First-Year Seminar Course Guide

Quinnipiac University

Summer 2020

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WORKING DRAFT: SECTIONS WITH OPEN SEATS LISTED AS (OPEN); SECTIONS WITHOUT SEATS LISTED AS (CLOSED). ONLINE VERSIONS OF FYS IDENTIFIED AS (WEB-BASED) PLEASE CHECK SELF-SERVICE FOR MOST UP-TO DATE INFORMATION
University Curriculum, First-Year Seminar, and How to Use this Course Guide

Greetings Bobcats! Welcome to QU. This course guide will help you pick a First-Year Seminar (or FYS).

WHAT IS THE UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM?
According to the course description of QU’s First-Year Seminar, “A Quinnipiac University education is directed towards forming a mindset of life-time learning, establishing an inclusive, excellence-driven community, nurturing local and global communities, and fostering lifelong connections and success. The first-year seminar initiates such an education as the starting point of the University Curriculum.” The University Curriculum consists of 46 academic credits (or 15 courses) that during your four years of undergraduate study will take you beyond your major or school within QU to explore the different disciplines or fields of study within the university. The First-Year Seminar introduces students to the interdisciplinary nature of the University Curriculum.

WHAT IS FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR?
Like the University Curriculum, the First-Year Seminar is interdisciplinary. That means that although your First-Year Seminar may focus on, for example, the topic of digital media, it will challenge you to think about that topic from several different disciplinary perspectives. How is digital media different from other historical forms of media? How has digital media changed social practices like buying a used car, publishing an obituary, or going on a date? How has digital media transformed the print and television news industries? How does digital media reinforce and echo our own beliefs and stereotypes? To understand digital media in all its complexity, you need to have some understanding of history, business, sociology, journalism, and psychology. During the next four years, the University Curriculum will help you develop and sharpen those tools in your cognitive toolbox. First-Year Seminar is the starting point of that interdisciplinary education.

WHAT SHOULD I REGISTER FOR AS AN INCOMING STUDENT?
The University Curriculum identifies required courses that every QU student will take, regardless of which school or college you have enrolled in. The University Curriculum for first-year students is called Foundations of Inquiry and consists of four courses: first-year seminar (FYS 101), first-year writing (EN 101 and 102), and one of several Math courses (determined by summer placement tests). For fall 2020, the University Curriculum requires every student to take either a section of FYS (the courses listed in this guide) or another University Curriculum Course. We recommend that students enroll in a section of First-Year Seminar. We have designed FYS specifically for incoming students: all FYS course content is appropriate for students transitioning from high school to college, each FYS section will be composed only of first-year students experiencing that same transition, and the class size is generally limited to fewer than 20 students, so that students and their FYS faculty member get to know each other and develop the community. But students who wish to begin their study in another University Curriculum course have that option also.
WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY FAVORITE FYS SECTION IS LISTED AS “CLOSED”?
In order to provide each student with a small-class seminar, we limit the class size of FYS sections to approximately 20 students. Unfortunately, that means that not every student will be able to enroll in the student’s first choice of FYS. Nonetheless, there are some options. First, students can register for classes up through the first week of classes. Often enrollments in a specific section will fluctuate during that period and seats may open up. Thus, we recommend that you check back in on your registration periodically over the summer. Second, the FYS program director will keep track of unfulfilled preferences. If we see changes in the pattern of enrollments, it may be possible to insert students into sections. Thus, we recommend that you email the FYS program director (at fys@qu.edu) a strong course preference for a section that is closed. We can make no promises about enrolling students in specific sections, but we will make every effort to do so.

HOW DO I USE THIS COURSE GUIDE?
This course guide is composed of short course titles, section meeting times, course descriptions, peer catalysts, and FYS faculty IDs. Course titles will give you a general sense of the question, problem, or idea that a section of FYS will examine. Section meeting times will help you identify which sections of a first-year seminar will fit into your fall semester schedule. Course descriptions give you a more general sense of what each FYS will explore and study. Faculty IDs tell you a little information about the professional, scholarly, and departmental expertise of your professors. Appendices at the end of the guide organize FYS courses by meeting time and general disciplines (i.e., humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences).

BE BOLD, BOBCAT!
This course guide describes dozens of courses that you can take to commence your QU education. All sections of First-Year Seminar are designed specifically for incoming students: they presuppose no previous course studies or collegiate academic coursework. Whether the subject of the section is brand new or already familiar to you, this course will be a good fit for you. I invite you to look through the course guide carefully and to challenge yourself to explore something in a section of First-Year Seminar that is truly new and curious to you. Any questions? Please feel free to contact me by email (tlockwood@qu.edu or fys@qu.edu) throughout the summer or the fall semester.

Thornton Lockwood
Program Director, First-Year Seminar
Professor of Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences
First-Year Seminar course descriptions

CAN CIVIL DISCOURSE SURVIVE IN OUR POLARIZED COUNTRY?
Jonathan Pelto
FYS 101.29 MWF 1:00-1:50 (OPEN)
FYS 101.40 MWF 4:00-4:50 (OPEN)
Democracies rely on a system in which differences of opinion about politics and policies are not only tolerated but encouraged. However, political polarization, alleged systemic racism, and economic inequities are threatening our ability and willingness to engage in civil discourse. Using a variety of timely issues, we will systematically explore, engage, and confront the very real question – Can our democracy survive? And identify what we, as individuals and as a university community, can do to promote civil discourse?
Jonathan Pelto teaches in the Political Science program and is a former member of the Connecticut House of Representative.

CAN I BELIEVE MY EYES?
Linda Lindroth
FYS 101.60 Tu/Th: 11:00-12:15 (CLOSED)
Every day we view images in newspapers and magazines, on the Internet, via TV and digital advertising campaigns, fashion shows, food labels and packaging, and documentary and feature films. How do we assess these compelling images as to which ones should call upon us to act? In this First-Year Seminar students consider images which inform us, confuse us, haunt and inspire us. Course readings, individual and group research projects frame the class discussion.
Linda Lindroth is a visual artist whose photographically based works are represented in museum collections around the world.

CAN KNOWLEDGE CONTROL A PANDEMIC?
Thornton Lockwood
FYS 101.67 Tu/Th 12:30-1:45 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.77 Tu/Th 3:30-4:45 (Honors: CLOSED))
Societies have struggled with plagues and pandemics throughout history. A reoccurring question: Can the knowledge of a society’s leaders control a pandemic? This First-Year Seminar will look at that question in three specific pandemics: the outbreak of plague in Athens (430 BCE), documented in the works of Thucydides and Sophocles; the (fictional) outbreak of plague in Oran, Algeria, documented in Albert Camus’ The Plague (1940 CE); and the current outbreak of COVID-19 (2020 CE), documented in contemporary philosophical, public health, and political readings.
Thornton Lockwood is Professor of Philosophy at QU and Program Director of the First Year Seminar.

CAN POETRY CHANGE THE WORLD?
Jeanne LeVasseur
FYS 101.81 Tu/Th 3:30-4:45 (WEB-BASED COURSE: OPEN)
How do leaders cultivate courage and creativity? We will focus on how leaders from diverse fields sustain themselves, find courage to achieve change, and are themselves inspired by poetry. We
will consider works from various disciplines to gain perspective on short autobiographical essays from diverse leaders as we dive deeply into environmental and social justice problems. Leadership theory and videos will inform our conversation as we consider how language can ground and inspire change.

Jeanne LeVasseur is Professor Emeritus in the School of Nursing and a published poet.

**CAN SOCIETY DECIDE TO AVOID DISEASE AND DESTRUCTION?**

Bernard Grindel  
FYS 101.45 MW 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)  
The modern world is filled with examples of public authorities making decisions that lead to catastrophe. Students will learn in-depth about two such cases – the Hamburg cholera outbreak of 1892 and the removal of the Cherokee nation in 1835 – through historical narrative and primary sources. Interactive learning in the form of debate and historical role play are the focus of class activity. This course will develop skills in critical reading, negotiation, public speaking, and writing.  

Bernard Grindel’s academic training is in Modern European History and he is a member of the Learning Commons involved in peer education.

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

Seán P. Duffy  
FYS 101.62 Tu/Th 11:00-12:15 (Honors: OPEN)  
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 and Executive Director of the Albert Schweitzer Institute, where he pursues projects related to food security, human rights, and the environment.

**HOW DO WE CREATE A MORE EQUITABLE WORLD?**

Bola Akanji  
FYS 101.80 Tu/Th 3:30-4:45 (OPEN)  
FYS 101.83 Tu/Th 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)  
Development is a human right and yet an increasingly elusive term. Why do groups and individuals experience development differently? How critical is the north-south development divide in an increasingly interconnected world? In this class, students will explore the evolving concepts of development from several cross-cultural lenses, based on the works of Amartya Sen, Susan Moller Okin, etc., focusing on experiences beyond their “western” comfort zone. They will learn to apply diverse perspectives, especially non-western perspectives, in critical analyses of human interactions and outcomes.  

Bola Akanji teaches in the Women’s Studies program of QU and is an independent consultant in gender and international development. She aligns her worldview with heterodox economics.
DOES SOCIAL MEDIA MAKE US LESS SOCIAL?
Kristina Medina
FYS 101.07 MWF 9:00-9:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.12 MWF 10:00-10:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.17 MWF 11:00-11:50 (CLOSED)
How does the use of Social Media influence our ability to be social? This course examines the relationship between the use of Social Media and its impact on our ability to be social citizens. Throughout the semester students will view the use of Social Media through three disciplinary lenses: Journalism, Psychology and Health Sciences. Students will evaluate, research and examine the impact Social Media has on our consumption of news, psychological well-being and physical health. Throughout the course students will engage in group presentations, debates, written assignments and critical thinking about social media.
Kristina Medina teaches in QU’s School of Communications and is hiding the existence of Tik Tok from her son.

EVIL
J.H. Lee
FYS 101.11 MWF 10:00-10:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.16 MWF 11:00-11:50 (CLOSED)
Whether it manifests in unjust acts of malevolence against innocents or in natural calamities, the question of what Evil is (if it "is" at all) and how to cope and contend with it remains as timely as ever. This first year seminar will explore the notion of Evil and its manifestations across time and in light of current events/controversies, bringing to bear a range of relevant lenses and select readings from philosophy, theology, history, and psychology.
J.H. Lee teaches in QU’s department of Philosophy and Political Science and has interests in the philosophy of religion and education.

FAILURE TO LEARN?
Anne Harrigan
FYS 101.55 Tu/Th 9:30-10:45 (CLOSED)
What role, if any, does failure play in education? How can teachers encourage or discourage creativity and innovation? This first-year seminar will look at how failure helped advance some of the world’s biggest innovations. After looking at failure from historical, cultural, and scientific perspectives, we can then examine how individual attitudes towards the idea of failure can affect learning using Carol Dweck’s seminal work, Mindset, as a guide.
Anne Harrigan holds a Ph.D. in Education and believes that grades are one of the biggest obstacles to student learning at all levels of education.

FROM NETFLIX TO THE NUTCRACKER: HOW TO BE A CRITIC
Jonathan Yukich
FYS 101.76 Tu/Th 2:00-3:15 (OPEN)
FYS 101.79 Tu/Th 3:30-4:45 (OPEN)
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 and playwright, and is currently the Co-Coordinator of the Theater Program at the University of New Haven.

**HOW ARE WITCHES AND MARTYRS MADE?**

Nita Prasad  
FYS 101.47 Tu/Th 8:00-9:15 (Honors: CLOSED)  
FYS 101.53 Tu/Th 9:30-10:45 (CLOSED)

Why did witches hang in Salem? Why was Galileo excommunicated? How do certain values become so important that those who challenge them are eliminated? This course explores these questions by looking at fictive witches in the Harry Potter films and in the fairy tale *Snow White*; seventeenth-century "witches" in Salem; and martyrs like Galileo, MLK Jr. and George Floyd. Students will evaluate persecution using scientific, anthropological, sociological, historical, and literary lenses, and through role-playing games.

Nita Prasad is Associate Professor of History who studies issues of gender, race and power in South Asian history, and who secretly wishes she was a witch-in-training at Hogwarts!

**HOW CAN DRUG ABUSE & ADDICTION BE PREVENTED?**

Pamela Mautte  
FYS 101.04 MWF 8:00-8:50 (CLOSED)  
FYS 101.08 MWF 9:00-9:50 (CLOSED)

This course will examine the question how can drug abuse & addiction be prevented? Utilizing the public health discipline, we will explore areas impacted by alcohol and drug abuse, identify strategies for reducing community and health problems and through the economic lens better understand the costs associated with addiction. Using a sociological lens students will understand the impact addiction has on the Quinnipiac community and create prevention practices to create campus and community change.

Pamela Mautte is the Director of the Alliance for Prevention & Wellness, A Program of BHcare and has a passion for creating community partnerships to prevent substance abuse.

**HOW DOES MUSIC REFLECT SOCIETY?**

Richard Kamins  
FYS 101.61 Tu/Th 11:00-12:15 (CLOSED)  
FYS 101.74 Tu/Th 2:00-3:15 (CLOSED)

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 20th 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 the First-Year Seminar program and is passionate about social issues and the arts, especially music.
**HOW GEN Z WILL RULE THE WORLD**
Quinton Swan, Christie Soltys, Eve Famutimi, Meghan Marino, Keith Jacobsen, Katie Landrey, John Goepfrich, and Andrew Delohery

FYS 101.05 MWF 9:00-9:50 (Famutimi: CLOSED)  FYS 101.57 TuTh 9:30-10:45 (Delohery: CLOSED)
FYS 101.10 MWF 10:00-10:50 (Jacobsen: CLOSED)
FYS 101.30 MWF 1:00-1:50 (Soltys: CLOSED)  FYS 101.69 TuTh 12:30-1:45 (Goepfrich: CLOSED)
FYS 101.95 MWF 2:00-2:50 (Swan: OPEN)  FYS 101.72 TuTh 2:00-3:15 (Landrey: CLOSED)
FYS 101.38 MWF 3:00-3:50 (Marino: OPEN)

Success in the 21st century will favor those people who are innovative, creative, and collaborative in a world that pushes information overload. This first-year seminar, taught by members of the Learning Commons, places special emphasis on practicing these three qualities that Gen Z students bring to the college experience. Course activities will include identifying and discussing real-world problems from multiple perspectives, while learning more about individual thinking and reasoning processes in various contexts.

Quinton Swan, Christie Soltys, Eve Famutimi, Meghan Marino, Keith Jacobsen, and Katie Landrey are Academic Coaches in the Learning Commons. John Goepfrich is the Director of Academic Development and Outreach in the Learning Commons. Andrew Delohery is the Associate Vice President of Retention and Academic Success.

**HUNGER? WHERE? HERE? HOW?**
Ivy Johnson-Kanda
FYS 101.13 MWF 11:00-11:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.19 MWF 12:00-12:50 (CLOSED)

What are the root causes of hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition in the United States and across the globe? According to the WHO, half of the world’s population, in both rich and developing nations, is malnourished today, despite global food surpluses. This First-Year Seminar will explore hunger and the issues of Food Insecurity and Global Nutrition from multiple perspectives. We will also consider myths and misconceptions about malnutrition.

Ivy Johnson-Kanda teaches in QU’s Department of Chemistry and Physical Sciences.

**I KNOW THEREFORE I DO**
Iván Tirado-Cordero
FYS 101.91 MWF 9:00-9:50 (OPEN)

Self-perception determines how we behave. What we know determines what we do. How do we come to know what we know? Why do we behave a certain way? How do I determine that what I know is reliable? In this section of First-Year Seminar, students will apply an interdisciplinary approach to inquiry to identify how people acquire conceptions, values, biases and affections that influence behavior as individuals, in social groups, in government, in businesses and in organizations.

Iván Tirado-Cordero is an instructional designer, artist, with experience in radio, TV, and stand-up comedy, and is interested in trauma informed instruction.
IMAGE CONSCIOUS? MAKING MEANING THROUGH VISUAL IMAGERY
Ekaterina Vetrov
FYS 101.44 MW 5:00-6:15 (CLOSED)
Through close examination of art history, theatre, and media, we will analyze and interpret the meaning of visual images and their subtext. We are surrounded by visual information in our society that shapes who we are and how we see ourselves. In this course we will find ways to decode those messages through debate, role play, discussion, critical reading and writing. Concepts such as power, privilege, race, sexuality and gender will be explored.
Ekaterina Vetrov teaches theatre and designs costumes for the Main Stage productions in QU’s Visual and Performance Arts Department.

INTRODUCTION TO BLACKNESS IN THE MEDIA
TBA
FYS 101.68 Tu/Th 12:30-1:45(CLOSED)
In this age of media oversaturation, interrogating and understanding how we consume media and representations is more important than ever. This course examines mainstream and alternative systems (such as Afrofuturism and Black Twitter) of African American representation, from the 1800s to today. It will investigate the ways in which notions of Blackness are constructed, represented, recreated, and appropriated every day—from film and television, to advertisements, news outlets, and internet and social media. Students will learn to interrogate, analyze, and ultimately think critically about the images, words, and discourses they consume every day.
TBA

IS WORLD PEACE POSSIBLE?
Wayne Lavender
FYS 101.26 MWF 1:00-1:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.94 MWF 2:00-2:50 (OPEN)
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 is part-time faculty member in the Department of Philosophy and Political Science who has worked in the field of conflict resolution and peace for over 30 years.

IS $678,000 A FAIR PRICE FOR A LIFE-SAVING DRUG?
Simon Holdaway
FYS 101.75 Tu/Th 2:00-3:15 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.89 MWF 8:00-8:50 (Honors and non-Honors mix: OPEN)
The United States spends more money on healthcare than any other country. Why is this so? Much of this expense comes from the cost of new prescription drugs. Some drugs cost more than $100,000 per year, a few are approaching $1 million. We will explore the drug development process, the rise of generics and the societal efforts at work behind the prices set by manufacturers. Discussion based classes will explore different perspectives on the issue. Simon Holdaway teaches in the Department of Biological Sciences at QU.

KEEPING MONEY LOCAL: SMALL BUSINESS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES
Matthew Tortora
FYS 101.93 MWF 10:00-10:50 (OPEN)
Small businesses bring growth and innovation to their local communities. As we move through the first year seminar course, students will engage within small business, in particular the Hamden community. We will look at how small businesses affect the town’s growth, innovation, income levels, home prices, schools, diversity within the city, road conditions, and transportation and we will explore how businesses have had to adapt and innovate to stand out in a competitive market, we will also explore the active role we have in unifying business and our communities. Matthew Tortora is a QU alumnus, adjunct faculty member, and small business owner who is passionate about first year seminar.

NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE: PROTEST, POVERTY, AND POLITICS IN AMERICAN JUSTICE
Anita Visentin Perito
FYS 101.43 MW 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)
What is Justice? What responsibility do we have as a community to see that justice is achieved? What role does the American Justice system and the U.S. Constitution play in securing equality and fairness? How does the Community respond to perceived inequalities within the system? How can the system grow and change along with the ideas of its community? This first year seminar will examine these questions through works of literature, film, sociology, and political science. Anita Visentin-Perito, a practicing attorney specializing in child welfare law, teaches in the Legal Studies department and the First-Year Seminar.

PLAGUES AND PANDEMICS
Jaime Ullinger
FYS 101.63 Tu/Th 11:00-12:15 (CLOSED)
Plagues and pandemics have affected both human culture and biology for thousands of years. This first year seminar will take a biocultural approach to pandemics, including “The Plague,” the 1854 cholera outbreak in London, the flu pandemic of 1918, and the current COVID-19 pandemic. We will address two major questions: (1) Why are some people more susceptible to a given disease? (2) How do these illnesses change our society/culture? How do they change our biology? Jaime Ullinger is an Associate Professor of Anthropology who studies the intersection of biology and culture in history and prehistory through skeletal remains.

POP CULTURE - WHY DOES IT MATTER?
Janet Bahgat
FYS 101.37 MWF 3:00-3:50 (OPEN)
FYS 101.73 Tu/Th 2:00-3:15 (CLOSED)
Why are cultures and societies sometimes defined through the lens of their Pop Culture? How are we involved in this ever-changing concept? What factors are involved in trend-making? Are these new and unique ideas, or just re-cycled concepts? In this course, we will examine the anatomy of Pop Culture and Trends in the past, present and future. We will consider several historical eras from ancient times to present day, and the global impact made on humanity. Janet Bahgat teaches in the First-Year Writing Program at Quinnipiac University and has lived, taught, and traveled extensively on four continents.

SHOULD WE JUST STAY HOME? VOLUNTOURISM AND DOING MORE HARM THAN GOOD
Wendy Sewack
FYS 101.42 MW 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)
FYS 101.88 MWF 8:00-8:50 (OPEN)
The demand for undergraduate student travel volunteer experiences is booming but not without concerns. This is complex question with a multitude of perspectives and no single “right” answer. We evaluate will whether students are doing more harm than good through readings on public health, education, and politics. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) will provide a framework for considering the value and potential pitfalls, as international experiences are often based on the multifaceted SDGs. Wendy Sewack is the Assistant Director of Global Health Programs and enjoys exploring the globe through running.

SOCIAL MEDIA & DIGITAL COMMUNICATION TODAY: GOOD, BAD, OR BOTH?
John Powers
FYS 101.32 MWF 2:00-2:50 (OPEN)
FYS 101.65 Tu/Th 12:30-1:45 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.71 Tu/Th 2:00-3:15 (CLOSED)
Social media and digital communication has transformed the way individuals, groups, organizations, and cultures share information and relate to one another. This First-Year Seminar will examine the powerful impact of digital media through the lens of history, sociology, political science, and law. Readings and discussions will relate to digital media’s transformative influence on our relationships and social identity, as well as current events such as the 2020 presidential election and the George Floyd movements. John Powers teaches in QU’s Schools of Communication and Health Sciences.

SPORTS: FAIR OR FOUL?
Suzanne Hudd
FYS 101.49 Tu/Th 8:00-9:15 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.66 Tu/Th 12:30-1:45 (Honors: OPEN)
Does participation in organized athletics foster moral growth, or does it encourage amoral tendencies? Is the playing field level, or does it sustain and worsen existing injustices and inequalities? Scholars from various disciplines have questioned the impact of sport on athletes, teams, and the communities in which they compete. Our class will entertain both sides of this
ongoing debate: the gains, the losses, the excesses of competition and the opportunities for community building that keep us playing and watching. Suzanne Hudd is a Professor of Sociology and played varsity basketball as an undergraduate at Yale University.

TILL DEATH DO US PART? HOW LAW/POLICY INFLUENCES FAMILIES
Jodie Oshana
FYS 101.18 MWF 11:00-11:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.22 MWF 12:00-12:50 (OPEN)
This course will examine the major ways in which laws and policies impact family creation and family well-being. The course will include an analysis of specific laws and policies, including marriage laws, divorce laws, and family leave policies. Each law/policy covered will include a consideration of the historical evolution of the law/policy as well as the impact it has on family well-being. This course will draw upon the disciplines of law, history, sociology, and film. Jodie Oshana teaches in QU’s Legal Studies Department, is a former divorce lawyer, and has a passion for studying family policy.

WHAT IS HUMAN NATURE?
Daniele Botti
FYS 101.06 MWF 9:00-9:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.15 MWF 11:00-11:50 (CLOSED)
Faith leaders, scientists, and philosophers throughout history have wondered whether humans have a specific “nature” and, if so, what it might include. Are humans by nature good or evil? Are humans by nature social or solitary? This First-Year Seminar will examine that question through works of anthropology, biology, and political science. Course readings will include authors such as Mencius and Plato, Thomas Hobbes and Mary Wollstonecraft, Edward O. Wilson and Nancy Holmstrom.
Daniele Botti teaches in the Department of Philosophy and Political Science at QU.

WHAT IS HUMAN NATURE?
Sarah Reedy
FYS 101.64 Tu/Th 11:00-12:15 (WEB-BASED: CLOSED)
Are humans driven by instincts or cultural rules? Why do we look different from each other and why does racism exist? Why do we get sick and why are some more affected than others? This First-Year Seminar will explore these questions, among others, to consider what it means to be “human.” Together, we’ll delve into our evolution, follow human migrations around the globe, and examine the vast biocultural diversity we see today.
Sarah Reedy teaches in QU’s Department of Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Anthropology and believes this question deserves many different perspectives to answer.

WHAT IS REEL DISEASE?
Genevieve Karbowsk
FYS 101.86 Tu/Th 5:00-6:15 (WEB-BASED: OPEN)
Disease is defined as an abnormal condition that negatively affects the functioning of an individual. It can be infectious, hereditary, extremely contagious, and easily transmissible. Its effects can be staggering. We will explore the question “What is Reel Disease?”, disease as illustrated subtly and not so subtly in the moving pictures media as film and tv shows. A sampling of the screenings will include Mississippi Burning, Twilight Zone, Alfred Hitchcock Presents, and others along with readings.

Genevieve Karbowski, a member of the QU’s Mathematics and Statistics Department, loves to read mysteries, statistically count movies, and eat popcorn.

**WHAT IS THE ART OF PHILANTHROPY?**
Andrew Bernstein
FYS 101.01: MWF 8:00-8:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.48: Tu/Th 8:00-9:15 (OPEN)
This section of First-Year Seminar will examine the question “What is the art of philanthropy?” With Covid-19 and the current pandemic, the art of philanthropy continues to play a crucial role in today’s ever-changing society. We will look at philanthropy from many different perspectives throughout this seminar. The course will examine this topic through multiple lenses. How would an artist, a scientist, psychologist, or accountant look and react to the subject of philanthropy?
Andrew Bernstein is an alumnus, Director of Annual Giving, and adjunct faculty member at QU who is passionate about philanthropy.

**WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF POLICING IN AMERICA?**
Dawn Cathey
FYS 101.14 MWF: 11:00-11:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.20 MWF: 12:00-12:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.25 MWF: 1:00-1:50 (CLOSED)
With current events in mind, this First-Year Seminar will focus on the complicated relationship between the police and the communities they are sworn to “protect and serve.” To understand the need for organizational change, we will think critically about the relationship between “social justice” and “criminal justice.” Guest speakers, videos, and readings from media, sociology and criminal justice will assist students in defining the future of policing.
Dawn Cathey is a former police sergeant with master’s degrees in social work and urban planning. She teaches in the First-Year Seminar program and is an academic advisor for undeclared students in the College of Arts and Science.

**WHAT IS SUCCESS?**
Joe Gaffney
FYS 101.92 MWF 10:00-10:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.24 MWF 12:00-12:50 (CLOSED)
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, has competed in rugby both internationally and domestically, has taught in First-Year Seminar, the English Department, and the School of Business at QU.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF FASHION?
Katarzyna M. Sims  
FYS 101.41 MW 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)  
FYS 101.85 Tu/Th 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)  
The meanings attached to fashion and clothing are not fixed, but rather are constantly the object of social negotiation and are time-specific. How do we define fashion now and what was the meaning of fashion in Central Europe in the past? This First-Year Seminar will examine those questions through works of literature, social media, film and photography. Course readings will include authors such as Joanne Entwistle, Franz Kafka, and Sigmund Freud. Katarzyna M. Sims teaches in QU’s Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures and is an online learning designer.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF EDUCATION AS AN AGENT OF SOCIAL CHANGE?
TBA  
FYS 101.101 MW 5:00-6:25 (OPEN)  
In this section of First-Year Seminar, students will examine the role of education as an agent of social change by looking at the disciplines of science, sociology, history, business, and psychology. We will look at past and present trends, research, theories, and interventions to better understand those challenges. We will identify ways in which education can bring about productive change in society. Finally, we will explore the innovative ways in which education can initiate social changes by bringing about a change in the outlook and attitudes of people. TBA

WHAT’S A WOW FACTOR?
Edward Lisi  
FYS 101.70 Tu/Th 12:30-1:45 (CLOSED)  
FYS 101.78 Tu/Th 3:30-4:45 (OPEN)  
The notion of “wow factors” has penetrated just about every aspect of our lives. . . from pop culture and design, to science and business. In this first year seminar we will explore what wow factors are and how they help shape thinking across many disciplines. We’ll use a variety of readings as well as individual research, apply the concept to current situations, and see how wow factors can change the world. Edward Lisi teaches in the Quinnipiac School of Business, runs a global strategic marketing consultancy, and is intrigued by all things “Wow!”

WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?
Sigrid (Siggy) Nystrom  
FYS 101.96 MWF 3:00-3:50 (OPEN)  
FYS 101.46 MW 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)
In this course, we will examine the concept of love through the disciplinary perspectives of psychology and sociology to explore various theories and current research on the topic. Then, using films, poetry and literature, we will question love as a social construct including the moral and ethical implications of “forbidden love.” Finally, we will synthesize our interdisciplinary understanding and ask if one’s perception of love reveals one’s perception of the self, the other, and the society.

Siggy Nyström teaches in the First-Year Seminar, First Year Writing, and capstone courses on Mental Illness in the Department of Health Sciences.

WHO ARE THE NATIVE AMERICANS?
Paul Pasquaretta
FYS 101.09 MWF 10:00-10:50 (Honors: OPEN)
FYS 101.21 MWF 12:00-12:50 (OPEN)
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.
An American scholar of indigenous Italian descent, Paul Pasquaretta has written extensively on Native American literature, culture, and history. He is the Writing Research Institute Director at QU.

WHO GOVERNS? AUTONOMY AND RIGHTS
D. Bruce Franklin
FYS 101.84 Tu/Th 5:00-6:15 (OPEN)
Many ideas from a diversity of thinkers have considered the actions that individuals pursue to confront or fit into the structures and roles that form the basis of any society or nation. Political and sociological in nature many perspectives shaped by ethnicity, gender and economic conditions have been valued by one group or another. Ways of thinking about social and political action reveal an inherent dynamic: the desire to maintain what exists with an impulse to foster change.
D. Bruce Franklin teaches in the First-Year Writing Program and has studied and worked in several multicultural, western and African societies and nations.

WHOSE AMERICAN DREAM IS IT?
Kim Healy
FYS 101.23 MWF 12:00-12:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.28 MWF 1:00-1:50 (CLOSED)
FYS 101.33 MWF 2:00-2:50 (OPEN)
From a young age we as Americans are oriented in the direction of achieving success in our lives. Our families, schools, government, and the media all play a role in guiding us toward this goal. But for many, this dream is out of reach. Is it a result of hard work, our birthright, luck, or a combination of factors? Is “The Dream” achievable today, and if so, for whom? We will travel
through significant time periods in the 20th century, starting with the Great Depression and culminating in the “society of the coronavirus.” Students will analyze readings authored by individuals from different time periods, geographical location, and social class background. Kim Healy teaches in the department of Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Anthropology at Quinnipiac University.
Appendix I: OPEN First-Year Seminar sections organized by meeting time

**MWF 8:00-8:50**
FYS 101.88: SHOULD WE JUST STAY HOME?
FYS 101.89: IS $678,000 A FAIR PRICE FOR A LIFE-SAVING DRUG?

**MWF 9:00-9:50**
FYS 101.91: I KNOW THEREFORE I DO

**MWF 10:00-10:50**
FYS 101.09: WHO ARE THE NATIVE AMERICANS?
FYS 101.93: KEEPING MONEY LOCAL: SMALL BUSINESS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

**MWF 12:00-12:50**
FYS 101.21: WHO ARE THE NATIVE AMERICANS?
FYS 101.22: TILL DEATH DO US PART? HOW LAW/POLICY INFLUENCES FAMILIES

**MWF 1:00-1:50**
FYS 101.29: CAN CIVIL DISCOURSE SURVIVE IN OUR POLARIZED COUNTRY?

**MWF 2:00-2:50**
FYS 101.32: SOCIAL MEDIA & DIGITAL COMMUNICATION TODAY: GOOD, BAD, OR BOTH?
FYS 101.33: WHOSE AMERICAN DREAM IS IT?
FYS 101.34: TBA
FYS 101.94: IS WORLD PEACE POSSIBLE?
FYS 101.95: HOW GEN Z WILL RULE THE WORLD

**MWF 3:00-3:50**
FYS 101.35: TBA
FYS 101.37: POP CULTURE - WHY DOES IT MATTER?
FYS 101.38: HOW GEN Z WILL RULE THE WORLD
FYS 101.96: WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

**MWF 4:00-4:50**
FYS 101.39: TBA
FYS 101.40: CAN CIVIL DISCOURSE SURVIVE IN OUR POLARIZED COUNTRY?

**MW 5:00-6:15**
FYS 101.41: WHAT IS THE MEANING OF FASHION?
FYS 101.42: SHOULD WE JUST STAY HOME?
FYS 101.43: NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE: PROTEST, POVERTY, AND POLITICS IN AMERICAN JUSTICE
FYS 101.45: CAN SOCIETY DECIDE TO AVOID DISEASE AND DESTRUCTION?
FYS 101.46: WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?
FYS 101.101: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF EDUCATION AS AN AGENT OF SOCIAL CHANGE?
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tu/Th 8:00-9:15</td>
<td>FYS 101.48</td>
<td>WHAT IS THE ART OF PHILANTHROPY?</td>
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<td>FYS 101.51</td>
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<td>Tu/Th 11:00-12:15</td>
<td>FYS 101.62</td>
<td>CAN WHAT WE EAT SAVE THE WORLD?</td>
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<td>Tu/Th 12:30-1:45</td>
<td>FYS 101.66</td>
<td>SPORTS: FAIR OR FOUL?</td>
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<td>Tu/Th 2:00-3:15</td>
<td>FYS 101.76</td>
<td>FROM NETFLIX TO THE NUTCRACKER: HOW TO BE A CRITIC</td>
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<td>Tu/Th 3:30-4:45</td>
<td>FYS 101.78</td>
<td>WHAT’S A WOW FACTOR?</td>
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<td>FYS 101.79</td>
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<td>FYS 101.80</td>
<td>HOW DO WE CREATE A MORE EQUITABLE WORLD?</td>
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<td>FYS 101.81</td>
<td>CAN POETRY CHANGE THE WORLD?</td>
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<td>FYS 101.83</td>
<td>HOW DO WE CREATE A MORE EQUITABLE WORLD?</td>
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<td>FYS 101.87</td>
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Appendix II: First-Year Seminar sections organized by primary disciplinary focus

Learning Commons: Innovation, Creativity, and Collaboration

HOW GEN Z WILL RULE THE WORLD

Visual Arts, Drama, Music
CAN I BELIEVE MY EYES?
FROM NETFLIX TO THE NUTCRACKER: HOW TO BE A CRITIC
HOW DOES MUSIC REFLECT SOCIETY?
IMAGE CONSCIOUS? MAKING MEANING THROUGH VISUAL IMAGERY
POP CULTURE - WHY DOES IT MATTER?
WHAT IS REEL DISEASE?

Humanities
CAN KNOWLEDGE CONTROL A PANDEMIC?
CAN POETRY CHANGE THE WORLD?
CAN SOCIETY DECIDE TO AVOID DISEASE AND DESTRUCTION?
EVIL
HOW ARE WITCHES AND MARTYRS MADE?
IS WORLD PEACE POSSIBLE?
WHAT IS HUMAN NATURE? (Botti)
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF FASHION?
WHO ARE THE NATIVE AMERICANS?
WHO GOVERNS? AUTONOMY AND RIGHTS

Social Science/Education
CAN CIVIL DISCOURSE SURVIVE IN OUR POLARIZED COUNTRY?
CAN WHAT WE EAT SAVE THE WORLD?
HOW DO WE CREATE A MORE EQUITABLE WORLD?
FAILURE TO LEARN?
I KNOW THEREFORE I DO
NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE: PROTEST, POVERTY, AND POLITICS IN AMERICAN JUSTICE
SPORTS: FAIR OR FOUL?
TILL DEATH DO US PART? HOW LAW/POLICY INFLUENCES FAMILIES
WHAT IS HUMAN NATURE? (Reedy)
WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF POLICING IN AMERICA?
WHAT IS THE ROLE OF EDUCATION AS AN AGENT OF SOCIAL CHANGE?
WHAT’S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?
WHOSE AMERICAN DREAM IS IT?

Natural Science/Health Sciences
HOW CAN DRUG ABUSE & ADDICTION BE PREVENTED?
HUNGER? WHERE? HERE? HOW?
IS $678,000 A FAIR PRICE FOR A LIFE-SAVING DRUG?
PLAGUES AND PANDEMICS
SHOULD WE JUST STAY HOME? VOLUNTOURISM AND DOING MORE HARM THAN GOOD

**Communications**
- DOES SOCIAL MEDIA MAKE US LESS SOCIAL?
- INTRODUCTION TO BLACKNESS IN THE MEDIA
- SOCIAL MEDIA & DIGITAL COMMUNICATION TODAY: GOOD, BAD, OR BOTH?

**Business**
- KEEPING MONEY LOCAL: SMALL BUSINESS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES
- WHAT IS THE ART OF PHILANTHROPY?
- WHAT IS SUCCESS?
- WHAT’S A WOW FACTOR?