FIRST TERM SEMINAR

All first-year students (except those in Curriculum II) enroll in a First Term Seminar (FTS) for fall semester. These courses, listed as FTS-100, are meant to be a good way to start your academic career at Gustavus. All of them are small classes where you will read, write, and discuss, where you will practice critical thinking and recognize and explore questions of values--skills that will help you in your continuing intellectual journey. There are no prerequisites for these courses, so you are free to choose any of them.

Your FTS professor is also your advisor, which means you will know your advisor, will see her/him regularly in class, making it easy to seek advice, ask questions, and plan registration for subsequent terms.

Each FTS satisfies one Writing requirement. (See the descriptions on the yellow pages of this schedule.)

The best way to prepare for registering on campus or by phone is to follow these steps:

1. Using the practice schedule forms in your packet, check the list of other courses you are considering for possible majors or interest areas to see if there are any you must start with in your first semester. If, for example, you plan to major in Physics, you need to take Classical Physics I which only meets at 12:30 p.m., so you would not be able to take a FTS that hour.
2. Read all the descriptions and compile a list of 10-15 FTS courses to consider as you build your class schedule. Although you might prefer the subject matter of some to others, more important is that all seminars fulfill one requirement and have the same goals. Because you will be scheduling 3-4 courses all together which must fit by the times they are offered, you may not get your first seminar choice. Choice is not the point. Having one of these seminars for a good start to college work is.
3. You will also notice that six of the seminars will be housed in the same residence hall, near one another, to foster a community of learners through out-of-class conversations about course themes and the building of closer relationships with other course participants. (See the descriptions on the yellow pages of this schedule.)
4. Fill out your schedule with your other class choices, including several alternatives.

Seminar Possibilities:

_________________________________               _________________________________
_________________________________               _________________________________
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FIRST TERM SEMINARS

8:00 A.M.

THE WISDOM & INTEGRATION OF COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES OR: EVERYTHING OLD BECOMES NEW

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of alternative therapies. More than one third of Americans integrate complementary or alternative medicine modalities into their personal health care options. Therapies such as Acupuncture, Ayurveda, Biofeedback, Chinese Medicine, Chiropractic, Homeopathy, Meditation, Naturopathy, Spiritual Healing, and Therapeutic Massage have become increasingly utilized in our society. As citizens and consumers and perhaps future health care practitioners or teachers, how do people discern what is fact, safe, or evidenced-based? Are there cultural, ethical or social justice issues inherent in these practices? Students will explore answers to these questions through a variety of strategies including film, guest speakers, journaling, lecture, student oral presentation on select topics, small group work related to assigned readings, and a service learning project. Students will write a research paper on alternatives which could be integrated for a specific disease process or illness, and deliver an oral presentation of their paper in the classroom setting.

11098  FTS-100-323  MTWF  8:00-8:50 AM  JANE COLEMAN

STORIES FROM THE SOURCE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of literature and other works of art based on stories from the Bible. We'll start by looking at the Biblical texts themselves and then we'll look at how writers or painters or musicians have retold the stories. We'll think about what motivates someone to retell a biblical story; we'll discuss how the changes a retold story makes to the original affect the story's emphasis or even its main point; and we'll consider the ways in which a story's impact depends on the circumstances of the one who hears it. We'll focus on a few specific stories—probably the Lost Son, Job, The Binding of Isaac, and Jephtha's Daughter—but students will have opportunities to look at others as well. And beyond the consideration of specific stories, we'll ask how faith and art are related and share the meanings we find for ourselves in the stories.

11067  FTS-100-081  MWRF  8:00-8:50 AM  ERIC ELIASON/BRIAN JOHNSON

COPYRIGHT: REBALANCING COPYRIGHT LAW IN THE DIGITAL AGE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the public policy struggles underway over copyright law, particularly as influenced by changing technical context. Copyright was intended to serve the public good by balancing incentives for creators with access for users. Current technology is radically disrupting that balance by empowering both new forms of access and new forms of access control. Congress and the courts are trying to adapt the law to the changing context. In doing so, they are responding to a variety of interested parties, who may wish to establish a new balance, tipped in their favor, rather than re-establish the old balance. Where is the public interest in this? How can the current struggles be understood not only in their current technical, economic, and political context, but also in historical context? For example, what issues did Jefferson raise when copyright was transplanted from monarchy to liberal democracy? What new issues attended the introduction of earlier technologies, and how were they addressed?

11821  FTS-100-131  MTRF  8:00-8:50 AM  MAX HAILPERIN

IN THE FACE OF EVIL: THE LIFE & DEATH OF DIETRICH BONHOEFFER IN HITLER'S GERMANY

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation into the dramatic life and untimely death of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran pastor hanged by the Nazis at age 39, only a few days before the Allies liberated the concentration camp where he was imprisoned. Why did this gifted, gentle, and brilliant young man, born into a close-knit, privileged Berlin family 100 years ago, set aside his pacifist convictions and join a complicated, risky—and ultimately unsuccessful—plot to kill Hitler? What did he do during his short life that has so captured our imaginations that, more than six decades after his death, we still count him one of the most fascinating people and influential theologians of the 20th century? What can we learn from his courageous action in the face of evil that might still be relevant today? We will explore these and other questions about Bonhoeffer, his life, his times, and his death, using films, drama, guest speakers, and written materials by and about him.

11866  FTS-100-293  MTWF  8:00-8:50 AM  MARY SOLBERG
9:00 A.M.

ILLNESS IN AMERICA
This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of illness in America. In America, illness has been and continues to be constructed through the lens of its contemporary cultural currents: in Puritan texts illness is viewed as punishment while the nineteenth century invoked the reality and metaphor of contagion. In the twentieth century, illness is considered to be an affliction of an individual, and then later, an indictment of society and a consequence of lifestyle. Literary narratives will be our primary focus for examining illness, and will range from early American texts to Edgar Allan Poe short stories to *Angels in America*; essays such as Susan Sontag’s *Illness as Metaphor*, medical articles, religious and historical treatises, news reports, and popular media case studies will complement the literature.

11793 FTS-100-004 MTRF 9:00-9:50 AM LAURA BEHLING

ARE WE CONSUMERS OR CITIZENS?
This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of our culture of consumption. Being a consumer seems more important now than being a citizen. What should we consume? How much should we consume? Are we still citizens too? What does citizenship actually mean now? Is it only about where we happen to be born? Does it mean more that choosing occasionally to vote? Does our only power lie in what we do or do not buy? As we encounter perspectives from around the globe and participate in related community service projects, we will learn to analyze differing points of view on what it means to be a consumer and a citizen. Students will also develop their own analysis of our culture of consumption. Topics for discussion will include globalization, fair trade, poverty, and the environment.

11865 FTS-100-053 MWRF 9:00-9:50 AM THIA COOPER

ANIMALS AND SOCIETY
This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of animals in society. We will discuss, write about, and explore various topics including: animals as pets, animals as therapy agents, animals in sport, dogs and the police force, animals as entertainers, and careers involving animals. We will also explore the ethics surrounding issues such as animals as research subjects, animals and disease, animals in the circus and zoo, and animal rights groups such as PETA and the ALF.

11857 FTS-100-055 MWRF 9:00-9:50 AM PATRICIA COSTELLO

COMMON READERS
This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of reading as a personal pursuit and as a social activity. Why do we read? What do we enjoy reading most, and why? How do various kinds of texts serve their readers? Students will examine their own reading preferences, investigate literacy as an aspect of culture, and will explore how different forms of writing serve various purposes. As a community of readers, this class will publish a course blog, choose reading material to share, and will develop an online reader’s guide to one of the required books.

11814 FTS-100-091 MTWF 9:00-9:50 AM BARBARA FISTER

THE MANHATTAN PROJECT: THE FACTS AND VALUES
This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the development of the atomic bomb. Sixty years ago, an international team of scientists developed, tested, and delivered the first nuclear warheads, forever altering the course of politics, science and the meaning of national security. We will examine that effort, known as the Manhattan Project. We will focus on the historical records concerning the Manhattan Project and its German and Soviet competition; the value judgments made by government officials, scientists, and military leaders; and the impact of this project on its participants and on history.

11073 FTS-100-126 MTWF 9:00-9:50 AM CHRISTOPHER GILBERT
THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGIN’: POPULAR SONGS THAT CHRONICLE THE 20TH CENTURY

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of popular songs that chronicle the twentieth century. The story behind the creation of several songs from each decade from the 1900s through the 1990s and how these songs reflect political, economic, and social events of their times will be considered. In addition to researching the music and its historical contexts, students will analyze a popular song and write an original popular song. The ability to read music is not required for this course.

11834  FTS-100-173  MTWF  9:00-9:50 AM  MICHAEL JORGENSEN

THE POLITICS OF HOMELESSNESS

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of homelessness. Why does homelessness exist in the United States? Where in the US does it exist? Who does it affect? What is being done to end 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.

11084  FTS-100-203  MTWF  9:00-9:50 AM  RICHARD LEITCH

CULTURES OF PEACE—WHAT FUTURES SHALL WE CHOOSE?

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the ways we choose to live and the futures that we are making for ourselves and for our world. The assumption is that, although the world seems beset with violence and often headed in a negative, dystopian direction, the great majority of people have a strong desire to live in peace and harmony, even to strive for utopia. In order to explore these issues and to develop their own ideas and blueprints for the future, students will work with cultural analysis, film, fiction and poetry. The class will first frame the issues by a study of writings by Sigmund Freud, Aldous Huxley, and Neil Postman and then consider some hopeful ways forward, as proposed in Elise Boulding’s study Cultures of Peace (2000).

11087  FTS-100-216  MTWF  9:00-9:50 AM  GREGORY MASON

THE ELEMENTS: SCIENCE, HISTORY, MYSTERY, AND SOCIETY

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the history and applications of the elements of the chemical periodic table. Discussions will begin with the history of the atomic theory over the past 2,000 years. The scientific and cultural history of elements and groups of elements, such as coinage metals and radioactive elements, will be examined. What are the social and environmental impacts of the search for sources of individual elements? Why has gold been valued by humans for so long, and what is its true value? What are the consequences of the discovery of methods for synthesis of unstable radioactive elements such as plutonium? What are the social and technological impacts of diamond within both modern and ancient human societies? Questions such as these can also be asked for other long-known elements such as platinum, mercury, lead, silver, and phosphorus. What is the history, and what are the important uses, of the more exotic or little-known elements? What applications lie in the future, and what consequences might those applications have?

11090  FTS-100-253  MTWF  9:00-9:50 AM  BRIAN O’BRIEN

SCANDINAVIA AND THE NEW EUROPE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the history, literature, art, and philosophies of the Scandinavian peoples. Are there really five different Scandinavian countries? What have they contributed to European culture? What are their roles in the New Europe? Is there a reason why Scandinavians often make names for themselves as peacekeepers and mediators in world conflicts? Students will examine major developments and issues in Scandinavian culture from the Middle Ages to the present day and read works of fiction that reflect life and thought in contemporary Scandinavia. We will meet Viking kings and Icelandic explorers; we will acquaint ourselves with Gustavus II Adolphus, Carl von Linné (Linnaeus) and Alfred Nobel; we will examine emigration and immigration, the evolution of the Scandinavian welfare state, and Scandinavia and the European Union; and we will also look behind the success of Nordic musical culture in recent years, represented by, among others, ABBA, Sahara Hotnights, Komeda and The Hives.

11095  FTS-100-306  MTWF  9:00-9:50 AM  ROLAND THORSTENSSON
LEISURE QUEST: TAKING BACK YOUR TIME

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation into the concept of leisure time from historical, socio-cultural, and personal perspectives. 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.

11063  FTS-100-005  MTWF  10:30-11:20 AM  AARON BANKS

EXCEPTIONAL HUMAN EXPERIENCE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of exceptional human experiences. These are experiences that we consider anomalous, unusual, or extraordinary. They include, for instance, hypnotic hallucinations, strange forms of dreaming, dramatic “near-death” experiences, visions and various kinds of mystic ecstasy, and the “peak performance” experiences of musicians or athletes, such as Mt. Everest climbers and Tibetan mountain runners. Do these things really happen to people? How? Why? What are they? What role do they play in their lives? In the course, we will examine these and other questions, investigate the individual and cultural meanings of the experiences, and reflect on their implications for our understanding of the depth and breadth of human nature.

11072  FTS-100-123  MTWF  10:30-11:20 AM  PATRIC GIESLER

COLLEGE IN CONTEXT: YOU AND GUSTAVUS

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills. Although college is a new experience to you, small liberal arts colleges like Gustavus have existed in America for a long time, and have an interesting history. This seminar will look at the history and reality of the kind of education you are about to enter, with a special focus on the story of Gustavus itself. How did Gustavus get its start? What was student life and education like 100 or 50 or 25 years ago? How has the college experience changed over the course of time? Through projects and assignments we’ll explore questions like these, as well as the more present reality of Gustavus, and your place here. An important focus will also be on you, and your “job” (your vocation) as a college student, and what you will want to do with your time at Gustavus.

11076  FTS-100-129  MTWF  10:30-11:20 AM  MARK GRANQUIST

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: STORY-TELLING VIA COMPUTER ANIMATION

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of computer graphics and animation, one of the most ubiquitous applications of modern computing. In this course we will study the two fundamental components of producing a high quality animation – the development of a good story and the creation of artificial beings who can tell that story. We will develop skills in plot development and story-boarding, as well as learn a bit about computer programming. In order to put our stories into action, we will use the Alice software environment, a 3D programming environment that is designed to allow novice programmers to create complex animated worlds easily.

11820  FTS-100-158  MTRF  10:30-11:20 AM  MICHAEL HVIDSTEN

SECRETS, SECRET CODES AND PRIVACY

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of cryptography. Cryptography is the study of transferring secret or confidential information and keeping it secret. Throughout history, cryptography has played an important role in diplomacy, war, and commerce. Students in this seminar will study the mathematics, statistics and computing that underlie cryptography’s development. Additionally, they will study ethical implications of cryptography, especially as it relates to privacy on the Internet.

11081  FTS-100-174  MTRF  10:30-11:20 AM  BARBARA KAISER
HUMOR AND HUMANITY

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the role of humor and comedy in human lives. We will examine humor from many perspectives, analyzing the values and assumptions of humorous texts, the physiological effects of humor, the psychology of humor and laughter, the cultural differences and offensiveness humor can elicit, and the political, cultural, and social implications and importance of humor. We will read widely, including ancient Greek comedy such as Aristophanes' *The Birds*, modern news satire of *The Onion* and *The Daily Show*, political cartoons, comic essays and stories, Shakespearian comedy, advertising and marketing pitches, and many other sources. We will also examine scholarly articles on textual use of humor, newspaper articles about controversy arising from humor texts (such as the current Islamic uprising over the Danish newspaper cartoons depicting the prophet Mohammed), scientific studies of the psychological processes that allow us to understand something as “funny,” and the physiological effect of laughter upon the human body.

11792  FTS-100-200  MWRF  10:30-11:20 AM  BAKER LAWLEY

ON THE ROAD: MOBILITY IN AMERICAN LITERATURE & CULTURE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of mobility in American culture. We will examine the theme of Americans “on the move” by studying literature, film, painting, photography, music, and material culture. Throughout our history, America has been a mobile society; movement cuts across lines of race, class, and gender to include Americans of all kinds. We will consider the causes as well as the consequences of our culture’s obsession with mobility. Writers and artists to be discussed may include Whitman, Steinbeck, Kerouac, Ralph Ellison, William Least Heat Moon, Sandra Cisneros, Edward Hopper, Bob Dylan; subjects like Manifest Destiny, Route 66, fast food, and SUVs will also be taken up. We may even engage in a group road trip for a weekend, schedules permitting.

11092  FTS-100-286  MTWF  10:30-11:20 AM  DONALD SCHEESE

HAWAII: A STUDY IN EVOLUTION

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the Hawaiian Islands. The Hawaiian Islands are the perfect metaphor of a dynamic and changing earth. The islands are geologically very young, emerging remotely in the Pacific ocean, far from any major landmass. How do the islands arise? Where does the life come from? What has happened (and is happening) to this “pristine” environment since the arrival of humans. This seminar focuses on geological concepts of time and change, with special emphasis on plate tectonics, volcanism, the coral reef environment, rainforests, and of course biological evolution. An overnight field trip will be required.

11797  FTS-100-326  MWF  10:30-11:20 AM  JAMES WELSH

11:30 A.M.

BACKING HITLER, DEFYING HITLER

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of Adolf Hitler’s rise to power in Germany. How Hitler could come to power through a democratic process and why there was so little overt resistance to his rise are questions that have disturbed many, especially since the full extent of the Nazi regime’s horrors have become widely known. This seminar looks at both original sources from the 1930s and recent historical scholarship that offers possible answers to these important questions.

11064  FTS-100-041  MTWF  11:30-12:20 PM  ERIC CARLSON

TRAVELS THROUGH DIXIE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of a region of the United States. We will study the historical geography of the South through the region’s novels and travel writings. We will see how regional characteristics are embodied in the actions and identities of the people who live there. We will look at life on Southern plantations, the Appalachian Mountains, the settlement of the South, Southern cities, and the character of small towns. By learning the spirit and character of the South, you will see yourself and your home region more clearly.

11065  FTS-100-072  MTWF  11:30-12:20 PM  ROBERT DOUGLAS
CULTURAL IDENTITY: BLENDING TWO HERITAGES

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of recent and not so recent immigrants to America, as well as Americans who have lived abroad, face conflicts in balancing the cultural heritages that shape their identity. Individuals who try to integrate two cultures, to “walk in two worlds,” encounter differences in important values: the role of the family, the degree of individual independence, language, gender roles, religious beliefs, and traditions. We will read primarily fictional accounts of such experiences to recognize and appreciate these differences. In addition, students will examine their own upbringing and the sources of the values they have assumed or taken for granted.

11069  FTS-100-101  MWRF  11:30-12:20 PM  PATRICIA FREIERT

COMFORT THE AFFLICTIONED, AFFLICTION THE COMFORTABLE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through readings in the genre of religious autobiography. Our texts, drawn from several religious traditions, will focus on writings by people – including Dorothy Day and Dietrich Bonhoeffer – whose religious commitments moved them to pursue social change. We will be challenged to examine critically the implications of our own beliefs, and the possible intersections of our faith and actions.

11074  FTS-100-127  MTWF  11:30-12:20 PM  DEBORAH GOODWIN

THE POLITICS OF HOMELESSNESS

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of homelessness. Why does homelessness exist in the United States? Where in the US does it exist? Who does it affect? What is being done to end 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.

11972  FTS-100-199  MTWF  11:30-12:20 PM  RICHARD LEITCH

HEROES AND SHEROES: UNDERSTANDING SELF AND OTHERS

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the psychological consequences of the mythic hero journey and its applicability as a model of personal growth and development. In the conduct of the course, images of Gods, Goddesses, and the work they do serve as psychological metaphors for the student to better understand self, to explore relationships with roommates, family members, and significant others, to chart major and career courses, and to explore both curricular and extracurricular opportunities at Gustavus.

11858  FTS-100-291  MTWF  11:30-12:20 PM  BARBARA SIMPSON

ALL ROADS LEAD TO…?: THE LITERATURE OF TRAVEL

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of travel literature. In the words of the poet T. S. Eliot, “The end of all our exploring/Will be to arrive where we started/And to know the place for the first time.” What is your starting place? Where do you long to go? What will you see along the way, and what will you learn about yourself? These are some of the questions we will consider as we read what other travelers – such as Mark Twain, Edith Wharton and Jack Kerouac – have to tell us in fiction, poems, and real-life travel accounts.

11791  FTS-100-301  MTWF  11:30-12:20 PM  JOYCE SUTPHEN

12:30 P.M.

THE PROBLEM OF GENOCIDE

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of genocide. The twentieth century was, in retrospect, the bloodiest in human history. By one estimate, governments killed about 170,000,000 people. And yet the word we now use to describe such murder—genocide—was not invented and accepted into use until the midpoint of the century. The primary focus of the class will be the Nazi Holocaust, but we will also examine the Armenian genocide in the early 20th century, the recent genocide in Rwanda, and the ongoing genocide in the Sudan. Our approach to these events will be through a range of texts—history, fiction, film, memoir and monument. We will ask questions about the implications of genocide for understanding human nature and the nature of evil. We will also look at similarities and differences in strategies of oppression across cultures as well as efforts at reconciliation and coming to terms with such a past.

11062  FTS-100-003  MTRF  12:30-1:20 PM  ELIZABETH BAER

(Also meets on Mon. @ 6:30 – 8:30 PM)
WHAT!! ME WORK?

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of the rapidly changing definitions of work in our world. Not too long ago a forty-hour work week, two weeks of vacation per year, annual performance appraisals, and thirty or forty year careers with the same employer were considered the norm and the ideal. The 1990s saw these and other elements of work change due to a changing demographic profile of the American work force, and from America’s willingness to look around the world (for example, Scandinavia and Japan) for other ways to both obtain and retain an effective work force. In addition to drawing from the literature found in economics, international management, and sociology, students will have the opportunity to interview individuals in the United States and abroad (via the internet) asking these workers to discuss how their jobs have changed and asking for speculation as to what work might look like there in the future.

11080  FTS-100-161  MTRF  12:30-1:20 PM  BRUCE JOHNSON

THE SIXTIES: A HISTORY

This is a seminar for students emphasizing critical thinking, values, and oral and written communication. Rock ‘n’ roll, civil rights, Vietnam, the antiwar movement, feminism, the sexual revolution, the counterculture. The Sixties was a supercharged decade. Why? We will explore the seeds and legacies of the Sixties (c. 1960-1972): the personalities, events, developments, issues, conflicts, practices, and ideas that defined the decade; and the changing meanings of “the Sixties” over time.

11971  FTS-100-176  MTWF  12:30-1:20 PM  GREGORY KASTER

VIRUSES: INVISIBLE INVADERS

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of viruses. Viruses have again grabbed our attention. Twenty years ago, we thought that these invisible invaders were under our control. Smallpox was vanquished. Polio and measles were all but eradicated. But now headlines warn of chicken-killing influenza strains and of exotic viruses arising from the hot zones in tropical forests. AIDS continues to dominate political conversations. This course will explore the biology of viruses as they invade the human body and the changes in society that are contributing to emerging virus diseases. To learn how scientists look for answers to biological problems, students will design and carry out laboratory investigations that use bacterial and plant viruses. The course will also help students develop strategies to enhance their learning skills in science courses.

11773  FTS-100-196  MWRF  12:30-1:20 PM  JOHN LAMMERT

1:30 P.M.

RACE AND THE AMERICAN VISION

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of race in America. This seminar explores the impact of race on the fundamental American vision of freedom and equality for all. Against the backdrop of the American ethos, how has race shaped and formed the experience of Black Americans, in particular, in their quest to achieve inclusion into the American vision of freedom and equality? We will examine how Black Americans have thought about the problem of race and the American vision as well as read of their experiences when confronted with the paradoxes that arise from the contradiction of living in a society that is reluctant to include them into this vision and the basic struggle to get that society to live up to its own principles and beliefs. We will read Frederick Douglass' Narrative, The Autobiography of Malcolm X, The Souls of Black Folks, by W. E. B. DuBois and A Testament of Hope, by Martin Luther King, Jr.

11794  FTS-100-026  MTWF  1:30-2:20 PM  PHILIP BRYANT

STORIES, SELVES, AND COMMUNITIES

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, by investigating connections between our family and cultural histories and our storytelling--and reading--preferences. We'll ask questions like these: What makes a story persuasive and powerful? What kinds of stories are we unable to understand? Can stories be used to "argue"? We will read and write about contemporary novels and essays by authors including Gloria Naylor, Tim O'Brien, and Terry Tempest Williams. We'll also complete an oral history project in order to study the stories and cultures of St. Peter, Minnesota.

11094  FTS-100-303  MTWF  1:30-2:20 PM  REBECCA TAYLOR FREMO
ISRAEL, PALESTINE, AND THE ROLE OF RELIGION

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, by investigating the role religion has played in the Israel/Palestine conflict. This course explores the conflict in Israel and Palestine with a focus on the role that religion plays in that conflict. Students will be introduced to some central theological features in the Bible and explore how these features factor in contemporary conflicts in the areas of modern Israel and Palestine. Students will also conduct independent research and make class presentations on the history of the Middle East, contemporary events, the peace process in Israel and Palestine. The course will culminate with a peace conference in which students use everything learned in the course as background for suggesting resolutions to contemporary Palestinian/Israeli conflict. Course requirements in addition to daily class participation include daily writing assignments, several papers, two tests, a research paper, and participation in the peace conference.

11096  FTS-100-314  MTWF  1:30-2:20 PM  ANDREW VAUGHN

2:30 P.M.

DRAMATIC CALLINGS

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through an investigation of what it means to have a “calling” or “vocation” in life. Students will consider their own present sense of a personal calling. We then shall read, analyze and discuss a series of plays, selected from different times and places, in which the principal character is called to a “mission” of one sort or another. In the final part of the course, students will engage in acting exercises to explore the concepts of “self-image,” “impulse,” and “objective” in life and onstage. Out of these exercises they will develop monologues of their own devising which express their sense of personal calling. Writing assignments will include informal self-reflection, formal analyses, and creative projects.

11071  FTS-100-121  MWF  2:30-3:20 PM  ROBERT GARDNER
(Also meets on Wed. @ 3:30-4:20 PM)

3:30 P.M.

POP MUSIC, USA

This seminar introduces students to critical thinking and a discussion of values, and develops oral and written communication skills, through study of American popular music from 1880 until 1980. Students will explore the interrelationship of music and society through various projects, presentations and class discussion. We will seek to understand the relationship between popular culture, popular artist and popular music.

11973  FTS-100-242  MTRF  3:30-4:20 PM  D. SCOTT MOORE