INQ - 111  
Westminster College - Fall 2017

Professor: Jamie Chapman, PhD  
Office: Patterson 307  
Office hours: M 2-3, T 12-2 and by appointment  
Email: chapmajj@westminster.edu  

Class Location: Patterson Hall 104  
Meeting times: MWF 10:30a-11:30a  
Phone: (724) 946-6302

Course Description:  
This course is designed to introduce students to the philosophy and study of a liberal arts education. It provides students with the opportunity to investigate and exchange ideas, to explore multiple perspectives and to become more familiar with the process of open inquiry. These different ways of “knowing” and “understanding” will be presented to students through various texts and other forms of artistic expression that explore the application of the liberal arts to specific social, moral, and political issues. Throughout the course students will participate in activities that are designed to sharpen their critical thinking, writing and presentation skills. We will begin the course with the concept of the liberal arts education. We will then consider various limitations on our ability to perceive the world accurately and then consider the ways in which using multiple viewpoints and approaches to knowledge can improve our insight. We will also explore how to use criteria to evaluate normative claims, and then develop and apply our own criteria to make an investment.

Course Outcomes and Objectives:

1) Articulate and practice the values and methods of a liberal arts education  
2) Engage, experience and explain different ways of knowing  
3) Pursue interdisciplinary study of important ideas

All inquiry sections share several major common assignments: 1) a series of common readings in the INQ 111 text; 2) attendance at three co-curricular events and short reports; 3) at least ten pages of written assignment(s), beyond co-curricular reports and the Library assignment; 4) at least one graded oral report; 5) three information literacy sessions and assignments and 6) a graded activity or exam during the final examination period. Beyond these shared requirements, Inquiry classes are individualized.

Required Readings:

The 2017 Inquiry reader is required for this course.  
*additional required readings will be made available to students through MyWestminster at the discretion of the professor

Student Requirements:  
How to succeed in this class:

1. Attendance Policy: Due to the sheer volume and complexity of the material in this class, regular attendance is essential for success in this course. I reserve the right to lower final grades in the case of excess absences (more than three excused or unexcused) or tardiness. You are responsible for signing an attendance sheet that will be distributed. If you miss more than 6 classes, as excused OR unexcused absences, you will not pass this class. In addition, you will NOT be allowed to make up any quizzes or other points that you miss by being late or absent.
2. In addition to attending regularly scheduled class periods, students are required to attend three “co-curricular” events. Students are free to choose any three events from the Inquiry-approved list, and to seek approval of other events that are not on that list. Co-curricular write-ups are due within one week of the event. The first must be turned in by September 29th. The second must be turned in by November 3rd, and the third must be turned in by December 1st. Guidelines for co-curricular write-ups will be distributed at the beginning of the semester.

3. Complete assigned reading and be prepared to engage in discussion/in-class activities. Completing the assigned reading not only prepares you for discussion, but also enables you to seek clarification on topics that are not clear. While I encourage the academic expression of informed opinions during discussion and in-class activities, I will not condone intentionally offensive or aggressive behavior towards others. Please be respectful of yourself, as well as those around you.

4. **Technology Policy**: This class adopts a free learning environment policy, meaning that everyone is free to learn without disruptions. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices that could be distracting to others before class or simply set them to silent if you are waiting for a crucial call or text. If you need to answer the call or respond to the text message please exit the classroom to do so and return when you are finished. Socially constructing a free learning environment demonstrates your commitment to your individual academic success, your respect for the professor and your respect for your academic colleagues.

5. Take notes of the main topics covered during lectures, discussion and videos. Taking notes provides you with a study tool.

6. Complete exams, quizzes and all other assignments on time.

7. **Judicious use of email**: please be advised that I will only read and respond to my email during regular work hours on weekdays. I ask that you communicate with me via email only for urgent matters that cannot be addressed in person before or after the class period, or during my office hours. In addition, please identify yourself and this class in your email.

**Course Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-curricular write-ups (3)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams (2)</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy Session Paper and assignments</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Discussion Leader</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation &amp; Activities</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Faculty Scholarship Panels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Art Interpretation Presentation/Paper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*KIVA Project</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Wk #14 – Video Analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* quizzes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam activity</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letter Grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93%-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90%-92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87%-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83%-86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80%-82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77%-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>73%-76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>67%-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>63%-66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>60%-62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bonus and extra credit:** The opportunity to earn bonus points or extra credit may arise throughout the course. In such a case, they will be explained by the Professor. Any extra credit opportunity will be made available to the entire class and will not be offered on an individual basis.

**Policies:**

**Academic Honesty:** Academic integrity is part of good character and is central to the purpose and pursuit of any academic community. Thus, all members of the Westminster community, including students, faculty, staff and administrators, are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic honesty and integrity, in keeping with the philosophy and mission of the College. All members of the Westminster community are expected to be familiar with and to abide by the College policy and procedures described in the Undergraduate Catalogue. For more details please go to the following website: http://www.westminster.edu/admissions/graduate/graduateethics.cfm.

Academic dishonesty is a profound violation of this code of behavior. It can take several forms, including, but not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, misconduct, and providing false information. Academic dishonesty breaks the sense of trust that is central to a vital educational community like Westminster. Dishonesty in any of these forms will not be tolerated. Students who engage in academic dishonest face the penalties outlined in the College policy. In addition, all violations will be reported to the office of Academic Affairs. **Work that you submit in this class may be submitted to Turnitin.com, a plagiarism prevention service that also provides educational information on how to practice honesty in the conduct of research and writing of papers.**

If you are unsure about what does and does not constitute plagiarism, please ask me. You may also find it helpful to check out Paul Hasselbee’s “A Primer on Plagiarism”: http://www.suu.edu/faculty/husselbee/Plagiarism%20Primer.pdf.

For the purpose of this course, I expect you to **do your own work** unless collaboration with others is required, allowed, or encouraged for a particular assignment. I also expect you to do **original work** for this course. This means that you may not submit work used for another course for the purpose of fulfilling requirements in this course, unless specific arrangements are made with me and you also have the permission of the other instructor. Behaving with academic integrity also means that you put forth your **fair share of effort into group discussions and group work** undertaken in this course. See me if you are unclear about the meaning of any elements of this code.

**Inclusion Policy:** 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 Ms. Faith Craig, Director of Disability Support Services, in 209 Thompson Clark Hall, at (724) 946-7192 or at craigfa@westminster.edu.

**Late assignments:** Late assignments will be accepted. For every day that an assignment is late (including weekend days) five points will be deducted. Assignments are considered late if they are not received by the end of class time on the day that they are due.
Recording devices: Due to the potential confidentiality issues associated with discussion material in this course, no recording devices are permitted.

Inclement weather and class cancellation: We experience severe winter weather in Northwest Pennsylvania. The procedure for cancelling class will be as follows: Dr. Chapman will notify students via email about the class cancellation and the substitute assignment (if applicable).

Tentative Outline (Subject to Change at the discretion of the Professor)
* indicates that reading is available on D2L

**Week 1**
Monday 8/28 – Introductions

Wednesday 8/30 – Review D2L
  * Austin – ‘What nobody is going to Tell you about Freshman Year’
  * Wade – ‘Professors Pet Peeves’
  1.1 Westminster College Mission Statement

Friday 9/1 - 1.2 Westminster Plan
  1.6 Statement on Liberal Learning
  1.3 Westminster College Academic Integrity Policy

**Week 2**
Monday 9/4 - 1.8 Effective Learning Begins with the Right Attitudes
  1.11 Liberal Education, Moral Education
  1.15 Making College ‘Relevant’

Wednesday 9/6 – Gilroy, “Interrogating Texts” p. xvii
  1.14 Learning is Not Fun: Reflections on the Liberal Arts and Living your Best Life

Friday 9/8 - 1.10 The Allegory of the Cave
  1.12 The Emperor’s New Clothes

**Week 3**
Monday 9/11–1.7 The Veils of Maya

Wednesday 9/13–1.9 Parable of the Blind Men and the Elephant
  2.7 Shakespeare in the Bush

Friday 9/15 - 2.4 from What to Listen for in Music
  2.9 Strategies for Looking

**Week 4**
Monday 9/18 – 2.3 Statistics Among the Liberal Arts
  2.1 Jackson and Jameson – ‘UFO Cults and Us’

Wednesday 9/20 - 3.2 The Gospel of Consumption
  3.6 Don’t Blame Wal-Mart
Friday 9/22– 2.5 Conceptual Art and Galvanizing

**Week 5**

Monday 9/25– **INQ Field Trip to the Cleveland Museum of Art**

Wednesday 9/27 – Group project

Friday 9/29 – Art Interpretation Presentations

*Art Interpretation assignments are due to the designated D2L box by class time

**1st Co-curricular assignment due**

**Week 6**

Monday 10/2– Meet in the Library

Wednesday 10/4– Meet in the Library

Friday 10/6 - Meet in the Library

**Week 7**

Monday 10/9– 3.1 Action Heros

Wednesday 10/11– 3.18 The New Slavery

Friday 10/13– In-class writing lab (bring your rough drafts from LIS week)

**Week 8**

Monday 10/16 – Review for exam #1

**Library Assignment Due (to designated D2L folder)**

Wednesday 10/18– Exam #1

Friday 10/20 - Jim Perkin’s Day

**Week 9**

Monday 10/23– Fall Break – No Class

Wednesday 10/25– Faculty Scholarship Panels – Attend one panel (write a one page summary)

Friday 10/27– Discuss the faculty scholarship panels

**Week 10**

Monday 10/30 – *Rachels – ‘The Challenge of Cultural Relativism’*

Wednesday 11/1 – 3.11 *from The World is Flat

3.12 *from Banker to the Poor*

Friday 11/3– 3.13 Economic Security

**Assignment:** KIVA website (www.kiva.org)
**2nd Co-curricular assignment due

Week 11

Monday 11/6 – 3.16 Is Aid a Waste of Money?

Wednesday 11/8– KIVA Group Discussions

Friday 11/10– KIVA Group Presentations

Week 12

Monday 11/13 - Review People of the Book, pp. 1-189

    Review for Exam #2

Friday 11/17– Exam #2

Week 13

Monday 11/20– In-class activity

Wednesday 11/22–Thanksgiving Break

Friday 11/24–Thanksgiving Break

Week 14

Monday 11/27 - In-class Documentary

Wednesday 11/29 - In-class Documentary

Friday 12/1 - In-class Discussion

** 3rd Co-curricular assignment due

Week 15

Monday 12/4 - In-class Documentary

Wednesday 12/6 - In-class Documentary

Friday 12/8 - In-class Discussion

Week 16

Final Exam: day and time listed on D2L