

# Information for Incoming Students, Fall 2022

## Quinnipiac University Honors Program

*Intellectual Curiosity + Academic Leadership*

The University Honors Program brings together students who excel in their academic work to create a unique and powerful learning experience. Students are invited to apply to the program and may be admitted to the program before they begin their studies at Quinnipiac University. Students additionally have the option to join midway through their first year: watch for emails from the University Honors program, and sessions on campus for more information.

Professor Melissa A. Kaplan ([Melissa.kaplan@quinnipiac.edu](mailto:Melissa.kaplan@quinnipiac.edu)) is the Administrative Director of the Honors Program. She will be in touch with you over the summer regarding the Honors program, so please check your email regularly.

Below is some guidance regarding course registration for students in the Honors Program:

1) All incoming students in the Honors program should enroll in a section of WP 101H: Intro to Honors Signature Experience during the fall or spring semester of their first year at QU. This is a zero credit (with a one credit option), pass/fail course. The sections that are available in self-service are:

WP 101H, sec 1, M 11-11:50am  
WP 101H, sec 2, M 12-12:50pm  
WP 101H, sec 3, W 1-1:50pm  
WP 101H, sec 4, W 2-2:50pm  
WP 101H, sec 5, T 9:30-10:20am  
WP 101H, sec 6, T 2:00-2:50pm  
WP 101H, sec 7, Th 9:30-10:20am  
WP 101H, sec 8, Th 2-2:50pm  
WP 101H, sec 9, W 9-9:50am  
WP 101H, sec 10, Th 9:30-10:20am

*More sections will be added.*

2) Some Honors students are invited to take EN103H instead of EN101. Professor Glenda Pritchett, who oversees the First Year Writing Program, will email all students who are eligible to take EN103H with information on how to enroll. Please refer to her email for additional information on EN 103H, and follow the instructions she provided to enroll.

3) There are several Honors UC courses that are suitable for incoming students in the Honors program. You are not required to take one of them in your first semester, but it is highly recommended that you do so. These classes overlap with classes required by the University, such as social sciences, natural sciences, fine arts, and humanities. No matter what program you are enrolled in – whether you are in an accelerated 3+1 or 3+3 program, dual-majors, or have multiple minors, every student in the Honors Program is able to take Honors courses that meet the UC requirements that all students need to complete. Therefore, by taking an Honors section in a UC course, you are simultaneously able to fulfill both your degree requirements and Honors requirements. Make sure you sign up for the honors section (denoted with an H) in Self Service:

BIO 101H (Honors General Biology I), section 1, Lecture, MWF 11:00-11:50AM, Professor M. Vieth  
BIO 101H (Honors General Biology I), section 2, Lecture, TTH 3:30-4:45PM, Professor M. Magie  
BIO 101H (Honors General Biology I), section 3, Lecture, WWF 10:00-10:50AM, Professor M. Vieth  
BIO 101H Lab (Honors General Biology I Lab), section 1, Laboratory, F 8:00-9:50AM, Professor L. Connelly  
BIO 101H Lab (Honors General Biology I Lab), section 2, Laboratory, F 12:00-1:50PM, Professor D. Clark  
BIO 101H Lab (Honors General Biology I Lab), section 3, Laboratory, TH 8:00-9:50AM, TBA  
BIO 101H Lab (Honors General Biology I Lab), section 4, Laboratory, TH 10:00-11:50AM, C. Hanlon  
BIO 101H Lab (Honors General Biology I Lab), section 5, Laboratory, TH 12:00-1:50PM, TBA  
BIO 101H Lab (Honors General Biology I Lab), section 6, Laboratory, TH 2:00-3:50PM, TBA  
BIO 101H Lab (Honors General Biology I Lab), section 7, Laboratory, F 10:00-11:50AM, TBA  
HS 210H (Honors Contemporary America), Web-based, TTH 3:30-4:45PM, Professor T. Army  
LE 101H (Honors Intro American Legal System), Lecture, TTH 12:30-1:45PM, Professor L. Bartone  
MA 141H (Honors Calculus of a Single Variable), MWF 10-10:50AM, D. Herscovici  
MU 130H (Honors Understanding Music), Lecture, W 10:00AM-12:20PM, Professor A. Donn  
SO 101H (Honors Intro to Sociology), Lecture, MWF 2:00-2:50PM, Professor J. Buccini  
SO 244\* (Invisible Letter of Inequities) Lecture, TTH 3:30-4:45PM, Professor S. Hudd  
WGS 101H (Honors Intro Women's & Gender Studies), Lecture, TTH 11:00AM-12:15PM, Prof M. Kaplan

\*You will also need to register for WP 299H to turn SO 244 into an Honors course for honors credit

*More designated "H" courses will be added.*

4) Honors Signature Experiences (this is a zero credit, pass/fail course). Meeting times are TBA because we are still waiting on the upcoming season schedule with our partner organizations. If you are planning on taking a Signature Experience, they will most likely be held on a Wednesday and Thursday evening (6:30 or later) or on a weekend. The Signature Experiences complement on-campus coursework with interdisciplinary experience, with travel to NYC, Hartford, Hamden, and New Haven.

WP 210H: CT Forum

WP 214H: Long Wharf Theater

WP 311H: Jazz Dance

5) You will also need take FYS 101H in the fall semester. There are a variety of "H" section topics for you to choose from.

## **Honors Sections of First-Year Seminar (Fall 2022)**

### **BLACK IN HIGHER ED...SO HOW'S THAT GOING?**

Claude Mayo

FYS\*101H\*55: Tu/Th 8:00-9:15 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Aja Pedroza, QU 2023, Major: Criminal Justice)

Has the Black student ever had an easy path to and/or through college? The short answer is *NO*, and this course will utilize legal statutes and judicial caselaw, research-based academic scholarship, and popular media depictions of Black student life on campus to examine some of the most significant reasons why. Students will move towards understanding what has constructed obstacles in access, challenged efforts towards inclusion, and actively influenced the honest experiences of Black students in higher education over time. Additionally, students will engage their critical thinking, presentation, and writing skills to synthesize and extrapolate upon this information in a variety of class discussions, interpersonal debates, and group work.

Claude Mayo is QU's Director of Academic Integrity and Pre-Law Adviser.

## **CAN WHAT WE EAT SAVE THE WORLD?**

Seán P. Duffy

FYS\*101H\*94: Tu/Th 5:00-6:15 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Brian Hayes, QU 2024, Major: Biology 3+1)

Climate change defines our times. We all need to find ways to slow the release of carbon into the atmosphere and to adjust to a less predictable life, subject to increasing disruptions such as Covid-19. What role does our food system play in this constellation of challenges? How can the way we grow and consume food slow the onset of climate change and create more resilient societies? These questions underlie our exploration this semester.

Seán Duffy is Professor of Political Science at QU and Executive Director of the Albert Schweitzer Institute.

## **DO I HAVE A CHOICE?**

Tom Pepper

FYS\*101H\*12: MWF 10:00-10:50 (Honors Program FYS)

We will explore the problem of free will, whether we have the kind of free will we generally think we do, and how that might affect our ability to make an impact in the world. We will first consider claims that we have no free will from the disciplines of Literature, Philosophy and Psychology; we will then consider some ways in which we might be able to escape the grim fate of determinism. Students will attempt to locate some event, contemporary or historical, in which some individual or group seems to have acted in ways that wouldn't be expected from their determining conditions. Given the dismal future predicted for us today, do we have any capacity to shape our world?

Tom Pepper is an English teacher who writes about aesthetics and theories of mind.

## **DOES RELIGION MAKE CONFLICT BETTER OR WORSE?**

Matthew Rowley

FYS\*101H\*03: MWF 8:00-8:50 (Honors Program FYS)

Why do religious militants think their actions are right or righteous? What keeps me from acting like them? Why, in contrast, do some religious persons act on their beliefs in charitable, inspiring and deeply humane ways? Is secularism the solution to religious violence, or is it part of the problem? This seminar introduces students to the vexed issue of violence done in the name of God, looking at the topic through the lens of peace/conflict studies, religious studies and historical studies. The beliefs of various communities, religious and secular, will be explored, looking at how convictions inhibit and enable violence. Throughout the course, students will gain a deeper appreciation for the promises and perils of religion.

Matthew Rowley is an early modern historian who works at the intersection of theology, politics, violence, slavery, colonization, and the memory of injustice.

## **HOW DOES MUSIC REFLECT SOCIETY?**

Richard Kamins

FYS\*101H\*78: Tu/Th 2:00-3:15 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Kathleen Spedalle, QU 2025, Major: Psychology/MSW)

Music and other art forms serve as a barometer to the country's moods. This class reflects on and explores how musicians respond to and reflect on life-changing events, exploring the African American Migration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, The Great Depression, World War II, Vietnam, and today. Utilizing texts from the Social Sciences and the Humanities plus guest lecturers, students will explore what their/ our music means and how these meanings proliferate worldwide.

Richard Kamins teaches in QU's First-Year Seminar program, writes on music, and is a radio show producer.

## **HOW TO BE A CRITIC**

Jonathan Yukich

FYS\*101H\*50: MW 5:00-6:15 (Honors Program FYS)

Everyone may be a critic, but what's it take to be a *good* critic? In exploring this question, students will write reviews, profiles, and features on a series of arts events, performances, works, and artists. Students will consider similarities and distinctions between a number of art forms – theater, dance, film, television, music, literature, and the visual arts – as they develop a specialized understanding of how to assess, analyze, and formulate responses to artistic experiences and expressions.

Jonathan Yukich is a theater director, playwright, and is currently the Co-Coordinator of the Theater Program at the University of New Haven.

### **I'M MINDFUL, NOW WHAT?**

Amy Tate

FYS\*101H\*60: Tu/Th 9:30-10:45 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Kyasha Ambroise, QU 2024, Major: Psychology)

What does it mean to be mindful? Where do mindfulness practices originate and what power do they confer to individuals within a society? Who gets to be mindful and who doesn't? This course delves into a set of practices meant to cultivate self-awareness, alleviate the impact of the stress response, and move our attention to the present moment. Students develop a personal daily practice of sitting meditation, gentle yoga, and awareness of the present moment. In addition, we examine the origins of the exercises in contemporary religious and spiritual contexts, and interrogate the impact of isolating these practices from their cultural frameworks. Course materials include a mix of academic articles, original texts in translation, and pop-culture writings, films, and podcasts on mindfulness.

Amy Tate has been teaching yoga and meditation and studying the body in contemplative and movement practices for over 20 years.

### **IMAGE CONSCIOUS? MAKING MEANING THROUGH VISUAL IMAGERY**

Katya Vetrov

FYS\*101H\*10: MWF 9:00-9:50 (Honors Program FYS)

What allows us to make assumptions about people based on the way they speak or dress? How can we understand the deeper meaning of a fairy tale or an episode of *The Office*? What is the significance of chicken pot pie and why is it not served at upscale eateries? This seminar introduces semiotics, the study of signs and the meaning-bearing systems they form; systems that include not only human language and literature but also painting, sculpture, film, music, and popular culture including advertising, social media, and television, to name just a few. The diversity of semiotic systems provides many possibilities for thinking and writing critically about the world we live in.

Katya Vetrov teaches in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts at Quinnipiac University and works as an artist in New Haven.

### **IS WORLD PEACE POSSIBLE?**

Wayne Lavender

FYS\*101H\*37: MWF 2:00-2:50 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Grace Mongeau, QU 2025, Major: Advertising)

This seminar will explore the dynamic relationship between war and peace and consider the enduring question: "Is world peace possible?" An interdisciplinary approach will be used including literary, religious (Jewish, Christian, Islam, Buddhism, and Hindu), economic, political, media and history to study this wicked question. We will review pacifism, just war theory, and *realpolitik*, and explore the concept of redemptive violence. We will also evaluate case studies from Northern Ireland, South Africa, and Mozambique.

Wayne Lavender teaches in QU's Department of Philosophy and Political Science.

### **MULTIMEDIA STORYTELLING: HOW DOES MEDIUM SHAPE MESSAGE?**

Aaraf Afzal

FYS\*101H\*28: MWF 12:00-12:50 (Honors Program FYS)

How do writers choose a medium to tell their stories? How does the purpose of storytelling differ across fiction and nonfiction, and how might craft and language differ as a result? Act One! We will begin by talking about the shapes of stories, as outlined by Aristotle and challenged, critiqued, and remixed over the years since. Act Two! We will study works spanning across multiple disciplines (from short fiction to scientific writing to journalism and beyond) and multiple mediums (including prose, comics, documentaries, YouTube video essays, films, and games). How do these mediums adapt to the specific needs of their audiences and contextualize their messages accordingly? Act Three! As students examine different mediums, they will also be asked to present them through different essayistic forms, culminating in an oral presentation or video essay. In these adventures, we will lean heavily on dialog and in-class exercises—and challenge ourselves to inquire into the various relationships between form and content.

Aaraf Afzal is an interdisciplinary writer, novelist, and video editor, with an MFA in Creative Writing.

### **TILL DEATH DO US PART? HOW LAW/POLICY INFLUENCE FAMILIES**

Jodie Oshana

FYS\*101H\*72: Tu/Th 12:30-1:45 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Robert Schroeder, QU 2024, Major: Psychology)

This specific FYS will examine the ways in which laws and policies impact families. After introducing students to QU and each other, we will spend the first part of the course examining what constitutes “family,” what family policy is, and how both of these have changed over time. In the second part of the course, we will consider what social science is and how social science impacts laws/policies. In the third part of the course, we will examine specific family policies, including marriage policy and family leave policy. Lastly, we will consider family policy through analysis of specific movies/films.

Jodie Oshana teaches in QU’s Law School.

### **WHAT DOES SPIKE LEE’S AMERICA LOOK—AND ACT—LIKE?**

Raymond Foery

FYS\*101H\*53: MW 5:00-6:15 (Honors Program FYS)

How does America look to an African American filmmaker whose entire career has focused on the Black community? What does it mean, to use the title of Lee’s most controversial film, to “do the right thing” in a complex and racially charged society? What are the challenges facing communities formed by different ethnic groups? By examining in some detail a number of films by award-winning director Spike Lee, we shall attempt to address some of these questions. Students will write individual critiques of the films and will complete a research project based on Lee’s career and on its intersection with the racially charged atmosphere that has, at least so far, characterized the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Raymond Foery is an emeritus professor of Film, Television, and Media Studies. His most recent publication was a monograph on Alfred Hitchcock’s *Frenzy*.

### **WHAT MAKES US HAPPY?**

Joanna Gentsch

FYS\*101H\*79: Tu/Th 2:00-3:15 (Honors Program FYS)

The world’s greatest thinkers have wrestled with this eternal question. What can we learn from the reflections of philosophers, historians, poets, and psychologists? Is happiness a state, an experience, or a practice? Why do some people struggle while others flourish? On our shared journey, we will examine what we know from these diverse fields while also critically analyzing the growing body of research on the science of happiness. We will also explore contemporary challenges to subjective well-being.

Joanna Kain Gentsch is a developmental psychologist who studies the concept of belonging.

### **WHAT IS SUCCESS?**

Joe Gaffney

FYS\*101H\*38: MWF 2:00-2:50 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Jennifer Zirkel, QU 2025, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies)

Together we will explore, "Success": its types, measurements, purpose & importance. Students will share their experience with and goals to achieve success. We will use various media to research, examine, and juxtapose elements of professional success to personal success. Students will then consider the impact of success on facets of their personal lives, which will help them develop a dynamic, lifelong strategy to achieve a work-life balance when pursuing success.

Joe Gaffney comes from a successful business career and teaches in QU's English Department and School of Business.

### **WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO LIVE (AND DIE) IN A MEDIEVAL CITY?**

Christine Voth

FYS\*101H\*62: Tu/Th 9:30-10:45 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Madison Sinoway, QU 2023, Major: Psychology)

The Plague of the mid-fourteenth century, known sometimes as the "black death" or the bubonic plague, caused upheaval on an epic scale, reducing the populations of Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East by upwards of sixty percent. In this course, we will examine the question "How did the medieval world respond to a great pandemic?" Focusing on the Plague and its aftermath (c. 1350 to c. 1500), we will uncover the ways in which this pandemic impacted society, culture, religion, and science. From poetic and artistic works that reflect a pre-occupation with mortality to changes in medical and dietary routines, students will explore the crisis and the creativity that arose in the wake of the Great Mortality. Through examining one of the most prominent pandemics in history, students will have the opportunity to make comparisons and reflect upon their own experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Christine Voth is an historian and educator with a focus on medieval cultural exchanges, the production and use of manuscripts, and the advancements of medicine and science in the medieval world.

### **WHO ARE THE NATIVE AMERICANS?**

Paul Pasquaretta

FYS\*101H\*30: MWF 1:00-1:50 (Honors Program FYS)

Descendants of the original peoples of this continent, Native Americans live in all 50 states and work in every profession. They are our classmates, neighbors, and relatives. Despite their ubiquitous presence, Native Americans are often misunderstood and their history misrepresented. In this course, we will explore the work on Native American writers, filmmakers, musicians and artists as we work to gain an understanding of indigenous values, political philosophies, and storytelling traditions.

Paul Pasquaretta is the author of *Gambling and Survival in Native North America* (Arizona University Press).

### **WHY ARE HUMANS VIOLENT?**

Hillary Haldane

FYS\*101H\*76: Tu/Th 12:30-1:45 (Honors Program FYS; PC: Arianna Irizarry, QU 2023, Major: History)

Humans, as well as our evolutionary predecessors, have an astonishing capacity for violence, across time and space. In this class we will examine the evolutionary, archaeological, and contemporary expressions of violence. This course asks you to consider the yet unanswered question: why are humans violent? And why are some human societies more violent than others? More elusive--how do we end violence, is this desirable and even possible?

Hillary Haldane is a Professor of Anthropology at QU.

***\*Note: Honors Students will need to take 8 Honors Courses (including WP 101H: Intro to Honors and WP 400H: Senior Capstone Seminar) by the time they graduate and maintain at least a 3.3 GPA.***