

Interim course catalog for 2016-2017

The student course request sheet is located at the end of this catalog.

We have an exciting list of offerings for students during the 2016-2017 Interim which is from **Tuesday, January 3rd to Wednesday, January 18th**. Please read the course descriptions below noting the cost and minimum and maximum number of students needed or allowed. Since courses must have a minimum number of students interested there is a possibility that not all courses will be offered and since some courses have a maximum number of students there is a chance you will not be able to enroll in a course if it is already full. After discussing your options with your parents, please complete the Interim Course Student Request Form at the end of the catalog indicating your top three requests and **return to Ms. Heather Blackburn by Wednesday, April 6th with your parent's signature or email to Ms. Heather Blackburn (blackburn@gssm.k12.sc.us) indicating their approval of your choices.**

A Worn Path or The Road Less Traveled? Inspiration and Influence in Creative Writing

Description: Join us as we explore the creative writing process from invention to revision. We will compose short prose and lyric poems based in our experiences and the world around us. Along the way, we will work to improve our writing skills by learning generative strategies, narrative and poetic techniques, and proven revision activities. To inform our writing, we will read and discuss works by contemporary authors. Reading like writers fosters our imaginations and encourages us to use our voices. In a relaxed, fun atmosphere students will work both independently and collaboratively and will also study one-on-one with published, active writers. At the end of the course, students will also have the opportunity to participate in a reading to celebrate their work.

Instructor(s): Dr. Adam Houle and Dr. Landon Houle

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 4

Cost for the student: none

Mental Health through Pop Culture: Psychology of Adrian Monk

Description: This course will use the television series Monk as a foundation for exploring and understanding specific psychological disorders and their corresponding treatment protocols. It will also address societal practices in the treatment of mental illnesses in general, and consider differences in public versus private delivery systems. **One half of the payment for this course is due by Sept 8th, 2016.**

The balance is due in full by Nov. 3rd, 2016.

Instructor(s): Dr. Alison Evans

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 5

Cost for the student: \$150

A Survey Course in Organic and Polymer Chemistry

Description: Polymers are an important part of our everyday life. Polymers are frequently called plastics. The use of polymeric materials is increasing rapidly year by year and in many applications. They are replacing conventional material such as metals, wood and natural fibers such as cotton and wool. We will investigate the different types of polymers, synthesis, characterization and recycling.

Prerequisite: AP Chemistry and/or Organic Chemistry or permission of the instructor

Instructor(s): Dr. Phelesia Jones-Cooper

Maximum number of students: 6

Minimum number of students: 4

Cost for the student: none

Chess in the Interim

Description: Whatever level a chess player might be, he or she still has much to learn. Playing chess has often been shown to improve such valuable traits as the ability to concentrate, the memory, and the ability to analyze and solve problems. It is also a lifelong skill for endless inexpensive fun!

Each day during the interim will include both a classroom period and a period of supervised play, both with a goal of raising the skill level of each player.

Instructor(s): Dr. Clyde Smith

Maximum number of students: 16

Minimum number of students: 6

Cost for the student: none

Fantasy and Horror

Description: This course will survey fantasy and horror literature and media. Students will read short stories, a novel, watch movies, and play games. The focus of the course is fantasy and horror both classic and modern. With such limited time, we will not exhaustively survey either genre. Students will instead explore themes of fantasy and horror through selected works. Movies were chosen to dovetail with the reading. Some notable authors that will be read include H. P. Lovecraft, Shirley Jackson, Peter S. Beagle, and Stephen King.

Instructor(s): Dr. David Whitbeck

Maximum number of students: 20

Minimum number of students: 3

Cost for the student: none

Kite Aerial Photography and Photogrammetry

Description: Students will conduct aerial photography and photogrammetry of surrounding landscapes using kites and camera mounts that they design and build. They will use computer software to manipulate and analyze images.

Instructor(s): Dr. Al DeGennaro and Dr. Elaine Parshall

Maximum number of students: 20

Minimum number of students: 5

Cost for the student: none

Robotics with Younger Students: Working with Elementary School Students

Description: Students taking this course should have an interest in logic, but do not need to have robotics experience before taking the course. Students who have participated in Lego League are encouraged to take the course. All students who take this course will learn how to build and program robots, but that is merely the beginning. They will also learn to design a lesson to convey these skills to the youngsters in their workshop group, and follow that plan to carry out the workshops. Communication and listening for understanding are two skills that the students will definitely develop. GSSM students will use their skills to help their workshop group become a team.

Instructor(s): Mrs. Elizabeth Bunn

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 8

Cost for the student: none

Geometry Revisited

Description: Students will learn learn basic geometry required to do better on the AMC 12 (American Mathematics Competition for 11 and 12th graders) that will be held in February. There is no requirement to take this interim course to participate in the AMC 12 competition nor will students be expected to participate in the AMC 12 competition if this class is taken (i.e. the class is open to anyone interested in exploring geometry). Students will use the textbook *Geometry Revisited* by Coxeter and Gereitzer.

Instructor(s): Dr. K Sris

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 6

Cost for the student: none

Bermuda High Soaring School Gliding Introductory Course

Description: Ground school each day from 9:00AM – 10:00AM. Flying each day, weather permitting, from 10:00AM - 4:00PM. Each student will fly approximately 30 dual flights with an FAA Flight Instructor. On the last day, if each student has attained that level of skill, each student will fly at least one supervised solo flight. Students will learn the basic physics of aviation, as well as flight plans and safety procedures. <http://www.glider.org/>. **One half of the payment for this course is due by Sept 8th, 2016. The balance is due in full by Nov. 3rd, 2016.**

Instructor(s): Dr. Kristin Walker

Maximum number of students: 6

Minimum number of students: 6

Cost for the student: \$1,900

The Hero in Film

Description: Students will watch a number of films about the hero, including *Braveheart*, *Saving Private Ryan*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Matrix* and *The Dark Knight*, as well as reading at least one book, *The Silver Chair*. One of the subjects of the course will be the struggle between good and evil, and as is clear from the list above, students will look at very different kinds of heroes, from the classically strong and courageous, as in *Braveheart*, to much more unlikely heroes like hobbits, who would much rather be home eating than on a dangerous quest with the fate of the whole world in balance. Ultimately, this course is offered because there are times when we are all called to be heroes, in small ways and maybe even in big ways and students should be prepared!

Instructor(s): Mr. Ike Coleman

Maximum number of students: 18

Minimum number of students: 3

Cost for the student: none

How Stories are Told: An Exploration of Race, Gender, and Culture in Media.

Description: This interdisciplinary exploratory course will examine the socially constructed nature of race, gender, and cultural bias in the United States, and its representation through sitcoms, movies, news coverage, and social media. This course will involve readings, and viewing sitcoms, movies, and news segments. Additionally, participants will travel to Washington D.C. to visit the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Newseum, and the National Public Radio Headquarters. **One half of the payment for this course is due by Sept 8th, 2016. The balance is due in full by Nov. 3rd, 2016.**

Instructor(s): Mr. Tim Staples

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 4

Cost for the student: \$490, plus dinners while in Washington D.C.

Cooking for Geeks

Description: We will be doing a lot of cooking and tasting to discover how various ingredients contribute to a dish by comparing flavors, appearance, and textures. The dishes included in the course vary from comfort foods such as pie and lasagna to restaurant quality dishes. Most recipes are selected by the students, based on their interests. In addition to following a given recipe, we will create dishes from available ingredients. We will improve on this exploration with demonstrations of specific cooking techniques and lessons on the science behind ingredients and cooking. All classes will be hands-on to allow students to learn from their own experience. Students will leave with a number of go-to techniques and recipe ideas to impress their friends and family.

Instructor(s): Mrs. Jenny Salazar and Dr. Jenn Taylor

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 4

Cost for the student: none

Equine Science and Horsemanship

Description: A fun, hands-on course that combines riding lessons with horse care and in-depth exploration of horse physiology and husbandry from local experts. Each student will ride and be responsible for their “own” horse throughout the course. Students will leave for Tally Ho in the morning and return each afternoon. **One half of the payment for this course is due by Sept 8th, 2016. The balance is due in full by Nov. 3rd, 2016.**

Instructor(s): Mr. Jon Shannon and TBD

Maximum number of students: 10

Minimum number of students: 8

Cost for the student: \$350

SCUBA

Description: The course will involve classroom study, training at the YMCA, and open water diving in Florida leading to Scuba certification. A prerequisite is being able to swim 200 yards non-stop. **One half of the payment for this course is due by Sept 8th, 2016. The balance is due in full by Nov. 3rd, 2016.**

Instructor(s): Dr. Kurt Wagner

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 8

Cost for the student: \$1,000

Music Performance

Description: The Music Performance course challenges the musician in areas of practice, public performance, music history, music theory, and aural skills. This is a very practice-performance heavy course, as musical mastery is the ultimate goal! This course covers everything from Palestrina to Panic! At the Disco. The only prerequisites are: You need to know how to read music and experience in singing, and/or instruments.

Instructor(s): Ms. Miranda Easterling and Dr. Steve Kaczowski

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 5

Cost for the student: none

The Mechanics of Litigation

Description: We will study civil and criminal law with a focus on state laws. We will examine the court system including courts of general and limited jurisdiction. We will discuss the roles of people in the courtroom, common objections, types of evidence, and the responsibility of the finder of fact. We will adopt a hypothetical case and discuss how experts would analyze the case. After heavy discussion of the case, students will be responsible for preparing and presenting an opening statement, closing arguments, and the direct and cross-examination of a key witness of each side. We will also discuss the classes of crimes for misdemeanors and felonies as well as jury information including the obligations for grand jurors and petit jurors. There will also be a minimum of 4 field trips to observe actual judicial and criminal justice procedures at various levels. One will be to the Hartsville Magistrate's office to observe "small claims" court. Another trip will observe the grand jury selection for Darlington County in Darlington. The third visit will entail visiting and receiving a tour of the Darlington County Sheriff's Office and the Darlington County Detention Center. While there, we will also learn crime scene investigation practices including finger print analysis. Lastly, we will travel to Columbia and talk to a federal magistrate judge and get a tour of the U.S. Marshal's station at the Matthew J. Perry Federal Courthouse.

Instructor(s): Dr. Gary Salazar

Maximum number of students: 14

Minimum number of students: 2

Cost for the student: none

Art in the Interim

Description: Students will explore traditional and contemporary art techniques and processes to create meaningful works of art. During this dynamic course students will work in a variety of materials. This course is an enriching program that provides the opportunity for students to work in a creative, studio based art environment allowing for the development of personal growth and character through creative, self-expression. Through studio art practices students will develop creative and critical thinking skills that will help them become effective problem-solvers in and outside the art studio.

Instructor(s): Mrs. Patz Fowle, Mr. Mike Fowle

Maximum number of students: 18

Minimum number of students: 5

Cost for the student: none

Environmental Interpretation

Description: Students will learn how to effectively teach others about basic environmental topics using both personal (e.g., face-to-face teaching) and non-personal (e.g., brochure and poster design) interpretation techniques. The course will incorporate practical experiences in which GSSM students apply what they have learned by designing and teaching environmental lessons to younger students at local primary schools. This course will help students build general communication skills and confidence in public speaking. It will be particularly valuable for those that may be interested in pursuing informal or formal science education as a career.

Instructor(s): Dr. Jason Martin

Maximum number of students: 14

Minimum number of students: 6

Cost for the student: none

Introduction to Filmmaking

Description: This class introduces students to all aspects of film/video production including screenplay writing, storyboarding, acting, cinematography, shot characteristics, scene composition, camera movement, and editing using computer software. Students will work in groups to produce a short film for the entire student body to see by the end of the term. **One half of the payment for this course is due by Sept 8th, 2016. The balance is due in full by Nov. 3rd, 2016.**

Instructor(s): Dr. Roy Flannagan and TBD

Maximum number of students: 13

Minimum number of students: 6

Cost for the student: \$75

Sports in the Interim

Description: Students will learn and participate in a variety of sports while also traveling to various collegiate and professional sporting events. An overnight trip or two will be scheduled as part of the experience. In addition, sessions will be incorporated to discuss issues pertaining to collegiate student-athletes, athletic training and administration, and the math and science behind sports. A book based on some aspect or history of sport will be read and discussed. **One half of the payment for this course is due by Sept 8th, 2016. The balance is due in full by Nov. 3rd, 2016.**

Instructor(s): Mr. Tully Pate, Dr. Lance Riddle

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 10

Cost for the student: \$500

The following are national and international trips that will be offered in 2016-2017. Prior to depositing money for these trips you will be notified by the academic office as to whether or not you will be registered for the trip.

Tech Trek: Boston and New York City

Description: The fourth annual GSSM Tech Trek will provide students unique access to the worlds of tech entrepreneurship and finance via a weeklong field study in Boston and New York City and will give students an opportunity to tour the campuses of Harvard, MIT, and Columbia. Planned visits include a Wall Street investment firm and the New York Stock Exchange in Manhattan, a leading venture capital firm on Route 128 in Boston, and tech startups in both locations. Students will also learn about life in each city through private tours and meetings with GSSM alumni. Students will experience a cultural event in both cities, including a Broadway play in Manhattan. Students will fly direct to Boston from Charlotte, travel the Acela Express high-speed train from Boston to NYC, and then fly home direct from NYC to Charlotte. The interim will begin with in-class study of the cities and organizations to be visited. The student group will include a maximum of 6 seniors, in order to afford more juniors the opportunity to see the colleges visited on this trip. Students will sleep four per room, and the group will consist of exactly 8 males and 4 females or 4 males and 8 females in order to minimize lodging expenses. The cost of the trip is all-inclusive. *This trip is intended for students who have a strong interest in technology and entrepreneurship and who desire to be founding leaders of the next wave of innovation here in South Carolina. Subject to high demand, there may be a selection process to help determine those who will benefit most from the experience.* **An initial deposit by check of \$100 payable to "GSSM" is due by April 22nd to sign-up for this course. You will then pay the remaining amount on an agreed upon payment plan.**

Instructor(s):

Maximum number of students: 12

Minimum number of students: 8

Cost for the student: \$2,550

An Adventure into the American Southwest: An exploration into the natural history of the Grand Canyon Area

Description: Join us in an adventure to the spectacular national parks of the American Southwest. We will visit Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks, while learning about the history, geology, and biodiversity of the region. Our activities will include hiking the Kaibab Trail in the Grand Canyon, viewing the Colorado River from the infamous Ooh-ahh Point, the rim of Bryce Canyon, and the Narrows on the Virgin River of Zion. A boat trip through the Horseshoe Bend of the Colorado River will provide a breathtaking opportunity to view the geological strata. The trip will end with a star-gazing visit to the Lowell Observatory, one of the oldest observatories in the United States. We will also learn about the cultural importance and history of the area, including a day of service on the Hopi Reservation. This interim allows unique hands-on opportunities to experience some of America's most valuable natural treasures. This trip is all-inclusive! Price includes round-trip transportation, hotel accommodations, three meals a day, all attraction admission and activities, and tips. This trip will be through Grand Classroom and the itinerary can be viewed via this link: <http://grandclassroom.com/destinations/grand-canyon/grand-canyon/item/grand-canyon-bryce-and-zion-national-parks-seven-day-tour>. **An initial deposit is to be paid to the tour company for this**

course by April 22nd. Students will then pay the remaining amount on a monthly payment plan with the tour company.

Instructor(s): Dr. Jennifer Brown, Dr. Karl Rohr, TBD

Maximum number of students: 28

Minimum number of students: 12

Cost for the student: \$2,619

Behind the Iron Curtain

Description: Travel through the Iron Curtain and World War II to Gothic cathedrals and ancient cities that are now more vibrant than ever. Berlin mixes historical significance, rich culture and an exciting cosmopolitan energy. Prague, which escaped the bombs of World War II, woos you with old-world charm. And in Krakow and Budapest, two of Europe's most underrated cities, architectural gems await around every corner. Students will be engulfed in a variety of experiences. In Berlin, a major capital city, you will see amazing modern architecture rising from the remnants of its communist past. Many travelers don't know that Prague is the second most popular city in Europe, perhaps because of its cozy downtown area and the beauty that escaped destruction. In Krakow, a UNESCO world-heritage site, you go deep into a land that was taken over by Germany and then controlled by the Soviet Union. Budapest, the joining of two cities separated by the Danube, offers bargains, castles, and its iconic parliament building within steps of each other. **An initial deposit is to be paid to the tour company for this course by April 22nd. Students will then pay the remaining amount on a monthly payment plan with the tour company.**

Instructor(s): Dr. Mark Godwin, Dr. Carlanna Hendrick, TBD

Maximum number of students: 28

Minimum number of students: 12

Cost for the student: \$2,520, plus lunches and tips

Costa Rican Exploration: The Benefits and Challenges to Nature Conservancy

Description: This is an exceptional opportunity to explore Costa Rica's unique landscapes and diverse flora and fauna as we travel throughout the country, from San José (the capital city) to the Pacific coast. Some highlights include:

- Kayaking below the Arenal Volcano.
- A zipline experience over the Monteverde Cloud Forest, home to over 100 mammals and 400 species of birds.
- Rafting through the Sarapaquí River.
- Exploring the richly diverse rainforest of the San Manuel Antonio National Park, home to a number of unique tropical species including squirrel monkeys, iguanas, and sloths.
- Swimming at one of Costa Rica's most beautiful white sand beaches.

An initial deposit is to be paid to the tour company for this course by April 22nd. Students will then pay the remaining amount on a monthly payment plan with the tour company.

Instructor(s): Dr. Ian Gowan, Dr. Nicole Kroeger, Dr. Glenn Morrow and Dr. Joseph Wensink

Maximum number of students: 28

Minimum number of students: 12

Cost for the student: \$2,350, plus tips

Mediterranean Coast: Italy, France and Spain

Description: This trip focuses on a living, breathing Europe, vibrant with culture. After a flight into Milan, the journey begins in Cinque Terre: five Italian hillside villages renowned for their rugged beauty and picturesque location. From there, students will travel to the French Riviera, where they will spend time in both Monaco and Nice. The trip concludes in Barcelona, an ancient city which combines medieval beauty with the infamous modernist architecture of Antoni Gaudi, especially his Sagrada Familia cathedral. This trip is designed to minimize required activities and maximize student choice. Aside from a few core activities focused on art and architecture, students will have the chance to follow their own educational interests: they can visit subterranean Roman ruins, see groundbreaking art by Picasso and Dali, tour legendary cathedrals, shop (or window shop) in high fashion districts, and stroll along Mediterranean beaches, depending on their interests. And of course, they will have many opportunities to partake in the internationally renowned cuisine of Italy, France, and Spain. **An initial deposit is to be paid to the tour company for this course by April 22nd. Students will then pay the remaining amount on a monthly payment plan with the tour company.**

Instructor(s): Dr. Graham Culbertson, Ms. Lisa Knell, TBD

Maximum number of students: 28

Minimum number of students: 12

Cost for the student: \$2,605, plus lunches and tips

Interim Course Student Requests Form for Rising Seniors

*** Please complete and return to Ms. Heather Blackburn by no later than

Wednesday, April 6th with parent signature or email indicating approval ***

Please request your top **three (3) choices** for courses that you are interested in taking during Interim next year. Courses are filled as requests are received. When making your requests, note the cost associated with each course and know that some courses might not occur if the minimum number of students needed is not achieved. Also, keep in mind that if the maximum number of students is exceeded, placement will be based on requests in the order they were received. If you are requesting the same class for the second year in a row, you must receive permission from Mr. Dorsel.

Timeline for course request, placement and payment is as follows:

Note: International and national trips have different payment timelines.

- **Wednesday, April 6th**: Last day to return course request form to Ms. Heather with parent signature. Students will be notified of their course placement after all request are submitted.
- **Friday, April 22nd**: Students enrolled in the Costa Rica, Germany, Grand Canyon or Mediterranean trip must sign-up with the tour company, pay the initial deposit and agree to a payment plan with the tour company.
- **Friday, April 22nd**: Students enrolled in the Tech Trek must pay an initial deposit of \$100 to GSSM
- Thursday, Sept. 8th: Deposit of half of the course fee is due. **Payments should be made to GSSM with Interim in the memo. Payments should be directed to Ms. Kelly Rowe.**
- Thursday, Nov. 3rd: Full payment of course fee is due.

Please complete the following course requests information and return to Ms. Heather no later than Wednesday, April 6th:

Student Name: _____

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Third Choice: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

.....
To be completed within the Academic Office:

Completed course request form received on: _____

Course placement: _____

1st payment amount and date received: _____

Full payment amount and date received: _____