

Core Curricula in the Twenty-First Century: Challenges and Prospects

Columbia University
March 23-24, 2007

This conference will explore the history of general humanities courses, the varieties currently in place, the problems involved in designing and teaching these courses, and possibilities for innovation. The aim is to generate discussion across institutions and among the many constituents (faculty, students, administrators, and alumni,) who have a stake in core curricula.

Keynote Address: “The Core Curriculum in Wartime”

David Denby

Film Critic and Staff Writer at *The New Yorker*

Author, *Great Books* and *American Sucker*

Friday, March 23 at 5:00 p.m. in the Faculty Room, Low Library

Program for Saturday, March 24

All sessions will take place in Boone Arledge Cinema, Lerner Hall

9:00 – 10:30: The History and Evolution of Core Curricula

Moderator: Douglas Chalmers (Department of Political Science, Columbia University)

Robert Bird (Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Chicago)

Eva Brann (Former Dean, St. John's Annapolis campus)

J. Scott Lee (Executive Director, ACTC, ACTC Liberal Arts Institute at the University of Dallas)

Ellen Woods (Asst. Director of the Introduction to the Humanities Program, Stanford University)

10:45-12:15: Core Curricula in Liberal Education

Moderator: Robert Belknap (Department of Slavic Languages, Columbia University)

William Alba (Dir. of the Science and Humanities Scholars Program, Carnegie Mellon University)

Stephen Bowen (Dean of Oxford College, Emory University)

Vincent Renzi (Associate Director of the Morse Academic Plan, New York University)

Bonnie Rosenberg (CC '91, NYC Office of the Mayor)

1:30 – 3:00: Student Reflections on the Core Curriculum

Moderator: Jonathan Blitzer (CC '07)

Isabel Bussarakum (CC '07)

Mark Krotov (CC '08)

Jennifer Oki (CC '07)

Jeff Shrader, (CC '08)

3:15 – 4:45: Core Curricula and the World

Moderator: Andreas Huyssen (Department of Germanic Languages and CCLS, Columbia University)

Janaki Bakhle (Department of History, Columbia University)

Mahmood Mamdani (Department of Anthropology, Columbia University)

Eleanor W. Traylor (Department of English, Howard University)

James Zetzel (Department of Classics, Columbia University)

Closing Remarks

Philip Kitcher (Chair of Contemporary Civilization, Columbia University)

The keynote address and all sessions are open to the public, free of charge. The conference is sponsored by the Dean of Columbia College. For further information, please email cc-coreconference@columbia.edu.