English, Professional Communications and Fine Arts

Contact Person: Richard Cain

In support of the overall mission of Wheeling Jesuit University, the Department of English, Professional Communications and Fine Arts provides courses in composition, literature, communications and the fine arts, as well as advanced electives for both majors and non-majors. As an integral part of the liberal arts tradition embraced by the University, the department’s curricula develop students’ skills in effective reading, writing, listening and speaking and awaken students’ knowledge of the rich expressive and aesthetic potential of the English language.

English and Professional Communications offers major and minor programs in the following fields:
1. English
2. Professional Communications
3. Fine Arts: film, music, theater.

AP Placement Equivalencies

The department grants credit for AP scores of 3 or above with the following conditions:

Language & Composition: If the student with an AP score of 3 or above is placed into ENG 110 Composition Seminar (Advanced Composition placement) that student receives equivalency credit for the composition requirement of the core curriculum. If the student with an AP score of 3 or above is placed into ENG 105 Process of Composition, the student has two options: (1) the student may submit to the department chairperson a portfolio of previous written work that displays the student’s writing abilities. Based upon the department’s assessment of the portfolio, the student may be awarded equivalency credit for the composition requirement of the core curriculum; (2) If the student has submitted a portfolio that does not merit equivalency credit, the student will receive 3 elective credits but must still complete the composition requirement.

English Literature and Composition: The student who receives a score of 3 or above must sit for the department’s literary genre exam, given every October. If the student passes the exam, he or she receives equivalency credit for LIT 120 Literary Foundations: Methods & Genres, the first level of the literature core curriculum. If the student does not pass the exam, he or she receives 3 elective credits but must still complete the composition requirement.

Core Fulfilling Courses

Composition and Literature

Note: Students whose entering skill levels result in placement in ENG 095 (College Writing) and/or ENG 096 (College Reading) should enroll in those classes immediately. Each class is a prerequisite for further courses within the English core: ENG 095 must be completed prior to enrollment in ENG 105 (Process of Composition) and ENG 096 must be completed prior to enrollment in LIT 120 Literary Foundations: Methods & Genres.

I. Composition Level: ENG 105 Process of Composition, ENG 110 Composition Seminar

II. Literature Level I: LIT 120 Literary Foundations: Methods & Genres

III. Literature Level II: LIT 250 Literary Explorations: Conflicts & Culture

Fine Arts

The Fine Arts core curriculum program is built around three fine arts credits that a student must complete before graduation. Any FAS 100-level course will satisfy the Fine Arts core requirement.

Requirements for English Major Bachelor of Arts Degree

In addition to completing the core curriculum requirements all English majors must complete the following courses:

Required courses:

- ENG 224 Professional Speaking (3 crs)
- LIT 286 Junior Literature Seminar (3 crs)
- LIT 321 Studies in Poetry (3 crs)
- LIT 322 Studies in Drama (3 crs)
- LIT 323 Studies in Fiction (3 crs)
- LIT 325 Studies in Theory (3 crs)
- LIT/PWR 473/474 Senior Seminar & Portfolio - or - (2 crs)
- LIT 478 Senior Thesis for Student Teachers - or - (2 crs)
- LIT 486 Senior Literature Thesis (2 crs)
- PWR 135 Principles of Communications (3 crs)
- PWR xxx any other PWR elective (3 crs)

English majors must also earn an additional 18 credits from literature electives at or above the 300 level, selected to fulfill the following criteria: 1 elective course from each of the following main areas: the period prior to the 18th Century; the 18th Century; the 19th Century; the 20th Century; 1 unrestricted elective; 1 cross-cultural elective.

Students will still retain a significant number of credits for elective course work beyond the core and the major requirements. Majors are encouraged to seek a cognate or minor field of study outside the area, chosen in preparation for career goals, graduate school or further professional training. Some cognate areas include psychology, political science, fine arts, history and professional communications.

N.B.: English majors who are also enrolled in the Teacher Preparation Program must begin major course work no later than the sophomore year in order to complete the major program and allow for student teaching in the senior year.
Requirements for English Minor

In addition to completion of the University’s core curriculum requirements in this discipline, a student must complete any 18 credits of course work in literature at or above the 300 level. LIT 286: Introduction to Literary Studies is strongly recommended.

Course Descriptions

ENGLISH

The English major is designed to introduce students to works of the British, American and World literary imaginations, to develop skills in analytical perception and to foster clear thinking and accurate communication of ideas. Students are thus prepared for a wide range of careers in private and public sectors as well as for further study in graduate school, law school or in other professional programs.

Upon completion of the literature major, students will be able to:

1. demonstrate accurate and effective reading, writing and critical thinking skills;
2. recognize and interpret metaphorical thought as well as an aesthetic use of language;
3. pursue a life-long passion for reading and the expressive arts

ENG 095 College Writing (3 crs)
Review of basic writing skills, stressing the elements of clear and effective writing. By placement; does not satisfy core curriculum requirement.

ENG/LIT 096 College Reading (3 crs)
Development of greater efficiency, comprehension, vocabulary and recall in reading college-level material. Lab work required. Enrollment by placement; does not satisfy core curriculum requirement.

ENG 105 Process of Composition (3 crs)
Elements of expository and persuasive essay writing; research techniques; revising prose for accuracy, precision and effective style. Core fulfilling. By placement.

ENG 110 Composition Seminar (3 crs)
Advanced essay writing; exposition and persuasion; research techniques; editing and revising prose for accuracy, precision and effective style for first-level writers. Core fulfilling. By placement.

ENG 224 Professional Speaking (3 crs)
Practice in preparing and presenting instructional, informative, persuasive and public relations speeches of a professional nature. Includes use of multi-media tools. Prerequisites: ENG 105/110; sophomore standing.

LIT 120 Literary Foundations: Methods & Genres (3 crs)
Study and development of the techniques of literary study using the genres of fiction, poetry and drama. Includes experience in the application of literary critical methods. Prerequisite: ENG 095 & 096 if student was placed in these courses.

ENGLISH - Recommended Course Sequence

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<th>Sophomore</th>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 105 or 110</td>
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<td>LIT 286</td>
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<td>PWR 135</td>
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<td>LIT Elective</td>
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<td>FYS 101</td>
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<td>POS/PSY/ECO 110</td>
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<td>HIS 110</td>
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<td>RST 2xx/3xx</td>
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<td>LIT 321-325</td>
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LIT 250 Literary Explorations: Conflicts & Culture (3 crs)
Examination of selected topics within literary studies, using the tools of literary analysis established in LIT 120. Course topics fit within an organizing rubric such as: Community and Discord in Literature; Ethics and Values in Literature; Past and Future in Literature. Prerequisite: ENG 105/110; LIT 120.

LIT 286 Introduction to Literary Studies (3 crs)
Intensive examination and discussion of a specific literary topic, author, or mode; research and formal writings, oral presentations on assigned topics. Prerequisite: completed literature core; sophomore standing or approval of department chair.

LIT/WST 312 Women and Literature (3 crs)
Study of women's contribution to literature. Addresses major issues and themes that concern women; examines how individual female authors confronted the prevailing literary and social attitudes of their times. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 315 Children's Literature (3 crs)
Historical and cultural exploration of the concepts of the child and childhood in literature written both for and about children. Survey of dominant trends in British and American literature as reflected in fairy tales, the writings of the Romantic Period, the Victorian “Golden Age” of children's literature and the multiculturalism of the twentieth century. Prerequisite: completed literature core or permission of instructor.

LIT 320 Mythology (3 crs)
An examination of the nature and function of myth in the Ancient World. Focus upon the narrative and symbolic structure of myths, the cultural contexts of myths and the influence of myth upon later literature. Texts will include Greek and Roman epic, Greek drama and myths as represented in ancient and modern art. Texts may also include non-Classical mythology, such as Celtic, Chinese, Norse, Incan or Yoruban. Prerequisite: completed literature core or permission of instructor.

LIT 321 Studies in Poetry (3 crs)
Study of significant works by a variety of writers; some emphasis on context of writing and works as well as methodology and development of poetry. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 322 Studies in Drama (3 crs)
Study of significant plays from the early Greek to the contemporary stage, together with emphasis on tradition and innovation in dramatic technique. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 323 Studies in Fiction (3 crs)
Study of significant works by a variety of writers, including the development of the novel/novella/short story as genres, their narrative techniques and variety. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 325 Studies in Theory (3 crs)
Study of selected literary theories, along with a focused application of these theories to specific literary texts. Survey will range from early writings on literature by Plato and Aristotle to the proliferation of theory in the twentieth century, including psychoanalytic criticism, formalism, reader-response theory, deconstruction and new historicism. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 330 Contemporary Literature (3 crs)
Study of interpretative literature produced from the 1960's to the present. In order to address the proliferation of voices and the blurring of genre lines characteristic of the contemporary period, the focus of the course on particular genres or authors will necessarily change from semester to semester. Prerequisite: completed literature core or permission of instructor.

LIT 354 Shakespeare (3 crs)
Study of selected poems and plays, including tragedies, comedies and histories. Exploration of the dramatic, literary and cultural dimensions of Shakespeare's art. Prerequisite: completed literature core or permission of instructor.

LIT 405 Sacred Writings (3 crs)
Examination of literary and cultural elements of selected texts, such as the Bible and the Koran, along with a study of later world literature that demonstrates the literary influence of these religious writings. Authors may include Milton, Blake, Kazantakis, Morrison and Rushdie. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 415 Medieval Literature (3 crs)
Study of major works of world literature in this period, with a focus upon the emerging literary traditions of the British Isles, including an introductory consideration of the significance of Anglo-Saxon literature to later British writing. British texts will include a range of works from Beowulf to Le Morte D'Arthur, while non-British texts will include a range of works from The Divine Comedy to The Thousand and One Nights. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 419 Literature of the Renaissance (3 crs)
Study of major works of selected literary figures from the early modern period, either in the broad context of the European Renaissance or the more focused context of the English Renaissance. Authors may include Castiglione, Machiavelli, Petrarch, Cervantes, Donne, Marlowe, Milton, More, Sidney or Spenser. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 420 Early American Literature (3 crs)
Study of the historical context and writers of the Colonial and Revolutionary era of American literature. Authors may include Bradford, Bradstreet, Taylor, Sewall, Rowlandson, Crevecoeur, Franklin, among others. Literary forms such as poetry, diaries, sermons and political pamphlets included. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 421 Restoration and Eighteenth-Century Literature (3 crs)
An examination of British literature and its contexts from the Restoration of the monarchy through the neoclassical age. Works studied will range from poetic satire to comedic theater, development of the novel to periodical journalism. Authors may include Dryden, Pepys, Behn, Congreve, Swift, Pope, Defoe, Fielding and Johnson. Prerequisite: completed core.

LIT 423 The Romantic Movement in England (3 crs)
Extensive coverage of the poetry and critical works of representative Romantic figures, chosen from Blake, Bailie, the Wordsworths, Coleridge, Byron, the Shelleys, Hemans, Keats and others. Attention to the historical context, major themes, verse experimentation and critical theory from the era. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 425 Literature of the Victorian Period in England (3 crs)
Study of the chief literary artists of the era (selected from Tennyson, Carlyle, the Brontes, Arnold, the Brownings, Dickens, Eliot, Newman, Ruskin, Hardy, the Rossettis, Wilde and others) set within their milieu. Lyric poetry, the novel and the essay are stressed genres. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 426 Nineteenth-Century American Literature (3 crs)
Study of the literary figures and movements from the romanticism of Poe, Hawthorne and Melville through the realism and naturalism of Dickinson, Twain, Gilman, James, Wharton, Crane and Dreiser. Prerequisite: completed literature core.
LIT 440 Twentieth-Century Literature (3 cr)
Study of literary movements in the period, such as modernism and postmodernism, within the context of British, American or non-Western literature of the twentieth century. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT/PWR 473, 474 Professional Communications Internships (1 credit each semester)
Guided experience in an actual work environment related to the student’s career goals. Minimum of 50 hours per internship. Student keeps log and submits for evaluation. Internships must be completed in different organizations and involve different types of writing. Majors required to take both internship courses. Prerequisite: senior standing in Professional Communications or literature major.

LIT 476 Colonial and Postcolonial Literature (3 cr)
Study of literature that reflects and comments upon the complex relationship between the metropolitan center of the British Empire and various colonial territories, such as Australia, Canada, Jamaica, India, Ireland and South Africa. An essential component of this study will be historical, political and theoretical context of British colonialism. Authors may include Shakespeare, Conrad, Bronte, Achebe, Salih or Rhys. Prerequisite: completed literature core.

LIT 478 Senior Thesis for Student Teachers (2 cr)
A capstone experience intended for Literature majors completing the teacher preparation program. Although primarily a formal, written project stemming from student-teaching experience, an oral presentation of the project is also required. Prerequisite: LIT 286.

LIT 486 Senior Literature Thesis (2 cr)
A major project requiring extended research and writing. The project requires a written proposal, public presentation of the project’s results and an acceptable written document at the conclusion of the course. All phases will be supervised and evaluated by a member of the literature faculty. Prerequisite: LIT 286.
Professional Communications

The professional communications major is designed to meet the needs of students who hope to pursue careers in which writing, speaking and knowledge of the emerging communications technologies are essential. It is appropriate for students who want to work in journalism, public relations, advertising, graphic design, multimedia, marketing, law, teaching, advocacy, technical communication, and other careers. The major emphasizes four tracks: print (public relations, journalism, and advertising), audio/video (broadcast, corporate video), new media (web authoring, web animation, web programming, and multimedia authoring), and graphic design (desktop publishing, image editing, and illustration).

Upon completion of the Professional Communications major, students will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Identify and apply effective communications strategies across a range of topics;
2. Make an effective oral presentation;
3. Demonstrate reasoned and defensible techniques for reaching personal decisions regarding practical media ethical issues.

Requirements for Professional Communications

Major Bachelor of Arts Degree

In addition to completing the core curriculum requirements, all professional communications majors must complete the following courses:

Communications Component:
PWR 135 Principles of Communication (3 crs)
PWR 240 Writing for Media (3 crs)
PWR 342 Media Ethics (3 crs)
PWR 344 Media Law (3 crs)
PWR 473 Fall Senior Internship (1 cr)
PWR 475 Fall Senior Service Practicum (1 cr)
PWR 477 Fall Senior Project (1 cr)
PWR 474 Spring Senior Internship (1 cr)
PWR 476 Spring Senior Service Practicum (1 cr)
PWR 478 Spring Senior Project (1 cr)

Three of the following pairs of courses:
PWR 251/252 Reporting/Copyediting & Layout (6 crs)
PWR 253/254 Web Auth/Web Interface Design (6 crs)
PWR 255/256 Intro. to Video Production/Intermediate Video Production (6 crs)
PWR 226/325 or 327 Visual Design and Desktop Publishing/ Image Editing or Illustration (6 crs)

Subtotal: (36 crs)

English/Literature Component:
ENG 224 Professional Speaking (3 crs)
ENG 3XX 1 Literature elective beyond 4xx (3 crs)

Subtotal: (6 crs)
PWR Electives Choose a minimum of 2 courses (6 crs)

(48 crs)

Professional Communications Minor:
PWR 135 or 240 Principles of Communication or Writing for Media (3 crs)
PWR 342 or 344 Media Ethics or Media Law (3 crs)
PWR 473/474 Internship (optional) (1 cr)

Two of the following pairs of courses:
PWR 226/325 or 327 Visual Design and Desktop Publishing/ Image Editing or Illustration (6 crs)
PWR 251/252 or 253/254 Reporting/Copyediting & Layout/ Web Auth/Web Interface Design (6 crs)
PWR 255/256 or 253/254 Intro. to Video Production/Intermediate Video Production (6 crs)

(18 crs)

Interdisciplinary Programs

The Professional Communications Program also cooperates with other departments to make available special interdisciplinary programs. These programs can be independent majors, a minor to complement your major in communications or another field, or an independent study program tailored to your career aspirations.

Examples of possible interdisciplinary programs include:

- Integrated Marketing Communications
- Pre-Law
- Integrated Marketing Communications
- Web Authoring
- Web Mastering
- Media Studies
- Catholic Journalism/Religious Journalism
- Writing in the Science and Health Professions
Course Descriptions

PWR Core

**PWR 135 Principles of Professional Communication (3 crs)**
Survey of essential concepts and skills for effective communication in media, business and personal life with emphasis on communicating with the new digital and computer technologies in ways that foster fuller development of the human person. This course assumes knowledge of computers and word processing. Required for English and Professional Communications majors and recommended for all who want to improve their computer literacy, word processing, interpersonal communication and Internet skills. No prerequisite.

**PWR 142 Digital Photography (3 crs)**
Introduction to the history, aesthetics, and principles of photography with an emphasis on the rhetoric of digital photography. Students will explore the history and development of photography and learn the principles of composition, lighting, exposure, and special effects. This course requires the use of a camera with manual settings. Does not count as a PWR elective but does fulfill the Fine Arts core requirement. No prerequisite.

**PWR 226 Introduction to Visual Design and Desktop Publishing (3 crs)**
Fundamentals and techniques of visual design, typography and page layout. Students will complete several portfolio projects useful for job applications in communications, graphics, marketing, management and training. Familiarity with computer, e-mail, word processing and the Internet is required.

**PWR 240 Writing for Media (3 crs)**
Survey of fundamental principles necessary for writing in various media including print and broadcast journalism, public relations, advertising, and the Internet. The course is designed to help students interested in communication and wanting to explore the wide range of opportunities available to professional writers. Writing intensive. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in ENG 105/110 or permission of instructor. Students are encouraged but not required to have taken PWR 135.

**PWR 251 Fundamentals of Reporting (3 crs)**
Examination of and practice in the skills of gathering information and writing news and feature stories with precision, balance and insight. Emphasis on planning and writing strategies, conducting effective interviews and developing the power of observation and research necessary for accurate and vivid description and reporting. Students will produce several stories for their portfolios. Writing intensive. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in ENG 105/110.

**PWR 252 Copyediting and Layout (3 crs)**
Fundamentals and techniques of editing and designing newspaper and magazine pages and online publications for clarity, accuracy and impact. Emphasis on an audience-centered approach to editing and page design that ensures that readers and viewers see and care. Students will produce several page design projects for their portfolios. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in ENG 105/110.

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PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATIONS - Recommended Course Sequence

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<td>PWR 135</td>
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<td>PWR 251, 253,</td>
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<td>255 or 226</td>
<td>255 or 226</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>LIT 250</td>
<td>RST 106/107</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 105/110</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Science</td>
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<td>MAT Core</td>
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<td>PHI 205</td>
<td>LIT Elective (Core)</td>
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| **SPRING** |
| PHI 105 | 3 | ENG 224 | PWR Elective |
| HIS 120 | 3 | PWR 252, 254, | LIT Elective |
| LIT 120 | 3 | 256 or 325 | Science |
| MOL | 3 | Elective | RST 2xx/3xx |
| Elective | 3 | PHI 205 | PWR 252, 254 |
| Semester total | 15 | 15 | 15 |

Total Credits 31 30 30 30 121
PWR 253 Web and Multimedia Authoring (3 crs)
Introduction to the principles and process of designing, writing and coding websites using XHTML, CSS, and Javascript. Emphasis on an audience-centered approach to planning, non-linear writing, and web design that reflects the effective integration of writing and graphics. Course will include the documented development and design of several websites. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 254 Web Interface Design (3 crs)
Emphasis on designing, authoring, and managing more sophisticated websites focusing on animation principles, site architecture, navigation schemes, and appropriate interactivity. Students will make extensive use of vector animation and authoring technologies such as Flash and ActionScript. Course will include the documented development and design of several multimedia web products. Writing and graphic design intensive. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 255 Introduction to Video Production (3 crs)
An introduction to the fundamentals of video and audio production. This course offers an intensive, hands-on experience with digital video production tools and the techniques of studio and field camera operations, lighting, audio principles, video signals and recordings, editing, scripting, graphics, and directing. Students will also be introduced to the rhetorical issues involved in video scriptwriting and production. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 256 Intermediate Video Production (3 crs)
Further experience in the principles and techniques of video writing and production. Emphasis on narrative design, effective production planning and teamwork, working with various formats, and digital editing and effects. Students will focus on the rhetorical issues that guide the various decisions made in scriptwriting, production, and editing as they complete a substantial video project for a professional client. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR255 or permission of the instructor.

PWR 325 Image Editing (3 crs)
Fundamentals and techniques of digital photography, scanning and digital image editing using software such as Adobe Photoshop. Emphasis on color theory and preparation of digital images for a variety of uses. Students will complete several portfolio projects useful for job applications in communications, graphics, marketing, management and training. Familiarity with computer, e-mail and the Internet required. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 327 Illustration (3 crs)
Fundamentals and techniques of digital illustration using software such as Adobe Illustrator. Emphasis on learning to see and analyze visual subjects and make appropriate use of graphic elements and techniques such as geometric primitives, line, shape, texture, value, color, positive and negative space, foreshortening, and perspective. Students will complete several portfolio projects useful for job applications in communications, graphics, marketing, management and training. Familiarity with computer, e-mail and the Internet required. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 342 Media Ethics (3 crs)
Examination of the moral issues facing communicators in a professional world characterized by complex and rapidly changing technologies and social conditions. Emphasis on identifying enduring personal virtues necessary to communicate in ways that respect human dignity, human ends, common goods, and social justice. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 344 Media Law (3 crs)
Discussion of the Anglo-American concept of freedom of speech and press and its relationship to democracy, citizenship, and the common good; analysis of major court cases, statutes and administrative regulations affecting freedom of information, publishing, advertising, and telecommunication. Exploration of problems and issues concerning libel and slander, rights in news and advertising, contempt, copyright, and invasion of privacy. Excellent course for pre-law students. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 473, 474 Professional Communications Internships (1 credit each semester)
Guided experience in an actual work environment related to the student's career goals. Minimum of 50 hours per internship. Student keeps log and submits for evaluation. Internships must be completed in different organizations and involve different types of writing. Majors required to take both internship courses; minors may select one internship. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in coursework which prepares the student for the type of writing that the internship will involve. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 475, 476 Professional Communications Service Practicum (1-4 credits each semester)
Course takes a service-learning approach in applying professional communications concepts and skills to enhance the student's employment portfolio, professional contacts and experience. Roles and responsibilities in professional communications are experienced and reflected on through an actual professional communications service experience on campus or in the community. (1-4 credits, 50 hours of service per credit.) A minimum of one service credit is required of all students in both the Fall and Spring semesters of the senior year in order to complete the Professional Communications major. Prerequisites: none.

PWR 477, 478 Senior Seminar and Portfolio (1 credit each semester)
In-depth examination of a current issue/trend in media, professional, or creative writing resulting in a documented media product and a related research paper focusing on the same writing issue connected with that product. The combined project requires a written proposal, public presentation of the project's results and an acceptable document at the end of the course. The student will use the final product as the centerpiece for a professional portfolio. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: Senior standing in Professional Communications.
Electives:

PWR 242 Feature Writing (3 crs)
Examination of and practice in methods of feature writing for newspapers, magazines, and multimedia. Emphasis on effective descriptive and narrative writing techniques that engage all the senses to make the reader see and care. Discussion of freelance issues, developing ideas, working with editors and how to get published. Students will complete several portfolio projects. Writing intensive. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in PWR 251 or permission of the instructor.

PWR 244 Public Relations Writing (3 crs)
Study and practice in the kinds of planning and writing required for effective public relations, including story pitches, news releases, brochures, public service announcements, presentations, speeches, websites, and media kits. Emphasis not only on the various tools available to the public relations practitioner but also the rhetorical process of deciding and justifying which tools are most effective for moving target audiences from initial ignorance to the appropriate intended action. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in ENG 105/110, PWR 251 or permission of the instructor. In addition, MKT 211 and/or MKT 316 are encouraged.

PWR 245: Writing for Advertising (3 crs)
Study and practice in advertising as a critical element of an organization’s total marketing plan. Emphasis on developing consumer profiles, positioning strategies and creative work plans for advertisers as well as conducting proper research and creating effective visual designs and ad copy. Students document and produce ads for print, broadcast, outdoor and other media and also complete an advertising campaign for their portfolio. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in ENG 105/110, PWR 251 or permission of the instructor. Students are strongly encouraged to either have taken or be currently enrolled in PWR 226. In addition, MKT 211 and/or MKT 316 and encouraged.

PWR 246 Technical and Scientific Writing (3 crs)
Introduces rhetorical and visual design principles as well as invention and collaborative practices for transforming technical and scientific information into a variety of documents for non-specialist audiences. Emphasis on translating technical and scientific jargon into language that non-technical audiences can understand without sacrificing clarity, precision, and insight. Practice in managing short- and long-term, as well as individual and collaborative projects. Students will complete several portfolio projects. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in ENG 105/110 or permission of the instructor. Students are encouraged to have completed their science and math core.

PWR 323 Creative Writing Workshop (3crs)
A collegial, collaborative atmosphere for learning to read, write, and talk about fiction and poetry. Extensive reading to develop a sense of technique, especially effective use of figurative language, narrative structure, and characterization. Journal-keeping, drafting exercises and consistent peer-aided revision of student work. Prerequisites: LIT 330 recommended or permission of instructor. Formal entrance application required.

PWR 326 Advanced Desktop Publishing (3crs)
A focus on integrating sophisticated typographical and visual design elements in large projects. Students will produce several major publication projects such as magazines and catalogues that demonstrate an integrated mastery of visual design concepts and rhetoric of visual design. Detailed exploration of advanced desktop publishing technologies such as Quark or Adobe InDesign. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR 226 or permission of instructor.

PWR 347 Introduction to Legal Writing (3 crs)
Introduces the basic tools of legal research and writing--the case method, court structure within with precedent and stare decisis operate, criminal and civil procedure terminology, practice at reading and dissecting cases and an introduction to analyzing a closed universe legal problem (one not requiring legal research). Using the format of a basic office memorandum. Emphasis on clear, objective, and accurate use of language in the kinds of documents required of law students and those whose careers require frequent interpretation of legal language and formats. Students will produce several portfolio examples of legal documents. Writing intensive. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in ENG 105/110. Students are strongly encouraged either to have taken or be concurrently enrolled in POS 330 Constitutional Law.

PWR 353 Advanced Web Standards Design (3crs)
A thorough grounding in the principles and practice of advanced web standards design with an emphasis on cascading style sheets (CSS), meaningful markup, well-structured code, and how CSS layout and content models work. This course is designed to help students interested in web authoring who want to understand the rhetoric of web authoring as well as future trends in the field. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR253 Web Authoring or permission of instructor.

PWR 354 Designing for Web Interactivity (3crs)
A thorough grounding in the principles and practice of advanced web standards design with an emphasis on the document object model (DOM) and scripting languages such as Javascript, well-structured code, and web browser parsing. This course is designed to help students interested in web authoring who want to understand the rhetoric of web authoring as well as future trends in the field. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR253 Web Authoring or PWR 254 Web Interface Design.

PWR 355 Advanced Video Production (3crs)
Further experience in the principles and techniques of video writing and production. Emphasis on narrative design, effective production planning and teamwork, and digital editing and effects with large video projects. Students will focus on the rhetorical issues that guide the various decisions made in scriptwriting, production, and editing as they complete a longer video project for a professional client. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR 256 or permission of instructor.

PWR 356 Film and Documentary Production (3crs)
Through critical analysis and hands-on experience, students explore the art of film and documentary production with the emphasis on visual narrative strategies and techniques. The class also examines the techniques and conceptualizations of established and self-made directors. Production assignments explore film and documentary production techniques so that students develop an understanding of visual objectivity with a critical eye for and appreciation of a genre’s implicit subjectivity. Students will focus on the rhetorical issues that guide the various decisions made in scriptwriting, production, and editing as they complete a film documentary for a professional client. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR 256 or permission of instructor.
PWR 444 Advanced Public Relations (3crs)
Intensive study of the planning and writing skills necessary to put together systematic and effective public relations campaigns. Further emphasis not only on the various tools available to the public relations practitioner but also on the rhetorical process of deciding and justifying which tools are most effective for moving target audiences from initial ignorance to the appropriate intended action. Students will prepare an extensive campaign project for their portfolios. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR 226, PWR 244, PWR 251 AND PWR 252.

PWR 447 Advanced Legal Writing (3crs)
Further development of rhetorical and visual design principles necessary for communicating legal concepts and information to various legal audiences. Focus on open universe litigation documents such as trial and appellate briefs. Emphasis on legal research methods and the clear, concise, complete, and effective presentation of the law. Students will produce several portfolio examples of legal documents. Writing intensive. Prerequisite: 2.0 or better in PWR 347; students are encouraged either to have taken or be concurrently enrolled in POS 331 Civil Rights and Liberties Law.

PWR 451 Advanced Reporting (3crs)
Intensive study and practice of advanced newsgathering, writing, and specialized reporting techniques as well as on news judgment. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: 2.0 or higher in PWR 251 and PWR 252.

PWR 453 Advanced Web Authoring (3crs)
Further development of concepts and skills needed to design, author and manage the development of advanced data-driven websites. Students will form a web authoring team and produce a major project for their portfolios. This course is particularly helpful for those interested in learning how to design e-commerce websites. Writing and graphic design intensive. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in PWR 253/254 or permission of the instructor. Students are encouraged to have taken CSC 330 Database Design and Management.

PWR 454 Advanced Multimedia Authoring (3crs)
Further development of concepts and skills needed to design, author and manage the development of multimedia projects using software such as Macromedia Director. Further exploration of advanced authoring resources with emphasis on the rhetorical issues of effective multimedia communication. Students will form a multimedia development team to produce a major project for their portfolios. Writing and graphic design intensive. Prerequisite: 2.0 or higher in PWR 253/254 or permission of the instructor.

PWR/RST 460 Theology of Social Communications (3crs)
Study of the philosophy and theology of social communications and its application to communications concepts and skills and to the process of contemporary communications work. Emphasis on a critical evaluation of the effect of communications technologies on individuals and groups and of current trends both in the communications of religious organizations and in the reporting of religion by the news media. Writing intensive. Prerequisites: 2.0 or better in completed English and theology cores or permission of instructor.

Fine Arts

Contact Person: John Whitehead, Director of Fine Arts

The fine arts program, and in particular its three minors (in film studies, music, and theater) are at the heart of a liberally educated student's experience. Beyond the fulfillment of a core requirement, students who have matriculated at WJU to prepare for a particular vocational track in a major program will find an outlet for exploring other facets of their personalities and sensibilities in the fine arts minor programs and studio offerings. Systematic study of the fine arts promotes enhanced critical thinking and communication skills and fosters independent and collaborative creativity, qualities that are valuable across a wide range of disciplines and impressive to a wide range of employers and graduate school acceptance committees.

Upon completion of a fine arts minor, students will be able to: demonstrate an understanding of and appreciation for the expressive language of the art; recognize and articulate in discussion and in writing the formal characteristics and thematic intentions of the art; create original work, at a basic level, within the formal discipline of the art.

Requirements for Film Studies Minor:
FAS 130 Film: The Creative Process (3 crs)
FAS 131 Film History (3 crs)
Two of the following:
FAS 132 The Reel World (3 crs)
FAS 133 New Hollywood and Independent Cinema (3 crs)
FAS 134 The Art of Documentary (PWR) (3 crs)
FAS 135 Cinema Genres (3 crs)
FAS 136 Religion and Film (RST 312) (3 crs)
FAS 137 Cinema and the Classical World (3 crs)
FAS 138 Hitchcock and His Heirs (3 crs)
FAS 139 Contemporary Film (3 crs)
FAS 142 Photography (PWR 142) (3 crs)
FAS 251 Film Studies Seminar (3 crs)
FAS 255 Filmmaking (PWR 255) (3 crs)
18 credits

Requirements for the Music Minor:
FAS 120 Introduction to Music (3 crs)
One of the following:
FAS 122 Survey of Western Music (3 crs)
FAS 123 Jazz (3 crs)
FAS 124 Liturgical Music (3 crs)
FAS 241 Music Theory I (3 crs)
FAS 242 Music Theory II (3 crs)
FAS 243 Voice (2 crs)
FAS 244 Applied Music ° (1 credit x 2) (2 crs)
FAS 245 Building Musical Skills (3 crs)
19 credits

Requirements for the Theater Minor:
FAS 110 Introduction to Theater (3 crs)
FAS 111 Theater History (3 crs)
FAS 112 Children’s Theater (3 crs)
FAS 232 Practicum: Stagecraft (2 credits x 2) (4 crs)
One of the following:
FAS 233 Practicum: Acting (2 crs)
FAS 234 Practicum: Directing (2 crs)
FAS 235 Practicum: Playwriting (2 crs)
FAS 322 Studies in Drama (LIT 322) (3 crs)

18 credits

Course Descriptions

Courses in Theater:

FAS 110 Introduction to Theater (3 crs)
Through an examination of the role of theater in society and an in-depth study of theatrical works to understand the various elements that combine to make the theatrical experience, this interactive course provides an understanding of the creative process and develops skills in creativity and critical analysis. Heightened perceptual abilities are developed through field visits to arts events, as well as through class projects.

FAS 111 Theater History (3 crs)
After exploring the elements of theater, students will study the major developments of dramatic theater, beginning in the classical world and traveling straight through our contemporary era. The course will give particular attention to characteristics of the Greek and Roman stage, the evolution through Christian religious sensibilities in the medieval era and into the humanism of the Renaissance and modern periods. Students will explore the relation of theater to society and historical formation.

FAS 112 Children's Theater (3 crs)
This course covers the theory and application of creative dramatics and children's theater activities in education and performance, based in a grounding in the elements of theater. The members of the class will, over the course of the semester, engage in the creation of a children's drama and attend and analyze the annual campus children's production.

FAS 232 Practicum: Stagecraft (2 crs)
Supervised lab practice in design and execution of the mise-en-scène elements of theater, including scenery, lighting, costumes, and properties; sound design; and production and stage management. Operating under the assumption that, in theater, experience is one of the best teachers, students will create a curricular design with FAS faculty. All designs must be pre-approved. Prerequisites: FAS 110.

FAS 233 Practicum: Acting (2 crs)
Supervised and focused lab practice in acting technique through rehearsal and performance in campus productions. Students will focus on script analysis and discovering innate creative sensibilities for empathy with the dramatic motivation of the written character. Operating under the assumption that, in theater, experience is one of the best teachers, students will create a curricular design with FAS faculty. All designs must be pre-approved. Prerequisites: FAS 110, 322.

FAS 235 Practicum: Playwriting (2 crs)
Supervised and focused lab practice in writing a one-act theatrical production to be produced and performed on campus. Operating under the assumption that, in theater, experience is one of the best teachers, students will create a curricular design with FAS faculty. All designs must be pre-approved. Prerequisite: FAS 110, 322.

FAS 322 (LIT 322) Studies in Drama (3 crs)
Study of significant plays from the early Greek to the contemporary stage, together with emphasis on tradition and innovation in dramatic technique. Prerequisites: completed literature core and FAS 110.

Courses in Music:

FAS 120 Introduction to Music (3 crs)
This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles of music via theory, form, and history. Students will have their musical horizons broadened through introduction to a stimulating variety of Western and World musics in high and low cultural forms of musical expression. The object will be to develop students' curiosities about human communication through music, engaging them in creative and academic activities.

FAS 122 Survey of Western Music (3 crs)
This course presents students with a basic overview of the development of music in the western world from Gregorian Chant through the twentieth century. Emphasis will be on the emergence of styles and schools of music and on highlighting significant composers whose works continue to find a place in today's global cultural scene.

FAS 123 Jazz (3 crs)
Students will encounter and learn to differentiate among various jazz styles through active listening and study. This course examines the history and evolution of jazz as an American phenomenon and creates the basis for exploring and identifying jazz elements in the world music scene.

FAS 124 Liturgical Music (3 crs)
The music of worship has been much beloved and hotly contested for more than a millenium. This course explores liturgical music styles and elements in Catholicism and Protestantism from Gregorian Chant through Vatican II. Students will be introduced to musical settings and practice through a variety of chapel and parish on-site visits.

FAS 125 Music and Movies (3 crs)
Some of the most important orchestral composition, arrangement, and performance in contemporary music is undertaken in collaboration with filmmakers. Through a study of the legendary film score composers from Bernard Herrmann to John Williams to Philip Glass, students will explore the choreographic synergy of motion pictures and music.

FAS 241 Music Theory I (3 crs)
The Music Theory sequence rigorously builds on the elementary skills learned in FAS 120 and 121. Through increased academic rigor and analysis, this course is designed to equip students with a more advanced knowledge of music notation, enabling them to use that knowledge effectively in various music media. Students will explore notation, scales, modes, harmony, and elementary sight-singing and ear-training, as well as perceiving and writing music through simple exercises in traditional harmony. Prerequisites: FAS 120, 121.
FAS 242 Music Theory II (3 crs)
Rigorously building on the elementary skills introduced in FAS 241, students will progress towards mastery of these skills. Additionally, students will learn basic conducting, score preparation, and simple counterpoint. Significant emphasis will be placed on learning digital music options. Prerequisite: FAS 241.

FAS 243 Voice (2 crs)
Designed for the beginning vocalist, this course emphasizes the development of basic techniques of breath management, posture, tone quality, and diction. Students will explore vocal theory, exercise materials, and an introduction to standard vocal literature. Prerequisites: FAS 120, 121.

FAS 244 Applied Music (1 cr)
This is a practical application course and is equal to the contact hours associated with a two-credit course. Requirements may be satisfied through consultation with the FAS faculty and will include the design of a curricular plan for the semester. All designs must be pre-approved. Activities that may be used to satisfy requirements are private lessons, campus-based ensembles, and independent practice. A component of academic inquiry must accompany any curricular design. Prerequisites: FAS 120, 121.

FAS 245 Building Musical Skills (3 crs)
This course seeks to equip students with the skills in basic musicianship that will introduce the art of music while also laying groundwork for continued musical study and exploration. Students will study essential music theory skills, including rhythms, harmonies, and notation of notes. Potential areas of focus will involve elementary practice and performance, such as simple song-writing and basic vocalization and/or piano-playing.

Courses in Film Studies:

FAS 130 Film: The Creative Process (3 crs)
No artistic process is more collaborative than the filmmaking process, where artists of various talents and expertise, including the dramatic (screenwriter), visual (art director; cinematographer, editor), and the auditory and musical (score composer, sound designer) come together to help realize (and shape) the director's vision of the finished film. Students will explore the auteur approach at one extreme of filmmaking theory all the way through improvisation at the other end of the spectrum, with an emphasis on the various “dialects” of film language that each filmmaker's position contributes to the finished product of a film.

FAS 131 Film History (3 crs)
Movies are a distinctly American art form – invented here and developed by Hollywood into a multi-billion-dollar global industry, one of our country's leading exports. Yet other nations, particularly in Western Europe, have been just as innovative in the emergence of cinema as entertainment and as art. Students will explore cinema classics from the silent era through the digital age, observing the delicate balancing act between aesthetic and commercial impulses.

FAS 132 The Reel World (3 crs)
When we think about movies, we typically think of Hollywood product – what’s playing at the multiplex. But there's a wide world of other cinematic traditions out there, often either influenced by and/or reacting against Hollywood methodology. In turn, American films often gather fresh inspiration from their international counterparts. Students will study classic and contemporary international filmmakers, exploring the ways in which culture influences art – and vice versa.

FAS 133 New Hollywood and Independent Cinema (3 crs)
As an essentially conservative industry, Hollywood has always sought to manufacture crowd-pleasing formulas that swiftly slip into stale predictability. At the commercial fringes, however, filmmakers without big budgets or supervisory constraints take risks and make films that nudge film art (and its audiences) forward. Students will study DIY mavericks (Anderson, the Coens, Coppola, Lee, Soderbergh, Tarantino) of the "Sundance generation," who are aesthetic godchildren of the 1970s directors (Allen, Altman, Coppola, Lucas, Scorsese, Spielberg) who changed the formal language of film.

FAS 134 The Art of Documentary (3 crs)
The powerful impressions made by fictional film narratives routinely persuade us of the reality of whatever we see and hear in a film. Such expressive formal power may also be used to inform, provoke, and/or move us about social and political realities. Using an understanding of film language, students will distinguish between rhetorical modes and categories of non-fiction filmmaking, exploring classic and contemporary cinematic agitprop, essays, and reportage.

FAS 135 Cinema Genres (3 crs)
Movie narratives come in many tidy packages, called genre forms – comedy, romance, western, crime, horror, and many more. These narrative forms provide orientation for an audience: we know what to expect and how to understand stories based in an innate acculturation to the arc of these narratives. Students will become familiar with several of the generic formulas of film and/or study one genre in depth, focusing on how film language helps to solidify (or subversively undercut, for thematic reasons) our consumption of narratives; films studied will include traditional examples of the genre and contemporary variations. Likely genre subjects for in-depth study are The Western, Film Noir, and Horror.

FAS 136 (RST 312) Religion and Film (3 crs)
An examination of select films which present religious issues in a way that stimulates the religious imagination and theological reflection. The films may be organized around a theme (e.g., suffering, death, and hope; the sacramentality of everyday life; the quest for God; religious commitment and moral decision-making) or around a selection of filmmakers whose films reveal various religious interests. Prerequisites: RST 106 or 107.

FAS 137 Cinema and the Classical World (3 crs)
Like the rest of the culture, filmmakers in Hollywood and beyond have maintained a fascination for the ancient worlds of Greece and Rome. Through a study of significant film traditions and masterpieces from the silent era to the Golden-Age epics through modern blockbusters of classical history and mythology, students will explore source materials for these narratives and examine the modern motives for telling (or sometimes drastically retelling) these stories.
FAS 138 Hitchcock and His Heirs (3 crs)
Alfred Hitchcock, the medium of cinema, and the Twentieth Century were born within a few years of one another, and together they grew up. Hitchcock is in many ways the classic correspondent of that rich and troubled century. He mastered the use of what he called “pure cinema,” and from film noir and the great European cinema traditions, he invented the modern suspense and horror film genres. This course will study several of his masterpieces, then explore his influence on two subsequent generations of filmmakers.

FAS 139 Contemporary Film (3 crs)
This course explores significant films made in and beyond Hollywood since 1995, including blockbusters, independent cinema, and international films. Films with the potential to have a lasting influence or impact upon the business or art of moviemaking will receive particular attention.

FAS 251 Film Studies Seminar (3 crs)
The language of film creates a sophisticated web of signs and symbols that both reflect and shape cultural perceptions of gender, race, class, and religious identity. Through careful study of examples from blockbuster mega-hits and artistic masterpieces of cinema, students will explore the ways in which ideology communicates to and through films we might otherwise view “merely” as entertainment. Students will begin to develop a personal poetics of cinema. Prerequisites: FAS 130 and 131.

FAS 255 (PWR 255) Introduction to Filmmaking (3 crs)
An introduction to the fundamentals of video and audio production. This course offers an intensive, hands-on experience with digital video production tools and the techniques of studio and field camera operations, lighting, audio principles, video signals and recordings, editing, scripting, graphics, and directing. Students will also be introduced to the rhetorical issues involved in video scriptwriting and production. Prerequisites: FAS 130 and 131.

Additional Courses in Fine Arts:
FAS 140 Introduction to Visual Art (3 crs)
This course examines the visual elements, their nature, functions, and relationships in painting, sculpture, architecture and industrial design. Along with formal analysis of various artworks a brief survey of painting, sculpture, and architecture from prehistoric times to the present stressing critical thinking will also be explored. Some central questions we will address are: What is art? What is beauty? What is kitsch? Are artists crazy? Is art necessary for human beings?

FAS 141 Religion and Art (3 crs)
If all art is communication, religious art is an attempt to communicate specifically about spiritual experience. Within the context of this course, such communication may take the form of prayerful communion with and about God or of commentary about religious experience. In any form, artistic communication is meant to be absorbed by an audience. Students will explore varieties of religious communication (via several media, including painting, sculpture, architecture, and video) with an equal focus on the formal elements and the artist’s intention.

FAS 142 (PWR 142) Photography (3 crs)
This course introduces students to the history, aesthetics, and principles of photography with an emphasis on the rhetoric of digital photography. Students will explore the history and development of photography and learn the principles of composition, lighting, exposure, and special effects. This course has no prerequisites but requires the use of a camera with manual settings.

FAS 143 Women and Art (3 crs)
The history and practice of Western art is profoundly male-dominated, reflecting the larger patriarchal hegemony that has ruled the centers of art patronage since classical times. Yet women have exercised an increasingly resonant voice in artistic expression since the early modern era in Western Europe. Examining major “old master” artists such as Artemisia Gentileschi and Marie-Louise-Élisabeth Vigée-Lebrun and transitional Impressionists such as Mary Cassatt and Berthe Morisot, the class will encounter the explosion of modern artistic creativity by women in the twentieth century and the contemporary art world.

FAS 144 Classical Art and Archaeology (3 crs)
This course provides an outline of the major developments in classical Greek and Roman art and archaeology. Chronologically, the material in the course spans the Minoan to the Hellenistic periods in Greek culture, and the Etruscan to the late Roman and early Christian eras in Roman culture (approximately 3000 BCE – 350 CE). Aspects of Greek and Roman life and society such as religion, military life, burial practices, and interaction with other cultures are integrated into the study of the material remains of ancient Greece and Rome.

FAS 145 Architecture (3 crs)
The structures that humans have built and continue to build for themselves have a variety of functions, from the elemental provision for shelter, to grandiose claims about power, to genuine communication about self-identity, community, and theology. Certain basic assumptions about design persist; this course will begin with the elements of architectural vision and extend to questions and issues centered around what the great Chicago architect Louis Sullivan summed up in his famous statement, “form follows function.” Textbook examples will be balanced by field-trip study.

FAS 146 Major Painters (3 crs)
One of the great Romantic images of western culture is the solitary artist, envisioning the world, then capturing that vision on a frescoed wall, wood panel, or stretched canvas. This course examines the development of the western painting tradition from the Gothic era forward, acknowledging the influence of the classical world and other cultural traditions of image-making. Discussion will also consider a reassessment of canonical assumptions about “greatness.” While some emphasis will be placed on styles or schools, focus will be on representative geniuses of those schools, from Giotto through Warhol.

FAS 147 Hand and the Eye: Beginning Visual Art (3 crs)
The relationship of inner-vision (what the mind sees) and creation (what the artist’s hands produce) is the focus of this introductory course; there are no prerequisites for interested students other than an open mind to exploring their own creative directions and the work of other artists, both canonical and contemporary. Along with a solid grounding in the practical elements of two- and three-dimensional art, students will experience (with eyes and hands) at least the rudiments of drawing, watercolor painting, or sculpting.
FAS 263 Basic Drawing (2 crs)
Drawing is a learned skill based on hand-eye coordination; anyone can learn the basics of drawing. This course is an introduction to basic principles and techniques of drawing using a variety of media and subjects. This course emphasizes drawing from observation as a means to develop perceptual and technical skills as well as visual imagination. It includes line contour drawing, gesture, perspective, and systems of spatial organization.

FAS 262 Basic Watercolor (2 crs)
In this course beginning watercolor students will gain a foundation of basic watercolor concepts, skills, and materials with an emphasis on the use of watercolor and watercolor mediums. They will also explore color, form, and composition and connect things with image and idea development. Landscapes, self-portraits, and still-life from direct observation and from photographs will be explored. Individual and group critiques are also a part of any studio class.

FAS 271 Modern Dance (2 crs)
This course explores the fundamental concepts and techniques of modern dance including floor stretch, center work, locomotor sequences, and dance combinations. The student will define, demonstrate, and perform flexibility, coordination, rhythmic and dynamic perception, control, and strength.

FAS 275 Modern Jazz Dance (2 crs)
This beginning-level dance class uses Luigi style technique and focuses on jazz movement style and rhythms. This is a class for those who want to unleash their creativity and let loose.

FAS 276 Ballet (2 crs)
This course is a basic, elementary-level introduction to ballet technique. Terminology and stylistic concepts will be introduced with a strong emphasis on correct alignment.

First Year Program

Contact Person: Helen M. Faso, Ph.D.

The First Year Program is designed to aid students with their transition to Wheeling Jesuit University. Its goal is to offer students the tools necessary to succeed. Faculty lead the seminar sections and conduct classes on skills such as time management, note-taking and public speaking. Faculty also work closely with the students, trying to foster a sense of community and belonging. Wellness programs which reflect the developmental needs of first year students are presented. In keeping with the Jesuit tradition of service to others, all First Year Program students participate in “Make A Difference Day” where their services are offered to the greater Wheeling community. All first year students are required to participate in the First Year Program. This one credit course is taken in the fall of a student’s first year.

Course Descriptions

FYS 101 First Year Seminar (1 cr)
Introduction to college. Emphasizes basic skills, social concerns and developing a sense of community at Wheeling Jesuit University.

FYS 102 First Year Seminar II (1 cr)
Advanced work on time management, study skills, organization and responsibility. Prerequisite: Permission of Associate Academic Dean.

FYS 103 Choosing a College Major (1 cr)
This course is intended for freshmen and sophomores who have not identified a college major or are thinking about changing their major. The purpose of the course is to facilitate the development of self-knowledge regarding interests, values, skills and personality, and to show how such self-knowledge influences the choice of a college major and career. Students will also learn about the career decision-making process and how their own thinking patterns can help or hinder their career development.