

## 2026-2027 Schedule of First Year Learning Communities

### LC 100 (071008)

#### The Stories We Keep: Thinking and Writing in Historical Narratives

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

ENGL& 101 Composition I (Basic Requirement)

AME 150/HIST 150 Race and Culture: An American History (ICS)

**Instructors:**

Jordan Charlton, Email [jordan.charlton@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:jordan.charlton@seattlecolleges.edu)

Michelle Morado, Email [michelle.morado@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:michelle.morado@seattlecolleges.edu)

What is history if not a collection of stories? In LC 100, students are invited to explore how history is constructed, interpreted, and communicated through writing. With a focus on immigration, race, and culture in the United States, *The Stories We Keep* asks students to explore methods of storytelling, including various modes of creative expression, formal writing, the oral tradition, and the writing of narratives to better understand how these methods of historicizing inform our collective knowledge.

As a combined course, it introduces students to essential academic writing practices while examining the power of narrative in shaping our understanding of the past. By the end of the course, students will not only strengthen their writing and critical thinking skills but also gain a deeper awareness of their own position in relation to history and how they, too, participate in creating and interpreting historical narratives. Who are we if not a collection of the stories of our lives?

### LC 125 (071009)

#### The Art and Science of Losing: Finding Yourself through the Literature and Psychology of Loss

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

ENGL& 101 Composition I (Basic Requirement)

PSYC& 100 Introduction to Psychology (ICS)

**Instructors:**

Johnny Horton, Email [johnny.horton@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:johnny.horton@seattlecolleges.edu)

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*Have you ever been lost, in reality or metaphorically? Have you experienced a great loss? Have you ever wondered how people recover from their deepest losses?*

In this class, through integrating psychology and literature, we'll seek to find a better understanding of the painful experience of loss. By understanding loss, we will discover our individual and collective purpose, resilience, and strength. We'll explore the psychological concepts and research findings around loss, grief, and confusion, and we will analyze the language and rhetoric that shape our understanding of these concepts. Join us in this 10-credit learning community and together we will navigate the literature and psychology of loss until we *find* our way.

## LC 200 (071015) -AANAPISI

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

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

ENGL& 102 Composition II (Basic Requirement)

AME111 Introduction to Asian American and Pacific Islander Issues and Communities (ICS, GS) (ESJ)

**Instructors:**

Takami Nieda, Email [takami.nieda@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:takami.nieda@seattlecolleges.edu)

Tracy Lai, Email [tracy.lai@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:tracy.lai@seattlecolleges.edu)

“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.

In this supportive learning 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.

## LC 225 (071016)

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

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

ENGL& 102 Composition II (Basic Requirement)

SSC 187 Information and Social Justice (ICS | ESJ)

**Instructors:**

Erin Steinke, Email [erin.steinke@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:erin.steinke@seattlecolleges.edu)

Althea Lazzaro, Email [althea.lazzaro@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:althea.lazzaro@seattlecolleges.edu)

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

## LC 250 (071018) -Equity and Social Justice Emphasis

### From “Me” to “We”: Understanding Poverty, Power, and Possibility

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

SOC& 101 Survey of Sociology (ICS, US)

ECON& 201 Micro Economics (ICS)

**Instructors:**

Greg Hinckley, Email [gregory.hinckley@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:gregory.hinckley@seattlecolleges.edu)

Asefeh Houshyari, Email [asefeh.houshyari@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:asefeh.houshyari@seattlecolleges.edu)

*Why do some people seem to have opportunities everywhere they turn, while others run into barriers at every step? Is poverty simply about personal choices, or are larger systems shaping people’s chances in life? How do things like wages, rent, or the cost of groceries affect not just individuals, but entire communities?*

In this 10 credit First Year Learning Community, we’ll explore these questions by integrating sociology and economics together. This allows us to look at how resources are distributed, how markets and incentives shape decisions, and how systems like education, housing, and work influence people’s opportunities. A big part of this learning community is curiosity. We will question common assumptions about poverty, success, and responsibility, and examine the dominant cultural narratives that often shape how we think about these issues. Rather than accepting simple explanations, we will ask deeper questions about how systems, policies, and social structures influence the opportunities people have. By the end of the course, the goal is not just to understand these issues more clearly, but to see how the story of “me” is always connected to the story of “we.”

## LC 250 (071019) -Global Studies Emphasis

### Everyone Eats: Language and the Global Politics of Food

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

ISP 201 The Making of the 21st Century

ANTH 270 Food, Culture & Politics

**Instructors:**

Takami Nieda, Email [takami.nieda@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:takami.nieda@seattlecolleges.edu)

Christopher Chan, Email [christopher.chan2@seattlecolleges.edu](mailto:christopher.chan2@seattlecolleges.edu)

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.

## What is a First Year Learning Community (FYLC)?

A group of students taking a cluster of courses centered around a theme facilitated by a teaching team. The FYLC setup helps you connect with peers and professors, making learning collaborative and supportive, and encouraging creative and critical thinking.

- This integrated approach enhances your understanding of the subject matter and provides a comprehensive educational experience.
- Each FYLC is a 10-credit experience and will show up as two different courses on your transcript.
- FYLCs are hybrid courses that meet Tuesday & Thursday from 9:15am to 12:50pm.

**Your learning adventure awaits... Make your first year unforgettable!**