

SEMINAR SYLLABUS

Integrated Studies 002: Decisions and Learning
University of Pennsylvania
Spring 2016

Faculty:

- Dr. Jean-Paul Cauvin, Cohen Hall 175
Office Hours: Tuesdays 12:30-2:00 p.m. and by appointment
Contact: jcauvin@sas.upenn.edu
- Dr. Michelle M. Pinto, College Hall 308A
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 9:00-10:30 a.m. and by appointment
Contact: pintomi@sas.upenn.edu
- Dr. Julio R. Tuma, Williams Hall 646
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12:30-2:00 p.m. and by appointment
Contact: tuma@sas.upenn.edu

Please attend the seminar assigned to you by the Registrar:

301 Fridays, 10:00-10:50 a.m., Dr. Tuma, Arch 110
302 Fridays, 11:00-11:50 a.m., Dr. Tuma, Arch 110
303 Fridays, 11:00-11:50 a.m., Dr. Cauvin, Cohen 392
304 Fridays, 12:00-12:50 p.m., Dr. Cauvin, Cohen 392
305 Fridays, 12:00-12:50 p.m., Dr. Pinto, College Hall 311A
306 Fridays, 1:00-1:50 p.m., Dr. Pinto, College Hall 311A

This course continues your intellectual journey in the Integrated Studies Program, as we delve into the disciplines of Philosophy and Cognitive Neuroscience. You are now well-acquainted with the benefits and challenges of living with your classmates, attending intellectually-oriented extracurricular events, and participating in conversations with professors from a range of disciplines.

The Friday Seminars are the ISP cornerstone for developing your ability to integrate different academic disciplines around a common theme; and they also serve as the primary venue for expressing and discussing your ideas with your peers. As you continue to grow intellectually in the Friday Seminars, we encourage you to work persistently on a) building the confidence to share your ideas and b) honing the skill of effectively articulating and communicating your ideas. In the Friday Seminars, we will consider issues that arose in the Thursday Integrative Sessions, discuss the content of the two streams for the week, and prepare for the various seminar assignments. The objective of the Friday Seminars and integrative assignments is for you to use the enterprise of integration in order to understand the world around you in ever more diverse ways. We ask you to consider the following guiding question: What ideas can be generated and what conclusions drawn by examining the relationships between different disciplines and concepts?

This is a discussion-based seminar; attendance is mandatory and a component of your seminar grade. We expect you to engage in serious debate, deep thinking, and courteous dialogue because we believe it provides a foundation for understanding ourselves and our relationship with the society in which we live in new and productive ways.

REQUIREMENTS:

Attendance & Participation: 20%
Integration Essay 1: 20%
Integration Essay 2: 30%
Group Presentation: 30%

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:

In the Friday Seminars, we will discuss your insights, questions, comments, and concerns. It is expected that you respond to your classmates with the sincerity, respect and attention that you yourself expect to receive. Since attendance is mandatory, unexcused absences will affect this component of your grade. If you anticipate missing class for any reason, make sure to discuss it with your seminar professor in advance and fill out a Course Absence Report.

If you intend to miss Seminar for religious holidays that are not observed by the university, you must inform your seminar professor of your anticipated absences by January 29 if you wish to request that alternative arrangements be made. For the university's policy on religious holidays, see:
<http://provost.upenn.edu/policies/pennbook/2013/02/13/policy-on-secular-and-religious-holidays>

In addition to seminar attendance and participation, you may be asked to participate in online forums.

Finally, your participation grade includes your participation in the course more broadly: attending all lectures, participating in lectures via questions and comments, and coming to office hours as necessary (especially as you prepare your essays and work on essay improvement). We seek engagement across all components of the course.

ASSIGNMENTS:

The Integration Essays are designed to develop your ability to integrate via effective and elegant writing and argumentation.

Before submitting your assignments, please note:

- 1) Essays must be submitted to the Canvas course website by the dates and times listed on p.3
- 2) Essays must include your name and the date in the Word Document itself
- 3) Essays must be submitted in .doc or .docx format and named as follows:

LastnameFirstinitial_AssignmentDescription.doc

Example: SmithJ_Essay1.doc

- 4) Essays must observe word limit requirements (if you choose to exceed the word limit requirement, you risk a deduction)

- 5) Successful Integration Essays—those that are coherent, convincing, and compelling to your reader—require careful essay design and advance planning. To this end, you are strongly encouraged to schedule an appointment with your seminar professor to discuss your proposed argument and essay structure, and to come prepared to your appointment. Please be aware that seminar professors will not read full drafts of papers. Also, please note that faculty will not meet with students within 48 hours of an assignment due date.

In ALL of the Integration Essay assignments below, you MUST use specific quotations and arguments from the readings and the lectures to make your case.*

Due Date	Assignment Title	Assignment
3/4/16 9 p.m.	Integration Essay 1 (1,200 words)	<p>Choose two passages from the readings in Weeks 1-7—one from Cognitive Neuroscience and one from Philosophy—that are in tension or outright conflict with each other.</p> <p>Framing the interaction between these texts as one of productive disagreement, provide an analysis of these texts and their disagreement.</p> <p>This will require:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Clearly and carefully explaining the argument of each text 2) Crystallizing and clearly stating the disagreement between the texts 3) Providing an <i>argument</i> about this disagreement: why is it productive? <p>Passages can range from a few sentences to a few paragraphs; please include the passages at the head of your essay (they will not count towards your word limit). You can edit your passages using ellipses...as long as you make sure that the integrity of their arguments remains intact.</p>
4/22/16 5 p.m.	Integration Essay 2 (1,500 words)	<p>Choose any two readings—one from Cognitive Neuroscience and one from Philosophy—and make an argument about why reading these texts together and <i>integratively</i> is a productive and valuable endeavor.</p> <p>Certainly, each of these texts can be read and analyzed productively within their own disciplines. From our Integrated Studies perspective, however, we ask you to consider how reading them together and <i>integratively</i> results in findings/understandings that makes them more than the sum of their parts.</p> <p>Please note: you cannot choose texts that you wrote about in Integration Essay 1.</p>
Groups and group deadlines to be set in Seminars by 1/29/16	In-Seminar Group Presentation	<p>In your group of 3-4 students, prepare an integrative presentation of the content for your assigned week. Presentations must be prepared well ahead of time as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Students must meet once with each other prior to the first lecture of their assigned week 2) Students must meet with their seminar professor by Wednesday of their assigned week to discuss their presentation ideas and format 3) Students must meet with each other after the Thursday Integrative Session so as to address this session and finalize their presentation <p>Each group must submit a detailed outline and slides to their seminar professor via email; these documents will be evaluated along with the oral presentation itself.</p> <p>Please note: this assignment requires a great deal of time and effort, so make sure to set aside plenty of time during your presentation week for group meetings and collaborative preparation.</p>

*Citation format for lectures: (Detlefsen Lecture, 1/27/16).

The professor's name and the date of the lecture must be present in your citation.