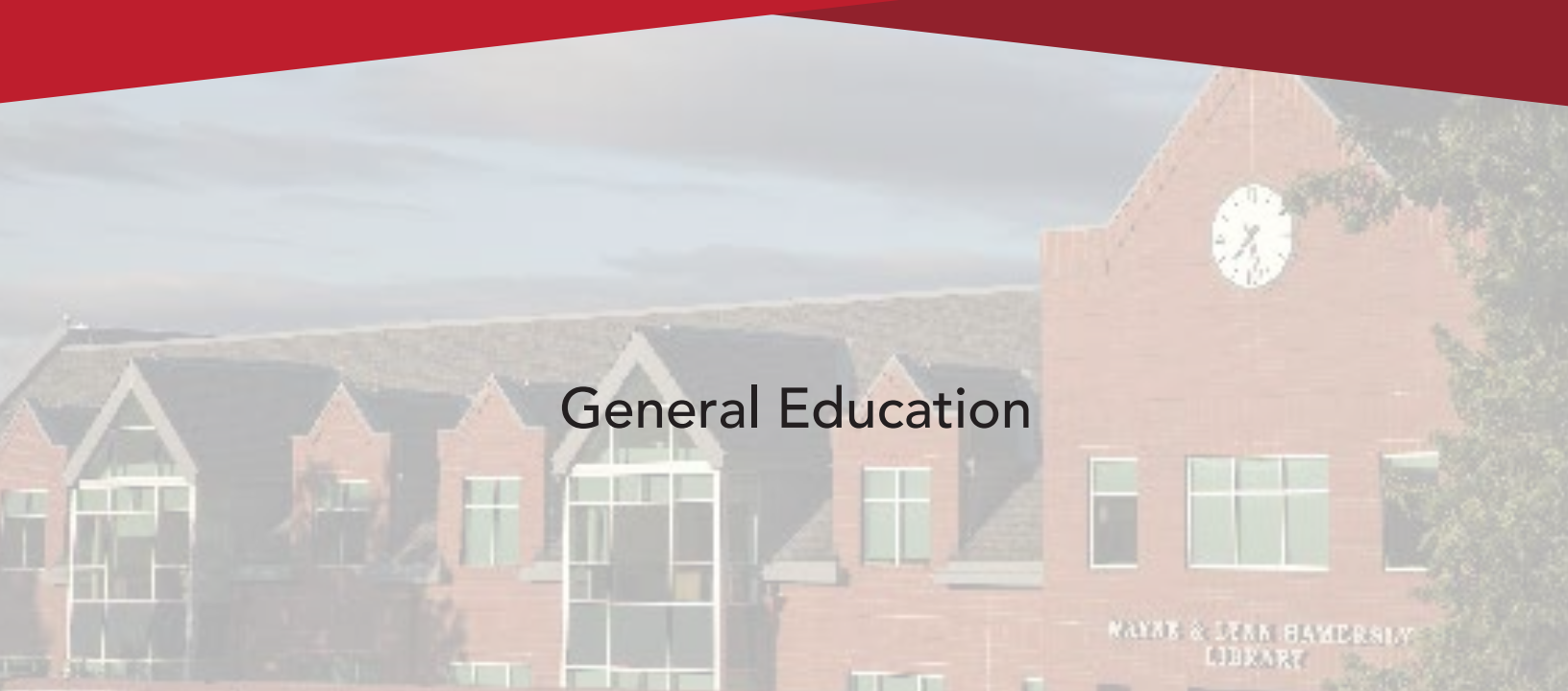




*2024-25*

*First Year Seminar  
Guidebook*



General Education

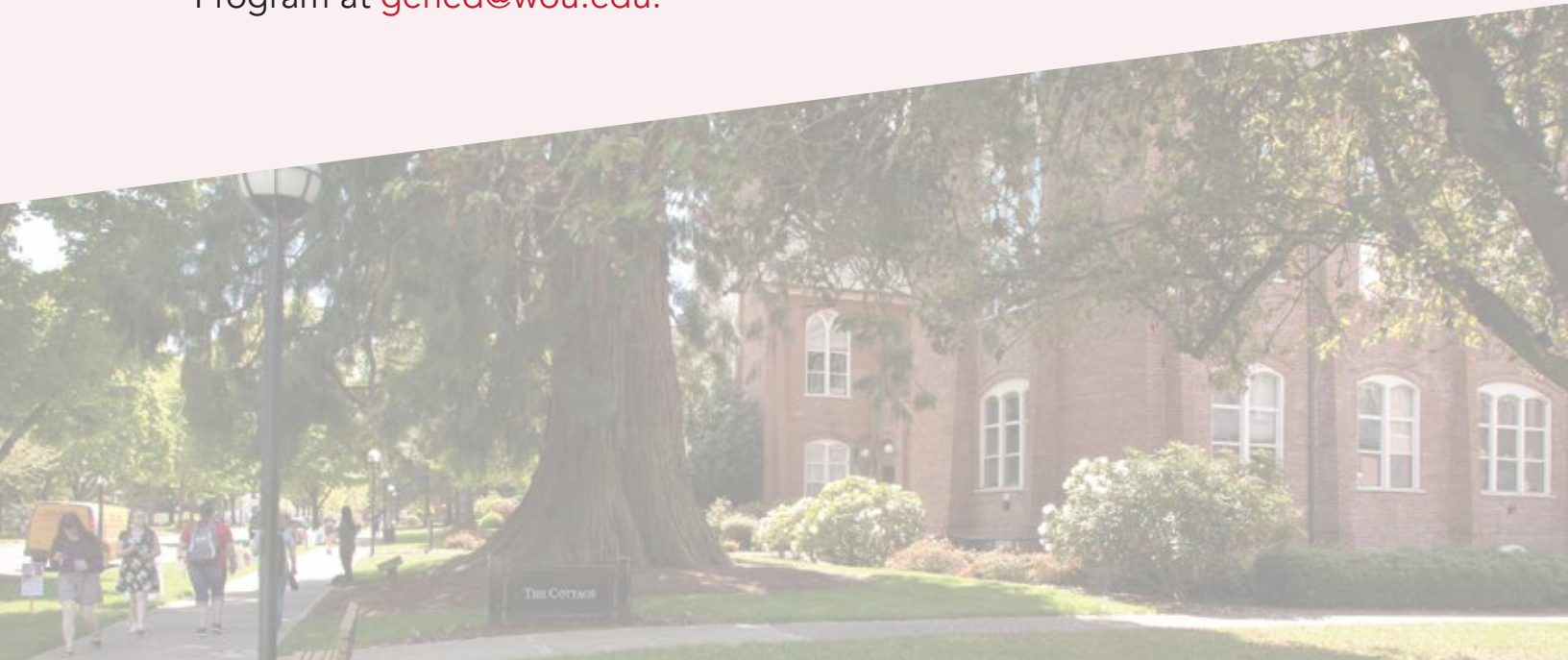


## Welcome to the FYS Program at WOU

**Welcome, new Wolves, and congratulations on starting your college career at WOU!** As part of this journey, you will take two First Year Seminars, each of which is a 4-credit class. These classes are designed to help you practice college-level reading, writing, and analytic skills in a supportive and collaborative environment. You will also get to know faculty in different academic areas, and explore interesting topics that you won't see anywhere else in our curriculum.

You will choose one FYS 107 (Writing-Focused) and one FYS 207 (Quantitative-Focused) class to take, and you can take them in any order and in any term during your first year. This guidebook contains information about the more than 40 different First Year Seminars offered this year.

Questions? Contact your PACK advisor, or email the General Education Program at [gened@wou.edu](mailto:gened@wou.edu).



# Course Listing *by category*

FYS courses categorized with "107" are writing-focused seminars and those categorized with "207" are quantitative-focused.

## History & Society

<i>Poets, Playwrights, and Revolutionaries: Lessons from the Soviet Bloc</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>Mythology in the Marvel Comic Universe</i>	107 - p. 15
<i>The Disinformation Trap</i>	207 - p. 17
<i>Human Migration and the Refugee Crisis</i>	207 - p. 18
<i>Black Europe</i>	107 - p. 19

## Media & Culture

<i>Write Your Novel in a Month</i>	107 - p. 8
<i>Moving in the Movies</i>	107 - p. 8
<i>Taylor-Made Rhetoric</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>No More Stigma? Traveling to Las Vegas as a Destination Resort</i>	107 - p. 10
<i>Criminology of Superheroes</i>	207 - p. 12
<i>Bodymind: Reading Bodies, Minds, and Disability</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>Notorious Trials - How Shocking Crimes Became Shocking Administrations of Justice</i>	207 - p. 17

## Arts & Expression

<i>The Creative Process: How to Think Like an Artist</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>Illuminating the Code of Dance</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>Dancing Drones</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>Fairy Tales: From the Brothers Grimm to Disney</i>	107 - p. 15
<i>Color and Expression in Art</i>	107 - p. 15
<i>Digital Storytelling and Narratives</i>	107 - p. 19
<i>Visuals for Everyone: Inclusive Media Design</i>	107 - p. 20



# Course Listing *by category*

## Self & Identity

<i>Family Matters</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>The Good, the Bad, and the Ambivalent</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>Make your brain work for you: Cognition in the college classroom</i>	107 - p. 10
<i>Me, Myself, &amp; I: Who the Heck am I?</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>Play: It's not just for kids</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>What's Your Story?</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>Logic, Language, and Alice</i>	107 - p. 19
<i>Finding and Writing Your Family History: Across Generations</i>	107 - p. 20
<i>Create Your Own Future</i>	107 - p. 20

## Science & Environment

<i>An Ounce of Prevention</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>Rocking the National Parks</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>Public Health: Behind the Scenes of Being Healthy</i>	207 - p. 12
<i>A Solar System Odyssey</i>	207 - p. 12
<i>Physics in Science Fiction and Fantasy</i>	207 - p. 12, 17
<i>Money Management: Make Your Money Work for You</i>	207 - p. 13, 18
<i>WOU Earth Corps: Beginner's Guide to Environmental Stewardship</i>	207 - p. 13
<i>Pet-ology: Our Relationships with Our Pets</i>	207 - p. 13, 16
<i>Hitchhiker's Guide to Spaceship Earth</i>	207 - p. 16
<i>Protecting the Living World and its Inhabitants</i>	207 - p. 16
<i>Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics: Cultivating Numerical Media Literacy</i>	207 - p. 16, 21
<i>Exploring Natural Disasters: A Bad Day on Planet Earth</i>	207 - p. 17
<i>Controversial Science: How to tell Fact from Fake</i>	207 - p. 21

# Course Listing *by category*

## Learning Community Classes

*Students must register for BOTH courses*

*It's the End of the World as We Know It  
(And I Feel Fine)*

207 - p. 7  
107 - p. 7

## Student Enrichment Program (SEP)

*Started from the Bottom, Now We're Here*

107 - p. 23

*Get Woke to Being Broke*

207 - p. 23

## Teacher Prep Student Support Services (TPSSS)

*The Future is in Our Hands*

107 - p. 24

*Show Me The Money*

207 - p. 24

# Course Listing *by term*

## Fall 2024

<i>Write Your Novel in a Month</i>	107 - p. 8
<i>Moving in the Movies</i>	107 - p. 8
<i>Poets, Playrights, and Revolutionaries: Lessons from the Soviet Bloc</i>	107 - p. 8
<i>Taylor-Made Rhetoric</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>Family Matters</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>The Good, the Bad, and the Ambivalent</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>The Creative Process: How to Think Like an Artist</i>	107 - p. 9
<i>Make your brain work for you: Cognition in the college classroom</i>	107 - p. 10
<i>No More Stigma? Traveling to Las Vegas as a Destination Resort</i>	107 - p. 10
<i>Dancing Drones</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>Illuminating the Code of Dance</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>An Ounce of Prevention</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>Rocking the National Parks</i>	207 - p. 11
<i>Public Health: Behind the Scenes of Being Healthy</i>	207 - p. 12
<i>Criminology of Superheroes</i>	207 - p. 12
<i>A Solar System Odyssey</i>	207 - p. 12
<i>Physics in Science Fiction and Fantasy</i>	207 - p. 12
<i>Money Management: Make Your Money Work for You</i>	207 - p. 13
<i>WOU Earth Corps: Beginner's Guide to Environmental Stewardship</i>	207 - p. 13
<i>Pet-ology: Our Relationships with Our Pets</i>	207 - p. 13

If you are interested in learning more about the **Learning Community Classes** offered in Fall quarter, please see **page 7**

# Course Listing *by term*

## Winter 2025

<i>Me, Myself, &amp; I: Who the Heck am I?</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>Play: It's not just for kids</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>What's Your Story?</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>Bodymind: Reading Bodies, Minds, and Disability</i>	107 - p. 14
<i>Fairy Tales: From the Brothers Grimm to Disney</i>	107 - p. 15
<i>Mythology in the Marvel Comic Universe</i>	107 - p. 15
<i>Color and Expression in Art</i>	107 - p. 15
<i>Pet-ology: Our Relationships with Our Pets</i>	207 - p. 16
<i>Hitchhiker's Guide to Spaceship Earth</i>	207 - p. 16
<i>Protecting the Living World and its Inhabitants</i>	207 - p. 16
<i>Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics: Cultivating Numerical Media Literacy</i>	207 - p. 16
<i>Notorious Trials - How Shocking Crimes Became Shocking Administrations of Justice</i>	207 - p. 17
<i>Physics in Science Fiction and Fantasy</i>	207 - p. 17
<i>Exploring Natural Disasters: A Bad Day on Planet Earth</i>	207 - p. 17
<i>The Disinformation Trap</i>	207 - p. 17
<i>Money Management: Make Your Money Work for You</i>	207 - p. 18
<i>Human Migration and the Refugee Crisis</i>	207 - p. 18

Want to see the most up-to-date schedule?  
Visit [wou.edu/gened/fys](http://wou.edu/gened/fys)

# Course Listing *by term*

## Spring 2025

<i>Black Europe</i>	107 - p. 19
<i>Logic, Language, and Alice</i>	107 - p. 19
<i>Digital Storytelling and Narratives</i>	107 - p. 19
<i>Finding and Writing Your Family History: Across Generations</i>	107 - p. 20
<i>Create Your Own Future</i>	107 - p. 20
<i>Visuals for Everyone: Inclusive Media Design</i>	107 - p. 20
<i>Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics: Cultivating Numerical Media Literacy</i>	207 - p. 21
<i>Controversial Science: How to tell Fact from Fake</i>	207 - p. 21



Do you ever feel like the world is about to end? We will explore the "flood" of information about potential threats to our ways of life. Which disasters should we worry about? What can we control? Is there anything we can do to be ready? Learn to ease your anxiety and take control of your future with practical skills and planning activities. The Willamette Valley might seem like a dangerous place (forest fires and earthquakes anyone?) but it is also one of the best places to be in the event of a catastrophe. We will learn about local facilities and groups working on these issues and take some field trips to see what is being done and how we can participate. Let's get ready!

**It's the End of the World  
as We Know It**

Instructor: Rachel Harrington  
*FYS 207*  
*Offered in Fall only*

These two classes are part of Learning Community, meaning that the same students will be in both classes. If you sign up for one class, you must sign up for the other as well. To sign up, let your PACK advisor know, or email Student Success Advisor Melissa Hinzman ([hinzmanm@wou.edu](mailto:hinzmanm@wou.edu))

**(And I Feel Fine)**

Instructor: Marie LeJeune  
*FYS 107*  
*Offered in Fall only*

Although we may be surrounded by messages of doom and gloom every day across the news and social media, there are still many reasons to believe in the power of working for positive change. This seminar will examine nonfiction and fiction accounts of resilience, activism, and practical preparation for surviving even the worst of times. Leave inspired by those who work to make the world a better place and add yourself to the list of those capable of making a positive impact.

### **Write Your Novel in a Month: A NaNoWriMo-centered Approach to Fiction Writing**

Instructor: Amy Bowden

*Media & Culture*

Are you one of the 81 percent of Americans who want to write a novel someday? Turn someday into today by participating in National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo), an international movement that challenges you to create your first draft in thirty days. Every year, more than one million people around the globe take part in NaNoWriMo. By enrolling in this course, you can join them. This fast-paced, fun course will teach you everything you need to know to plan and write your very own masterpiece. We will review the elements that make a good novel, plan our stories together, write, participate in group critiques, and experiment with creative writing exercises. Experience the camaraderie that comes from writing with your classmates and feel the exhilaration of holding your first draft in your hands.

What do the feel-good song and dance moments in movie musicals tell us about American culture? How do the popular dance forms highlighted in these films reflect and challenge social trends of the last century? In this FYS we will examine a selection of American movie musicals from "Singin' in the Rain" to "Chicago," "In the Heights" to "Hair," and many more. Movie musicals reflect back to us shifting American values and cultural trends in relation to race, gender, economics, class, history, and religion. While tapping our feet and humming along to these iconic films, we will have the opportunity to examine and discuss a distinctly American genre and gain new insights into American history.

### **Moving in the Movies**

Instructor: Corrie Cowart

*Media & Culture*

### **Poets, Playwrights & Revolutionaries: Lessons From the Soviet Bloc**

Instructor: David Doellinger

*History & Society*

Did you know that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky was an actor and comedian before he became the wartime leader of Ukraine? In fact, he named his real-life political party – "Servant of the People" – after the name of the 2015 television program that he produced and starred in to challenge the corruption and abuses that had shaped Ukrainian politics. This First Year Seminar explores how playwrights, poets, students, workers, novelists, filmmakers and pacifists also challenged the authoritarian political systems of Communist Central Europe after 1945. In this seminar, students will engage in a study of this recent history through a critical analysis of primary source materials such as poetry, music, art, and film that shaped these transformations in Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, East Germany – and of course Ukraine.

## **Taylor-Made Rhetoric**

Instructor: Greg Zobel

*Media & Culture*

Discover the fusion of classical rhetoric with modern media in this course, focusing on Taylor Swift's career. Study rhetorical principles and their application in music and media, enhanced by practical exercises. Ideal for students in media studies, communication, and music, it offers insights into critical thinking and creative media skills.

This class focuses on diversity of family structures with regard to race, social class, gender, work, and other social institutions. The course will look at family structures noting how social issues impact these structures.

## **Family Matters**

Instructor: Verna Ourada

*Self & Identity*

## **The Good, the Bad, and the Ambivalent**

Instructor: Brooke Nott

*Self & Identity*

Relationships with parents are always changing and not always easy. Using a developmental and multidisciplinary approach, this course focuses on the relationships between parents and children as both age over time. Particular attention will be given to the multiple and changing social contexts of parent-child relationships beginning when children are first born. Students will gain first-hand knowledge through lifespan interviews and will learn about their own family relationships as they relate to the concepts learned in class.

Explore creative thinking strategies used by some of the world's greatest innovators, artists, and inventors. In this studio art course, you will develop a creative mindset that will benefit any major or career. This course will occasionally join together with the other section of the course to complete in-class workshops and art projects. No art experience is necessary: anyone can "think like an artist"!

## **The Creative Process: How to Think Like an Artist**

Instructors: Jodie Garrison and Gregory Poulin

*Arts & Expression*

## **Make your brain work for you: Cognition in the college classroom**

Instructor: Jay Schwartz

*Self & Identity*

Higher education means new ways of thinking and problem-solving. This course explores cognitive science focusing on how people think and why, and the biases that get in the way. Learn to identify, engage, and demonstrate thinking skills to get the most out of your education.

Have you ever been to Las Vegas with your friends or family, or wanted to go? Vegas has become home to a new type of travel destination: the integrated resort (IR). These resorts combine casinos, fine dining, entertainment, hotels, shopping malls, arts, and more, appealing to families as an all-in-one destination. This course will study the business and entertainment aspects of integrated resorts and how they have changed from the casino industry to hospitality industry, leading to de-stigmatization of gaming overall.

## **No More Stigma? Traveling to Las Vegas as a Destination Resort**

Instructor: Miyuki Arimoto

*Media & Culture*



### **Illuminating the Code of Dance**

Instructor: Darryl Thomas  
*Arts & Expression*

This course will explore the parallels between dance and coding and will culminate in creating and an iPuppet dance using basic tools from dance choreography, illuminated puppet pieces, and basic coding skills. No previous dance or coding experience is needed.

This course will explore the exciting intersection of dance, coding and flight, culminating in the creation of a drone dance using basic tools from dance choreography, drone flight and coding skills.

### **Dancing Drones**

Instructor: Darryl Thomas  
*Arts & Expression*

### **An Ounce of Prevention**

Instructor: Eric Wallace  
*Science & Environment*

Do you know how your dream job might affect your health? Every occupation comes with inherent risks to your health and happiness, whether it's typing at a desk, lifting objects, or working late to meet deadlines. All of these activities involve a web of stresses to your physical and mental health that impact your happiness and chance for a long and successful career. By learning to identify these risks you can begin making decisions that diminish them, and find your balance between health, happiness, and success.

America's National Parks and Monuments preserve some of the most iconic landscapes on Earth. The historical reasons of why these places have been set aside will be explored and we will investigate what makes some of them geologically significant. Students will also learn how to use online map and navigation tools for exploring the parks. Challenges to park preservation both now and in the future will also be discussed. Finally, strategies for those seeking employment with the National Park Service will be investigated.

### **Rocking the National Parks**

Instructor: Grant Smith  
*Science & Environment*



## **Public Health: Behind the Scenes of being Healthy**

Instructor: Health and Exercise Science Faculty

*Science & Environment*

This course showcases all the ways public health impacts living conditions and quality of life around the world, in Oregon, and on our campus. Through hands-on fieldwork, multimedia and guest lectures, students will explore ways to get involved locally and globally to make a positive difference in their communities.

Superheroes are here to save the day and do whatever is necessary to defeat forces of evil. But what if “whatever’s necessary” means becoming a villain or crosses the line into criminal activity? In this course we examine epic good versus evil battles and analyze the origin of superheroes to decide whether justice is really being served by our caped crusaders.

## **Criminology of Superheroes**

Instructor: Jennifer Moreno

*Media & Culture*

## **A Solar System Odyssey**

Instructor: Jeremiah Oxford

*Science & Environment*

Exploration of the solar system is the first step to understanding our place in the universe. We will take a journey through time and see how our perception of the solar system has evolved over the centuries and how a revolution in astronomy led to the birth of modern science. With a gift for pattern recognition, humans formulated the laws of physics which are essential for predicting the motions and properties of celestial bodies. By analyzing the structure and composition of the solar system, we can discover what this information reveals about the origin and evolution of the solar system. We will explore the surface geology of planets and moons and learn what physical processes have shaped these unique worlds. In addition, we will examine the latest observations acquired from spacecraft, assess the significance of these recent discoveries and what they mean for the future of humankind.

Ever wondered how a Star-Trek transporter would work? Or if it could work? How about Harry Potter's magic? Interstellar light-speed travel? Me, too. Let's find out how many of these tropes are real, and how many are actually "handwavium" and "baloneyum." We'll be using speculative literature as an entry point into explaining real math and physics.

## **Physics in Science Fiction and Fantasy**

Instructor: Maren Anderson

*Science & Environment*

This course engages service-based learning with a focus on environmental restoration of water, land and soil. Students apply basic principles of Earth Science and Permaculture design to hands-on environmental restoration projects in the community. Four hours of active learning and group discussion per week.

## **WOU Earth Corps: Beginner's Guide to Environmental Stewardship**

Instructor: Steve Taylor  
*Science & Environment*

## **Money Management: Make Your Money Work for You**

Instructor: Business faculty  
*Science & Environment*

The goal of this class is to help students to become financially responsible, conscientious members of society. To reach that end, this course develops students' understanding and skills in such areas as money management, budgeting, career planning, financial goal attainment, the wise use of credit, insurance, investments, and consumer rights and responsibilities. This course will give students the tools and resources needed to make wise financial decisions by evaluating the costs and benefits, recognizing their rights and responsibilities as consumers, and applying the knowledge learned to financial situations encountered later in life. Ultimately, they will learn how to put their money to work.

Our furred, feathered, scaled, and finned pets enrich our lives in so many ways. Our pet companions can be chosen out of fascination with a species, desire for a companion, a popular cultural trend, or simply to rescue an animal. This course will examine the ways in which humans intersect with companion animals. Using a multidisciplinary approach, emphasizing biology, sociology, and anthrozoology, we will examine the mutualist relationship between animals and people and investigate how each participant is affected by the relationship. What is the right match between the person and the pet?

## **Pet-ology: Our Relationships with Our Pets**

Instructors: Amy Dawson and Jim Dawson  
*Science & Environment*

### **Me, Myself, & I: Who the Heck am I?**

Instructor: Tracy Powell

*Self & Identity*

This course examines the perplexing question of what constitutes the self from a philosophical, psychological, existential, and biological lens. Consideration will progress from a broad theoretical understanding of self to an individually tailored look at one's own identity. Deeper self-understanding leads to better informed decision-making and overall enhanced well-being. Come embark on this pivotal journey.

This first year seminar will explore the role of lifetime play from global to local through multiple lenses - historical, cultural, political, sociological, relational, psychological, and physiological. These perspectives will be framed using Social Ecological Theory, Wellness Model, and Play Theory. The signature assignment will be a letter to your future self.

### **Play: It's not just for kids**

Instructor: Jennifer Taylor-Winney

*Self & Identity*

### **What's Your Story?**

Instructor: Alicia Wenzel

*Self & Identity*

Get the tools you need to discover and analyze the diverse lives of your friends, family, and yourself. Build a deep understanding of your past through personal reflection, and find how you have overcome adversity to thrive in your own individual narrative. You will learn to communicate using writing and speech, collaborate with your peers, and use media to express the rich diversity of your life and the lives of those around you.

This class will explore the ways that texts, film, and visual art have challenged our assumptions and values about what it means to have a body. We will study Disability as a civil rights movement that strives to foster inclusivity and eradicate discrimination. We will discuss the potential gains and value of functional diversity, and have fun reading and viewing some thought-provoking, challenging, and enjoyable works of art.

### **Bodymind: Reading Bodies, Minds, and Disability**

Instructor: Kathleen Connolly

*Media & Culture*

## **Fairy Tales: From the Brothers Grimm to Disney**

Instructor: Kristen Klay

*Arts & Expression*

Talking mirrors, glass slippers, and the Big Bad Wolf are all elements found in Grimms' Fairy Tales. Collected in Germany in the early 1800s by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, these stories have enduring appeal and are a vital part of Western literary tradition. And yet, in the British-occupied sector of Germany following World War II, Grimms' Fairy Tales were banned because they were deemed to be feeding "a bloodthirsty German imagination." In this course we will analyze literary fairy tales from continental Europe and trace the history of the fairy tale from oral tradition to print and film. Although our focus will be on literary tales, we will also have an opportunity to look at fairy tale illustrations and to compare some of these stories to modern Disney film versions.

Explore the use of mythological characters and stories in the films of the Marvel Comic Universe. We will compare the film storylines with the original Norse myths, and we will read essays that look at the role of mythology in literature. In our modern scientific culture, why are we so fascinated by mythology?

## **Mythology in the Marvel Comic Universe**

Instructor: Ken Kirby

*Media & Culture*

## **Color and Expression in Art**

Instructor: Jodie Garrison

*Arts & Expression*

In this art-making course students will explore how color can be used for communication and expression. Students will practice color mixing and learn basic color theory.

### **Pet-ology: Our Relationships with Our Pets**

Instructors: Amy Dawson and Jim Dawson

*Science & Environment*

Our furred, feathered, scaled, and finned pets enrich our lives in so many ways. Our pet companions can be chosen out of fascination with a species, desire for a companion, a popular cultural trend, or simply to rescue an animal. This course will examine the ways in which humans intersect with companion animals. Using a multidisciplinary approach, emphasizing biology, sociology, and anthrozoology, we will examine the mutualist relationship between animals and people and investigate how each participant is affected by the relationship. What is the right match between the person and the pet?

All human beings are passengers on Spaceship Earth, and like the crew of a large ship, the team needs to work together in order to keep the planet functioning properly. This course provides an introductory user's guide to planet Earth, our home. The class culminates with discussions of environmental quality in the context of creating alternative futures for sustained life on the planet. Four hours of active learning and seminar discussion per week.

### **Hitchhiker's Guide to Spaceship Earth**

Instructor: Steve Taylor

*Science & Environment*

### **Protecting the Living World and its Inhabitants**

Instructor: Bryan Dutton

*Science & Environment*

This course will explore the reasons for protecting biological diversity along with particular places where biodiversity is found. The course will introduce important concepts through consideration of several ongoing conservation efforts while exploring the why and how behind these efforts.

We are confronted with an astronomical amount of information in the modern era. Much of this information is tied to numbers and statistics, yet often little or no context is offered so people can truly understand what the data shows. Worse yet, there are entities that are purposefully obfuscating the truth by misstating the data or presenting them in a misleading way. This course will focus on how data and statistics are used in the media and modern culture and how to view data through a critical lens to understand what the information means and whether it is being presented in a truthful manner.

### **Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics: Cultivating Numerical Media Literacy**

Instructor: Maren Anderson

*Science & Environment*



## **Notorious Trials - How Shocking Crimes Became Shocking Administrations of Justice**

Instructor: Jennifer Moreno

*Media & Culture*

Crimes that shocked the nation: bizarre defendants, strange case details, unbelievable defenses. In this course we examine the crimes that made headlines and how the trials became almost as notorious as the crimes.

Ever wondered how a Star-Trek transporter would work? Or if it could work? How about Harry Potter's magic? Interstellar light-speed travel? Me, too. Let's find out how many of these tropes are real, and how many are actually "handwavium" and "baloneyum." We'll be using speculative literature as an entry point into explaining real math and physics.

## **Physics in Science Fiction and Fantasy**

Instructor: Maren Anderson

*Science & Environment*

## **Exploring Natural Disasters: A Bad Day on Planet Earth**

Instructor: Grant Smith

*Science & Environment*

Course focuses on natural disasters and how these normal processes of the Earth concentrate their energies and deal heavy blows to humans as well as have severe environment and health impacts for many years after the event. This course is concerned with how the natural world operates and, in so doing, kills and maims humans and destroys their works. The course will discuss the connections between both physical (e.g. processes of nature) content and biological (e.g. health issues related to aftermath of disasters).

Students in The Disinformation Trap course will explore how and why we are exposed to many types of disinformation online, will investigate why people believe disinformation, and learn how to avoid the disinformation trap. Students will research types and purposes of disinformation, create a survey to gather information from their community about why people believe the information, and present the results.

## **The Disinformation Trap**

Instructor: Mary Pettenger

*History & Society*

## **Money Management: Make Your Money Work for You**

Instructor: Business faculty  
*Science & Environment*

The goal of this class is to help students to become financially responsible, conscientious members of society. To reach that end, this course develops students' understanding and skills in such areas as money management, budgeting, career planning, financial goal attainment, the wise use of credit, insurance, investments, and consumer rights and responsibilities. This course will give students the tools and resources needed to make wise financial decisions by evaluating the costs and benefits, recognizing their rights and responsibilities as consumers, and applying the knowledge learned to financial situations encountered later in life. Ultimately, they will learn how to put their money to work.

Examines the complex forces behind international migration and the enormous impact it is having on our globalized world. The course covers both the challenges and opportunities associated with migration in a broad selection of countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, and Oceania.

## **Human Migration and the Refugee Crisis**

Instructor: Eliot Dickinson  
*History & Society*



### **Black Europe**

Instructor: Patricia  
Goldsworthy-Bishop

*History & Society*

This course examines the histories of people of African descent in Europe, with a focus on Western Europe in the modern era. Through an analysis of primary sources, including memoirs, literature, audio recordings, film, and photographs, we will trace the social, cultural, and political contributions Black people made to European history and the role of Europe in the development of Black Internationalism. We will also examine the forms of daily and structural racism experienced by people of color in Europe.

A lesser-known fact is that Alice's Adventures in Wonderland was written by an Oxford logician. It is filled with logical fallacies and whimsically named creatures. In this seminar we will study some logic through examination of some seriously silly arguments, but we will also investigate a serious philosophical question about whether names can have meaning, by reading Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass, alongside Plato and John Stuart Mill.

### **Logic, Language, and Alice**

Instructor: Ryan Hickerson

*Self & Identity*

### **Digital Storytelling and Narratives**

Instructor: Tiara Good

*Arts & Expression*

Digital Storytelling and Narratives explores what is at the heart of our human experience--stories and ways we share those stories. Exploring various disciplines takes on digital storytelling, narrative, and technology to share them, this course gives students theoretical and application of digital storytelling and narratives through readings, case studies, and crafting digital storytelling projects of their own. The course will also provide hands-on technology experience and exploration of real-life issues, questions, and narratives true to their life experiences.

We all want to know where we came from and who came before us. This is why genealogy-based programs and services are more popular than ever. This course focuses on supporting your own process of research and discovery for finding the resources necessary to tell engaging and meaningful stories about your family and ancestors.

## **Finding and Writing Your Family History: Across Generations**

Instructor: Damian Koshnick  
*Self & Identity*

## **Create Your Own Future**

Instructor: Jennifer Hansen  
*Self & Identity*

Creating your own future can be scary, no one has a crystal ball with all the answers, but this course can help build confidence and tools to make the future a little less scary and maybe even more exciting! This course is designed to provide students with the fundamental tools to find and secure opportunities for bettering one's future. Topics will include getting to know one's own self, job search strategies, resume and cover letter writing, interview skills, and how to network like a pro. Face-to-face engagement with professionals will provide additional insight into these topics from the perspective of employers. Reflection on students' interests, values, and goals will also be integrated into the course.

This course provides an in-depth understanding of digital accessibility principles and practices, including the creation and implementation of closed captions, audio descriptions, and alternative text (alt-text). It integrates theoretical knowledge with practical skills, ensuring students are well-versed in the current best practices of digital accessibility.

## **Visuals for Everyone: Inclusive Media Design**

Instructor: Greg Zobel  
*Arts & Expression*

We are confronted with an astronomical amount of information in the modern era. Much of this information is tied to numbers and statistics, yet often little or no context is offered so people can truly understand what the data shows. Worse yet, there are entities that are purposefully obfuscating the truth by misstating the data or presenting them in a misleading way. This course will focus on how data and statistics are used in the media and modern culture and how to view data through a critical lens to understand what the information means and whether it is being presented in a truthful manner.

### **Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics: Cultivating Numerical Media Literacy**

Instructor: Maren Anderson  
*Science & Environment*

### **Controversial Science: How to tell Fact from Fake**

Instructor: Melissa Kelley  
*Science & Environment*

What are GMOs and are they dangerous? Are vaccines safe? Is Big Pharma trying to hide cancer cures from the public? How can you learn the truth about these and other controversial topics in science? In a world full of disinformation, what is the actual scientific basis behind some of these controversies, and how can we know what sources to trust? In this class, we will learn about some major scientific topics that cause fear or are controversial. We will learn how to find reliable scientific sources, study historical and current scientific examples, and discover how to read and how to understand scientific sources. This course will include a lecture and group discussion components, as well as readings and coursework designed to increase your understanding of "how we know what we know" in science.



# STUDENT ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

## *Classes are for SEP students ONLY*

### **Started from the Bottom, Now We're Here**

Instructor: SEP Staff

*FYS 107*

*Offered in Fall, Winter & Spring*

In this class, we will research and write about what it means to be first-generation or low-income in the current U.S. educational system. How are members of these populations, traditionally underrepresented at college, impacted by policy and the Higher Ed experience? We will examine what a modern "War on Poverty" would look like and what role education would play. We will explore issues of identity and culture (including gender, race/ethnicity, and class) and potential solutions to the barriers that underrepresented students face.

In this class, we will research and practice what it means to be first-generation or low-income in the current U.S. educational system. What are the financial mechanisms that make Higher Education possible for those coming from low-income backgrounds? What is the financial impact of a college education, positive and negative? Students will calculate these costs and rewards from an individual perspective exploring cost of attendance, impact of financial aid, inflation in both cost of attendance and local economy, and planning for future financial needs.

### **Get Woke to Being Broke**

Instructor: SEP Staff

*FYS 207*

*Offered in Fall, Winter & Spring*

Want to learn more about the Student Enrichment Program? Visit [wou.edu/sep](http://wou.edu/sep), email [sep@wou.edu](mailto:sep@wou.edu), or ask your PACK Connect Advisor!

# TEACHER PREP STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

## ***Classes are for TPSSS students ONLY***

In this class we will research and write about what it means to be a first-generation or low-income student pursuing an Education degree in the United States. We will explore issues of identity and culture as well as potential solutions to the barriers that underrepresented students face in the K-12 school system. Example topics may include: inequity of resources in communities and the resulting impact on K-12 schools or cultural bias in standardized tests.

### **Show Me the Money**

Instructor: TPSSS Staff

*FYS 207*

*Offered in Fall only*

### **The Future Is In Our Hands**

Instructor: TPSSS Staff

*FYS 107*

*Offered in Winter only*

In this class we will research and write about what it means to be a first-generation or low-income student pursuing an Education degree in the US. We will explore issues of identity and culture and potential solutions to the barriers that underrepresented students face in the K-12 school system. Example topics may include: inequity of resources in neighborhoods and communities and the impact on K-12 schools or cultural bias in standardized tests.

Want to learn more about Teacher Prep Student Support Services? Visit [wou.edu/tpsss](http://wou.edu/tpsss), email [tpsss@wou.edu](mailto:tpsss@wou.edu), or ask your PACK Connect Advisor!



# General Education

More information available at [wou.edu/gened](http://wou.edu/gened)