



Honors Program/Haggerty Interdisciplinary Seminar

2014 marks the 5th year Dr. Deirdre Dempsey (Associate Professor, Theology) and Ms. Lynne Shumow (Curator of Education, Haggerty Museum of Art) have team-taught a semester-long, Marquette Honors Program, First-year Seminar (HOPR 1953).

The First-year Seminar introduces students to the type of classroom environment and intellectual stimulation characteristic of a college-level colloquium experience. The seminar is intended to invite students to pursue a specific intellectual topic in an academic setting that is fun and safe, but also encourages exploration and risk taking. For the Dempsey/Shumow seminar, the topic is art.

The class meets at the Haggerty Museum, which allows for regular viewings of work from the museum's permanent collection and current exhibitions, both which serve as the primary points of departure for the seminar. The participating students meet with artists, take field trips to a variety of art organizations, and create their own artwork. The interdisciplinary structure of the class—with Dempsey focusing on theology and languages and Shumow focusing on art and art history, working with students majoring in different areas of the sciences and humanities—inspires discussions from multiple points of view.

This year, the class will visit Marquette's 3D Visualization Lab, MIAD, The Pitch Project, and RedLine Milwaukee and will also meet with artists participating in the John Michael Kohler's Arts Center's acclaimed international residency program, Arts/Industry. The seminar will culminate with a hands-on printmaking workshop.

Reflecting on her experience in the Dempsey/Shumow HOPR seminar, sophomore Sophie Torrijos Magee said, "I looked forward to coming to class because every week was different. Each session was uniquely engaging and introduced us to interesting people and places we would not otherwise have access to. Having co-instructors from different backgrounds helped the students look at and think about art in new ways."

Image: HOPR students with artist and MIAD instructor Jason S. Yi at The Pitch Project



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