



Crossroads Summer Academy

Overview

Join us for a week of intellectual and artistic adventure with Crossroads Academy's award winning faculty. Choose from morning workshops in philosophy, environmental science, or local Civil War history, and from afternoon workshops in folk music, poetry, and environment-based art. The week will conclude with a celebration of our intellectual and creative accomplishments in a potluck dinner and coffee house from 5:00-7:30 pm on Friday evening. This culminating event will be open to the families and friends of participants.

To request your preferences for the following workshops, please contact Dr. Bruce Freeberg at bruce.freeberg@crossroadsacademy.org.

Morning Workshops

Steve Glazer: Civil War Quest

Across Vermont and New Hampshire, the history of the American Civil War is hidden in plain sight. On Monday, we will visit a nearby cemetery to find soldiers who fought in the war. Using 19th century maps, we will discover where our soldiers lived, worked, and went to school. On field trips to the historical society and town office, we will continue with our investigations using primary and secondary sources. Back on campus, the Internet will enable us to access family and federal records. By the end of the week we will publish a brochure, with short biographies, illustrations, and a map, to share our learning with the Upper Valley community.

Bruce Freeberg: Introduction to Philosophy

What does it mean to know something? How does my mind relate to my body and to the world around me? How can I know that the world as I experience it is real? Where does morality come from? How do I distinguish right from wrong? Join us in exploring these perennial philosophical questions. Along with short readings and class discussions, participants will work together to construct, rehearse, and present their own philosophical dialogues.

Clare Smith: Environmental Science

Students will learn the skills of an environmental scientist and field naturalist. Each day will focus on a different part of the natural landscape: streams, wetlands, meadows,

forests, and woodlands. We will discover that these places, quiet as they seem, are teeming with life and buzzing with activity. We will learn map and compass skills, crucial to any hiker or naturalist who is learning from the land.

Afternoon Workshops

Steve Glazer: Poetry

Inspiration, aspiration, and perspiration! For one week, we will bask in and breathe out poetry. Eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth century masters will serve as our guides as we read, recite, write, and revise. We will investigate forms: haiku, ballad, and sonnet. We will explore sense, sound, syntax, and structure. By the end of this week you will have a chapbook in your hand and a poem in your heart.

Bruce Freeberg: The Story of American Folk Music

Discover the story of American folk music, its styles, forms, themes, and personalities, its social functions and its impact on American history. Through recordings, documentaries, research, and lots of singing, we will travel back in time to America's musical roots. Our voices will be joined by guitar, banjo, mandolin and fiddle, and our daily singing will culminate in a public performance at our Friday coffee house.

Clare Smith: Environmental Arts

Participants will use observation skills in the natural surroundings to create art and poetry: we will practice different mediums, including photography, sketching, watercolor, and haiku, and students will have the opportunity to develop a larger project. These masterpieces will be showcased for parents and friends in our final gathering at the coffee house on Friday evening.