



New College Courses: Spring 2016

Welcome to the New College course book for Spring 2016. All students are invited to take New College courses to satisfy University of Alabama core requirements or pursue subjects they are passionate about. We believe that a diverse classroom environment is imperative to learning, and **we welcome students from other departments and disciplines** to register for New College classes. Beside each seminar title, students will find the usual UA core designations; the second group of designations (CC, ESC, SCSP) are specifically for the use of New College students.

In addition to serving students who wish to self-design a major or “depth study,” New College also offers the opportunity to create a self-designed minor or apply for an established minor in “Civic Engagement and Leadership,” “Environmental Studies,” or “Natural Resource Management.” If you are interested in designing your own minor or applying for a minor in “Civic Engagement and Leadership,” please see Dr. Natalie Adams (nadams@ua.edu). For more information on the Natural Resource Management Minor, contact Dr. Carl Williams (carl.williams@ua.edu). For more information on the Environmental Studies minor, contact Dr. Michael Steinberg (mksteinberg@ua.edu).

All juniors are responsible for initiating conversation with their advisor about the **Third Year Review** process. A Third Year Review is mandatory for graduation in Interdisciplinary Studies.

New College students must take one seminar in each of the areas listed below and at least five New College seminars. Students are required to complete at least two lower-division seminars and two upper-division seminars.

Creativity and Culture (CC) These seminars explore the world of the mind, specifically the realms of human thought and expressive practice. They interrogate the beliefs, values, and dispositions that comprise culture, and focus on essential questions about what it means to be human. Seminars focus the following issues: the urge to create and to appreciate creativity; perspectives on class, gender, race, and place; historical memory’s role in identity formation, politics, and ethics.

Environment, Sustainability, and Conservation (ESC) These seminars explore the physical world, especially relations among elements of the natural world, and focus on relationships between humans and their environment. Of special interest is the impact humans have had on the environment, including issues of climate change, resource depletion, and pollution. Besides identifying problems, seminars also interrogate pathways that avoid environmental destruction by promoting sustainability and conservation.

Social Problems and Social Change (SPSC) These seminars explore the social world, the problems societies confront and the ways human groups cause and respond to social change. Specific areas of interest include: the basis for cooperation and conflict within and between societies; extremes of human destructiveness such as genocide and ethnic conflict; historical dimensions or antecedents of contemporary problems; civic engagement, social responsibility, and other means of promoting healthy communities.

Course Listings for Spring 2016

NEW 100-001: Introduction to Interdisciplinary and Integrative Studies

2 credit hours

Catherine Roach

W 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Lloyd 123

This course, completed by all New Collegians, usually within their first two semesters in New College, aims to help students better understand the opportunities provided by New College, as well as expose them to some of the ideas behind interdisciplinary study and some of the themes that New College classes will cover. There will be required readings on the idea of interdisciplinary as well as projects and presentations.

Appropriate to its academic subject matter, this course seeks to perform multiple tasks simultaneously. We want to bring you fully into New College and get you up to speed on rules and regulations and give you the support you need to succeed on your academic journey. We want to introduce you to the situation of innovative college programs like New College and hopefully make you feel part of an extended American educational tradition. We want to begin the task of making you into critical, engaged, and skillful interdisciplinary thinkers. And, finally, we want to give you the opportunity to come together as a community of learners.

This course is an introduction to the modes, methods, opportunities and challenges of education through New College. It is *specifically* for students who have applied to New College or whom have been recently accepted. Exploratory students are welcome, but should recognize that a key component of the class is preparation of application materials.

NEW 120: Sustained Dialogue (*Doesn't count as NC Seminar*)

1 credit hour pass/fail

Lane McLelland R 3:30pm-4:45pm

In an increasingly globalized world, leaders need the skills to resolve conflict across lines of difference. *Sustained Dialogue* is a five-stage dialogue-to-action model that builds transformative relationships in order to address controversial issues. This course will explore the theory behind this powerful social action model and ultimately consider how *Sustained Dialogue* applies to visions for positive change at the University of Alabama. Students will first receive an introduction to Sustained Dialogue principles and then meet in dialogue groups weekly to work through the 5 stages to address specific issues of diversity and social identity on campus.

NEW 211:001 Perspectives in the Humanities (HU) (CC)

4 credit hours

Theodore Trost, MW 12:00pm – 1:50pm, Lloyd 215

The original version of the film *Blade Runner* (1982) draws to a close with these lines, uttered in reference to the cyborg, Roy Batty: "Maybe in those last moments he loved life more than he ever had before. Not just his life—anybody's life; my life. All he'd wanted were the same answers the rest of us want. Where did I come from? Where am I going? How long have I got?" Questions like this will frame our semester-long exploration of the human condition. Films, including *Blade Runner*; short stories by Flannery O'Connor and Franz Kafka; songs by Joni Mitchell and Pink Floyd (among others); documents including the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights"; and writings that consider the relevance of a liberal education in an age of mechanical reproduction will inform our common exploration.

NEW 212: Creativity (FA/HU) (CC)

4 credit hours

001: Holland Hopson, MW 10:00 am – 11:50 am, Lloyd 202

003: Amy Pirkle, MW 9:00 am-10:50 am, Lloyd 215

This interdisciplinary seminar uses creativity as an organizing principle. Human culture and consciousness are explored through reading, writing, the arts, projects, studios, and discussion.

New 212:002 Creativity and Computers (FA/HU)(CC)

4 credit hours

Holland Hopson, TR 10:00 am – 11:50 am, Lloyd 202

This interdisciplinary seminar explores the role of computing in creativity and challenges students to work with computers as creative partners. We will consider computing as an artistic medium through reading, writing, the arts, studios, discussions and hands-on projects. Students from computer science, engineering, arts and humanities are all welcome.

NEW 213:001 Honors Creativity (FA/HU)(CC)

4 credit hours

Adrienne Callander, MW 12:00pm-1:50pm, Lloyd 202

This interdisciplinary seminar uses creativity as an organizing principle. Human culture and consciousness are explored through reading, writing, the arts, project, studios, and discussion. As an Honors College approved New College seminar, this course can be counted both toward New College seminar requirements and Honors College course hour requirements. Please note, admission is restricted to Honors College students.

NEW 226: Organic Farming (ESC)

4 credit hours

Lindsay Turner

001: T 3:00 pm – 4:50 pm, W 9:00 am-10:50 am, Lloyd 216A

002: W 9:00 am – 10:50 am, R 3:00 pm -4:50 pm, class will on campus on Wednesday and at the Druid City Garden Project's site in Forrest Lake, Tuscaloosa on Tuesday or Thursday.

In this course, we will study and practice organic farming. Students will learn and enact the basics of how to grow food organically, including principles of healthy soil, composting, cover crops, seed starting and transplanting, pest control, etc. At the same time, we'll address the fundamental questions and issues behind the organic model: Why do it? What are the problems with industrial agriculture?

Each week, students will spend one day in the classroom and another day in the "field"—the field location will be at the Druid City Garden Project's flagship garden at University Place Elementary School in the Forrest Lake area of Tuscaloosa, a few minutes from campus. Please plan your schedule considering transportation time on field days. Students will be evaluated on their active participation, weekly writing assignments, and a semester-long research and/or community-based project.

NEW 237: Cooperation and Conflict (SB) (SPSC)

4 credit hours

001: Kimberly Colburn, TR 9:30 am- 11:20 am, LY 215

002: Emma Bertolaet, TR 3:30 pm-5:20pm, LY 319

003: Emma Bertolaet, MW 11:00am-12:50am, LY 319

This seminar will explore the role of cooperation and conflict in society through class dialog and examining historical conflicts as well as social movements and how the conflict has been resolved. Students will identify sources of conflict and learn to communicate within the midst of conflict. Students will explore ways that conflict can be approached in a productive manner. Students will also be able to identify the role of parties not directly involved in the conflict and how those outside the conflict can contribute to the resolution including the role of social justice allies in affecting social change.

NEW 238-001: Honors Cooperation and Conflict (SB) (SPSC)

4 credit hours

Amanda Espy-Brown, MW 9:00 am-10:50 pm, LY 319

Registration requires enrollment in UA Honors College.

This seminar explores cooperation and conflict in human societies—all that we do or fail to do in living together effectively. Students investigate and seek solutions for contemporary social problems.

The issue addressed this semester is social and economic inequality in America. We explore how the US divided by class, income, education, and ethnicity, and the ways in which people cooperate within and between those divisions. We also explore the conflicts that arise as a result of income inequality, discrimination, and immigration. Through seminar discussions and deliberation, students learn to understand the perspectives of others and to develop informed opinions.

The course includes a service learning component. See description for NEW 237-001 above.

NEW 243: Interdisciplinary Sciences (N) (ESC)

4 credit hours

001: Amanda Espy-Brown, W 1:00 pm – 4:50 pm, LY 319

002: Amanda Espy-Brown, T 12:30 pm – 4:20 pm, LY 202

This seminar demonstrates how laboratory and field research play an essential role in the understanding and advancement of science. Several multidisciplinary experiments and exercises are performed in an effort to increase scientific literacy and to provide knowledge for addressing the scientific basis of real-world problems. Examples of assignments include laboratory write-ups, student presentations, and discussions of scientific topics. Readings are taken from a variety of sources providing fundamental scientific knowledge on topics related to laboratory exercises, as well as books about the history and practice of science. Students participate in several outdoor field trips and labs that require moderate physical activity (e.g., canoeing, hiking, wading in streams).

NEW 310-322: Independent Study

1 to 15 credit hours

See John Miller for more information.

NEW 335: Everyday Wildlife In Alabama (ESC)

3 credit hours

Stanley Ford

M 3:00 pm – 5:50 pm, LY 319

"Everyday Wildlife in Alabama" will cover management practices on how to increase wildlife in woodlands or in a neighborhood. It will also discuss practices on wildlife predator control for wildlife critters who have become invasive in various areas. Some topics that will be discussed will include backyard wildlife management, how to manage a recreational fishpond, wildlife identification, compass orienteering, the use of aerial photography in managing for wildlife, and how to prepare for a wildlife food plot. Much of this course will include "hands-on" outdoor field trips.

NEW 339-001: New College Review II (Doesn't Count as a NC Seminar)

2 credit hours

Amy Pirkle

W 3:00 pm – 4:50 pm, 216A

This workshop provides students with practical experience in writing and publishing a special interest publication, the *New College Review*. Students gain experience in thematic approaches to a publication, conceptual formation for an audience, socially responsible publishing, and writing and editing persuasive essays. Students are strongly encouraged to take both NEW 338 and NEW 339 in sequence.

NEW 342: Social Action and Performance (SPSC)

3 credit hours

Elle Shaaban-Magana

TR 9:30 am – 10:45 am, Women and Gender Resource Center

Social Action and Performance is open to all students. The course uses an interdisciplinary approach to the world of theatrical performance and explores the work of Augusto Boal and Theatre of the Oppressed model as a mechanism for social change. The course will train students to educate their peers through performance about interpersonal violence and contemporary issues of multiculturalism on campus. Students will use improvisation, participatory activities, readings, and assessments to engage in social action. Students are encouraged to participate in self-exploration with respect to the issues mentioned above as part of their trainings with these techniques. Students who participate in this course will become official members of the theatre troupe called Unscripted.

NEW 365: Environmental Policy(ESC/SPSC)

3 credit hours

Ellen Spears

TR 2:00 pm – 3:15 pm, LY 319

This introductory environmental policy course reviews major developments in environmental regulation in the United States, considered in a global context. Readings examine the evolution of U.S. environmental policy, the form and function of social institutions used to govern human-environment interactions, including markets, the state, and civil society, as well as conventions, norms, and morals. U.S. and U.N. legal structures, agencies, and NGOs are addressed, with attention to comparative regulatory frameworks. The "new institutional approach," "resource regimes," and various incremental and transformative institutional reforms are discussed. The impact of economic and cultural factors—including class, race, gender, and location—on resource use and other policy decisions affecting the physical and built environments will be explored. Evolving institutional approaches to energy use, such as sustainability, "wise use," adaptive management, and resilience are examined.

NEW 435-001: Documenting Justice II (CC/SPSC) (Contact Andrew Grace: agrace@ua.edu)

3 credit hours, Instructor's permission required

001: Andrew Grace, W 3:00pm-5:45pm, Reece Phifer 325

This is an interdisciplinary course in documentary filmmaking, focusing particularly on analyzing the many dimensions of culture and social experience. Students produce a short documentary film on a story of justice or injustice in Alabama.

NEW 436-320: Public Leadership (SPSC)(W)

4 credit hours

Dale Wallace

M 6:00 pm – 9:50 pm, LY 319

This is a general public leadership course dealing with the skills necessary to lead any organization, group or community. The primary text is *The Leadership Challenge* by Posner and Kouzes. The secondary text is *Good to Great* by Jim Collins. The course requires a weekly one page response. There are two papers, including the final. The syllabus reserves the right to administer tests if students do not demonstrate sufficient familiarity with the assigned reading material.

NEW 439: Urban Spaces (ESC/SPSC)(W)

3 credit hours

Ellen Spears

TR 9:30 am-10:45 am, LY 319

This interdisciplinary social science course provides an introduction to the cultural and physical ecology of cities, focusing primarily on urbanization in the United States from the late 19th century to the present. Course readings examine classical scholars in urbanism and urban design as well as contemporary urban environments. Topics include population shifts and land use along the urban gradient from suburbs to urban centers, with attention to infrastructure, pollution, and sprawl.

Case studies consider metropolitan areas throughout the U.S. and comparative examples around the globe. Field visits will explore the geophysical and built environments of Tuscaloosa. Students will observe and assess key environmental challenges facing urban areas, including housing, transit, air quality, and water resources. Environmental public health and the role of the ecology of disease (geospatial distribution of asthma, infectious disease, and vector borne illnesses) in shaping cities will be considered. Engaged research will focus on specific projects in Tuscaloosa. Briefing papers will consider urban environmental inequalities as well as “green” strategies for the future of sustainable cities. This course meets a University Core writing requirement and New College designation for Environment, Sustainability, and Conservation (ESC) and Social Problems and Social Change (SPSC).

NEW 473-001: Globalization and Folk Craft Production (SPSC/CC)(W)

4 credit hours

Marysia Galbraith

T 5:00 pm – 8:50 pm, LY 202

This course examines the relationships between the global and the local, using world folk craft as a point of focus. We will investigate the impact of the global market on folk craft producers, and conversely, the significance of folk craft in industrialized contexts. Pottery and other works of clay will be the particular medium emphasized in this class. We will explore the function of creativity in a changing world through a combination of reading, writing, discussion, and studio experiences. This course has a “W” designation. It also includes a pottery lab component.

NEW 490-001: Fly Fishing (ESC)

4 credit hours

Michael Steinberg

T 3:00pm-6:50pm , LY 215

Additional Instructor Permission Required

This course provides a broad introduction to the “arts and science” of fly fishing. By arts, I mean we will explore the field of fly fishing literature. Sporting literature is a well-established and widely read genre, and fly fishing specifically is one of the more popular subfields within outdoor writing. By science, I mean we will study watersheds, streams, insects, environmental issues that impact all these “things” through the act of fly fishing, and fish.

NEW 490-003: Wetlands Ecology (ESC)

3 credit hours

Julia Cherry

TR 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm, BY 205

This course is designed to introduce students to the diverse field of wetland ecology, including aspects of hydrology, biogeochemistry, ecology, management and restoration. The course will combine lectures and readings on background material with discussions of scientific literature. Topics to be covered include wetland hydrology, biogeochemistry, plant adaptations for growth in wetland soils, reproductive adaptations of wetland plants, habitat and plant zonation in wetlands, and the role of plants and animals in the functioning of wetland ecosystems. In addition, comparisons among different wetland ecosystems (e.g., coastal marshes, swamps, and riparian wetlands) will be made.

NEW 490-004: Reproductive Health (care) in the US (SPSC)

4 credit hours

Emma Joan Bertolaet

MW 3:00 pm- 4:50 pm, LY 215

This course is a survey of reproductive health in the United States. Beginning with the midwifery practice of Martha Ballard (*A Midwife's Tale*) in the late 1700s, the course will explore the history of reproductive healthcare in the United States through the 1800/1900s, which will include examining the Comstock Law and Sheppard-Towner Act. This course will end by exploring the most recent policy implementations of the 2000s, with emphasis on the passage of the Affordable Care Act (2010), and the current Contraception Mandate (2012). This course will give a greater understanding of past and current debates regarding reproductive health (care) in the United States, enabling students to engage in the current debate and discourse.

NEW 490-005: Zen Buddhism and Radical Approaches to the Arts (CC)

3 credit hours

Hank Lazer

M 2:00 pm-4:50pm, LY 202

The first part of the course will involve an introduction to Zen Buddhism, relying on Shunryu Suzuki's classic *Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind* and Lao Tzu's *Tao Te Ching*. We'll learn and practice *zazen* (sitting meditation). Through the lens of Zen practice, we will explore a range of experimental arts/artists, possibly including the work of George Quasha, John Cage, Andy Goldsworthy, Linda Montano, Marina Abramovic, Anthony Braxton, Steve Lacy, Kazuaki Tanahashi, Laynie Browne, and Susan Schultz. This particular seminar, spring 2016, will be a very special one due to the visit of Zen Buddhist priest and poet Norman Fischer. Accordingly, we will meet with him, study some of his writing (a new collection of essays, poetry) and give emphasis to innovative ways of writing poetry.

NEW 490-006: Language Evolution (SPSC)

3 credit hours

Tom Sawallis

W 3:00pm-5:50pm, Gordon Palmer 151

What made us Homo sapiens? Tools? Thumbs? Walking upright? Many claim that the key is language, hence the popularity (among linguists, anyway) of designating our species as *Homo loquens*. Although language, as an acoustic behavior, leaves no fossilized trace, there are a number of recent developments and studies that seem to shed a useful light on the evolution of language. These include: discovery and study of the FoxP2 gene; language training of apes, dogs, & parrots; comparison of language with animal communication in the wild; investigations of the origin of creole and pidgin languages; studies of sign languages; models of the vocal tract in apes, Neanderthals, and humans; studies of first language acquisition in children; and studies linking modern languages with the path of humans spreading out of Africa. The quality and implications of such evidence will be examined, and then the worthy candidates will be considered in light of current thinking in biological anthropology, evolutionary psychology, and the theory of mind.

NEW 490-007: Poverty, Faith, and Justice in America (SPSC) *(Includes a service learning component)*

3 credit hours

Megan Snider Bailey

WF 10:00am-10:50am, Wednesday Location: TBD; Friday: Grave 118

Poverty, Faith, and Justice in America will introduce students to the concepts of justice and obligation in various faith traditions. The course will foster discussion on issues faced by the working poor, perceptions and misperceptions of those living in poverty, and current policies affecting lower-income families and individuals. Further, the course will explore the ways faith can affect our response to poverty and inform our understanding of justice. In addition to classroom discussions, students will complete tax training, take an IRS certification test, and once certified, they will serve as SaveFirst volunteer tax preparers at community-based sites in Tuscaloosa for two hours per week. Students will also serve at a tax site in Tuscaloosa during Super Tax Saturday, which is April 9. **Students with no availability on April 9 will schedule an alternative Saturday to complete this requirement.

NEW 490-008: History of Gamers (CC)

3 credit hours

Billy Field

TR 12:30 pm-1:45 pm, Location: TBD

Role-playing game in which students play characters from specific episodes of history. Class promotes engagement with big ideas and improves skills in speaking, writing, critical thinking, problem solving, leadership and team work. Students learn these skills in order to win the game. Active and collaborative learning at its best.

NEW 490-009: Girls Film School (SPSC/CC)

3 credit hours

Barbara Brickman

W 2:00 pm- 4:50 pm, LY 202

This interdisciplinary seminar will investigate the goals, methods, and challenges for creating a media camp for girls in our local community. During the first part of the semester, we will explore the aims for this form of community engagement focused on artistic expression, political voice, and identity politics and then consider the applicability of previous models (such as “Cinemakids” in Austin, TX) for our local community and university partnerships. Then, the second half of the semester will get down to the designing and creation of a proposed program in Tuscaloosa—from structure, partnerships, and staffing to equipment, marketing, and implementation. In other words, by the end of this class, students will have created the basic infrastructure for a weekend girls film school that could take place in Tuscaloosa in the following year.

NEW 490-010: American Law (SPSC)

4 credit hours

John Miller

TR 12:30 pm – 1:50 pm, LY 319

This course will teach students about key components of the American legal system using movies, fiction, current events, and academic readings. Through written assignments, presentations, and discussion, students will gain basic knowledge about various bodies of law, conceptions of law / justice, and the implications of law and society on one another. This course would be beneficial for students who plan to attend law school, students making up their minds about law school, and those who just want to know more about law. Students will learn introductory concepts relevant to: criminal law, torts, contracts, wills / trusts, constitutional law, and procedure / evidence.

NEW 490-012: Politics Food Sovereignty Society (SPSC/ESC)

3 credit hours

David Meek

TR 3:30 pm- 4:45 pm, Shelby 2106

Do you produce the food you eat? Probably not, as few in the United States are self-sufficient producers of food today. Until relatively recently, this was not the case. Being able to produce one’s own subsistence was a cherished American value. What changed? Why have rural communities throughout the world moved from producing their own food to consuming food generated in other locales? This course begins with this question. It then turns to explore the recent wave of resistance to this trend. Diverse groups—both urban and rural—are returning to agriculture, reclaiming the simple right to produce one’s own food. Throughout the semester, we will focus on the concept of food sovereignty, which can be defined as the right for people to define their own food systems. Topics to be covered include the transition from family farming to industrial agriculture, the relation between food sovereignty and food security, political economy of agriculture, agrarian values, agroecology, peasant movements, urban agriculture, and food justice.

NEW 490-013: Cinematic Worldviews (CC)

3 credit hours

Alan Lazer

W 6:00 pm- 8:30 pm, LY 215

"Do you love movies? Do you enjoy talking about them with your friends? Well what if you could earn college credit for it? Imagine the best coffee shop conversation you've had after seeing a movie, because that's what I'm striving to create with this class. My name is Alan Lazer, I'm a recent graduate from the University of Southern California's film program, and I love movies. I hope to see you Wednesday nights from 6-8:30, in my class, Cinematic Worldviews, where we will talk about and explore the themes in the landmark films of famous visionary directors Stanley Kubrick (2001: A Space Odyssey, A Clockwork Orange), Terrence Malick (The Thin Red Line, Tree of Life), and David Lynch (Twin Peaks, Blue Velvet). I hope to see you in the Spring. Bring popcorn!"

NEW 490-320: Psychedelics: From Stoned Ape to the FDA (SPSC)

3 credit hours

Jon Berry

T 7:00 pm- 9:50 pm, LY 319

This course will look at the history of psychedelic substances and plants beginning with theories of their earliest protohuman usage to the current FDA approved psychotherapeutic studies. Europe and America are undergoing a psychedelic renaissance, and as these substances continue to increase in both sanctioned and unsanctioned use, it is important that we educate ourselves about their role in the development of human language, consciousness, and culture as well as their potential to heal when used in responsible clinical settings. Special attention will be paid to the misuse of these substances during the revolution of the 1960s and their continued misuse in a variety of settings. The question of responsible clinical and religious use of a variety of psychedelic compounds and plants will also be discussed. The primary textbook will be Tom Shroder's *Acid Test: LSD, Ecstasy, and the Power to Heal*. Two or three of the book's personal subjects and its author will be invited to Skype into class sessions. Students in, or with depth studies in, anthropology, American studies, religious studies, psychology, social work, and language studies would find something of value in the course. There will be weekly informal journal entries and a final formal paper.

NEW 495-001: Capstone Seminar and Senior Project

2 credit hours

John Miller

W 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, LY 233

Instructors permission required

The senior project, completed by all New College students in their senior year, gives students the opportunity to put into practice interdisciplinary and integrative methods of scholarship while refining their knowledge of their depth study area. Projects must result in a piece of interdisciplinary writing and a half-hour oral presentation at our New College Senior Research Symposium, and may include other components as well. Permission only.

SS 121-001: Sexuality & Society (SB) (*Doesn't count as NC Seminar*)

3 credit hours

Catherine Roach

TR 11:00 am- 12:15 pm, GL200

Recently, discussion about sex has preoccupied us in the press and the public sphere: the Supreme Court judgment upholding same-sex marriage, Caitlyn Jenner and Laverne Cox (an Alabama native) bringing transgender to the mainstream, *The Rolling Stone* retracted story raising issues of campus sexual violence. Asexuality, hook-up culture, the new singleness, and more all deepen debates about shifting sexual norms in society. While America is shaped by a puritanical past, the 21st century is ushering in huge changes, fast. There is more cultural acceptance and legal protection than ever for diversity in gender expression and consensual romance, but we don't always know how to live out these changing norms, how to make healthy decisions, and how to talk about controversial sexual material in the public sphere. This course engages these debates around sexuality in America as a guide to this new terrain. The course adopts a consent-based model of sexual health. Its approach is sex-positive, feminist, and queer-friendly—aiming toward sexual justice, toward responsibility and pleasure—without being polarizing or polemical. The purpose of the course is to help students develop critical thinking skills, moral awareness, and cultural competence to enable them to make healthy and informed decisions about sexual wellbeing and consensual relationships—whether those relationships are virginal, asexual, celibate, heterosexual, gay, lesbian, bisexual, queer, trans, or more. This lecture course includes class discussion, documentaries, and the input of university experts from the Healthy Relationships and Sexual Health team in the form of guest lectures and workshops. This class functions as an open and affirming safe space; I encourage registration by students of all genders and sexual orientations.