GS 300: LA Influentials  
Spring 2010  
http://www.cla.purdue.edu/alumni/gs300/

Time and Location:  
Friday, 11:30 a.m.-12:20 a.m., Lawson B155

Course Instructor:  
Irwin Weiser, Interim Dean, College of Liberal Arts, iweiser@purdue.edu  
Elizabeth Angeli, Teaching Assistant, eangeli@purdue.edu, HEAV 210  
• Office hours: TTh Noon-1 p.m. or by appointment  
Chris Sharp, Director, CLA Alumni Relations, ctsharp@purdue.edu  
• Coordinating the coffees and lunches with alumni

Course Description:  
As a lecture/discussion course, this course will feature speakers from a diverse range of Liberal Arts majors. The course will emphasize the myriad career opportunities available to liberal arts graduates. Speakers will represent careers in the arts, entertainment field, academia, business, industry, politics, and more. The course will encourage students to initiate dialogue with working professionals and will provide an experiential complement to their academic course instruction.

Student Learning Outcomes:  
Upon completion of GS 300, students will be better prepared to identify how the liberal arts influence and contribute to society, globalization, and world issues and how the liberal arts prepare students for interesting and satisfying careers. Students will develop a better understanding of how these influences and contributions can be applied to their professional and personal development. In addition, students will network with key Liberal Arts alumni.

Emergency Preparedness:  
In the event of a major campus emergency, course requirements, deadlines and grading percentages are subject to changes that may be necessitated by a revised semester calendar or other circumstances. Here are ways to get information about changes in this course. Blackboard Vista Web page, my email address (iweiser@purdue.edu), and my office phone (494-3661).

H1N1 Influenza:  
No one knows whether H1N1 will become a pervasive health issue this spring, but I want to pass along one key guideline for you to follow should you become ill: Please avoid situations in which you may spread the flu. Recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control are that people with H1N1 stay away from work or class for at least 24 hours after they are fever free. Should you have to miss class because you are ill, please contact me or Liz Angeli to let us know. You can find more information about minimizing your chances of getting or spreading the flu at http://www.itap.purdue.edu/tlt/faculty/Purdue_H1N1_Flier1.pdf

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>A+</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>A-</th>
<th>B+</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>B-</th>
<th>C+</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>C-</th>
<th>D+</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>D-</th>
<th>F</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percentage</td>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>87-90</td>
<td>77-80</td>
<td>67-70</td>
<td>64-66</td>
<td>61-63</td>
<td>1-60</td>
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Grade Breakdown (see below for specifics):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Questions</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Questions</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Weekly Questions (35%): Before each class and to prompt students to begin thinking the speaker’s career before class, students will prepare one thoughtful question for the week’s guest speaker. These questions are meant to help students create thoughtful, perceptive questions for their future experiences with employers, job recruiters, fellow liberal arts alumni, etc. Web research, such as a Google search, on the speaker or his/her current employer should provide materials for thoughtful, pertinent questions. As
part of students’ participation points, students are encouraged to ask their questions during the Q&A after the alumnus/a’s lecture.

Questions for each speaker will be turned in after class. Questions are to be typed and/or word-processed. No handwritten questions or questions submitted via email are accepted. Each question will be evaluated on a scale of 0-5 points:

5 points
• Question shows evidence of research conducted beyond the GS 300 website (i.e., makes reference to a website, reading, etc. outside of the GS 300 website)
• Question is thoughtful, demonstrates perceptive thinking, and is pertinent
• Question is specific to the speaker that week

4 points
• Question shows evidence of research conducted beyond the GS 300 website
• Question may be thoughtful and/or pertinent and/or demonstrate perceptive thinking
• Question may be specific to the speaker that week

3 points
• Question may or may not show evidence of research conducted beyond the GS 300 website
• Question is not pertinent and is general

2 points
• Question does not show evidence of research conducted beyond the GS 300 website
• Question is not pertinent or does not demonstrate perceptive thinking

1 point
• Question is incomplete

0 points
• No question submitted/handwritten question submitted/question emailed

Reflection Questions (50%): After each alumnus/a’s presentation, students will respond briefly to the four questions below. These responses are meant to both develop students’ ability to thoughtfully answer questions and students’ understanding of how they can use what they learned from the speaker’s lecture in their own studies and careers. Responses to the reflection questions will be submitted in class the week following the alum’s presentation. No handwritten or emailed questions will be accepted. The same questions will be available each week. Include your name and the speaker’s name on your paper.

1. How did the alumnus/a inspire you?
2. What was the best piece of advice from the alumnus/a for you?
3. What information from the alumnus/a surprised you most?
4. How do you see yourself using the alumnus/a’s insights in your own path toward a career?

Each submitted response will be evaluated on a scale of 0-5 points:

5 points
• All four questions are answered
• All four responses are thoroughly and thoughtfully developed
• Responses show that the student was present in class and paid attention to the speaker
• Responses are supported by examples/anecdotes from the speaker’s lecture
• Responses demonstrate that the student learned something from the speaker
4 points
• All four questions are answered, some more thoroughly or thoughtfully than others
• Some responses need further development and are not supported by examples/anecdotes from the speaker’s lecture
• Responses demonstrate that the student learned something from the speaker

3 points
• All four questions are answered but are generic and need to be more fully developed
• Responses are not supported by examples/anecdotes from the speaker’s lecture
• Responses may or may not demonstrate that the student learned something from the speaker

2 points
• Questions are answered and are generic
• A majority of the responses need to be further developed

1 point
• Not all the questions are answered
• Responses are incomplete

0 points
• No questions are answered/turned in/handwritten response submitted/response emailed

The reflection questions serve as your attendance. Therefore, if you miss a class you cannot submit answers to the reflection questions and there are no make-ups for missed classes. You can, however, still turn in a question for any missed speaker. At the end of the semester, the two lowest reflection question scores will be dropped. This means that if you miss two classes those two 0s will serve as your lowest scores.

Participation (15%): There are numerous ways to participate in this class. Students are encouraged to ask questions during and after the alumnus/a’s presentation, introduce themselves before/after class to the alumnus/a, and ask the alumnus/a for their business card.

Students are required to attend ONE of the two participation opportunities listed below. You must attend one of them (either a coffee/lunch or a Career Week event) to earn participation points:

1. Attend one coffee OR lunch with a visiting alumnus/a. You are welcome to attend a maximum of two coffees, lunches, or a combination of the two. A maximum of five students per coffee/lunch (unless otherwise indicated). Sign up for coffee/lunch will begin the first day of class, and all requests must be received by Chris Sharp, ctsharp@purdue.edu, on Monday, January 18.
   • Coffee (free) with an alumnus/a (Friday, 10:30-11:15 a.m.) in the Vision 21 room (BRNG 7150)
   • Lunch (free) with an alumnus/a (Friday, 12:30-1:30 p.m.) in the Vision 21 room (BRNG 7150)

2. Attend at least one event during Liberal Arts Career Week April 12-16 in the Purdue Memorial Union (additional information will be provided in class prior to event).

Class Etiquette: GS 300 requires students to attend class dressed appropriately. As a courtesy to the speaker, arrive on time. All cell phones in the locked and off position, please! Drinks are permitted, but no food.

Schedule: Visit www.cla.purdue.edu/alumni/gs300 for biographies and presentation titles for returning alumni and guests. This website serves as a starting point for your weekly questions. Use the information found here to find other websites about each speaker.