

PCC Integrative Seminar (3 credits)

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Spring 2008

Fridays: 9:45 – 2:45, with two short breaks and one hour for lunch

This seminar provides an opportunity for PCC masters students to create a portfolio documenting their course of study as it comes to conclusion. All students (approximately twelve) will synthesize the various threads of their research as expressed in papers of enduring significance in a new essay to be presented to the class, and after appropriate refinement, to an assembly of PCC faculty and students on the last day of the course. In this seminar students will address each other directly while the two instructors provide crucial feedback both in response to students' written work and to class presentations.

Aim: By writing your intellectual biography and preparing your portfolio, particularly with the help of feedback by students and faculty, each student is invited to take up the question of one's karma, one's personal story, vocation, or defining commitment. What is it that you have come on earth to do, and what is that you plan now to set out to do, and how? As an aid to answering these questions, you will summarize what you have learned in PCC/M.A., what is yet to be learned, and how might such knowledge help you to develop your deepest capacities and serve your community and humanity?

1. 1.25 Personal biographies by each student; 10-15 mins. each
2. 2.8 Summary of best paper (or perhaps best two papers on the same theme): half of the class will presentation, approx. 30 mins. each, followed by discussion of each
3. 2.22 Second half of class will present best paper(s), as in 2.8
4. 3.7 First third of the class will present their draft portfolios (principle themes, sections) and draft intellectual biography (approximately devoted to dominant themes from masters program and half to future work).
5. 3.14 Second third...(as in 3.7)
6. 3.21 Last third...(as in 3.7 and 3.14)
7. 4.4 Trial presentations, first half will deliver a 30-minute talk, with minimal reference to notes, on their respective intellectual positions and plans, drawn from the written account submitted to RMcD two weeks after the initial presentation (3.7 or 3.14)
8. 4.11. Second half of trial presentations (based on written accounts submitted to RMcD on 3.21 or 4.4)
9. 4.18 Formal presentations to an assembly PCC faculty, students, families and friends: Every student in the class will give a formal 15-20 min. talk without notes based on your trial presentation (4.4 or 4.11). Portfolios will also be on display for review by invited guests.

Note: My *Classical American Philosophy* meets the same time, Fridays, Feb. 2, 15, 29.