

May 7, 2015

MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY

Call for Proposals: 2015-16 First-Year Seminar Program

Colleagues,

I write to invite your participation in the First-Year Seminar program for 2015-2016. The program gives freshmen and transfer students in their first year at UC Davis an opportunity to interact directly with faculty members, engage intellectually with their fellow students, learn research techniques, and sharpen their critical thinking skills through topics of special interest.

Instructors select seminar themes to illustrate the kinds of inquiry central to the modern research university, and reflect their current interests within or outside their areas of research.

In addition to the variety of unique themes we offer each year, we encourage seminars focused on the UC Davis Campus Community Book Project (CCBP) text, which in 2015-16 will be on the theme of institutional inequality. We expect to hear the selected title in the next few weeks, and will offer a curriculum outline built around the CCBP events. We are also excited to introduce a new partnership with the Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts to offer seminars that incorporate attendance at events. Please contact Janet Chambers for details.

Seminars can be offered for one or two units, for either traditional letter grades or on a pass/no pass basis. To encourage interaction between students and instructor, enrollment is limited to nineteen students. Instructors teach First-Year Seminars as a non-compensated overload to their regular departmental teaching assignments. We do, however, offer research account supplements of \$2,000 for 2-unit seminars and \$1,500 for 1-unit seminars. Instructors can also apply for up to \$500 in mini-grant support to defray verified expenses of conducting a seminar.

To submit a seminar proposal, complete the [online application form](#). For more information about the program, visit the [First-Year Seminar](#) page on the FYS web site.

Fall quarter seminar proposals are strongly encouraged by the preliminary deadline of **Friday, June 12, 2015**. Proposals must be received by this date to be available for registration during Summer Orientation and at Pass I. The final deadline for fall quarter seminar proposals is **Friday, August 7, 2015**. Proposals submitted for the final deadline will be available only for Pass II registration. You may also submit proposals for winter and spring quarters now.

The First-Year Seminar program is administered by the Office of Undergraduate Education in consultation with the FYS Faculty Review Committee. For questions, contact Janet Chambers in UE at 530-752-1772 or jachambers@ucdavis.edu.

Best wishes,



Carolyn Thomas
Vice Provost & Dean for Undergraduate Education