Spring 2013 Courses with CBLI: Community-Based Learning Initiative

These courses offer projects in partnership with & benefiting local nonprofit organizations. CBLI also supports other research opportunities, including funding for independent work & paid internships.


In the Engineering Projects in Community Service (EPICS) program, students earn academic credit for their participation in multidisciplinary design teams that solve technology-based problems for local nonprofit organizations. The teams are: multidisciplinary--drawing students from across engineering and around the university; vertically-integrated--maintaining a mix of freshmen through seniors each semester; and long-term--each student may participate in a project for up to six semesters.

ENV 340 - Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Solutions - Eileen Zerba

This course focuses on environmental challenges and sustainable solutions related to interrelationships between constructed and natural processes. Topic areas include resource conservation, sustainable practices, storm water management, and habitat restoration. The format of the course will include experiential learning with problem-solving research projects, lectures, and discussions. A central theme of the projects is to track the impact of land use and sustainable practices on the ecological balance of environments in and around Princeton's campus, such as water quality testing in Lake Carnegie or tracking the progress of Butler's green roofs.

FRS 182 - The Dreamkeepers: Education Reform and the Urban Teaching Experience - Kathleen Nolan

Freshman Seminar: Learn about education reform through the perspective of local school teachers. Currently, urban education reform is one of the most heated and divisive issues in the United States. Debates center on such questions as how to close the so-called racial achievement gap, how effective the “business model” of education has been and how to best train and motivate teachers. The debates also bring attention to urban poverty and social inequality and call into question the impact of macro-structural forces on classroom life.

HIS 402/AAS 402/AMS 412 - Princeton and Slavery - Martha A. Sandweiss

This research seminar is focused on Princeton University’s historical connections to the institution of slavery. The class will work toward creating a report that details the slave-holding practices of Princeton faculty and students; examines campus debates about slavery; and investigates whether money derived from slave labor contributed to the early growth of the school.

PHY 104 - General Physics II - Christopher G. Tully

This calculus-based course is primarily geared to students majoring in engineering and physics, but is also well suited to majors in other sciences. The goal of the course is to develop an understanding of the fundamental laws of physics, in particular, electricity and magnetism, with applications to electronics, optics, and new challenges in renewable energy sources. A project to introduce kids to the principles of electromagnetism is included.

For more information about CBLI, go to https://www.princeton.edu/cbli/ - cbli@princeton.edu - (609) 258-6986
These courses offer projects in partnership with & benefiting local nonprofit organizations. CBLI also supports other research opportunities, including funding for independent work & paid internships.

PSY 319 - Childhood Psychopathology - Staff

This course will examine major forms of childhood psychopathology, including autism and other life-span disorders. Issues such as childhood trauma, prevention, and continuity in the development of later adult disorders are also considered. Observations of and interactions with children with autism are part of the course through our partnership with Eden Autism Services in Princeton.

SOC 340 - God of Many Faces: Comparative Perspectives on Migration and Religion - Professor Patricia Fernandez-Kelly

Immigrants often experience discrimination in areas of destination. Religion can strengthen their sense of worth, particularly when the circumstances surrounding departure from the country of origin are traumatic, as with exiles and refugees. We take a comparative approach and use examples from the United States, Asia, Europe, and Latin America. The course broaches questions such as: how does religion transform (and how is it transformed by) the immigrant experience? When is religion used to combat stereotypes? Are there differences between the way men and women or dominant groups and racial minorities understand religion?

THR 337 - Community-Based Performance - Erica S. Nagel

This hands-on seminar will explore contemporary theories and practices of community-based performance, investigating contemporary theatre, dance, and music groups that use these methods. The course will also interrogate the sometimes fraught politics of community-based performance, including questions of authorship, authority, authenticity, and artistry. Through collaboration with local theatre companies, this course will offer hands-on experience in the process of creating community-based performance projects and facilitate opportunities to build artistic relationships with local community organizations.

TPP 301 - Seminar on Student Learning and Methods for Teaching - Todd W. Kent

A study of essential methods of learning and teaching, including learner characteristics and needs, organization and structure of educational institutions, development of curriculum and instructional goals, preparation of evaluation and assessment, and design of subject/level specific methodologies and classroom management techniques. Course work includes site-based field experience. Open to Princeton students outside Teacher Prep program.

URB 202 - SOC 208 - Documentary Film and the City - Purcell Carson

This seminar uses film to explore the social and political issues facing the post-industrial American city and examines how films employ different documentary methodologies. Students will apply these techniques hands-on, collaborating on short explorations of housing issues, including homelessness, in Trenton, through our partnership with local nonprofits. They will learn how to establish a relationship with a subject, gather observational footage, conduct interviews, and weave narrative in a visual medium. The goal of the course is to give students not only a greater understanding of urban history and the challenges cities face today but also a foundation in the practical and theoretical issues of documentary.

For more information about CBLI, go to https://www.princeton.edu/cbli/ - cbli@princeton.edu - (609) 258-6986
WRI 112-113
Race in America
Ali Aslam
“The problem of the color line is the problem of the 20th century,” W.E.B. DuBois famously wrote. A century later, the election of President Barack Obama was greeted as evidence that Americans finally had overcome the divisive scars of slavery, segregation, and racism. Yet how accurate is this popular belief? What costs might be associated with the transition to a post-racial politics? And how might Americans better reckon with the legacy of racial injustice? Students will choose a recent political issue that has its roots in America’s racial history and use research to explore its legal, economic, or cultural implications. Possible subjects include environmental injustice, the prison industrial complex, residential segregation, affirmative action, and claims for slave reparations. We conclude by writing personal reflections about the status of race on Princeton’s campus.

For more information about CBLI, go to https://www.princeton.edu/cbli/ - cbli@princeton.edu - (609) 258-6986