### New College Courses:

### Spring 2023

**New College Office:**

### Lloyd 201

**Introduction:**

This course booklet provides information about New College classes for Spring 2023. 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** or **Natural Resource Management**, please contact Dr. Julia Cherry ([julia.cherry@ua.edu](mailto:julia.cherry@ua.edu)). For information on the **Environmental Studies Minor**, contact Dr. Michael Steinberg ([mksteinberg@ua.edu](mailto:mksteinberg@ua.edu)).

**Independent Study:** If you would like to design and receive credit for an independent study, you must see Prof. John Miller ([mille031@ua.edu](mailto: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 (<https://newcollege.ua.edu/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. It should eb completed in the year prior to graduation.

**COURSE LISTINGS FOR SPRING 2023**

**REQUIRED COURSES**

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

**John Miller**

**T 3:30pm-5:20pm, LY335**

**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 studies 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)**

**John Miller**

**T 3:30pm-5:20pm, LY335**

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

**Ted Trost**

**MW 1:00pm-2:50pm, LY215**

**4 Hours**

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**)

**-001: Richard Wallace MW 12:00pm-1:50pm LY306 4 Hours**

**-002: Amy Pirkle MW 1:00pm-2:50pm LY202 4 Hours**

**-003: Holland Hopson TR 9:30am-11:20am 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)**

**John Miller**

**MW 10:00am-11:50am, LY306**

**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 credit hour requirements.

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

**Michael Steinberg**

**TR 2:00pm-3:50pm, LY319**

**4 Hours**

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

**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 226: Organic Farming** (**ESC**)

**-001: Rashmi Grace T 3:00pm-4:50pm Jeremiah’s Garden; W 9:00am-10:50am LY215 4 Hours**

**-002: Rashmi Grace W 9:00am-10:50am LY215; R 3:00pm-4:50pm Jeremiah’s Garden 4 Hours**

In this course, we will study and practice organic farming. Students will learn and enact the basics of how to grow food organically, with an emphasis on healthy soil, composting, cover crops, seed starting and transplanting, pest control, etc. At the same time, we will address fundamental questions and issues behind the organic model: Why do it? What are the problems with industrial agriculture? And how does it shape the way we eat and think about food? How does it influence our relationship to the land and to our communities? How does our food production fit into an analysis of current environmental problems and solutions? What does organic even mean? Each week, students will spend one day in the classroom and one day in the “field” at Jeremiah’s Garden, a 1-acre farm site and community food organization across the street from Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Students will be evaluated on their active participation, weekly writing assignments, and semester-long research and/or community-based project. This course requires students to provide their own transportation to the field site and to engage in moderate physical activity.

**NEW 237: Social Problems and Social Change (SB) (SPSC)**

**-001: Amanda Espy-Brown MW 9:00am-10:50am LY319 4 hours**

**-002: Vincent Willis TR 9:30am-11:20pm LY319 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 and Social Change (SB/UH) (SPSC)**

**Amanda Espy-Brown**

**MW 9:00am-10:50pm, LY319**

**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 1:00pm-4:50pm MSB1010 4 Hours**

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

**-003: Emily Elliott W 1:00pm-4:50pm MSB1010 4 Hours**

**-004: Amanda Espy-Brown W 1:00pm-4:50pm LY319 4 Hours**

**-005: Scott Jones R 12:30pm-4:20pm MSB1010 4 Hours**

This seminar demonstrates how laboratory and field research play an essential role in the understanding and advancement of science. 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 papers, 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. This is a field-based class that involves frequent outdoor excursions and hands-on activities. This 4.0 credit hour seminar meets the University’s Natural Science (N) core requirement. For New College students, it also counts as an Environment, Sustainability, and Conservation (ESC) seminar. There are no prerequisites.

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

**Natalie Adams**

**TR 11:00am-12:50am, LY306**

**4 Hours**

This seminar is designed to develop an awareness of the methodologies and concerns of the social sciences as they relate to ethical inquiry. The primary focus is on the nature of inquiry and models for the analysis of ethical issues confronting the modern world. Students will explore the complexity of moral dilemmas and effective societal responses to competing moral obligations in the areas of health care, socio-economic disparities, affirmative action, immigration, and racism.

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

**Wayne Ford**

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

**2:00pm-4:50pm, 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 411-001: Writing Workshop (CC)**

**Catherine Roach**

**W 2:00pm-4:50pm, 216A**

**3 Hours**

Are you passionate about your 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. We’ll learn about the publishing industry from visiting authors, editors, and agents. Invited genres include: science fiction and fantasy; fanfiction, children’s literature and young adult, poetry; song lyrics, erotica and romance, film and TV treatments and scripts, memoir and creative nonfiction (travel writing, science writing, food writing, etc.), devotional or inspirational writing, general fiction (in short story and novel form), graphic novels, experimental form and fiction, and more.

**NEW 416-001: American Environmental Thought (SPSC/ESC)**

**Ellen Spears**

**TR 9:30am-10:45am, LY306**

**3 Hours**

Popular conceptions of nature hold extraordinary power in shaping our responses and policies toward both the geophysical world and built environments. This interdisciplinary course examines key concepts and controversies in American thought about nature since before colonization. Using accounts from various regions, the course explores evolving conceptions of nature and justice, competing claims about race and class, and changing institutional responses and remedies to environmental degradation in the context of global change. The course is highly interactive, inviting critical thinking about the human place in the physical world. We read and discuss ecological views as presented in colonial writings, slave narratives, Transcendentalist thought, Gilded Age preservationist and conservationist debates, and the work of Progressive Era occupational health specialists and ecologists. We give specific attention to twentieth century social movements for environmental public health, examining contemporary approaches, including eco-feminism, environmental justice, and sustainability. We identify different disciplinary approaches, among them environmental history, ecological anthropology, sociology, and geography, and explore conceptual links between disciplines. A brief introduction to research methods, utilizing qualitative techniques, case studies, and specialized data sources, will be included. Journal articles, law review essays, regulatory documents, court decisions, and films supplement classic texts as we examine race, ethnicity, gender, poverty, and other factors shaping environmental health. 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 422-001: Girls’ Culture (W) (CC/SPSC)**

**Barbara Brickman**

**MW 12:30pm-1:45pm, LY335**

**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.” Writing proficiency within this discipline 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 436-320: Public Leadership (W) (SPSC)**

**Dale Wallace**

**M 6:00pm-9:50pm, 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 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 439-001: Urban Spaces (W) (ESC/SPSC)**

**Ellen Spears**

**TR 2:00pm-3:15pm, LY202**

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

**Kimberly Colburn**

**MW 9:00am-10:50am, LY202**

**4 Hours**

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.

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

**Marysia Galbraith**

**MW 11:00am-12:15pm, LY215**

**3 Hours**

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: Jazz History (CC)**

**Andrew Dewar**

**MW 3:00pm-4:15pm, LY202**

**3 Hours**

This course is an introduction to the historical development and cultural context of jazz. The music known as ‘jazz’ is a revolutionary and influential artistic movement that has captured the imagination of people worldwide. By engaging both musicians and audiences in the magical moment of spontaneous creation, jazz has deeply influenced global music and culture over its century of existence. This course examines the development and continuing story of the jazz tradition through critical listening, readings, and the voices of the artists themselves. We will look at the music as a unique product of American culture and explore its broad swath of inspiration throughout the arts, from poetry to painting. By combining writings from historians with autobiographical and theoretical essays authored by a wide range of musicians, we will learn about the music's aesthetics and changing meanings throughout its rich and colorful history.

**NEW 490-003: Special Topics: Non-Profit Management (SPSC)**

**Bruce Blair**

**MW 11:00am-12:15pm, LY319**

**3 Hours**

The nonprofit sector complements the roles of government and business in addressing social and individual needs. The nonprofit sector has grown dramatically in size, scope, visibility, influence, and impact in recent decades. Effectively leading and managing nonprofit organizations requires a sophisticated understanding of the sector and its relationship to business and government. It also requires administrative skills in a range of areas including human resource management, financial management, resource development, marketing and communications, governance, strategic planning, organizational assessment, and program evaluation. Nonprofit leaders and administrators are increasingly called upon to capitalize on the assets of culturally diverse environments. They are expected to respond proactively and nimbly to rapidly changing circumstances and demonstrate high ethical standards. It is both a time of challenge and a time of opportunity for nonprofit organizations, professionals, and trustees!

**NON-SEMINAR COURSES**

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

**NEW 140-001: Sexuality & Society (SB) (does not count as NC seminar)**

**Catherine Roach**

**TR 12:30pm - 1:45pm, NL2009**

**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 3:00pm-4:15pm LY328 3 Hours**

**-003: Richard Wallace TR 9:30am-10:45am LY226 3 Hours**

An introduction to the fine arts, drawing especially on campus and community cultural events. This course is usually open to freshmen.

**NEW 310 to NEW 312: 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](mailto: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 3:00pm - 4:50pm, LY215**

**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.