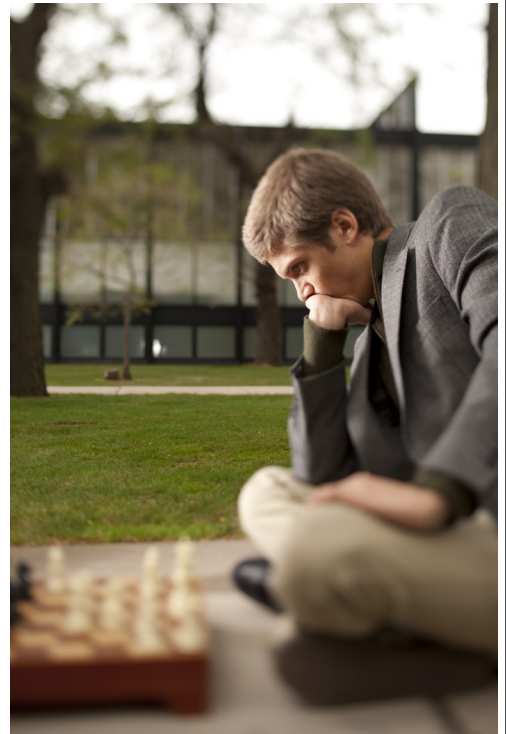


Fall 2016 Course Schedule



Shimer

The Great Books
College of Chicago

About Shimer College

Shimer College is a four-year liberal arts college located on the Illinois Institute of Technology campus in Chicago.

Shimer is one of a handful of Great Books Colleges in the United States. Being a Great Books College means that instead of reading textbooks, our students enjoy reading and discussing original texts, becoming participants in what we call *The Great Conversation* — a timeless exchange of ideas about art, life, meaning, and the natural world. At Shimer, we are committed to thoughtful and rigorous conversations about ideas from a wide range of original texts such as Plato's *Apology*, W.E.B. DuBois' *The Souls of Black Folk*, Jane Goodall's *Chimpanzees of Gombe*, and Euclid's *Elements*.

To facilitate this conversation, our classes have no more than twelve students, our faculty challenge participants to express their thoughts clearly and relate them to the reading, and students read about, reflect on, and integrate ideas across many disciplines.

Shimer's cross-registration agreements with the Illinois Institute of Technology, VanderCook College of Music, and the Chicago City Colleges offer students the opportunity to take a wider variety of courses **without paying extra tuition**. Please see the individual course descriptions for IIT credit information. Directions for the application and registration process can be found on page 17.





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Directory

Registrar, Jim Ulrich: 312-235-3523

Dean of the College, Harold Stone: 312-235-3510

Business Office Manager, Glendalyn Booker: 312-235-3514

Director of Financial Aid, Janet Henthorn: 312-235-3507

Admission Office, Adam Asher: 312-235-355

Fall 2016 Academic Calendar

SHIMER COLLEGE	
Fall 2016	
Orientation for New Students Living on Campus and	Thursday, August 18, 2016
Orientation for All New Students and New Student	Friday, August 19, 2016
Fall Classes Begin	Monday, August 22, 2016
Last Day to Add/Drop with Full Tuition Refund	Friday, September 02, 2016
Labor Day - No Classes	Monday, September 05, 2016
Dean's Break Begins - No Classes	Monday, October 10, 2016
Dean's Break Ends - No Classes	Tuesday, October 11, 2016
Last Day to Withdraw	Tuesday, November 8, 2016
Last Day of Fall Classes - Classes Meet on a Monday	Tuesday, November 22, 2016
Thanksgiving Break Begins - No Classes	Wednesday, November 23, 2016
Thanksgiving Break Ends - No Classes	Friday, November 25, 2016
Writing Week Begins	Friday, November 25, 2016 at 5 P.M.
Writing Week Ends	Friday, December 2, 2016 at 12 P.M.
Final Conferences and Registration Begin	Tuesday, December 6, 2016
Final Conferences and Registration End	Thursday, December 8, 2016



Fall 2016 Class Schedule

TIME	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30 - 9:50	Orgins		Origins	Origins	
10:00 - 11:20	NS 1 A		NS 1 A	NS 1 A	
	Hum 3		Hum 3		Hum 3
	IS 3		IS 3		IS 3
	IS 5 A	IS 5 A	IS 5 A		IS 5 A
	German I		German I		German I
	Race&Gender A		Race&Gender A		Race&Gender A
11:30 - 12:50	Soc 1 A		Soc 1 A		Soc 1 A
	Soc 3		Soc 3		Soc 3
	Hum 4		Hum 4		Hum 4
	IS 5 B	IS 5 B	IS 5 B		IS 5 B
	NS 1 B		NS 1 B	NS 1 B	
1:45 - 3:05	IS 2		IS 2	IS 2	
	Hum 1 A		Hum 1 A		Hum 1 A
	Soc 1 B	Hum 1 B 1:00	Soc 1 B	Hum 1 B 1:00 - 2:50	Soc 1 B
	NS 3	- 2:50	NS 3		NS 3
	Child Psychology		Child Psychology		Child Psychology
	Race&Gender B	I PRO 1:50 - 4:30	Race&Gender B		Race&Gender B
3:15 - 4:35	Modernism		Meetings and Events		Modernism

Schedule Subject to Change



Course Descriptions

Core Courses—Humanities



Art and Music (Humanities 1)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: HUM 100-level

Humanities 1 consists of investigation of the elements and forms of the musical and visual arts. This course is primarily dedicated to the tasks of active listening and viewing. No previous training in music or facility at drawing or painting is presumed. Working with fundamental concepts in music and painting, students develop a rich vocabulary with which to discuss, describe, and experience music and the visual arts. Readings include texts by Plato, Alberti, Vasari, Bach, Gershwin, Tolstoy, Rilke, and Albers.



Philosophy and Theology (Humanities 3)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: HUM 300-level

Prerequisites: Humanities 1 and 2

Humanities 3 introduces students to philosophy, theology, and the Bible. Concentrating on significant texts in each discipline from antiquity until the early nineteenth century, the course investigates their distinctive methods of approach, their use of logic and narrative, and the problems they seek to solve. Readings include texts by Plato, biblical excerpts, Augustine, Aquinas, Teresa of Avila, Pascal, Locke, and Kierkegaard.

Core Courses—Humanities



Modern Currents in the Humanities (Humanities 4)

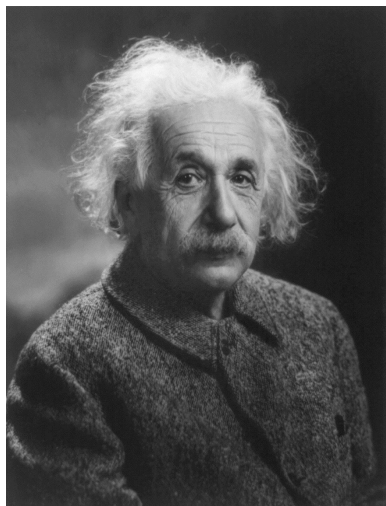
5 credits, IIT Equivalent: HUM 300-level

Prerequisites: Humanities 1, 2, and 3

In Humanities 4 you will learn to think theoretically about art, music, literature, philosophy, and theology. Focusing on works from the European Enlightenment period to the present, you will study significant works in the history of aesthetics and literary criticism. Readings include texts by Immanuel Kant, Friedrich Nietzsche, Ludwig Wittgenstein,, Martin Heidegger, Martin Buber, James Cone, Virginia Woolf, Susan Sontag, Simone de Beauvoir, and Judith Butler.



Core Courses—Integrative Studies



Foundations of Mathematics and Logic (Integrative Studies 2)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: Evaluated on individual basis

Integrative Studies 2 features the study of the foundations of mathematics and logic. This course includes a variety of logical, mathematical, and geometrical systems, both ancient and modern, that demonstrate both the power and the limitations of mathematics. The course is designed to increase students' abilities to think logically and express themselves with precision. Readings include texts by Euclid, Aristotle, Descartes, Einstein, and Lobachevsky.



Intersections of Nature and Culture (Integrative Studies 3)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: HUM 300-level

This class builds on the student's previous knowledge of the natural world and the human world. This course investigate the questions and experiences that produced major theories and artistic achievements in the liberal arts and sciences. Relying on classic texts, great works of the fine arts, and outstanding modern scholarship, students explore crucial concepts and artistic creations that shape our thinking about ourselves, our responses to other human beings, and our connection to the living world.

Core Courses—Integrative Studies



History and Philosophy of Western Civilization (Integrative Studies 5)

8 credits, IIT Equivalent: Evaluated on individual basis

Prerequisite: Final-year status and successful completion of the Basic Comprehensive Exam

Integrative Studies 5 and 6 comprise a unified sequence of intensive courses that complement the rest of Shimer's core curriculum and emphasize its essential unity. The works in this sequence, selected from major writings that are not studied elsewhere in the core curriculum, are read chronologically in order to emphasize their historical relationship to one another as part of a "great conversation" throughout Western intellectual history. Readings in Integrative Studies 5 include texts by Homer, Sappho, Aeschylus, Herodotus, Cicero, Virgil, Ptolemy, and Dante, among many others.



Core Courses—Natural Sciences



Laws and Models in Chemistry (Natural Sciences 1)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: Evaluated on individual basis

Natural Sciences 1 addresses the question, “What is the world made of?” The course begins with the study of the responses of Ancient Greek philosophers to that question, including Democritus’ theory of atoms, and concludes with Curie’s unnerving revelation that the “uncuttable” atom might be divisible into smaller pieces. The course focuses upon several key concepts, such as weight, structure, and complexity, in an attempt to understand the material basis of the world. Readings also include texts by Aristotle, Lucretius, Pascal, Bacon, Lavoisier, and Cannizzaro.



The Nature of Light (Natural Sciences 3)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: Evaluated on individual basis

Prerequisites: Natural Sciences 1, Integrative Studies 2, and the Mathematics Examination

Natural Sciences 3 explores the nature of light. Students examine the development of the theories of falling bodies, gravitation, and electromagnetic forces in order to better understand optical phenomena. The investigation of physical theories includes exploration of such crucial scientific questions as these: What phenomena need to be explained? How are they explained? What constitutes a satisfactory explanation? Readings include texts by

Galileo, Newton, Fresnel, Oersted, Faraday, Hertz, and Maxwell. Natural Sciences 3 is a Designated Writing Course.

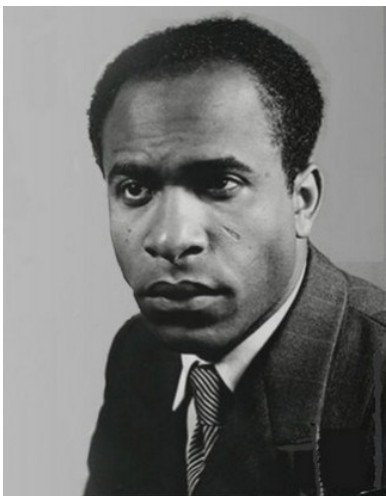
Core Courses—Social Sciences



Society, Culture, and Personality (Social Sciences 1)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: SOC 200-level

Social Sciences 1 introduces students to major disciplines within the social sciences—anthropology, psychology, and sociology—through the study of influential original texts in those fields. This course focuses on the nature of individual persons and the interrelationship and interaction between those individuals and their cultural and social world. It aims to give a better understanding of how individuals live, develop, and are affected by their culture. Readings include texts by James, Weber, DuBois, Durkheim, Freud, Piaget, and Gilligan. Course instructors work intensively with students on their writing in this Designated Writing Course.



Modern Theories of Society and Politics (Social Sciences 3)

5 credits, IIT Equivalent: SOC 300-level

Prerequisites: Social Sciences 1 and 2

Social Sciences 3 examines and critiques the Western political tradition, continuing the survey of Western political thought initiated in Social Sciences 2 while also furthering investigation of many of the questions addressed in Social Sciences 1. The course features nineteenth and twentieth century works which offer various ways of comprehending the social, psychological, economic, and political structure of the modern world. Readings include texts by Smith, Hegel, Tocqueville, Mill, de Beauvoir, Arendt, and Said.

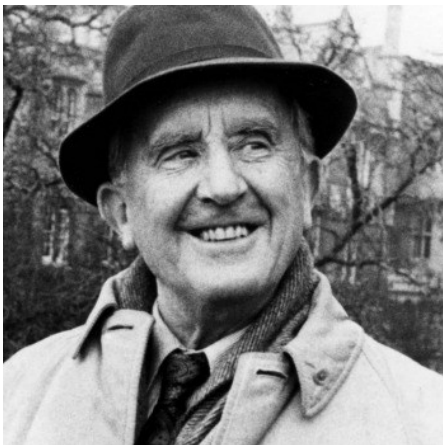
Elective Courses



Child Psychology and Theories of Education

Barbara Stone, Social Sciences, 5 Credits, IIT Equivalent: SOC 300-level

This course focuses on theories of child development, that is, on how social scientists approach this subject in terms of method, the major issues studied, and some pedagogical implications of these theories. Some of the authors we will read include Erikson, Piaget, Coles, Vygotsky, Dewey, Montessori, Holt, and Kozol.



Origins and Destinies

James Donovan, Humanities / Natural Sciences, 5 credits
IIT Equivalent: HUM 100-level

Science and religions both have explanations of who we humans are and how we and the world came to be. The stories are decidedly different. In *Origins and Destinies*, we will read and discuss several scientific, religious, and mythological stories of creation as well as stories describing the fate of us and the world. Three of the authors attempt to combine the two: claiming their works as scientific treatises that touch upon religious issues or the reverse. The goal of this course is not to discern in class which story or stories are right or true (that is left for the students to consider outside of class.) Rather, it is to understand each story with the questions and issues the author is addressing, and to decide how effectively the author answers the questions. The texts are wide-ranging, from Genesis to Ragnarock; from Tolkein to the Vedas.

Elective Courses



Modernism in English Literature

Aron Dunlap, Humanities, 5 credits, IIT Equivalent: TBD

This course will examine major works by modernist writers such as James Joyce, Gertrude Stein, and T.S. Eliot. Half of the semester will be devoted to a close reading of Joyce's *Ulysses*, and we will also discuss the influence of artists and painters on modernist literature.

German for Reading I

Barbara Stone, Humanities / Social Sciences / Natural Sciences, 5 Credits, IIT Equivalent: Free Elective

This course will introduce students to the basic grammatical structures of the German language. It will prepare students for the reading of original German texts in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. No prior knowledge of German or systematic study of another language is expected.

Elective Courses



Philosophy of Race and Gender

Ann Dolinko, Humanities / Social Sciences, 5 credits, IIT Equivalent: HUM/SOC 300-level

In this course we will explore issues of gender and race from a philosophical perspective. While the central vein of the class will be following the specific philosophic frameworks of post-structuralism and critical theory, we will also visit other themes such as global ethics, post-colonialism, and intersectionality. The introduction of voices of diverse and historically under-represented writers has problematized philosophies of liberation in fruitful and innovative ways. These problems, decentered and intersectional, are the focus of this course.



497-312: Creating and Demonstrating a New Shimer+Illinois Tech+Community Forum for Collaborative Social Innovation

Stuart Patterson, Social Sciences, 3 credits, IIT Equivalent: TBD

This is a hands-on course, in which students will learn about working with non-academic publics, about writing and applying for grants and about planning and managing large public events. You should leave with some practical skills and experience and have made some very interesting connections, both within the IIT/Shimer community and out into Chicago and beyond. The larger goal of this project is to empower students create and sustain an ongoing forum for collaborative communication between academic and public communities.



At Shimer we read the original sources written by some of the greatest minds that have influenced both Eastern and Western thought. Our classes are seminar-style where we gather together around a table to discuss many different subjects—from science and philosophy, to literature and political thought. Each class is taught by one professor who participates in the discussion as a fellow learner and moderator who ensures all thoughts are treated with respect and due consideration as we endeavor to discover the richness within the text. Our discussion classes make Shimer a great place to improve your reading and communication skills—both written and verbal.

We're a very open and welcoming community: feel free to stop by to find out more and arrange to visit a class to experience this exciting style of learning.

We look forward to meeting you!

Comments from IIT students about Shimer classes

Shimer classes are a great way to get a new perspective on familiar topics (such as physics or math) or to delve into less familiar subjects (from feminism to the I Ching). The facilitators do a great job guiding discussion, and the students are very interested in what they're learning. Learning through dialogue is very engaging and ensures that everyone gets a full grasp on the subject matter. Everyone brings their own experience and knowledge to the table and you often end up learning much more than what the class is specifically focused on, since all knowledge is interconnected. Plus, the learning environment is relaxed and casual, so classes are a lot of fun.

I took the Bioethics course with professor Jim Ulrich. It was a wonderful experience for me. Slightly different from IIT courses in that it was much more discussion based and less lecture based. I feel like I learned a great deal during the course and really enjoyed speaking with the professor and my classmates as they were willing to debate and discuss differing opinions on the subject matter. I feel that taking a Shimer class really helped to enrich and add to my experiences here at IIT, and I think many students could benefit from that same experience.

I took a film class at Shimer, which I would highly recommend. There were never any lectures like in most IIT courses-- all discussions were student-led. The small class size led to very thoughtful discussions. Also, I got to meet a new group of students I would otherwise have never met..

The experience I had at Shimer College was awesome. Being able to be in a small classroom of only 7 students and to be encouraged to discuss differing opinions and views was great.. The opportunity to openly discuss current issues and to learn about how an organization might deal with them was very interesting and insightful for a student of Biomedical Engineering.

Working with students from Shimer College opened me up to new experiences.

Comments from IIT students about Shimer classes

The experience I had at Shimer College was awesome. Being able to be in a small classroom of only 7 students and to be encouraged to discuss differing opinions and views was great. While the professor did prod the conversations and sometimes had to ensure that everybody got a chance to speak the class was largely student run. The opportunity to openly discuss current issues and to learn about how an organization might deal with them was very interesting and insightful for a student of Biomedical Engineering.

While IIT has a diverse student population, meeting and working with students from Shimer College also opened me up to new experiences. While engineering students are often taught how to master logic and the working out perfect solutions; Shimer students are taught to take any idea, no matter how ridiculous it may seem, and run with it to see where it might take them.

I am very happy to have received my degree from IIT, however, the opportunity to work with Shimer College faculty and learn in their classroom environment made my education more valuable because learning will never stop and if you only have one way to learn then you will be severely limiting your growth in the future.

Shimerians are completely different from most IIT students, and I wanted to meet them. I also wanted to experience a rigorous and discussion-based approach to literature. I understood before taking the class that there would be a lot of reading, a lot of writing papers, but most of all a lot of talking in class, and I wanted to expand my worldview in this way. When I took this class, I realized that the Shimer floor was very home-y and that students not only took classes there, they could recognize by sight and name everyone in the building, which was a completely foreign experience to me, and very pleasant.

I developed my skills of argument to a much higher level than I ever would have without that class. I also read some interesting works by ancient writers that I had never heard of before. During the paper revision process, I learned the Shimerian way of improving a paper- i.e. to completely demolish it and then build it back up again with a much better understanding of what it should be.

I believe that taking a Shimer class can help IIT students to open their minds to the concept that the war of words is challenging, and not just what people who can't do engineering have to resort to.

Registration Dates & Procedures

Registration dates for the Fall 2016 semester are:

Continuing Students:	May 3—6
IIT Students	Rolling, beginning May 6
New Students:	August 18

To Cross-Register for Shimer Courses:

IIT students must first submit a petition to the IIT Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs at UGAA@IIT.edu requesting permission to enroll in a course at Shimer College, and then contact Shimer Registrar Jim Ulrich at (312) 235-3523 or by email at: j.ulrich@shimer.edu to complete the process.

VanderCook students should consult with their academic adviser to determine the applicability of a Shimer class to their program of study and then contact Shimer Registrar Jim Ulrich at (312) 235-3523 or by email at: j.ulrich@shimer.edu and the VanderCook Registrar to complete the process.

Chicago City Colleges students who have completed at least one Great Books course at their home school should speak with their academic adviser and receive approval to cross-register for a course before contacting Shimer Office of Admission at (312) 235-3555 or by email at admission@shimer.edu for more information.

For students who are approved to cross-register at Shimer, the cost of each course will be included in the student's home school tuition.



Shimer

The Great Books College of Chicago

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fax: 888.808.3133

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“Wisdom begins in Wonder.” - Socrates

There are no lectures at Shimer. Classes follow the Socratic method — professors ask questions that challenge you to articulate and support your ideas. That makes the Shimer classroom a dynamic place where the books and the conversation are always open.



Shimer

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