



**Introduction:**

Welcome to the New College course list for Spring 2021. 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. **Unless specifically noted, there are no prerequisites for these courses.**

This list is divided into two sections: (1) courses that fulfill New College seminar requirements, and (2) other courses connected to New College. To the right of course titles, students will find two types of information in parentheses: UA core designations (if applicable: FA, HU, L, N, SB, W) and New College seminar designations (if applicable: CC, ESC, SPSC). This second group of designations is for the use of New College students only. New College students should pay special attention to the section on seminar requirements that follows.

**Seminar Requirements:** New College students must take one seminar in each of the areas listed below and at least five New College seminars in total. Students are required to complete at least two lower-division seminars (from different thematic designations) and two upper-division seminars (from any designation, provided that all three themes are represented in students' coursework).

**New College Seminar Thematic Designations:**

**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 on such issues as the urge to create and to appreciate creativity and perspectives on class, gender, race, and place.

**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; and civic engagement, social responsibility, and other means of promoting healthy communities.

**A note on instructional modes for Spring 2021:**

New College classes and seminars will be taught in one of four course delivery modes, as indicated for each of the classes described below. These modes include options for hybrid (HY), synchronous interactive audio/visual (AV), and asynchronous internet/online (IN) classes, or if the room capacity permits it, as fully face-to-face (F2F). Regardless of how a course is delivered, the goal is for the content and learning outcomes to remain the same as when these classes are offered fully in-person.

For New College, almost all of our seminars are being offered in HY mode. With the diversity of classes we offer, there will be some variation among HY classes, but in general, they will be managed by splitting the class into smaller groups to alternate between attending in person and attending remotely or engaging through other means. In addition, we are offering a few courses in AV and F2F modes, while a few of our larger courses (e.g., FA 200 and NEW 140) are being offered in IN mode. Regardless of the instructional mode, your New College instructors will be in touch with you prior to the start of classes to explain the details of how their class will operate.

### **Other Opportunities in New College:**

**Minors:** In addition to serving students who wish to self-design a major or "depth study," New College also houses various minors. If you are interested in a **self-designed minor** or applying for a minor in "**Civic Engagement and Leadership**," please contact Dr. Julia Cherry (julia.cherry@ua.edu). For information on the **Natural Resources Management Minor**, contact Dr. Carl Williams (carl.williams@ua.edu). For information on the **Environmental Studies Minor**, contact Dr. Michael Steinberg (mksteinberg@ua.edu).

**Independent Study:** If you would like to design and receive credit for an independent study during the Spring 2021 semester, you must see Prof. John Miller (mille031@ua.edu) prior to the start of any independent work.

### **Reminders for New College Students:**

**Pre-Advising Checklist:** All New College students should go to the "Resources" section of the New College webpage to download and complete the Pre-Advising Checklist before advising each semester. (<http://nc.as.ua.edu/degree-program/resources>)

**Third Year Review:** All juniors are responsible for initiating conversation with their advisor about the **Third Year Review. Completion of the Third Year Review is mandatory for graduation in Interdisciplinary Studies** and must be completed before enrolling in NEW 495 Capstone Seminar and Senior Project.

## **COURSE LISTINGS FOR SPRING 2021**

### **REQUIRED COURSES**

**NEW 100-001: Introduction to Interdisciplinary and Integrative Studies (does not count as NC Seminar)**

**Julia Cherry/John Miller**

**R 3:30 - 5:20 pm, NL1018**

**2 Hours**

**F2F**

**This course is required for all New College students**, who are encouraged to take it within their first two semesters in New College. It aims to help students better understand the opportunities provided by New College, as well as expose them to ideas behind interdisciplinary study and themes New College classes will cover. There will be required readings on the idea of interdisciplinary as well as projects and presentations. **Although non-New College students are welcome, this course's intent is specifically geared toward those interested in, or entering into, New College.**

Appropriate to its academic subject matter, this course seeks to perform multiple tasks. We want to bring you fully into New College, get you up to speed on rules and requirements, and give you the support you need to succeed on your academic journey. We want to introduce you to 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.

**NEW495-001: Capstone Seminar & Senior Project (BY PERMISSION ONLY) (does not count as NC seminar)**

**Julia Cherry/John Miller**

**R 3:30- 5:20 pm, NL1018**

**2 Hours**

**F2F**

The senior project is **required of all New College students** in their senior year. It gives students the opportunity to put into practice interdisciplinary and integrative methods of scholarship while refining knowledge of their depth study area. Projects must result in a piece of interdisciplinary writing and a twenty-minute oral presentation at our New College Senior Research Symposium.

**NOTE:**

- Students planning to attend graduate or professional schools (*e.g.*, Master's, Law School, Medical School) are **strongly encouraged** to take NEW 495 in the Fall semester. This will allow you to use the senior project as part of your applications.
- **ONLY** students who have completed the **Third Year Review** may enroll in New 495.

**NEW COLLEGE SEMINARS**

**NEW 211-001: Perspectives in Humanities (HU) (CC)**

**Ted Trost**  
**TR 11:00 am-12:50 pm, LY215**  
**4 Hours**  
**HY**

This introductory course in the humanities (art, literature, music, etc.) focuses on problem solving, risk taking and communication. Human behavior and writing skills are stressed. This section of NEW 211 focuses on conceptions of human-environment interactions as portrayed in documentaries and popular film. The course meets a New College lower-level seminar requirement.

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

<b>-001: Holland Hopson</b>	<b>MW 9:00-10:50 am</b>	<b>LY306</b>	<b>4 Hours (HY)</b>
<b>-002: Jillian Sico</b>	<b>MW 11:00 am-12:50 pm</b>	<b>LY306</b>	<b>4 Hours (HY)</b>
<b>-003: Richard Wallace</b>	<b>TR 9:30-11:20 am</b>	<b>LY306</b>	<b>4 Hours (HY)</b>

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 213-001: Honors Creativity (FA/HU/UH) (CC)**

**John Miller**  
**TR 12:30-2:00 pm, LY306**  
**4 Hours**  
**HY**

Registration requires enrollment in UA Honors College.

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.

**NEW 215-001: Perspectives on Environmental Lit (HU) (ESC)**

**Michael Steinberg**  
**T 2:00-4:50 pm, MS2009**  
**4 Hours**  
**F2F**

Considers perspectives on environmental studies within the humanities by examining key texts of environmental literature.

**NEW 216-001: Digital Making: Creativity and Computers (FA) (CC)**

**Holland Hopson**

**MW 12:00-1:50 pm, LY202**

**4 Hours**

This seminar uses creative work with digital tools as its organizing principle. Human culture, the creative process, and creative expression are explored through written texts, digital media, research, oral and written reports, journals, and individual and group projects. The class goal is to gain a deeper understanding of creativity, innovation and interdisciplinarity in the arts by using computer technology to make creative work. Students will learn through research, hands-on work on creative projects and collaborative work with peers. No prior experience or knowledge required.

**NEW 237: Social Problems & Social Change (SB/SL) (SPSC)**

**-001: Kimberly Colburn      MW 9:00-10:50 am      LY319      4 hours (HY)**

**-002: Vincent Willis      TR 9:30-11:20 am      LY202      4 hours (HY)**

This seminar explores significant social problems in contemporary society and the complex ways in which social change occurs. Students investigate and seek solutions for current social problems. This course has a 12 hour service-learning component.

**NEW 238-001 Honors: Social problems & Social Change (SB/SL/UH) (SPSC)**

**Amanda Espy-Brown**

**MW 9:00-10:50 am, LY 215**

**4 Hours**

**HY**

Registration requires enrollment in UA Honors College.

This honors seminar explores significant social problems in contemporary society and the complex ways in which social change occurs. Students investigate and seek solutions to current social problems. This course has a service-learning component that may involve 12 service-learning hours outside of class time.

**NEW 243: Interdisciplinary Sciences (N) (ESC)**

**-001: Amanda Espy-Brown      M 1:00- 4:50 pm      LY306      4 Hours (HY)**

**-002: Leah Connell      T 12:30-4:20 pm      LY319      4 Hours (HY)**

**-003: Amanda Espy-Brown      W 1:00 - 4:50 pm      LY306      4 Hours (HY)**

**-004: Scott Jones      R 12:30-4:20 pm      LY319      4 Hours (HY)**

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 273-001: Social Issues and Ethics (SB) (SPSC)**

**Natalie Adams**

**TR 12:30-2:20 pm, LY202**

**4 Hours**

**HY**

Social scientists use a range of methodologies to examine and conduct research on social issues. Through this seminar students will learn about a range of research methodologies for conducting inquiries into and analyzing social issues in the modern world. There will be specific emphasis placed on the ethical and moral dilemmas and obligations that researchers confront. Students will explore the complexity of these dilemmas and societal responses to competing moral obligations focusing on four main topics – Socio-Economic and Racial Disparities, Immigration, Healthcare and the Environment.

**NEW 335-001: Everyday Wildlife in Alabama (ESC)**

**Stanley Ford**

**M 2:00-4:50 pm, LY319**

**3 Hours**

**HY**

Everyday Wildlife in Alabama will cover management practices on how to maximize wildlife in woodlands or in a neighborhood. It will cover practices on how to improve the habitat to increase the wildlife population as well as 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 and pacing, the use of aerial photography in managing for wildlife, and how to prepare wildlife food plots. Much of this course will include “hands-on” outdoor field trips.

**NEW 337-001 Sustainable Home Landscaping (ESC)**

**Leah Connell**

**R 3:00-5:50 pm, LY202**

**3 Hours**

**HY**

The purpose of this course is to prepare and encourage students to incorporate the principles of sustainability and the ethics of permaculture into their home or apartment landscape. This course is intended for any student interested in learning the basics of sustainable gardening, water management, pest management, and the use of native plants to provide a backyard habitat for birds and wildlife.

**NEW 415-001: Gender, Sexuality & Pop Culture (W) (CC)**

**Catherine Roach**

**M 2:00- 4:50 pm, LY319**

**3 Hours**

**HY**

What constitutes "femininity" and "masculinity" in 21st century America? How have gender roles changed? Is gender performance? What are the cultural expectations around sexuality, and how is it influenced and policed in society? Includes professor's current case research in this field. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course.

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

**Dale Wallace**

**M 6:00-9:50 pm, TH109**

**4 Hours**

**F2F**

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 test if students do not demonstrate sufficient familiarity with assigned reading material. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course.

**NEW 439-001: Urban Spaces (W) (ESC/SPSC)**

**Ellen Spears**

**TR 11:00 am-12:15 pm, No Room Assignment**

**4 Hours**

**AV**

This interdisciplinary social science course provides an introduction to the cultural and physical ecology of cities. Course readings include scholars in urbanism and urban design. Contemporary urban environmental histories explore population shifts and land use along the urban gradient from the suburbs to urban centers, with attention to housing, transit, air quality, water and sewer infrastructure, pollution, and urban sprawl. While the primary focus is on urbanization in the United States from the late 19th century to the present, comparative examples include metropolitan areas around the globe. Field visits explore the geophysical and built environments of Tuscaloosa and aid students in observing and assessing key environmental challenges facing urban areas, including reconstruction after ecological disaster. 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. Urban environmental inequalities as well as “green” strategies for the future of sustainable cities will be explored.

**NEW 442-001: Environmental Ethics (W) (ESC/SPSC)**

**Ellen Spears**

**MW 3:00-4:15 pm, No Room Assignment**

**3 hours**

**AV**

This upper level writing intensive seminar explores the ethical dimensions of ecological relationships, with particular attention to conceptions of nature, justice, and environmental health. We consider classical ethical concepts, such as utilitarianism and natural law theories, and contemporary environmental approaches, including biocentrism, deep ecology, environmental justice, eco-feminism, and sustainability. This course is highly interactive, inviting critical thinking about changing ideas about the human place in the natural world. Exploring various case studies, we analyze the ethical debates surrounding such topics as population growth, genetically altered crops, global climate change, biodiversity, and emerging crises in global environmental public health. Readings also address corporate responsibility, science ethics, and public policy. We examine the ethics of sustainability from the campus to the transnational level. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course.

**NEW 474-001: Survival (SPSC)**

**Kimberly Colburn**

**TR 2:00-3:50 pm, LY215**

**4 Hours**

**HY**

In this seminar, students study the nature of human and societal survival under extreme conditions. Topics range from issues of a global nature to violent crime, prejudice, and disease. Causes, effects, and possible solutions are all considered. Writing proficiency within this discipline is required for a passing grade in this course.

**NEW 490-001: Special Topics: Mind, Culture, Society (SPSC/CC)**

**Marysia Galbraith**

**TR 9:30-10:45 am, No Room Assignment**

**3 Hours**

**AV**

What is “mind” and how does it work? This course, designed for anyone interested in neuroscience, psychology, anthropology, and education, seeks to answer these questions by exploring the influence of cultural and social processes on the ways we think and feel.

**NEW 490-002: Special Topics: Book Arts (CC)**

**Amy Pirkle**

**MW 12:00-2:50 pm, LY319**

**4 Hours**

**HY**

What is a book? Most people have an image in mind when they hear the word “book,” but this studio-based course aims to challenge your preconceptions of what constitutes a book while exploring the concepts, aesthetics, and techniques of the book arts. Students will master fundamental elements of bookbinding, create work that has a narrative for the viewer, and examine how digital spaces like social media sites can act as art galleries. As students create flagbooks, starbooks, accordions, flipbooks, and altered books, they will consider how content and book structure work together in artists’ books. Assignments will be given to further students’ understanding of the book and its potential for artistic expression.

**NEW 490-003: Special Topics: Youth Social Movements (SPSC)**

**Vincent Willis**

**TR 3:00- 4:50 pm, LY306**

**4 Hours**

**HY**

Throughout the United States of America, we see salient examples—The Black Lives Matter Movement, students fighting for gun reform and female led high school students protesting sexist dress codes—of how young people address social problems and promote social change. However, to appreciate and understand how present-day student engagement and student activism influence our social world, we must also understand how our social world has been influenced historically by student engagement and student activism. Therefore, this interdisciplinary seminar will investigate, specifically, how youth used civic engagement and social responsibility to address racial segregation, political disenfranchisement, sexism, and classism. During the first part of the semester, we will explore youth engagement and youth activism through a sociopolitical and historical lens by reading and investigating empirical studies that elevate the cause of social problems and how youth promoted social change. The second half of the semester students will analyze how contemporary student activism—knowingly or unknowingly—connect to historical youth activism. Using the University of Alabama, the city of Tuscaloosa, or your hometown as a case study, students will document—via scrapbook, video, webpage, newsletter, or social media platforms—how that place has been influenced by youth activism at a particular time in history of their choosing.

**NEW 490-004: Special Topics: Cinematic Time (CC)**

**Alan Lazer**

**M 6:00-8:30 pm, No Room Assignment**

**3 Hours**

**AV**

What is time? We use it, we measure it, we never seem to have enough of it. But what is it? Does it flow, does it run in a certain direction, does it even exist? We will attempt to tackle these questions and more by delving into the medium of film, a medium perhaps uniquely equipped to answer these questions. Film captures moments gone by,

making them both acutely defined and nebulous at the same time. So join me, and help me see what Christopher Nolan and Andrei Tarkovsky (among others) can teach us about time. I promise it won't be a waste of your time, if only because we don't know whether time is a thing you can waste, or if it exists (tardies still count, though).

## **NON-SEMINAR COURSES**

The following courses **do not fulfill** New College seminar requirements

### **NEW 140: Sexuality & Society (SB) (does not count as NC seminar)**

**Catherine Roach**

**No Time or Room Assignment**

**3 Hours**

**IN**

American society today features more cultural acceptance and legal protection than ever before for sexual and gender diversity, but we don't always know how to live out these changing norms and how to talk about controversial sexual material in the public sphere. This course engages debates around sexuality as central to human behavior and to social structures, in both America and the world. It provides an overview of the "new sexual revolution" and the growing interdisciplinary field of sexuality studies. The course adopts a consent-based model of sexual wellbeing. Its approach is sex-positive-aiming toward sexual justice, responsibility, and pleasure-within a classroom that functions as an open and affirming space for discussion and learning. Students gain the knowledge, critical thinking skills, and cultural competence to evaluate for themselves issues of sexuality in society.

### **FA 200: Introduction to Fine Arts (FA) (does not count as NC seminar)**

**-910: Barbara Brickman      NO DAY/TIME      Online      3 Hours (IN)**

**-911: Barbara Brickman      NO DAY/TIME      Online      3 Hours (IN)**

**-920: Andrew Dewar      NO DAY/TIME      Online      3 Hours (DL only)**

This course is to introduce you to the function, value, and character of the arts in our everyday lives. We want to give you the opportunity to consider the value of the arts in your own development as a person, a student, and as a professional. We hope this course will push you out into your various art communities: local, formal and informal, professional and amateur. We want to encourage you to develop for yourself the resources necessary to make good decisions about your future with the arts as consumers, practitioners, citizens, lifelong students, and maybe even lovers of the arts.

### **NEW 201-001: Recreation for Life (does not count as NC seminar)**

**Marysia Galbraith**

**Independent Study**

**1 Hour (Pass/Fail) \*May be repeated once.**

Recreation for Life is an independent study for New College students interested in engaging in a new physical activity, and developing an exercise routine that they hope to continue on a regular basis for the rest of their lives (hence the name "Recreation for Life"). The course is usually for New College students, but non-majors who can demonstrate they are self-motivated and self-directed may also be permitted to enroll. Common activities for the course include running, swimming, biking, yoga, or karate. You should select an activity that you have not practiced before. In some cases, you might be able to pursue a new goal in an activity that you have some limited experience with.



**NEW 310 to NEW 313: Independent Study (does not count as NC seminar)  
1 to 15 credit hours**

Go to <http://ncis.as.ua.edu> for more information and schedule an appointment with John Miller (mille031@ua.edu) to discuss particulars. Be sure to download and read instructions.

**NEW 339-001: New College Review II (does not count as NC seminar)**

**Amy Pirkle  
W 3:00 - 4:50 pm, LY319  
2 Hours  
F2F**

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 399-001: Civic Leadership Dialogues (does not count as NC seminar)**

**Lane McLelland  
W 12:00-2:50 pm, LY215  
3 Hours  
HY**

A 2016 Pew Research study found that the political polarization in the U.S. continues to deepen and grow more hostile, and the widening economic disparities predicted by the July 2019 McKinsey Global Institute report *The Future of Work in America* are likely to further accentuate our national divides. In response to these alarming trends, this course takes an innovative approach to prepare students to be citizens more capable of addressing a politically divisive environment, locally and globally. Serving as a civic learning “laboratory,” the Civic Leadership Dialogues offer students the opportunity to acquire the “democratic knowledge and capabilities” that can only be “honed through hands-on, face-to-face, active engagement.”

**NEW 480-001: Leadership Practicum (does not count as NC seminar)**

**Natalie Adams  
T 3:00-5:50 pm, LY202  
3 Hours  
HY**

Registration requires completion of NEW 237/238 and PHL 292 or NEW 273 or permission of instructor. This course offers a practicum experience for students pursuing the Civic Engagement and Leadership minor, New College students pursuing a depth study in an area related to civic engagement and/or leadership, and student leaders with significant campus or community leadership experience. The course will assist students in applying the theoretical knowledge gained in their academic study of civic engagement and leadership to a professional context of their choosing through a carefully designed and implemented leadership project. Upon completion of the leadership practicum, students will submit a portfolio documenting their professional growth as a leader. Students who have not met the prerequisites but have significant experience in a leadership role should contact Dr. Natalie Adams (nadams@ua.edu) for permission to enroll.