Learning Communities | 2024-2025 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 2024

LC 100 (071008) - AANAPISI

Rice, Race and Resistance: Understanding Asian and Pacific Islander Communities and Issues



"Rice is life". For most Asian cultures, this statement is true in more ways than just about food. It is about the nourishment of our racial/ethnic identity and feeding our strengths as a community.

We will focus on examining one's racial identity and strengths in the global context of A&PI communities historically and today. We will also analyze how language and rhetoric shape our understanding of AAPI issues and learn how to center marginalized voices in larger discussions of global issues. A&PI resilience and efforts for social justice will be explored. Students will experience community advocacy and foster connections with local A&PI community organizations through optional service learning.

Instructors: Takami Nieda & Kayleen Oka

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

ENGL& 101 (Basic Requirement)

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

LC 125 (071009)

Education for All: Solidarity, Struggle, and Transformation

- What do we learn in school?
- Who decides what we learn?
- What else is possible?

Education can reinforce and transform systems of oppression and exploitation. This 10-credit class centers narrative to explore the purpose, history, and potential of higher education. We will examine the ways social, political, and economic powers shape what we're taught, how we're taught, and the value of what we learn. We will study theories of education that center community, shared knowledge, and solidarity as practices that question the status quo, deepen our understanding of power, and act together to transform what education can be.



Instructors: Phebe Jewell & Anna Hackman

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

ENGL& 101 (Basic Requirement)

HUM 105: Intercultural Communication (VLPA, US, C)

WINTER 2025

LC 225 (071008) - ENGL& 102

Fearlessly Curious Conversations: Sex, Religion, Race, and Politics

Want to rediscover your natural curiosity about what others think and feel? Tired of the constant arguing and division? By understanding why people believe what they do, we can create hope and work towards a more equitable world.



We'll explore the cultural structures and essential questions around sex, religion, race, and politics that shape our lives. We'll practice the skills to have bridging conversations and look past the sound bites and slogans. By listening to the diverse stories of others, we can find our shared humanity. We'll focus on one big question: "What am I missing?" This question helps keep our minds open and prevents us from making harmful assumptions. We'll explore how to use curiosity to find new insights and understand our complicated world better.

Join us to become part of the solution by embracing curiosity and the courage to listen, learn, and connect with others.

Instructors: Jordan Charlton & Greg Hinckley

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

ENGL& 102: English Composition II (Basic Requirement)

SOC& 101: Survey of Sociology (ICS, US)

SPRING 2025

LC 250 (071018) - Equity and Social Justice Emphasis

Solidarity Across Pages: Gender Narratives in the Context of Colonialism and Globalization

In this course, we will delve into the intricate web of literature, exploring how gender narratives intersect with the broader themes of colonialism and globalization. Through a diverse range of texts, we will analyze the ways in which solidarity is portrayed, challenged, and reshaped across cultures and historical contexts. Join us on a captivating journey as we unravel the threads of gender dynamics, fostering a deeper understanding of the interconnected forces that shape our world.

Instructors: vero Barrera-Kolb & Kaitlin McClanahan

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

ENGL 265: Literature and Society (C)

WMN 205: Women, Gender, & Globalization (GS, VLPA | ESJ)



LC 251 (071019) - Global Studies Emphasis

Everyone Eats: Language and the Global Politics of Food



Travel the world and explore migration, identities, and global influences on food cultures: cuisines, foodways, and tastes. We will examine critical food issues like nutritional justice, transnational influences upon local tastes, and sustainability. We will also investigate how language shapes our understanding of food politics, popular discourses that frame food issues, and the material impacts of language on food's intersections with identity, health, and culture.

Instructors: Takami Nieda & Christopher Chan

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

ISP 201: The Making of the 21st Century (ICS) ANTH 270: Food, Culture & Politics (ICS, GS)

Learn more: Greg Hinckley (FYLC Coordinator) or Sharon Spence-Wilcox (LCC chair)