

Germantown Updates

Faculty

Germantown Humanities faculty across the disciplines are committed to providing diverse and engaging course offerings and extra-curricular programming, so that up-county students can access the courses they need for graduation and transfer at a location convenient to them where they feel part of a vibrant and engaging campus community. Faculty in Germantown collaborate with partners across the College and the community to support student learning. History is actively serving the Dual Enrollment population, with seven sections of World History 1500 to the Present for Early College students this spring, and U.S. History at Northwest High School.

Political Science

Through the work of Jennifer Heydel, Political Science has received multiple mini-grants/grants in the past two years to engage in interdisciplinary collaboration and curriculum development. These include a Montgomery College Foundation Innovation grant for the development of a collaborative program focused on community engagement and food security, a Project Pericles Up to Us Voting Module Mini-Grant to engage students in deliberative dialogues about health care policy, and a University System of Maryland First in the World Civic Education Collaborative Grant titled “Exploring Voter Turnout in US Elections: An Interdisciplinary Module for Introductory Statistics” (in conjunction with Statistics and Student Life). The Political Science and International Studies Programs launched a new speaker series called “Coattails” to help current students connect with and learn from alumni. The inaugural event brought in three International Studies and General Studies alumni who completed a Davis Peace Project fellowship working with the organization RAICES.

Philosophy

Under the direction of Michael Harding, the Philosophy discipline, in conjunction with the Montgomery Liberal Arts Foundation, organizes a weeklong summer seminar in the history of political philosophy that brings scholars from across the country to campus. Philosophy faculty and Art faculty team-teach a course that pairs an honors section of Introduction to Philosophy with a section of 2D Design, using primary texts in the history of philosophy while considering what these texts teach about human nature, freedom of the will, and responsibility. The 2D design section of the course has an extensive focus on the actual process of creativity, and on design itself as a way of identifying and solving certain problems. The emphasis is not merely on the final product or artistic technique; the course is also concerned with introspection into the process of choosing itself. Faculty also maintain an active research agenda with recent publications in philosophy and political science journals and books, and in which collaboration occurs with other MC faculty (Psychology).