

# 2021 First-Year Seminars @Hood

## Small Classes. Cool Topics. Caring Professors.

Incoming first-year students are required to register for an FYS as part of Hood's Core Curriculum  
All FYS sections meet Tuesday & Thursday, 11:25am – 12:50pm  
Looking for info on our Honors FYS? Skip ahead to page 4!

Look over the descriptions...  
Make a note of your 1st, 2nd, & 3rd choice classes...  
We'll help you register for a class that fits your interests!

Our First-Year Seminars offer you the perfect jumping-off point for a successful college experience. These small classes give you the opportunity to work closely with your professor and your peers to develop your critical thinking, reading and communication abilities as well as building your 21<sup>st</sup>-century information literacy skills. And of course, your FYS will help you settle into life at Hood and introduce you to all the resources you need for a successful college career!

### Imitation & the Arts | FYS 101.01

#### Martha Bari (Art & Archaeology)



Is artistic imitation a good or bad thing? After all, we celebrate artists in all fields for being unique, and yet in music, dance, movies, television, and the fine arts, imitation is accepted and thrives. We'll discuss the nature of artistic imitation vs. authenticity by considering cover songs, forgeries, mechanical reproduction, appropriations, homages to other artists, and much more.

### Race & Ethnicity in American Media | FYS 101.02

#### Liz Atwood (Communication Arts)



This course explores portrayals of minority communities in American media and how those communities have fought to tell their own stories from the time of the Colonial Era until the present day.

### The Role of Horror Films in Society | FYS 101.03

#### Aaron Angello (English)



Filmmakers have always made movies that terrify, terrorize, and appall us, that chill us, that give us nightmares. So why do we keep watching them again and again? We'll look at the relationship between the horror movie genre and our social and cultural lives, and we will try to understand what it is that makes the horror genre so popular. Grab some popcorn and a friend, turn out the lights, and get ready to be scared!

### Communities, Cultures, & Children's Books | FYS 101.04

#### Ellen Koitz (Education)



Children's literature is influential in shaping the beliefs and values of future generations. From biographies to historical fiction to realistic fiction and more, this course will evaluate how books that are created specifically for children and adolescent readers reflect themes of acceptance and diversity in today's society.

Teachers & Students in Popular Culture | FYS 101.05  
Becky Grove (Education)



From the incompetent Mr. Rooney being out-witted by Ferris Bueller to the inspiring Mr. Keating and his dedicated students in *Dead Poets Society*, pop culture presents us with many examples of teachers and students. We will take a critical look at teachers, students, and schools in popular media and analyze the overt and underlying messages and values they present regarding American education.

Confronting Stereotypes | FYS 101.06  
LaShawn Taylor (Residence Life)



In this course, we'll engage in discussions surrounding topics such as race, sexism, disabilities, and mental health. We will challenge ourselves to confront stereotypes and promote inclusiveness on our campus. Students will also be provided with training to transform themselves from allies to Social Justice Advocates.

Native Americans and their Futures | FYS 101.07  
Jay Harrison (History)



We will examine the lives of Native peoples in the U.S. and throughout the Americas to understand how indigenous peoples live in their countries of origin. While we'll look into some history, our primary focus will be on the challenges and opportunities for Native persons and their families, and what might be next for these cultures in the near future. Our work will try to answer this question: what will be the roles of Native peoples in American nations in this century and beyond?

STEMming the Tide: Tackling Environmental Issues with STEM | FYS 101.08  
Chris Stromberg (Chemistry & Physics)



From global climate change to pollution to decreasing biodiversity, our society faces a wide range of environmental issues. This course will look at a range of these issues and what we can do to mitigate these challenges. The course will focus on the role that STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) disciplines play in understanding and finding solutions to both local and global environmental issues.

Sci-Fi & Philosophy | FYS 101.09  
Danielle Albrecht (Philosophy)



There is a surprising amount of science fiction in philosophy, and a surprising amount of philosophy in sci-fi. Dealing as it does with the speculative and hypothetical, sci-fi invites us to contemplate the very concepts that philosophy seeks to explore. Together, we'll examine popular philosophical concepts in science fiction and discover how the stories we tell shape the ideas we form, the values we acquire, and the people we become.

What's the Tea on Gen Z? | FYS 101.10  
Suzanne Beal (English)



In this course, students are invited to explore their own identity in the context of what has been said about their generation. How has Gen Z been characterized in articles, videos, books, and more? Why does the way Gen Z is described differ based on whether the observer is part of Gen Z, a millennial, Gen Xer, or Boomer? And how meaningful are these generational ideas in helping us understand ourselves and others anyway?

How to Think like Sherlock Holmes | FYS 101.11  
James Stanker (Business)



Holmes once said, "I consider that a man's brain originally is like a little empty attic, and you have to stock it with such furniture as you choose." Together, we'll learn how to expand our "brain attic," so that what may feel like a small, cluttered space can become a larger, more efficient one. We'll discuss ways to improve our mindfulness, logical thinking, and observation—all while having a little fun learning about Sherlock Holmes.

Great Speeches: Innovating, Influencing, Inspiring | FYS 101.12  
Lisa Littlefield (Career Center)



In this course, we'll learn how the right words can generate support and enthusiasm for a great idea or a worthy cause. From historical offerings to contemporary TED Talks, we'll discuss what makes a speech truly awesome—and we'll learn how to employ these same techniques in our own presentations. Whether you're a polished public speaker or a total introvert, you'll gain practical skills to help you win approval and support in your classes and in the community.

You Can't Say That ... But You Must | FYS 101.13  
Alan Goldenbach (Communication Arts) & Kate Gmuer (Student Success Center)



In an age when virtually everyone can communicate to the masses, there remains plenty of confusion about what it means to restrict or censor speech. And in some cases, speech isn't a right; it's a legal requirement. This course will examine communication standards as they have evolved over time and how they vary across entertainment, news, social media, advertising, and business communication. We'll separate laws from rules and learn to distinguish what's illegal from what may simply be socially inappropriate.

Confidence, Communication, & Leadership | FYS 101.14  
Michael Impellittere (Athletics)



If you are interested in building your confidence, becoming a better communicator, and developing your leadership potential, this is the course for you! These skills are among the most important for future success, both for careers and life. We'll build our skills together as well as researching important role models who demonstrate confidence in leadership in a variety of fields.

Your Cells and You | FYS 101.15  
Debbie Ricker (Provost)



*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* documents the discovery of the first immortalized human cell line, HeLa cells. The impact of this discovery was significant for both modern medicine and molecular biology. In this FYS learning community, we will engage in a dynamic cross-walk through science, literature, history, philosophy, psychology, sociology, anthropology, medicine, and social justice: a perfect reflection of the interdisciplinary liberal arts experience.



Humans: The Social Animal | FYS 101.16  
Andrea Chapdelaine (President)



Humans have evolved to be the most social of living species—everything we do is driven by a need to connect to others. We’ll discuss how this fundamental need influences our daily behaviors as individuals, members of groups, and society as a whole. When do we help or hurt others? Why do we make snap judgments? How do we persuade others to do what we want? These are just some of the fascinating aspects of the most interesting object to study—us—that we will explore together!

Protest & Pop Culture | FYS 101.16  
Kelsey Stottlemeyer (Registrar’s Office)



Many fictional characters serve as real-world icons, with a power and relevance beyond the books, movies, and comics where they appear. In recent years, the images of Wonder Woman, Princess Leia, and many other characters have regularly appeared at protests and marches across the country. How do they spread messages of hope and equity? Why are they effective in rallying people to a cause? We’ll explore these and similar questions together as we think about the intersections of pop culture, protest, and politics.

Baseball: Not Just a Game | FYS 101.18  
Laurie Ward (Marketing & Communications)



To paraphrase the movie *Field of Dreams*: “The one constant through all the years has been baseball. It’s a part of our past.” This course will explore civil rights, gender stereotypes, pop culture, leadership, communication, courage, and more ... all through the lens of America’s favorite pastime.

For students in the Honors Program

Why Are We Here? | FYS 101H.01, 02, 03, 04  
Lisa Algazi Marcus, William Allen, Noel Verzosa, & Kate Luse



What is the purpose of college in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How is college different than it was in the past? How can you learn to be an active participant in your own education to develop your sense of self as an individual, a future professional, and a member of the community? We will take a critical look at the benefits of a liberal arts education and discuss how you can use the skills you will learn (such as critical thinking, writing, and research) to become a fully engaged student and citizen.

This course will be team-taught by 4 professors from different areas (English, global languages, philosophy, and music), and you'll have the opportunity to work with and learn from all of them.