“Be the change you wish to see in the world”  
Mahatma Gandhi

Inquiry 111
Introduction to Liberal Arts Education
Fall 2017
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
10:30-11:30, PH 106

Instructor: Dr. Sherri Pataki
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Office Hours: MWF 1-2, Tues 3:30-4:30
Others by appointment

Required Course Texts:
Fall 2017 Inquiry 111 Reader (available in Westminster’s bookstore)
People of the Book (2008) by Geraldine Brooks
Outliers: The Story of Success (2008) by David Batstone

Outcomes and objectives of Inquiry 111:
• Articulate and practice the values and methods of liberal arts education.
  o Students will explore liberal arts practices and theory through classroom discussion and thinking.
  o Develop critical thinking skills and information literacy skills.
  o Consider moral and ethical responsibilities to their community.
• Engage, experience, and explain different ways of knowing.
  o Students will examine and compare different intellectual perspectives as highlighted by the Westminster curriculum.
  o Recognize and respect different world views.
  o Challenge existing assumptions to promote intellectual growth.
• Pursue interdisciplinary study and discussion of important issues.
  o Students will investigate and discuss significant contemporary social issues from multiple perspectives.
  o Be actively engaged in classroom discussions and learning experiences.
  o Actively participate in the learning community of the first-year program.

Student Assessment:
Final grades in this class will be based on the following graded assignments and activities:

Exams (2 exams, 25% each; 50% total)
Exams will require you to demonstrate knowledge of the assigned readings, films, speakers, and classroom activities throughout the semester. Exam format will be short answer and/or short essay.

Quizzes, homework assignments, and class participation (10%)
Students are expected to attend all class meetings and to complete all assigned readings prior to each class. Students may be assessed through brief written responses to the assigned readings at the beginning of class (quizzes), homework assignments, and participation in classroom activities.

Students are responsible for all material covered during class or required events. If you are ill or there is a family emergency, please make sure that you discuss this with the instructor. All other absences will be considered unexcused. Students should bring a copy of the Inquiry 111 reader to every class.
Writing assignments (30% total)
Detailed instructions for each writing assignment will be provided in class. Late writing assignments will be penalized 5% per day late.

Co-curricular reports (3 reports for 10% of your final grade)
People of the Book research paper (10%)
Outliers research paper (10%)

Group presentation (10%)
In small groups, students will lead a class discussion of one chapter from Outliers. Students should provide a brief review of the chapter, integrate new material, and incorporate class discussion and/or activities. Presentations should be informative, clearly presented, well organized, creative, and engaging! Please discuss all ideas with the instructor in advance for approval.

Academic Integrity:
If you have any questions regarding academic integrity, please feel free to discuss your questions or concerns with the instructor. Forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to): cheating on an exam, lending your work to another student so that he/she may turn it in as his/her own, or copying and turning in another person’s work as one’s own (e.g., another current or previous student's work or material taken from the Internet). Students caught participating in such an activity will receive a course grade of "F."

Accessibility Statement:
Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Faith Craig, Director of Disability Resources, at (724) 946-7192 or email: craigfa@westminster.edu.

Inquiry 111 Class Schedule and Reading List

**Week 1:**
Aug 28  Introduction and welcome
Aug 30  Statement on Liberal Learning
Shapiro “Liberal Education, Moral Education”
Sep 1  Westminster College Mission Statement
The Westminster Plan
Westminster College Academic Integrity Policy
Westminster College First-year Research Prize

**Week 2:**
Sept 4  Fisher “Effective Learning Begins with the Right Attitudes”
Sept 6  Csikszentmihalyi “The Veils of Maya”
Sept 8  “Parable of the Blind Men and the Elephant”
Plato “The Allegory of the Cave”

**Week 3:**
Sept 11  Scudder “Learning to See”
Freire “Pedagogy of the Oppressed” (available online)
Sept 13  Freire “Pedagogy of the Oppressed” continued
Sept 15  Hawkin “You are Brilliant and the Earth is Hiring” (available online)
Farmer “Action Heroes”
Week 4:
Sept 18  Cultural Exchange Program from Nicaragua - class visitors!
Sept 20  Cultural Exchange Program from Nicaragua
Sept 22  Friedman, from “The World is Flat”

Week 5:
Sept 27  Film: Foodstamped
Sept 29  Household Food Insecurity (article available online)

***Gleaning at Apple Castle, New Wilmington, PA with the Greater Pittsburgh Foodbank***
(date to be determined)

Week 6:
Oct  2  Exam #1
Oct  4  Film: Geraldine Brooks lecture
Oct  6  Preparation for library week
        Co-curricular report #1 is due.

Week 7:  Inquiry Library Week (all class meetings will be in McGill Library)
Oct  9/11/13

Week 8:
Oct 16  Copland from “What to Listen for in Music”
Oct 18  Perkins “Conceptual Art and Galvanizing”
        Film: Dr. Perkin’s video
Oct 20  Meeting with Dr. Perkins, Witherspoon Lakeview Room

Week 9:
Oct 23  Mid-semester break!
Oct 25  Westminster Faculty Scholarship Panels (required attendance)
Oct 27  Film: Poverty Inc.
        People of the Book research paper due in class

Week 10:
Oct 30  Film: Poverty Inc. continued
Nov  1  Barder “Is Aid a Waste of Money”
Nov  3  Bales “The New Slavery”
Week 11:
Nov 6  Younis from “Banker to the Poor”  
Inquiry Kiva Project
Nov 8  Inquiry Kiva Project
Nov 10 Outliers, Introduction  
Group meetings  
Co-curricular report #2 is due.

Week 12:
Nov 13 Outliers, Chapter 1
Nov 15 Outliers, Chapter 2
Nov 17 Outliers, Chapter 3

Week 13:
Nov 20 Outliers, Chapter 4
Nov 22-26 Thanksgiving Break!

Week 14:
Nov 27 Outliers, Chapter 5
Nov 29 Outliers, Chapter 6
Dec 1 Outliers, Chapter 7

Week 15:
Dec 4 Outliers, Chapter 8
Dec 6 Outliers, Chapter 9  
Co-curricular report #3 is due.
Dec 8 Outliers, Epilogue  
Course wrap-up and review  
Outliers research paper is due in class.

The final exam is Monday, December 11th, 8:00 - 10:30 a.m.