

Dear Humanities Undergraduate,

The School of Humanities is offering a new course for Humanities majors this spring called Humanities 197 First Gen Experiences and Inquiries in the Humanities. This is an exciting opportunity for first-generation college students to engage with Humanities faculty and learn more about how a Humanities education and the first-generation experience are deeply linked. Students are not required to be first-gen to enroll.

This course will take place Wednesdays 12-1pm this spring quarter and will be co-led by professors Marcello Fiocco (Philosophy) and Laura O'Connor (English). Each week a new Humanities faculty member will also lead a discussion around the first-gen experience and their work in Humanities. Students will be graded based on attendance and short reflection activities. This course is Pass/No Pass only for 1 unit of workload credit. Interested students should fill out the Google form linked below. Students will be sent enrollment information and meeting room in a separate email during spring break after the course has been authorized to be added to the Schedule of Classes.

Link to Google Form for Enrollment: <https://forms.gle/1PP8vajHxMEwfz9V9>

Course Description: There is no uniform “First Gen Experience”—there are ever so many experiences given the diversity of backgrounds, interests, temperaments, strengths, concerns, etc. that First Gen students have. In this seminar, taught by First Gen faculty and other allies of First Gen students, we will consider a number of topics that might be of interest to First Gen students and usefully explored by them. The purpose of the seminar will be to reveal to students the different perspectives on First Gen Experiences afforded by fields in the Humanities and illustrate how the different methodologies of these fields might deepen and illuminate these experiences. Conversely, the seminar will provide students with the means to see how their distinctive perspectives and experiences might fit into and enrich different fields in the Humanities. The seminar will also provide an opportunity for First Gen students to interact in a casual context with a number of supportive faculty from the School of Humanities.

Goals and Learning Outcomes:

- Learn about the Humanities and its different methodologies through exposure to a number of different fields and topics
- Understand how one’s personal experiences might contribute to and enrich the different fields of humanistic inquiry
- Interact and develop meaningful relationships with: other students, faculty, and staff
- Learn about opportunities on campus and how to pursue them
- Learn strategies for discussing work in the humanities
- Reflect on first gen identities
- Develop goals for future quarters and beyond

If you have any questions about this course please email Whitney Young at [youngw@uci.edu](mailto:youngw@uci.edu).

Best,

Humanities Office of Undergraduate Study