

Fall 2026 Learning Communities

What is a Learning Community?

A learning community (LC) is usually a combination of two courses organized around a common theme. The connection between the subject matter in each course is emphasized so that information and skills learned in one of the courses can be applied to the other courses in the learning community. The same students enroll in all the courses in a learning community and the instructors team teach. Students learn collaboratively and assignments are integrated. At the end of the semester, each student gets a grade and credit for each of the courses that are part of the learning community.

Why should I join a Learning Community?

- LCs build confidence and skills you will need wherever you go.
- LCs help you meet cool, new friends!
- LCs give you one-on-one help from TWO professors!
- LCs make required courses FUN!
- LCs prepare you for any career.
- LCs explore cool topics!
- LCs get you six credits (usually).
- **ALL MAJORS WELCOMED**
- Liberal Arts Majors: can fulfill your ILE requirement

A little bit about the “lingo”...

- **OL = Fully Online**
- **OC = On Campus**
- **HB = Hybrid (some parts of course OL, some parts OC)**

LC 101: The Handmaid's Tale: Could It Happen Here? (6 credits)

How does sociology influence the experiences of those with oppressed identities (women, BIPOC, LGBTQ+ folks) in today's America? How are those identities expressed in writing? How do changes in social policy impact our personal lives? How does society define who gets to be oppressed? Women are oppressed in The Handmaid's Tale, but what would it be like to be transgender, disabled or Black in Gilead? We will explore all of the different identities one could have in the society of Gilead and how their policies could impact the experiences of individuals. Ultimately, we will consider social interventions that would create societies that ensure that everyone has universal access to basic human rights such as happiness and safety. This LC will include the book The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood, select episodes from the Hulu series, newspaper articles, interviews, excerpts from documentaries, and poetry to explore our topic from a variety of perspectives.

Prerequisite: ENG 095 with a grade of C- or higher, or adequate test score on the English Placement Examination



Wagman, ENG 101:TR 9:30-10:45 (HB)
Weise, SOC 110: TR 11:00-12:15 (OC)

CRN 30817: ENG 101.12
CRN 30818: SOC 110.06

To be registered in this LC you must register in each of its courses individually.

All Majors Welcomed!

LC 102: Stand Up, Speak Out: Advocacy and the Politics of Social Change (6 credits)



Martínez, ANT 114: Online (OL)
Gutiérrez, LAX 111: T 6:00-9:00 PM (OC)

CRN 30819: LAX 111.50
CRN 30820: ANT 114.60

To be registered in this LC you must register in each of its courses individually.

The course addresses key questions: How have people used research and knowledge to promote fairness and justice? What obstacles do organizers face when trying to change policy, and how have they overcome these barriers across different time periods? How do advocacy organizations help communities with less economic or political power make their voices heard and influence decisions that affect their lives? You'll study examples ranging from historical reform movements to present-day policy campaigns at the local, state, and national levels. Through these cases, you'll learn practical strategies for effective advocacy and organizing. A central part of this course is hands-on experience. You'll partner with local organizations to engage directly in real-world advocacy, policy work, or community organizing efforts. This experiential component allows you to apply what you're learning in class while contributing to actual social change initiatives in your community. By the end of this course, you'll understand both the history of advocacy in America and possess practical tools for making a difference today.

Prerequisite: None
All Majors Welcomed!

LX 101: The Language Question: ENG 095 Pre-College /ESL 155, Writing and Grammar 5 (6 credits)

In this course, students will have the opportunity to develop English language skills while examining the thorny issue of language in America. How many languages are spoken in the USA, and what are their functions in society? How does the recent declaration of English as America's official language impact the other languages? What are the political, social, and educational implications of the executive order? To what extent does it reignite or strengthen the English-only versus multilingualism / multiculturalism debate? What challenges does it pose for the immigrant and indigenous communities, especially those who depend on government funded language assistance services? Students will collaboratively attempt to answer these questions through the lens of their own identities, world experiences, textbooks, fiction, essays, oral interviews, film, or community events.

Prerequisites: Recommendation of ESL 143 instructor, ENG 085, placement test, or permission of the LC instructors



Idem, ESL 155: MW 9:00-10:50 + Online (HB)
Gilleman, ENG 095: M 11:00-12:15 + Online (HB)

CRN 30821: ESL 155.65
CRN 30822: ENG 095.66

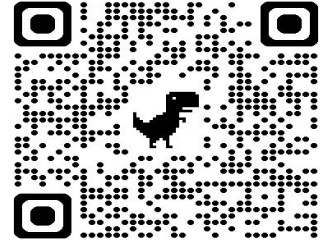
To be registered in this LX you must register in each of its courses individually.

Got Questions?

Feel free to contact Raúl D. Gutiérrez at:

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LCs Are For Everyone!

LCs Are For YOU!

