WELCOME CLASS OF 2020!

First Year Seminars—Something for Everyone

This week AHSS welcomes more than 350 students who have pre-declared an AHSS major. After moving in and getting settled during Discoveries Week, these students will kick off the fall quarter with a First-Year Seminar (FSEM) course of their choice.

FSEM’s introduce students to the intellectual life of the University by pairing a small group of students with faculty mentors who will provide an in-depth academic experience on a subject they are passionate about. Professors take care to work closely with the students to hone the academic skills that prepare them for success in college, including writing, critical reading and thinking, discussion and debate.

Some students will find themselves learning about the psychology of video games, global hip-hop, the Bible and social justice, or even the boogeyman and other monsters as terrifying figures in literature and film. Some will visit local museums to learn about Denver-area anthropology and archaeology, study the psychology of exercise and the mind-body connection, or learn about Spanish explorers and how Colorado got its name. No matter what course they choose, there's something for everyone.

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) OFFICERS

Meet the 2016-2017 AHSS Student Leaders

The 2016-2017 members of the AHSS Student Advisory Council (SAC) are already at work developing programming for their classmates for the year ahead. Members of the incoming
leadership council, elected in spring 2016, are:

- President: Peter Leach, psychology, international studies
- VP of Alumni Relations: Shelby Dolen, socio-legal studies, film production
- VP of Finance: Maggie Sweeney, political science, journalism
- VP of Communication and Social Media: Jenna Powell, psychology, biology
- VP of Programming and Events: Dory Rosenthal, anthropology, English

“This year we want to make sure every AHSS student is qualified and well-prepared for his or her field of study in the years succeeding college,” said Peter Leach, president. “We want to facilitate AHSS students to gather and ask questions, study, meet with faculty or simply hang out and network.”

The AHSS SAC purpose is four-fold: to facilitate communication and relationships between AHSS undergraduate students and faculty through event programming and professional events; to foster increased awareness and visibility of the AHSS identity; to develop a student voice in AHSS event programming; and to be actively engaged in improving AHSS student spirit and university school spirit as a collective whole. The members of this council will work in tandem with other student leaders on campus, including AHSS student senators on Undergraduate Student Government (USG).

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**Theater and Communications Alumnus is a Two Time Golden Globe Winner**

Ever wonder what a day in the life of a Hollywood executive producer is like?

The work associated with the title varies significantly. For Jim Parriott (BA ’72, theatre and mass communication) it means logging 14 hour days to truly produce the final outcome of his shows: he is responsible for supervising the filming, editing, scoring, budgeting and more. In fact, he prefers the title “showrunner.”

Parriott has been a writer, executive producer and director of movies and television shows that include *Grey’s Anatomy*, *Sons of Anarchy*, *Ugly Betty*, *The Invisible Man* and *The Bionic Woman*. He has received two Golden Globes, two Writers Guild Awards, a PGA award, a TCA award and several Emmy nominations.

“The last thing I wanted to be was a writer. I couldn’t type and hated the idea of sitting alone in a room,” he said. “But I realized that I’m a storyteller. In college, a 16mm film thesis cost about $16,000 dollars. A script thesis ran the price of a ream of typing paper. I chose the paper.”

Parriott’s opinion on writing has since changed. “Writing is daydreaming with structure and research. If I’m writing a pilot or movie, I read a lot, then stare out the window and let my mind take a walk. If I’m lucky, the muse starts whispering in my ear and I’m off and running.” Read more...

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**Curator Brings DU Art Collection to Life**

The DU art collection has grown to more than 3,400 works of art, and Dan Jacobs, curator of the University Art Collections and director of the Vicki Myhren Gallery, has been instrumental in
making the collection accessible to students and art lovers alike.

Jacobs and his graduate student assistants have catalogued every piece of the collection, from the first Albert Bierstadt painting donated by the artist himself in 1890 to the second Albert Bierstadt painting acquired in 2016 as a part of the Madden Collection. In between is an eclectic mix of art styles and periods, from 19th century English landscape drawings to 1960s Andy Warhol pop art.

Jacobs is intent on keeping the works out of storage and in the public eye. The Hampden Art Study Center, located off campus, was created in 2013 to transform the collection into a teaching resource for students of art history, museum studies and studio art.

"It's a facility dedicated to student and research access to artworks, and I think it's a regional model for teaching from objects," said Jacobs. "The impact of this facility on student opportunity has been outstanding. When collectors see what we're doing there, they are most often struck by the fact that potential gifts of art are put immediately to use in our teaching mission, rather than locked away in deep storage for years at a time." Read More...

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Endless Possibilities in Store for First-Year Student

Cassandra (Cassy) Hite never caught a case of “senior-itis”—or any kind of “itis”—during her high school career. Having maintained a 4.1 GPA throughout her time at Broomfield High School (BHS), achieving a 30 ACT score and staying active in student organizations, Hite was awarded a Susie Ross Berry Scholarship for first-year students enrolled in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

"Berry Scholars" are selected by the dean on the basis of academic merit, academic interest in a liberal arts education and need for financial aid.

"I'm very excited and honored to have received the Susie Ross Berry Scholarship," said Hite. "I'm glad that it can be a part of the way that I get to start the road to my dreams."

The Broomfield, CO, native had a simple criterion for potential colleges, which included size, location and inclusivity.

"I had originally chosen to apply to DU because of the smaller size, proximity to home, and pre-med program," Hite said. "But overall, I find that what ended up interesting me the most about the school was their focus on diversity in all aspects of life.” Read More...

FEATURED EVENTS

GUEST SPEAKER: September 22, 12:00-1:30 p.m. — Hannah Arendt & Martin Heidegger: Technology, Mass Society and the Banality of Evil

Please join us for a talk by Richard Wolin, Distinguished Professor of European Intellectual History and Political Theory at the CUNY Graduate Center (City University of New York), who will address the seminal question of Martin Heidegger’s influence on Hannah Arendt with reference to Eichmann in Jerusalem’s controversial “banality of evil” thesis. This lecture is co-sponsored by the department of philosophy, the Center for Judaic Studies, the Korbel Political Theory Forum, and Critical Theory at the University of Denver. Click here for more information and visit the Facebook event page.
FACULTY LECTURE: October 6, 4:00 p.m. — Talking About Torture: U.S. Politics and the Debate about 'Enhanced Interrogation'

Nearly all U.S. politicians agree that the country should not torture. And yet, "enhanced interrogation" techniques such as waterboarding remain hotly contested in U.S. politics. At this lecture, we’ll explore how historical views of torture shape the contemporary debate about enhanced interrogation. We’ll also scrutinize the arguments for and against enhanced techniques in order to understand ongoing controversies about these practices. Presented by Jared Del Rosso, assistant professor of sociology. Register here.