

LSP 111: Explore Chicago



Office of the First-Year Program

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Winter ❄️ & Spring 🌸 2018

<p>Winter 2018 ❄️ Chicago's Music Scene LSP 111-202</p>	<p>Joseph Clark <i>School of Music</i> F 11:00-2:15 Lincoln Park</p>	<p>This course introduces students to the diverse musical offerings in the Chicago metropolitan area. Students will learn about the wide variety of music- and arts-related activities across many genres and musical styles. In addition to regular excursions to music venues throughout the quarter, class discussions will focus on topics central to understanding Chicago's music scene in both its historical and contemporary contexts. Topics will focus on the relevance of the music industry as it relates to musicians, industry professionals, educators, and patrons; including fandom, race, gender, historical changes, music criticism, and current industry developments. Genres will span the diversity of the Chicago music community, including blues, folk, hip-hop, jazz, musical theatre, opera, rock, Western art and classical music, and various music of the world. Sessions will include lectures, open classroom discussion, and guest speakers.</p>
<p>Winter 2018 ❄️ Photographing Chicago LSP 111-801</p>	<p>Rachel Herman <i>First-Year Program</i> Th 9:30-12:45 Loop</p>	<p>“Photographing Chicago” is designed to examine the city by venturing into its many diverse neighborhoods using the camera as a tool of observation and inquiry; to learn how other photographers have depicted the city; and to develop your own relationship to the city through the act of photographing it. Our subject will be the city itself and the many ways in which we observe it. First we will consider the observations of others who have come before us. We will be looking at how Chicago photographers have pictured the city by visiting their studios, looking at their photographs, and having the opportunity to ask questions about how and why they make their work. We will think about how neighborhoods are structured and how each of these neighborhoods has a distinctive history and architectural, social and cultural imprint. This we will do with our cameras in hand, asking questions and letting the images stand in for answers (and sometimes prompting further questions). You will be conducting research and writing short essays about various neighborhoods that will be included along with your photographs in the capstone project for the course, a neighborhood photo book. Although the use of a camera is required, no prior photographic experience is needed. Several site visits will be required, not all during class time.</p>
<p>Spring 2018 🌸 Chicago Literature: Now & Then</p>	<p>Salli Berg Seeley <i>Writing, Rhetoric & Discourse</i> W 4:30-7:45 Lincoln Park</p>	<p>In this course, we will read, analyze, and discuss the work of contemporary and iconic Chicago authors, hot off the press, online, or as far back as the turn into the 20th century. By day, we will visit some of the neighborhoods where these writers' stories and lives unfolded. By night, we will have the opportunity to attend readings, lit performances, and discussions at independent bookstores, cafes, and galleries. We will also experiment with our own creative writing, including an art-inspired writing activity at the Art Institute.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Spring 2018</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ω</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Documenting Maxwell Street & Pilsen</p>	<p>Janelle Walker <i>First-Year Program</i></p> <p>F 12:00-3:15 Lincoln Park</p>	<p>The Maxwell Street neighborhood on Chicago’s Near West Side has had a colorful past, acting as port of entry for many immigrant and migrant populations, as home to a world-famous open-air market and retail district, and as the birthplace of electrified Blues music. For years, the city of Chicago and the University of Illinois engaged in a concerted “clean up” of the area, moving the market, displacing the community, demolishing the built environment, and eventually creating a new neighborhood called “University Village.” The historic outdoor market has been relocated three times, downsized, upscaled, and regulated. Just to the south of the Maxwell Street area lies Pilsen, a predominately Mexican neighborhood in the early phases of gentrification. It is facing many of the same issues and challenges that Maxwell Street once did. We will make field trips to Pilsen, the Maxwell Street neighborhood, and the Maxwell Street Market, as well as other Chicago places that inform our ongoing discussion of gentrification and urban change. What we see and hear on these trips will add to our discussions of the City of Chicago’s attempts to beautify/sanitize its public areas and the implications of this for neighborhood culture, community, place, and issues of social justice. The course will consist of academic readings and discussions, observation, interviewing and documentation at the Maxwell Street Market and in Pilsen, guest speakers, student presentations, and field trips as a class using public transportation.</p>
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