

# LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Learning communities offer students the opportunity to share a small, dynamic group learning experience focused on a common theme. The communities connect two or three courses that count towards general education requirements. Working together with specially selected Salem State University faculty, you will have the opportunity to immerse yourself in a learning experience designed to help you discover your personal strengths and talents while forming strong bonds with your fellow students and the faculty.

Each community is limited to 20 students. Registration in one section of a learning community requires registration in all sections of that learning community. Students may register in advance by completing the form located online at [salemstate.edu/firstyear/LC](http://salemstate.edu/firstyear/LC) (beginning April 29) or by submitting the form at orientation. *If you are interested in participating in a learning community, we strongly recommend that you guarantee your space by submitting the form prior to coming to orientation.*

## FALL 2013 COURSES

### Education and Health for a Sustainable Earth and Self

**EDU 100-04 The Premise of the School, Professor Worster**  
**SMS 194-22 Health and Wellness, Professor Schoen**

**M 8-10:30**  
**M 1:30-4**

How does the environment and stewardship of the environment contribute to one's overall health and wellness? What environmental issues affect our surrounding community? What do food and food industrialization have to do with how we live our daily lives? How can one integrate environmental learning into teaching elementary education? Join this learning community to explore ways to develop sustainable actions that foster and improve our emotional and physical well-being, and the ways that our increased knowledge of human and ecological communities promote a sense of place and belonging. **(Participation in this learning community fulfills your General Education Core Requirements for Health and Elementary Education major's Premise of the School course.)**

### Modern South Asia: Tradition and Change on the Indian Subcontinent

**MUS 112-01 Intro to World Music, Professor Kvetko**  
**HST 102-07 World History II, Professor Louro**

**TR, 1:40-2:55**  
**TR, 3:05-4:20**

As an area of both historical and contemporary significance, South Asia (India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Bhutan) is a vast, diverse, and complex region. Students will explore the relationship between tradition and change through topics such as colonialism, religious fundamentalism, popular culture, and traditional arts in the process of becoming well-informed global citizens themselves. Learn about the current trends and issues impacting South Asia from the outsourcing of jobs to the cultural messages portrayed in films such as *Slumdog Millionaire*. Find your inner musician by experimenting with traditional drums and sitars. This energetic and fun learning community will be sure to get you excited about music and history from a unique perspective. **(Participation in this learning community fulfills your General Education Core Requirements for World History II as well as a Division I elective and a Diversity (V) requirement.)**

## Veteran Scholars

**SPC 101A-17 Public Speaking, Professor Kiernan**

**WF 9:25-10:40**

**HST 102-03 World History II, Professor Darien**

**WF 10:50-12:05**

**IDS 189-07 Seminar in Interdisciplinary Studies, Professor Poitevin**

**TR 12:15-1:30**

The veteran scholars learning community offers students who have served or are serving in the military the opportunity to complete some of their core requirements with a group of their peers. Each course in the learning community will focus on the general theme of citizenship and students will actively pursue connections between course subjects. Some of the questions the learning community will consider may include: What does it mean to be a citizen in a community or a nation? What might constitute "global citizenship"? What sets of skills, knowledge or behaviors are necessary for "good citizenship"? In what ways might military service prepare individuals for lives of responsible citizenship?

**(Participation in this learning community fulfills your General Education Core Requirements for World History II and Public Speaking as well as Freshman Seminar in IDS for undeclared students. If you have chosen a major, Freshman Seminar in IDS will fulfill a Division I or Division III Elective.)**

## Gender and Identity

**PSY 101-20 General Psychology, Professor Noonan**

**WF, 9:25-10:40**

**ENL 160-02 Literature 1: Reading Broadly, Professor Valens**

**WF, 10:50-12:05**

**ENL 103-01 Composition II for English Majors, Professor Scrimgeour**

**WF, 1:40-2:55**

Who are you? When you describe yourself, do you identify as a particular gender? How male (or masculine) are you? How female (or feminine) are you? How did you learn what it means to be male or female? Does this concept of gender even matter at all? Does it matter how we describe ourselves along these lines? Join this learning community to engage in exploring concepts of gender and identity through reading literature, writing a variety of compositional forms and examining how these topics are treated in psychological studies.

**(Participation in this learning community fulfills your General Education Core Requirements for a Division III Elective, Literature I and Composition II. You do NOT need to be an English major to take and get credit for ENL 103-01.)**

## Creating a Happy Life (for Undeclared students only)

**IDS 189-08 Seminar in Interdisciplinary Studies, Professor Gubbins**

**MWF, 10-10:50**

**ENL 101-13 Composition I, Professor O'Neil**

**WF, 11-12:15**

What is a happy life? What do meaningful lives look like? Is it in our power to create a happy life? Are some careers more fulfilling than others? Is it possible to enjoy college while forging a path to a good career and a good life? What majors will lead to what careers? Sign up for this learning community and discover how to get the most out of your college experience and how to carve out your path to a happy and successful career and life. This learning community will take the fear and confusion out of college and deciding what comes next.

**(Participation in this learning community fulfills your General Education Core Requirements for Composition I and Freshman Seminar in IDS for undeclared students.)**

## QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

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