

Davis People's Free School

What is the Davis People's Free School?

The Davis People's Free School, like many other free schools across the country, is a non-hierarchical project advocating the radical deinstitutionalization of learning. We reject the commodification, corporatization, hierarchy, and inaccessibility of the modern educational system and seek to create an alternative space that is free, accessible, community-inspired and community-driven. Your participation is essential to this decentralized project. Come learn, teach a workshop, or get involved with helping the collective get the word out! You can reach us at davispeoplesfreeschool@riseup.net.

We need a projector! If you have an old projector that you would be willing to donate to the free school project, please contact us.

Davis Resources

Food Not Bombs provides community meals to the homeless and whoever else happens to be around to potluck every Sunday at Central Park at 12:30 p.m. To get involved, come by for a meal, come to the orientation on January 20th, or call 754-1310.

The Davis Bike Church is located on the UCD campus at the Domes. Ministers are around every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from noonish to 6ish to help you fix/create your bike (doublecheck the schedule on daviswiki.org). Individual learning appointments can be scheduled during other times by e-mailing bikeministry@ucdavis.edu. The East Davis Bicycle Spiritual Centre is located at 1339 Duke Drive and is open Thursdays 4-7 p.m.

Project Compost coordinates workshops each quarter to educate the public about compost. If you have a question about compost or want to get involved in the organization, please call 754-8227 or e-mail projectcompost@yahoo.com.

The **Davis Bee Collective** is a group of Davis beekeepers who share resources and information. They hold occasional workshops and honey extraction parties; for more information call 754-1310.

Spring 2008 Course Descriptions

Basic metal work skills I with Matt (4/26, 1pm) @ Domes

This class is a first in a series designed to empower people to use and reuse metal for various projects. Students will learn through basic metal-working skills through hands-on experience. Although no welding will be performed, the preparation of metal joining will be the focus. For each step, safety will be a key emphasis for both the person working and those nearby. *Requirements*: Safety glasses, ear plugs, and a pair of work gloves are required. Instructor contact prior to the class is also requested. Class size will be limited to 12. Teacher Contact: 530-400-2730, mtseitzler@yahoo.com

Beyond monogamy with Morgan (4/13, 2pm) @ On-campus tri-coops

Relationships are often based on assumptions that are unhealthy and unhelpful. Let's get beyond them! Time to check the assumption is that one person cannot love and support two or more people romantically at one time. By being conscious of such assumptions and talking about them, you can establish healthier agreements according to your likings, and you can love many more people, be a better lover to each of them, and find your own needs delightfully satisfied. This class pokes at the scary, exciting, satisfying, and hard parts of conscious relationships (which actually can include monogamy, too). Teacher Contact: morgan.kanninen@gmail.com

Bicycle basics: How do bikes work? with Darach (4/19, 1pm) @ Bike Church

We'll cover common designs of headsets, bottom brackets, hubs, brakes, stems, or whatnot. Very useful for bike building. Teacher Contact: dchmiller@ucdavis.edu

Breaking stuff (AKA taking stuff apart) with Steve (4/20, 1:30pm) @ Central Park

In this series you will construct new electronic-related projects built from free materials. In this first class we will take apart whatever participants bring. You will learn all about how electronic devices operate. This is meant to be an intensive course in electronics; no prior experience necessary. Come early at 12:30pm for a free lunch. Requirements: This is meant as an adjunct to the Maker Faire which takes place May 3-4 in San Mateo, but all are invited to participate and attend. Please bring tools (screwdrivers, pliers, wire strippers, soldering iron, solder, etc.) if you have them. Teacher Contact: steven_ins@yahoo.com

Circus training with Matt, Circus All-Star (4/13, 2pm) @ Domes

Come out and play! Rola bola, juggling, hat tricks, poi, club swinging, diabolo, stilts, acrobalance, tumbles! Watch in amusement as Matt tries to teach 20 different props to 20 different people at the same time! Expect to learn the basics of some circus art -- even if you don't know any and/or are convinced you have two left feet and/or two left hands and/or other excuses. If you know any circus arts already, please bring your toys and knowledge. Teacher Contact: mattpoki@gmail.com

Direct action strategies and tactics with Adrian (5/3, 1pm) @ On-campus tri-coops (Davis Student

We will be talking about what direct action is (and isn't), and its relationship to nonviolence. We will be exploring the different ways in which you can use your body, and everyday household products, to blockade and hold a space for hours or even days. Teacher Contact: adrianw@riseup.net

¡Diversión! with Molly (Every other Thursday, 4/17-5/29, 4:30pm) @ Dome 7 ¿Te gusta hablar? Come meet people, talk, procrastinate, hang out, have fun...in Spanish. Always a comfortable setting and everyone (Spanish-speaker or not) is welcome. ¡Nos vemos, amigos! Teacher Contact: molly@riseup.net

Feminist pedagogy and Zapatismo with Magalí (4/15, 8pm) @ On-campus tri-coops This workshop will examine some aspects of the autonomous Zapatista education process, specifically in terms of its relation to feminist pedagogies. Dialogue encouraged. Come learn from and with one another! Teacher Contact: mrabasa@yahoo.com

Homemade kombucha with Derek (4/19, 1pm) @ On-campus tri-coops

Learn how to make Kombucha, sometimes called the Fountain of Youth, from home: ingredients, methods, history, health benefits. Requirements: e-mail Derek (djdowney@ucdavis.edu) beforehand if you want your own free kombucha organism. Teacher Contact: djdowney@ucdavis.edu

I want to eat your brains (A how to view zombies workshop) with Jessy (4/16, 5/21, 7pm) @

Watch a zombie movie. Eat snacks ya brung. Cuddle with your neighbor during the scary bits. Hang around and discuss what zombies are trying to tell us (commentaries on consumerism, hetero frameworks, revolution, ...) while continuing to cuddle with your neighbor and eat your snacks. *Teacher Contact:* jaschmidt@ucdavis.edu

Intel and counter-intel for activists with Chuck and Rico (5/31, 2pm) @ On-campus tri-coops Beyond basic defensive security culture, how do we get the information we need to effectively change the world and fight tyranny? We'll talk about a collection of techniques used to manipulate people into performing actions or divulging confidential information that can be used against authoritarians and tyrants. Social engineering, confidence games, Internet research and tools, back stories, plausible deniability, and sneaking around. Learn how to use open web sources, perform target development, and to organize your group for success. Will discuss both practical methods and general intelligence/counter-intelligence theory. Teacher Contact: mas.duende@gmail.com

Interacting with authority with Marg, Chuck, and Morgan (4/14, 8pm) @ J street co-op Have you ever found yourself not knowing how to react in a situation where there is unequal power? This class will explore our interactions with police, bureaucrats, housemates, professors, University officials, ourselves, or any other authoritarians in our lives. We will explore notions of real and perceived power, and how we can use our creativity to play with power in real-life situations. Requirements: Come prepared to interact in discussion and role-plays. Teacher Contact: margueritew@

Killer Coke Campaign with Students Organizing For Change (4/17, 8pm) @ UCD, Olson 109 Come Learn about the evils of the Coca-Cola Company and how we as community members and students can stop its influence in the world around us and the university. Teacher Contact: molly@

Korea, US, and Global Dynamics with Prof. Kyu Hun Kim (5/13, 5:30pm - 7pm) @ On campus tri-coops (Davis Student Co-op)

Seminar discussion of Korea, the United States, and their global dynamics.

Know your rights training with Midnight Special Collective (4/20, 4/27, 11a) @ Central Park This training covers all of the basic legal information for interactions with police. Topics range from questioning to searches to safety. The interactive format allows participants to explore their options in realistic settings. Teacher Contact: davispeoplesfreeschool@riseup.net

Let's talk about talking about sex! with Jenine and Jessy (4/24, 5/15, 8pm) @ On-campus tricoops (Pierce Co-op)

Good sex is many things. Perhaps most importantly, it is oral, meaning it requires using your mouth ... to communicate! In this group-focused workshop we will explore ways of talking with sexual partners so that you can feel more comfortable, confident, and assertive. Possible topics could include (but aren't limited to): safer sex & STI's, asking for what you want & refusing what you don't, and listening to your partner. Email us if there's anything else you'd like to cover! *Teacher Contact*: jaschmidt@ucdavis.edu

Liberation theology and the global fight for "freedom" with Brittany (5/23, 6pm) @ On-campus tri-coops (Pierce Co-op)

This workshop will look at different types of Liberation theology/rhetoric from different perspectives around the world in an attempt to create a discussion surrounding the term "freedom". Ultimately, what we are discussing is the plurality of the term (freedom) and how it manifests itself in various ways within various cultures. Is it impossible for an international government to define what is right for all people? Also, at the very core of this discussion, in order to define what is right, must we also define that which we believe to be essentially human in nature? The floor will be open to any ideas and criticisms of solutions that scholars have proposed. Requirements: An open mind and comfortable shoes. There will be cookies and tea!! Teacher Contact: bnharris@ucdavis.edu

Making stuff with Steve (4/27, 1:30pm) @ Central Park at North End of Farmer's Market Struc-

In this series you will construct new electronic-related projects built from free materials. In this second part of the series, we will focus on how to design and build new projects, including electronic music devices. Come early at 12:30pm for a free lunch. Requirements: This is meant as an adjunct to the Maker Faire which takes place May 3-4 in San Mateo, but all are invited to participate and attend. Please bring tools (screwdrivers, pliers, wire strippers, soldering iron, solder, etc.) if you have them. Also bring electronic stuff to take apart -nothing too valuable to disassemble though. Teacher Contact: steven_ins@yahoo.com

Queering the read with Amanda and Jessy (Second Thursday of the month: 4/10, 5/8, 6/12, 6pm) @ Davis Student Co-op

We will be reading the novel Sula by Toni Morrison, considering specifically its treatment of the heteronormative insanity that plagues us all. Plus, at least one critique of the work (maybe more, depending on what folks are into). Pages for each meeting will be posted on the Davis Wiki. Teacher Contact: jaschmidt@ucdavis.edu

Radical software with Bryan (5/9, 3pm) @ Whole Earth Festival Experiential Space (UCD Quad) This will be a workshop to discuss the open-source software movement, the effects it has had on information exchange, and the potential to catalyze this movement for the widespread development of regionally appropriate technology. Requirements: An open mind and the desire to work cooperatively toward positive change. Teacher Contact: bryan.jungers@gmail.com

Running a free school with DPFS collective (5/17, 1pm) @ On-campus tri-coops Ever wondered how to start and run your own free school? Ever wondered what it means to teach a class at a free school? Join the DPFS collective to discuss the lessons we have learned in our experience running a free school, network with other free schoolers, and raise any questions you have. Teacher Contact: davispeoplesfreeschool@riseup.net

Tea and technology with Tom (Saturdays from 4/13 to 5/25, 4pm) @ Domes Commons/Dome 2 In this class, we will gather once a week to discuss the phenomenon of technology, defined in the broad sense of "tools for controlling one's environment," and its impact on the way we live our lives. Particular cases include the money economy, methods of food production, transportation, computation, and databases. What are the benefits and drawbacks of adopting these technologies? Can one choose not to use certain technologies, and, if so, is it beneficial to opt out? Readings will be posted at math.ucdavis.edu/~sdenton/tnt, and should not exceed twenty pages a week. If you have ideas for readings, please suggest them; I envision a group effort to understand, rather than a one-way flow of information. (Think wiki, not television.) Requirements: Read the readings, suggest new ones, be prepared to speak your mind, and bring samples of your favorite teas to share. Teacher Contact: sdenton@math.ucdavis.edu

Thermal curtains with Bryan (5/10, 2pm) @ Domes

Thermal curtains can be very useful tools for saving energy and maintaining bearable indoor temperature. This course involves the simple construction of a durable and effective thermal curtain design. Requirements: Contact Bryan if you plan to attend and would like to take home your own thermal curtain at the end of the workshop (bryan.jungers@gmail.com). Teacher Contact: bryan. jungers@gmail.com

"Trashed fashion" film screening and clothing swap with Amanda (4/18, 7pm) @ On-campus tri-coops (Agrarian Effort Co-op)
What happens to our old clothes? "Trashed Fashion: Breaking the Cycle" is a 13-minute film made

by four UC Davis students. The film advocates for consumers to prevent the flow of clothing waste into our landfills by offering alternatives to the over-consumption of fashion and the production of clothing waste. From refashioning clothes to exchanging them at clothing swaps, this video illustrates that waste prevention not only promotes sustainability, but can also foster creativity and create community. Come watch the film and then put some theory into action by participating in a clothing swap. Bring your unwanted clothing items appropriate for any and all genders. Teacher Contact: ayornellas@gmail.com

Vermicomposting with Project Compost (4/26, 5/17, 11am) @ On-campus tri-coops

In this workshop, you will learn the basics of worm composting, and learn how to set up your very own worm bin, perfect for composting in your house, apartment, dorm room, or office. You'll soon be making compost AND have hundreds of wormy friends! Leave with a fully functional bin and worms!!

Teacher Contact: projectcompost@yahoo.com

Waste diversion sewing circle with Natalie (Mondays from 4/14 to 6/2, 5:15pm) @ On-campus

You can't bring yourself to give them to a thrift store, bear to throw them out, nor find time to fix them. This is your chance to make your clothes your own. Come to this little sewing circle to learn basic handsewing techniques and customization ideas. Bring clothes to fix and sewing supplies if you have them (some provided). Teacher Contact: ncyahr@ucdavis.edu