Spring 2013

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CORE 102, Sections 15, 31, and 57 - "Student Action and Social Change," Taught by Dr. Michele Ren (Sect 28) and her teaching team, Mr. Tom Gaffney (Sect 15), and Ms. Julianna Jones (Sect 57). CORE 102 at RU is designed to develop students' writing and speaking skills with emphasis on logic and information literacy (how to use emerging technologies, library databases, etc.). Students will learn to recognize arguments, to evaluate sources and to form/support claims. In these S-C sections of CORE 102, we will begin by analyzing various student organizations and/or movements that have tried to contribute positively to the world around us. We will then turn our attention towards how we might use the resources available to us at RU in order to do the same. Students will produce an analysis of a student movement or organization, and a researched argument about how skills learned in CORE 102 might help them to contribute to a particular local or global cause. Preliminary data about said cause will be presented in a poster session at the annual Undergraduate/Graduate Engagement Forum.

CORE 102, 12, 26, and 34 - "Active Minds, Active Citizens," Taught by Dr. Frank Napolitano. Further development of students' writing and speaking skills with attention to applied critical thinking and information literacy. The course will introduce students to basic elements of reasoning and critical thinking and their use in persuasive communication. Students will develop competency in information literacy and will learn the basic mechanics of public speaking by making oral presentations.

SOCY 486 - "Engaging the Community" (3), Taught by Dr. Mary LaLone, TR 2:00-3:15. Learn the most effective community-based approaches, methods, and career skills for successfully partnering with community groups to carry out applied research in community development, social services, health care, education, environmental action, heritage preservation, and more topics tailored to student interests. Includes a 3-4 week experience in which you apply your skills to assist a community organization, the Wilderness Road Regional Museum (http://www.newriverheritage.org/members-wildernessroad.htm), engaging in student-community collaborative brainstorming and problem-solving. Excellent career training and resume-building Scholar-Citizen class.

WMST 101, Sections and 1 & 2 - Taught by Dr. Michele Ren. Study the concept of gender and its links to women's issues both at home and abroad. In addition to the required essays on course materials, which will ask students to relate feminist texts to their own experiences and perceptions, students will be asked to apply theories about women and gender learned in the classroom to at least 3 women's history month events, an interview with/profile of an older woman, and a cultural artifact (via classroom presentation plus RU women's studies blog post).
Honors/Scholar-Citizen CORE 202 - Topics in Ethical Inquiry: Floyd County Place-Based Education Oral History Project, Taught by Dr. Melinda Wagner, R 11:00-1:45. Prepare to be a Scholar-Citizen by practicing sociological skills of observation, interviewing, and movie-making in Spring 2013 CORE 202 where you will mentor Floyd County High School students in a place-based education project focused on interviewing community elders and producing movies about their lives.

PHIL 366 -The US, France, and Their 18th Century Revolutions: The Citizen Scholar View, Taught by Dr. Joe Jones. This course addresses the intellectual origins of the Constitution of the United States. Using conservative (Forrest McDonald) and mainstream (Gordon Wood) authors, students will be given the opportunity to place the founding fathers in their social, political, historical and intellectual place in the eighteenth century. Basic notions necessary to understand the Constitution, such as republicanism and/or freedom, will be defined, explained, and also placed in context. Just prior to Spring Break, students will have the opportunity to visit the Anderson House in Washington, DC, home to the Society of the Cincinnati, where a guest lawyer/lecturer will explain the purpose of the society and the relationship between France and the United States during the American Revolution.