FALL 2017 FIRST YEAR SEMINARS
(These courses are open ONLY to freshman of the class of 2021)
Students may register for only ONE First Year Seminar

FINA-159-F1 “We’ll Always Have Paris” A. Cartal-Falk MWF 02:00PM-03:05PM
Interdisciplinary and informed by contemporary cultural studies, this course will explore the fascination that Americans have for Paris and all things Parisian. **THIS COURSE MAY FULFILL EITHER THE FINE ARTS OR HUMANITIES DISTRIBUTION.**

FINA-159-F2 “Truth is Stranger Than Fiction” L. Peterson TTH 01:00PM-02:50PM
Truth is stranger than fiction, particularly when documented with a camera. In this class, we will examine the expectations that we have for documentary film and photography to tell us the truth. We will explore documentary storytelling including the art of the interview and image making techniques. Film screenings will include those that address social, cultural, and historical issues. Students will learn to analyze how documentary film and photography represent distinct perspectives thereby actively shaping viewers’ understanding of these subjects.

FINA-159-F3 Close Looking: Art in the Metropolitan Museum of Art A. Golahny MWF 10:15AM-11:20AM
This course is based around the collection of the Metropolitan Museum in New York City. The final project is a virtual exhibition of art masterpieces selected from this collection, and a booklet that serves as a catalogue. We will have an opportunity to see some of these masterpieces on the art field trip to NY. We will explore current issues in art, from “news of the art world” to the Lycoming College Art Gallery shows.

FINA-159-F4: "Music, Learning, and Creativity" C. Jackson TTH 01:00PM-02:50PM
Music nourishes the soul, but it also enhances many other aspects of life. In this course, we will learn the basics of musical language and analysis, in addition to creating live performances in class. Students will uncover the ways in which music (practicing, performing, and listening) teaches us about ourselves and our ability to grow and succeed—no merely as musicians but as creative people in all fields. Additionally, students will examine our educational system in the United States and how it promotes or inhibits learning and creativity. By reading a variety of articles and excerpts from major authors (fiction and non-fiction) we will gain knowledge about the way humans are motivated to learn and lead fulfilling lives.

FINA-159-F5 Beyond the Stage E. Wislar MWF 10:15AM-11:20AM
Have you ever wondered what it takes to make a show happen? Do the sets and costumes fall from the sky? Beyond the Stage takes you behind the scenes in theatre and industrial design and production. We will attend a variety of shows at the Community Arts Center and Lycoming College and spend time backstage through tours and hands-on production time assisting in the load-in and load-out of a national touring show. There are over a hundred careers in design and production and by the end of this class you will know about all of them and understand why each and every one of them is crucial to the creation and success of a show. Each student will also create stage-quality physical props as part of a script analysis from the viewpoint of a contributing artisan.
HUMA-159-F1: Civil War in Literature and Film  A. Leiter  09:00AM-10:15AM
This course examines the evolution of American cultural memory of the Civil War over the last 150 years as expressed in literature and film. We will consider depictions of Union soldiers’ experiences, romanticized representations of the Confederate struggle, humorous responses to the glorification of the Lost Cause, graphic depictions of life on the southern home front, and so on.

This course looks at the role archaeology can play in illuminating the cultural, historical, and geographical environments in which the New Testament texts were written. Students will learn about some of the methods used in the excavation, dating, and interpretation of material culture. We will also survey numerous archaeological sites around the eastern Mediterranean and the Near East that are relevant to the study and understanding of the New Testament and early Christianity.

HUMA-159-F3: Reading Vampires: From Dracula to Twilight  M. Snyder-Broussard  MWF 11:30AM-12:35PM
This course will simultaneously explore college-level reading strategies and the evolution of the vampire from the mid-18th century to modern pop culture using representative texts and films such as Dracula, I Am Legend, Interview with the Vampire, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and Twilight. A special emphasis will be placed on reading secondary sources that will prepare students for reading in other college courses. Furthermore, this course will explore how authors have used vampires to explore many social and psychological phenomena, such as fear, sexuality, death, and racism.

HUMA-159-F4: Medieval Food and Culture  C. Chandler  MWF 12:45PM-01:50PM
The course will examine various aspects of food production and consumption during the broad period of the Middle Ages. We will explore such questions as: What kinds of food did people in medieval Europe eat? Where did that food come from? Did the kinds of foods consumed vary from place to place, change over time, or differ according to social class? Why were some foods that were available forbidden? What were the social and cultural meanings of feasts and fasts? What role did gender play in the production and consumption of food? Can we see parallels between modern food practices and those of the Middle Ages?

SSCI-159-F1: History of the Bicycle  J. Scholnick  TTH 09:45AM-11:35AM
The bicycle had a profound impact on contemporary culture. Not only did it reduce reliance on horses and thus crowding in cities, the modern bicycle played a role in the women’s liberation movement. Currently, bicycles provide access to markets in developing countries, and many cities have reshaped their infrastructure to encourage bicycle commuting and recreation. The bicycle provides a lens with which we can examine the ways that technology has changed the human experience. As a first year seminar, students will use scholarly literature and popular texts on the bicycle to learn techniques of critical reading, writing, and oral presentation.
How happy are you? Positive psychology is the scientific study of the factors that contribute to happiness and well-being. Take this first year seminar if you want to learn what you can do to feel happier, cultivate the best within yourself, and create a more meaningful, fulfilling life in your work, free time, and relationships.

This course will provide students with an understanding of the evolution of art crime from its earliest forms to the present day. It will include an examination of the various types of art crime, such as archaeological and wartime looting, forgery and fraud, iconoclasm and vandalism, smuggling, and theft, and will also explore the motives behind such acts. Furthermore, policy and practice in the United States and abroad will be explored to develop a greater knowledge of the measures that have been adopted to protect and recover works of art.