

Preliminary Spring 2021 Learning Communities

LC 203 Making a Magazine about Big Questions, 3 cr.

IND 357 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies: Skepticism and Rationality, 3 cr., Prof. G. Scala

PHL 210 God, Darwin and America's Struggle with Creation, 3 cr., Prof. K. Giberson

The Integrative Seminar in the Learning Community Exploring Big Questions has a tangible goal: The student-led conceptualization, design, and production of a magazine that will engage meaningful philosophical questions in an accessible, journalistic, thoughtful way. This magazine will be produced, edited, reviewed and printed by the end of the semester. Each student will have a copy by the end of final exams.

Students will engage the full range of activities associated with a magazine. Based on interests and experience the students will be divided into teams: Editorial, marketing, creative design, production. Every student will have a slot on the masthead of the magazine. Members of the class will function as editor-in-chief, editor, senior editors, acquisitions editors, copy editors, book editors, layout editors, production directors, photo editors, and so on.

The bulk of the written content for the magazine will be produced in the companion courses in the LC, both of which have been designed to feed material into the magazine. Editing for style & length, graphics, cartoons, and other journalistic details will occur in the integrated seminar.

***NOTE:** PHL 210 fulfills the Catholic Intellectual Traditions and Natural Scientific Inquiry requirement.*

***NOTE:** This LC has a lab fee of \$40.*

LC 204 Food Justice (CBL), 4 cr., Prof. B. Meigs, Prof. C. Wetzel

This Learning Community challenges students to critically analyze their personal relationships with food and the larger structure of the food system, including food production, distribution and consumption, and disposal. Students will learn about and reflect on how food choices have local and global environmental, political and social impacts.

***NOTE:** LC 204 allows students to fulfill the Moral Inquiry requirement along with the LC requirement of the Cornerstone Program.*

***NOTE:** This LC has a lab fee of \$150.*

LC 209 Organic Chemistry of the Cell, 3 cr., Prof. L. Liotta

BIO 211 Cell Biology (WID), 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2020)

CHM 222 Organic Chemistry II, 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2020)

Students will select, read, and critique primary literature that ties together topics currently being learned in Cell Biology and Organic Chemistry II to develop their abilities to understand and critically analyze the literature. The seminar will culminate with student teams proposing an experiment or series of experiments that address a specific area of interest on the boundary between organic chemistry and cell biology. These proposals will be presented in both written and oral forms, allowing fellow students to evaluate and expand upon the proposed ideas.

***NOTE:** BIO 211 has a prerequisite of BIO 101 (grade of C- or better) and BIO 102. CHM 222 has a prerequisite of CHM 221 (grade of C- or better).*

***NOTE:** This is a year-long LC. BIO 211 and CHM 222 must be taken prior to registering for LC 209. BIO 211 fulfills the Writing in the Disciplines requirement.*

LC 210 The Legacy of Nazism in Germany, 3 cr., TRAVEL LC

HIS326 The Christian Churches in Nazi Germany, 3 cr., Prof. K. Spicer

WRI261 Violence & Peace in God's Name 3 cr., Prof. J. Chichetto, CSC

An examination of National Socialism's impact on German society, yesterday and today. This course will bring students to cities in Germany and Austria to visit sites related to the history of the violence and terror perpetrated by Nazis and ordinary women and men.

***NOTE:** WRI 261 fulfills the Catholic Intellectual Traditions requirement. HIS 326 fulfills the Moral Inquiry requirement and the Catholic Intellectual Traditions requirement.*

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LC 215-A The Golden Dome: Studying Massachusetts Internship, 3 cr., Prof. P. Ubertaccio**POL 358-A Massachusetts State Politics, 3 cr., Prof. P. Ubertaccio**

No state is so rich in its political heritage as our commonwealth. Its politics have been described as a “city upon a hill” and “an organized system of hatreds.” This LC combines a course on the government/politics of Massachusetts with an internship to better understand what makes Massachusetts unique.

NOTE: Must complete the "U.S. Internship Request for Approval" process found under the myPlans tab in myHill to officially earn credit for this Internship. This process will be completed as part of the class.

LC 218 Swords, Saviors and Saints: Global Security and Humanitarianism in Practice, 3 cr., Prof. Ohanyan, Prof. T. Gernes - TRAVEL LC**Linked courses TBD**

This learning community links an international themed course at Stonehill (see options above) with a 4-week, summer capstone experience in Armenia. Get ready for immersive, high-impact learning in human rights, peacebuilding and diplomacy, conflict analysis and resolution, global security studies, and peace and conflict studies, with internships in one of nine globally and regionally-known NGOs, think tanks, and media organizations! This LC also features visits to the ancient monasteries of Armenia (the first Christian state) and to the Armenian Genocide Museum-Institute. Students will examine the ways in which beliefs, ideas and ideologies clash within societies and between states, often resulting in war and violence. The persecution of the Armenian Christian communities in the Ottoman Empire culminated in the tragic Armenian Genocide of the early twentieth century. As the first mass genocide of the global era, the world's response to it ushered in what we now know as modern humanitarianism, large-scale, coordinated political, religious, and philanthropic relief movements with networks of supporting institutions. In the United States, the response to the Armenian Genocide laid the foundations for organized humanitarian and refugee assistance regimes that would later develop on a global scale. Limited to 12.

NOTE: LC 218 fulfills the Moral Inquiry and Catholic Intellectual Traditions requirements.

NOTE: There is an additional cost of approximately \$3,500, which includes travel, lodging, and expenses for cultural tours, museum entry fees, and performances.

LC 222 Crime and Punishment in North America, 3 cr., - TRAVEL LC**CRM 412 Seminar: Punishment and Public Policy, 3 cr., Prof. A. Rocheleau****POL 357 Topics in Politics: Politics of the Ethnically Divided, 3 cr., Prof. K. Buckman**

The course explores the political, legal and penal systems in Canada and the United States. We examine how cultural, political and economic variation shapes the definition of crime and its punishment. We will visit local, state, federal and Canadian (provincial and federal) courts, legislatures, and prisons. The approximate cost of travel is \$1300.

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LC 223 Greek Aesthetics, Archaeology & Mathematical Reasoning Prof. H. Todt, Prof. N. DesRosiers**REL318 Archaeology & Religion in Ancient Greece Prof. N. DesRosiers**

This learning community will explore the intellectual and aesthetic contributions that the ancient Greeks gave to western culture. The course specifically focuses on the ways that Greek religious devotion and mathematical speculation made innovations in diverse subjects including architecture, art, engineering, music, and astronomy possible. The Greek archaeological component of this course introduces students to this academic discipline, its history, approaches, theories, and discoveries, demonstrating how archaeological remains can enlighten our understanding of Greek history, religion, and society. The course also will examine how religion functioned as the catalyst for many of the unique artistic, architectural, and intellectual developments through this period. The archeology class is paired with a course discussing the history of mathematics that centers on the ancient Greek thinkers and theorists whose emphasis on logic and axiomatic approaches laid the foundation for rigorous mathematics. The course will also explore in what way ancient Greek mathematics still has an influence on mathematics today. This course does not require any advanced knowledge of mathematics.

LC 235 Quantum Waves (WID), 3 cr. Prof. H. Su, Prof. A. Massarotti

MTH 261 Multivariable Calculus, 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2020)

PHY 221 Physics III, 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2020)

The course is meant for students with a strong background in elementary physics. It is a natural continuation of the two elementary physics courses PHY 121-122, and students who have already taken these preliminary courses plus MTH 126 can automatically join LC 235. "Quantum Waves" can be taken as a stand-alone course or as part of a Learning Community, which includes Multivariable Calculus (MTH 261) as well as Physics III (PHY 221). "Quantum Waves" teaches about various quantum mechanical phenomena. With the creation of quantum mechanics in the 1920s, physicists conceived of a new and unexpected kind of wave that is neither a Newtonian (c. 1700) mechanical wave nor a Maxwellian (c. 1860) electromagnetic wave. These mysterious DeBroglie – Schroedinger waves of probability are the essence of quantum mechanics. These waves determine the structure of atoms and molecules, i.e. they are the deepest foundation of both physics and chemistry.

***NOTE:** MTH 261 has a prerequisite of MTH 126. PHY 221 has a prerequisite of MTH 126 and PHY 122.*

***NOTE:** LC 235 allows students to fulfill the Writing in the Disciplines requirement along with the LC requirement of the Cornerstone Program.*

LC 236 Everybody Counts: Elementary Math for Teachers, 1 cr.

MTH143-A Mathematical Reasoning for Educators, 3 cr., Prof. K. Marin

This four credit LC pairs MTH143: Mathematical Reasoning for Educators with a one-credit seminar taught by a math specialist from a partner district. Students will examine the ways in which elementary school students engage with mathematics content through curriculum, instructional routines, games, and pedagogical structures.

LC 241 Schemers...and Monsters: Representations of Women, 4 cr., Prof. M. Freitas, Prof. E. Parks

Against a backdrop of recent scholarship in social history, students in this discussion-oriented course will explore to what extent Classical ideas about women are affirmed or subverted in contemporary culture. Material from a variety of genres will include film, poetry, fiction, drama, history, nonfiction, philosophy, and the personal essay.

***NOTE:** LC 241 fulfills the Moral Inquiry and Social Scientific Inquiry requirements.*

LC 272-A Women's Global Issues, 3 cr.

BUS 336-C International Business, 4 cr., Prof. J. Swanson

COM 313-A Gender and Communication, 3 cr., Prof. M. Myers

This LC will explore women's issues in a global context, a theme that integrates the Gender and Communication and International Business courses. We will examine how women's voices are encouraged and expressed in different cultures and organizations. Specific topics will include: violence against women, women's human rights, women leaders, women-owned businesses, marriage and motherhood, work and family balance, and other relevant topics. This LC will incorporate invited speakers, peer presentations, lectures, readings, discussions, and on-campus and off-campus events relating to the subject area. Students will have the opportunity to research a topic of their choice for the concluding project. Both women and men are welcome to enroll.

LC 324 Discovering Devotion in Creative Practice/Sacred Spaces, 3 cr., Prof. C. Smith-Corby, Prof. M. Curtin - TRAVEL LC

VPS 225 Artist, Craftsman, Alchemist, 4 cr., Prof. C. Smith-Corby

This Learning Community culminates in a week-long on-site authentic fresco painting workshop in the countryside of Italy as well as important related sites in the capital city of Rome. The travel component fulfills a CIT requirement with an intensive investigation into fresco's religious iconography; the stories of saints, how their lives interacted with local lore and sacred spaces, as well as the religious meaning inherent in artistic practice. The course travels to Italy from May. Travel dates to be determined. The approximate cost of travel is \$3,300.

***NOTE:** LC 324 allows students to fulfill a Catholic Intellectual Traditions along with the LC requirement of the Cornerstone Program. VPS 225 fulfills the Natural Scientific requirement.*

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