Preliminary Spring 2019 Learning Communities

Note: This list is subject to change

LC 203 Making a Magazine about Big Questions, 3 cr.
IND 357 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies: Skepticism and Rationality, 3 cr., Prof. G. Scala
PHL 210 God, Darwin and America’s Struggle with Creation, 3 cr., Prof. K. Giberson

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

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

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

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

LC 209 Organic Chemistry of the Cell, 3 cr., Prof. R. Hirst, Prof. L. Liotta
BIO 211 Cell Biology, 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2018)
CHM 222 Organic Chemistry II, 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2018)

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

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

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

LC 210 Learning Community: The Legacy of Nazism in Germany and Austria, 3 cr., TRAVEL LC
HIS 326 The Christian Churches in Nazi Germany, 3 cr., Prof. K. Spicer, CSC
WRI 261 Violence & Peace in God’s Name 3 cr., Prof. J. Chichetto, CSC

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

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

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LC 211 Is There a Problem? (Community-Based Learning), 4 cr., Prof. D. David-Walsh, Prof. H. Perry

In today’s environment, students are consumers and creators of information, but participation in a rapidly changing social and political ecosystem demands the development of skills of sophisticated cognitive engagement rather than simply being passive consumers of information. With an emphasis on information use, access and ethics, students will evaluate the ways in which stakeholders choose to construct perspectives on and responses to social problems. Students will explore the role that bias, misinformation, big money and problem framing has in influencing a community’s stock of knowledge on issues such as the opioid epidemic or the housing crisis. By the end of this LC students will have the skills to deconstruct what is presented to them on these issues, develop their own evidence-based perspectives and advocate for access to information particularly for marginalized groups in a society. This is a hybrid course which will be taught partially online.

NOTE: LC 211 allows students to fulfill a Moral Inquiry requirement along with the LC requirement of the Cornerstone Program.
LC 213 LC: The Compound "I": Memoir, Fact & Fiction, 1 cr., Prof. J. Green, Prof. D. Itzkovitz, Prof. S. Cohen
ENG 271 Film and Story, 3 cr. Prof. Itzkovitz, Prof. S. Cohen
ENG 390 Topics in Modernism: Fictions of the Self (WID), 4 cr. Prof. J. Green

In this LC we'll consider what it means to translate the disorderly details of life into the orderly narratives called autobiographies. We'll challenge assumptions about truth in autobiography with films and texts that blur the lines between fact and fiction--and we'll create our own audio memoirs in our podcasting studio!

**NOTE:** ENG 390 fulfills the Writing-in-the-Disciplines Requirement.

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

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

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

LC 217 LC: Drinking and Drinking Culture Through the Ages, 4 cr., Prof. M. Leith, Prof. A. Sheckler

This course links drinking culture past and present. Beginning with Ancient Greece and the role that wine plays in the Eucharist. The role of wine in Islam and other traditions follows and the course ends with contemporary drinking culture including data from Stonehill. Students will keep reflective journals.

**NOTE:** LC 217 allows students to fulfill a Moral Inquiry requirement and Catholic Intellectual Traditions requirements along with the LC requirement of the Cornerstone Program.

LC 218 LC: Swords, Saviors and Saints: Global Security and Humanitarianism in Practice, 3 cr. TRAVEL LC, Prof. Ohanyan
  Sect. A – LC 218 paired with POL 143: International Politics, 3 cr.
  Sect. B – LC 218 paired with POL 347: Conflict Analysis and Resolution, 3 cr.

This learning community links an international politics course at Stonehill (POL 347: Conflict Analysis and Resolution or an alternative course) with a 4-week, summer capstone experience in Armenia. Get ready for immersive, high-impact learning in human rights, peacebuilding and diplomacy, conflict analysis and resolution, global security studies, peace and conflict studies, with practice and internships in one of nine globally and regionally-known NGOs, think tanks, and media organizations! The LC features visits to the ancient monasteries of Armenia, the first Christian state, and the museum of the Armenian genocide. Students will examine the ways in which beliefs, ideas and ideologies clash within societies and between states, often resulting in war and violence. Indeed, the persecution of the Armenian Christian communities in the Ottoman Empire culminated in the tragic Armenian Genocide of the early twentieth century. However, as the first mass genocide of the global era, the world's response to it ushered in what we now know as modern humanitarianism and organized for the first time and on a large-scale coordinated political, religious and philanthropic relief movements and supporting institutions. Particularly in the United States, the response to the Armenian Genocide laid the foundations for organized humanitarian and refugee assistance regimes that would later develop globally. This LC has two goals: (1) to study the patterns of armed conflict and organized violence in the 20th century, starting with the Armenian Genocide during the early 20th century, and to broaden the exploration into contemporary global security studies; (2) to examine the humanitarian responses to community suffering in the 20th century, as well as the current, and more modern forms of humanitarianism and civil society responses in various areas of global security.

**NOTE:** LC 218 fulfills the Moral Inquiry and Catholic Intellectual Traditions requirements. POL 347 also fulfills the Social Scientific Inquiry Requirement.

**NOTE:** There is an additional cost of approximately $3,500, which includes travel, lodging, and expenses for cultural tours, museum entry fees, and performances.
LC 219 LC: Programming Ethical Designs in the Digital Age, 4 cr., Prof. Jane Lee, Prof. Jegoo Lee

What is design thinking? How do we create ‘good’ or ‘ethical’ digital designs to help resolve problems and challenges we encounter in the professional world and everyday life? In a rapidly changing, interconnected society, tomorrow’s leaders will need creativity, problem-solving skills, technological fluency, and ethical reasoning to be successful. This Learning Community will provide students an overview of three domains: design thinking, ethical approach, and computer programming. Students will develop both conceptual appreciation of ethical design and basic understanding of computer software programming. Topics will include architecture, crime prevention, fashion, industrial products, urban planning, and workplace.

**NOTE:** LC 219 fulfills the Moral Inquiry Requirement along with the LC requirement of the Cornerstone Program.

LC 235 Quantum Waves (Writing-in-the-Disciplines), 3 cr. Prof. H. Su, Prof. A. Massarotti
MTH 261 Multivariable Calculus, 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2018)
PHY 221 Physics III, 4 cr. (Must have taken Fall 2018)

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

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

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

LC 265 The Impact of News on Financial Markets, 3 cr.
BUS 320 Corporate Finance, 3 cr., Prof. M. Konan
ECO 178 Macroeconomic Principles, 3 cr., Prof. H. Kazemi

Using tools of finance and economics, the impact of macroeconomic data releases, business and financial news on the financial markets will be measured and evaluated. Students will work on individual and group research projects and make class presentations. Bloomberg financial software will be utilized as a tool to see the interaction between news and financial markets on a daily basis.

**NOTE:** BUS 320 has a prerequisite of BUS 203 (with a grade of C- or above - starting with the Class of 2019). ECO 178 has a prerequisite of ECO 176 or the First-Year Seminar equivalent. ECO 178 fulfills the Social Scientific Inquiry requirement.

LC 272 Women’s Global Issues, 3 cr.
BUS 336 International Business, 4 cr., Prof. J. Swanson
COM 313 Gender and Communication, 3 cr., Prof. M. Myers

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

LC 284 Business & Communication in China, 3 cr. TRAVEL LC
BUS 320 Corporate Finance, 4 cr., Prof. J. Meng
COM 315 Gender and Communication, 3 cr., Prof. X. Yu

This is a travel LC designed to offer students not only a cross-disciplinary understanding of business and communication in modern China from a theoretical/conceptual perspective but also first-hand exposure to the changes and challenges China faces in business and communication. The LC will take students to China on a 10-day faculty-led trip in the spring semester. China has currently become a center of international business activities and is a driving force for global growth and integration. With its unprecedented social and economic transformation and its unique transition from a centrally-managed economy to a more market-based economy, China offers plenty of opportunities to see and learn about the social impact of its metamorphosis, from domestic and global perspectives. While in China, students will attend lectures or seminars offered by business scholars and
practitioners on the campus of the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE) in Beijing, and they will also participate in field trips to business operations and cultural and historical sites in Beijing and its vicinity.

**NOTE:** BUS 320 has a prerequisite of BUS 203 (with a grade of C- or above - starting with the Class of 2019). COM 315 has a prerequisite of COM 105.

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

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

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

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

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**LC 331 Crime and Punishment in North America, 3 cr., TRAVEL LC**

CRM 412 Seminar: Punishment and Public Policy, 3 cr., Prof. A. Rocheleau

POL 234 Comparing States, 3 cr., Prof. K. Buckman

The course explores the political, legal and penal systems in Canada, Mexico and the United States. We examine how cultural, political and economic variation shapes the definition of crime and its punishment. We will visit local, state, federal and Canadian (provincial and federal) courts, legislatures, police and prisons. The approximate cost of travel is $950.

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**LC 339 Making Movies, 3 cr.**

COM 220 Understanding Film, 3 cr., Prof. R. Leone

ENG 220 Introductory Topics in Literature: Storytelling in New Media, 3 cr., Prof. W. Peek

This LC, team taught with Video Production Specialist JP Kitson, offers students the opportunity to examine the art of filmmaking and evolution of visual storytelling. Then, students, working in teams, will acquire and hone their digital production skills and tell their own stories, culminating in a screening event for the entire Stonehill community.

**LC 347 A Rogue’s Progress: Mapping Kit Marlowe’s Social Network, 4 cr., Prof. K. Bennett, Prof. S. Hamlin**

Students will study the adventures and literary output of early modern London's most notorious spy, poet, and general roustabout, Christopher Marlowe, in the contexts of space and place. Partnering with representatives at Map of Early Modern London, students will collaborate to publish a new layer of the 1560 Agas Map and create site identifications, encyclopedia entries, and other critical apparatuses surrounding Marlowe's exploits with both friends and enemies.
LC 353-A, Honors "Create Your Own" Integrative Seminar, 3 cr., Prof. A. Sheckler

This course will explore both the theory and practice of integration and outcomes-based learning. Students will apply what they learn to their individually tailored integrative projects sharing their ideas with their peers. Reflective journals will detail how integrative projects developed and changed because of the new ideas explored during the seminar. At the end of the semester, final projects will be presented to their peers in the learning community seminar.

NOTE: Prerequisite(s): Restricted to Honors Scholars. Permission of Prof. Allyson Sheckler required.