

# SUMMER CAREER EXPLORATION COURSES 2019

*Sponsored by NSERVE and Oakton Community College*



Career Exploration Courses are three-week programs that introduce students to challenging careers. They offer students the opportunity to explore a variety of related career options, providing them with realistic perspectives about the skills needed for success in the workplace while emphasizing the connections between academics and careers. The courses incorporate experiential learning activities and field trips focused on careers, affording students the opportunity to talk to professionals in their field of interest.

Three classes will meet at Oakton Community College, Des Plaines campus. Daily transportation is provided by NSERVE to and from each **district** and Oakton Community College for these classes and for all class field trips. *The Careers in Environment and Horticulture class will meet at The Talking Farm, Skokie. **Students must provide daily transportation to and from the Talking Farm;** however field trip transportation will be provided by NSERVE.*

Career exploration courses are open to students from Evanston, Glenbrook, Niles, Maine, and New Trier Townships.

**Dates:** Thursday, June 13 – Tuesday, July 2, 2019

*(Please note that these dates have recently changed. The dates also may differ from your district's summer school dates)*

**Hours:** 8:00 am – 12:30 pm

**Credit:** ½ elective credit (For grade or pass/fail option, consult your individual school)

**Fees:** Summer school course rate per individual school

**Open to:** Current Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors

**Note:** Students & parents will be asked to attend an *evening* orientation meeting at Oakton Community College, Des Plaines campus, prior to the classes.

## Course Descriptions:

### ***Careers in Engineering and Nanotechnology***

Explore the exciting fields of engineering, electronics, robotics, high-tech manufacturing, and nanotechnology through labs, team building, and problem solving. Build and program robots, compete with other teams, and observe material properties and nanolithography techniques for work at the nanoscale. Field trips in the past have included Winzeler Gear, Illinois Science + Technology Park, Sandvik, Hydraforce, Big Kaiser, and Avon Products to meet professionals in science, technology, engineering and math.

### ***Careers in Business and Law***

Future Entrepreneurs! This class gives an overview of American business today, including first-hand knowledge of entrepreneurship, finance, marketing, management, and legal careers. As a group, students conceive and manage their own entrepreneurial business. This provides opportunity to gain competencies in investment strategies, business processes and planning, communication, collaboration, resource management and leadership. Past trips have included sites such as Abt, Groupon, Cook County Courthouse, Echo Global Logistics, and Wrigley Field, to meet with a variety of professionals.

### ***Careers in Healthcare***

Healthcare careers are varied, rewarding, and always in demand. Start your healthcare career path by experiencing medical and anatomy laboratories, practicing physical therapy techniques, performing patient assessments, and applying medical ethics in problem solving real-life situations. Travel to a variety of healthcare-related sites, meet with professionals in a wide variety of healthcare careers, and work in a medical simulation lab. Past field trips have included Lutheran General Hospital, Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine, Glenview Fire Department, and Rosalind Franklin University. Guest speakers may include a physician, physical therapist, physician's assistant, hospice worker, and a veterinarian.

### ***Careers in Environment and Horticulture: Managing Resources for a Hungry Planet***

Do you imagine yourself in a career where you can improve the lives of people around the world and become an environmental steward of our planet? Discover the variety of rewarding, in-demand career paths in the Environmental, Horticultural and Sustainability field, particularly in innovative and sustainable agriculture. Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills while addressing pressing global issues like climate change, environmental degradation and urban food deserts. Gain hands on farming experience and have fun working daily on our organic vegetable farm. Learn how to harvest, wash, plant, and maintain crops along with principles in soil health, pest management, season extension and crop planning. We'll explore and visit different agricultural models from large scale conventional, to small-scale organic, to indoor hydroponic and aquaponic systems. You'll be exposed to not only the science involved in bringing food from farm to plate, but to the business and entrepreneurial opportunities within the Environmental field. Guest speakers feature entrepreneurs in sustainable investing, green energy, water, composting, and landscaping. Past field trips have included Loyola University's Institute of Environmental Sustainability, Prairie Wind Family Farm, Golden Oaks Dairy Farm, and Local Foods.