We believe every student entering Mississippi State University should take one course just for the fun of it during the first semester: a small class taught by a great teacher eager to introduce you to something fascinating in his or her field, with a wide variety of topics to choose from.

Our special First-Year Seminars carry one hour of course credit toward graduation and can be used in almost any major. Each seminar is on a different, interesting topic. You can take one that relates to your major, or you can take one on an interesting topic outside your major that you might otherwise never get to explore. Register for these seminars the same way you register for your other courses. The only restriction is: Only entering freshmen and new transfer students may enroll in these seminars, and no one may take more than one.

This is a great way to start your career at Mississippi State. Research shows that students who connect to the university in this way are more likely to enjoy college and succeed at it. Mississippi State has long been a leader nationwide in first-year experience (FYE) programs, and seminars like these are offered at top colleges and universities around the country. Browse through our offerings below, and become part of our 2010 FYE program by taking one for fun.
And They Lived Happily Ever After -- The Keys to Building & Maintaining Healthy Relationships
Course Number: HS 1001  CRN: 34825
Time: W - 11:00 am  Instructor: Tommy Phillips
Description: While “living happily ever after” might not be the best expression to use when talking about relationships (after all, no one or no couple is “happy” 100% of the time, and all relationships go through their ups and downs), it is possible to have strong, stable, and satisfying relationships that stand the test of time. Students will learn skills that will help build and maintain healthy relationships. Topics will include dating and mate selection, communications and conflict resolution skills, common relationship issues, and more.

Biology at the Movies
Course Number: BIO 1011  CRN: 34824
Time: M - 5:00 pm  Instructor: Walter Diehl
Description: A novel way to think about biology by delving into the genetics, physiology, anatomy, evolution, and ecology of the inhabitants, fauna, and flora of classic and contemporary science fiction and fantasy movies. This seminar is designed for majors in the Department of Biological Sciences or other life science programs.

Helping Our Families During Natural Hazards
Course Number: CE 1011  CRN: 34826  Time: R - 2:00 pm  Instructor: Islam El-Adaway
Description: This class is expected to provide freshmen with a special opportunity to become engaged in the intellectual stimulation associated with response and recovery during natural catastrophes.
African Cuisine

Course Number: AAS 1001
CRN: 34830
Time: R - 11:00 am
Instructor: Kweku Ainuson

Description: Students will learn the history of sub-Saharan African cuisine and how cultural norms, colonialism, and globalization have shaped food making in Africa, especially in the area of healthy living. Students will learn how African food making has influenced U.S. cuisines and food making around the world. This course will be fun as it will combine lectures with hands-on practice in basic African cooking techniques. It is hoped that this course will help students to become better global citizens as they increase their knowledge about eating habits and food making from other parts of the world.

Coaching/Sport Expertise: Learning From the Best

Course Number: PE 1191
CRN: 32894
Time: W - 1:00 pm
Instructor: Brad Vickers

Description: This course will provide students with an in-depth analysis of the growth and development of coaches (both novice and seasoned professionals). The course will provide valuable information about what it takes to become an expert coach.

Ignorance is NOT Bliss!

Course Number: GE 1001
CRN: 32054
Time: M - 12:00 pm
Instructor: Amy Barton

Description: When concerns about science and technology arise, the public needs accurate, responsible information. However, what they often get is misinformation, which can lead to fear. Many popular science fiction movies portray the public’s fear of “science gone wrong” (Frankenstein, Night of the Living Dead, 28 Days Later, The Day after Tomorrow, just to name a few). This course explores what it means to explain scientific information clearly and responsibly. We’ll look at some unfortunate examples of misinformation and many good examples of communication from writers, documentary makers, popular web sites, and experts from many fields.
### SEC Football: Beyond the Field

**Course Number:** GLC 1001  
**CRN:** 32104  
**Time:** T - 12:30 pm  
**Instructor:** Lisa Harris  
**Description:** College football is an integral part of higher education. Now a multi-billion dollar industry followed by millions, the importance it plays in higher education cannot be downplayed. This seminar will focus on the issues of college football in today’s universities. The dynamics between fielding a winning football team and fulfilling the central mission of academics will provide a framework for discussions regarding such issues as coaches’ pay, the bowl system, and paying of student athletes. The fall 2010 college football season will provide current topics relevant to these issues.

### Real World Ethics: An EDGE Initiative

**Course**

**Course Number:** PHI 1001  
**CRN:** 34829  
**Time:** T - 4:00 pm  
**Instructor:** Michael Clifford  
**Description:** This is a survey of some of the most important ethical dilemmas of our day, including terrorism, genocide, global warming, the financial crisis, guns and violence, abortion, and gay marriage. Students will have an opportunity to engage in critical discussion of these issues. The emphasis is on developing “moral literacy,” the ability to make considered decisions of right and wrong. This course is offered as part of MSU’s EDGE Initiative.
### The Power of Color

**Course Number:** ID 1001  
**CRN:** 32322  
**Time:** W - 11:00 am  
**Instructor:** Amy Crumpton  
**Description:** Do you love color and pattern? Are you nervous about combining them? Do you know how to use color to its maximum effectiveness? This seminar introduces color theory and psychology through a series of weekly color activities. At the end of this seminar, color will no longer be a mystery, but a tool for you to improve and enhance your life.

### Veterinary Medicine: Beyond Shots & De-Worming

**Course Number:** CVM 1001  
**CRN:** 31090  
**Time:** T - 1:00 pm  
**Instructor:** Patty Lathan  
**Description:** This seminar will discuss various aspects of and approaches to veterinary medicine. Each seminar will be delivered by a specialist in a specific discipline (i.e., small animal internal medicine, large animal surgery, reproductive medicine, etc.). Seminar topics will be diverse and include discussions about specific diseases, the importance of veterinary medicine in controlling human disease, and diagnostic and therapeutic techniques used in veterinary medicine. As part of the course requirement, students will be assigned to “shadow” a veterinary clinician for at least 6 hours in MSU’s Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital.
Cooking Basics: Iron Chef Bully
Course Number: FNH 1001  CRN: 31956
Time: M - 12:00 pm  Instructor: Sylvia H. Byrd
Description: Healthy eating doesn’t have to be difficult or cost a fortune. Students will have fun learning basic cooking fundamentals and techniques through lecture, demonstration, and hands-on practice. These skills will help students be more versatile, creative, and experienced with food as well as developing skills that can be used every day.

Money Talks – Don’t Let Yours Say Goodbye
Course Number: GLC 1001  CRN: 34827
Time: R - 3:30 pm  Instructor: Judy Li
Description: Money Talks is a course designed to provide a fundamental personal financial literacy for college freshmen. It gives freshmen a general concept of what personal finance is and what resources are available on the MSU campus for them. Real world topics covered will include money management, use of checking and saving accounts, spending, student loans, budget setting, debt, and credit management as well as an understanding of insurance and taxes.

It’s All Greek To Me
Course Number: FL 1001  CRN: 31848  Time: T - 1:00 pm  Instructor: Robert Wolverton
Description: This seminar will look in a comprehensive way at the ancient Greeks and evaluate their contributions to modern America.
Each of the Maroon Edition courses is the same: just choose the one that fits your schedule if you want to learn more about the ideas in this book!

Three Cups of Tea: Embracing Change

Course Number: EPY 1001
CRN: 31778
Instructors: Linda Morse, Jerry Gilbert, Nancy McCarley, and Lynn Reinschmiedt

Time: T - 3:30 pm

Description: This first-year seminar will explore the themes in *Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time*. This book has been chosen as MSU’s common book program for freshmen this year, a program which is called the Maroon Edition 2010. This seminar will explore topics such as social justice, schools and schooling, political issues, and becoming “family.” Join us for a more in-depth discussion and experience of The Maroon Edition 2010!

Three Cups of Tea: Embracing Change

Course Number: PS 1001
CRN: 34828
Instructor: David Breaux

Time: M - 3:00 pm

Description: This first-year seminar will explore the themes in *Three Cups of Tea: One Man’s Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time*. This book has been chosen as MSU’s common book program for freshmen this year, a program which is called the Maroon Edition 2010. This seminar will explore topics such as social justice, schools and schooling, political issues, and becoming “family.” Join us for a more in-depth discussion and experience of The Maroon Edition 2010!
iProgram: Programming for the iPhone and iPod Touch

Course Number: BIS 1001
CRN: 30540
Time: T - 3:30 pm
Instructor: Rodney Pearson

Description: This course introduces programming for the Apple iPhone and iPod Touch devices, using the official Apple-supplied iPhone Software Development Kit (SDK). As members of the MSU iPhone Development Team, students will be able to develop third party iPhone applications (apps), and install them on their own iPhone and/or iPod Touch devices. As part of the MSU iPhone Development Team, each student will also be able to install apps developed by other students on his or her device. (Note: Uploading a developed app to the App Store requires a paid membership, which is not a required part of this class. This will all be explained in class.)

Viva Latino America: An Uncensored Sampling of the World’s Most Vibrant Culture

Course Number: FLS 1001
CRN: 31891
Time: T - 2:00 pm
Instructor: Rosa Vozzo

Description: Students will embark in a virtual trip for several regions of Hispano-America. Students will be presented with cultural information, ideas, and events that have influenced the region, specifically those that provide a basis for comparisons of Hispanic and U.S. culture. Students will be encouraged to explore cross-cultural comparisons, and to identify cultural patterns that could cause cultural misunderstanding.
Man-Made Landscapes: The Greatest Hits of Multidisciplinary Collaboration

Course Number: LA 1001      CRN: 34831
Time: T - 10:00      Instructor: Kasia Gallo

Description: This course will celebrate the many ways in which the designers collaborate with artists, scientists, horticulturists, policy makers, and ordinary citizens to create the landscapes that surround us. You are invited to explore the flashy and mundane, ingenious and straightforward, successful and sometimes disastrous projects and ideas put forth by design professionals and others. The issues discussed will include: mystery of a concept and inspiration in design projects, affecting human behavior with design, making our lives simpler by mimicking nature’s solutions to everyday problems, bringing nature into cities, stormwater management as art, celebrating nature through environmental art installations, impact of agriculture on the landscape, and more.

Stepping Into the World of Fashion

Course Number: HS 1001      CRN: 32275
Time: M - 3:00      Instructor: Phyllis Miller

Description: Introduction to the many exciting careers in Apparel, Textiles, and Merchandising (ATM), including fun experiences with fashion illustration and design, textiles, historic costume, cross-cultural design and merchandising, the social/psychological aspects of dress, product quality analysis, visual merchandising, retailing, merchandising, and research. Students get hands-on experience with various aspects of the field as they learn from ATM faculty and professionals. They also complete a career exploration that helps them to identify careers that suit their personalities and lifestyles.
CSI: MSU - Forensic Sciences Across Campus

Course Number: AN 1001        CRN: 34841
Instructor: Nicholas Paul Herrmann
Time: W - 3:00 pm

Description: This course will introduce the student to the diverse faculty and staff at the MSU campus who are assisting in criminal investigations here in Mississippi, the United States, and across the globe. We examine forensic sciences from multiple perspectives including computer forensics, biochemistry, DNA analysis, and forensic anthropology. The course will highlight the realities and the fallacies between television crime docudramas and laboratory science.

Reel Music: History and Function of Movie Music

Course Number: MU 1001        CRN: 32726
Instructor: Elaine Peterson
Time: M - 11:00 am

Description: This course will explore the ways in which music has been used in film over the past century. Students will explore early film music of the 1920s, Hollywood’s golden age, and today’s current movies. Students will see how past and new techniques are being used in soundtracks and sound editing. Classes will consist of discussion, lecture, and the viewing of film clips. Viewing of complete films outside of class may be a component of the course. This is a chance not only to learn how vital the music is to the movie industry, but also serves as a good introduction to film history, in general.
First-Year Learning Communities

Mississippi State University is proud to present 6 special First-Year Learning Communities available to entering freshmen. In Learning Communities, small groups of students take courses together that will apply to University Core Curriculum requirements—in other words, regular courses that you would have to take anyway, but with outstanding teachers specially selected for this program, and a small group of fellow students you can quickly become friends with and study together. Connections between the subject areas of the different Learning Community courses are made, and the teachers of these courses work together to bring you an especially enjoyable experience as you begin your university career.

Most of the First-Year Learning Communities are open to any interested students who can take them. Some are specially designed for students in specific majors, such as Engineering, Communication, and Psychology. For all students, you should check with your academic advisor from your major department at Orientation to be sure that the courses in your desired Learning Community can be used in your major. Usually, this will not be a problem.

Some Learning Communities require that you apply for them ahead of time and get permission to register. For most Learning Communities, though, you enroll in them simply by registering for the courses—first come, first served.

A couple of Learning Communities are residential—in other words, everyone in the Learning Community lives in the same residence hall. Most Learning Communities, however, place no restrictions on where you may live, and students participate from all over the campus.

It is possible to participate in both a Learning Community described here and also participate in one of the First-Year Seminars described in this same brochure—no problem. However, you may participate in only one Learning Community.

When registering for a Learning Community, it is essential that you register for the exact course sections indicated in the descriptions. If you do not do this, you will not be in the Learning Community. Please be very careful about this.
The PSY-CO Psychology-Communication Learning Community #1

Courses and teachers (must take both): CO 1013 Section 06, Introduction to Communication, MWF 9:00-9:50, Cheryl Chambers; PSY 1013 Section 07, General Psychology, MWF 10:00-10:50, Tom Carskadon

Open to: All freshmen

How to enroll: Register for the courses—first come, first served.

Contact for questions: Tom Carskadon, tomcar@ra.msstate.edu, 662-325-7655

Description: Introduction to Communication is a small, enjoyable course that teaches highly useful skills. Special topics and assignments will link this course to your Psychology course.

The PSY-CO Psychology-Communication Learning Community #2

Courses and teachers (must take both): CO 1013 Section 13, Introduction to Communication, MW 12:30 – 1:45, Amy Knight; PSY 1013 Section 08, General Psychology, MWF 10:00-10:50, Tom Carskadon

Open to: All freshmen

How to enroll: Register for the courses—first come, first served.

Contact for questions: Tom Carskadon, tomcar@ra.msstate.edu, 662-325-7655

Description: Introduction to Communication is a small, enjoyable course that teaches highly useful skills. Special topics and assignments will link this course to your Psychology course.
The PSY-CO Learning Community for Communication Majors

Courses and teachers (must take both):
CO 1003 Section 03, Fundamentals of Public Speaking, TR 9:30-10:45, Khristi Edmonds;
PSY 1013 Section 09, General Psychology, MWF 10:00-10:50, Tom Carskadon

Open to: Freshman Communication majors
How to enroll: Register for the courses—first come, first served.
Contact for questions: Khristi Edmonds, kedmonds@comm.msstate.edu, 662-325-8956
Description: Communication majors will get to know each other in their own section of Public Speaking and will be introduced to special resources, issues, and career paths relevant to their major. Links to the Psychology course will also be emphasized.

The Engineering Living and Learning Community

Course and teacher: CH 1213 Section 01, Chemistry I, TR 11:00-12:15, Debbie Beard
Open to: All freshman Engineering students qualified to take General Chemistry I
How to enroll: An application form must be completed.
Residence Hall: Participants in this Learning Community will be placed in Hull Hall.
Contact for questions & application: Donna Reese, dreese@bagley.msstate.edu, 662-325-2270
Description: A group of freshmen majoring in any field of Engineering will live in Hull Hall and take General Chemistry together. Hull is ideally located at the center of campus and provides an excellent place for true community to develop. There will be special academic and social activities, and available mentors and tutors will work closely with students outside of class to ensure their success in careers involving science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
The PSYCH-E Learning Community for Psychology Majors

Courses and teachers (must take both):
EN 1103 Section 20, English Composition I, MWF 11:00 – 11:50, Becky Whitten; PSY 1013 Section 10, General Psychology, MWF 10:00-10:50, Tom Carskadon

Open to: Freshman Psychology majors

How to enroll: Register for the courses—first come, first served.

Contact for questions: Tom Carskadon, tomcar@ra.msstate.edu 662-325-7655

Description: A group of two dozen Psychology majors will take English Composition together with a fine instructor with interests in the links between English and Psychology, a field in which excellent writing skills are especially important. Special topics and assignments of interest to Psychology majors will be included. The Psychology course will be taught by the Undergraduate Coordinator of the Psychology Department.
The Griffis Learning Community

Courses and teachers (must take both): CO 1003 Section H03, (Honors) Fundamentals of Public Speaking, TR 11:00-12:15, Stacey Mann; PSY 1013 Section H01, (Honors) General Psychology, MWF 11:00-11:50, Tom Carskadon

Residence: Griffis Hall

Open to: Freshman Honors students who will commit to living in Griffis Hall.

How to enroll: Contact Dr. Carskadon very soon because this Learning Community fills very early, and space is strictly limited; you must have special permission to enroll.

Contact for availability: Tom Carskadon, tomcar@ra.msstate.edu 662-325-7655

Description: This is one of the oldest and most popular Learning Communities. Approximately 20 participants live in Griffis Hall and take Honors General Psychology together on MWF and Honors Public Speaking together on TR, thus interacting with each other on a daily basis. The instructors coordinate assignments in the courses to enhance learning and help introduce students to the diverse resources of the university.