



Submit Registration Preference Form Online by 6/4/21

Complete the Registration Preference Form (gustavus.edu/firstyear/checklist/) to indicate your top five preferences for the Challenge Curriculum's First-Term Seminar course or to choose the Three Crowns Curriculum. If you choose the Three Crowns Curriculum as your first preference, you will be enrolled in CUR-100: *Transformations, Values, and Identity*. All other students will be enrolled in one of their top five FTS preferences. We will use the information you supply on your Registration Preference form to assemble the rest of your fall class schedule around your FTS or Three Crowns seminar.

LEISURE QUEST. For one semester, we will examine the most precious commodity in America: time. Specifically, we will explore the role and meaning of leisure time in the United States, on both the individual and societal level, through writings, readings, films, lectures, class discussion and personal experience. Additionally, we will examine how access to leisure experiences develops identity and promotes greater life satisfaction. More importantly, however, we will consider how lack of access to leisure experiences impacts the human experience. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

[FTS-100-005](#) Aaron Banks M W F 8:00AM-8:50AM

VITAL SPEECHES. This seminar represents the intersection of current events and speech analysis. Students will learn to write critiques of important public speeches, while also developing and sharing their own views on contemporary issues. All of the speech texts will have appeared during the past year in *Vital Speeches of the Day*, a magazine containing speeches by globally recognized public and private sector leaders with diverse perspectives. The texts will be organized around three main themes (1) Speeches that Affirm Propositions of Value, (2) Speeches that Intensify Social Cohesion, and (3) Speeches that Create Concern for Problems. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

[FTS-100-017](#) Mark Braun (taught online) T R 1:30PM-2:50PM

A PLACE CALLED HOME: BUILDING INTEGRATED COMMUNITIES. What brings people together? Ask yourself: In which communities do you feel a sense of belonging? In which do you feel you do not belong or are excluded? Were you ever made uncomfortable by how cafeteria tables were arranged at school, separated by color, place of origin or status? Through the study of various community building strategies, we will learn how to foster inclusive and equitable societies, both at a micro level (our classroom, our campus) and macro level (the Midwest, our country, the world). Expect to learn about intersectionality, identity politics, racial construction, and privilege as we discuss U.S. racial minorities, multiculturalism and migration. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

[FTS-100-080](#) Angelique Dwyer M T R F 9:00AM-9:50AM

USE YOUR WORDS: THINKING, TALKING AND WRITING ABOUT ECONOMICS. This seminar investigates many of the most critical economic and social issues of our time. These issues include the impact on the economy of a pandemic crisis, Climate Change, Health Care, Income and Wealth Inequality, the Cost of Higher Education and whether a Global Financial Crisis can happen again. We will discuss additional issues revealed by current events or as suggested by class members. We will critically explore issues using the "Big Ideas" of economics which include the reality of trade-offs and opportunity cost, how incentives influence choices, the power of trade, the importance of social institutions, how markets are often, but not always, useful for organizing economic activity, and how markets sometimes fail and require some help from government. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

[FTS-100-087](#) Paul Estenson M W F 8:00AM-8:50AM

ONE THIRD OF YOUR LIFE: THE SCIENCE AND VALUE OF SLEEP. We spend a third of our lives in a state of mind and body that we are only just beginning to understand. This seminar will introduce students to the science and value of sleep through investigation of the neurobiology of sleep, the impact of sleep on the health and performance of the individual, and the costs suffered by a sleep deprived society. A number of important questions will be addressed including: What is the function of sleep and dreams? What happens in the brain during sleep and dreams? How does sleep change across the lifespan? How can we apply what we know about the neurobiology of sleep to improve the treatment of sleep disorders such as insomnia and narcolepsy? How might the quantity and quality of sleep lead to a more productive lifestyle and prevent the development of diseases such as Alzheimers and cancer? In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

[FTS-100-089](#) Mike Ferragamo M T W R 11:30AM-12:20PM

ANIMAL MINDS. Sophisticated minds produce thoughts, emotions, and consciousness. As humans, it is easier to observe and measure our own intellect, so what do we know about the intelligence of other animals? In this course, we will explore the similarities and differences between human and nonhuman animal minds. In doing so, we will gain an understanding of their identity and ours, allowing us to evaluate the "animal vs. human" perspective. Along the way, as we learn how humans think about and study animal minds, we will consider how this knowledge informs ethical treatment of animals in a variety of situations. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

[FTS-100-134](#) Lauren Hecht M T W R F 9:00AM-9:50AM

ENERGY: WHERE ARE WE AND WHAT'S NEXT. Currently, the United States and most of the world meets the majority of its energy needs through fossil fuels (oil, coal, natural gas). There is growing concern about climate change and other environmental effects from burning fossil fuels. Conventional supplies of these fuels are rapidly diminishing, and at the same time there has been extraordinary growth due to utilization of unconventional sources such as tar sands and hydraulic fracturing (fracking). Some are calling on expansion of these sources to try to achieve energy independence, while other voices want to greatly limit production to mitigate climate change. We will investigate some technical, economic, and political aspects of the United States' dependence on fossil fuels. We will also explore the possibilities and policy implications of shifting to alternative energy sources such as nuclear, solar or wind energy. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-151 Thomas Huber M T W F 8:00AM-8:50AM

LOSING MY RELIGION. Is religion good for us? For society? Why do some people find faith essential while others don't? This course examines religious skeptics and skepticism. Through engagement with a range of texts—from memoirs to academic theology to popular polemics—we will consider the implications of religious skepticism both for particular individuals and for society. We will ask whether there is a "good" without God and whether belief in God matters for how people treat each other and the natural world. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-170 Sarah Ruble M W R F 9:00AM-9:50AM

WHAT HUMANS CANNOT DO. While humans exhibit a variety of characteristics that makes us unique as a species of living organisms, there are many things that we cannot do, and diverse types of organisms thrive in conditions that are unimaginable from our perspective. For example, there is a species of insect that can survive 97% loss of body water. There is a species of frog that can tolerate extensive ice formation within their body. There is a species of sea slug that has established a symbiotic relationship with algae to survive solely based on photosynthesis for an extended period of time. Through exploration of these diverse topics, we will consider humans' place in nature, and re-evaluate our relationship with the rest of the natural world. Additionally, we will also discuss ethical considerations for use of animals in educational and research settings. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-177 Yuta Kawarasaki M T W F 9:00AM-9:50AM

SURVEILLANCE, THE STATE, AND SOCIETY. This seminar focuses on issues surrounding the history and contemporary role of state surveillance in the modern world. Have you thought much about the role of the state in your life and how much power they have to observe your behavior? In this course students will explore the past and present implications of how states identify "enemies" and imagine threats as they develop systems of surveillance and bureaucratic institutions to monitor their population. Students will consider the various ways people respond to living in a society under surveillance. We will discuss, compare, and contrast several historical cases including the French Revolution, interwar French West Africa, communist China, East Germany, and the United States in the 1960s to consider how surveillance programs have shaped societies since

the late eighteenth century. In addition to looking to history, we will consider how ideas about surveillance and the state have been represented in literature, film, art, and popular memory including George Orwell's classic novel 1984. Finally, we will study the role of state surveillance in our own world including such as the Snowden revelations about the NSA, the technology of policing, and COVID-19 vaccine and virus tracking. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-182 Kathleen Keller M W R F 9:00AM-9:50AM

MANAGING PEOPLE IN PUBLIC SECTOR. The course focuses on how we manage people in the public sector. It is about the process by which a scarce resource (public jobs) is allocated, and why we need to consider four competing values: political responsiveness, efficiency, individual rights, and social equity. In discussing these abstract concepts, the course considers issues of gender and race relations. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-191 Paschal Kyoore M W F 10:30AM-11:20AM

CHILDHOOD IN NORDIC FOLK & FAIRY TALES. This seminar will explore narratives written primarily for and/or about children and childhood, with a focus on well known folk tales from throughout the Nordic region and the fairy tales of Danish storyteller Hans Christian Andersen. We will consider the origins of the tales, analyze their staying power, and explore their global reach. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-193 Ursula Lindqvist M W 2:30PM-4:20PM

THE POLITICS OF HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS. In this seminar, we will analyze housing and homelessness in the United States—why people live in the housing, communities and neighborhoods they do, and where homelessness exists, who it affects, and what is being done to address and (ideally) solve the problem of homelessness. As part of this course, students will participate in a three day, three night November Sleepout in recognition of National Hunger and Homelessness Week. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-199 Richard Leitch M T W R 2:30PM-3:20PM

BEAUTY AND JUSTICE. Is beauty the handmaiden of the privileged; does it distract us from greater social causes or does the experience of beauty prompt us towards ethical fairness and a greater concern for justice in society? How do various positions on beauty affect our perceptual, moral and emotional lives? By engaging in a variety of arguments and primary source readings from a range of perspectives the class will study how themes and attitudes about beauty in politics, humanities, the sciences and in our culture as a whole have evolved. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-208 Kristen McGrath M W F 12:30PM-1:20PM

BURNING BOOKS. This course investigates the history of book burnings, focusing on three different episodes from three distinct eras in regions around the world: 1) China in the 3rd century BCE, 2) Rome in the 1st century CE, and 3) the U.S. in the 20th century. All three instances of censorship share a common desire to eliminate voices of opposition to the dominant political regime. In China, the Qin dynasty sought to stamp out ideological nonconformity after the unification of China in 221 BCE. In 1st century Rome, the Emperor Tiberius and his henchman Sejanus attempted to silence any voices—particularly those of historians—critical of the emperor and his policies. And in twentieth century science fiction, Ray Bradbury’s novel provides a useful lens for viewing McCarthyism and the blacklisting of authors and artists identified as Communists in the Cold War era, at the height of the “Red Scare.” Students will learn about issues related to free speech and freedom of expression and the historical contexts surrounding these periods of censorship. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-220 Mary McHugh M W R F 9:00AM–9:50AM

FTS-100-221 Mary McHugh M W R F 10:30AM–11:20AM

DISCOVERING ARTS IN COMMUNITY. Arts are all around us and can offer us experiences through dance, theater, visual arts, and music. As observers and audience members, we will explore and experience the arts community at Gustavus and connect what we discover to communities we love. Students will have opportunities to visit rehearsals/classes and attend performances/presentations, choosing from a wide variety of offerings on campus. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-227 Karrin Meffert-Nelson M W R F 8:00AM–8:50AM

FTS-100-228 Karrin Meffert-Nelson M W R F 9:00AM–9:50AM

AMERICAN MUSIC & POPULAR CULTURE. This course examines the crossroads between Video Game Music, Film Music, Broadway Musicals and society, culture, politics, the First Amendment, and so much more. Through this course we explore how Final Fantasy, Star Wars, and Wicked! compare to historical music genres like opera and its relevance. How do films like The Godfather collide with musicals like West Side Story and provide meaningful commentary on our society today? How do these musical art forms intersect with politics today? Students will also pursue an in-depth study of a musical selection of their own, exploring the crossroads of the composer’s, music’s, and society’s contexts.

FTS-100-237 James Patrick Miller M W F 9:00AM–9:50AM

POP MUSIC, U.S.A. This course examines American culture through the study of popular music. Students will develop the skills necessary to express, both orally and in writing, a critical understanding of American pop music. A related element of this course involves discussion of various success and motivational writings by authors such as Dorothea Brande, Earl Nightingale, and Cal Newport. These writings are designed to elevate consideration of mindset, career, and purpose, while providing insight into the personal choices we make within the daily torrent of societal pressure. With popular culture providing a contrasting edifice for our thinking, we will work to come near our goal of leading a self-examined life. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-239 Scott Moore T R 8:30AM–9:50AM

FTS-100-242 Scott Moore T R 10:30AM–11:50AM

REDISCOVERING FOOD. This course addresses four main themes “What do you eat?”, “Why do you eat?”, “What should you eat?”, “What will you eat?”. Throughout this course, students will have the opportunity to reflect on their current food choices, examine what is actually in our food and where it comes from. Students will develop an understanding of the factors contributing to their food choices such as family, culture, tradition, media, and peer pressure and will look at current food and nutrition recommendations. Students will be asked to reflect on what they have seen and learned and about how they think their food choices may change in the future. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-254 Stephanie Otto T R 10:30AM–12:20PM

FTS-100-256 Stephanie Otto T R 2:30AM–4:20PM

ECONOMIC LITERACY. Economic Literacy will apply basic concepts of economics to current public and social issues such as globalization, immigration, climate change, economic growth and inequality. Monitoring current economic issues will be a priority, so course content will adapt as events and interest warrant. The Nobel Conference topic will also play a prominent role in the class. We will read, discuss, and write about books, articles, and blogs written by economists for a broader audience. The principal objective is to learn how to look at decision problems using economic theory: that is, to think like an economist. As we will see, this way of thinking can be applied to many situations beyond the scope of what is usually considered economics. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-255 Jeffrey Owen M W R F 9:00AM–9:50AM

FILM ADAPTATION. This course explores the art of film adaptation: the process of transforming written works such as novels, plays, and non-fiction prose into visual language for the screen. We will begin by studying how literary fiction has been adapted, then focus on film-to-film and anime-to-film adaptations. Adaptations are essentially translations across time, place, and culture. As such, particular attention will be paid to cross-cultural and trans-historical adaptations by Asian, American, and British filmmakers and performers. Through secondary readings, students will become familiar with the complex and diverse practices and theories of adaptation. The course also introduces students to key films in international cinema. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-258 So Young Park M W R F 11:30AM–12:20PM

PUNKS, SKATERS, QUEERS: REPRESENTING AMERICAN SUBCULTURES. This seminar explores how some subcultures respond to mainstream culture in the US. We will study Patti Smith’s memoir of 70s New York Just Kids, Penelope Spheeris’s documentary on Los Angeles punk, The Decline of Western Civilization, Cynthia Cruz’s poetry collection The Glimmering Room, and Gus Van Sant’s movie Paranoid Park as representations of subcultures and as alternatives to traditional mappings of American values. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-267 Robert Kendrick T R 1:30PM–2:50PM

TELL ME A STORY. Storytelling—both the oral tradition and the written word—helps us to translate our lived experiences into language. The stories we create, the stories we remember, and the stories we tell ourselves and others, position us in our own lineage, identify our core values and define our sense of self. In this course we will spend time reading and writing, speaking and listening, and ultimately exploring the power of stories to help us recognize what is truly important to us as we make sense out of what happens in our day-to-day lives. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-279 Michele Rusinko M T W R F 12:30PM–1:20PM

NOW YOU SEE IT: GENDER AND SEXUALITY IN GLOBAL FILM. In this seminar, we will analyze how contemporary global film (i.e. produced outside North America) portrays the human experiences of gender and sexuality. We will emphasize ways of understanding these phenomena that might be less prevalent in North American mainstream culture and media. We will address a wide range of issues within the topics of sexuality and gender, while keeping focus on the intersection of social justice, gender equality, and sexual rights. We will also attempt to address the distance between representation (what we see/present) and identity (who we are/might be). In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-283 Darío Sánchez González M T W F 1:30PM–2:20PM

FAST FOOD & POLITICS. This seminar explores government policies affecting the fast food industry and efforts by the fast food industry to influence government. Topics may include the minimum wage, workplace safety, immigration, public health, and environmental protection. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-295 Kate Knutson M W R F 9:00AM–9:50AM

DEBATING NOBEL. Specifically, this course teaches critical thinking and argumentation skills by engaging students in fact, value and policy debates centered around the annual Nobel Conference theme. In 2021, for example, students will debate topics such as: "Resolved: That the use of big data perpetuates systemic inequalities," "Resolved: That the US Federal Government should regulate the use of big data," and, "Resolved: That on balance, the use of big data is socially beneficial." In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-316 Phillip Voight T R 12:30PM–2:20PM

FTS-100-317 Phillip Voight T R 2:30PM–4:20PM

TOO BIG TO FAIL? We live in modern economies with money and financial assets. Money and financial assets not only increase production efficiency but also make it easy to accumulate wealth. However, in 2008, the U.S. economy experienced a severe financial crisis, which spread to the global economy and further ignited the European sovereign debt crisis of 2010. The Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank conducted unconventional monetary policies, aiming to stimulate the economy and prevent inflation from entering the negative territory. There has been ongoing policy debate over appropriate policies that the government and the central bank should conduct in these severe crises. We will introduce the U.S. financial and/or European debt crises, and may further make a comparison between the U.S. financial crisis of 2008 and the pandemic crisis of 2020. We will assess the costs/benefits of policy effects from a variety of perspectives, and we will explore incentives, policy dilemmas, and ethical issues. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-327 Shu-Ling Wang M W R F 11:30AM–12:20PM

COMMUNICATION & SPORT MEDIA. Sport is a global institution that affects major societal systems like families, education, and economies. In this course, we will investigate the ways stakeholders construct and contest meaning in sport media in a cultural milieu shaped by race, gender, and LGBTQ+ injustice and activism. We will employ critical perspectives that consider content; the political economy of who controls representation; ways sport media facilitate the construction, negotiation, and maintenance of identity in athletes and fans; and how changing technologies shape sport media. If you're ready to critically engage everything sport, this is the place for you. In this seminar, students will discuss values related to the course topic, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-341 Sarah Wolter T R 8:00AM–9:50AM

GLOBALIZATION OF ECONOMY. This seminar will explore the issues generated by globalization from the aspects of cultural awareness, economic perspective, environmental conflict, historical background, and political reckoning. While economists are setting up a solution that is at best temporary, they miss the point that the world is finite. We don't have infinite resources or unlimited ability to handle excess pollution. In this seminar, students will discuss benefits and challenges related to globalization, develop critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills, and enhance their understanding of academic and campus life.

FTS-100-347 Sheng-Ping Yang T R 8:00AM–9:50AM

Indicate these choices on page 4 of the Registration Preference Form found on your Enrollment Checklist

MY TOP 5 CHOICES IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE:

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____