

**New College Courses
Fall 2017**



**New College Office
Lloyd 201**

Introduction:

Welcome to the New College course list for Fall 2017. All students are invited to take New College courses to satisfy University of Alabama core requirements or pursue subjects they are passionate about. We believe that a diverse classroom environment is imperative to learning, and **we welcome students from other departments and disciplines** to register for New College classes. **Unless specifically noted, there are no prerequisites for these courses.**

This list is divided into two sections: (1) courses that fulfil New College seminar requirements, and (2) other courses connected to New College. To the right of course titles, students will find two types of information in parentheses: UA core designations (if applicable: FA, HU, L, N, SB, W) and New College seminar designations (if applicable: CC, ESC, SPSC). This second group of designations is for the use of New College students only. New College students should pay special attention to the section on seminar requirements that follows.

Seminar Requirements: New College students must take one seminar in each of the areas listed below and at least five New College seminars. Students are required to complete at least two lower-division seminars (from different thematic designations) and two upper-division seminars (from any designation, provided that all three themes are represented in students' coursework).

New College Seminar Thematic Designations:

Creativity and Culture (CC) These seminars explore the world of the mind, specifically the realms of human thought and expressive practice. They interrogate the beliefs, values, and dispositions that comprise culture, and focus on essential questions about what it means to be human. Seminars focus the following issues: the urge to create and to appreciate creativity; perspectives on class, gender, race, and place; historical memory's role in identity formation, politics, and ethics.

Environment, Sustainability, and Conservation (ESC) These seminars explore the physical world, especially relations among elements of the natural world, and focus on relationships between humans and their environment. Of special interest is the impact humans have had on the environment, including issues of climate change, resource depletion, and pollution. Besides identifying problems, seminars also interrogate pathways that avoid environmental destruction by promoting sustainability and conservation.

Social Problems and Social Change (SPSC) These seminars explore the social world, the problems societies confront and the ways human groups cause and respond to social change. Specific areas of interest include: the basis for cooperation and conflict within and between societies; extremes of human destructiveness such as genocide and ethnic conflict; historical dimensions or antecedents of contemporary problems; civic engagement, social responsibility, and other means of promoting healthy communities.

Other Opportunities in New College:

Minors: In addition to serving students who wish to self-design a major or "depth study," New College also houses various minors. If you are interested in a **self-designed minor** or applying for a minor in "**Civic Engagement and Leadership**," please see Dr. Natalie Adams (nadams@ua.edu). For information on the **Natural Resource Management Minor**, contact Dr. Carl Williams (carl.williams@ua.edu). For information on the **Environmental Studies Minor**, contact Dr. Michael Steinberg (mksteinberg@ua.edu).

Independent Study: If you would like to design and receive credit for an independent study during the Fall 2017 semester, you must see Prof. John Miller (mille031@ua.edu).

Reminders for New College Students:

Pre-Advising Checklist: All New College students should go to the “Resources” section of the New College webpage to download and complete the Pre-Advising Checklist before advising each semester: <http://nc.as.ua.edu/degree-program/resources/>

Third Year Review: All juniors are responsible for initiating conversation with their advisor about the **Third Year Review**. **Completion of the Third Year Review is mandatory for graduation in Interdisciplinary Studies** and must be completed before enrolling in NEW 495 Capstone Seminar and Senior Project.

Course Listings for Fall 2017

REQUIRED COURSES

NEW 100-001: Introduction to Interdisciplinary and Integrative Studies (does not count as NC Seminar)

Julia Cherry

R 3:30 - 5:20 pm, RH 354

2 Hours

This course is required for all New Collegians, who usually take it within their first two semesters in New College. It aims to help students better understand the opportunities provided by New College, as well as expose them to ideas behind interdisciplinary study and themes New College classes will cover. There will be required readings on the idea of interdisciplinary as well as projects and presentations. Although non-New College students are welcome, this course’s intent is specifically geared toward those interested in, or entering, into New College.

Appropriate to its academic subject matter, this course seeks to perform multiple tasks. We want to bring you fully into New College, get you up to speed on rules and requirements, and give you the support you need to succeed on your academic journey. We want to introduce you to innovative college programs like New College and hopefully make you feel part of an extended American educational tradition. We want to begin the task of making you into critical, engaged, and skillful interdisciplinary thinkers. And, finally, we want to give you the opportunity to come together as a community of learners.

NEW495-001: Capstone Seminar & Senior Project (BY PERMISSION ONLY) (does not count as NC seminar)

Julia Cherry

R 3:30 - 5:20 pm, RH 354

2 Hours

The senior project is **required to be completed by all New College students** in their senior year, gives students the opportunity to put into practice interdisciplinary and integrative methods of scholarship while refining their knowledge of their depth study area. Projects must result in a piece of interdisciplinary writing and a twenty-minute oral presentation at our New College Senior Research Symposium, and may include other components as well.

NOTE:

- students planning to attend graduate or professional schools (*e.g.*, Master’s, Law School, Medical School) are **strongly encouraged** to take NEW 495 in the Fall semester. This will allow you to use the senior project as part of your applications.
- **ONLY** students who have completed the **Third Year Review** may enroll NEW 495.

NEW COLLEGE SEMINARS

NEW 211-001: Perspectives in the Humanities: Food For Thought (HU) (CC/SPSC)

001: Catherine Roach	M 1:00 - 4:50 pm,	LY 319	4 Hours
002: John Miller	MW 10:00am-11:50am	LY 215	4 Hours

Section 1: “**Food For Thought**” is an introductory seminar in the humanities on food studies. What do you like to eat? What makes for the experience of a really good meal? What is the role of food in culture? What difference does it make how America grows and procures its food? What are the environmental, socio-cultural, and health impacts of how and what we eat? The course invites students into the food revolution in America today in order to consider debates currently raging over organic foods, sustainable agriculture, fast food vs. slow food, the obesity epidemic, the local food movement, food security, and food justice. The course is discussion- and student-centered, featuring hands-on experiential learning through fieldtrips, cooking, and eating. A significant part of the weekly class time is devoted to individualized service learning projects, where the students work with the Druid City Garden Project at local schools. A background check, ability to do physical garden work, and local transportation are all required, although carpools may be arranged. We will tour local family farms, do tastings at a slow foods restaurant, bring in family recipes and food traditions, view food documentaries, and read key texts in the food debates today. The course is designed to supplement New College’s other course offerings in organic farming, environmental sustainability, and cultural studies.

Section 2: “**Liberty, Resistance, and Humanity**” is an introductory seminar in the humanities. Across political spectra, stakeholders are increasingly dissatisfied with government and politicians. And while 24-hour news cycles and tweet-storms give the appearance that this is a comparatively recent phenomenon, the Humanities show that this attitude of resistance is deeply entrenched in the human condition. By engaging a range of texts on ideals of governance (and their limitations), this course will explore ways in which resistance informs what it means to be human. Readings will include fiction, poetry, films, and philosophy (*not too much*). By way of example, one proposed unit would compare Margaret Atwood’s *Handmaid’s Tale* to the 2006 film-adaptation of P.D. James’ *Children of Men* by Alfonso Cuarón – using Thomas Hobbes’ *Leviathan* to explore where the power of the State comes from and what the stakes of resisting that power are.

NEW 212: Creativity (FA/HU) (CC)

-001: Amy Pirkle	MW 12:00 - 1:50 pm	LY 215	4 Hours
-002: Holland Hopson	MW 11:00 - 12:50 pm	LY 202	4 Hours

This interdisciplinary seminar uses creativity as an organizing principle. Human culture and consciousness are explored through reading, writing, the arts, projects, studios, and discussion.

NEW 212-004: Creativity and Computers (FA/HU) (CC)

-005: Holland Hopson	MW 2:00 – 3:50	GP 155	4 Hours
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This interdisciplinary seminar explores the role of computing in creativity and challenges students to work with computers as creative partners. We will consider computing as an artistic medium through reading, writing, the arts, studios, discussion and hands-on projects. Students from computer science, engineering, arts and humanities are all welcome.

NEW 213: Honors Creativity (FA/HU) (CC)

John Miller

TR 9:30 – 11:20pm, LY 319

4 Hours

Registration requires enrollment in UA Honors College.

This interdisciplinary seminar uses creativity as an organizing principle. Human culture and consciousness are explored through reading, writing, the arts, project, studios, and discussion. As an Honors College approved New College seminar, this course can be counted both toward New College seminar requirements and Honors College course hour requirements.

NEW 215: Perspectives on Environmental Literature (HU) (ESC)

Michael Steinberg

T 3:00pm-6:50pm, LY 202

4 hours

This course considers perspectives on environmental studies within the humanities by examining key texts of environmental literature.

NEW 230: Environmental Studies (ESC)

Michael Steinberg

TR 8:00am – 09:50am, LY 215

4 Hours

This course engages students in the study of environmental problems and solutions. It includes an examination of fundamental assumptions about the ethical human-nature relation and of how to value nature. The approach is interdisciplinary, drawing on the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

NEW 237: Cooperation and Conflict (SB) (SPSC)

-001: Emma Bertolaet	MW 9:00 am - 10:50 am	MA 102	4 Hours
-002: Emma Bertolaet	TR 11:00 am-12:50 pm	LY 215	4 Hours
-003: Emma Bertolaet	MW 2:00 pm- 3:50 pm	GP 229	4 Hours
-004: Robert Hayes	TR 8:00 am – 09:50 am	GL 328	4 Hours

This seminar will explore the role of cooperation and conflict in society through class dialog and examining historical conflicts as well as social movements and how the conflict has been resolved. Students will identify sources of conflict and learn to communicate within the midst of conflict. Students will explore ways that conflict can be approached in a productive manner. Students will also be able to identify the role of parties not directly involved in the conflict and how those outside the conflict can contribute to the resolution including the role of social justice allies in affecting social change.

This course carries a Service Learning (SL) component. Students are required to volunteer for at least 12 hours in a project approved by the course instructor.

NEW 238-001(Honors): Cooperation and Conflict (SB) (SPSC)

Marysia Galbraith

MW 10:00 - 11:50 am, LY 319

4 Hours

Registration requires enrollment in UA Honors College.

This seminar will explore the role of cooperation and conflict in society through class dialog and examining historical conflicts as well as social movements and how the conflict has been resolved. Students will identify sources of conflict and learn to communicate within the midst of conflict. Students will explore ways that conflict can be approached in a productive manner. Students will also be able to identify the role of parties not directly involved in the conflict and how those outside the conflict can contribute to the resolution including the role of social justice allies in affecting social change. As an Honors College approved New College seminar, this course can be counted both toward New College seminar requirements and Honors College course hour requirements.

This course carries a Service Learning (SL) component. Students are required to volunteer for at least 12 hours in a project approved by the course instructor.

NEW 243: Natural Science I: Interdisciplinary Sciences (N) (ESC)

-001: Amanda Espy-Brown T 1:00 - 4:50 pm LY 215 4 Hours

-002: Amanda Espy-Brown W 1:00 - 4:50 pm LY 319 4 Hours

-003 Scott Jones M 1:00pm-4:50pm GP 346 4 Hours

This seminar demonstrates how laboratory and field research play an essential role in the understanding and advancement of science. Several multidisciplinary experiments and exercises are performed in an effort to increase scientific literacy and to provide knowledge for addressing the scientific basis of real-world problems. Examples of assignments include laboratory write-ups, student presentations, and discussions of scientific topics. Readings are taken from a variety of sources providing fundamental scientific knowledge on topics related to laboratory exercises, as well as books about the history and practice of science. Students participate in several outdoor field trips and labs that require moderate physical activity (e.g., canoeing, hiking, wading in streams).

NEW 270-320: Leader Social Justice Activism (SPSC)

Richard Dale Wallace

M 6:00 - 8:50 pm, LY 202

3 Hours

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the leadership principles that have been effective in bringing about major cultural reforms. Students will explore the methods by which reformers have addressed social injustice. The goal of the course is to: 1) prepare self-reflective students equipped with an awareness of national and international social justice initiatives; and 2) develop an understanding of the methods by which cultural change occurs. Throughout the course, students will have the opportunity to explore the issues that they value and the role leadership serves in voicing those values.

NEW 273-001: Social Issues and Ethics (SB) (SPSC)

Vincent Willis

MW 2:00pm-3:50 pm, GP 154

4 Hours

This seminar is designed to develop an awareness of the methodologies and concerns of the social sciences as they relate to ethical inquiry. The primary focus is on the nature of inquiry and models for the analysis of ethical issues confronting the modern world. Students will explore the complexity of moral dilemmas and effective societal responses to competing moral obligations in the areas of health care, socio-economic disparities, affirmative action, immigration, and racism.

NEW 300-001: Outdoor Leadership (ESC)

Stephen Middleton

R 1:30 pm – 4:20 pm, Outdoor Rec

3 Hours

The goal of this course is to prepare students to successfully and safely plan and lead small group excursions into wilderness, backcountry, and front-country outdoor areas using various outdoor recreational activities as a medium. There will also be an emphasis placed on teaching technique and presentation skills as students will be required to present information to the class.

NEW 334-001: Everyday Forestry in Alabama (ESC)

Stanley Ford

M 3:00 - 5:50 pm, GP 153

3 Hours

This course will prepare students to understand natural resource practices to better manage one's woodlands in a rural or urban situation. This course is for any student interested in basic forestry management techniques and should serve future home and land owners, individuals interested in conservation issues, and as an introduction to a broader field for students with professional interest in forestry or environmental studies. This course will discuss basic forest management concepts in order to improve the woodland's habitat according to the objectives of a landowner. Students will learn how to identify all major tree species in Alabama as well as all major forest insects and diseases. Other topics that will be discussed will include compass and pacing, forest site evaluation, timber estimation, topographic map interpretation, and invasive woodland species. This course does not presuppose any previous knowledge and no prerequisite is required. Much of this course will include "hands-on" outdoor field trips.

NEW 337-001: Sustainable Home Landscaping (ESC)

Leah Connell

R 3:00 pm– 5:50 pm, LY 202

3 Hours

The purpose of this course is to prepare and encourage students to incorporate the principles of sustainability and the ethics of permaculture into their home or apartment landscape. This course is intended for any student interested in learning the basics of sustainable gardening, water management, pest management, and the use of native plants to provide a backyard habitat for birds and wildlife.

NEW 360 Sound Studies (W) (CC)

Andrew Dewar

W 2:00pm-4:50pm, LY 215

3 hours

How do we experience, define, use and abuse sound? What elements of a sound determine their meaning to us, and why? What can we learn about the world by focusing on its sounds? An emerging interdisciplinary field of research, sound studies asks these questions and more, in an attempt to uncover the important role of sound in our lives. Why do shopping malls sound like they do? What do cellphone ringtones tell you about a person? How has the changing soundscape of the ocean affected natural processes and wildlife? How is music used to both soothe, entertain, and torture or control people? This interdisciplinary course explores sound in a variety of current and historical global contexts—of which music is only one small part—examining the many ways sound signifies and defines our cultures and histories.

NEW 416 American Environmental Thought (W) (ESC/SPSC)

Ellen Spears

TR 9:30am-10:45am, GL 200

Popular conceptions of nature hold extraordinary power in shaping our responses and policies toward both the geophysical world and built environments. This interdisciplinary course examines key concepts and controversies in American thought about nature since before colonization. Using accounts from various regions, the course explores evolving conceptions of nature and justice, competing claims and race and class, and changing institutional responses and remedies to environmental degradation in the context of global change. This course is highly interactive, inviting critical thinking about the human place in the physical world. Journal articles, law review essays, regulatory documents, court decisions, and films supplement classic texts as we examine race, ethnicity, gender, poverty, and other factors shaping environmental health. Because this course carries a “W” for the Core Curriculum, writing proficiency is required for a passing grade.

NEW 434-001: Documenting Justice I (BY PERMISSION ONLY) (CC/SPSC)

Andrew Grace

W 3:00 – 5:50 pm, PH 104D

3 Hours

This is an interdisciplinary course in documentary filmmaking, focusing particularly on analyzing the many dimensions of culture and social experience. Students produce a short documentary film on a story of justice or injustice in Alabama.

NEW 442 Environmental Ethics (W) (ESC/ SPSC)

Ellen Spears

TR 2:00-3:15pm, LY 319

3 hours

This upper level writing intensive seminar explores the ethical dimensions of ecological relationships, with particular attention to conceptions of nature, justice, and environmental health. We will consider classical ethical concepts such as utilitarianism and natural law theories, and contemporary environmental approaches, including biocentrism, deep ecology, environmental justice, eco-feminism, and sustainability. This course will be highly interactive inviting critical thinking about changing ideas about the human place in the natural world. This course meets a college core writing requirement; a demonstration of writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course.

NEW 445 Technology and Humans (W) (CC/ SPSC)

Barbara Brickman

MW 3:00-4:15pm, LY 202

This interdisciplinary seminar provides an introduction to the key debates and questions raised by the increasingly close relationship between humans and advanced technologies. The course will draw on critical works, as well as narrative fiction and popular culture texts, to examine how a dependence on technology might change the very definition of “human” and what subsequent ethical, psychological, and philosophical dilemmas result from this close relationship. A demonstration of writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course.

NEW 490-001: Special Topics: Zen Buddhism and Radical Approaches to the Arts (CC)

Henry Lazer

M 2:00 – 4:50 pm, LY 215

3 Hours

The focal point for the seminar will be Kay Larson’s book *Where the Heart Beats: John Cage, Zen Buddhism, and the Inner Life of Artists*. The first part of the course will involve an introduction to Zen Buddhism, relying on Shunryu Suzuki’s classic *Zen Mind, Beginner’s Mind* and Lao Tzu’s *Dao de jing*. We’ll also learn fundamentals of *zazen* (sitting meditation). Then, through the lens of zen practice, we will explore a range of experimental arts/artists, particularly the work of John Cage, and possibly including the work of poets Norman Fischer, Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge, and the poetry magazine *Zen Monster*; musicians Terry Riley, Morton Feldman, Steve Lacy, and Anthony Braxton; visual artists Kazuaki Tanahashi, Mark Rothko, Robert Rauschenberg, and Andy Goldsworthy; choreographer Merce Cunningham; the film *Koyaanisqatsi*; and performance artists Marina Abramovic and Linda Montano. NOTE: familiarity with Zen or with these artists is NOT required for this course. Questions: contact Hank Lazer hlazer@bama.ua.edu.

NEW 490-002: Special Topics: History Gamers (SPSC/CC)

William Field

TR 12:30 - 1:45 pm, NT 173

3 Hours

Role-playing game in which students play characters from specific episodes of history. Class promotes engagement with big ideas and improves skills in speaking, writing, critical thinking, problem solving, leadership and team work. Students learn these skills in order to win the game. Active and collaborative learning at its best.

NEW 490-003: Special Topics: Global Health (ESC/SPSC)

Amanda Espy-Brown

MW 9:00 - 10:50 am, LY 202

4 Hours

This course explores contemporary global health issues and challenges through an interdisciplinary perspective using frameworks of both the natural and social sciences. Key concepts in current and emerging global health such as disease burden, health determinants and disparities, health programs, interventions and policies will be covered. The social, economic, political and environmental factors that affect health and help shape health initiatives will be examined on a variety of scales ranging from the local to the global. Students will explore global health topics through independent reading, lectures, class discussion and service learning experiences.

NEW 490-004: Special Topics: Arts Entrepreneurship (CC/SPSC)

Holland Hopson

TR 12:30 - 1:45 pm, LY 202

3 Hours

The arts have the potential to shape aesthetic philosophy, transform art industries, and unite diverse communities in varied modes of conscientious cultural production. In this seminar, students will explore vehicles for socially conscious, arts-based, entrepreneurial action as they gain an understanding of the innovative role creative process plays in any entrepreneurial venture. With a bias toward action and interdisciplinary collaboration, students will explore creative content, viability, and social, environmental and cultural accountability. Course activities include field trips, conversations with professionals in the field, and research projects and presentations.

NEW 490-006: Special Topics: Museum Studies (SPSC)

William Bomar

W 3:30 pm – 6:20 pm, GP 231

3 Hours

This course utilizes case studies, analysis of timely typical issues, and problem based learning exercises to explore many facets of museum studies relevant to administration and management in not-for-profit museum types (art, history, natural history, or science/technology). Intended for students considering a career in arts administration, or museums specifically, this course provides an inter-disciplinary introduction to museum work. Students will gain an understanding of the history and philosophy of museums, the role of museums in society, collection policies, governance, strategic planning, budgeting, grant-writing, museum ethics, multicultural issues, and legal issues in museums. Behind-the-scenes visits to museums and guest speakers will be included.

NON-SEMINAR COURSES

The following courses do not fulfill New College seminar requirements

NEW 120-001: Inclusive Leadership through Sustained Dialogue (does not count as NC seminar)

Lane McLelland

R 3:30 - 4:20 pm, TBA

1 Hour (Pass/Fail)

In an increasingly globalized world, leaders need the skills to resolve conflict across lines of difference. *Sustained Dialogue* is a five-stage dialogue-to-action model that builds transformative relationships in order to address controversial issues. This course will explore the theory behind this powerful social action model and ultimately consider how *Sustained Dialogue* applies to visions for positive change at the University of Alabama. Students will first receive an introduction to *Sustained Dialogue* principles and then meet in dialogue groups weekly to work through the five stages to address specific issues of diversity and social identity on campus. For more information, contact Lane McLelland, lane.mclelland@ua.edu.

SS 121-001: Sexuality & Society (SB) (does not count as NC seminar)

Catherine Roach

TR 11:00 am- 12:15 pm, LY 324

3 Hours

Recently, discussion about sex has preoccupied us in the press and the public sphere: the Supreme Court judgment upholding same-sex marriage, Caitlyn Jenner and Laverne Cox (an Alabama native) bringing transgender to the mainstream, the *Rolling Stone* retracted story raising issues of campus sexual violence. Asexuality, hook-up culture, the new singledom, and more all deepen debates about shifting sexual norms in society. While America is shaped by a puritanical past, the 21st century is ushering in huge changes, fast. There is more cultural acceptance and legal protection than ever for diversity in gender expression and consensual romance, but we don't always know how to live out these changing norms, how to make healthy decisions, and how to talk about controversial sexual material in the public sphere. This course engages these debates around sexuality in America as a guide to this new terrain. The course adopts a consent-based model of sexual health. Its approach is sex-positive, feminist, and queer-friendly—aiming toward sexual justice, toward responsibility and pleasure—without being polarizing or polemical. The purpose of the course is to help students develop critical thinking skills, moral awareness, and cultural competence to enable them to make healthy and informed decisions about sexual wellbeing and consensual relationships—whether those relationships are virginal, asexual, celibate, heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer, trans, or more. This lecture course includes class discussion, documentaries, and the input of university experts from the Healthy Relationships and Sexual Health team in the form of guest lectures and workshops. This class functions as an open and affirming safe space; I encourage registration by students of all genders and sexual orientations.

FA 200: Introduction to Fine Arts (FA) (does not count as NC seminar)

-001: Barbara Brickman *Freshmen Only* **TR 9:30 – 10:45 am** **LY 328** **3 Hours**

-002: Jennifer Caputo **TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm** **LY 328** **3 Hours**

An introduction to the fine arts, drawing especially on campus and community cultural events. This course is usually open to incoming freshmen.

NEW 201-001: Recreation For Life (does not count as NC seminar)

Marysia Galbraith

TBA, TBA

1 Hour (pass/fail)

Interested in taking up a *new* physical or health-related activity? Want to run a 5K? Take up karate? Walk a section of the Appalachian Trail? NEW 201 is an opportunity to motivate you to take that first step. Grading is "Pass/Fail" only. For information, contact Marysia Galbraith mgalbrai@nc.ua.edu.

NEW 310 - NEW 321: Independent Study (does not count as NC seminar)

1 to 15 credit hours

Go to <http://ncis.as.ua.edu> for more information and schedule an appointment with John Miller (mille031@ua.edu) to discuss particulars. Be sure to download and read instructions.

NEW 338-001: New College Review I (does not count as NC seminar)

Amy Pirkle

W 3:00 - 4:50 pm, LY 216A

2 Hours

This workshop provides students with practical experience in writing and publishing a special interest publication, the *New College Review*. Students gain experience in thematic approaches to a publication, conceptual formation for an audience, socially responsible publishing, and writing and editing persuasive essays. Students are strongly encouraged to take both NEW 338 and NEW 339 in sequence.