A Note from the Humanities Lab Directors:

Heather Switzer (Humanities Lab Interim Co-Director) and I are thrilled to be able to take on leadership roles in the Humanities Lab this fall as we look forward to a year of transdisciplinary collaboration with scholars and students across ASU’s campuses and Schools as well as with local and international community groups. Together we will seek to address and actively respond to the multiple challenges regarding public health, social inequities, racism, and a sustainable future that have become even more evident during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We have three goals this academic year. The first is to support the talented and creative Humanities Lab faculty as they translate the transdisciplinary, collaborative, inquiry-based curriculum to the multiple teaching modalities that the Humanities Lab will need during the ongoing pandemic. The goal of all our Labs continues to be the creation of interdisciplinary teams of students (often intergenerational teams of graduate and undergraduate students) to develop, disseminate, and synthesize outcomes that will have an impact on important social challenges. Secondly, we will be working to increase access to the Humanities Lab experience by developing our first icourses. In Spring 2021 we will be offering Information Overload (taught by George Justice and Michael Simeone) as well as ArtScience: COVID Response (taught by Lee Hartwell, Diana Ayton-Shenker, and Annie Hale). Students in Information Overload will be researching different communication technologies and end up by answering in teams how we can better inhabit an information-saturated world. ArtScience: COVID Response also investigates how we should move forward by examining the social challenges exacerbated by the current Covid-19 pandemic and developing recommendations about the skill- and mind-sets that are most valuable for shaping a healthier and more equitable future.

Our final challenge this year is to develop Labs in multiple modalities that will be more inclusive not only in terms of accessibility but also in terms of social challenges. Two Labs, which are currently being planned for 2021-22, will address the future of education and the university, including the challenges of racism and antiracist actions. As we continue to develop ideas for future Labs, we need your input. Please contact us with your ideas for future Labs and new ways in which our faculty and students can share their impact outcomes with the ASU community and beyond.

Juliann Vitullo, PhD
Humanities Lab Interim Director

Heather Switzer, PhD
Humanities Lab Interim Co-Director
TEAMED UP WITH THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL LETTERS AND CULTURES?

The Humanities Lab and the School of International Letters and Cultures (SILC) are pleased to announce the Humanities Lab’s new administrative affiliation as part of the SILC collective.

SILC and the Humanities Lab are aligned in their missions to help students become globally informed citizens in a world of complex challenges. “This affiliation comes at an ideal time when the Humanities Lab and (the School) are experiencing accelerated growth and interest as the pandemic reveals the depth of global inequities as well as the urgency of transnational communication and collaboration,” Humanities Lab Co-director Juliann Vitullo said.

Vitullo and interim Co-director Heather Switzer invite and welcome exciting and interesting ideas for Labs that address urgent social challenges from faculty across all of ASU’s disciplines and programs.

Click here to read more!

Spring 2021 Labs Announced

The Humanities Lab Spring 2021
-- Social Challenges to Address --

AND WHAT LABS OFFER

Labs welcome students from ALL degree programs for our team-oriented collaborative Lab experiences of up to 30 students. You can sign up for a Lab under a variety of prefixes (search Lab titles for options). Students (graduate and undergraduate) and faculty teams join together as a diverse interdisciplinary team to research and address their Lab’s complex challenge and to develop multiple impact outcomes.

Humanities Labs offer students:
- General studies humanities credit HU (pending semester approval)
- Automatic honors credit to Barrett Honors students
- CISA students can earn capstone credit for 494 level Labs
- Research opportunities & a public forum in which to present their ideas
- An opportunity to continue course work in our Beyond the Lab program.

SIX LABS READY TO ENROLL
(check them out below & linked)

Intro Interdisciplinary Inquiry

We know you want to make a difference. We can help you get started! Intro to Interdisciplinary Inquiry offers undergraduate students an opportunity to learn methods and practice skills to engage in collaborative research that crosses disciplinary boundaries to provide more holistic solutions to today’s grand social challenges. Students will apply what they learn via hands-on engagement with an issue of current relevance. In Spring '21, the instructional team and students will dive into questions about technology, community, and protests as a means to affect change.

HUL250
Tue/Thur 1:30-2:45pm & Lab time Tues 3-4 pm

Learn more HERE!

ArtScience: COVID Response

ArtScience: COVID Response investigates the critical skillsets and mindsets required to navigate crisis,
build resilience, and create the future. Although we cannot predict what future we will encounter, we have all recently experienced a global crisis that is dramatically forcing a new future upon us – the COVID pandemic. Together, students and faculty will examine what disciplinary skill- and mind-sets are most valuable to shape our future given the challenges COVID has exacerbated within our communities.

**HUL/BIO/FIS/HDA 494 & HUL/HDA/HSD 598**

I-Course / Session A

**Learn more HERE!**

**Sustainable Fashion**

As we continue to purchase more clothes and the fashion industry continues to expand each year, what effect does it have on the environment and on textile workers? Through the investigation of case studies, current industry journals, webinars, and discussions with industry experts and workers, we will propose solutions for creating more sustainable and equitable fashion supply chains and consumer practices.

**HUL/FRE/FSH/ITA/SLC 494, HUL/FRE/ITA/SLC 598**

Tue/Thurs 9-10:15am & Lab time Tues 10:30 - 11:45am

**Learn more HERE!**

**Facing Immigration**

For the past decade, immigration has been a major, controversial force shaping political developments across North America, Europe, and Latin America. Why? The FACING IMMIGRATION Lab, repeating after a very successful run in Spring 2019, will investigate the social, political and historical questions raised by immigration through art and different forms of artistic production that will be shared on campus and in the larger community.

**HUL/ASB/HST 494, HST 580 & HUL/ASB 598**

Mon 9am -12pm & Lab time Mon 12:15 - 1:30 pm

**Learn more HERE!**

**Information Overload**

Since the inception of writing, humans have worried about controlling the flow of information. This lab will focus on the present moment of too much information, with much of it being false, by looking at the history of information overload and then analyzing the problems and solutions of a crush of information today.

**HUL/ENG/IDS 494 & HUL/ENG 598**

I-Course/ Session A

**Learn more HERE!**

**Feeling Climate Uncertainty**

Feeling Climate Uncertainty will assess, consider, and address the complex emotions arising from human-driven climate disruption. The climate crisis generates multiple and sometimes contradictory emotions including ecological denial, guilt, frustration, rage, hope, anxiety, and many more. This Lab will work with the realities of this emotional landscape to begin the significant individual and ultimately socio-cultural changes asked of us.
Spring Labs are being offered by a collection of accomplished faculty, including a Nobel Prize Winner in Physiology, the Executive Director of the ASU-Leonardo Partnership, the director of Data Science and Analytics for ASU Libraries amongst other leaders. Come join them this spring and “do” the humanities!

Click here for details on ALL Spring 2021 Labs

Looking to add a little excitement to your mix? "Bright Opportunities" offers a curated collection of hand-picked opportunities around campus and online that we think will help you grow, learn and succeed in all the best ways.

7th Annual Hacks for Humanity!
Join Project Humanities for their 7th Annual Hacks for Humanity! This is a 3-day event that encourages anyone -- high school through professional retirement, artist to engineer, locally to internationally located -- to join together to innovate and create solutions to local and global issues. Innovations must incorporate the Humanities 101 Principles of: compassion, empathy, respect, integrity, forgiveness, self-reflection, and kindness. This event is a one-of-a-kind opportunity to collaborate with diverse groups, design products, build community, network, earn cash prizes, innovate and beyond!

Click HERE to learn more!

"From Garden Warriors to Gastrodiplomacy: Farmers, Chefs and Water Protectors Working toward Food Sovereignty."
Join the IHR/GIOS for their (now rescheduled) 2020 Environmental Humanities Initiative (EHI) Distinguished Lecture, “From Garden Warriors to Gastrodiplomacy,” with Elizabeth Hoover from the University of California Berkeley (video recorded lecture and live Zoom Q and A), November 5, 2020, 4-5:30 pm.

Click HERE to register!
2021 Critical Language Scholarship

Interested in learning a critical foreign language? Have you heard of the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)? The U.S. Department of State invites students to apply to learn one of their 15 critical foreign languages (9 of 15 of the languages do not require previous experience) through a fully-funded study abroad experience. Attend one of their webinars to learn more. Applications due by Tuesday, November 17, 2020 by 8:00pm EST.

Click HERE to learn more!

Life is Better when you have an ASU Mentor!

So, you’re on track, you’ve selected a major and you’re well on your way to meeting your career goals. Why not bolster those efforts by finding a mentor? The ASU Mentor Network is a great way to connect with professionals who are interested in supporting ASU students and alumni through mentorship. Meet someone who is in the career industry that you are headed towards, works in a position you want to learn more about or shares your same major in common.

Don’t miss this great opportunity!
For more information:
Click HERE

PS. If you like our newsletter please share it with your friends! We always welcome new faces and ideas to the Lab!