

## Call for Proposals: Freshmen Seminars

Undergraduate Academic Affairs and First Year Programs are accepting proposals to teach Freshman Seminars during Autumn Quarter 2009. *Freshman Seminars* (1-2 credits) are small learning communities (max. 22 students) taught by faculty and characterized by high levels of student/faculty interaction and engagement around a topic of interest. Freshman Seminars typically meet once a week for one hour per credit offered. Freshman Seminars provide an opportunity for faculty to explore an area of interest with a small group of motivated students. Students benefit from supportive interaction with faculty and peers during their first year at the University of Washington. We invite proposals reflecting a wide variety of topics.

Freshman Seminar Goals:

- Introduce new students to the intellectual life of the University of Washington.
- Engage students in the collaborative and interactive learning environment that characterizes seminar courses.
- Encourage the formation of a learning community among diverse students with shared and distinct interests.
- De-mystify and normalize faculty as individuals and resources for student exploration and development.
- Provide opportunities for in-depth exploration of academic interests and direction.
- Introduce students to the culture of and possibilities within a large research university.

Proposals are due no later than May 30<sup>th</sup> 2009 and should include the following.

- I. Course title and description
- II. Faculty name and departmental affiliation
- III. Summary of Faculty interests and areas of expertise
- IV. Learning goals and outcomes
- V. Day and time to be offered
- VI. Room Preferences

**Themes of Interest:** While we welcome proposals reflecting a variety of topics, we encourage courses that expose students to the following:

- *Sustainable Cities:* In response to the university's call for a campus-wide conversation on sustainable cities, we invite seminar proposals that will focus on the challenges and opportunities of urbanization. Seminars focused on sustainable cities should introduce students to the growing discourse around the ways we project our unique historical and theoretical vocabularies into the concrete realities and fabric of environmental production; and the ways we measure the outcomes and consequences of our work.
- *Common Book, Dreams from my Father by Barack Obama:* We invite seminars that would allow students to engage in discussions around prominent themes of the common book i.e. race, identity, inheritance, and civic engagement.

Proposals should be submitted electronically to Steven Oliver at [soliver@u.washington.edu](mailto:soliver@u.washington.edu). Proposals will be reviewed by the UAA Curriculum Committee and applicants will be notified by June 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions or concerns please contact Steven Oliver by e-mail [soliver@u.washington.edu](mailto:soliver@u.washington.edu) or call 206-616-7260