

Learning Communities | 2025-2026 Schedule

Learning Communities (LC's) meet the Integrated Studies (IS) tag requirement by using integrative learning practices to encourage creative and critical thinking, while allowing students and faculty to explore issues and concerns of a major theme from a variety of academic disciplines.

First Year Learning Communities (FYLC's) are a subset of LC's tasked with a specific goal to provide a transformative educational experience by bringing together beginning students from diverse backgrounds and providing a specific set of tools for their academic journey.

FYLC's are Hybrid courses, with in-person sessions on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9:15-12:50 in Rooms 4151 & 3211.

Fall 2025

LC 100 (071008) -- AANAPISI

API Communities: Resilience and Solidarities Across Borders

Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities have a rich history of crossing borders as they navigate the intersections of immigration, identity, and transnational ties. We will explore the complexities of API resilience, solidarity, and the ongoing struggle for social justice. We will examine how API communities have historically navigated the challenges of displacement, colonialism, and migration, as well as how these themes manifest in the present. Focus will be placed on the ways in which racial identity and community strength are framed within global and local contexts. Optional service learning.

Instructors: Takami Nieda & Tracy Lai

Meet the requirement for Integrated Studies + Earn course credit for:

ENGL& 101 Composition I (Basic Requirement)

AME 111 Introduction to Asian American and Pacific Islander Issues and Communities (ICS, GS | ESJ)

LC 125 (071009)

Zip-Ties & Zines: Having Our Say

What scares you about the future? What excites you? How much agency do you have? Why?

We will investigate opportunities and responses to current cultural and social changes. You will explore how activists, artists, and academics respond to these questions through mutual aid, creative expression, social analysis/ critique, and other media. With this material as inspiration, we will compose individual and collaborative projects--with the goal of developing a deeper understanding of how worlds are made and remade.

Instructors: Phebe Jewell & Chris Chan

Meet the requirement for Integrated Studies + Earn course credit for:

ENGL& 101 Composition I (Basic Requirement)

ANTH& 100 Survey of Anthropology (GS, ICS)

Winter 2026

LC 200 (071015)

Sustaining Our Communities: Relationships Between Culture and Land on a Changing Planet

Writ broadly, this learning community asks students to consider what makes a community strong, healthy, and sustainable. Students will ask questions like: How does a community form? How do communities maintain themselves? How can I be a better member of the communities I am a part of? Students will work on three projects that examine community at the level of the individual, the group, and the globe. In these projects, students will pay special attention to: the role of language in forming communities, how communities use food and nutrition to sustain themselves, and how different communities steward the natural world.

Instructors: Alec Fisher & George McGuire

Meet the requirement for Integrated Studies + Earn course credit for:

ENGL& 102 Composition II (Basic Requirement)

NUTR& 101 Intro to Human Nutrition (NW)

LC 225 (071016)

Separating the Real from the Reels: How to Fight Misinformation, Build Trust and Create Community

Today's information environment is awash in rumors, lies, half-truths and disinformation. This interdisciplinary class explores how and why misinformation spreads and how we can fight back by building community trust. Through collaborative writing and research, we will unearth misinformation that affects us and take action together to support our communities. Topics will include information capitalism, social media, and the embodied experience of information overload.

Instructors: Erin Steinke & Althea Lazzaro

Meet the requirement for Integrated Studies + Earn course credit for:

ENGL& 102 Composition II (Basic Requirement)

SSC 187 Information and Social Justice (ICS | ESJ)

Spring 2026

LC 250 (071018) -- Equity and Social Justice Emphasis Community Spaces, Community Care

This learning community will use contemporary themes in urban studies and political theory to explore models of urban development that move away from privatized, neoliberal projects, and towards community models of care and governance. Students will receive credit in HUM 201, "Cities and Power," and POLS 201, "Political Theory." Both courses are also part of the emphasis in equity and social justice.

Instructors: Anna Hackman & Olivia Atkinson

Meet the requirement for Integrated Studies + Earn course credit for:

POLS& 201 Intro to Political Theory (ESJ)

HUM 201 Cities and Power (US | ESJ)

LC 251 (071019) -- Global Studies Emphasis A World Without Prisons? The Search for Compassion and Justice

What would a world without prisons look like? Who benefits from the prison industrial complex? What are alternatives to incarceration? How are crime and punishment framed in different countries and societies?

This interdisciplinary 10-credit course integrating Sociology and English takes a global lens in re-imagining prison and other carceral institutions. We will examine different approaches within prisons (such as rehabilitation and reintegration, education in prisons, and "open prison" systems), to alternatives to prison, such as community circles and transformative/restorative justice. Centering writing by people who have been or are incarcerated, we will also study works by prominent theorists and activists on prisons, including Bryan Stevenson, Danielle Sered, Angela Davis, Mariame Kaba, Ruth Wilson Gilmore, Nils Christie, among others.

Instructors: Kayleen Oka & Phebe Jewell

Meet the requirement for Integrated Studies + Earn course credit for:

SOC& 201 Social Problems (ICS | ESJ)

ENGL 262 World Literature (C | GSE)