**Instructor:** Dr. Joshua Myers

**Office:** Elliot Basement **E-Mail Address**: jmyers3@bsu.edu

**Office Hours:** **M** 11-12 Noon **&** 1-5 p.m., **T** 12:30-4:30 p.m., **W** **& F** 11-12 Noon.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Junior Colloquium is a discussion-oriented seminar where we will work to create a space in which you can discuss your educational experiences. It has two interlinked goals: a place of practical concerns, where you can check in with classmates and instructors about your time at the Academy, and a place of critical reflection on learning itself. Over the course of the semester we’ll explore the philosophies informing the different disciplines here at the Academy, culminating in a project where you’ll develop your own ideal educational institution.

**COURSE METHODOLOGY**

While the first two classes of the semester will focus on laying the groundwork, each regular class will follow a specific rhythm. It will start with a brief overview of the article before breaking into small group discussion, in which you’ll share your individual reflections with each other and compose a group discussion document; the second half will merge these group conversations into a whole-class discussion, tackling questions and topics of particular interest. Participation is encouraged at every stage, with small group discussion being especially important; colloquium is, at its heart, about conversation with your peers about your shared experience.

**METHODS OF EVALUATION**

**1. (30%) Reading & Individual Responses:**

Before class you must read the assigned text, as discussing it and its subject matter is the heart of each colloquium session. Additionally, **at the start of each class you’ll** **write a short individual reflection**. This must contain a brief summary of the text’s content, with at least three key quotations, as well as your own impressions of the topic.

**2. (35%) Group discussion:**

Your in-class work will largely take the form of group discussion; your **small groups are especially important** in this regard, since you’ll also be sharing responsibilities for the final project. Your efforts to contribute to your group will constitute a large part of your grade, which will draw upon the testimony of your peers as well as each class’s **group consensus discussion document**.

If you find you’re having trouble contributing sufficiently to your group, or find one of your groupmates is struggling or slipping away, please get in touch with your instructor to help ameliorate the issue. We need to take responsibility for each other’s involvement in colloquium!

**3. (35%) Final Project**

The culmination of our work over the semester–taking up the last four weeks of the course–will be a group project in which you’ll collaboratively design an ideal educational institution. You’ll self-assign roles and take on different tasks in developing this dreamed-up school; the details of the project will be shared in a separate document.

**Grade Scale:** A (94-100%); A – (90-93%); B+ (87-89%); B (84-86%); B – (80-83%); C+ (77-79%); C (74-76%); C – (70-73%); D (69% and below)

**SCHEDULE**

8/12 - 8/14 -> Draft Discussion Consensus Document

8/19 - 8/21 -> Review Document - Group Assignment - Project Introduction

8/26 - 8/29 -> Learning and Teaching (Rancière Chapter)

**LABOR DAY EXTENDED**

9/2 - 9/4 -> NO COLLOQ

9/9 - 9/11 -> Project Discussion, Role Selection

9/16 - 9/18 -> History (Wineberg Article)

9/23 - 9/25 -> Language & Culture (Borges Story)

9/30 - 10/2 -> Literature (\*\*TBD\*\*)

**OCTOBER EXTENDED**

10/7 - 10/9 -> NO COLLOQ

10/14 - 10/16 -> Science (\*\*TBD\*\*)

10/21 - 10/23 -> Math (Hofstadter Chapter)

10/28 - 10/30 -> Check-In - Project Confirmations

11/4 - 11/6 -> Project Work

11/11 - 11/13 -> Project Work

11/18 - 11/20 -> Project Work

**BREAK**

12/2 - 12/4 -> Project Work

12/9 - 12/11 -> Project Work

**FINALS - Project Presentations**

ATTENDANCE & ABSENCE POLICY

Attendance is mandatory. Students may receive excused absences at the professional discretion of the school nurse, the associate director of mental health services, the associate director of college counseling and student engagement, the director of academic affairs, and the executive director of the Indiana Academy. Unexcused absences occur when students miss class without prior approval from the aforementioned designated school officials. Continued absences (both excused and unexcused) from Academy classes increase the likelihood of unsuccessful completion.

Alongside steady attendance, students are expected to maintain consistent healthy habits of decorum, respect, and kindness towards their classmates, instructors, and teaching assistants. When students fail to meet these classroom behavioral standards and academic habits, it is the expectation faculty engage appropriately to bring quick and immediate resolution. When students consistently fail to meet these behavioral standards and academic habits in the classroom, an administrative consequence ladder will be adopted, and recorded, in attempt to administratively address, engage, and rectify ongoing challenges.

LATE WORK POLICY:

**This class meets only once a week and is designed so that all juniors are on the same material during the same weeks. Therefore, there are absolutely NO MAKEUPS FOR UNEXCUSED ABSENCES IN THIS COURSE.**

* **IF YOU HAVE AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE, YOU AUTOMATICALLY RECEIVE A ZERO ON BOTH YOUR READING RESPONSE AND YOUR IN-CLASS DISCUSSION/PARTICIPATION GRADE.**

Makeup work for **excused absences that have been documented with the academy are always permitted but are limited to a one week-deadline.**

* Meaning that the student has exactly one week from their excused absence to schedule a time with the instructor to make up their missed points. **No work will be accepted later than one week from the student’s return because, again, this course is designed so that all juniors are at roughly the same point in the course at the same time.**
* **Failure to schedule a time with the instructor to complete any make up of missed material within the one-week deadline will result in a zero on both the reading response and the in-class discussion grade.**

ELECTRONIC DEVICES POLICY:

Pursuant to Indiana Code 20-26-5-40.7, The Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics and Humanities prohibits student use of wireless communication devices for non-instructional purposes in the classroom. As such, any and all portable wireless devices, that have the capability to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two or more parties, must only be used for academic purposes directly tied to the classroom activity or related educational task. Exceptions to this wireless device policy are eligible through academic accommodations, individualized education programs, or with instructor approval permitting the use of a wireless device for justification related to health, safety, and/or well-being. The improper use of a wireless device in an active classroom setting is subject to disciplinary action including but not limited to; a verbal warning, temporary seizure of said device by a school official, an unexcused absence for the class in question, written communication to parent/guardian, among other elevated consequences for repeated improper use.

**For this course, specifically, all electronic devices are prohibited. You will take your notes with pen and paper – not electronic pad and stylus. Your reading responses will be handwritten. Usage of laptops, phones, earbuds, or any sort of so-called “smart” device is not permitted** unless you have academic learning accommodations or unless I have explicitly given you permission to use such devices (for example, later in the semester when you are working on your posters and final projects). **Non-permitted use of these devices will lower your group discussion/participation grade.**

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

You are responsible for the integrity of your work, and you must produce work that is

academically honest. This means that all your coursework must be your own and must be created specifically for this course. Failing to maintain the integrity of your work can have serious consequences. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, the following: submitting someone else’s paper, including papers you obtain online, as your own writing; and, attempting to take credit for someone else’s (or an AI’s) words or ideas without properly citing them. **If you are even remotely uncertain about whether or not any part of your work is academically honest, please contact me for assistance before you submit your work for grading.** Also, please refer to the student handbook for additional information, especially the quoted portions below:

* *Plagiarism: representing as one’s own work any material obtained on the Internet (such as term papers, articles, etc.). When Internet sources are used in student work, the author, publisher and website must be identified. (See policy on Academic Dishonesty in the student handbook.)*
* *Students are prohibited from using any electronic device to capture, record, and/or transmit test, quiz, exam, or other class information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty and students are prohibited from using electronic devices to receive such information.*
* *Plagiarism or violations of procedures prescribed to protect the integrity of an assignment, such as: a. Submitting an assignment purporting to be one’s original work, which has been wholly or partially created by another person; b. Presenting as one’s own work ideas, representations, or words of another person without customary and proper acknowledgment of sources; c. Submitting as new work, without the faculty member’s prior consent or knowledge, one’s own work which has been previously presented for another class elsewhere; d. Knowingly permitting one’s work to be submitted by another person as if it were the submitter’s original work; e. Cooperation with another person in academic dishonesty, either directly or indirectly, as an intermediary agent or broker; f. Knowingly destroying or altering another’s work, whether in written or digital form, computer files, artwork, or other format; g. Aiding, abetting, or attempting to commit an act or action that constitutes academic dishonesty.*

AI POLICY:  
 From the Humanities Division of the Academy (History, Languages, English):

* *“The Humanities Division recognizes that artificial intelligence (AI) provides some exciting new tools for academic work. However, AI also poses significant dangers for academic integrity. Passing off as your own any research, words, or ideas which you did not create is plagiarism. That is always the case whether the source is print, internet content, or generated by AI. It is vital to read the policies your individual humanities instructors have regarding AI, and ask them any questions you may have about the use of AI in their course.”*
* **On that note, here is my AI policy specifically for this course:**

**I consider any and all usage of AI a violation of academic integrity. As a professor, scholar, and devotee of the Arts & Humanities, I find AI to be antithetical to the passion of the human spirit, a threat to the nature of individuality, and a mockery of artistic creation.**

* + - **If I discover you have used any type of AI for any work you do for this class, you will receive a 0 on the assignment and I will report you to the administration for violating academic integrity.** 
      * **This includes, *but is not limited to*, AI generation of ideas/brainstorming, AI generated writing, AI organizing or attribution of sources, and using AI to revise and edit your writings.**

**BALL STATE UNIVERSITY BENEFICENCE PLEDGE**

Ball State University aspires to be a university that attracts and retains outstanding faculty, staff, and students. Ball State is committed to ensuring that all members of the campus community are welcome through our practice of valuing the varied experiences and worldviews of the people whom we serve. We promote a culture of respect and civil discourse as evident in our Beneficence Pledge. As a reflection of Ball State’s commitment to respect, civil discourse, and the Beneficence Pledge, inclusiveness at the Indiana Academy emerges as one of the priorities of our living and learning community. We strive to exist together respectfully and compassionately, creating an environment where every member can thrive.

**DISABILITY SERVICES**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible. The [Office of Disability Services](https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/disability-services) coordinates services for students with disabilities; documentation of a disability needs to be on file in that office before any accommodations can be provided. Disability Services can be contacted at **765-285-5293** or [**dsd@bsu.edu**](mailto:dsd@bsu.edu)**.**