



**BOSTON COLLEGE**

# **CORNERSTONE PROGRAM 2018-2019**

## **ADVISING for FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS in the MORRISSEY COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

The Cornerstone Program at Boston College offers first-year students special courses in which they are encouraged to reflect on their lives as students and to explore new ideas with the faculty member leading the course, who serves as their academic adviser during the first year.

Students may register for **only one** of the following 4 Cornerstone options.

ONE OF TWO SPECIALLY CREATED CORNERSTONE COURSES:

**(UNCS2245) FRESHMAN TOPIC SEMINAR**

1-credit, Fall only, Pass/Fail

Course ends before Thanksgiving. No exams.

Limited to 14 students per section.

OR

**(UNCS2201) THE COURAGE TO KNOW**

(3-credit elective offered fall and spring, but professor serves as academic advisor only if taken in the fall)

OR A SPECIALLY DESIGNATED SECTION OF THESE TWO CORE COURSES THAT  
YOU MAY BE TAKING ANYWAY:

**(ENGL1010) FIRST YEAR WRITING SEMINAR**

Fulfills Writing core; 3-credits

The instructor will serve as your academic advisor for the year.

**(PHIL/THEO1090) PERSPECTIVES ON WESTERN CULTURE**

Fulfills Theology and Philosophy core requirements; 6-credits, full-year

The instructor will serve as your academic advisor for the year.

**(UNCS2245) FRESHMAN TOPIC SEMINAR**  
**(1-credit, Pass/Fail, Fall only)**

Meet with your faculty advisor once a week for 75 minutes and enjoy small group discussions on a topic of research and intellectual interest to your advisor. No background knowledge in the area is needed - just interest.

**ENDS BEFORE THANKSGIVING**  
**No Final Exam - Limited to 14 students per section**

Twenty-four Freshman Topic Seminar sections are offered this Fall, each on a different topic. Topics and Professors for each section are listed below. More detailed information on each topic and the instructor is given on the following pages.

<b>UNCS224501 ROLE OF LAW IN SOCIETY</b> Dean Joseph Burns (Provost's Office) (Taught on the Newton campus and reserved for Newton campus residents)	Monday, 5:00-6:15 pm
<b>UNCS224502 HOW TO DO THINGS WITH WORDS: LOADED LANGUAGE AND THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH</b> Professor Robert Stanton (English)	Monday, 3:00-4:15 pm
<b>UNCS224503 RELEASE YOUR INNER NERD</b> Professor Joseph Nugent (English)	Tuesday, 4:00-5:15 pm
<b>UNCS224504 "THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE (ECONOMIC) THINGS"</b> Professor Tracy Regan (Economics)	Wednesday, 3:00-4:15 pm
<b>UNCS224505 EXCHANGE</b> Professor Can Erbil (Economics)	Thursday, 12:00-1:15 pm
<b>UNCS224506 FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD: HOME COOKING, CULTURE, AND COLLEGE EATING</b> Professor Karen Miller (History)	Monday, 5:00-6:15 pm
<b>UNCS224507 ZOOS</b> Dean Rory Browne (Academic Advising Center, MCA&S Dean's Office)	Monday, 4:00-5:15 pm
<b>UNCS224508 EXPLORING THE WORLD OF DANCE</b> Professor Sun Ho Kim (Theatre)	Monday, 3:00-4:15 pm
<b>UNCS224509 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE END OF THE WORLD! HOW SOCIOLOGY CAN HELP</b> Professor Brian Gareau (Sociology/International Studies)	Monday, 5:30-6:45 pm
<b>UNCS224510 GROWING UP ETHNIC IN AMERICA: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES</b> Vice Provost Akua Sarr (Provost's Office)	Monday, 4:30-5:45 pm
<b>UNCS224511 YOU WANT PROOF? I'LL GIVE YOU PROOF!</b> Professor William Keane (Mathematics)	Thursday, 3:00-4:15 pm
<b>UNCS224512 MUSIC AND . . . . .</b> Professor Jeremiah McGrann (Music)	Tuesday, 3:00-4:15 pm
<b>UNCS224513 HOW TO PERSUADE INSTEAD OF PUNCH</b> Professor Celeste Wells (Communication)	Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm
<b>UNCS224514 AM I MY BROTHER'S (OR SISTER'S) KEEPER? SOCIAL INSURANCE IN AMERICA</b> Professor Joseph Quinn (Economics)	Tuesday, 4:30-5:45 pm
<b>UNCS224515 A COLLEGE STUDENT'S GUIDE TO THE SCIENCE OF MEMORY</b> Professor Elizabeth Kensinger (Psychology)	Thursday, 10:30-11:45 am
<b>UNCS224516 WAR IN THE WESTERN WORLD</b> Professor Devin Pendas (History)	Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm
<b>UNCS224517 SEEING IS NOT BELIEVING: PROPAGANDA IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup></b>	Monday, 2:00-3:15 pm

**CENTURY**

Professor Thomas Kaplan Maxfield (English)

**UNCS224518 THEATRE: ONSTAGE AND OFF**

Professor Patricia Riggan (Theatre)

Wednesday, 5:00-6:15 pm

**UNCS224519 YOUR CELLS ARE WHAT YOU EAT: CELL BIOLOGY AND NUTRITION**

Professor Laura Anne Lowery (Biology)

Thursday, 10:30-11:45 am

**UNCS224520 MONSTERS AND THE MONSTROUS**

Professor Jason Cavallari (Associate Director, University Fellowships)

Monday, 4:00-5:15 pm

**UNCS224521 BREAKING NEW GROUND: FIRST GEN STUDENTS PURSUE THEIR DREAMS**

Professor Dacia Gentilella (Assistant Director, Learning to Learn Program)

Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm

**UNCS224522 CROSSING BOUNDARIES: TRAVEL AS A POLITICAL ACT**

Professor Paul Christensen (Political Science)

Tuesday, 3:00-4:15 pm

**UNCS224523 ILLNESS NARRATIVE: STORIES OF SICKNESS, HEALTH, HEALING, AND DYING**

Professor Adam Lewis (English)

Thursday, 3:00-4:15 pm

**UNCS224524 SEEKING TO UNDERSTAND INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY**

Professor Charles Hoffman (Biology)

Thursday, 1:30-2:45 pm

## **MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON TOPICS & INSTRUCTORS**

### **UNCS224501 ROLE OF LAW IN SOCIETY**

Dean Joseph Burns (Provost's Office) Monday, 5:00-6:15 pm

Law is arguably the defining structure of Judeo-Christian civilization, but it assumes some specific things about human nature and may mean different things in different cultures. In this seminar specific characteristics of western law will be explored in relation to cultural values, class structure, political systems and religious ideas. The social processes of creating, enforcing and adjudicating "law" will be examined from different perspectives with the intent of raising, though not necessarily resolving, intellectual questions about "a system of law, not men". Should law define ideal behavior or just unacceptable behavior? Should it symbolize cultural values? Does it favor certain groups or individuals? Should all people be considered equal before the law? Is punishment, particularly capital punishment, effective? Are juries of "peers" the best way to determine guilt? Could international law be a possible mechanism for bringing global peace?

The seminar is not meant to examine the details of the American legal system, but rather to explore questions about the intellectual and cultural structure of the idea of "Law".

*Dean Joseph Burns is Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs. He has a Ph.D. in Sociology and has done research on the Indonesian Legal System and the role of law in economic development. He has taught courses in the Sociology of Law and Law in Western Culture. He is also a graduate of Boston College himself and teaches a Capstone seminar on the History of Boston College. For fun he enjoys historical conspiracy theories, folk music, travel, golf and challenging conversation.*

### **UNCS224502 HOW TO DO THINGS WITH WORDS: LOADED LANGUAGE AND THE HISTORY OF ENGLISH**

Professor Robert Stanton (English) Monday, 3:00-4:15 pm

This seminar will help you to understand and use language more effectively by examining the hidden history behind the words we use. English words come from many languages: Primitive Germanic, Latin, Old Norse, French, Italian, Spanish, Irish, Yiddish, and many others. The force and effectiveness of every word we speak or write depends on where it came from and how it has been used in the past. Each week, we will look at a current piece of English text such as a newspaper editorial, a presidential speech, a standup comedian's monologue, or an influential website, and discuss it on the level of its words and how they work.

*Robert Stanton teaches medieval literature in the Department of English. He has written books and articles about saints' lives, translation theory, and medieval women writers. He is also interested in the field of animal studies and is working on a book entitled Animal Voices in Anglo-Saxon England. He lives in Worcester, Massachusetts (the Paris of the 80s!) with his family, which includes three absurd cats and a crazy dog.*

### **UNCS224503 RELEASE YOUR INNER NERD**

Professor Joseph Nugent (English) Tuesday, 4:00-5:15 pm

Technology's not just for geeks! In this one-credit Cornerstone course we'll explore tomorrow's world – today. The pass/fail course offers you a friendly and exciting introduction to the ways that technology is changing your life – and your new campus. (And by explaining Canvas and BC's own in-house technology, this course will ease your transition through the weeks ahead.) Explore everything from the delights of social media to the Oculus Rift to the uses of a drone. Along the way, this course will offer a supportive experience where you'll get to know other students and faculty, thus building confidence and direction. The course is designed to pique your interest in the world around you, and the technology that's changing it. Release your inner nerd!

*Joe Nugent works in the English Department. An Irishman, he teaches Irish language and culture, and concentrates on the writings of the greatest of them all, James Joyce. Every summer he brings a class-full of students to Ireland to retrace the steps of Joyce's characters in his great book, Ulysses. He's also fascinated by the possibilities that technology offers us in exploring great novels and novels of the city. He likes lots of music, theatre, opera, film, and biking.*

### **UNCS224504 "THESE ARE A FEW OF MY FAVORITE (ECONOMIC) THINGS"**

Professor Tracy Regan (Economics) Wednesday, 3:00-4:15 pm

This course stands in contrast to the notion that economics is a "dismal science" and instead introduces students to a variety of fun topics, in my opinion, that economists research. Papers and topics range from the design of the QWERTY keyboard, to

beauty and the labor market/classroom, to the social impact of *16 and Pregnant* with others in between. Students are expected to read the academic articles, at their level of comprehension, before class and to arrive ready and willing to participate in a lively discussion with their peers on the assigned topic.

*Tracy L. Regan is an Associate Professor of the Practice in the Department of Economics. She received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Arizona and spent eight years as an Assistant Professor at the University of Miami. She returned back to the University of Arizona for two years and joined the BC faculty in 2013. Prof. Regan is an applied microeconomist whose research and teaching is in the areas of health economics, labor economics, and entrepreneurship. When she's not teaching ECON1131 she enjoys all types of recreation/sports—in particular, yoga, tennis, swimming and hiking. She's an avid NCAA basketball fan (Bear Down, Wildcats) and also enjoys art, theater, cooking and eating.*

## **UNCS224505 EXCHANGE**

Professor Can Erbil (Economics) Thursday, 12:00-1:15 pm

This seminar explores the concept of “exchange” and the different types of exchange encountered in daily life and throughout history. We discuss the similarities and differences of each “exchange”. Every week, one student will lead the discussion on a topic of his/her choice beginning with a brief presentation. Topics include the exchange of gifts in different cultures, the stock exchange, exchange in a relationship, game theory and games of exchange, and many others. The presentation will be the catalyst for class debate. Participants are expected to actively engage and participate in the seminar.

*Professor Can Erbil specializes in international trade, economic policy modeling and economic development. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at Boston College. Before joining Boston College in the Fall of 2012, Dr. Erbil was a Senior Scientist and Senior Lecturer at the Heller School and Senior Lecturer at the International Business School at Brandeis University. He also previously taught in the Brandeis Economics Department and at Harvard University. Dr. Erbil has worked as a consultant at the Boston Fed and the World Bank advising on tax and trade policies. Dr. Erbil trained many economists on applied policy modeling with the EcoMod (Global Economic Modeling Network) all over the globe, including Singapore, Turkey, Ecuador, Bahrain, UAE, Belgium and here in the US. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Boston College.*

## **UNCS224506 FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD: HOME COOKING, CULTURE, AND COLLEGE EATING**

Professor Karen Miller (History) Monday, 5:00-6:15 pm

“We all have hometown appetites. Every other person is a bundle of longing for the simplicities of good taste once enjoyed on the farm or in the hometown left behind.”

Clementine Paddleford in Charles Wysocki’s ‘Americana Cookbook’

Almost all college students have a particular food they associate with “home,” a meal they associate with holidays and special occasions, rules about what they will or will not eat, and apprehensions, perhaps, about whether and how University dining commons can adequately fulfill their dining desires. This seminar offers students the opportunity to share and explore their own cultural traditions, to place those traditions in a larger context of historical narratives of food migrations, taboos, and adaptations. Seminar students will also go behind the scenes of the Dining Commons on Upper and Newton campuses in order to understand the various components Dining Services considers as it plans, prepares, and addresses the diverse food demands of Boston College.

*Professor Karen K. Miller is an Associate Professor of the Practice in the History Department and is an affiliated faculty member of the African and African Diaspora Studies (AADS) Program. In addition to her two-semester African American History survey, she teaches topical courses that deal with social, cultural, and political histories of Food, Social Movements and Education. Miller came to Boston College in 1990, after completing her terminal degree at UC Santa Barbara, and teaching at both UCSB and UW-Milwaukee. She is a native Californian who knits and plays fantasy baseball, but she does not surf.*

## **UNCS22507 ZOOS**

Dean Rory Browne (MCA&S Dean’s Office, Advising Center) Monday, 4:00-5:15 pm

Almost everybody has been to a zoo, but do you really know what a zoo is? What distinguishes it from a mere collection of animals? From a circus, a farm, or a museum? And what animal is common to zoos the world over? Is there still a place for zoos today? These and other questions will be considered in this survey of zoos from their origins in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries to the present day. In this seminar, we will look at zoo guides and histories, examine images of zoos past and present, talk to modern zoo professionals, and perhaps even plan our own zoo.

*Rory Browne, the academic dean for the Morrissey College freshman class and Director of the Academic Advising Center, has extensive experience in advising students at Yale, Harvard, and, now, BC. An Oxford-educated French historian, Dean Browne has taught a wide range of Western European history, but he also offers courses in the history of animals and the environment. Born within sound of the lions roaring and the sea lions honking at the venerable London Zoo, he has always wanted to work with animals and now serves on the Board of Directors of Zoo New England, the non-profit that manages the Boston area’s two zoos. Dean Browne lives in a leafy suburb outside Boston with his wife, Dr. Grace Chang, Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, and their black Standard Poodle, Perseus Plantagenet.*

## **UNCS224508 EXPLORING THE WORLD OF DANCE**

Professor Sun Ho Kim (Theatre) Monday, 3:00-4:15 pm

Dance is a universal body language and reflects the human experience and condition. Dance exists in every culture, and we all dance at various times in our lives, but what’s really going on in the world of contemporary dance, and what kinds of dances are

out there? In this seminar we will explore the fascinating and diverse world of dance through readings, video presentations, discussions and excursions to actual dance performances to broaden our understanding of dance and learn how we can enjoy and appreciate dance in different ways.

*Sun Ho Kim, originally from South Korea, is Boston College's first professor of dance, and has been teaching at the college since 2010. As a dance artist and choreographer, he has worked extensively in many dance, theatre, opera, and television productions in Asia, Europe, and the US. At BC he teaches Modern Dance, Acting 2 (Movement), and Elements of Dance in the Theatre Department and in his spare time enjoys exploring many different forms of artistic expression and the beauties of the unspoiled, natural world.*

## **UNCS2245009 CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE END OF THE WORLD! HOW SOCIOLOGY CAN HELP**

Professor Brian J. Gareau (Sociology/International Studies) Monday, 5:30-6:45 pm

Climate change is quite possibly the most important global environmental problem that human beings have ever faced. Yet, we can't seem to come to any sort of meaningful agreement about how to tackle this major problem. In fact, we can't even come to an agreement on whether it is a problem caused by human beings, especially in the United States. This seminar will explore what we know about climate change, what the impacts are globally and locally, and why there is such disagreement about it. We will do all this from a sociological perspective, a perspective that understands global climate change as being a social problem as well as being an ecological problem. We will conclude by discussing how we can begin to come to a resolution on this important issue.

*Brian J. Gareau is an environmental sociologist. He teaches courses on environmental sociology, science and society, and political sociology, among other themes for the Department of Sociology. He also teaches the International Studies Senior Seminar for the International Studies Program. He is author of From Precaution to Profit: Contemporary Challenges to Environmental Protection in the Montreal Protocol (Yale University Press). In his spare time, Prof. Gareau enjoys playing soccer, watching Barcelona games, and doing things outdoors like gardening and biking with his three children.*

## **UNCS2245010 GROWING UP ETHNIC IN AMERICA: CONTEMPORARY SHORT STORIES**

Vice Provost Akua Sarr (Provost's Office) Monday, 4:30-5:45 pm

In this seminar students will read fiction by AHANA writers who navigate the complex terrain of race and ethnicity in America. The stories and excerpts will depict a variety of experiences but suggest that what constitutes an American identity is far from settled. Ethnic difference has a profound effect on personal and social understandings of what it means to be an American. As we discuss the literature, students will be expected to share their own personal narratives of growing up – stories of race, ethnicity, class, gender, faith, and nationality – and what it means to be “ethnic” in America. Some of the writers we will read include: Toni Morrison, Amy Tan, Louise Erdrich, Sherman Alexie, Sandra Cisneros, Junot Diaz, Jhumpa Lahiri, and Edwidge Danticat.

*Akua Sarr is Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs. She completed her B.A. in English at Dartmouth College, and her Ph.D. in African Languages & Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research interests include West African literature, African and Black feminist studies, African autobiography, West African retentions in the Americas, and literary representations of Africa in contemporary African-American literature.*

## **UNCS224511 YOU WANT PROOF? I'LL GIVE YOU PROOF!**

Professor William Keane (Mathematics) Thursday, 3:00-4:15 pm

In Mathematics, statements are proven by accepting other statements as given, and then applying rules of logic to deduce conclusions. So the validity of an argument depends on what assumptions are made as well as the correctness of the logic. Questions also arise when computers are used to check impossibly numerous cases: if no human has done the details, is the proof correct? In this course, we will consider examples of such controversies in Mathematics, and also examine what constitutes acceptable proof of a claim in some other disciplines.

*Prof. Keane has been a member of the BC Mathematics Department for an astonishing number of years. His original research area was abelian group theory (a branch of algebra), but his current interests are the history of mathematics and the incorporation of active learning in the math classroom. He is one of the few to hold degrees from both ACC Catholic institutions, and to admit it.*

## **UNCS224512 MUSIC AND . . .**

Professor Jeremiah McGrann (Music) Tuesday, 3:00-4:15 pm

Of themselves the simple physical vibrations of music have no meaning, but somehow people have ascribed the most important values to the experience of music: its importance in cognitive development, its ability to shape and influence society or simply to process human experience. Through a series of readings and a wide range of musical examples—classical, traditional, popular—we will explore what a musical composition is and what people have thought about music and its effects with a focus on its role in society and in shaping the person. Participants will be asked to explore the place of music within their own life and to possibly encounter music styles they don't immediately understand.

*Jeremiah W. McGrann is Associate Professor of the Practice of Music and Assistant Chair of the Music Department at BC. He received his doctorate from Harvard writing on Beethoven's sacred music. As this seminar explores, he is intrigued by the*

*mystery of what music means. He teaches a range of music history courses: Beethoven (of course), Introduction to Music, Music of the Classic and Romantic Periods, Opera, Symphony, and Music and America. Trained as a pianist, he last performed a concert featuring works of Liszt. He is a Red Sox fan and loves to explore Boston, its history and its museums and can provide an interesting walk through downtown and the Back Bay.*

## **UNCS2245013 HOW TO PERSUADE INSTEAD OF PUNCH**

Professor Celeste Wells (Communication) Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm

The truth is that conflict can really suck; it messes with our relationships, with our work, and even with our own mental health. In this class, you will learn how to: better understand conflict, better communicate during conflict, and better identify ways to reach productive outcomes in the face of conflict. To do this we will discuss the role that communication plays in the development of conflict as well as its role in the negotiation and management of conflict. Over our 12 weeks together, we will discuss strategies for handling issues in personal relationships and small groups, as well as practice conflict negotiation as a way to improve critical thinking, problem solving, and decision-making.

*Celeste Wells is an Associate Professor of the Practice in the Communication Department and is the Director of the department's honors program. Celeste's interest in conflict and negotiation began in graduate school and was furthered by her years working in human resource management. Celeste and her family have four dogs, all equally stupid, which she loves unequivocally.*

## **UNCS2245014 AM I MY BROTHER'S (OR SISTER'S) KEEPER? SOCIAL INSURANCE IN AMERICA**

Professor Joseph Quinn (Economics) Tuesday, 4:30-5:45 pm

This course will introduce students to the concepts of social insurance and social assistance, with emphasis on three major programs in the U.S.: Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. These are also the main three components of what some call the Entitlement Crisis. We will look at the goals, accomplishments and challenges of these three programs and at proposals for reform.

*Joseph Quinn has been a member of the Boston College Economics Department for over 40 years. He writes on the economics of aging, trends and patterns of retirement in America, and Social Security reform. He was the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1999 to 2007 and Interim Provost during the 2013-14 academic year.*

## **UNCS224515 A COLLEGE STUDENT'S GUIDE TO THE SCIENCE OF MEMORY**

Prof. Elizabeth Kensinger (Psychology) Thursday, 10:30-11:45 am

How are memories formed, stored, and retrieved? When do these processes lead to forgetting, and why? Can we – as individuals, or as a society – forget information that we don't want to remember? Can we improve our ability to hold onto memories that we want to retain? In this seminar, we will delve into these questions, using the study of memory from psychological and neuroscience perspectives as our guide. This seminar is designed to foster scientific thinking and to enhance each student's communication and critical thinking skills, all while discussing a topic (how memory works) of high relevance to college students.

*Elizabeth Kensinger is a professor of Psychology. She teaches courses on Human Memory, Affective Neuroscience, and the use of Event-Related Potentials in research. She and her research group study how emotion influences the formation and retrieval of memories and how the links between emotion and memory change with age and with age-related disease. She has co-authored over 80 articles on the topic. When she is not in the laboratory or classroom, she can most often be found on the playground with her young daughter, hiking up the hills of New England, or learning to ski down them.*

## **UNCS224516 WAR IN THE WESTERN WORLD**

Professor Devin Pendas (History) Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm

"You can't say that civilizations don't advance," Will Rogers once said, "for in every war they kill you in a new way" (*New York Times*, Dec. 23, 1929). War is — tragically — perhaps one of the most universal of human experiences. Yet at the same time, it is deeply historical. Every war is different and not just in the obvious sense that each war involves different combatants and different winners and losers but also in the sense that the experience and meaning of war itself changes over time. This seminar will focus on the history of war in the Western world from ancient times to the present, asking in particular how war has changed over time. We will look at both the way war was understood (what it was felt to be and why it was thought to be justified) and how it was experienced (how men, and increasingly women, killed and died).

*Devin Pendas came to BC in 2003 from the University of Chicago. He is a historian of modern Germany, focusing on the history of war crimes trials in Germany after WW II. He is the author of *The Frankfurt Auschwitz Trial, 1963-1965: Genocide, History and the Limits of the Law.**

## **UNCS224517 SEEING IS NOT BELIEVING: PROPAGANDA IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

Prof. Thomas Kaplan-Maxfield (English) Monday, 2:00-3:15 pm

This course will focus on the ways in which we live in a world filled with various forms of propaganda, from advertising to political campaigns, all of which contain presuppositions and assumed premises that greatly affect how we think. At a certain level, all thinking is a belief system based on particular assumptions, but this class will examine, via readings and films, many ways in which forms of propaganda operate in our society to produce specific and sometimes extreme forms of belief.

Subjects that will be considered include the corporation, the official story of 9/11, and the NSA.

For example, the Iraq invasion was the first time in our country's history that the military built and used a media center to control what was shown and how. Reporters were "embedded" in military units as a way of controlling reporting on the invasion. Pictures of flag-draped caskets of American war dead returning home were forbidden, unlike during the Vietnam conflict in which they were regularly shown.

*Thomas Kaplan-Maxfield is a professor in the English department who teaches classes on love and writing. He is the author of several novels, including Memoirs of a Shape-Shifter, a novel which has a treasure hunt connected to it. Whoever finds a certain jewel on the BC campus will win \$2,000 (see tkaplanmaxfield.com for details). He is also the author of Grail Mysterium, an adventure novel set on the BC campus featuring BC students searching for the Holy Grail—a cross between Harry Potter and the Da Vinci Code.*

## **UNCS224518 THEATRE: ONSTAGE AND OFF**

Professor Patricia Riggan (Theatre) Wednesday 5:00-6:15 pm

Theatre's roots are deeply embedded in the art of storytelling, and in our digital age with its abbreviated means of communication, the power of the story, the full story, remains a rich resource for exploring our shared humanity and as a means of individual discovery. By attending theatre in Boston and on campus, we will encounter people, places, and ideas that will delight and provoke; in a fun and supportive atmosphere, the class will enjoy acting exercises that develop your self-expression, creativity, and ability to live in the moment. Our seminar will be a place to play, de-stress, and connect with others.

*Patricia Riggan teaches courses in acting and voice, plus directs plays for Boston College's Department of Theatre; she also works as a director of new works in the Boston area. Her background includes many years working in the theatre in New York City, regional companies, and as a guest artist at numerous colleges around the country. Her main interests are plays that have multifaceted messages—personal, political and philosophical. She is teaching a new core course, Neuroscience and the Actor, and directing Invisible by Tena Stivicic, a new play "exploring the dreams and harsh realities about migration" and directing Chekhov's The Cherry Orchard in November. Patricia enjoys exploring all the arts, being anywhere near the ocean, hiking, dancing, and hanging out with her wonderfully wacky family.*

## **UNCS224519 YOUR CELLS ARE WHAT YOU EAT: CELL BIOLOGY AND NUTRITION**

Professor Laura Anne Lowery (Biology) Thursday, 10:30-11:45 am

Eating in a healthy, nutritionally-sound way is an important component to maintaining good health during your time in college and throughout your life. But what does it mean to eat "healthy" foods? You may be aware that cultural fads can change drastically - Is fat good for us or bad for us? Is cholesterol good or bad? What about gluten? Sugar? Fructose? We hear different things all the time...it can be confusing and challenging to know what we "should" be eating - as the answer will vary based on whom you are asking. Human diets over the years have depended on what is available (either what is grown/raised/collected, or what is inexpensive to buy, or what cultural fads tell us we should be eating) - but these diet decisions are not based on what is actually optimal for our health and well-being. In this seminar, we will explore how cultural fads in the nutrition industry have evolved, focusing on some of the nutrition controversies and why they have occurred. We will also discuss how best to make educated decisions about food choices, based on current scientific literature and our knowledge of cell biology.

*Professor Lowery is an Associate Professor in Biology. She discovered her love of academia and biomedical research while an undergrad at the University of California, San Diego. In 2008, Professor Lowery received her PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she pioneered research studying early brain ventricle morphogenesis. Professor Lowery then did post-doctoral research in the Department of Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School. Her research lab at Boston College focuses on the intracellular machinery by which cells move. She is also fascinated by the link between nutrition and cell biology.*

## **UNCS224520 MONSTERS AND THE MONSTROUS**

Professor Jason Cavallari (Associate Director, University Fellowships) Monday, 4:00-5:15 pm

Vampires. Werewolves. Witches. From dragons to mad serial killers, history is full of the weird, the dark, and the scary. Every society learns to fear someone or something in order to protect us from the unfamiliar, the impermissible, or the Other. Knowing what scares us, however, also tells us more about ourselves, our desires, and that which we cannot tolerate. This course uses monsters and the idea of the monstrous to introduce students to the study of history through experience with historical sources, pop culture sources, and in conversation with historical scholarship on things that go bump in the night.

*Jason Cavallari, formerly of the Department of History, is the Associate Director of University Fellowships. He received his Ph.D. in European History from Boston College in 2009, where his research focused on the history of social deviance and bourgeois culture in modern France. Currently, he advises students on the ins and outs of competitive fellowships programs such as the Rhodes Scholarship, the Truman Scholarship, the Fulbright program, and Boston College's own Advanced Study Grant program.*

## **UNCS224521 BREAKING NEW GROUND: FIRST GEN STUDENTS PURSUE THEIR DREAMS**

Professor Dacia Gentilella (Assistant Director, Learning to Learn Program) Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm

Arriving on campus for the first weeks and months of college can be both a thrilling and daunting time. Questions race through our heads: What are the rules, spoken and unspoken? What are the best classes to take? Should I let anyone know that I have questions? What will they think of me, if I don't understand everything? These questions often have a different impact on first generation college students, who are trailblazers for themselves and their families. First gen students often carry themselves and all of the hopes and dreams of their friends and families into their college experience, without the benefit of advice from those who have struggled with the academic and social demands of the world of the university.

This seminar will be a place for first gen students to explore their new lives as college students, while embracing their past and pursuing their dreams for the future.

*Dacia Gentilella is the Assistant Director for Outreach and Support in the Learning to Learn Program, where she has worked with first gen students for over 30 years. She teaches writing and literature in the English Department with a special interest in Native American Literature. She also mentors graduate students teaching writing for the first time. She is a certified life coach and has an interest in utilizing mindfulness to allow us to face and overcome our challenges.*

## **UNCS224522 CROSSING BOUNDARIES: TRAVEL AS A POLITICAL ACT**

Professor Paul Christensen (Political Science) Tuesday, 3:00-4:15 pm

This seminar explores the ways in which travel is a process of crossing boundaries--physical and metaphorical--that engages us in politics at many levels. In what ways is travel a political act? Every time we get in a car or take off from an airport, how much do we increase our environmental footprint? Whenever we encounter people from another place, do we take the opportunity to increase cultural understanding or do we act in ways that increase hostility? What impact does tourism have on local communities, for better or worse? What are the politics behind eco-tourism, indigenous tourism, and disaster tourism? What are the politics of migration in today's world? What boundaries will you cross and what politics will you encounter here on campus, now that you have travelled from home to Boston College?

The goal of this seminar is to get you thinking about what it might mean to be a global citizen, and about how the politics of movement shapes the modern world.

*Professor Christensen received his B.A. in Political Science and Russian Studies from the University of Washington, Seattle, and his M.A./Ph.D. in Politics from Princeton University. Professor Christensen taught at Syracuse University and Princeton University before coming to Boston College in 2001. His academic interests are Russian domestic politics, with a particular interest in social movements and civil society; the comparative study of social movements and revolutions; and globalization and its implications for democracy and civil society development. He is also an avid sailor, bicyclist, foodie and cook, and fan of espionage novels.*

## **UNCS224523 ILLNESS NARRATIVES: STORIES OF SICKNESS, HEALTH, HEALING, AND DYING**

Professor Adam Lewis (English) Thursday, 3:00-4:15 pm

In this seminar we will discuss fiction, nonfiction, and film about illness, disease, and health by artists, patients, physicians, and others. We will consider how reading and telling stories can shape our understanding of physical and mental illness as well as the role it can play in healing and wellness. Reading illness narratives can not only help us understand the experiences of others, but also help us understand the decisions we make about our health and well-being. Students are expected to complete weekly readings, join in the seminar discussion, and attend at least one on-campus public talk.

*Adam Lewis teaches American literature in the Department of English and directs the American Studies Program at BC. He grew up in Minneapolis and completed his B.A. in American Studies at the University of Minnesota. Adam received his Ph.D. in Literature at the University of California, San Diego. He misses hiking in the southern California deserts and mountains since moving to Boston in 2014, but enjoys cross-country skiing during the New England winters. Adam and his wife have a two-year-old son and an eleven-year-old cat.*

## **UNCS224524 SEEKING TO UNDERSTAND INNOVATION AND CREATIVITY**

Professor Charles Hoffman (Biology) Thursday 1:30-2:45 pm

Make no mistake about it, I do not have the answers, but in this seminar we will explore the characteristics of people deemed exceptionally creative and innovative. We will look into the lives of people recognized this year by MIT's 35 Innovators Under 35 and recent MacArthur Genius Fellows, including people working in a wide range of disciplines. We will also look at puzzles or brainteasers to develop our own skills.

*Charles Hoffman is a Professor of Biology who has been at Boston College for 28 years. Research from his laboratory focuses on chemical genetic studies using the fission yeast *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* to conduct high throughput screens for chemical inhibitors of mammalian phosphodiesterases and adenylyl cyclases. These compounds have the potential to be developed into research tools and therapeutics. Outside of lab, he enjoys solving puzzles and singing with other former members of the MIT Logarithms. He is also the faculty advisor for the BC Dynamics.*

## FRESHMAN TOPIC SEMINARS BY DAY OF WEEK

UNCS224517	Thomas Kaplan Maxfield	Monday, 2:00-3:15 pm
UNCS224502	Robert Stanton	Monday, 3:00-4:15 pm
UNCS224508	Sun Ho Kim	Monday, 3:00-4:15 pm
UNCS224507	Rory Browne	Monday, 4:00-5:15 pm
UNCS224520	Jason Cavallari	Monday, 4:00-5:15 pm
UNCS224510	Akua Sarr	Monday, 4:30-5:45 pm
UNCS224506	Karen Miller	Monday, 5:00-6:15 pm
UNCS224501	Joseph Burns	Monday, 5:00-6:15 pm
UNCS224509	Brian Gareau	Monday, 5:30-6:45 pm
UNCS224521	Dacia Gentilella	Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm
UNCS224516	Devin Pendas	Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm
UNCS224513	Celeste Wells	Tuesday, 1:30-2:45 pm
UNCS224512	Jeremah McGrann	Tuesday, 3:00-4:15 pm
UNCS224522	Paul Christensen	Tuesday, 3:00-4:15 pm
UNCS224503	Joseph Nugent	Tuesday, 4:00-5:15 pm
UNCS224514	Joseph Quinn	Tuesday, 4:30-5:45 pm
UNCS224504	Tracy Regan	Wednesday, 3:00-4:15 pm
UNCS224518	Patricia Riffin	Wednesday, 5:00-6:15 pm
UNCS224519	Laura Anne Lowery	Thursday, 10:30-11:45 am
UNCS224515	Elizabeth Kensinger	Thursday, 10:30-11:45 am
UNCS224505	Can Irbil	Thursday, 12:00-1:15 pm
UNCS224524	Charles Hoffman	Thursday, 1:30-2:45 pm
UNCS224511	William Keane	Thursday, 3:00-4:15 pm
UNCS224523	Adam Lewis	Thursday, 3:00-4:15 pm

**(UNCS2201) THE COURAGE TO KNOW:**

**EXPLORING THE INTELLECTUAL, SOCIAL, AND SPIRITUAL LANDSCAPES OF THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE**

(3-credit elective offered fall and spring, but professor serves as academic advisor only if taken in the fall)

This course offers an introduction to college life. The readings and discussions will investigate personal and social development in the college years. Topics will include the nature of learning, diversity, social justice, human sexuality, intimacy, addiction, and other topics. The class materials and strategies are designed to be provocative and practical as well as intellectually stimulating.

This will be an interactive three-credit seminar of fifteen students, serving as one of a student's university electives. The instructor will serve as academic advisor during the student's first year. She/he will be assisted by a senior student who will serve as a mentor/guide.

UNCS220101	The Courage to Know	Luke Jorgensen	M W F 11:00 am
UNCS220102	The Courage to Know	Susan Roberts	M W F 12:00 pm
UNCS220103	The Courage to Know	Charles Gallagher	M W F 12:00 pm
UNCS220104	The Courage to Know	Ryan Heffernan	M W 4:00 pm
UNCS220105	The Courage to Know	Alison Bane	M W 4:30 pm
UNCS220106	The Courage to Know	Elizabeth Bracher	T TH 9:00 am
UNCS220107	The Courage to Know	Ashley Duggan	T TH 10:30 am
UNCS220108	The Courage to Know	Susan Michalczyk	T TH 12:00 pm
UNCS220109	The Courage to Know	John Michalczyk	T TH 1:30 pm
UNCS220110	The Courage to Know	Elizabeth Bracher	T TH 1:30 pm
UNCS220111	The Courage to Know	Fr. Michael Davidson	T TH 3:00 pm
UNCS220112	The Courage to Know	Ryan Mulderrig	T TH 4:30 pm
UNCS220113	The Courage to Know	Anna Harris	T TH 4:30 pm
UNCS220114	The Courage to Know	Scott Reznick	M W 3:00 pm

## Core Courses designated ADVISING SECTIONS

### (ENGL1010) FIRST YEAR WRITING SEMINAR

#### ADVISING SECTIONS

(3-Credits, Fall only; fulfills Writing core)

ENGL101001	First Year Writing Seminar	Bonnie Rudner	T TH 1:30 pm
ENGL101016	First Year Writing Seminar	Brian Zimmerman	M W F 12:00 pm
ENGL101024	First Year Writing Seminar	Martha Hincks	T TH 9:00 am
ENGL101027	First Year Writing Seminar	Treseanne Ainsworth	M W F 2:00 pm
ENGL101031	First Year Writing Seminar	Marla DeRosa	T TH 3:00 pm
ENGL100905	First Year Writing/ELL	Lynne Anderson	T TH 10:30 am

### (PHIL1090/THEO1090) PERSPECTIVES ON WESTERN CULTURE I

#### ADVISING SECTIONS

(6-credits/semester, full-year; fulfills Theology and Philosophy core requirements)

PHIL1090/THEO109002	Perspectives	Paul McNellis, S.J.	M W F 11:00 am
PHIL1090/THEO109004	Perspectives	Jeremy Wilkins	T TH 10:30 am
PHIL1090/THEO109005	Perspectives	Karen Howard	M W F 11:00 am
PHIL1090/THEO109006	Perspectives	PHEME PERKINS	M W F 9:00 am
PHIL1090/THEO109015	Perspectives	Antonia Atanassova	T TH 10:30 am
PHIL1090/THEO109019	Perspectives	Deborah DeChiara-Quenzer	M W F 12:00 pm
PHIL1090/THEO109022	Perspectives	Holly Vandewall	M W F 2:00 pm
PHIL1090/THEO109027	Perspectives	Holly Vandewall	M W F 12:00 pm



