

INTERSESSION 2020 CATALOG

IMSA Students

Please select one full-time session or two part-time sessions to attend during the week of intersession, January 5 - 10, 2020. We would like you to rank your choices in order of your most desirable choice as number one, with at least three options in the event that we cannot place you in your first choice.

Please do not select the same session for more than one preference, as this does not guarantee placement into that session. We will diligently try to place all IMSA students into one of their preferred sessions.

On Campus Intersession Scholarships

This unique intersession Scholarship Program *automatically* awards full scholarships to Tier 1 through Tier 2 students participating in on campus intersession. No application necessary. Students receiving support for on campus intersession classes are required to write a three sentence personal reflection on their experiences.

Closed Sessions

CLOSED SESSIONS are not open for enrollment at this time. These sessions were previously offered to eligible students (e.g. some sessions were restricted due to stated prerequisites). **Students participating in a CLOSED SESSION do not need to complete the online registration form.**

Full-Time Sessions

8:30 am - 12:00 pm AND 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 10:30 am Fri

eleMENT Intersession – CLOSED SESSION

Full Time 8:30 am - 12:00 pm AND 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 10:30 am Fri

eleMENT is a student-led entrepreneurship program designed to introduce students to concepts in entrepreneurship. We will travel to an entrepreneurship hub on three separate days during intersession and engage in hands-on activities to learn about The Lean Startup. Students will learn about the BML cycle, spend time participating in group discussions, networking with entrepreneurs, and participate in a design sprint on the last day.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Steve Goldblatt

Current Faculty/Staff

sgoldblatt@imsa.edu

IMSA-PTHS Student Exchange – CLOSED SESSION

Full Time 8:30 am - 12:00 pm AND 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 10:30 am Fri

Intersession coincides with the second week of the three-week IMSA-PTHS Student Exchange, in which IMSA students host peers from St. Petersburg's Lyceum Physical-Technical High School. During intersession IMSA and PTHS students will participate in several intersessions, tour the Chicagoland area, and experience the richness of residential life at IMSA.

Prerequisite: This intersession is limited to pre-selected students enrolled in Russian 1, Russian 2, and Russian 3.

Cost: \$0

Paavo Husen

Current Faculty/Staff

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Nadia Miskowiec

Current Faculty/Staff

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Ins and Outs of Movie-making

Full Time 8:30 am - 12:00 pm AND 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 10:30 am Fri

Have you ever thought about the process of making a movie? How all the little components work together to make a wonderful masterpiece? What about actually getting to make your own movie and work in a production team to produce your own movie?

In this intersession, you will learn all of the basics of movie-making from learning how to work a video camera to putting it all together in Adobe Premiere. Students will have the opportunity to choose a smaller group to focus on, such as videography, editing, acting, and more! By the end of the week, students will be able to showcase their short movie and walk away with a basic-intermediate knowledge of the Ins and Outs of Movie-making!

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Eliza Apavaloaiei
William McGrail

Current Student
Current Faculty/Staff

wmcgl@imsa.edu

Psychology & Life

Full Time 8:30 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm Mon – Thu, 8:30 am – 10:30am Fri

This intersession will be a lively mix of lecture, discussion, activities, and videos that will focus on how we as human beings manage the stressors of life. Discussion topics will include: the basics of the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord); what stress is and how it impacts our brains, health, relationships, and other areas of functioning; the major categories of psychiatric disorders and their treatments; coping strategies for managing stress and mental health challenges; the stigma related to mental health and how we can help break through it; and careers in the mental health field and how to get there. Each student will create a personal self-care plan as a required project. Note: Though we will discuss mental health conditions and treatments, and create self-care plans, this course is not a substitute for, nor does it constitute, mental health treatment.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Jessica L. Brand
TBD IMSA Sponsor

Alumni Student 1999
Current Faculty/Staff

jessicabrand35@gmail.com

Titan Robotics FRC: Designing and Building a Competitive Robot – CLOSED SESSION

Full Time 8:30 am - 12:00 pm AND 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 10:30 am Fri

The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is an annual international competition where IMSA partners with mentors to design, build, and program a robot for the competition. Intersession week is the first week after the challenge is announced and an ideal time to design and begin building the robot. In the intersession, students will strategically analyze the competition to distill optimal design concepts. Utilizing these concepts, they will collaboratively design, draft, and prototype multiple robots and components in the search for an optimal design. In order to participate in the build season, you must be a part of this full-day intersession.

Prerequisite: Must be a fully trained team member of Titan Robotics FRC by the time of the intersession

Cost: \$0

Storm Robinson
Robyn Abend

Current Faculty/Staff
Current IMSA Parent

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Full-Time Sessions – special schedule

7:15am – 4:30pm Mon - Thurs

Health Care Experience at Rush University

Full Time 7:15 am - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu

This is a week-long, all-day dynamic session held at Chicago's Rush University Medical Center that will expose participants to a variety of health care fields, including medicine, nursing, and other allied health programs. Participants will learn about what it is like to train for a career in health care and what it is like to practice, as well as the context of community in which it is practiced. Mock clinical cases, with participants playing the role of health care providers, serve as the framework for the week's activities.

Prerequisite: Senior level students will have priority

Cost: \$0

Sarah Song
Connie James-Jenkin

Alumni Student 1996
Current Faculty/Staff

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Hitchcocked and Loaded: An Introduction to the Films of Alfred

Hitchcock

Full Time Afternoon/Evening (6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Sun-Thurs; 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thurs; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri)

Shrieking violins and crashing cymbals. Swirling spirals and ravenous birds. One thing is for certain: there's no mistaking a Hitchcock film. In this intersession, we will explore the work of the Master of Suspense himself, director Alfred Hitchcock. Through a combination of film screenings, readings, class discussions, and student research, we will methodically dissect the techniques and styles of this pinnacle of twentieth-century filmmaking. While our evenings (and part of one afternoon) will be spent watching representative examples of Hitchcock's work – namely *Rear Window* (1954), *Spellbound* (1945), *Vertigo* (1958), *North by Northwest* (1959), and *Psycho* (1960) – our afternoons will be devoted to analyzing them. To close out the week, we will watch Mel Brooks' incisive parody *High Anxiety* (1977), which appropriates many of Hitchcock's signature cinematic devices for comedic effect. During the course, students will be expected to take notes on the films to aid in subsequent class discussions and prepare a short group presentation detailing how Hitchcock's work influenced later generations of filmmakers and artists.

Prerequisite: A good memory and an exceptional attention to detail will be extremely useful in this course. The ability to stay awake while sitting in a dark room for extended periods of time is also paramount. Additionally, a not-insignificant amount of time will be spent discussing the contributions of composer Bernard Herrmann, who collaborated with Hitchcock on many of his most iconic films, so a working knowledge of music is preferred.

Cost: \$0

Daniel Collins
Michael Hancock

Alumni Student 2015
Current Faculty/Staff

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Part-Time Morning Sessions

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

[African American Achievements in STEM](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -11:30 am Mon-Fri, 8:30 am – 9:30am Fri

It is IMSA's priority to advance equity in STEM education and representation by integrating Cultural Competence, Diversity, Equity, Equity-Minded Frame, Excellence and Inclusion into every facet of the Academy. Despite underrepresentation in STEM disciplines in relation to their proportion in the total population, African-American innovators have made important discoveries that have defined different STEM fields. The intersession will allow students to become aware of the African-American achievements in STEM fields and familiarize themselves with the factors that impact the African-American community. During the intersession, students will have the opportunity to examine issues faced by members of the African-American community in their pursuit to succeed in STEM careers, learn about the important achievements of African Americans in STEM, brainstorm how we as an Academy can incorporate these achievements into our culturally responsive curriculum and create a plan of actions/proposal that would be presented to IMSA's stakeholders.

Prerequisites: None

Cost: \$0

Valentina Sorescu

Current Faculty

vsorescu@imsa.edu

[ALLIES 101: Putting the FUN in FUNshop!](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Are you an enthusiastic lover of STEM? Do you prefer to lead, rather than follow? Do you love learning and kids? Or maybe you've wanted to join ALLIES (a STEM leadership development group at IMSA) for awhile, but your schedule just won't allow it? Then this just might be the intersession for you! Participants will take a deep dive into inquiry, instruction methods, and classroom management during this half-day course. By the end of the week, all participants will be ready to teach a visual biology-themed Funshop for students in grades 3-6! (Please note, by signing up for this intersession, you are also committing to teaching or group leading at an actual Funshop, "More Than Meets the Eye", scheduled on Saturday, January 11th, from approximately 8:00 am - 1:00 pm. Service hours will be awarded for this!)

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Megan Scherer

Current Faculty/Staff

mscherer@imsa.edu

[American Red Cross First Aid, CPR and AED Certification](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

This intersession is a first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training program to prepare individuals to respond to injuries and sudden illnesses that may arise and also to assist in their understanding of the physiology behind CPR. This program will give individuals the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent, recognize and provide basic care for breathing emergencies and cardiac emergencies in infants, and perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and use an automated external defibrillator (AED) for children and adults of sudden cardiac arrest until advanced medical personnel arrive and take over.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$45 (fee covers certification and supplies)

Mary Myers

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Anxiety Slayers: A Podcast](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Podcasts come in all shapes and sizes. Some podcasts tell stories, some are funny and some are educational. How do you go about creating a podcast? Do you need fancy equipment for making a podcast? Do you have a realistic idea for a podcast? How will you record the sounds you need for a podcast? How many people are involved and what roles do they play? We will talk about the structure and sounds for creating a podcast. Students will create a podcast about Mental Health and share it with their classmates on the last day of the session.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Namrata Pandya

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Beginning European Knitting](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Do you feel stressed thinking about the college application process? Do you want to learn how to relax? Here is your chance! Sign up for the Beginning European Knitting intersession to learn basic knitting skills in the European (or "continental") way. You also will learn how to read and follow knitting patterns and by the end of the intersession you will be able to knit a scarf for your favorite CAC or a teacher!

Prerequisite: This intersession is open only to NON-experienced knitters. Knitters who know how to knit in the American way may not sign up.

Cost: \$10/per student invested by each participant in one pair of knitting needles (sizes 5, 6, or 7) and a skein of yarn that matches the size of the needles. Both are available at any craft store. Please bring needles and yarn to the first session.

Julia Husen

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Build your own Performance!](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

The goal will be a performance in the Auditorium and/or a recording session in the ITMC recording sound booth, located in the Music Technology Lab. If you are currently enrolled in a music course, this could also be an opportunity to prepare music for the IHSA Solo/Ensemble Contest and/or future concerts. Students will have the opportunity to work on solo and ensemble pieces from classical and contemporary literature. Pianists will work on solo literature as well as may have the opportunity to accompany instrumental soloists. Music will be provided; however students may also work on solo literature of their choice, music found online or debut a personal composition. All participants will hone performance skills through practice and shared dialogue. Tips for professional performance techniques will be discussed. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a master class.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Abigail Light

Current Student

Mary Beth McCarthy

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Computational Finance with EPOCH](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

In this session, we will learn common machine learning and computational finance techniques and use them to compete in Quantopian, a stock trading competition. We will also have guest speakers sharing their experiences within stock trading. In this intersession we will learn valuable skills that are applicable across all types of Data and Computer Science.

Prerequisite: Some programming knowledge

Cost: \$0

Xander Hall

Current Student

Jose Torres

President

jtorres@imsa.edu

[Creative Comics Studio](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Comics have been a popular form of communication since the proliferation of newsprint during the late 19th century, and current comics have continued that trend in finding eager new readers in the 21st century. This intersession aims to introduce students to the world of digital and print comics and to instruct them in the production and publication of their own original work. Any experience level is welcome; however, students with any prior experience illustrating or creating comic projects are especially encouraged.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: Students will need to provide their own drawing supplies

Mike Dean

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Dancing with the Stars](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Want to impress all your classmates with some dance moves? Want to know the actual cha-cha and not just the cha-cha slide for the next school dance? Then this is the class for you! In this introductory class, you will learn the basic figures for partner dances such as the cha-cha, tango, and swing. You will learn not only the steps, but also how to choreograph routines to your favorite music from contemporary artists, soundtracks, and more. No dance experience required, but you'll waltz away with plenty of it! Remember, if Bill Nye the Science Guy, two Kardashians, and several NFL Superbowl champions can learn how to dance, so can you!

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Karen Ye

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Data for Black Lives: Fighting Back Against Algorithmic Bias](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Machine learning, data science, and artificial intelligence are taking over in the tech space. But at what cost? Who is left out of the tech conversation, both as consumers and creators? In this intersession, we will think about and discuss the intersection of race and technology, from predictive policing models that target Black people to facial recognition systems that misclassify Black or dark-skinned females at a rate 32 times more than White or light-skinned males (Buolamwini, 2017). We will discuss the very real societal implications of artificial intelligence and automation on Black and Brown lives, all women, the differently abled, and the poor.

As a part of this course, you will also equip yourself to fight back against these unfortunate realities. You will learn basic data science and machine learning ideas and techniques using the R statistical language (standard in the field) on datasets related to Social Good. No prior programming experience is required, but familiarity with programming (even HTML) is preferred. Come with an open mind, a critical eye, and a willingness to work. By the end of this intersession, you will be well on your way to becoming a Social Justice Data Scientist.

Prerequisite: Preferred: experience in programming (not required)

Cost: \$0

Jasmine Kwasa

Alumni Student 2009

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Brian Trainor

Current Faculty/Staff

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Disease Detectives: A Brief Introduction to Epidemiology

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

How can we control the spread of antimicrobial resistance? Where did an outbreak of foodborne illness originate? How will changing climate influence spread of vector-borne disease? All these questions and more are investigated by disease detectives: epidemiologists. Epidemiology is the study of incidence, distribution, causes, and control of diseases. A highly interdisciplinary field, it combines biology, public health, medicine, statistics, and more. In this intersession, you will learn about key concepts in epidemiology, history of some of the most notorious infectious diseases, and what epidemiologists do. Throughout the week, you will engage your new skills by acting as disease detectives in a simulated outbreak.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Nikki Mastrud
TBD IMSA Sponsor

Alumni Student 2015
Current Faculty/Staff

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Drug Discovery SIR – CLOSED SESSION

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Our Drug Discovery research group's goal is to design unique compounds that have the capacity to combat diseases for a wide range of disorders. Drug discovery is the process through which potential new medicines are identified. It involves a wide range of scientific disciplines, including biology, chemistry and pharmacology. Our group has collaborations with the pharmaceutical industry and academics institutions.

Prerequisite: Must be enrolled in the Drug Discovery SIR group for the 2019-2020 school year

Cost: \$0

John Thurmond

Current Faculty/Staff

jthurmond@imsa.edu

Graphic Design Basics

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

During this intersession we will be learning and creating a number of different designs using the Adobe Creative Cloud. Students will learn about copyrights, how to create personal logos, manipulate photographs, and layout posters and pages. Students learning Adobe CC will be able to use the programs in order to enhance school work, and future presentations.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Joyce Symoniak

Current Faculty/Staff

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How Stuff is Made: Tours of Local Manufacturers

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Do you want to see stuff get made? Put on your work boots and get ready to go behind the production line. We will visit 4 local manufacturers. We will meet owners, superintendents, engineers, machinists, mechanics, and specialists in multiple fields. Learn about how you can put your interest in engineering to work.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Devon Madon

Current Faculty/Staff

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Immersion in Virtual Reality

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Have you ever wanted to walk through the ancient ruins of Greece or Rome? Are you interested in navigating the human body, or learning about how it fights diseases by watching it happen? With virtual reality, all of this and more can come to life. Through a variety of smartphone applications that offer games, explorations with audio and text, and tours, students in this intersession will get the chance to explore things they have never seen through Google Cardboard headsets as well as HTC Vive headsets with controllers. Students will also get the chance to use their creativity to imagine how these virtual worlds might benefit us at IMSA in the future, and present your ideas at the end of the week.

It is a plus to have a phone that is ready to use with Google Cardboard, but not a necessity.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Nicole Wolff

Current Student

Sowmya Anjur

Current Faculty/Staff

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Crystal Randall

Current Faculty/Staff

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Sheila Wille

Current Faculty/Staff

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Introduction to the Data side of Computer Science

Part Time Morning 8:30 am – 12:00pm Mon – Thu; 8:30 am – 9:30 am Fri

You know how Data plays a role in Science however do you know how Data plays a role in Computer Science? This course will introduce you to the world of Data as you explore ways to utilize it to allow people like doctors, lawyers, investors and high level executives make decisions to drive change within their field and organizations. You will be exploring the world of IT Data while creating your own MySQL database, loading data, extracting data and then presenting it in a BI tool called QlikSense. We will also be running a couple mock Business Intelligence IT Team meetings all while discussing the data related computer science job opportunities.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Tish Doering
TBD IMSA Sponsor

Current IMSA Parent
Current Faculty/Staff

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[Introduction to Quantum Computing](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

This session is designed to introduce the basic concepts behind quantum computing, such as superposition, entanglement, and quantum measurement. There will be several simulation labs to help with understanding of the concepts. You will learn basic quantum gates, quantum key exchange and the difference between quantum and classical computing. By the end of the session you will be able to write and run quantum code using the online IBMQ quantum computer or simulator. No prior knowledge of quantum physics is needed. More mathematical information and opportunities will be provided for those who want to take their knowledge further.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Anastasia Perry
Athena Zheng
Sydney Wang

Current Faculty/Staff
Current Student
Current Student

aperry@imsa.edu

[Introduction to Raspberry Pi and the LAMP stack](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

The Raspberry Pi is a small, credit-card sized computer used in a variety of hobbyist projects. Launched in 2012, its 4th major model was released earlier this year. This session is designed to introduce students to the basics of the Raspberry Pi and one of the common uses. Over the course of the week we will setup a Raspberry Pi, cover some basic shell scripting, and build a workable LAMP (Linux, Apache, MySQL, PHP/Perl/Python scripting) stack.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Jonathan D. Wilson
Mark Carlson
Pat Patankar

Alumni Student 1996
Current Faculty/Staff
Current Faculty/Staff

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[Large Balloon Sculpture: Air for a Modern World](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Balloons are an established and rapidly inflating art form in American and global culture. We will explore balloons as a building block for large-scale décor and installations. The class will draw on influences from the unseen and overt world surrounding us all.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: All costs will be covered by Betallis and Brody's Balloons

Sam Kaufman
Alice Kaufman
TBD IMSA Sponsor

Alumni Student 2013
Alumni IMSA Parent
Current Faculty/Staff

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Leisure Reading

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Research shows that leisure reading – defined as “independent, self-selected reading of a continuous text for a wide range of personal and social purposes” – enhances your reading comprehension ability, development of vocabulary, general knowledge, and empathy for others. In one study, American students who frequently engaged in reading for pleasure scored higher in reading than peers who did not. When struggling readers engage in leisure reading and receive support for selecting books, time to read outside of school, and opportunities to discuss books, they make gains in reading achievement*. Leisure reading is also good for your mental health – a British study in 2009 found that leisure reading can reduce stress by up to 68%. **

In this intersession you and your classmates will become a culture of readers. Led and facilitated by Dr. Kotlarczyk, you will discuss the research on leisure reading and compare it to your own experience. We will spend the first fifteen minutes of every session in the IRC. You may select your reading material there or bring your own – fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, poetry, anything. The only requirements are (1) it cannot be reading for a class or test, and (2) absolutely no screens (phones, computers, kindles, etc.) will be allowed at any time.

Then you will read.

In the last portion of each meeting, we will devote time to considering our experience reading – and its effect on stress level and mental health – in the context of the research. Students will be asked in this time to maintain a reading journal and to share their reflections. They will also be encouraged to develop a plan that will enable them to continue to hone their ability in the new school year and beyond, helping to cultivate the practice of leisure reading into a lifelong habit.

* All research from the description is cited in “Leisure Reading” position statement by the National Council of Teachers of English, the Canadian Children’s Book Centre, and the International Reading Association (2014).

** Cited on the University of Minnesota website “Reading for Stress Relief”

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Adam Kotlarczyk

Current Faculty/Staff

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Lighting in Creative Photography

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

In this intersession you will learn how to use professional cameras and lighting equipment to create photographic masterpieces based on your own ideas! Think you don’t have that kind of creativity? Think

again. We'll be starting from the basics and building up to incorporate colors, angles, and emotion into our photos. You'll be a pro in no time. We will also cover editing and retouching with Adobe Lightroom just in time for two of your best photos to be showcased in the IRC Art Expo.

Prerequisite: None. Feel free to look up 'studio photography' on Instagram or Pinterest and gather some ideas of photos you would like to examine or replicate.

Cost: \$0

Briella Henderson	Alumni Student 2019	briella2@illinois.edu
Allia Lin	Current Student	
Samantha Senko	Current Student	
Kevin Broy	Current Faculty/Staff	kbroy@imsa.edu

[Make Your Homework Beautiful with LaTeX!](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Ever wonder how mathematicians and scientists type up complicated equations and formulas? They use LaTeX! LaTeX is a system for people who want to create documents with beautifully typeset mathematics. It's the industry standard for professional mathematicians and is used by almost all STEM-oriented journals. Plus - it is free, available for all major platforms, and cross-platform compatible! In this intersession, we will introduce participants to LaTeX, and then demonstrate how to typeset a variety of documents (e.g., homework or presentations). We are happy to tailor the demonstration to answer any specific questions raised by participants.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Patrick Davis	Current Faculty/Staff	pdavis@imsa.edu
Micah Fogel	Current Faculty/Staff	fogel@imsa.edu
Lingyi Meng	Current Faculty/Staff	lmeng@imsa.edu

[Modern Conflict, Insurgency and Terrorism](#)

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Since 1945 the nature of conflict in the world has become a complicated, multi-faceted reality. Nation-States continue to deploy conventional armed forces while a few are armed with nuclear weapons. "Insurgencies," or guerrilla movements, boil through the developing world, causing governments and economies to fail. In the last seventy years, and especially since 1970, terrorism has become a shadowy, frightening reality for modern governments and populations. This intersession will look to provide a knowledge base by creating working definitions and a basis for speaking intelligently on the topic. Far too often there is an effort to simplify or dismiss what is a complex and fascinating topic. Students will engage in lecture, discussion, case-studies and simulations over the course of the week.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Lee W. Eysturlid

Current Faculty/Staff

leysturl@imsa.edu

Project Management Skills for Life

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

This intersession would be an introduction to Project Management skills for secondary education students. Curriculum has been developed by the Project Management Institute education foundation (PMIef) and will be adapted for a five day, four hr/day course. We will cover the basics of Project Management and learn how to apply these skills to school and everyday life. Students will participate in classroom exercises as well as coming up with their own examples of how to apply these skills in their daily life.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Robert Mack

Outside Presenter

robert.mack@hp.com

TBD IMSA Sponsor

Current Faculty/Staff

Songwriting

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

This class offers a brief introduction to the craft of songwriting. We will examine the interplay of words and music, harmony and accompaniment that have made this art form so influential for thousands of years. As part of the course, students will each write a song (lyrics, music, and arrangement) in any style they choose, receive individual support and feedback in the composition process, and perform and record their song.

Prerequisite: Students should be proficient at an instrument (which may include voice) and should be comfortable reading and writing music.

Cost: \$0

Peter Dong

Current Faculty/Staff

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Daniel Collins

Alumni Student 2015

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Taste of Chinese Food and Recreation

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

Food symbolizes family unity and togetherness in Chinese culture. Understanding the traditional recreation activities can help students explore the history, culture and society of China. This intersession will also help students gain knowledge of history and fun facts of Chinese cuisines and inspire students to compare and contrast US and Chinese cultures in depth.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$25/per student

Christine Zhang

Current Faculty/Staff

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Sophie Wang

Current Faculty/Staff

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Who Wants to be a Millionaire

Part Time Morning 8:30 am -12:00 pm Mon-Thu; 8:30 am - 9:30 am Fri

As a parent of two young adult children, I have spent over 40 years saving and investing money for their development, our retirement, and the future well-being of our family. Young people today have a great asset on their side-that is TIME! Planning and making sound financial decisions over an extended period of time can make for a comfortable stress free lifestyle. During this intersession we will touch on the basics of saving, investing, compounding, stocks, bonds, retirement account options, use of credit, mortgage application, and much, much more. I will be presenting a number of basic concepts in these areas with actual examples. Furthermore I have partnered with brokerage and banking representatives who will be providing presentations in their respective areas. Finally I will be giving out some investment and credit information for the students to present back their plan on how they would manage these investment and credit situations and their reasons why.

Prerequisite: Willingness to learn and ask questions

Cost: \$0

John Wood

Outside Presenter

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Janine Hines

Current Faculty/Staff

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Part-Time Afternoon Sessions

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

A to Polska właśnie... Exploring Polish Language and Culture

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

This intersession will introduce students to language and culture of Poland. Participants will learn basics of Polish with an emphasis on speaking and communication. They will explore different aspects of Polish culture and Polish contributions to science, literature, modern society and entrepreneurship. They will also learn one of the Polish national dances! Do you want to discover “the hardest language to learn in the world”? Do you want to explore Polish impact on history from 966 to bringing down the Communism to giving the world a disproportional number of Nobel Prize winners? Do you want to explore your ethnic roots? Get past the crazy grammar and discover the language that is “amazingly different,” the country that is “one of the most dynamic economies of EU”, the nation that has seen “the emergence of an entrepreneurial generation.” Discover for yourself the German-Polish Miracle, the political engagement of Polish youth and Polish Hip-Hop as the “Voice of New Others.”

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Agnieszka Michalak

Current Faculty/Staff

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Balsa Bridge Design, Building, and Testing

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

Students will learn basic design principles and will design, build, and test their bridges. On day one, students will design their bridge. They will then spend days two through four building their bridge. On day five, bridges will be evaluated in two categories: aesthetics and efficiency (strength). Students who do not want to test their bridge on day five may choose to do so and keep their bridge (testing the bridge involved by applying weight until the bridge breaks).

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Dave DeVol

Current Faculty/Staff

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Chemistry in the Kitchen

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

What is a supertaster? What is in salt substitutes? How do you make vegan caviar? Why is the temperature of water important when steeping tea? Why do some recipes call for baking soda, while others call for baking soda and baking powder? In this session we will do some tasting and experimentation as we study the science of food.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Angela Ahrendt

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Laura Kopff

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Brooke Schmidt

Current Faculty/Staff

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Hack the Planet

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

This course will provide practical knowledge and hands-on experience to help students understand how to responsibly identify and exploit security vulnerabilities in information systems. Course topics will include: Linux command line, networking basics, cracking passwords, attacking wi-fi, open source intelligence gathering, running exploits, and the ethics of cybersecurity-related research.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Michael Salihoglu

Alumni Student 2011

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Kirthi Banothu

Alumni Student 2011

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TBD IMSA Sponsor

Current Faculty/Staff

Fantastic Adventures and How to Run Them

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

An introduction to Dungeons and Dragons, the world's greatest role playing game. Open to ALL skill levels, this intersession will cover everything from how to play to running your own game. Over the week we will play lots of D&D while also learning how to be better players, better DM's, and by the end of the week you'll have the know-how to play D&D with your friends. Join us for a week of fun and fantasy as we explore all that Dungeons and Dragons has to offer.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$5/student charged to students at beginning of week to cover dice and a mini for each student

Alec Mangan	Alumni Student 2015	alec.mangan@gmail.com
Michael Hrcek	Alumni Student 2015	mymainwebmanmike@gmail.com
Eric Hawker	Current Faculty/Staff	ehawker@imsa.edu

Gross's Unique Biology and Behavior

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

What are some of the coolest parts of Biology and Zoology that you can think of? For me, I find the behaviors for social cohesion, empathy and morality, and intelligence fascinating, along with how robust and surprisingly sturdy the human genome is. Some of the topics this intersession will cover include (but are not limited to): courting behaviors, tool use, empathy studies in animals, the methods that have been used to gauge intelligence, social knowledge passed down in a crow population, and what appears to be intelligent nurturing behavior in a tree. As you can see, there is a lot of amazing details in the world, and I hope we can discuss it together. While the only prerequisite is the knowledge that living cells have DNA, you will also need to be ready to discuss the broader implications of our topics.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Robert Gross	Current Faculty/Staff	rgross@imsa.edu
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Heroes Wanted: Superheroes (and Villains) as Social Commentary

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

WANTED!: web crawlers, mutants, vigilantes, and aliens. This intersession will probe the philosophy, historical contexts, and critical theory of superheroes. Explore the effects of exposure to radiation. Understand how an extended universe is created. Hear how Green Lantern got Dr. Smith hired at IMSA. Hear how Ms. Townsend got married because of Marvel. This intersession is an equal opportunity experience. Mutants are encouraged to attend. Both Marvel and DC fans are welcome!

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Eric Smith
Tracy Townsend

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Current Faculty/Staff

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[How to Disagree](#)

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm Mon – Thu, 9:40am – 10:40am Fri

The willingness to disagree with prevailing wisdom and majority opinion is both a right and responsibility of citizens of a democracy. Unfortunately, such disagreement is not always expressed constructively, especially when good role models are lacking. In the face of powerful social pressures to conform, the nonstop sensationalism of the mainstream media, and the digital lynch mobs of social media, many people find it easier to say nothing, and the most important topics are the least discussed.

Western society has created the structure of debate to allow people to disagree in a way that is reasoned, respectful, and thoughtful - a far cry from the spectacle of presidential debates. Classroom assignments and debate competitions often neglect the central point of debate: to sift through competing arguments, evaluate them, choose an answer, and defend it. In this class, students will learn to use the structure of debate to form and express unorthodox or unpopular opinions about even the most controversial topics - abortion, race, religion, politics, IMSA interviz policies - with courage and passion, but without vitriol, hate, or Facebook flame wars. Students will learn to express what they actually believe and handle disagreement respectfully.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Peter Dong

Current Faculty/Staff

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[How to Explain Anything to Anyone: Effective Strategies in Science Communication](#)

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon - Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

Grant funding. Academic reputation. Effective national science policy. Public safety. This and more is reliant on your ability to communicate science effectively. In this intersession, you will explore science communication skills, including science journalism, educational outreach, and designing for accessibility. You will be asked to learn a lot about communicating science and apply that immediately towards a public facing project (article, video, podcast, etc.) focusing on communicating some aspect of science that will be shared with a wider audience.

Prerequisite: We will assign several readings, both academic sources and examples of science communication for discussion. These will be provided by the instruction team for free. Students will be expected to read all of the required items before the start of the intersession. No previous knowledge in science communication is required to participate in this Intersession.

Cost: \$0

Andrew Adams

Alumni Student 2016

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Nikki Mastrud
Levi Moos
TBD IMSA Sponsor

Alumni Student 2015
Alumni Student 2014
Current Faculty/Staff

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I Knit, You Knot

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

Have you ever wanted to learn how to take sticks and yarn, wave your arms a bunch and magically transform it into something warm and wearable? Have you ever dreamed of making handknit gifts for your loved ones? This is a beginner knitting workshop where we will cover how to cast on, knit, purl, cast off and more. In addition, we'll cover resources for beginners, the health benefits of fiber crafting, and the role of technology in crafting. You will get to choose the style of knitting you want to learn and will end the class with a completed project. Yarn and needles will be provided.

Prerequisite: Little to no prior knitting experience

Cost: \$0

Vanya Yorgova
TBD IMSA Sponsor

Alumni Student 2012
Current Faculty/Staff

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Introduction to Financial Markets and Investing

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

In this course we will explore the exciting world of Wall Street. We will begin with an overview of financial markets including stocks, bonds, commodities, and currencies and how these asset classes work together to be the oil in the engine that is the global economy. With this understanding of global markets, we will see how Wall Street operates in these markets every day by covering central banks & monetary policy, investment banking, mergers & acquisitions, IPO's, leveraged finance, and sales & trading. We will then move onto alternative asset classes including private equity, credit, hedge funds, real estate, and venture capital. After learning these basic concepts of how the financial and business world works, we will study the Global Financial Crisis of 2008 by watching and dissecting the movies "Too Big To Fail" and "The Big Short". This course is open all students and especially students who are considering a career in finance, business, economics, consulting, or entrepreneurship.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Robert Main
TBD IMSA Sponsor

Alumni Student 2005
Current Faculty/Staff

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Mathematics in Card Play

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

We will play Bust, Euchre, Spades and maybe Tichu, Whist and Bridge. All games are trick taking which include counting cards and calculating probabilities. They will require strategical and logical thinking.

Students will be active in learning and playing games. We will discuss and employ strategies specific to these games but are common to any trick taking game. Students will learn about trump, finessing, leading, signaling to your partner, card counting, cross roughing and other ideas.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Marti Shirley

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Evan Brummet

Current Faculty/Staff

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Allia Lin

Current Student

Kiri Salij

Current Student

Morris Dance

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

Morris dancing is the dance of Shakespeare, English suffragettes, and Terry Pratchett's Ninja Morris Men of New Ankh. It's also a living tradition, enjoyed by teams around the world today. In this intersession, we will explore the history and practice of this evolving art form and examine how it has changed as cultures evolve. We will learn the basic steps and a variety of choreographed dances from the Cotswold region of England. We will examine elements of Morris dance style and develop our own style as a team. Finally, we will choreograph a new dance and perform for the IMSA community. Students who play portable instruments will also have the option of learning to play music for the dances. Come clash sticks, jingle bells, and welcome the new year with music and movement! No experience necessary.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$10/per student (for supplies)

Nadia Pierrehumbert

Current Faculty/Staff

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Rock Climbing: How to Send It

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

Recently, rock climbing has risen to prominence, earning its place as an Olympic summer sport for Tokyo 2020 and becoming more accessible. This intersession is designed for anyone interested in rock climbing, regardless of prior experience. Two IMSA alumni with many years of combined experience teaching, competing and working in climbing settings will be collaboratively leading a course with faculty sponsor, Mr. Lundgren, to introduce IMSA students to principles of the sport of rock climbing. During this course, multiple days will be spent at a local climbing gym to practice climbing techniques and experience the awesome feeling of "sending a project route". Some time will also be spent on campus learning about safety, techniques, climber jargon (i.e. what "sending a project route" means) and adventure of the sport through short film series and potential guest speakers. Outcomes of active participation in this intersession include gaining certification to belay, improving understanding of climbing as a sport, practicing strategic goal-setting, and of course, gains.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$50 per student to cover climbing gym entry fees

Marissa Brock
Joanne Lee
David Lundgren

Alumni Student 2015
Alumni Student 2015
Current Faculty/Staff

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[The Art of Sewing: An Introduction to Machine and Hand Sewing](#)

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

Ever wonder how your grandma used that sewing machine or fixed that favorite pair of jeans, wanted to help out your drama club with costumes, ever found that perfect item of clothing and it was too big, had that just right item of clothing have a blemish of some sort or even wanted something that was just way out of your budget? Then this class is for you as it will introduce you into the wonderful world of sewing that is becoming a lost art form. In this class you will learn how to mend, sew something by both hand and machine and wow your family and friends as you upscale an article of clothing. If students are interested and able they will also learn the basics of using a sewing machine and reading a pattern.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$50 or less per student. This will allow you to participate in a trip to a local sewing store and purchase your own sewing items to create items you can keep and show your family and friends. We could potentially ask the students for \$5-\$10 each or to bring their own fabric. If this is a burden it can be reduced by choosing from items that we will provide.

Tish Doering
Julie Dowling

Current IMSA Parent
Current Faculty/Staff

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[Sociology of Art](#)

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

Art is a form of communication in which the artist creates a piece to convey or represent particular messages, experiences, or beliefs about the self or society. During this intersession we will be using sociological theory to examine different art mediums including but not limited to films, TV shows, and paintings to better understand how artists use art to express their particular view of society. Students will also create an original piece that reflects their societal experience.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: Students will need to provide their own art supplies

Jerami Johnson

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Storytelling for Everyone](#)

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40am – 10:40am Friday; optional trip 5pm – 11pm Fri

As human beings, we crave narrative. Stories have the power to inspire, to educate, to entertain, and to connect people from all walks of life. From podcasts to stand-up specials to memoirs, personal

narratives are everywhere in pop culture. In this class, students will learn to use material from their own lives to tell engaging, well-crafted stories. We will watch, listen to, and read stories, and study what makes them effective. Students will have the opportunity to workshop their own stories in a supportive environment. You don't have to be a writer or performer to be a storyteller -- the only prerequisite for this class is having human experiences. At the end of the week, we will attend the Do Not Submit open mic night in Oak Park, and students will have the optional chance to try out a story for a warm, encouraging audience.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Freddy May AbiSamra

Current Faculty/Staff

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[What Makes us Laugh?](#)

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

In this intersession, we'll watch comedy from different time periods and think about and discuss what makes them funny. Examples for discussion will be introduced by both teachers and participants. Which aspects of comedy are temporary? Which persist over time? What makes one person laugh when another might roll their eyes or even take offense? When we laugh at another person's experiences, are we identifying with them or distancing ourselves from them? Is comedy based primarily in universal human experience, or is it more idiosyncratic and personal? As we consider such questions, we'll contextualize them in ideas from the humanities and the sciences. With those contexts in mind, we'll consider the role that laughter plays in human society and culture. At the end of the course, students will put what they've learned into action as they make the entire class laugh with comic productions of their own.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Joe Golab

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Eric Rettberg

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Women in America: Breaking Barriers and Making Noise](#)

Part Time Afternoon 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm Mon-Thu; 9:40 am - 10:40 am Fri

What challenges and barriers do American women face today in their effort to break the "glass ceiling"? This intersession will explore the struggle for women's rights in the United States, focusing in particular on specific women and movements which have paved the way for all women today. Topics of study will include: women in STEM fields, women's health, women in politics, women in entertainment/sports and more! We will examine these issues with an intersectional lens (focusing on how race and gender intertwine).

This will be a discussion-heavy course, with a variety of readings (provided) as well as film and video clips. The final assessment will require students to research and give a short presentation on a woman who is still living today who has (or is currently) impacting the lives of women in America today.

Prerequisite: This intersession is open to any students who did NOT previously take it when it was offered in January 2018.

Cost: \$0

Erin Micklo
Anita White

Current Faculty/Staff
Current Faculty/Staff

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Part-Time Evening Sessions

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Sun-Thurs only

[Early Cinema: The Silent Films of Charlie Chaplin, Sergei Eisenstein, D.W. Griffith, George Méliès, and Dziga Vertov](#)

Part Time Evening 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Sun-Thurs

This intersession is centered on the founding fathers of cinema in the era of silent film. The films selected for this program are the seminal works that birthed a new visual language and form of storytelling. Students will learn about the birth of moving images, the key features of silent films, the major voices in that era, the influence of Soviet Cinema, and film theory and history. Students will also develop their own silent film treatment.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Adewole Abioye

Current Faculty/Staff

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[Historical LGBTQ+ Migrant Perspectives](#)

Part Time Evening 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Sun-Thurs

Did you know that until 1990's the US was the only country in the world to have explicit policies excluding potential immigrants based on their sexuality? This intersession will explore the history of intersections between the LGBTQ+ movement and the immigration justice movement. Topics of interest will include US LGBTQ+ history, immigration detention industrial complex, youth immigrant activism, Chicago immigrant LGBTQ+ movement history, decolonial perspectives, etc. We will interrogate and explore the ideas, events and conditions motivating LGBT+ people and migrants to create movements to advocate for their rights in the US. Students will discuss a range of materials in the form of articles and audio-visual publications.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Luis Gomez
Egle Malinauskaite
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Alumni Student 2013
Alumni Student 2012

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TBD IMSA Sponsor

Current Faculty/Staff

[Intro to Latin and Belly Dancing](#)

Part Time Evening 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Sun-Thurs

This course is designed to teach students the essential elements of Latin dance and Belly dancing. Students will learn basic steps and combinations in Merengue, Salsa, Bachata, Cumbia, the Cha-Cha and Belly Dance. We will NOT be covering couples dancing. Students will learn the historic and geographic roots of each dance as well as the prominent instruments used to create the unique musical style associated with each dance. The class will conclude with a final (simple) dance performance with elements from each type of dance. This course will help students learn the skills of Latin and Belly dancing and gain an understanding of and appreciation for the rich and colorful heritage that each dance represents.

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Stephanie Broy

Current Faculty/Staff

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Pooja Haney

Alumni Faculty/Staff

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[Sportswriting and Blogging](#)

Part Time Evening 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Sun-Thurs

Do you love sports but ever wondered how to write about it? Whether you want to join an existing sports site or start your own sports blog, if you want to do it full-time or write as a hobby, we'll talk about how you can get started building your brand as a sportswriter and social media presence. We will cover many topics, including journalism ethics, the differences between covering different sports, how to research articles using online databases, contact front offices, get clubhouse access and interview players. Whether you want to be a beat writer reporting on a team daily, a data-heavy analysis piece or want to write the occasional snarky column, this may just be the pitch to help you hit it out of the park!

Prerequisite: None

Cost: \$0

Richard Bergstrom

Alumni Student 1994

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TBD IMSA Sponsor

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