College Courses

Overview
College Courses are liberal arts courses taught outside of departments or programs.

Course Offerings

COLL-110 STEM Transitions for Transfer Students
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 1
This 1-credit seminar is especially designed for students transferring to Mount Holyoke to pursue a major in the sciences or mathematics. The course will connect new transfer students to people and resources that will help them to fully engage in the sciences at Mount Holyoke and provide a space to practice the modes of discourse common to upper-level science and math courses. We explore interdisciplinary topics such as the biology of stress, and learn about science opportunities (including internships) and effective strategies for excelling in science and math courses. We use the primary literature as a text, and gain practice with analytical writing in a setting specifically designed for transfer students. The curriculum is guided by research-based best practices and is designed in consultation with former transfer students.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
S. Bacon
Instructor permission required.

COLL-208 Histories, Memories, and Legacies: The Social Justice Protests of 2020
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 2
In the United States, the summer of 2020 will likely be remembered as a pivotal moment because of the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the national protests against racial injustice and police violence. In this course we will examine the histories, memories, and legacies of the past that provide a broad social and historical context for these mass demonstrations and calls for racial justice. We will focus on the intersectionality of race, gender, inequality, and racialized violence with the objective of deepening our understanding of contemporary discussion in the U.S. on matters of anti-racism and justice.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
K. Sanders-McMurtry, D. Mosby
Instructor permission required.
Notes: This course will require in-person meetings on campus and is only open to residential students.

COLL-211 Reflecting Back: Connecting Internship and Research to Your Liberal Arts Education
Fall and Spring. Credits: 2
Learn to speak with confidence and clarity about your summer internship or research project. Connect it to your academic coursework. What have you learned? How is it useful? What are your next steps? Students will reflect on their experience and collaborate with others to generate useful knowledge. Required for the Nexus but open to all students. For more information, email nexus@mtholyoke.edu.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
M. Shea, E. Townsley
Notes: Fall 2022: Class meets 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, 10/3, 10/17, and 10/21. All fall 2022 students will present at LEAP Symposium on 10/21. Class will not always meet for the full timeslot and there will be asynchronous components.

COLL-224 Being Human in STEM
Fall. Credits: 4
This is an interactive course that combines academic inquiry and community engagement to investigate the theme of diversity and climate within STEM fields. In the first half of the semester, we ground our understanding of the STEM experience at Mount Holyoke in national and global contexts, specifically looking at the way in which gender, class, race, sexuality, and geographic upbringing might shape these experiences. We accomplish this through reading scholarly and popular literature and surveying existing evidence-based inclusive practices at a range of educational institutions. We supplement this research with workshops and interviews with members of the Mount Holyoke community. In the second half of the semester, students design their own group projects that apply the findings of their research to develop resources and encourage the STEM community, whether at the college, local, or national level. Coursework includes weekly readings, reflective writing, in-class discussion, and will culminate in a public presentation on the group projects.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
M. Markley
Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors

COLL-231 Fundamentals of Microscopy
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 2
A wide variety of microscopes are employed in a multitude of scientific and industrial applications. This course covers important microscopy basics including scale, the relationship between reality and the image, and the kind of information that can be captured with different types of microscopes. In three hours of lecture/demonstration per week, students will explore the basic principles of different forms of microscopy including optical, electron, and atomic force. We will gain practical hands-on experience with the many forms of microscopy and learn the procedures and tools of the trade necessary to become a proficient microscopist.
Applies to requirement(s): Meets No Distribution Requirement
The department
Prereq: Two courses in STEM.

COLL-321 Fundamentals of Microscopy
Not Scheduled for This Year. Credits: 4
A wide variety of microscopes are employed in a multitude of scientific and industrial applications. This course covers important microscopy basics including scale, the relationship between reality and the image, and the kind of information that can be captured with different types of microscopes. In three hours of lecture/demonstration per week, students will explore the basic principles of different forms of microscopy including optical, electron, and atomic force. We will gain practical hands-on experience with the many forms of microscopy and learn the procedures and tools of the trade necessary to become a proficient microscopist.
Applies to requirement(s): Math Sciences
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive, Writing-Intensive
The department
Prereq: 8 credits in STEM subjects.