



## CONGRATULATIONS ON CHOOSING SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY!

**As you prepare to start your journey, we are giving you the opportunity to choose your FIRST FALL COURSE! We encourage you to read the following information carefully before selecting your seminar.**

All incoming first year students, and incoming transfers with less than 15 credits, are required to take (as part of the General Education program) a first year seminar. These are innovative, exciting, 3-credit courses designed and taught by professors who are passionate about the topic they have chosen. In addition to focusing on a particular academic topic through reading, writing, and analyzing it, each seminar also includes some transition and support components as you enter your first year of college. **These seminars are required academic components of your curriculum similar to any other full 3-credit course you are required to take as part of your major or the General Education program.**

There will be dozens of different seminars to choose from for the fall semester (some have multiple sections with the same topic – they just meet at different times).

We encourage you to **READ ALL THE OPTIONS** and **READ THE SEMINAR DESCRIPTION BEFORE CHOOSING (do not make a decision based on the title or code alone)** before making your selection.

### You should be aware that:

- Some courses meet twice a week while others meet once a week for a longer time period. If you see a topic listed twice it means there are two “sections” of the course running and you can pick either one. The professor is so passionate about the topic, they are doubling the number of students who can take it!
- Ignore your assumptions about what department a seminar falls in. Just because a seminar is “housed” in the Political Science department doesn’t mean that it is for political science majors OR that it has anything to do with political science. A seminar is only assigned to a department because that is where the professor teaches most of their classes. Professors teach these seminars based on their PASSIONS and INTERESTS which could be completely separate from their discipline. We encourage you to broaden your horizons and **NOT pick a seminar that you THINK is related to your major**, because it might not have anything to do with your major.
- Many of the common questions about first year seminars are answered on the FYE website: [www.salemstate.edu/fys](http://www.salemstate.edu/fys). **We encourage you to review all the information before selecting your seminar!**
- First-year students will sign up for their first year seminar through Navigator after paying your deposit and confirming orientation. Incoming transfer students with less than 15 credits and full-time evening students will receive information via email regarding the process for how to sign up for a seminar. If you are an upper-class student who needs to retake your seminar you will select during the normal class registration time.
- **You may CHANGE your first year seminar, depending on space availability, up until Tuesday May 28 at NOON in Navigator. After that, the system will be closed and if you want to choose or change your seminar you will do so AT orientation or if it is after your orientation session, you may contact the FYE office to see if there is any open seminars left.**
- The first year seminar is worth 3 credits meaning it is an academic course and will involve reading, writing, and critical analysis like any other college-level course you take. While there are “transition to college” elements woven into the seminar the main focus is on a particular academic topic. For example, if you took a dance or yoga or music class in high school you may have focused your time on actually dancing, doing yoga, or singing. A first year seminar focused on one of those topics might include “doing” but is going to also focus on reading about the history of those topics, perhaps studying cultural impact, writing papers, and engaging in academic discussions about the topic.

# FALL 2024 FIRST YEAR SEMINARS

We encourage you to **READ ALL THE OPTIONS** and **READ THE SEMINAR DESCRIPTION BEFORE CHOOSING (do not make a decision based on the title or code alone)** before making your selection.

1. Selfies and the Art of Portraiture
2. Religion and Climate Change
3. Bollywood: India Through Film
4. Scorecasting: Hidden Influences Behind How Sports are Played and Won
5. "¡Sí se puede!": The Impact of Latinx in the US
6. "¡Sí se puede!": The Impact of Latinx in the US
7. Happiness 101
8. Social Justice and Social Media
9. The Wisdom of Running
10. Science, Nonscience, and Nonsense
11. So, You Want to Get Stung? Beekeeping and the Environment
12. Math Bytes
13. Race and Racism in the Americas
14. Race and Racism in the Americas
15. Ghosted
16. Renewable Energy and Sustainability
17. Creating a Meaningful and Happy Life
18. Discover the Voices of Jazz
19. Discover the Voices of Jazz
20. Home as an Idea and a Place
21. Poverty and Charitable Giving
22. The Salem Witch Hunt
23. The Salem Witch Hunt
24. Can I Live to Be 100?
25. Sustainability: Is it Good for Business?
26. Business and Human Rights
27. The Tudors: Fact, fiction, food and fashion
28. Salem: By Land and By Sea
29. Journeys
30. Traveling the World
31. Living a Deliberate Life
32. CANCELLED
33. What's in the Cards?
34. What's in the Cards?
35. Viewpoints on Social (In)Justice
36. Playing with Pop Culture
37. Death and Happiness
38. *Topic coming soon!*
39. *Topic coming soon!*
40. *Topic coming soon!*

To request accommodations, please contact the disability services office at 978.542.6217  
or [disability-services@salemstate.edu](mailto:disability-services@salemstate.edu)

# FALL 2024 FIRST YEAR SEMINARS

## **1. Selfies and the Art of Portraiture**

**FYAD 100-01 (1014)**

We're in the midst of a self-portrait explosion. Selfies snapped, or staged, by friends, relatives, celebrities, and strangers fly across our social media feeds. How do these ubiquitous photographs relate to earlier portraits on canvas or paper, in stone or metal? Historically who has been represented? And how? What messages were they trying to convey? Together we'll explore the history of portraiture, looking closely at images created over time and across cultures. We'll also hone our visual analysis skills. As a society we're inundated with pictures that we often glance at only in passing. We'll use our study of portraits as an opportunity to slow down, look closely, and think carefully about what we see. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:15pm - 1:30pm*

## **2. Religion and Climate Change**

**FYGE 100-02 (2380)**

We hear a lot about climate change: global warming, species extinction, melting ice caps, wildfires and more intense hurricanes. Climate change is a crisis on a planetary scale. How do we solve the climate crisis? Proposed solutions are often technological (i.e. solar/wind energy), economic (i.e. carbon taxes) or individual's changing their energy use. In this first year seminar, we examine how the world's faiths and religions offer religious-based solutions to the climate crisis. We'll explore how the world's major religions (i.e. Christianity, Islam, Hinduism) and other faiths/spiritualities (i.e. Buddhism, indigenous) propose re-thinking our relationship with nature. Second, we'll study the climate change activism of religious/faith-based organizations at the local, national and global scales; how are they challenging the "powers that be" into solving the climate crisis? We'll dive into these questions by studying religious teachings (texts/videos) and activism/action and organizing. In studying these questions, we'll also explore our own thinking regarding religion/spirituality, our relationship to nature and our engagement with solving the climate crisis. *Tuesdays and Thursday 3:05pm - 4:20pm*

## **3. Bollywood: India Through Film**

**FYMU 100-01 (1316)**

The music! The dancing! The fashion! The popular Hindi cinema industry based in Mumbai has been a global force for decades. You've probably heard the term "Bollywood," maybe you've given yoga a try, or perhaps your favorite drink is "chai tea." But how well do you understand the most populous country in the world? By exploring the ways that pop culture relates to society throughout the Indian subcontinent, students will become better-informed global citizens prepared with a fun way to build connections with people of South Asian heritage in business, healthcare, technology, and the arts. Students will work collaboratively on projects, and film viewing on three evenings will be required. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:05pm – 4:20pm*

## **4. Scorecasting: Hidden Influences Behind How Sports are Played and Won**

**FYSM 100-01 (1508)**

This seminar focuses on the subtle factors that influence wins and losses in sport. Does home field advantage matter? Why? Does defense really win championships? Does icing the kicker actually work? Over the course of the semester, we will answer these questions and others, while exploring how using data to identify small advantages can help us make smarter decisions in sport, academics, and life. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:50 - 12:05pm.*

## **5. "¡Sí se puede!": The Impact of Latinx in the US**

**FYWL 100-01 (1138)**

It is essential for students to gain cultural competence of the different ethnic groups in the United States if they are to become globalized active citizens. This seminar will introduce you to topics relating to various aspects of the Latinx historical interactions in the US such as diversity, culture, identity, stereotypes, population growth, assimilation, and immigration. Latinx populations are not homogeneous; they all have their own dialects, accents and cultures. The goal of this seminar is to provide you with academic and interpersonal tools to help you succeed academically and socially through intercultural dialogues, interviews, personal experiences, and analyses of selected readings, movies, and documentaries of Latinx culture in the United States. Issues discussed in the seminar have implications for all students as they adjust to campus life. One of the goals of this course is to foster dialog and increase access to the campus community of professors and peers. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

## **6. "¡Sí se puede!": The Impact of Latinx in the US**

**FYWL 100-02 (#1139)**

It is essential for students to gain cultural competence of the different ethnic groups in the United States if they are to become globalized active citizens. This seminar will introduce you to topics relating to various aspects of the Latinx historical interactions in the US such as diversity, culture, identity, stereotypes, population growth, assimilation, and immigration. Latinx populations are not homogeneous; they all have their own dialects, accents and cultures. The goal of this seminar is to provide you with academic and interpersonal tools to help you succeed academically and socially through intercultural dialogues, interviews, personal experiences, and analyses of selected readings, movies, and documentaries of Latinx culture in the United States. Issues discussed in the seminar have implications for all students as they adjust to campus life. One of the goals of this course is to foster dialog and increase access to the campus community of professors and peers. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:15pm – 1:30pm*

## **7. Happiness 101**

**FYPY 100-01 (#1793)**

Happiness 101 is all about learning how people cope with hardship and live their best lives. How do we grow and prosper in the face of adversity, anxiety and other difficulties? When asked, young adults around the globe said their number one priority in life was happiness. Not success, fame, money, looks or love...but happiness." (Bono, 2020) Together, we are going to discover more about happiness, character strengths, positive relationships, flow, mindfulness, and positive psychology interventions so we can achieve that number one goal, living our best life. Happiness 101 will explore questions such as what is happiness, can it go beyond the personal and enhance one's professional success, how does it affect intimate relationships and how do we think about the self from a positive psychology perspective? Through readings, TED talks, positive psychology assessments, and writing discussion questions that result in class discussions, we'll begin to untangle the paths to happiness for use in our own lives, because, as Taylor Swift reminds us, despite challenges "...there is happiness!" (2020) *Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:50am – 12:05pm*

## **8. Social Justice and Social Media**

**FYSO 100-01 (1251)**

In 2020, the Pew Research Center found that 80% of Americans said social media platforms were effective for raising public awareness about political or social issues, but how can it's use or lack of use disenfranchise or negatively impact the issues. "What is the relationship between social media and inequality?" This seminar we will examine the internet and other new forms of social media. Students will explore the reality and impact of inequality and the manner in which social media (tik tok, snapchat, facebook, internet, movies, etc.) reduces or reproduces existing and new forms of inequality. This seminar will also help students to acclimate to college life, resources, and student activities on campus to get involved and create their own social media content. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 1:40pm – 2:55pm*

## **9. The Wisdom of Running**

**FYID 100-03 (2175)**

Running is a shared human endeavor and for millennia humans have understood it to be more than just a physical activity. Running is good exercise for sure, but it is also a metaphor for life and a deep source of wisdom. Meditation, perseverance, quest, self-awareness, spirituality, suffering, exhilaration, struggle, ritual, and escape all factor into the act of running, an act that can bring both body and mind (and their relationship to one another) into sharp focus and help us learn much about ourselves and reflect on that which connects us to others past and present. In this interdisciplinary seminar we will examine and discuss the links between wisdom, running, justice, self-awareness and knowledge. We will debate and discuss images of and reflections on running drawn from works of fiction, film, memoir, poetry, philosophy, history, biology, art and sociology and we will run (yes, we will RUN) in Salem nearly every week. Students will explore the wisdom to be gained from running and reflect (individually and collectively) on the journeys and challenges (metaphorical and literal) which have brought them to where they are now and the paths they wish to follow individually and collectively. Students will come to know some of the cultural, historical and physical geography of Salem and the wider world through running (with a focus on issues of access, diversity and justice) even as they come to know themselves more deeply and consider their place in the world. In addition, students will gain competence and confidence in reading, understanding, discussing and writing about complex, college-level material and navigating the resources and opportunities available at SSU. As a culminating project, students will create and

lead custom running tours that link personal discovery and new knowledge of the place in which they are now crafting a new chapter of their lives. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:05pm – 4:20pm*

#### **10. Science, Nonscience, and Nonsense**

**FYBI 100-01 (1976)**

Every day you are exposed to conflicting statements concerning scientific knowledge. Does eating a high salt diet cause high blood pressure? Are vaccines safe? Is climate change happening? Can acupuncture cure what ails you? Are the answers to these questions a matter of opinion? Through reading and discussion, you will learn what scientists do and how data are analyzed and evaluated. We'll also explore the scientific method, scholarly literature in science, experimental design, and the role of science in society. Through analysis of contemporary scientific reports, you will gain an understanding of forming hypotheses, experimentation, and making conclusions drawn from experimental data. In a final project you will analyze a current scientific controversy. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:50am – 12:05pm*

#### **11. So, You Want to Get Stung? Beekeeping and the Environment**

**FYGE 100-01 (2379)**

Did you know that the honey bee can fly up to 15 miles per hour? Or that a pound of honey is made by 2 million flower visits? Or that human collection of honey dates back to 8000 BC? In this seminar we explore the fascinating world of honeybees and beekeeping. As such we explore the unique relationship of how the environment not only affects the hive, the individual bee, but also the food supply for honeybees and the \$40 billion dollars worth of crops they pollinate. With one out of every three mouthfuls of food we consume dependent upon pollinators like bees, they are critical to our continued survival. To bee or not to bee...that will be our question! Note: You will see and experiment with honeybees through an observation hive. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:50am – 12:05pm*

#### **12. Math Bytes**

**FYMA 100-01 (1403)**

Have you ever wondered, "why do we need mathematics?" It might surprise you to learn that the answer is both fun and fascinating. Google searches, movie studios, and traveling salespeople all use mathematics and you do as well to better understand our world. Through hands-on activities, readings, videos, and discussions, we will explore important mathematical ideas which all use computing. For example, we will see how the creators of the Simpsons TV show explore a famous mathematical theorem through a dream sequence of the character, Homer Simpson. We will also examine the mathematics of going viral on X (formerly known as Twitter) and how to chart the path of an Angry Bird in space. Students will have the opportunity to explore an academic topic further and will present their findings to the class at the end of the semester. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

#### **13. Race and Racism in the Americas**

**FYHI 100-02 (2413)**

This seminar explores the realities of race and status in the contemporary United States and Latin America through history, journalism, literature, and film. We will engage in a close analysis of multiple sources, as well as following contemporary debates in the world, in the news, and on campus. Topics include histories of race-making, race and class, citizenship, immigration, exclusion, and deportation, the carceral state, struggles for racial and environmental justice, and the ways in which race and immigration have been intertwined throughout American history. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:15pm – 1:30pm*

#### **14. Race and Racism in the Americas**

**FYHI 100-03 (2414)**

This seminar explores the realities of race and status in the contemporary United States and Latin America through history, journalism, literature, and film. We will engage in a close analysis of multiple sources, as well as following contemporary debates in the world, in the news, and on campus. Topics include histories of race-making, race and class, citizenship, immigration, exclusion, and deportation, the carceral state, struggles for racial and environmental justice, and the ways in which race and immigration have been intertwined throughout American history. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:50am – 12:05pm*

### **15. Ghosted**

**FYHI 100-05 (2416)**

Why do we tell ghost stories? Why do we say we've been "ghosted" when someone stops responding to our texts and DMs? What might be the relationship between stories of ghosts and unresolved personal, community and collective issues and traumas? This seminar will explore our fascination with ghosts: ghost stories, haunted tours, spectral sightings and more. We will explore these phenomena from a public history perspective, engaging individual and collective memory and forgetting around difficult and traumatic pasts.

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8am – 9:15am*

### **16. Renewable Energy and Sustainability**

**FYGS 100-01 (1159)**

Are renewable energy sources sustainable and can they replace fossil fuels? Renewable energy and sustainable development are widely discussed and highly debated topics. Most would agree that for a sustainable development renewable energy is a requirement. These resources are readily available, they can be harvested economically and in environment-friendly ways. Nonetheless, technical problems for renewable energy are far from solved and they are very often more damaging to the environment and society than foresaw. Conversely, fossil fuels are well known and can be used with technologies that are already developed but their extensive use is not sustainable. Additionally, the observed carbon dioxide build-up and subsequent climate change are inseparably entangled with sustainability and energy issues. Through analyzing a range of energy production techniques (e.g. wind, solar, geothermal, fossil fuel, biomass etc..) and case studies this course seeks to educate students about modern date sources of energy and their effects on the environment.

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:40pm – 2:55pm*

### **17. Creating a Meaningful and Happy Life**

**FYID 100-01 (2173)**

What is a happy life? Is it in our power to create a happy life? Are some careers more fulfilling than others? What majors will lead to what careers? Through exploring different ideas about happiness, this course will guide you in discovering how to get the most out of college and how to carve a path toward a happy life and successful career. We will examine a variety of ways that we can create for ourselves happy and meaningful lives by looking at a wide range of resources from the most current empirical research to ancient philosophy. We will practice some of the happiness activities that have been proven to lift people's spirits, such as acts of kindness, meditation, and expressing gratitude. The course design allows a great deal of interaction between students and introduces students to the variety of supports the school offers.

*Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

### **28. Discover the Voices of Jazz**

**FYHI 100-06 (2417)**

Jazz music can help us think about who we are and how we, our perceptions, and approaches, like music, have changed over time. Through an exploration of jazz's history, and some of it's most notable representatives, students will also discover their own voice and learn to use that voice – not as jazz singers, but as active participants in all aspect of their lives. "Jazz is not just music." Nina Simone once said, "it's a way of life, it's a way of being, a way of thinking." Originating in the Mississippi Delta, jazz is a distinctly American artform and has influenced every popular music in the United States and musical forms throughout the world. What social, cultural, and political factors influenced the creation and transformation of jazz and individual musicians over the last one hundred years? Each class session will focus on a different jazz musician, their life, and their contributions to the art, including but not limited to legends like Louis "Satchmo" Armstrong, Billy "Lady Day" Holiday, "The First Lady of Song" Ella Fitzgerald, and Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington as well as influential jazz people of the twenty-first century like Thundercat, Jazzmeia Horn, and all the members of the Marsalis family, the first family of jazz. Whether you love jazz or you are discovering it for the first time, you will discover how simply listening actively to jazz opens our minds. **No previous musical knowledge or background is necessary.** There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic.

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

### **19. Discover the Voices of Jazz**

**FYHI 100-07 (2418)**

Jazz music can help us think about who we are and how we, our perceptions, and approaches, like music, have changed over time. Through an exploration of jazz's history, and some of it's most notable representatives, students will also discover their own voice and learn to use that voice – not as jazz singers,

but as active participants in all aspect of their lives. “Jazz is not just music.” Nina Simone once said, “it’s a way of life, it’s a way of being, a way of thinking.” Originating in the Mississippi Delta, jazz is a distinctly American artform and has influenced every popular music in the United States and musical forms throughout the world. What social, cultural, and political factors influenced the creation and transformation of jazz and individual musicians over the last one hundred years? Each class session will focus on a different jazz musician, their life, and their contributions to the art, including but not limited to legends like Louis “Satchmo” Armstrong, Billy “Lady Day” Holiday, “The First Lady of Song” Ella Fitzgerald, and Edward Kennedy “Duke” Ellington as well as influential jazz people of the twenty-first century like Thundercat, Jazzmeia Horn, and all the members of the Marsalis family, the first family of jazz. Whether you love jazz or you are discovering it for the first time, you will discover how simply listening actively to jazz opens our minds. **No previous musical knowledge or background is necessary.** There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

## **20. Home as an Idea and a Place**

**FYEN 100-02 (2112)**

At its most basic, home is usually four walls and a roof. But when we hear the statement “what makes a house a home” we start to see that “home” is as much a set of attitudes and social relationships as it is a material space. What is your definition of home? Does coming to Salem State change how you think about what a home is? Might the university become your NEW home or home away from home? This seminar will focus on how our ideas about home have changed over time in western culture as well as in New England. Since home is also our “local habitation” we will also consider how houses relate (or don’t) to the environments that surround them. Each person will come up with their own definition of home throughout the semester. By examining these definitions, we will explore revealing insights into each person’s values and interests about what he or she thinks about their place in the world. In order to explore this topic from multiple perspectives, we will read texts from literature, history, environmental studies, and architecture as well as take class trips throughout the local community and meet with guest speakers. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 3:05pm – 4:20pm*

## **21. Poverty and Charitable Giving**

**FYPO 100-03 (2925)**

While global poverty may seem unsolvable, we now possess the tools and opportunities to eradicate it, both at home and abroad. Join this class to learn how each of us can make a difference through philanthropy and active citizenship. We will also discuss what it means to be poor today, explore how much progress has been accomplished in recent decades to alleviate poverty around the world, and analyze the extent to which the Covid-19 pandemic has eroded this progress. The class includes active learning activities. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 12:15pm – 1:30pm*

## **22. The Salem Witch Hunt**

**FYHI 100-04 (2415)**

Salem is known around the world for its infamous witch hunt - events that are surrounded by myth, mystery and misinformation. This course will explore the witchcraft crisis of 1692 and assess the many theories that try to explain what were by far the largest witch trials in American history. The course will place these events in the larger narrative of Salem’s rich history. Students will also examine how the trials created an enduring legacy for the “Witch City,” and how Salem and her witch hunt became synonymous with persecution, fanaticism and rushing to judgment. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesday and Fridays, 1:40pm - 2:55pm*

## **23. The Salem Witch Hunt**

**FYHI 100-08 (2419)**

Salem is known around the world for its infamous witch hunt - events that are surrounded by myth, mystery and misinformation. This course will explore the witchcraft crisis of 1692 and assess the many theories that try to explain what were by far the largest witch trials in American history. The course will place these events in the larger narrative of Salem’s rich history. Students will also examine how the trials created an enduring legacy for the “Witch City,” and how Salem and her witch hunt became synonymous with persecution, fanaticism and rushing to judgment. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at

different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Wednesday and Fridays, 12:15pm – 1:30pm*

#### **24. Can I Live to Be 100?**

**FYNU 100-01 (2510)**

How does what we eat, when we eat, and how long we exercise each day have to do with the quality and length of our life? Is human longevity determined by the numbers of hours that we sleep? Can a strand of microbiomes in my stomach and intestine really determine my fate? Can we honestly live to be 100 without suffering from a chronic illness? These and other questions are explored and answered in our first-year seminar on vitality, tasty food, longevity, and college success. In addition to taste-testing foods, students will have regular conversations with an older family member or a neighbor and learn from *their* lived experiences and life wisdom. We will capture their advice in our two-page journals. We will reflect on their stories as we decide how to keep our body and mind healthy. We will review what college graduates have said is most important in the first year of college. When possible, we will also use class time to take field trips to meet healthy older adults, take walks, and explore students' exercise routines. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:15pm – 1:30pm*

#### **25. Sustainability: Is it Good for Business?**

**FYAF 100-01 (2243)**

This first year seminar will explore the topic of whether sustainability is good for business, i.e. the financial position, financial performance, customer satisfaction, and reputation of a business entity. Sustainability is usually defined as environmental, social, and governance (ESG) accountability of business to nature, the local community, and society, not just to the shareholders and creditors who have a financial interest in the company. Students will complete a free 7.5 hour Bloomberg ESG Certificate in the Bloomberg Lab on campus, participate in a virtual exchange on a sustainability topic with a class from the Middle East or North Africa, complete a 'micro-internship' with a business entity through the experiential learning platform, Riipen.com, participate in small-group and class discussions on readings from *The Economist* magazine, read and analyze sustainability for business resources from the library's catalog and databases, and watch and discuss sustainability-related documentaries. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:50am – 12:05pm*

#### **26. Business and Human Rights**

**FYAF 100-02 (2244)**

This first-year seminar course explores the responsibility that businesses and companies have to respect and protect human rights, and considers how far that responsibility goes. Through a variety of readings, examples, case studies, media stories, and fictional works we'll consider these concepts in an equitable and ethical space that intentionally honors diverse viewpoints and student voice, and discuss how that model can be used to build a supportive community and be successful in college. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:50am – 12:05pm*

#### **27. The Tudors: Fact, fiction, food and fashion**

**FYHI 100-01 (2412)**

The Tudor Dynasty of England has become one of the most storied in popular history in large part due to its depictions in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries on stage and screen. This seminar will explore both the factual and fictional foundations of the dynasty and the era, and also examine their cultural projections through an exploration of material and popular culture in the sixteenth century, encompassing food, fashion, architecture, belief systems, health and disease, sport and leisure, and aspects of everyday life. *Wednesday and Fridays, 3:05pm – 4:20pm*

#### **28. Salem: By Land and By Sea**

**FYEN 100-01 (2111)**

Inspired in part by Ralph Waldo Emerson's belief that the best education is not learned in the classroom, but through first-hand experience, this first year seminar section, "Salem: By Land and By Sea," will challenge you to navigate your new environment in several ways. We'll learn about the first settlers of Salem, both Native American and white, consider the work of master navigator Nathaniel Bowditch, and study the writings of Charlotte Forten Grimke, the first African-American graduate of SSU, among others. We'll explore historic sites in Salem by foot and experience an ocean-based perspective via a sailing excursion on the 1812 replica Schooner *Fame*. Additional sites under consideration include Salem's 1630 Pioneer Village, a cemetery, SSU Library Archives, and possibly SSU's Collins Observatory. As we explore Salem, we will also examine and reflect on how to navigate college and life beyond. Note: Students will need to purchase a ticket for the sailing excursion, which will occur during our class meeting time and cost approximately \$20 which replaces one of



the books that we would have used (a discounted price thanks to the First Year Seminar Program). *Mondays 1:10pm – 3:50pm*

### **29. Journeys**

**FYHI 100-09 (2420)**

In this seminar, we will explore journeys: historic, contemporary, and personal. What have been the pull and push factors that have led people to journey? What do journeys entail? Is it a journey if not freely chosen? Can one journey without ever leaving home? Among the travelers we will encounter will be Marco Polo, perhaps the Middle Ages most famous western traveler; Black Elk, the Oglala Lakota visionary; August Wilson, American playwright and chronicler of twentieth century African American journeys; and Twyla Tharp, choreographer and dancer. Along the way we will pull in other journeys we discover, and share, to the extent that we are comfortable, our own journey. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Tuesdays, 4:30pm – 6:50pm*

### **30. Traveling the World**

**FYEC 100-01 (1126)**

Do you want to see the world? In this first year seminar, we will explore different parts of the world and figure out how to plan trips to your dream destinations. We will do more than look at pretty travel brochures – rewarding and meaningful travel requires effort. You will learn about history, culture, food, the economy, politics, language and more. We will explore famous sights and lesser-known attractions of different regions. We will also discuss the practical problems facing an aspiring world traveler, including how to travel on a budget, how to stay safe, how tourism affects local people and culture, and the impact of travel on the environment. As you plan trips, you will develop research, writing, and presentation skills that will help you succeed in all your classes. *Mondays, 1:10pm – 3:50pm*

### **31. Living a Deliberate Life**

**FYED 100-01 (2662)**

What is your path forward? How will you set the patterns to be successful in college now and life after college? This course will explore health and wellness including physical, intellectual, financial, spiritual, emotional/mental, and social wellness and their connection to academic wellness. Each week we will explore a topic through discussion of short articles, podcasts, or TED talks and then set individual short-term and long-term goals to set a deliberate and intentional path forward. *Mondays, 1:10pm – 3:50pm*

### **32. CANCELLED**

### **33. What's in the Cards?**

**FYPO 100-01 (1230)**

The Tarot is a centuries-old set of archetypal representations used to understand the past, evaluate the present, and (at times) predict the future. By turns associated with the devil, paganism, goddess worship, and witchcraft, these cards can nonetheless be a powerful tool for understanding both ourselves and the culture around us. This class will take you on a journey of self-discovery by exploring what the cards are meant to represent and what they can mean to each of us. At the same time that you are learning about the historical, psychological, and cultural meanings embedded in the representative art of various Tarot decks, you will begin exploring yourself and your surroundings here on campus. In a final creative project, students will be asked to develop their own Tarot card using the medium of their choice. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8am – 9:15am*

### **34. What's in the Cards?**

**FYPO 100-02 (1231)**

The Tarot is a centuries-old set of archetypal representations used to understand the past, evaluate the present, and (at times) predict the future. By turns associated with the devil, paganism, goddess worship, and witchcraft, these cards can nonetheless be a powerful tool for understanding both ourselves and the culture around us. This class will take you on a journey of self-discovery by exploring what the cards are meant to represent and what they can mean to each of us. At the same time that you are learning about the historical,

psychological, and cultural meanings embedded in the representative art of various Tarot decks, you will begin exploring yourself and your surroundings here on campus. In a final creative project, students will be asked to develop their own Tarot card using the medium of their choice. There are two sections of this seminar being offered (each meets at different times). Students may select either one if they are interested in this topic.

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

### **35. Viewpoints on Social (In)Justice**

**FYID 100-02 (2174)**

“How we think about something makes a difference not only at the level of theory, but in terms of practice as well” (Apple, 1992). This seminar will focus on questions of social justice, how it is defined and who controls access. As part of an interdisciplinary examination to questions of justice we will focus on different constructions of justice based on thinkers from Plato to Rawls, Russell to Singer: potential topics will include but not limited to, Climate change, Gun control, Abortion Rights (especially in a post Roe world), Healthcare (after COVID), Voting Rights, and Education, Black Lives Matter, Antifa, White Supremacy and the role of international norms (particularly in light of the war in Ukraine) as a result we will connect with students from Petro Mohyla Black Sea National University in Mykolaiv, Ukraine). The aim of the semester will be on the development of a lexicon and modes of presentation that will progress from an examination of the personal to the construction of what are taken as societal norms. *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

### **36. Playing with Pop Culture**

**FYEN 100-04 (#2872)**

So... how do you chill? Listen to music? Binge watch TV series? Channel celebrities? Compete with strangers on video games? Follow fashionistas on YouTube? Descend down the rabbit hole of social media? We all turn to pop culture when we want to escape, be entertained, and bond with buddies. At a higher level, popular culture can inform (and misinform) us; and, it invites us to get involved with — and maybe even change — the world. We'll use your favorite cultural pursuits to frame spirited discussions about identity — individual, generational, American, and global. *Let's have laughs playing with pop culture, while also appreciating its contemporary relevance.* We will investigate, analyze, and challenge the impact of the dominate culture, pop culture, music, film, art and the historical contribution of politics and cultural events as they contribute to your sense of self-knowing. Some topical ideas? History of Memes — from humor to haters; How The Beatles Changed the World, Why Millennials Love Dystopian Stories; The Downsides of Celebrity Culture; YouTube Video Messaging: propagandists and activists; Social Media Wrecks Relationships, or Misogamy and the Game Boys. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

### **37. Death and Happiness**

**FYPH 100-01 (2411)**

There are no dress rehearsals for life, and we only get one. So, how should we make the best use of the one-and-only life we've got? How does the fact of our own mortality and our awareness of it influence meaning in life, and what is best way to pursue happiness and wellbeing understanding our own temporary nature? To answer these questions, we will need to explore more carefully what our essential features as persons are, and what role our temporariness plays in understanding ourselves. Also, we will need to investigate what happiness is and how valuable really it is. We will seek wisdom on these topics from literature and philosophical texts from a wide variety of perspectives: western and non-western, ancient and contemporary. Course activities are designed to help you develop your critical reasoning skills, along with written and oral communication. We will familiarize ourselves with strategies for academic success while at SSU. Most importantly, we will gain a deeper understanding of ourselves as human persons, what our individual values are, and what we each take a successful life to be. *Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:25am – 10:40am*

### **38. COMING SOON!**

### **39. COMING SOON!**

### **40. COMING SOON!**