

PEER to PEER

The College of Arts and Sciences Academic Student Newsletter

CHOOSE YOUR OWN “MAJOR” ADVENTURE!

Ask any one of the peer advisors and we'll tell you that choosing a major can be an adventure. This month, we are featuring three CAS majors that you might not know about yet. If you are in the process of finding a major, keep reading below and perhaps it will lead you to your own “major” adventure!

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Student FAQ of the Month:

Q: How can my peer advisor help me pick a major?

A: Peer advisors are always available to talk about selecting the best major for you! Although we are not major-specific advisors, we have the resources to point you in the right direction.

Peer advisors can guide you through the process of picking a major, as well as finding one that is the best fit.

Peer advisors have experience as both advisors and students, so we have gone through the major selection process. Picking a major can be tough but the peers are here to help!

Anthropology

If you...

- Enjoy reading and writing
- Have an interest in collecting and analyzing data
- Like working with others
- Like working with artifacts
- Appreciate other cultures and enjoy learning more about them
- Are open to new experiences and to meeting new people

...then the Anthropology major might be for you!

To find out more about a major or minor in anthropology, visit the Anthropology department.

Location: Battelle T21

CAS Advisor:
Julie Carney-Jones
(carneyjo@american.edu)

www.american.edu/cas/anthropology



American Studies

If you...

- Like to work in local and global communities
- Are independent minded, with a wide range of interests
- Like studies in many different subject areas
- Love hands on learning and applying classroom knowledge to the real world
- Want to better your community and learn about our culture, past, and society as a whole

...then the American Studies major might be for you!

To learn more about the ever growing American studies program, please contact the head of program Katharina Vester.

Location: Battelle 133

E-mail :
vester@american.edu

Phone: 202-885-2709

CAS Advisor:
Jack Ramsay
(jramsay@american.edu)

www.american.edu/cas/american-studies/

Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

If you...

- Like working with people
- Have a broad range of academic interests and enjoy interdisciplinary topics
- Enjoy engaging with the community locally and globally regarding issues pertaining to women, gender, or sexuality
- Want to learn to view world issues through the lens of gender and sexuality
- Want to explore how gender and sexuality affects our experiences of/in the world

...then the WGSS major might be for you!

For more information about a major or minor in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, visit the WGSS program office.

Location: Sports Center Annex 170.

Program chair: Gay Young,
gyoung@american.edu

CAS Advisor:
Andrea Malamisura
(andream@american.edu)

www.american.edu/cas/wgs



Event Spotlight: The Place of Religion in Public Life

Each year the Department of Philosophy and Religion holds the McDowell Conference on Philosophy and Social Policy. This year's topic is **The Place of Religion in Public Life**.

The topic promises to appeal to a wide range of interests including Political Science, Justice, Law and Society, International Studies, and of course Philosophy and Religion. Students from all disciplines are welcome to attend.

The conference will take place on **Friday, October 22** from **1pm to 6pm** in the **Katzen Recital Hall**. Students are welcome to drop in for any part they can attend.

Speakers include professors from American University as well as Columbia Law School, the University of Oklahoma, and the University at Buffalo Law School. Selected topics include religious freedom, secularization, and religion in political and legal issues.

To learn more about the speakers, topics, or the con-

ference as a whole, visit the website at <http://www.american.edu/cas/philrel/news/mcdowell.cfm>. You can also contact Shelley Harshe at 202-885-2925 or email philrel@american.edu for more information.

The event is **free** to attend and is a great opportunity to learn about the various perspectives on an issue that is increasingly prevalent in today's global society.



Resource Spotlight: The Writing Center

Are you a freshman working on your first college research paper? Are you a senior applying to jobs or graduate schools? If you are either of these or anything in between, the Writing Center can help give you that competitive edge in your writing.

The Writing Center is *not* just for students who might be struggling with their paper. Instead, it is a student to student workshop environment where you will get constructive feedback about your writing. Whether you have a finished paper you want to polish or a topic you want to brainstorm, the Writing Center can help you with any stage of the writing process.

Although consultants will not proofread your papers, they will help identify recurring problems with grammar and style. They can also help you refine your thesis statements, organize ideas, and develop logical arguments in your papers.

The Writing Center is a great resource for all students, regardless of writing ability. To make an appointment for your 45 minute session, call **202-885-2991**. The Writing Center is located in **Battelle-Tompkins 228** and is open M-Th 11-8, Friday 11-4, and Sunday 4-7.



Important Reminders:

- **10/15:** Fall Break, no classes. University offices open.
- **10/21:** AU Alum, Dr. Josh Sickel is giving a talk for pre-med and health, and art history students. EQB lounge, 11:30-12:30pm.
- **10/22:** Last day to drop a course for fall semester. Consult with advisor and financial aid prior to making any changes.
- **10/22:** The Place of Religion in Public Life. Katzen Recital Hall, 1-6pm.
- **10/22-10/24:** All-American Family Weekend, see <http://www.american.edu/ocl/orientation/Family-Weekend.cfm> for more information
- **10/25:** Registration for Spring 2011 begins. Remember to meet with your advisor for registration clearance!

"Whether you have a finished paper you want to polish or a topic you want to brainstorm, the Writing Center can help you with any stage of the writing process."

-Rachel Strohmman
CAS Peer Advisor