**SPRING ELECTIVES 2016**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>SIGN UP SCHEDULE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Form VII – Class of 2017</td>
<td>Friday, Dec. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Form VI – Class of 2018</td>
<td>Monday, Dec. 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Form V – Class of 2019</td>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 9</td>
<td>2:45</td>
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**Note:** Electives are chosen in order of seniority (VII, then VI, and V) and then in random order within a given Form. A minimum of six students is required for an elective to make. Students should be prepared to choose second, or even third choices in case their first choice is full or does not have enough students to make.

**Civil Liberties [Mr. Joseph] V-VII (10)**
The goal of this elective is to gain a better understanding of the meaning and limits of our civil liberties. We will discuss contemporary topics, e.g. are Eric Snowden and Kim Davis Patriots? Are our country’s gun control laws adequate? Supreme Court principles such as “you can’t yell fire in a crowded theater” and “the constitution is not a suicide pact” will be considered too. Students will do presentations on important historical events like Lincoln’s suspension of habeas corpus and the Japanese Internment Camps during World War II. There will be a parliamentary style debate each quarter, and evaluations will be based primarily on class participation and open note quizzes.

**Composing the Dramatic Arts [Mr. Key] (10) V-VII**
As Alfred Hitchcock said, “Drama is life with the dull parts left out.” This class is centered on the activity of a dramatic ensemble. Working first to develop a working collaborative dramatic company, we will then devise a series of completely new plays for the Cistercian community. This class will draw upon acting, directing, research, and writing skills.

**Conversational Spanish [Sra. Hernandez] (10) V-VII**
“Mientras se gana algo no se pierde nada.” Do you want extra exposure to the Spanish language outside of the four days a week that the class is offered? Do you specifically want more practice honing your speaking, listening, and reading comprehension skills? This class will use a variety of media sources, such as short movies, podcasts, print advertisements, commercials, etc. Students will be given opportunities for speaking practice every class. Through the in-class and out of class assignments, students will reinforce and acquire vocabulary as well as grammar. The grade earned in this class will be based mostly on the student’s willingness to participate in the target language at all times during class, as the teacher will make every effort to communicate solely in Spanish. There will be periodic assessments of listening skills and speaking abilities, as well as a final presentation. This class is open to students enrolled in Spanish. A freshman may take the course with approval from his Spanish teacher.

**Digital Photography II/Advanced Digital Photo [Mr. Reisch] (10) V-VII**
This course continues the study and practice of the techniques and skills in Digital Photography. Students will learn how to effectively use the controls of their digital cameras: shutter speeds, f-stops, control of focus and exposure. Composition, lighting, and lenses are also covered. The ‘digital darkroom’ consists of Mac computers and the use of Photoshop for digital image manipulation. Color and Black and White printing will be available on photo inkjet printers in the lab. Students may use their own digital cameras or use the school’s Nikon digital cameras. With the permission of the instructor, students who have already completed both courses in digital photo and who wish to further their studies may sign up for Advanced Digital Photo (portfolio development). This course will meet at the same time as Photo II.

**Emerging Technology [Mr. Collier] (9) V-VII**
The promise of emerging technology – driverless cars, cybernetics, aerospace – relies heavily on the ability to create and visualize the world around us. This class will leverage technology as it relates to these emerging systems through research, experimentation, digital modeling, and ultimately 3D printing. The class will leverage topmod, 123d, Dynamo, and other digital platforms to work spatially through a variety of challenges. Note that some work outside of class will be required to complete the course successfully. Grade evaluation: The class is project-based, so each of the three projects will make up a portion of the grade. All three will require modeling in the computer, some pre-printer work, and the print.

**Evolution [Mr. Guruis] (10) V-VII**
How do populations of organisms change over time? Why do individuals from some species cooperate while others are solitary? What explains the diversity of life on earth? These questions can be answered by studying evolution. Evolution impacts almost every aspect of living systems, and the field of evolutionary research draws from an incredible breadth of scientific concepts. It also provides a natural context for discussing the complementarity of faith and reason in the Catholic tradition. This elective will introduce the basis of evolutionary processes—variation and inheritance—as well as some of the techniques used to study it. In addition, we will put some of these techniques to use “in the field” by examining the tree of life and adaptations around Cistercian’s campus. Grades will be determined by short weekly quizzes and a term paper.
Filmmaking II [Mr. Reisch] (10) V-VII
Filmmaking II is a continuation of the techniques taught in Filmmaking I (previous enrollment required) with additional emphasis on editing technique, lighting for film and advanced shooting techniques. Using the latest professional editing software on the digital video lab computers and the School’s digital video cameras, each student will write, shoot, and edit his own short film and in the process learn to operate the cameras, direct actors, use lighting and effects to bring their own story to the big screen. The best films may be shown at the end of the year in the School’s theatre. This is a project-based course; grading will be based on steady progress toward project completion.

Games and Gaming in World Fiction and Film [Mr. Nied] (10) V-VII
Every journey begins with a single move. Games have served as a powerful symbol in some of the world’s greatest fiction and film. Discipline and obsession, art and luck, victory and despair—the full range of human experience can be found in stories whose central subject is the playing of games. In this elective we will read world classics such as Kawabata’s The Master of Go and Stefan Zweig’s The Royal Game, as well as contemporary gems of speculative fiction such as Orson Scott Card’s Ender’s Game. For the film segment of the course we will watch Bergman’s The Seventh Seal, Searching for Bobby Fischer, and Roberto Benigni’s unforgettable masterpiece Life is Beautiful. This seminar style elective will have a light dose of quizzes/written responses, and a large helping of lively conversation. So if you are willing to read closely, view attentively, and ponder deeply the human meaning of games then make the first move, I insist!

Genealogy [Mr. Haasen] V-VII (10)
In this elective, students will learn current research methods aimed at tracing their family ancestry. Most of each class period will be dedicated to online research to grow the tree ‘in length’, backward through the decades and generations, and ‘in width’, by gathering information on 21st century relatives. Teaching topics will include basic genealogy techniques, organization of information, multiple research sites, family names, heraldry, and ways to tie into various genealogical organizations, e.g., the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD), and First/Pioneer Families of various English colonies and early American states. No textbook is required for this course. Each student, however, will need to purchase a six month subscription to ancestry.com in order to gain access to crucial U.S. colonial, state, and national sources. Students will be evaluated on research methodology, participation, properly completed family tree/group sheet forms, and a final report answering questions distributed on the first day of the elective.

Intro to Chinese part II [Mr. Liu] (10) V-VII
This course will continue to focus on the fundamentals of the Chinese language in order to lead students to appreciate the spirit of its culture. It is assumed the students will have previous knowledge of Chinese from the fall semester of 2015. By placing the language into the context of culture, classics, mythology, poetry, and history, students are asked to acquire Chinese not merely as a linguistic but also as a cultural phenomenon. The course focuses on the acquisition of proper pronunciation, fundamental skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The goal of the course is to lay a solid foundation for students’ further interest and study of Chinese culture and language.

Introduction to Law [Cistercian Alumni Lawyers] (12) VII
This semester-long program will introduce Cistercian juniors to various aspects of the legal profession, legal ethics, and to potential careers within the legal industry. Over 15 notable Cistercian Alumni lawyers will take turns covering facets of the legal profession within their areas of expertise. Cistercian has produced a number of lawyers that have worked on landmark cases and transactions, thus, this is an opportunity to network with Cistercian attorneys while learning through their real life experiences. Areas of law that will be explored include: Contracts, Texas Civil Procedure, Criminal Law, Civil Litigation, Intellectual Property, Property, Probate, Mergers and Acquisitions, Private Equity, Appellate Law, Law School, Torts, Immigration, and more. Each instructor will spend a few class periods on their area, and class grades will be based on homework, brief quizzes over each sub-area, and a final paper in which a student explores a specific area of law that was encountered in the course.

Latin: Caesar, Part II [Fr. Abbot Peter] (10) V-VII
Part two of a sequence of electives designed to eventually prepare students for the AP Exam in Latin, this course continues to covers those passages of Caesar’s De Bello Gallico that are on the new AP Latin test. The Latin passages will differ from those covered in the Fall 2015 elective. In preparation for the exam, students will also read sections of Caesar’s Gallic War in English as well as Latin selections from Roman lyric poetry. Grammar and vocabulary will be reviewed in the context of their Latin readings. Students should expect to spend 30-45 minutes preparing for each class. They will be graded on quizzes, class participation, and one longer project. Students intending to take the AP exam someday should also intend on taking later courses on Vergil.
Leadership Development in Athletics [Mr. Bruce] (10) V-VII  
Athletics/Sports play a huge role in our society and in this course we will explore how we might use these experiences for both current and future personal development. Good teams need good leaders to reach their goals. Great teams also develop strong leaders for the future. Society needs positive, effective leaders and Athletics/Sports is an excellent opportunity for leadership development. The goal of this course is to provide a glimpse into a proper understanding of leadership. It is hoped that as we examine the culture of leadership we can discover our own areas for growth, equip ourselves for future leadership development, and prepare to use our gifts to serve the world around us. We will look at four specific areas of leadership: Self-leadership, Teamwork and Connecting with Teammates, Leading Others and Changing Culture, and Navigating Transitions. We will explore these topics by first recognizing that “it’s an inside job before it’s an outside job.” Do you believe sports are more of a process than an event? Do you learn through both uploading and downloading? Do you believe it’s about service before it’s about success, that it’s more about relationships than about results? If so, this is the class for you. Class participation and a research element will be used to determine your grade for the semester.

Mock Trial [Mrs. Hardesty] (10) V-VII  
Taught by an attorney, this course is a practical introduction to the trial process and the basics of trial advocacy. Participation in the course will begin to teach the students the rules of evidence and how to use them, proper opening statements, closing arguments, direct examinations, cross-examinations, and objections. The course will focus primarily on oral advocacy, but will have components of effective body language and personal awareness. Students will be evaluated on class participation and their written openings, closings, directs and cross-examinations.

Ornithology [Mr. Parker] (10) V-VII  
In this elective, we will spend the majority of our time birding on or near our beautiful campus. Along the way, we will learn the skills that are helpful in identifying the many species of birds we can see here – easily 70 or more! We will also learn about basic concepts in ornithology and bird behavior that will help us to appreciate all the more what we see in the field. We will take several trips to Campion Trail throughout the semester and there will be one weekend outing later in the Spring. Grades will be based on performance on numerous quizzes and class participation.

Robotics with Legos [Fr. Mark] (10) V-VII  
The course begins with a discussion of what robotics means today. We read the play R.U.R. (Rossum's Universal Robots), a science fiction play by the Czech playwright Karel Čapek, who is credited for introducing and popularizing the term robot. Students continue investigating robotics using the Processing and NQC (Not Quite C) programming languages for the NXT Lego Robotics System. Students will design robots that can sense the environment and navigate through a space with obstacles to achieve a determined goal.

Statistics [Dr. Andrews] (10) VI-VII  
Basic concepts and techniques of statistics will be covered, with many real-life examples employed. Topics include: describing data distributions with graphs and numbers; normal distributions; correlation, causation, and regression; probability theory; and basic inference. Students must obtain TI-83 graphing calculators for this course. Students should also know that this is a two-semester long course and so continues on into the Spring semester. Rising freshmen can register with the approval of the Math Department Chair.

Studio Art: Acrylics [Mr. Munguia] (10) V-VII  
This class introduces students to the acrylic painting method. Instruction covers color theory, color mixing, wash and impasto techniques, compositional development, and critique. Grades are based on the average between 4-5 required canvases and classroom participation.

Studio Art: Screen Printing [Br. Raphael] (10) V-VII  
Many are familiar with Andy Warhol’s “Marilyn Diptych” and “Campbell’s Soup Cans” but few know the process behind it. In this course, students will learn the specific yet wide-ranging art skill, involving both graphic design (Adobe InDesign and Illustrator) and manual technique. Using various canvas material—wood, paper, fabric—this course will explore monochromatic and polychromatic screen printing. A portion of the class will focus on the craft of t-shirt design and printing. Evaluation will consist of peer critique, design originality and creativity, and print execution.

Web Programming [Mr. Graham] (12) V-VII
The World Wide Web is an important medium for information and communication today. In this course, students will learn how to create interactive web sites using HTML5 to describe the structure of your pages, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), which control the style of your pages, and the Python language for the server logic of your web site. Students will learn to use online tools to develop and deploy their sites. Students will work on smaller assignments in the beginning as they learn each of the languages and tools, but then the last part of the course will focus on a major project.