

# Antioch University Seattle Commons

Antioch, as its mission statement proclaims, is “founded on principles of rigorous liberal arts education, innovative experiential learning and socially engaged citizenship.” All three of these principles imply breadth of perspective. Thus an Antioch education, undergraduate or graduate, encourages systems thinking, reflective practice and awareness of the social context of one’s professional, community and personal roles. Accordingly, Antioch provides its students with opportunities to participate in a University Commons - a shared intellectual territory not identified exclusively with any one discipline or Antioch program, but touching all of them. This Commons encompasses Antioch’s library services, its Learning and Teaching Cooperative, and its student life programs. It also includes selected course offerings, addressing such questions as: What are the qualities, the attributes and the characteristics we seek as learners at Antioch? In what areas can we best enhance our capabilities for collaboration? What special skills and perspectives are required for that purpose?

Some classes are accepted as Commons-eligible because of their very wide appeal and appropriateness for students, faculty and staff, others because of their breadth of study. Generally, faculty in two or more academic disciplines or programs jointly develop Commons courses, which are then applicable to degrees or certificates in multiple academic centers or programs. Often these courses are team-taught. Often they offer variable credit. Cross-program courses intrinsically are for the common good, as are writing and research classes that enhance students’ capacity for intellectual work in a variety of contexts. All students are encouraged to consider how the Commons courses may fit their degree plans and enhance their learning.

## **AUS401/601: Digital Storytelling (3 grad/4undergrad credits)**

**Instructors:** Burke/Woehrlin; WI

The ancient art of storytelling brought to new life in the digital age. This class explores the power of story as it gives voice to memories, identities, life lessons, dreams and yearnings for change. Students learn to craft script, still and video images and music soundtrack into a 3 to 5 minute digital movie.

## **AUS602: Intro to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (3)**

**Instructor:** Magdasy; FA

GIS is a computer system capable of storing and manipulating information about areas of the Earth. In this class, students master the basic GIS concepts and methods relating to the capture, display, storage and analysis of geographic information and learn how to apply GIS to their field.

## **AUS603: Foundations of the Great Turning (3-4)**

**Instructor:** Morris; FA

The Great Turning refers to this historical moment in which we live, as our civilization moves from an industrial growth society to a sustainable Earth community. Students examine the basic premises of the Great Turning, from holding actions in defense of the Earth to new alternatives and to the philosophical and spiritual resources needed for this transformation. Antioch University Seattle’s role in the Great Turning is examined and engaged.

### **AUS404/604: The Writing Process (3)**

**Instructor:** Alcorn, FA; Hall/Starbuck, WI; TBA, SP

Introduces students to the generative and recursive nature of reading and writing. Through critical reading and writing, students develop their writing and thinking skills. A critical understanding of the writing process develops as students learn to generate ideas, compose, proofread and revise for focus, support, organization and conventions.

### **AUS405/605: Writing in Academic Contexts (3)**

**Instructor:** Hall/Maxham, FA; Hudsick, WI; TBA, SP

Offers students a critical exploration of reading and writing intrinsic to the university. Students compose a variety of genres, from personal narratives to more formal, academic writing incorporating outside research. The writing workshop approach includes tutorials supporting their writing process, peer editing and successful revising and proofreading techniques.

### **AUS406/606: Inquiry and Research (3)**

**Instructor:** Adler; FA, WI; TBA, SP

Inquiry and Research approaches academic inquiry and research as discrete, manageable tasks. The class emphasizes critical reading and thinking, the development of technical and library skills, the integration of primary and secondary sources, and the development of a personal stance in relation to the material studied.

### **AUS407/607: Technical and Professional Writing (3)**

**Instructor:** TBA, FA; Burke, WI; TBA, SP

Technical and Professional Writing examines the forms of writing required in professional, administrative and research contexts: from memos to grants and proposals, research writing and technical reports. This course includes more than mastering these forms of writing; particular emphasis is placed on understanding the rhetorical contexts for writing (subject, audience, ethics, context, and purpose).

### **AUS400A/600A: Writing Tutorial (1)**

**Instructor:** Varies; FA, WI, SP

Offers Antioch students small group tutorial experiences that support the students' writing in their academic program. Through structured, weekly meetings with a tutor, students process their writing: from generating ideas, composing, proofreading to revising.