

The Chellgren Center

DISCOVERY SEMINAR PROGRAM

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Discovery Seminar Program



Academically

Innovative

First-Year

Courses!

Spring 2010

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear First-Year UK student,

Welcome to a world of DISCOVERY!

Now in its 14th year, the DISCOVERY SEMINAR PROGRAM (DSP) continues to be a most exciting opportunity for first-year students. Just as soon as you arrive on campus, we want you to be discovering how exciting your college experience can be at UK. DSP offers small classes with the most engaging professors at UK, who are ready to help you discover with them the frontiers of knowledge. In the academic year 2009-10, our faculty will be offering seminars on such topics as the environment, religion and politics, social inequality, community service, music, art and, American sign language.

You are invited to register for the seminars described in this brochure. The seminars fill up quickly, so register early. Remember, DSP courses are alternative ways to fulfill a USP requirement in the Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, or the Humanities. You are able to register for one 100-level seminar offered in the Fall or in the Spring of your first year at UK. Also, some of the seminars are part of UK's Living Learning Communities, and others require that you also enroll in a specific section of UK101. Each of the descriptions in this brochure gives you the full information you will need to register.

Be sure to ask your advisor about the Discovery Seminar Program, or if you have additional questions feel free to contact Lynn Hiler, the Program Coordinator, at 859.257.6894 or clynnhiler@uky.edu.

Sincerely,

Joanna M. Badagliacco, Ph. D.
Chellgren Center for Undergraduate Excellence Endowed Professor
Director, Discovery Seminar Program
Professor of Sociology

COMMENTS FROM FORMER STUDENTS

- ◆ This seminar is the best class I have ever taken. The teacher and the people in it became a family, not a class.
- ◆ This great, fun experience provided an excellent way to fulfill USP requirements. I especially liked the field trips and the laid-back informality of the class.
- ◆ We got a chance to discover knowledge ourselves instead of it being hand-fed to us. The wonderful instructor was the only one of my professors who has taken a personal interest in my well-being, and my success both in this class and out.
- ◆ I couldn't ask for anything better. I'm very excited about telling other new freshmen to take a seminar course.
- ◆ This awesome teacher knew my name and actually cared. A lot more interaction between the students and instructor brought a lot more enjoyment and excitement to attending class. Moreover, in a class of 25 rather than 500, I became closer to people and made friends easier.
- ◆ The small class and one-on-one contact with the professor made for a 10 times better learning experience.
- ◆ I couldn't have asked for a better combination in a class—an interesting, very specific subject, a small, personal class and a highly educated and prepared professor.
- ◆ This was a thinking course. Sharing my beliefs with people with different ideas made me reevaluate my opinions.
- ◆ This seminar has taught me to look at all subjects with more discretion. I now try to deduce my own conclusions instead of accepting a said truth. I learned in one semester things that will affect how I view the rest of my time in college.
- ◆ The seminar was my favorite class because it was much more personal and I got to know my fellow students better than in any other course.
- ◆ Rather than emphasizing rote memorization and learning facts and dates, it provided me with a sense of curiosity, an eagerness to learn more, and a reconsideration of many things about morals, values, and humanity.



DSP 200 General Research Skills

Robert S. Tannenbaum

Tuesday, Thursday
11:00 - 12:15 pm



Did you know that at a research university *every* faculty member is expected to be an active scholar, no matter what her or his discipline? This means there are numerous opportunities for you to participate with a faculty member as your mentor in research. Being a part of scholarly endeavors is the best reason for attending a research university as an undergraduate.

This course is designed to provide basic skills required to conduct research and other scholarly activities. Everyone in the course must be actively engaged (on average 10 hours/week) in a research or scholarly project under the mentorship of a UK faculty member. Your mentor and your major courses will teach you most of the discipline-specific knowledge that you will need for your mentored research.

The course includes discussions and readings regarding various aspects of research and scholarly inquiry methodology, such as how to frame a research question, how to find and evaluate resource materials, and how to organize your approach to a project, as well as writing research reports.

You will develop or strengthen your skills with word processing, graphics input and processing, and presentations. You will keep an electronic journal, both to strengthen your writing and to reflect on the course material, and there will be practical assignments. The final project will be a publishable abstract of your mentored research.

Students who participate in mentored research enjoy many intellectually enriching and satisfying experiences. They also have higher grade point averages, and are better prepared for going on to graduate or professional education. So, get involved with research! Make a research discovery!

Robert Tannenbaum is the Principal Investigator of the National Science Foundation funded AMSTEMM Program and the coordinator of the Beckman Scholars Program. Dr. Tannenbaum is the director of eUreKa!, the University's office of undergraduate research. He has been conducting research, supervising students' research, and teaching research methods for several years at UK and other universities.



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These two students were part of the DSP/LLC seminar, Civic Engagement. This class helped replant trees that were destroyed in the ice storm of 1993 at Downtown Lexington's Duncan Neighborhood Park.

Students from Mr. Berres's DSP seminar on Vietnam, are attending a cooking class in Hoi An, Vietnam in Dec., '07.



This optional program, open only to first year students (including transfers*) offers:

- 3 credit hour courses
- Small seminars with no more than 25 students in each
- Greater flexibility in meeting one of the University Study Program's Disciplinary Requirements
- Engaged experiences, inside and outside of class, with some of UK's most famous professors
- Detailed exploration of a fascinating problem at the core of diverse fields of knowledge

*Transfer students with less than 30 credit hours.

Important Points to Remember

- Some seminars are taught in Fall, 2009 and others in Spring, 2010.
- You can register for only ONE seminar at the 100 level.
- Have a backup choice that fits your schedule; talk to advisors!
- Some seminars REQUIRE that you register for UK101. Students must register for **both** UK101 and the associated DSP seminar.
- Several seminars are also Living-Learning Communities, and require that you live in the LLC in order to be in the seminar.
- Some seminars may have additional expenses associated with particular field trips.
- All seminars are letter grade credit courses.

DSP 130-001 The Present is the Key to the Past: *The Kentucky-Bahamas Connection*

Frank R. Ettensohn

Tuesdays
2:00 - 4:30 pm

The central Kentucky area is not at all like the Bahamas! However, 450 million years ago central Kentucky was located 20 degrees south of the equator in a climate and setting very much like the Bahamas today. At that time, this landless area was all a shallow, open-marine sea, populated with many invertebrate organisms including sponges, corals, bryozoans, brachiopods, trilobites, crinoids, and various types of algae. In this seminar, we use basic geologic principals to understand how the rocks in the Kentucky area were deposited and formed over time. Similarly, we collect and examine fossils to understand their evolutionary underpinnings. We spend considerable class time in the field examining the local rocks and fossils. Because of travel time to and from the field, most classes on field-trip days will have to be extended by 60 to 90 minutes. **Attendance on a full-Saturday field trip during the semester is required.** Short readings, field trips, written papers and participation in class discussion are also required.

All of the above is in preparation for a **required weeklong trip to San Salvador, Bahamas, before and during Spring Break** in order to examine modern analogs to the 450-million-year-old rocks in central Kentucky. **Students must provide their own transportation to Ft. Lauderdale, in addition to the cost of the weeklong stay that costs approximately \$800-900.**



Frank R. Ettensohn is Professor and Chairman of Geological Sciences. He studies the relationships between environmental changes and the evolution of life as is indicated in the record of rock layers (strata) that are everywhere around us. Field trips are regular parts of his teaching. The study of limestones is a special interest, and Dr. Ettensohn has been taking students to the Bahamas and undertaking research there on the origins of limestones for several years. He is especially interested in Kentucky geology and in educating Kentuckians about the importance of their geologic surroundings in all aspects of their lives.

NOTE: This seminar fulfills 3 hours of the USP Natural Sciences requirement.

American Green:
DSP 120-401 *Literary Roots and Modern Branches of Ecocentrism*

Morris Grubbs
Tuesday, Thursday
6:00 - 7:15 pm

This course explores America's growing interest in a nature-centered (ecocentric) system of values and actions. This renewed interest in environmental stewardship and economic frugality is urged by an accumulation of modern crises including global warming, economic collapse, distrust in mass food systems, and spiritual vacuity. Many of these issues are the topics of recent bestsellers such as Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* and Thomas Friedman's *Hot, Flat and Crowded: Why We Need a Green Revolution—and How it Can Renew America*.

We will begin by reading the seminal works of the two 19th-century American writers who planted the seeds of modern nature writing, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau. Casting forward to our time, we will read several contemporary writers who echo and enact many of the ideas espoused by the earlier writers. Primary texts will include Emerson's *Nature* (1836), Thoreau's *Walden* (1854), Wendell Berry's *The Long-Legged House* (1969), Annie Dillard's *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* (1974), and Barbara Kingsolver's *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* (2007). Along the way we will also read selections by John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, Edward Abbey, Michael Pollan, and others.

Several guest speakers from the academic, civic, and political spheres will offer their perspectives on the issues raised by our writers. Along the way, students will explore their own ecocentric views through journaling and hands-on projects arising from readings and class discussions.



Morris A. Grubbs is Director of Graduate Student Professional Development in The Graduate School. His roles include overseeing and teaching in the university's Preparing Future Faculty program and directing the university-wide new Teaching Assistant and International Teaching Assistant orientations. Prior to coming to the Graduate School, Dr. Grubbs was an associate professor of English at Lindsey Wilson College, where he directed the American Studies Program. He is editor of *Home and Beyond: An Anthology of Kentucky Short Stories* (University Press of Kentucky, 2001) and *Conversations with Wendell Berry* (University Press of Mississippi, 2007), and has

written and presented on Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, Eudora Welty, William Faulkner, Bobbie Ann Mason, Ama Ata Aidoo, and many other short story writers.

NOTE: This seminar fulfills 3 hours of the USP
Humanities requirement.

DSP 110-001 **“I Know My Rights:”**
Civil Liberties in the United States

Robert S. Tannenbaum
Tuesday, Thursday
4:00 - 5:15 pm

Do the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, apply equally to the federal government and to state and local governments? Or, can your state grant you fewer rights than the federal government? Does the First Amendment permit you to say anything that you want? What is freedom of religion? Privacy? Cruel and unusual punishment? If the police arrest you in your living room, does the Fourth Amendment's limitation of search and seizure apply to items you may have in your bedroom?

In this seminar, we consider those rights that are commonly considered to be our civil liberties, the history of their recognition as principles of law and civil behavior, and how their interpretation has evolved over the life of our nation. We examine key legislation, legal decisions, and recent and current cases in which these rights may play a determining role. We also explore relevant social and political issues, to consider the implications of these civil liberties for our society.

Students are active participants in discussions of the principles, ideas, and issues raised by readings, videos, guest lecturers, and field trips. We will have the opportunity to observe how civil rights affect our communities and individuals. For example, students will participate in a ride-along with a Lexington Police patrol. If the docket of the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals or of the Federal District Court allows, students will go on a field trip to the court to attend arguments in a case that raises significant civil liberties issues.



Robert S. Tannenbaum is the Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies, Coordinator of the Beckman Scholars Program, and Editor of *Kaleidoscope*, the University of Kentucky Journal of Undergraduate Scholarship. He is the Principal Investigator for the AMSTEMM Project, which seeks to recruit, retain, and graduate minority and Appalachian students majoring in the STEM disciplines (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). He is on the faculties of the Colleges of Education and Engineering. Dr. Tannenbaum is active in Civil Liberties matters and currently serves on the state Board of Directors of the Kentucky Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. His website is www.uky.edu/~rst.

NOTE: This seminar fulfills 3 hours of the USP
Social Sciences requirement.

**DSP 110-002 True North:
*Finding Your Internal Compass***

Kris Morlen

**Tuesday, Thursday
11:00 - 12:15 pm**

This course will give students a further appreciation of the role that Army Officers play in American society, and in the 21st century Army. The course also covers some of the basic skills necessary for today's leaders, to include: effective communication, small unit tactics, map reading, land navigation, and leadership. The emphasis of the course is on ethical leadership, culminating with students developing their own personal leadership plan, focused on 5 key areas: knowing one's authentic self; defining one's values and leadership principles; understanding one's motivations; building a support team; and integrating all aspects of one's life.



MAJ Morlen graduated from Indiana University Southeast with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics. He was commissioned as a Chemical Corps Officer, and is a graduate of the Chemical Officer Basic Course, the Chemical Captains Career Course, the Military Intelligence Officer Tactician Course, and is currently enrolled in Command and General Staff College. MAJ Morlen joined the faculty of the University of Kentucky in June 2009 as an Assistant Professor of Military Science.

"My discovery seminar was a great way to start off my first year."

NOTE: This seminar fulfills 3 hours of the USP Social Sciences requirement.

Spring 2010

**DSP 110-003 Citizen Kentucky:
*Journalism and Democracy***

Buck Ryan

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday
11:00 - 11:50 am**

We will explore various dimensions of community life, the heart and practice of journalism, and the interconnections between journalism and community life in the context of a "Citizen Kentucky" project. The course consists of three interrelated segments. The theory and practice of "public politics," includes writing assignments for publication, and culminates with a community forum as a class project. The second segment typically focuses on a fall election in November, places our "Citizen Kentucky" experiences in a national context provided by Robert Putnam's book as we ask the question, "Is Kentucky 'Bowling Alone'?" The third segment focuses on journalism, particularly the editor's role, wraps up our media analysis of election coverage, and analyzes the public (or civic) journalism movement.



Leland "Buck" Ryan holds degrees in journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He served as executive director of the First Amendment Center from 2002-2005 currently serves as director of the Citizen Kentucky Project, which is designed to engage young people in civic life through community forums involving journalists, political figures and citizens. He is the creator of the Maestro Concept, an innovative approach to newspaper story planning and newsroom organization. Mr. Ryan has worked as a reporter and as an editor in New York State, Chicago and Portland, OR. He has traveled widely giving presentations to newspaper groups in Brazil, Spain, Poland, Denmark, Japan, and most recently Vietnam.

"My discovery in this seminar was how important it is for young people to be civically engaged and active in our democracy."

NOTE: This seminar fulfills 3 hours of the USP Social Sciences requirement.

Spring 2010