Engaging and Connecting to Navigate Today’s Historic Times

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Overview

- 2020 as a (very very long) teachable moment
- 6thfloor+u Summer Program
- GLS SHEPheRD Community
- “Adapting, Thriving, and Keeping the conversation going”
- Classroom applications
Goal: to connect with students in Summer 2020 because we cared and were concerned about them; the COVID-19 and BLM crises were big enough events to alter our normal silence over the summer.
6thfloor+u

A Liberal Studies-wide summertime initiative to engage and connect with students, faculty, staff, and other community members.

(Liberal Studies is located on the 6th floor of 726 Broadway)
“Adapting, Thriving, and Keeping the Conversation Going with Interactive Video Discussions”: Events with Liberal Studies Professors

**Where do Pandemics Come From & How Can We Prevent the Next COVID-19?**

*With Prof. Bonney & GLS Senior Grace Sahani*

Join Prof. Bonney for an insightful discussion about COVID-19 and other pandemics. We will focus on how new infectious diseases enter human populations and what can be done to lower the risk of future pandemics.

Before the event, please watch these two short TED Talks:
- Nathan Wolfe, “The Jungle Search for Viruses”
- Bill Gates, “The Next Outbreak: We’re Not Ready”

**JULY 1ST * WED * 1PM**

**Why COVID 19 is a Black Lives Matter issue**

*With Professors Leo Douglas, Ifeona Fulani, & Kaia N. Shivers*

Will consider questions concerning disproportionate impact of COVID 19 on African Americans; also the history of management of pandemics in Africa and the Afro-diaspora; and impact of climate change on black lives.

**Aug 19 * WED * 1pm**

**COVID-19: Why the Economy Could Fare Worse Than You Think**

The lockdown that followed the outbreak of COVID-19 will have more lasting consequences than originally anticipated. As the lockdown ended around the world, companies found they couldn’t just go back to business as usual. Supply chains were disrupted, middle class consumers were spending less and most households had accumulated larger debts than ever before. How long will the ripple effects of coronavirus on the economy last? How will COVID-19 impact globalization? Shall we be able to avoid a 1930-like depression?

**JULY 1ST * WED * 1PM**

**Covid-19: Why the Economy Could Fare Worse Than You Think**

Explore these questions and many more
“Adapting, Thriving, and Keeping the Conversation Going with Interactive Video Discussions”: Events with Liberal Studies Professors

First-Generation College Students Discussion
With Professor Minu Tharoor & GLS Junior Anais Caro
Sixthfloor+u  JULY 15 * WED * 1PM
Come join us for a discussion about the unique challenges and joys of being a first generation college student. We’ll come together to share experiences and perspectives, explore issues and questions, and—perhaps most importantly—connect with one another as we build a strong community of Liberal Studies first-gen college students.

“SIX-WORD STORY SALON”
With Professor Susanna Horng
Sixthfloor+u  JULY 20 * MON * 1PM
Join Professor Susanna Horng for a creative writing workshop. Together we’ll talk about the craft of flash fiction, read samples of six-word stories by well-known writers, and write our own. All levels are welcome.

First-Generation College Students Discussion
With Professor Cammie Kim Lin & Paul Brown, Assistant Director of Advising and Diversity
Sixthfloor+u  JULY 15 * WED * 1PM

Documenting New York City: LGBTQ Ball Culture
With Prof. Horng & GLS Junior Kayko Donald
Join Professor Susanna Horng and GLS Junior Kayko Donald for a lively conversation about the legendary documentary Paris is Burning (1990), directed by Jennie Livingston. This documentary examines the underground LGBTQ ball culture in New York City in the late 1980’s. Kayko Donald is a candidate for the House of Comme des Garçons—a thriving international organization with a strong record of grand prize wins and ballroom dominance, and will share what ball culture is like today. Hear the REAL work it takes to walk, vogue, and compete in a ball competition.

* Please watch the documentary prior to the event (76 minutes)
6thfloor+u
NYU
ARTS & SCIENCE LIBERAL STUDIES

75th Anniversary: Hiroshima and its Legacies:
the emergence of a global peace
and anti-nuclear movements
and re-thinking the ‘mushroom cloud’

7/5 * WED * 1PM
With Professor Joyce Apsel

On the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, we will explore together issues of images, history and memory of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. What is the meaning and impact of the use of nuclear bombs for people in Japan and worldwide; what is the legacy for the environment and on anti-nuclear and peace movements? What is some of the new scholarship on some of these subjects? Everyone is encouraged to add comments and to participate and dialogue on the importance of Hiroshima and Nagasaki past and present.

Recovering Black Lives & Histories through Art

With Professor Minu Tharoor, GLS Junior Anais Caro

JULY 22 * WED * 1PM

Art As Advocacy & Historical Documentation:
the paintings of Ceija Stojka
- Romani (“Gypsy”) advocate, artist, and Holocaust Survivor
With Professor Tamuira Reid and GLS senior Jack Tilmon Splawn, who spent last year in Spain and saw the Stojka exhibition at the Reina Sofia in Madrid.

"When Ceija Stojka was 10 years old, she was captured by Nazi forces and sent to Auschwitz. Fifteen months later she was deported to the Ravensbrück concentration camp, and seventeen months after that to Bergen-Belsen. By the time she was liberated in April 1945, Stojka had witnessed unfathomable violence, cruelty, and death. She survived the war, but many of her family members—and an estimated 73% of her Austrian Romani (“Gypsy”) community—did not. " (art.papers.org)

* Stay tuned for access to a documentary on Stojka’s work — she died late last year.

LGBTQQIPAA – What’s that spell?
With Professor Chris Packard

Everyone is welcome to our informal chat, which will double as our first student club meeting of fall 2020. The club’s called LGBTQ70 and we meet every couple of weeks throughout the year to talk about — whatever’s queer and interesting to folks who come. So join us and help to make it interesting. Queens and friends of our community
Erin S Morrison  Jul 1, 9:50 AM • Edited

Good morning everyone! Can’t believe it’s Wednesday already! This morning I paused during my run to snap some photos of bumblebees foraging on a species of meadowsweet.
An online community for social and environmental justice hosted by the SHE (Sustainability, Health, and the Environment) and PRD (Politics, Rights, and Development) Global Liberal Studies Concentrations
• Continuing into the school year as a student club
• Reaching > 200 people weekly
• Providing a key resource for classes concerned with social and environmental justice
  • Student presentation ideas
  • Student news / current events exploration
  • Jigsaw exercise: News articles as pieces of a puzzle
Piecing Together Facets of Environmental and Social Justice in a Jigsaw Exercise

- Active Learning Toolbox
- Adaptation of Jigsaw; Research Jigsaw (Anderson 1971; 2019a)
- For fully remote, blended, or in person classes
- Synchronous and asynchronous components
- Meaningful current events, and controversies are focused on because they engage students and stimulate discussion.

Steps to creating a Jigsaw assignment

1. Choose a topic that lends well to group work then break your topic up into equal parts
   Ex. 4 groups 4 parts

A quick example –

Topic: How the Heart Functions:
- Group 1 – Right Atria
- Group 2 – Right Ventricle
- Group 3 – Left Atria
- Group 4 – Left Ventricle

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMP6b9E9ISc
• Community-building and communication during challenging times
• Engaging students and other community members in text and video-based discussions around current and key issues and movements
• Bringing current events into the classroom
• Encouraging students and other community members to think about their roles, opinions, and opportunities
Thanks!