FIRST-YEAR SYMPOSIA – FALL 2015

**FYS101A - The Art of Genius**
(Delle, S.)

This course will use masterworks from visual art, dance, music and theatre to delve into the creative process. All works will be studied in their historical perspective as they relate to modern/contemporary art. This course requires written and oral analysis of the semester, we will examine a variety of artistic works and ideas in order to explore the role, meaning, and implications of questions that have shaped the human experience: Who am I? What can I know? How should I act?

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**FYS101B - Motorcycle Mania**
(Campbell, L.)

This course is designed to expose the student to the world of motorcycles. Motorcycles have been in existence since the late 1800’s and have influenced many components of society. The course starts with the history of the motorcycle then a look at the mass appeal of the motorcycle and the various companies that manufacture and sell bikes. The motorcycle’s impact on literature, film and television will also be reviewed. Societal issues such as biker gangs, male and female biker organizations and their financial support of various charities will also be examined. The motorcycle’s influence on environmental and economic issues will also be analyzed.

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**FYS101C - NH Primary: Marketing the Presidency**
(McCosh, J.)

This course will explore New Hampshire’s first-in-the-national Presidential Primary. Every 4 years the candidates come to New Hampshire to compete. This unique blend of politics and marketing provides an opportunity for students to explore both disciplines as the campaigns unfolds. We will look at the history of the New Hampshire Presidential Primary. New Hampshire’s role will be explored not only from a political and historical dynamic but also from a marketing perspective. The candidates running for the 2016 primary and their campaigns will be reviewed. The course will include guest lectures from individuals knowledgeable about the campaigns and possibly some of the candidates.
FYS101D - #NotInMyBackyard: Bringing Social Justice

(Jackson, O.)

Many strides toward inequality have been made in America. However, continued work is necessary. This class will cover the previous and current strides, in a socio-historical fashion, well as those areas in need of continued social justice. Accordingly, students will examine their individual social locations in efforts to advocate for underserved members of a similar social location.

FYS101E – American Conspiracy

(Flynn, M.)

This course will explore media and popular culture, focusing particularly on the way paranoia is presented in a variety of resources. We will be concentrating on the proliferation of conspiracy theories from the Lincoln Assassination through today, with an historical context provided.

FYS101F – Freedom & Fear: Living the 1st Amendment

(Berghorn, D.)

This First Year Seminar explores the freedoms granted in the Constitution's first amendment: speech, religion, press, assembly and petition. Historically, these freedoms have often been suppressed, particularly when the safety of the society is threatened. In this seminar students will read about individuals who have challenged suppression and debate contemporary challenges to the first amendment.
The First Year Seminar “Live Free and Die Free” will utilize multidisciplinary perspectives to explore the human experience of death. Although we recognize that death is inevitable for everyone, it is often a taboo subject cloaked in mystery or fear. This course will examine death using sociological and psychological concepts as well as various cultural practices. Ethical, religious and historical perspectives will be discussed. Death will be considered through art, theater and media. Students in this course will deliberate on the impacts our current healthcare systems have on people who are facing death, while also reflecting on their own mortality.

**FYS101G – Size, Shape and Symmetry**
(Kilic-Bahi, S.)

The primary objective of this course is to give students a different perspective to study the visual beauty and show the broad applicability of mathematics. In particular, the deep connections between the visual and mathematical arts will be explored through the study of patterns, perspective, proportion, and symmetry. Examining the underlying patterns, studying the geometric structure of objects created by different cultures at different time periods, and making comparisons in terms of the underlying mathematical concepts are the major foci of this course.

**FYS101I – Live Free & Die Free**
(Scott, M.)

The First Year Seminar “Live Free and Die Free” will utilize multidisciplinary perspectives to explore the human experience of death. Although we recognize that death is inevitable for everyone, it is often a taboo subject cloaked in mystery or fear. This course will examine death using sociological and psychological concepts as well as various cultural practices. Ethical, religious and historical perspectives will be discussed. Death will be considered through art, theater and media. Students in this course will deliberate on the impacts our current healthcare systems have on people who are facing death, while also reflecting on their own mortality.

**FYS101J – Chasing the Tale**
(Fay, A.)

Within us all there is a story we have to tell. “Chasing the Tale-Storytelling through the spoken word and digital media” will tap in to your natural storyteller through written work, analysis of different storytelling techniques (spoken and visual), reflective exercises to tap into personal stories, that are uniquely yours, and group work to collaboratively assist in presentation development. Take a chance, explore your voice, and tell YOUR story! The class will end with a final storytelling event chosen by the participants.
FYS101O – Nature of the Game

(Watts, S.)

Sport is an important and meaningful human activity, reaching across all cultures and continents. But, participating in it or cheering for a favorite team. Sport reflects elements of art and play; it is associated with ethics, values, and fairness; and sport is connected to politics, education, and democracy. Beyond its intrinsic worth, sport has vast educational potential. This course is designed to engage students in an in-depth examination of sport and what it teaches us about ourselves, society, and philosophy. “It is only by achieving a deeper understanding of sport that we can help it to function in service of the human good” (Reid, 2012, p. xiii).

FYS101P – Where’s the Child

(Stoedefalke, K.)

Growing up in the 21st Century: Where’s the Child?, explores the role of physiological, psychological, and sociological aspects of children in the 21st century. Are we expecting too much? What is the role of the parent, friends, and the community in the youth experience? Are we encouraging them to be happy, independent, and productive adults? What is the impact of technology? Are the prevailing values in our society threatening the experience of childhood? Through readings, class discussions, group presentations, written assignments, and personal reflection, we hope to uncover: Growing up in the 21st Century: Where’s the child?

FYS101N – Daily Bread

(Malan, L.)

In this course we will look at our society through the lens of food. Food is an essential component for the survival of all species, but at the same time, we know that our current food system is neither sustainable nor fair. Many people on the planet are suffering from obesity. The finite resource will run out, what then? This is a very broad and complicated topic and this course will offer only a brief introduction. The topic touches on many different disciplines and ways of knowing and the intent of the course is to get you to think critically about an everyday topic like food.
**FYS101T-HN- Speech! Win Friends, Crush Enemies (HONORS)**

(Robertson, P.)

This course is an introduction to the role of speech in human society over the course of history. Students will explore the physiological features of speech, focusing on human evolution and the formation of human society and culture. They will then trace the role of speech in different historical eras. Students will apply speech-theory to famous speeches, become versed in the history of rhetoric, and attend speeches within the community to explore differing speech contexts. The course will culminate in a final project that involves an analytical element (modern, influential speech-act) and a creative element (YouTube video).

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**FYS101L-HN - PSY of Friday Night Lights (HONORS)**

(Garrioch, L.)

Over 20 years ago, H. G. Bissinger offered an indictment of the sport frenzy that grips many small towns across America in Friday Night Lights. While his platform is a high school football season, much of his book deals with the social issues that continue to plague American communities. In this seminar, we will use Friday Night Lights, both the book and the critical acclaimed television show, to explore issues, such as race relations, gender roles, social class inequality, and, of course, the role of sports in American society from a social psychological perspective.