

The School of Liberal Arts

Colloquia

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Program Administrator

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Colloquia usually meet once a week in a seminar format with the emphasis upon class discussion. Honors colloquia, designated by the prefix H, are open only to students in the Tulane Honors Program, to those on the dean's list, or to candidates for degrees with departmental honors. Honors colloquia on the 400 level are open to juniors and seniors (sophomores by special permission). The other colloquia listed below are open to any student in good standing. Colloquia may be used for elective credit. Consult the director of the Honors Program regarding credit for individual colloquia. For many of the colloquia listed below, the specific topic varies from semester to semester, consult the *Schedule of Classes* for further information or request a current course description from the Honors Program office.

COLQ H101 Honors Freshman Colloquium (1-3)

COLQ H201 Honors Sophomore Colloquium (1-3)

Staff. A general colloquium built around some significant concept or problem which may be approached from many different points of view.

COLQ H301 Science and Human Values (3)

Prof. Birtel. The prohibition against confusion of "is" and "ought" has not prevented scientific theories from impinging on sociopolitical and religious values. The purpose of this colloquium is to examine specific instances of the interaction of science and values in order to gain insights into various ways in which these interactions occur. What is science? What are values? Is the methodology of science relevant to the methodology of ethics? What is the role of theology in science and in ethics? Is science objective and are values subjective? Is science value-free? The emphasis is on the interaction of science and values, not on the history of science or on the growth of knowledge.

COLQ H302 God(s) and Science (3)

Prof. Birtel. Is it not all over with belief in God? Has religion any future? Can we have morality without religion? Is not science sufficient? Has atheism not been proved and is nihilism not refutable? And, if God does exist, what kind of God is He? How has science changed theology? Is there any similarity between the two enterprises? Are there really different ways of knowing? What alternatives exist to replace the legacy of dualism? Are the god of philosophy, the god of history, and the god of nature and god of faith different gods?

COLQ H303 Science and Religion (3)

Prof. Birtel. Two great themes have shaped Western civilization during the last ten centuries: science and the Judeo-Christian tradition. The Enlightenment, by enthroning science, increasingly has rejected the Judeo-Christian tradition. But now science itself has come under attack. If those two principal cultural influences diminish, some alternative must be found to spawn a new ethos, or a new paradigmatic view relating science and religion is needed to give intelligibility to the relation of God, man, and nature. A dialogue has begun to emerge redefining and unifying the roles of theology and science. This seminar examines the current status of post-modern science and theology and probes alternative themes for the evolution of Western civilization under the influence of the present "revolution by consciousness."

COLQ H304 Honors Junior Colloquium (3)

COLQ H401, H402 Humanities Colloquium (1-3, 1-3)

Staff. Built around some concept or problem which may be viewed from many different vantage points, thus relating the various disciplines within the humanities. Does not meet the college humanities distribution requirement.

COLQ H407 Student-Initiated Interdisciplinary Colloquium (3)

Staff. A student-initiated colloquium for juniors and seniors. It is the students' obligation to find the director. More than one section may be approved. Enrollment in each section is limited to 12.

COLQ H420 Honors Senior Colloquium (3)

COLQ 102 Freshman Colloquium (1-3)

COLQ 203 Sophomore Colloquium (1-3)

COLQ 305 Junior Colloquium (3)

COLQ 388 Writing Practicum (1)

Staff. Corequisite: three-credit departmental course. Prerequisite: successful completion of the First-Year Writing Requirement. Fulfills the school intensive-writing requirement.

COLQ 412 The Grand Canyon (3)

Prof. Parsley, professor-in-charge. No prerequisite. A study of the anthropology, archaeology, biology, geology, and history of the southern Colorado plateau region, especially the Grand Canyon. Lectures, readings, and research paper followed by a post-semester, eight-day float trip through the Marble and Grand Canyons. Open to first-year students through seniors.

COLQ 414 The Natural History of Mesoamerica (3)

Prof. Flowers, Prof. Nelson. Geologic history of Mesoamerica, archaeology of Mesoamerica, history of the conquest and colonial period, flora and economic botany of the region. Lectures, readings, and a two-week, post-semester field trip to the region are required.

COLQ 421 Senior Colloquium (3)

COLQ 601, 602 The Andrew W. Mellon Professorship in Humanities (3, 3)

An interdisciplinary course offered by a scholar of notable achievements both in teaching and research in humanistic learning. This course is not assigned to any particular discipline but spans the broad area of the humanities: classical, English, foreign languages and literatures, history, history of fine arts, and philosophy. Ordinarily, appointments to the Mellon Professorship are for one semester. Enrollment open to juniors, seniors and graduate students.