First Year Inquiry (FYI) Courses

Part of the Essential Studies (general education) program is the First Year Inquiry requirement (FYI). FYI courses help students develop the inquiry skills (critical thinking, research, communication) needed for success in college and beyond.

Transfer students may be REQUIRED to take a total of 6 credit hours of FYI. Students can take one 6 credit FYI course OR two 3 credit FYI courses. Please choose your FYI based on a topic you will ENJOY—this is imperative to your success in the course. Read the course descriptions below before making your selection.

Students will be enrolled in their FYI choices on a first come first serve basis, based on the availability in the term. If your first and/or second FYI choices are filled, you will be added to the waitlist accordingly.

**Home on the Range: Fall 2015—6 credits**
The course is divided into three thematic units, all focusing on the relations and interactions between organisms and their environment, with an emphasis on human ecology, as expressed through disciplines in both the arts (writing, film, the visual and performing arts, etc.) and the sciences (especially in the arena of agriculture and rangeland management). The three thematic units include: The Land (rangeland ecology); The Homestead (animal science and livestock management); and The Wilderness (hunting, recreation and wildlife management).

**Relationships 2.0: Fall 2015—3 credits**
Human relationships in the 21st century will be explored in all dimensions: Social and familial, biological and physical, cognitive and psychological. Development of positive interpersonal relationships, improved communication skills, personal sexual health awareness, responsible decision-making and critical thinking skills will be the focus of this study.

**Mathletics: Not for Spectators: Fall 2015—6 credits**
Discussion of various sports and the relationships of the sports to exercise science and mathematics. We will explore how the body works when hitting a baseball, hitting a golf ball, playing billiards, shooting a basketball, and playing tennis. From this, we will integrate mathematics through the use of statistics, geometry, and trigonometry. Students will be asked to participate in various aspects of each of the above named activities.

**Survival Skills 101: Fall 2015—3 credits**
This course is a study of Abraham Maslow’s Hierarchy of Basic Needs theory as it applies to the traditional college age student. From the basic needs of food, clothing, and shelter, to the higher needs of esteem and self-actualization, this course asks students to discover the methods and means of making considered choices, regarding basic needs.

**A Better You Through Financial & Physical Health: Fall 2015 OR Spring 2016—6 credits**
This course aims to give students the needed foundation for both a physical and financially healthy life by addressing the components of each and how they are interrelated.

**Opening Pandora’s Music Box: Fall 2015 OR Spring 2016—3 credits**
Music is universal to world cultures, and music can act as a language. However music is not a universal language. How is music produced? What are the fundamental components? What is common to different cultures? Opening Pandora's Music Box explores the physiology and cultural aspects of creating music. Students will explore the motivation for the creation and appreciation of music. The course culminates with a project creating new sounds.
**Nutrition, Weight Loss & Wellness: Fall 2015 OR Spring 2016—3 credits**
A recurring issue in American life is overweight and obesity. This course provides the opportunity for you (students) to inquire and come to conclusions about weight loss methods and diets (weight management), based on the science of nutrition and the theme of wellness. Whether you desire to lose weight, or you want to work with others in resolving their weight issues and maximizing wellness, this course may be for you! This course will help you unlock the mysteries of nutrition, weight, and wellness.

**The 20th Century American Road: Spring 2016—6 credits**
This course examines the history of the American highway in the twentieth century—how highways came to be and what consequences they had for American history, literature and film. The road has been the means by which the western frontier has been expanded; it has also been the locus of escape, exile, dispossession and self-discovery. The road, both actual and imagined, has created a body of literature and film that is distinctly American.

**Fashionomics: Spring 2016—3 credits**
A study of the historic, political, economic, psychological, and social influences of fashion in the global community. Critical thinking and practical reasoning skills will be incorporated with the inquiry process to develop informed, conscientious consumer decisions.

**FULLY ONLINE FYI OPTIONS**

**Analyzing Adolescence: 1st 8 weeks Spring 2016—3 credits**
Adolescence spans the years from eleven to nineteen, a time of dramatic physical, emotional, and intellectual changes. Early, middle and late adolescent development is a unique time of life as puberty, changing gender roles, and more autonomous relationships with parents and peers grow and develop. Adolescent development will be explored from a variety of interdisciplinary perspectives.

**Improving Your Influence: Through the Power of Information and Knowledge- Spring 2016- Full Term- 6 credits**
Students will describe and practice skills involved in critical inquiry and creative problem solving through interdisciplinary, collaborative engagement of information and knowledge as power in the business and educational setting.

**Making Cents of Petroleum- Spring 2016- Full Term- 6 credits**
Examination of the challenge of meeting the demand for petroleum resources both nationally and globally. You will explore the dynamic balance between supplying a petroleum product and protecting the environment while utilizing ethical business practices. Ultimately you will explore how we can provide sustainable energy resources.