Furman University May Experience 2017
May 10-May 31, 2017

ON-CAMPUS COURSE OFFERINGS

The May Experience is a 3-week term that moves out of the classroom, melding theory with practice in intensive learning experiences. It offers an opportunity to explore exciting topics in 2-credit courses that are not offered during any other time of year. Some courses can count towards a major, while others are offered for elective credit.

Registration for on-campus May Experience 2017 courses begins on Friday, December 2nd, 2016. Up-to-date course availability and detailed schedule information is available at My.Furman.Edu.

ART-105 Art and Community Engagement W. McClain
Public art focusing on encouraging creative, research, design and practice outside the gallery setting. Exploration of public art in its many manifestations which can include site specific projects, contemporary memorials, political actions, community-based projects, environmental, temporary, ephemeral and permanent projects.

BIO-255 Insect Diversity W. Worthen
Field-based survey of the major groups of insects. Lectures will focus on the evolutionary history, ecology, and taxonomy of insects. The primary component will be collection, identification, and preservation of insect specimens, contributing to the "all taxa biological surveys" on campus and at the Furman Forest.

BIO-260 Introduction to Biomaterials R. Hutchinson
An exploration of ideas in cardiovascular, orthopedic, and regenerative medicine and how today’s technologies and medical innovations have changed these medicines. Course activities will involve trips to local research and medical facilities & hands-on manipulations of biomaterials and devices.

BIO-365 Superhero Genetic Disorders M. Liao
A study of the molecular and genomic bases of human genetic disorders and their causes by using the characteristics of fictional superheroes as examples. The social, legal, and ethical issues related to disease diagnosis and treatments and human biotechnology will also be discussed.

CHM-250 Introduction to Research Methods Staff
An introduction to the fundamental protocols of modern laboratory research, including chemical safety, information fluency, and instrumentation methods. Additional topics include scientific ethics, data preservation, and individualized instruction on project specific techniques.

CHM-251 Advanced Research Methods N. Kuklinski
An exploration of the techniques and protocols of modern laboratory research, including chemical safety, information fluency, and advanced instrumentation methods. Additional topics include scientific ethics, data analysis, and individualized instruction on project specific techniques.

CHM-255 Technical Writing in Chemistry T. Hanks
An introduction to the fundamental aspects of scientific writing. Additional topics include literature resources, data presentation, and individualized instruction on project specific written presentations.

CSC-221 Topics in Programming C. Healy
An examination of the Federal Reserve system and its important role in the conduct of monetary policy. Emphasis is placed on the collection and interpretation of current economic indicators and how the Federal Reserve might respond to the existing economic situation.
ECN-200 Federal Reserve & Monetary Policy  J. Jones
An examination of the Federal Reserve system and its important role in the conduct of monetary policy. Emphasis is placed on the collection and interpretation of current economic indicators and how the Federal Reserve might respond to the existing economic situation. Course material will prepare students to participate in the Fed Challenge.

EDU-115 Depiction of Schools on Film  P. Thomas
Investigation of documentary films as social and political texts in order to identify historical and contemporary views on schools and the purpose(s) of education.

EDU-234 Intergenerational Learning  L. Dejong
Issues in aging and adult development are examined through study and intergenerational dialogue. Includes daily readings and interactions with senior citizens and includes engagement with professionals and agencies in the Greenville community whose products and services directly serve those of aging and older adults.

EES-357 Fly Fishing and Rivers  G. Lewis & D. Koppang
Introduction to Fly Fishing. Watershed geology, stream structure, reading a stream to identify likely location of fish, life cycle of aquatic insects and other food sources, biology of fish and common fish behavior, resource conservation, ethics of "catch and release", basic fly tackle and rigging techniques, basic fly casting techniques, and basic fly tying techniques.

ENG-172 Gothic Creatures  G. Braun
The Gothic genre is populated by unnatural creatures: phantoms, human-animal hybrids, and vampires that stalk the seemingly innocent. But such beings may also give voice to cultural guilt or anxiety. This course locates the Gothic creature in its historical and political context.

ENG-225 Writing with Writers  J. Provost
Intensive creative writing workshop led by Hugo and Nebula award winning science fiction and fantasy author Kij Johnson. Johnson will guide students in writing original fiction with an emphasis on the science fiction and fantasy genres.

GGY-265 Geography and Sports  G. Lipscomb
Intersection of geography and sports with particular attention to the increasing globalization of sports worldwide. Focus will be primarily on baseball, basketball, and soccer, but will also explore a number of other modern sports. Cultural impact of modern sports, the diffusion of sport around the world, the economic impact of sports internationally, and struggle in finding spaces for recreational activities.

MTH-242 Mathematics of Ranking  J. Harris
From the ranking of the web pages by Google and other search engines, to the ranking of movies and products by Netflix and Amazon, to the ranking of sports teams destined for postseason tournaments --- it is clear that rankings of all types are pervasive in today's society. Introducing students to the mathematical topics that underlie many different ranking systems.

MUS-425 Tuning Systems and the Aural XP  M. Vick
Study of the history of tuning systems which date back thousands of years. Exploring the differences between a Just Intonation tuning system and an Equally Tempered system, including the 12 Tone Equal Temperament System (12-TET). Provides students with a global perspective for experiencing music.

MXP-125 Reading Experience  J. Colvin
This course helps students develop the skills to become lifelong readers. Students will immerse in reading experiences and share their reflections. Book clubs within the class will read banned books and present on specific genres to the class.

What Will it Cost?
Where Will I Live?
What Will I Eat?
The tuition cost of MayX is covered by your Spring-semester comprehensive fee. Furman provides the same housing accommodations, dining and student services during May Experience that are available during the academic year. If you are planning to live on campus, you are required to purchase a meal plan. The price for both housing and 33 meals in the Dining Hall is $775.
If you are not living on campus, you still have the option to purchase a meal plan. Visit the Housing and Residence Life website for the housing application, costs and more information.
MXP-130 Virtual Identities  M. Fairbairn
Students will explore what it means to construct, present and experience the self as an avatar. They will investigate decisions people make in identity creation, possible reasons behind the decisions, and the impact these choices have on an individual's behavior and interactions in a virtual environment.

MXP-135 Rise of Pro Baseball in the US  S. Richardson
The development and growth of professional baseball in the United States in its formative years of the nineteenth century and the first two decades of the twentieth century. The development of the game will be revealed through its mirroring of American culture in the time period including the topics of emerging national societies and associations, labor/management relations, racial and ethnic conflicts, immigration, criminal elements and antitrust issues.

MXP-144 Tai-Chi for Performers  K. Davis
This course will teach the therapeutic benefits gained from the practice of Tai Chi Chuan, with a focus on the needs of performing musicians. We will learn a condensed Tai chi form, along with warm up exercises and energy exercises (qigong).

MXP-175 Why We Swim  M. Menzer
Exploring swimming as a cultural practice, reading literature, analyzing art, and discussing its history, including racial segregation in the U.S. Students will swim frequently in pools and open water and make connections between their swimming and the readings and site visits.

MXP-253 Discovering Greatness  K. Longest
Explore the limits of human potential by investigating what makes people great. The course will focus first on studying the characteristics and traits of greatness by studying notable historical and cultural leaders in a variety of domains. Next, it will seek to understand how we can apply those lessons to our lives to become extraordinary. Students will have the freedom to direct their pursuits towards greatness in several different domains including academic, leadership, business, athletic, and health.

MXP-300 Poverty, Medicine, & Law  D. Gandolfo & D. Mitchell
This course familiarizes Pre-Law, Pre-Health, and Poverty Studies students with Medical-Legal Partnerships in preparation for internships. It entails intensive coursework and extensive fieldwork in medical and legal settings in Greenville County.

NSC-450 Techniques in Neuroscience  O. Rice
Preparation for independent research. Topics such as ethics, conducting advanced literature searches, handling and injecting rodents, mixing drugs, how to make scientific presentations, writing for publication, and advanced statistics are covered. Students complete a literature review or research proposal and oral presentation.

PSC-411 Mediation and Conflict Resolution  M. McInery
An introduction to the theory and practice of mediation, a non-adversarial method for resolving disputes. Students will practice active listening skills, facilitative responses, non-verbal communication skills, and mediation techniques (brainstorming, settling on a mutual option, and writing an effective agreement). The broader implications of conflict resolution such as restorative justice and forgiveness studies will also be explored.

PSC-412 Trial Advocacy  S. Bowden
Historical foundations of trial advocacy; analysis of the structure of a trial from opening statements to closing arguments; students practice all components of a trial (e.g., direct and cross examination) and stage several trials in local courthouses. Cases rotate between civil and criminal fact patterns.

How Do I Register?
The registration process for the May Experience term is similar to that for the Fall and Spring semesters, through the Registration menu at My.Furman.Edu.

Classes begin filling when registration opens on Friday, December 2nd, 2016 and the registration period ends on Monday, April 17th, 2017.

Consult your academic advisor or the faculty member leading the class to determine if a course matches your academic goals. Some courses may require the completion of a prerequisite or may be enrolled on an invitation-only basis. You can enroll in only one MayX course per year.
The phenomenon of terrorism warrants continued study. What qualifies as terrorism and why? What types of terrorism are there? What motivates terrorism? How can it be tackled?

Students learn the fundamentals of EEG data collection and analysis through a mixture of instruction and hands-on experience. During the second half of the course, students will work together in small groups to design, execute, and analyze data from a simple EEG experiment.

PSY-451 EEG Methods
E. Wamsley

Exploration of controversial issues related to the Bible in modern culture, with emphasis on biblical passages that have been at the center of passionate religious debate. Topics will include creation and evolution; Jesus and Christian theology; war and violence; and identity issues related to gender, sexuality, and race.

REL-276 Religion & Black Pop Culture
R. Sneed

Analysis of the local food system from a sociological perspective. Local food production, distribution, and consumption trends today. Develop a better understanding of how individual tastes and habits are heavily influenced by a much larger social system often hidden from view. The course includes four mandatory all-day workshops.

This course introduces students to specialized business terminology (banking, sales, marketing, administration, accounting, customer service, human resources, etc.) and teaches them how to use this vocabulary in practical applications (correspondence, résumés, etc.). Through readings and research, special attention will be given to the particular values and cultural practices of the Hispanic business world. Students will also engage with the Greenville business community and will analyze and determine best practices in addressing Hispanic consumers.