

George Fox University
GEED 130-β FIRST YEAR SEMINAR
Monday, 3:40-4:45 p.m., Lemmons 2

INSTRUCTOR: Mark David Hall

PEER ADVISORS: Shealtiel Hart and Courtland Sherreitt

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OFFICE: Center Street House, Room 12

❖ COURSE DESCRIPTION

First Year Seminar is designed to help first-year students become part of GFU's Christ-centered scholarly community.

The academic component of this course addresses the relationship between religion and politics/church and state in early America. We will consider questions such as "Did America Have a Christian Founding?" "What is Religious Liberty?" "Were the Founders Deists?" and "Does the First Amendment Require a Wall of Separation Between Church and State?" "What Should Christians Today Think About Politics?"

❖ BOOK

Daniel L. Dreisbach and Mark David Hall, eds. *The Sacred Rights of Conscience* (Indianapolis: Liberty Fund Press, 2009).

❖ COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course is pass/fail. You must earn a "C" to pass, otherwise you will receive an "F."

(1) Students should attend class regularly, do the reading assigned for the day, and be prepared to discuss it. If you must miss class, please let me know why and turn in a 400 word summary and evaluation of the assigned readings. (45% of grade)

(2) Successfully complete all required assignments on Fall 2013 First Year Seminar Calendar (immediately below). (25% of grade)

(3) Write 400-500 word paper answering the following questions:

- What are some significant events that have impacted your life?
- What are some things you hope to do during your lifetime?
- What are some of the reasons you are attending college?
- What do you need to get a good start in college?
- What are some concerns that you have as you start college here?

This paper should be typewritten, with your name, date & box number in the upper right hand corner. You should form an intro, body & conclusion, and proofread before turning the paper in. Points are given for level of consideration of each of the above questions. Due September 9. (10% of grade)

(4) Meet with me between September 10-20 and one peer advisor before October 1. (10% of grade)

(5) Interview a faculty member who teaches in a field in which you have an interest. Ask him or her five-ten questions, including (a) where are you from, (b) what degrees do you hold, (c) what made you decide to become a professor, (d) how do you integrate your faith into your profession, (e) what can one do with a degree in the major, (f) what strengths does one need to be successful your field. Write a 300-400 word essay summarizing the interview. (10% of grade) Due October 4. **[may overlap with second Assess Your Calling assignment.]**

Fall 2013 First Year Seminar Calendar

Week of

1. 9/2	Assignment: Complete Week 1 Questionnaire on FoxTALE
2. 9/9	First Year Seminar Assembly Monday, 9/9, 7:40 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Bauman Auditorium Success at Fox (Rick Muthiah, Associate Director of Learning Support Services)
3. 9/16	Assignment: Complete Week 3 Questionnaire on FoxTALE Optional: 9/16, 8:30-9:30, Hoover 105 - <i>Tattoos on the Heart</i> Book Discussion led by a faculty member
4. 9/23	Assignment: Complete the Learn portion of the <i>Explore Your Calling</i> assignment between September 23 and October 4
5. 9/30	First Year Seminar Assembly Monday, 9/30, 7:40 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Bauman Auditorium Liberal Arts and Life Calling (Phil Smith, Professor of Philosophy) Assignment: Complete Week 5 Questionnaire on FoxTALE Assignment reminder: Complete the Learn portion of the <i>Explore Your Calling</i> assignment between September 23 and October 4
6. 10/7	Assignment: Complete the <i>Assess</i> portion of the <i>Explore Your Calling</i> assignment by October 11 Optional: 10/7, 8:30-9:30, Hoover 105 - <i>Tattoos on the Heart</i> Book Discussion led by Mike Foster, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering
7. 10/14	First Year Seminar Assembly Monday, 10/14, 7:40 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Bauman Auditorium Common Reading Connection (Colette Peters, Director, Oregon Department of Corrections) Assignment: Complete the <i>Reflect</i> portion of the <i>Explore Your Calling</i> assignment by October 18
8. 10/21	

9. 10/28	Optional: 10/28, 8:30-9:30, Hoover 105 - <i>Tattoos on the Heart</i> Book Discussion led by a faculty member
10. 11/4	
11. 11/11	Assignment: Complete end-of-course SurveyMonkey evaluation (as part of grade)

ARC Workshop Schedule (optional)

Attendance will be taken and will be reported to faculty if students list their professors on the attendance sheet. These workshops are an option for your students but are not a required element of the First Year Seminar program. Sessions will be recorded.

Using APA Format Effectively

Presented by Sue O'Donnell, Associate Professor of Psychology

Stressed out because you don't know APA style for citations? This workshop is for you. Sue O'Donnell (Associate Professor of Psychology) will cover American Psychological Association citation and reference formatting, along with several guidelines for writing in APA style.

Friday, September 27, 2013, 10:40 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Hoover 105

Tuesday, October 1, 2013, 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Hoover 105

Steps to Writing a Successful Research Paper

Presented by Gary Tandy, Professor of English, and Jane Scott, Public Services Librarian

Research papers can seem overwhelming, but following a step-by-step, organized approach can make your life much less stressful. This session will walk through those steps and guide you to campus and internet resources to help make you a research pro.

Tuesday, October 15, 2013, 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Hoover 105

Friday, October 18, 2013, 10:40 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Hoover 105

Financial Follies

Presented by Ryan Halley, Associate Professor of Finance

Have you wondered what it would be like to have more freedom with your personal finances? Have you ever been stressed about your financial situation? If so, come find out what you need to know about money. You'll be surprised how simple this process can be. This workshop will provide information on a variety of personal finance topics and will focus on budgeting and credit cards.

Tuesday, October 22, 2013, 7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Hoover 105

Friday, October 25, 2013, 10:40 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Hoover 105

MARK'S TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS

September 2

Introduction

September 6 (Friday), dinner at my house, (3615 Ivy Drive, Newberg): 5:30 until you want to leave.

September 9

A. Colonial America, New England v. South: *Sacred Rights*, 84-87, 93-98 (capital laws-heresie), 112-115.

A few questions about readings: Describe similarities and differences in how different colonies approached church-state relations. Which colony provided the most extensive protection of religious liberty? Were the Christian leaders who framed the documents we read on target or mistaken in their approaches to church-state relations.

B. Questions about college: What are the major differences between high school and college? What do you hope to gain from your four years at George Fox? How will you accomplish these goals? What do you need to do to have a good relationship with your roommate? What can you do to strengthen your walk with God while at George Fox? Are Americans amusing themselves to death?

September 16

A. Colonial America, Friends: *Sacred Rights*, 116-119, 294-95

September 17—come hear Jane Calvert, professor of history from the University of Kentucky, speak on John Dickinson and Quaker Constitutionalism, Hoover 105 at 7:00. (Extra credit—3% of grade)

September 23

Did America Have a Christian Founding?

The War for Independence: *Sacred Rights*, 14 (Rom. 13), 215-225. Questions about readings: was the Revolution justifiable in light of Rom. 13? How did the Continental Congress approach church-state relations?

September 30

Presentation by Kathi Gatlin or Kristi DeHaven, GFU Registrar's office, on MyGFU and schedule planning/pitfalls.

October 7

Library Orientation: 3:40-4:40. Meet at Lemmons 2, we'll go to the library together.

October 14

Did America Have a Christian Founding, Part 2

Godless Constitution? *Sacred Rights*: 346-53, 366-67, 374-75, 382 (Martin)

Questions: Compare the US Constitution to earlier state constitutions (e.g., pp. 84-88). Why do you think there is far less religious language in the US Constitution than earlier ones? Did America's Founders not care about faith? Or did they not think government should encourage Christianity? In what way might Christian ideas have influenced the Constitution?

October 21

Disestablishment: *Sacred Rights*, 250-52; 257-58, 307-13

Questions: What is an establishment? What, if anything, was wrong with Patrick Henry's proposed bill? How would it have supported churches? Why did some folks oppose the bill? Madison is often described as a deist heavily influenced by the Enlightenment. Does his Memorial and Remonstrance reflect such views?

October 28

The First Amendment: *Sacred Rights*, 405-09, 431-33

What does the First Amendment protect/require? Should the founders' views be relevant for contemporary politics and jurisprudence? It is regularly asserted that the founders were deists. According to my essay, is there evidence to support this claim? If I am correct, why are so many scholars wrong?

November 4

Religion in the New Republic

Sacred Rights, 441-45, 471-76, 525-528, 591; skim Mark David Hall, "The Founders Were Deists"

Disability Services Information

If you have specific physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please contact the Disability Services Office as early as possible so that your learning needs may be appropriately met. You will need to provide current documentation of your disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, go to ds.georgefox.edu or contact Rick Muthiah, Dean of Learning Support Services, at x2314 or rmuthiah@georgefox.edu.