INQ 111 10 – Fall 2018

Class Meeting: MWF 10:30 – 11:30 am

HSC 166

Instructor
Dr. Pete Smith
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Office Hours
MW 2:00 – 3:00 pm
TR 10:00 – 11:00 am
or by appointment

Course Description
Inquiry 111 is an introduction to your academic life at Westminster College as a student of liberal arts education. Its purpose and design are explained in the Preface and Introduction to your Inquiry Reader (pages v-xviii), as are the “business items” of the course—i.e., our objectives and desired outcomes, as well as your performance obligations.

Required Texts

Course Webpage
This course will use the Desire2Learn page for the course schedule, assignment submission, and copies of handouts.

Course Outcomes
At the end of the semester, you will be prepared to:
- Articulate and practice the values and methods of a liberal-arts education.
- Engage, experience, and explain different ways of knowing.
- Pursue interdisciplinary study and discussion of important issues
- Summarize, analyze, and evaluate different kinds of information.
- Demonstrate skills (e.g., critical thinking, interpersonal, technological, library searches)

Grades
Active Participation 25%
Writing Assignments (3, three-page essays on assigned topics) 30%
Co-Curricular Write-ups (3) 15%
Projects (2) 30%

Total 100%
Graded Work

- **Active Participation:** I divide ‘participation’ into two areas of equal importance:
  
  1) **Attention** – Listening to the instructor and each other, without private chatter
  2) **Speaking** – Contributing regularly, in small-groups or whole-class discussion

- **Co-curricular Reports (3):** You should attend at least 1 co-curricular activity each month during the semester (Sept., Oct., Nov.). In the week following the event, upload a typed essay analyzing it and your experience of it (see co-curricular form) on our D2L course page.  
  
  [*NOTE: #1 should be a minimum of 300 words; #2 & #3, a minimum of 600 words.*]

- **Writing Assignments (3):** You will be given the assigned topic for the three, minimum three-page essays well before the due date for each.

- **Projects (2):** Both projects will involve varying degrees of researched inquiry and may include written, oral, and non-verbal components. **Project #1:** Based on Library Instruction. **Project #2:** Kiva Project.

**Academic Honesty**

As scientists we must always exemplify honesty and integrity in everything that we do. The sciences as a whole and the communication between scientists are built on the belief that all data and observations are reported accurately and precisely. Nothing will ruin the career of a scientist faster than the claim of falsifying data or stealing someone else’s words or ideas. In other words, dishonesty and plagiarism are completely unacceptable. Any student engaging in plagiarism or dishonest activities should expect, as a minimum FIRST penalty, a failing grade on the specific assignment. In addition, the Dean of the College will be informed of this action and the reason for the action. The Dean may impose more sanctions at his discretion. I am obligated to inform the Dean of any perceived violation of the Academic Integrity Policy. A second offense during any of your four years will result in a one semester suspension. A third offense results in expulsion. The student always has the right to appeal any decision. If you have any questions about what is and what is not a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, please ask me. The best way to be safe is to remember to reference the original source if you use the ideas or words of another person and use your own data.
**Attendance**
Attendance is mandatory. Missing three classes with unexcused absences will result in a whole grade reduction. Your grade will be reduced by a whole letter grade for each absence after three. We will follow the policy in the College catalog for excused absences.

Assignments may be submitted after the due date. Any late assignments will be penalized 10% of the total possible points for each day the assignment is late. One minute late = one day late.

**Additional Help**
If you find that you are falling behind in the course and that you are not performing at your desired level even though you are studying heavily, I suggest that you make an appointment with the Academic Success Center to discuss your approach to studying. The Academic Success Center is staffed with qualified personnel whose job is to help you become a better student. You can visit the Academic Success Center on the 4th floor of Thompson-Clark Hall. 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, located in 414 Thompson-Clark Hall. (e-mail: craigfa@westminster.edu; phone: 724.946.7192)

**INQ 111 10 Fall 2018 Schedule**

**Aug. 27:** Syllabus and Introduction

**Aug 29:** “Westminster College Mission Statement” (p. 3); “The Westminster Plan” (p. 4); and “Westminster College Academic Integrity Policy” (p. 7)

**Aug 31:** “Learning is Not Fun” (p. 48); “Making College ‘Relevant”’ (p. 52); and “Effective Learning” (p. 30)

**Sept. 3:** “The Allegory of the Cave” (p. 33)

**Sept. 5:** On Mastery

**Sept. 7:** Discussion of Distributed Pharmaceutical Analysis Lab

**Sept. 10:** Film Screening: *Prescription Thugs*

**Sept. 12:** Film Screening: *Prescription Thugs*

**Sept. 14:** **Essay #1 Due** and discussion

**Sept. 17:** “Learning to See” (p. 95) and “Strategies for Looking” (p. 108)

**Sept. 19:** Foster Art Gallery
Sept. 21: Science and Art

Sept. 24: “My Forty Years in the Witness Protection Program” (p. 86)

Sept. 25: Evening with Jim Perkins @ 7:00 pm in Witherspoon Rooms

Sept. 26: “from What to Listen for in Music” (p. 78)

Sept. 28: Discussion of music

You are ENCOURAGED to attend the Professional Networking Symposium on 9/29.

Oct. 1: Library Instruction

Oct. 3: “Evolution as Fact and Theory” (p. 113)

Oct. 5: “from Ascent of Science” (on D2L) Essay #2 Due

Oct. 8: Library Instruction

Oct. 10: “Statistics among the Liberal Arts” (p. 70)

Oct. 12: Numberphile

Oct. 15: Library Instruction

Oct. 17: “The Gospel of Consumption” (p. 131)

Oct. 19: “Don’t Blame Walmart” (p. 150)

Oct. 22: “Letter from Clergy” (p. 154) and “Letter from Birmingham Jail” (p. 155) Project #1 Due

Oct. 24: Film Screening: Selma

Oct. 26: Film Screening: Selma

Oct. 29: Fall Break

Oct. 31: Faculty Scholarship Panels meet in Witherspoon Rooms

Nov. 2: “The End of Forgery?” (p. 291)

Nov. 5: “The Baltimore Stockbroker and the Bible Code” (p. 273) Attend Ken and Nancy Long Chemistry Lecture @ 7:00 pm in Witherspoon Rooms

Nov. 7: “From Sarajevo to Kosovo” (p. 261)

Nov. 9: Wrap up People of the Book

Nov. 12: Trip to the Nature Center and Field Station
Nov. 14: Film Screening: *Pandora’s Promise*

Nov. 16: Film Screening: *Pandora’s Promise*

Nov. 19: “Why Protect Nature” (p. 172)  
**Essay #3 Due**

Nov. 26: “Words” (p. 112), “Three Poems by Billy Collins” (p. 105), and “Persimmons” (p. 119)

Nov. 28: Readings TBA

Nov. 30: Readings TBA

Dec. 3: “The New Slavery” (p. 231)  
Discussion of Project #2

Dec. 5: “Microfinance Misses the Mark” (p. 252)  
Discussion of Project #2

Dec. 7: *The World is Flat* and *Banker to the Poor* (pp. 189 – 204)

Dec. 10: 8:00 – 10:30 AM – **Project #2 Presentations**