

Fall 2010

**Learning Communities
Course Supplement for
First-Year Students**
on the
Westchester Campus

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Learning Communities Course Supplement

Please review this instruction sheet before reading the Learning Community (LC) course descriptions.

This Learning Communities Course Supplement includes three sections:

- Learning Communities for first-year students
- Learning Communities for Honors students only
- Learning Communities for Challenge to Achievement at Pace (CAP) Program students only

As mentioned in the accompanying guide, a Learning Community links courses and disciplines so that students and professors share a coherent and enriched learning experience. For example, an English course might be paired with an introductory computer course, or an astronomy course might be linked to a math course.

Pace University offers two types of Learning Communities:

- Two paired, integrated, and coordinated courses, each taught by a different professor in a different discipline. Students must register for both sections of the Learning Community.

OR

- An interdisciplinary (INT) course taught by a team of two professors from different disciplines and focused on a particular theme.

In either case, Learning Communities provide an ideal setting for college students to develop a sense of responsibility and community; experience an increased interaction among students and faculty; engage in a rich, active, and collaborative learning environment; explore diverse perspectives; and gain a deeper understanding of course materials.

Instructions for all sections

Please carefully read through all the following first-year Student Learning Community options. Some Learning Communities are major-restricted. In the section that applies to you (i.e., first-year, Honors, or CAP) choose and rank order your top **four** preferences, indicating them on your *Course Selection Questionnaire*.

Fall 2010 Learning Communities for First-Year Students

1. Italy: Yesterday and Today (6 credits)

Combines ITA 101: Elementary College Italian I and ITA 154: Italian Civilization; fulfills the Core second-language requirement

Description: A structured communicative approach to the study of the Italian language. Students will be able to express themselves in Italian. Students will learn grammatical structures at the elementary level. In addition to the language component, students will gain a perspective of Italian society through a general but accurate overview of Latin-Italian history and a critical analysis of its representation through films from the post World War II period to the present.

2. Writing Philosophically (7 credits)

Combines ENG 120: Critical Writing and PHI 110: Introduction to Philosophy: Philosophical Problems

Description: This Learning Community encourages students to develop a vocabulary for thinking philosophically then, through regular guided composition, applies philosophical concepts to the realities of our time and place.

3. Computers and the Environment (6 credits); for students who place into ENG 110

Combines ENG 110: Composition and CIS 101: Introduction to Computing

Description: Explore the relationship between technology and the written word. English coursework will focus on technology's implications for the processes of reading and writing, while the computing aspect will link the learning of programming languages to English. The class will focus on some of the social and cultural implications of society's increasing reliance on technology for communication.

4. Computers and the Environment (7 credits); for students who place into ENG 120

Combines ENG 120: Critical Writing and CIS 101: Introduction to Computing

Description: Examine the relationship between technology and the written word. English coursework will focus on technology's implications on the processes of reading and writing, while the computing aspect will link the learning of programming languages to English. The class will focus on some of the social and cultural implications of society's increasing reliance on technology for communication.

5. Speak the Piece (7 credits)

Combines ENG 120: Critical Writing and COM 200: Public Speaking

Description: Focus on the connection between writing and public speaking as well as the improvement of public speaking and writing skills based on examination and analysis of written speeches and literature. Discussions include the differences between the written piece and the spoken piece. Readings include speeches and dramatic monologues as well as short fiction, poetry, essays, and drama.

6. Gender, Race, and Class (6 credits)

Combines ECO 266: Economics of Gender, Race, and Class and WS 266: Gender, Race, and Class

Description: Examine current and historical differences in pay and employment experience between women and men, and between whites and ethnic and racial minorities. This course explores the interdependencies of gender, race, and class in world history, literature, and cultural theory in post-colonial culture. Explanations of the differentials and trends are surveyed, and, in particular, a variety of economic and cultural theories of discrimination are explored. Students examine definitions of class, data on class differences, and how gender, race, and class roles are constructed, negotiated, and reproduced.

7. Exploring Our Environment (6 credits)

Combines COM 200: Public Speaking and ENV 110: Nature and Culture: A Study in Connections

Description: Everything we do connects with the natural world. In this Learning Community, students will discover ways in which individuals can have a positive impact on the environment. They will also explore ways environmental conditions affect our health, recreation and leisure activities, and economic situations. This class combines hands-on learning with discussions, guest speakers, and group projects. Students will make presentations on such topics as overpopulation, biodiversity, wildlife, pollution, and sustainable farming. Planned field trips include a wildlife sanctuary, an organic farm, a state park, and wetlands.

8. Psychological and Physical Well-Being (5 credits)

Combines PSY 110: Introduction to Psychology I and HW 101: Wellness and Physical Fitness

Description: This Learning Community introduces students to a holistic wellness approach to health. The health and wellness course component will identify major health problems in the United States. Students will have the opportunity to have a computerized fitness evaluation test and identify objectives to improve or maintain their fitness condition. The psychology course component will serve as an introduction to the science and profession of psychology, including coverage of human development, personality, social psychology, motivation, perception, and related topics. (Students may have the opportunity to participate in Psychology Department research projects.)

9. Rebels and Revolution: Dissent in American History (6 credits)

Combines ENG 110: Composition and HIS 113: The American Experience

Description: Study dissent in America from the Civil War to the present. Through an examination of historical and literary sources, the course will explore the nature of political dissent and its effect upon the history of our nation. Special focus will be placed on the Civil War era, the Women's Movement, the struggle for civil rights, and the Vietnam War era. Students will read and/or handle historical documents, artifacts, contemporary literary commentaries, poems, stories, and essays related to the topic.

10. The Practice of Businesses Using Technology (6 credits)

Combines BUS 150: Contemporary Business Practices and CIS 101: Introduction to Computing

Description: Learn how to create and build a business using technology to facilitate the process. Students will learn about the principal components of a business and how to apply these in a simulated business game. Students will participate in the game in groups and the groups will compete against each other to see who can generate the greatest sales and profit. In the computing component, students will learn how to use a database to obtain information, to formulate an Excel spreadsheet, to develop a company website, and to use Power Point to develop presentations.

11. Spaceship Earth: Issues of Sustainability (6 credits)

Combines BIO 170: Spaceship Earth and CIS 101: Introduction to Computing

Description: Investigate the impact of humans on our environment and how our actions are influenced by our perceived needs and beliefs. There will be field trips.

Honors Learning Communities

Sections Open to Honors Students Only

1. The Person (6 credits)

Combines PHI 110: Introduction to Philosophy and PSY 111: Introduction to Psychology

Description: This course will examine the most influential ideas regarding what it means to be human that have emerged from the traditions of religion, psychology, and philosophy.

2. Managing Legal and Ethical Business Challenges (6 credits)

Combines LAW 101: Business Law and ECO 222: Economic History of the U.S.

Description: In a perfect world, law, ethics, and economics would coincide. However, sometimes what is legal may not be ethical and what is ethical may not be legal, and neither may be economically advantageous. This Learning Community addresses the relationship between law, ethics, and economics. Against a background of facts and history, the course raises the questions: Is it right? Is it legal? How do economic factors influence both?

3. Baroque Bravura (1600-1700): Painting Lessons from the Masters (3 credits)

Combines ART 211: Baroque Art and ART 145: Painting

Description: This course combines historical study of 17th-century European painting with work in the art studio where students learn to paint in the manner of the Baroque artists they have researched.

Challenge to Achievement at Pace Program (CAP) Learning Communities

Sections Open to CAP Students Only

1. A Diverse Journey: An Exploration of Diversity in American Society (8 credits)

Required for Education Majors

Combines ENG 110: Composition, ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric I, and HIS 113: The American Experience: Diversity, Immigration, Ethnicity, and Race

Description: Through examination of the many traditions of culture, history, and art that contribute to our nation—from Amerindian values to the dreams of the Founding Fathers, from the diversity of Asia to the plentitude of Africa—students will investigate, evaluate, and write about the travails and the promising richness that have made the United States. Students will also study historical documents and concurrent memoirs as well as review case studies of American rebels and fighters for civil rights joined to pertinent fiction, movies, and plays.

2. Writing the Environment: Exploration of the World of the Naturalist through Literature and the Arts (8 credits)

Combines ENG 110: Composition, ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric I, and ENV 130: The Naturalists

Description: This Learning Community will focus on what it means to be a naturalist and on the varied impact of naturalist studies and environmental issues in literature, art, film, and other disciplines. Students will explore the complexity and beauty of the natural world through critical readings of works of fiction, poetry, drama, nonfiction, and biographical studies; critiques of art and film; and exploration of the culture that produced them.

3. Lessons in Liberty (8 credits)

Combines ENG 110: Composition, ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric I, and HIS 113: The American Experience: The U.S. and the World

Description: Through a study of documentary and literary sources, this course will examine how the idea of “liberty” has developed and changed throughout the course of American history. Students will read, discuss, and write about speeches, political treatises, letters, biographies, newspaper articles, and poetry to understand what liberty has meant to others in the past and what it means to us today.

4. Women in America (8 credits)

Combines ENG 110: Composition, ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric I, and HIS 113: The American Experience: Changing Roles of Women

Description: Explore both the central role that women have played in the history and development of the United States, and the impact that history, in turn, has had on women’s perceptions of their roles in both public and private life. Through a study of primary sources, students will have the opportunity to see history through the eyes of the women. Students will read, discuss, and write about a wide variety of materials, including but not limited to diary entries, speeches, sermons, letters, biographies, newspaper articles, and works of fiction. By focusing on women of varied classes, races, and ethnicities, the course will encourage students to develop a more complex appreciation of the diverse nature of our national experience.

5. World Civilization (8 credits)

Combines ENG 110: Composition, ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric I, and HIS 107: World Civilization I

Description: Starting with the earliest river valley civilizations, this course will explore the development of social, political, and religious institutions into the early centuries of the Common Era. Of particular interest will be formative influences, gender relations, development of writing traditions, and the manner in which people of different cultures interacted with one another through trade, exploration, and warfare.

6. American Diversity: Challenge and Opportunity (9 credits)

Combines ENG 120: Critical Writing, ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric I, and HIS 113: The American Experience: The U.S. and the World

Description: Explore the issues relating to the challenges of America's multicultural and diverse society, both today and in the past. Emphasis will be based on readings, written commentary, historical perspective, as well as class analysis and discussion. Common themes relating to multicultural issues will be studied through readings and historical context.

7. Citizenship and Democracy in America (9 credits)

Combines ENG 120: Critical Writing, ENG 105: Composition and Rhetoric I, and POL 102: Public Myths and Ideology

Description: This course will examine themes in political science such as ideologies, conservatism, liberalism, power, and decision making as they relate to democracy and dissent.

**For more information
please contact us:**

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