### Challenge Seminar

### Course Description:

The Challenge Seminar bookends the First Term Seminar by providing students an opportunity to collaboratively examine and propose responses to enduring and contemporary questions or challenges from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students will also have an opportunity to engage in reflection about how the college’s mission and their education as a whole has influenced their personal values, plans for life after college, and the role they see for themselves in the world.

Like the First Term Seminar, these courses will explore how values relate to a complex challenge and engage students in critical thinking, writing, speaking, and reflection.

1. **Criteria:** Challenge Seminar courses will
   1. Involve students in exploring a particular challenge or a pressing ethical question.
   2. Devote significant time to working together to propose solutions to a problem or create something with a public audience in mind. The focus should be on deliberation, interpretation, and critical thinking rather than on coming to a firm conclusion or polished project.
   3. Provide students with opportunities to reflect on how the college’s mission and their education as a whole has influenced their personal values, plans for life after college, and the role they see for themselves in the world.
2. **SLOs:** Challenge Seminar students will
   1. Collaboratively analyze and respond to a significant enduring question or contemporary challenge, incorporating perspectives from multiple disciplines.
   2. Draw on ethical, religious, or philosophical frameworks to evaluate their own and others’ responses

to this challenge.

* 1. Examine how issues of cultural difference, both globally and locally, intersect with this challenge.
  2. Seek out, critique, and adapt others’ ideas as they negotiate responses to specific challenges.
  3. Reflect on how the college’s mission and their education as a whole has influenced their personal

values, plans for life after college, and the role they see for themselves in the world.