



BOSTON COLLEGE
Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences

CORNERSTONE PROGRAM

Stokes Hall 141S
140 Commonwealth Avenue
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
bc.edu/cornerstone

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about Cornerstone
Seminar Programs



BOSTON COLLEGE
Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences

Cornerstone Program

2025–2026

Take advantage of a unique opportunity to learn in a small seminar setting with a faculty member who will be your academic advisor during your first year until you move into your major sometime in your second year.

YOU MAY CHOOSE ONE OF THESE FOUR CORNERSTONE OPTIONS:

The Courage to Know

UNCS2201

Who am I? What am I good at? Who am I called to become? Explore these questions through the lenses of either developmental psychology or philosophy using literature, film, articles, and guest speakers to examine the roles that family of origin, race, class, gender, sexuality, faith, intimacy, and vocational discernment play in becoming your most authentic self.

- ▶ 3 credits, graded
- ▶ Fall and spring
- ▶ Professor serves as academic advisor only if taken in the fall
- ▶ Open to all four undergraduate schools and colleges

First-Year Writing Seminar

ENGL1009 & 1010

Develop and practice writing and research skills in a small workshop setting as you create a portfolio of personal and academic writing. In a process that includes crafting and rewriting essays and discussing your work in class and in individual conferences with your instructor, you will strengthen your skills to meet the challenges of academic, professional, and personal life.

- ▶ 3 credits
- ▶ Fulfills Core Writing requirement
- ▶ Fall only
- ▶ A limited number of the First-Year Writing Seminar sections fall under the Cornerstone designation

Perspectives on Western Culture

PHIL/THEO1090

The first semester of this yearlong program explores the rise of Greek philosophy and the Judeo-Christian experience of God's self-revelation in history. The second semester focuses on thinkers who have shaped the modern world, including Luther, Pascal, Kant, Hegel, Barth, Kierkegaard, and Newman.

- ▶ 6 credits each semester (full year)
- ▶ Fulfills Theology and Philosophy Core requirements
- ▶ Fall and spring
- ▶ A limited number of the Perspectives sections fall under the Cornerstone designation

First-Year Topic Seminar

UNCS2245

Weekly discussion sessions focus on research topics in which the instructor has expertise and a special interest, including such topics as economic inequality, race in American cinema, migration histories, climate change, and creativity and innovation, among others.

- ▶ 1 credit, Pass/Fail
- ▶ Fall only; course ends before Thanksgiving
- ▶ Limited to 15 students
- ▶ Limited to Morrissey College students

THE COURAGE TO KNOW

UNCS2201

► A 3-credit seminar serving as one of a student's University electives

UNCS2201.01	Courage to Know	Elizabeth Bracher	T Th	10:30–11:45 am
UNCS2201.02	Courage to Know	Luke Jorgensen	T Th	Noon–1:15 pm
UNCS2201.03	Courage to Know	Cecilie Joyner	M W	4:30–5:45 pm
UNCS2201.05	Courage to Know	Michael Davidson	T Th	3:00–4:15 pm
UNCS2201.06	Courage to Know	Elizabeth Bracher	T Th	3:00–4:15 pm
UNCS2201.07	Courage to Know	Akua Sarr	T Th	4:30–5:45 pm
UNCS2201.08	Courage to Know	Brett Ingram	M W F	10:00–10:50 am
UNCS2201.09	Courage to Know	Thomas Mogan	M W	4:30–5:45 pm
UNCS2201.10	Courage to Know	Joseph Desciak	M W	4:30–5:45 pm
UNCS2201.11	Courage to Know	Shawna Cooper-Whitehead & Joe DuPont	M W	4:30–5:45 pm
*UNCS2201.13	Courage to Know Transfers ONLY	Treseanne Ainsworth	T Th	4:30–5:45 pm

FIRST-YEAR WRITING SEMINAR

ENGL1009 &1010

► Fall semester only, fulfills Writing Core, 3 credits. Only the sections listed below are part of Cornerstone

ENGL1009.07	FWS: Multilingual	Amanda Labriola	T Th	1:30–2:45 pm
ENGL1009.09	FWS: Multilingual	Amanda Labriola	T Th	10:30–11:45 am
ENGL1010.08	FWS	Martha Hincks	T Th	9:00–10:15 am
ENGL1010.32	FWS	Brian Zimmerman	M W F	10:00–10:50 am
ENGL1010.35	FWS	Brian Zimmerman	M W F	11:00–11:50 am
ENGL1010.44	FWS	Sarah Ehrich	T Th	3:00–4:15 pm
ENGL1010.48	FWS	Kate Steele	T Th	4:30–5:45 pm
ENGL1010.52	FWS	Martha Hincks	T Th	10:30–11:45 am
ENGL1010.55	FWS	Sarah Ehrich	T Th	Noon–1:15 pm
ENGL1010.57	FWS	Dacia Gentilella	T Th	Noon–1:15 pm

PERSPECTIVES ON WESTERN CULTURE

PHIL/THEO 1090

► Full-year course, fulfills Theology and Philosophy Core requirements, 6 credits/semester. Only the sections listed below are part of Cornerstone

PHIL/THEO 1090.03	Perspectives on Western Culture	Paul McNellis, S.J.	M W F	11:00–11:50 am	W 6:00–8:30 pm
PHIL/THEO 1090.11	Perspectives on Western Culture	Jason Donnelly	T Th	4:30–5:45 pm	W 6:00–8:30 pm
PHIL/THEO 1090.13	Perspectives on Western Culture	Antonia Atanassova	T Th	3:00–4:15 pm	W 6:00–8:30 pm
PHIL/THEO 1090.21	Perspectives on Western Culture	Antonia Atanassova	T Th	4:30–5:45 pm	W 6:00–8:30 pm
PHIL/THEO 1090.23	Perspectives on Western Culture	Andrew Barrette	M W F	Noon–12:50 pm	W 6:00–8:30 pm
PHIL/THEO 1090.33	Perspectives on Western Culture	Andrew Barrette	M W F	11:00–11:50 am	W 6:00–8:30 pm
PHIL/THEO 1090.45	Perspectives on Western Culture	Jason Donnelly	T Th	1:30–2:45 pm	W 6:00–8:30 pm
PHIL/THEO 1090.55	Perspectives on Western Culture	Deborah DeChiara-Quenzer	M W F	11:00–11:50 am	W 6:00–8:30 pm

FIRST-YEAR TOPIC SEMINAR

UNCS2245

► A 1-credit elective seminar

► Fall semester only, ends before Thanksgiving break, Pass/Fail

UNCS2245.01	Eat This, Not That...No Wait. The Biology of Nutrition and Health Lynn DiBenedetto (Biology) Monday, Noon–1:15 pm	UNCS2245.14	These Are a Few of My Favorite (Economic) Things! Tracy Regan (Economics) Tuesday, 3:00–4:15 pm
UNCS2245.02	Using Economics to Challenge Intuition Geoffrey Sanzenbacher (Economics) Tuesday, 1:30–2:45 pm	UNCS2245.15	Seeing Is Not Believing: Propaganda in the 21st Century Thomas Kaplan Maxfield (English) Monday, 9:00–10:15 am
UNCS2245.04	The Freshman International Student Experience Adrienne Nussbaum (Office of International Students & Scholars) Tuesday, 10:30–11:45 am	UNCS2245.16	Theatre: Transformation and Social Impact Patricia Riffin (Theatre) Monday, 4:00–5:15 pm
UNCS2245.05	Inclusive Prosperity Can Erbil (Economics) Wednesday, Noon–1:15 pm	UNCS2245.17	Big Screen Microeconomics: Economic Principles in Our Favorite Movies Matt Rutledge (Economics) Wednesday, 4:30–5:45 pm
UNCS2245.06	Are We Here Just to Play Sports? Exploring How D1 Sports Impacts the Student-Athlete Experience Debbie Hogan (Social Work) Thursday, 4:30–5:45 pm	UNCS2245.18	Monsters and the Monstrous Jason Cavallari (University Fellowships Office) Monday, 4:30–5:45 pm
UNCS2245.08	Imagining the Impossible Joseph Nugent (English) Tuesday, 4:30–5:45 pm	UNCS2245.19	First Gen Students: Using Our Strengths to Succeed in College Dacia Gentilella (Learning to Learn Program) Tuesday, 1:30–2:45 pm
*UNCS2245.09	Living & Learning Justice Deanna Danforth (University Core) Tuesday, 4:30–5:45 pm	UNCS2245.20	Justice, Law, and the Common Good Gregory Kalscheur, S.J. (Dean, Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences) Monday, 4:00–5:15 pm
UNCS2245.10	The Freshman International Student Experience Adrienne Nussbaum (Office of International Students & Scholars) Wednesday, 1:00–2:15 pm	*UNCS2245.22	Core Conversations In/Justice Elizabeth Shlala (University Core and History) Tuesday, 4:30–5:45 pm
UNCS2245.11	Music and... Jeremiah McGrann (Music) Wednesday, 3:00–4:15 pm	UNCS2245.23	Human-Centered Design for the Common Good Sunanda Bhattacharya (Office of the Provost) Monday, 3:00–4:15 pm
UNCS2245.12	Engaging Difference and Justice at Boston College Brian Gareau (Sociology) Wednesday, 4:30–5:45 pm	UNCS2245.25	Seeking to Understand Innovation and Creativity Charles Hoffman (Biology) Tuesday, 9:00–10:15 am
UNCS2245.13	Illusions Sean MacEvoy (Psychology) Thursday, Noon–1:15 pm	UNCS2245.26	Am I My Brother's (or Sister's) Keeper? Social Insurance in America Joseph Quinn (Economics) Tuesday, 4:30–5:45 pm

*A Living Learning Community