UMD SEMINAR OPTIONS

WHICH OPTION IS FOR YOU?

UMD Seminar is designed to get our students off to the best start possible!

Our general-purpose sections cover most of the issues you will face during your first semester at UMD, and give you the chance to meet students from all across the university.

The UMD Seminar special-topics sections provide you with the chance to explore specific interests, build unique skill-sets, and meet other students with similar backgrounds & experiences.

FALL 2017

2 CR. SPECIAL TOPICS SECTIONS:

BUILDING STRENGTH
Stacy Crawford (Sec. 29 – Tue 4-5:50pm)

Ever wanted to be a superhero? Using the Gallup Strengths Finder tool, we will explore our personal super powers and learn how to use them with laser-like accuracy. We will also learn stress reduction skills so, by the end of the semester, you will be able to leap tall buildings in a single bound, or at least finish all of your papers, study for your exams, and remain balanced.

SOCCER, SOCIETY & CULTURE
Fernando Delgado (Sec. 64 – Tue/Thu, 2-2:50pm)

Authors such as David Goldblatt, Simon Kuper and Franklin Foer have suggested that soccer can explain the world. I believe, however, that the sport can do even more, including revealing some important dimensions about how people interrelate with each other and the environment around them.

CONNECTION TO CAMPUS
Jeni Eltink (Sec. 47 – Mon/Wed, 2-2:50pm)

True story: getting involved at UMD is not only fun, but it increases your chances of graduating. Join our guided exploration of UMD’s hundreds of opportunities, meet new people, and find your place at UMD.

SUSTAINABILITY
Ryan Hueffmeier (Sec. 18 – Tue/Thu, 8-8:50am)

Interested in sustainability, food issues, energy sources and our impact on the planet? Do you want to build leadership skills while having a positive impact on our campus? This course will introduce you to the broad topic of sustainability, as well as ways to engage with your peers, faculty and staff.

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY
Niki Pechinski (Sec. 72 – Mo/We, 1-1:50pm)

Love it or hate it, money is a part of our lives. Learn about how to manage money and decrease your financial stress in the process.

1 CR. SPECIAL TOPICS SECTIONS

BORN TO RUN
Mia O’Brien (Sec. 63 – Tue, 2-2:50pm)

Runners. Exercise Scientists. Nutritionists. Anthropologists. Adventurers. Would you like to explore your interests and how they overlap? If your interest is in physiology, running culture, or music about running from Springsteen to OnCue, this might be the UMD Seminar Section for you.
AMERICAN MELODRAMA
Samuel T. Shanks (Sec. 60 – Tue, 1-1:50pm)

From the plays of the 19th Century through 21st Century blockbusters like Rogue One, the history of our nation’s culture has been anchored by melodrama. In this section, we will use melodrama as a lens for exploring who we are, what we value, and how this affects our lives at UMD.

FEEDING AND CARE OF CREATIVE MINDS
Peter Spooner (Sec 12 – Wed 4pm)

Art can be a potent form of self-inquiry, a powerful tool of social justice, a generator of creative solutions, and an effective means of cross-cultural communication. This section invites you to debate, create, and fully participate in visual art as an interdisciplinary form of inquiry. Along with topics designed to help you manage the transition to college life and academics, we’ll get to know this place through visits to public artworks, museums and galleries, maker spaces, and artist’s studios.

ESCAPING THE ECHO CHAMBER
Kim Pittman (Sec. 55 – Tue 11am)

In a perfect world, our online experiences would help us encounter new ideas, diverse people, and varied perspectives. In reality, our interactions online are more like an echo chamber where we are exposed primarily to points of view like our own. In this section, we will reflect on our online habits, learn to respectfully debate ideas, and explore ways to extend our comfort zones.

STRESS MANAGEMENT FOR THE COLLEGE FIRST-YEAR
Christine Schilling (Sec 61 – Thu, 1pm)

What causes stress? Why do people handle stress differently? How do people around the world do things differently? This course will develop each student’s multi-disciplinary critical thinking skills, ability to participate in vigorous civil discourse, and explore stress management techniques to be used in real life.

ADDITIONAL SPECIALIZED SECTIONS:

NATIVE STUDENTS
Heidi Labyad (Sec. 49 – Tue 9am)
This section is reserved for Native American students.

STUDENTS OF COLOR
Susana Woodward (Sec 11 – Mon 4pm)
This section is reserved for students of color.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Susana Woodward (Sec 27 – Tue 4pm)
This section is reserved for international students.

VETERANS & CURRENT MILITARY PERSONNEL
Corbyn Smyth (Sec 21 – Tue 8am)
Transitioning from Military to Civilian Life as a Student, charting a course for academic success, employing classroom learning tools, and developing classroom camaraderie are the central components of this section, which reserved for veterans and active service personnel.

THEATRE MAJORS
Kelly Grussendorf (Sec 2 – Wed 1pm)
This section is reserved for declared Theatre majors.

MUSIC MAJORS
Elias Mokole (Sec 41 – Wed 11am)
This section is reserved for declared Music majors.

ART & DESIGN MAJORS
Matthew Olin (Sec 40 – W 11am)
This section is reserved for declared Art & Design majors.

LSBE MAJORS
Kurt Guidinger (Sec 17 – Thu 1pm/Sec 67 – Thu 2pm)
This section intended for students majoring in a business field. Unique focus and content will be oriented around the requirements to earn candidacy (i.e. upper division status) in LSBE and the Passport to Professional Success Program.