines.

Digital Filmmaking (Arts)

Roger, 8 Weeks

Meets D (long blocks) Period

Description: This is the second in a series of two eight-week endeavors. Usually, the first eight weeks introduces concepts and develops ideas for films that we want to make in the second eight weeks, so plan accordingly.

In digital filmmaking, we make films.

This is a completely student-directed endeavor: students are responsible for brainstorming ideas, developing scripts, storyboarding, casting, shooting, performing, and editing the final film. I'll provide a framework, and some smaller assignments, but this is really about your creativity. If you are self motivated and really into seeing your ideas happen on screen, this is for you.

Finished films are entered into the Bridge Film Festival, a film competition for Quaker schools. Olney films are available at [youtube.com/olneydigitalfilm](https://www.youtube.com/olneydigitalfilm). Limit eight students.

Learning Objective: Students will gain some experience in all aspects of filmmaking: camera operation, basic photographic techniques, screenwriting and story development, visual storytelling, directing and performing, and video editing.

Wer bist du? (Foreign Language)

Connie, 4 weeks

Meets D (long blocks) Period

Description: In this introductory German Endeavor, students will begin to learn basic German vocabulary and grammar pertaining to personal description, personal interests and basic interpersonal communication. While students will be provided with various forms of comprehensible input in German, the main focus of the class will be on learning vocabulary and grammar through reading and storytelling. Depending on interest, this Endeavor may continue for the entire semester.

Learning Objective: Students will learn how to introduce and describe themselves, as well as how to talk about their personal interests. They will also learn how to tell simple stories in the present tense using high-frequency verbs. *Possible Letters:* Hören: A, Hören: B, Lesen: A, Lesen: B.

Ceramics on the Wheel (Arts)

Alaine, 6-8 weeks

Meets E Period

Description: Ceramics on the wheel. Learn to form clay pieces on a non-electric pottery kick wheel. Functional and decorative objects made from clay have played an important role in the history of humankind. Investigate the art history of ceramic forms. Learn to wheel throw to create your own. Clay preparation and pottery methods will be introduced and explored. Students will prepare and throw ceramic forms and see them through the drying, glazing, firing process. The creative problem solving process is emphasized. Not for the faint of heart! Ceramics requires patience, practice, persistence. Ceramics involves extensive mess and clean up. Hand building methods can be explored if time allows.

Learning Objective: Clay preparation and pottery methods . Students will prepare and throw ceramic forms and see them through the drying, glazing, firing process. *Possible Letter:* Ceramic Kick-Wheel Throwing.

Code Talkers: Native Americans in WWI and WWII (Humanities)

Cynthia, 4 weeks

Meets E Period

Description: You may have heard about the Navajo code talkers, a handful of tribe members specially recruited by the US Marine Corps who used their language in WWII as an unbreakable code that helped the Allies win the war in the Pacific. But you may not have heard about the Comanches, Lakota, or Meskwaki who also served in WWII or the Cherokee and Choctaw speakers who paved the way in WWI.

We will explore how these languages were used and learn a little code ourselves. We'll also examine why these code talkers were so successful in a time when codes were almost always broken.

Learning Objective: Students will study the history of the code talkers (in both world wars) and some basics of cryptography. They will be introduced to the structure and vocabulary of some of the Native American languages used and learn why they were so successful as codes.

Writing Lab (Humanities)

Jessa, 8 weeks

Meets E Period

Description: Very similar to last quarter's evening writing lab, this endeavor will serve as a way to improve your writing. It's second semester and many have letters due, especially in the Humanities. This class will provide teacher and peer revision to get you from Proficient to Mastery or Honors. There is no new work or homework, just help. Perfect for students who feel they could use a little guidance in the grammar department. This class is especially good for non-native English speakers as a extra assistance in ESL, but all are welcome.

Learning Objective: All Humanities Letters; learning and practicing good writing skills.

Why Work With Wood? (Community Service)

Dan, Jake, 4 weeks

Meets E Period

Description: Do you like to work with your hands? Would you like to learn skills that will be useful for the rest of your life? Join woodworking and earn stewardship hours building furniture that is needed around campus.

Learning Objective: You'll learn how to use a wide variety of woodworking equipment and how to build useful furniture if you take this endeavor.

Writing Wonderful Words (Humanities)

Jake, 8 weeks

Meets F Period (or possibly D if it turns out to be more convenient)

Description: Do you want to write a story about a knight who has no arms? A strawberry who dreams of eating the moon? A soldier who wants nothing more than to go home? In Writing Wonderful Words, bring your imagination to life! Each class will consist of writing prompts followed by workshop where we can go over the piece and critique it. You will also be expected to write a short story (under 7,500 words) that will be critiqued with the expectation that it will be submitting to a writing contest.

Learning Objective: Students will learn the skills needed to be a creative writer, as well as learning to give valuable feedback to their classmates. They will also learn to write a well-put-together short story.

Literary Magazine and Yearbook (Arts)

Jessa, 12 weeks

Meets F Period Wednesdays

Description: Do you have an eye for poetry? An ear for prose? Do you enjoy critiquing art? Come help put together this edition, perhaps the first, of the Olney Literary Magazine. All students are welcome to submit work, but this class group will organize and design the magazine.

Do you have memories of Olney you want to cherish forever? A desire to take a snapshot of Olney life? Then yearbook is for you. We'll be compiling photographs and memories from the 2016-2017 school year.

Working with these two aspects together will help you discover just what it takes to move an idea from raw product to publication. You may even do a little creative problem solving.

Learning Objective: Creative Problem Solving Letter

Dinner Theater (Arts)

Jamie, 4 weeks

Meets G Period

Description: Rehearse and put on a dinner theater play.

Learning Objective: Successfully produce a dramatic production. *Possible Letter:* Drama Performance.

Into the Wild, Jon Krakauer (Book Club)

Rowan, 4 weeks

Meets I Period

Description: A man is found starved to death in a bus in the Alaskan frontier with no identification, money, or anything else. In this stunning true tale of man vs. nature, Krakauer looks at the life and eventual death of Chris McCandless, and what drove him to try his wits against one of the harshest landscapes on earth.

Learning Objective: Book Club

Love Beyond Time, Bethany Claire (Book Club)

Jessa, 4 weeks

Meets I Period

Description: Mystery. Time Travel. History. The Scottish Highlands. Just the faintest hint of Romance. Book one of the Morna's Legacy series introduces you to the Conall Clan of 1600 Scotland. Who is trying to exterminate the clan and destroy the castle? What magic brings Bri Montgomery back 400 years? Can she save the Conalls? Can she return home? Will she want to? Find out in Love Beyond Time by Bethany Claire.

Learning Objective: Book Club

Asian Art (Arts)

Alaine, Abraham, Jake, 6-8 weeks

Meets J Period

Description: Need and want more simplicity, Asian aesthetic and Zen art in your life? Want to go beyond the Chinese restaurant placemat understanding of your Chinese zodiac symbol? Ever been one with the bamboo you're painting? Why are humans so small in Chinese landscape painting and so huge in Western portraits? What is a Chinese signature stamp? Sign up for Asian Art with Alaine, Abraham and Jake.

Learning Objective: A more in-depth exposure to and opportunity for students to engage with Asian art forms such as Chinese Calligraphy (writing with brush and ink), with Abraham as a guest facilitator. Introduction to and practice of the essential Asian brush strokes and techniques. Students will form a bakeable-clay Chinese signature stamp (featuring their Chinese Zodiac Animal) to stamp their signatures on art work. They will compare and contrast Eastern and Western art examples to arrive at the principles of Chinese painting. Asian-inspired landscape, bamboo or animal painting. Honors level could involve writing Haiku poetry (with Jake as a guest facilitator) that inspires a painting or the opposite, as well as writing the Chinese Haiku on a painting. Ideally, each student will scroll mount a piece for display. If time allows: printmaking.

Possible Letter: Asian Painting Letter (Demonstration, documentation and understanding of the techniques and the Principles of Chinese Painting, calligraphy/essential brush strokes, discussion of Eastern versus Western painting, Haiku, and scroll mounting for display.)

Student Leadership (Community Service)

Micah, 4 weeks

Meets J Period

Description: This is a practical skills course geared for those new students planning to be Student Dorm Staff, Discipline Committee members, Dish Crew Leaders, or Office Work Leaders. Within all societal structures, groups are the key setting in which things get done. Expertise in working effectively in groups is based on an integration of knowledge and time spent acquiring skills. The art of making conflict constructive rather than destructive will be deeply explored in the course. Newer dimensions of leadership, such as servant leadership (a practical philosophy that replaces traditional autocratic leadership with a holistic and ethical approach) and situational leadership theory, will complement the traditional leadership concepts. Students will examine aspects of group development, communicative skills, conflict management, and interpersonal awareness. My hope is that by the end of this course we will have found ways to serve the community with joy and confidence, and at the same time find pathways to success and fulfillment.

Unit 1: Group Dynamics- Design a skill-training session or a meaningful Experiential Learning Activity

Unit 2: Peer Mediation (Helping & Conflict) - Skills Assessment

Unit 3: Leadership Concepts & Theory- Poster

Unit 4: Clerking- Final Project

Learning Objective: Course Outcomes

- Learn what positive attributes make an effective leader.
- Explain the different leadership styles to apply during different situations.
- Identify what leadership style most describes the student.
- Identify and describe group development stages.
- Complete peer mediation training.
- Describe and utilize various theories of leadership practice and explain the pros and cons of each.
- Develop qualities of character, courage, camaraderie, discipline, leadership, and ideals of service.
- Discuss ethical dilemmas in leadership.
- Apply cooperative learning, reading, writing, and discussion skills to solve problems and produce effective products.