

New College Courses
Spring 2022



New College Office
Lloyd 201

Introduction:

Welcome to the New College course list for Spring 2022. 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. 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.

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 2020 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 2022

REQUIRED COURSES

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

Marysia Galbraith

W 3:00 - 4:50 pm, LY233

2 Hours

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 interdisciplinarity 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)

Marysia Galbraith

W 3:00 - 4:50 pm, LY233

2 Hours

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 212: Creativity (FA/HU) (CC)

-001: Amy Pirkle	MW 12:00-1:50 pm	LY306	4 Hours
-002: Richard Wallace	MW 1:00 am-2:50 pm	LY202	4 Hours
-003: John Miller	TR 9:30-11:20 am	LY202	4 Hours

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)

Holland Hopson
MW 9:00-10:50 am, LY 306
4 Hours

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 226-001: Organic Farming (ESC)

-001: Rashmi Grace	T 3:00-4:50 pm, Farm	W 9:00-10:50 am, LY215	4 Hours
-002: Rashmi Grace	W 9:00-10:50 am, LY215	R 3:00-4:50 pm, Farm	4 Hours

An intensive, hands-on course in organic farming taught at a local working farm. Covers the basics of organic farming while also addressing questions about organic versus industrial agriculture models in relation to current environmental problems and solutions.

NEW 215-001: Environmental Literature (ESC/CC) (HU)

Josh Dugat
TR 9:30-11:20 am, LY319
4 Hours

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

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

-001: Kimberly Colburn	MW 9:00-10:50 am	LY319	4 hours
-002: Vincent Willis	TR 9:30-11:20 am	LY215	4 hours

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, LY202

4 Hours

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 MSB1010 4 Hours

-002: Leah Connell T 12:30-4:20 pm MSB1010 4 Hours

-003: Amanda Espy-Brown W 1:00 - 4:50 pm MSB1010 4 Hours

-004: Scott Jones R 12:30-4:20 pm MSB1010 4 Hours

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, LY319

4 Hours

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

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 2:00-4:50 pm, LY306

3 Hours

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 365-001 Environmental Policy (SPSC)

Ellen Spears

TR 2:00-3:15 pm, LY202

3 Hours

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, state and civil society, and 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. This course is cross-listed with PSC 365.

NEW 411-001: Writing Workshop (CC)

John Miller

TR 2:00- 3:15 pm, LY215

3 Hours

Are you passionate about writing? This New College seminar provides a supportive space for writers of all abilities to work on their own projects. The workshop provides friendly peer review and group study of the craft of writing. In addition to writing, we'll learn about the publishing industry from guest speakers. Invited genres include: fan fiction, science fiction and fantasy; children's or young adult literature; poetry or song lyrics; romance; film and TV treatments / scripts; memoir and creative nonfiction (essays or travel- science- or food writing, e.g.); inspirational writing; general fiction (in short story and novel form); graphic novels; experimental forms, and more.

NEW 422-001: Girls' Studies (W)

Barbara Brickman

MW 12:30-1:45 pm, LY319

3 Hours

This interdisciplinary seminar introduces students to the key debates, concepts, and questions raised by the emerging field of Girls' Studies. The course will examine the history and social construction of girlhood in the 20th and 21st centuries, as well as draw on girls' lived experiences, activism, and cultural productions, in order to challenge established definitions of “girls” and “girlhood.” We will begin the semester asking central questions about girlhood, such as how we define “girlhood” and who gets to be a “girl” in the West. Then, we will explore various topics related to girls' culture including the history of girlhood since the Industrial Revolution, media representations of girls, girls as activists, and girls as creative producers. Assignments will include critical reading and writing, creative projects, group work, and one final major project, which can be creative, community-based, or project-based as developed by the individual student. There will be no tests or exams.

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

Dale Wallace

M 6:00-9:50 pm, LY202

4 Hours

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, LY306

3 Hours

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 472-001: Social Change (W) (ESC/SPSC)

Kimberly Colburn

TR 11:30 am-1:20 pm, LY202

4 Hours

This seminar is concerned with the process and analysis of social change. In this seminar, students study the Holocaust, attempting to understand it as an intense and unparalleled human experience. The causes, events, outcomes, and implications are researched through books, films, interviews, tapes, and discussions. Writing proficiency is required for a passing grade in this course. A student who does not write with the skill normally required of an upper-division student will not earn a passing grade, no matter how well the student performs in other areas of the course.

NEW 490-001: Special Topics: Arts Entrepreneurship (CC)

Holland Hopson

MW 3:00-4:15 pm, LY306

3 Hours

This course is an exploration of Arts Entrepreneurship in a seminar format. Our class goal is to gain a deeper understanding of the creative process as applied to entrepreneurial activity, with a focus on socially conscious, value-driven, arts-based endeavors. Students will study a variety of creative, entrepreneurial approaches within the context of the Design Thinking Process. Throughout the course students will practice what they learn by developing their own entrepreneurial micro-ventures.

NEW 490-002: Special Topics: Nonprofit Management (SPSC/CC)

Margaret Purcell

MW 11:00 am-12:50 pm, LY319

4 Hours

This course examines the processes and functions of nonprofit management. Students learn about the legal environment and opportunities for community impact within what is now called the third sector (private, government, and nonprofit). The course is rich with hands-on opportunities to practice marketable skills such as grant-writing, fundraising, and event management. Further students will work together to design a fundraising event. Guest speakers will share information about nonprofit challenges and tasks, and information will be provided about nonprofit career and internship opportunities.

NEW 490-003: Special Topics: Oceans Conservation (ESC)

Michael Steinberg

W 2:00- 4:50 pm, LY319

4 Hours

This course will explore the major threats to ocean biodiversity as well as the pros and cons and successes and failures of the potential solutions to these threats. Topics will vary weekly and include but are not limited to mangroves and sea grass conservation, coral reefs, climate change, ocean acidification, coastal development, aquaculture and overfishing, ocean pollution, and marine protected areas. The course will combine lectures, discussions, readings, and documentaries.

NON-SEMINAR COURSES

The following courses do not fulfill New College seminar requirements

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

Megan Williams

TR 11:00 - 12:15 pm, RH356

3 Hours

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)

-001: Barbara Brickman MW 3:00-4:15 pm LY328 3 Hours

-003: TBA TR 9:30-10:45 am LY226 3 Hours

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 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, LY202
2 Hours**

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)

**Jackson Harris
R 5:00-7:50 pm, LY306
3 Hours**

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.”