



PROVOST BRIEFING

October 21, 2019

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Lunch in Lawrence

Photo Credit: Nick Paolino

Here are some of this week's top stories and a look ahead.

- Midterm Grades, due October 22
- Lunch in Lawrence, October 22
- Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations, Weekly
- LS Core Faculty Dialogue, October 24
- Grant Writing Workshop, October 24
- Teju Cole, October 24

- Merrimack's 3rd Annual All Abilities Awareness Week, October 28-November 1
- "Of Gods and Men" Film Screening, October 29
- CETL Teaching Circles
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- Important Advising Information
- Registration for MACK GIVES BACK WEEK Now Open
- Internship Institute
- Moon Over Merrimack: 2nd Annual Family Astronomy Night, October 21
- Annual English Career Night, October 22
- Crosson Sisters, October 23
- Last day for Fall Session 1 graduate online courses, October 25
- Cantus, October 31
- Lise Funderburg, November 7

Midterm Grades

Midterm grades are due on **Tuesday, October 22 by midnight**. Please submit a midterm grade for every student. These grades are not part of a student's permanent transcript, but they can be helpful to students, their advisors, and the Academic Success Center, even if only a small percentage of the final grade has been determined by this point. If the student never attended any portion of the course, and you did not previously email the registrar's office during the Roster Verification period, please email the student's name to registrar@merrimack.edu. Mid-term Grades will only be accepted online through MyMack. [Step by step directions can be found here](#).

Lunch in Lawrence - 5 Spaces Left

Tuesday, October 22

Cafe Azteca

The Office of Mission and Ministry and Hands to Help Community Outreach Center would like to cordially invite you to the second lunch in Lawrence on Tuesday, October 22 at Cafe Azteca, which serves Mexican cuisine. Buses will depart from Lot A (Arcidi Center) at 11:30 AM and will return to campus by 1:30 PM.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the following form. Please be sure to indicate any allergies or dietary restrictions. [Lunch in Lawrence- Cafe Azteca Registration Form](#)

Through Knowledge to Wisdom Conversations

Conversations will be held on the following dates and times and will be held in the **Grace J. Palmisano Center for Campus Ministry, SAK 350**.

October's topic is "How might we move towards being and becoming more fully human in the face of dehumanizing forces and stressors of the 21st Century?"

- Tuesday, October 22, 2:00-3:30
- Friday, October 25, 10:30 AM-Noon

Please register for any one of these conversations through this link [TKTW Conversation October](#).

November's topic is "What does inspired by the Catholic Faith and the Augustinian Tradition mean in the diverse and pluralistic culture of Merrimack College?"

- Tuesday, November 5 from 2:00 to 3:30 PM
- Thursday, November 14 from Noon to 1:30 PM
- Monday, November 18 from 3:30 to 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, November 20, from 8:00 to 9:30 AM
- Friday, November 22, from 10:30 AM to Noon

Please register for the conversation you wish to attend through this link [TKTW November](#).

LS Core Faculty Dialogue: A conversation with off-campus experts about the process of revising General Education

Thursday, October 24

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Crowe Hall Executive Room

Please join the General Education Committee and three representatives from Providence College, Stonehill College and University of Rochester to discuss the process of revising a General Education Program. Discussion will focus on ideas for navigating the process, integrating learning outcomes and being innovative in a 21st century learning environment. To help us plan for the event, please [RSVP here](#).

Grant Writing Workshop

Thursday, October 24

4:00 PM

CETL, Sullivan Hall, Garden level, B-2

Interested in developing grant proposal writing skills or enhancing your current level? The Office of Sponsored Programs will be conducting a grant proposal writing workshop on October 24th. Space is limited so please RSVP to research@merrimack.edu by October 22nd if you would like to participate.

Teju Cole

Thursday, October 24

4:00 PM

The Writers House

Teju Cole, our Fall Writer-in-Residence, is the author of five books. In addition to writing fiction, he is a photographer, critic, and curator. The photography critic of The New York Times Magazine from 2015 until 2019, he is currently the Gore Vidal Professor of the Practice of creative Writing at Harvard University.

The Writer-in-Residence program is made possible with generous support from the Andrea '79 and Ken Robertson Writers House Innovation Fund.

<http://www.merrimack.edu/academics/the-writers-house>

Merrimack's 3rd Annual All Abilities Awareness Week!

October 28-November 1

In partnership with McQuade Library and the Academic Success Center, the Accessibility Services Office invites you to **#redefiningnormal** where we celebrate ability, disability, and stigma reduction all in one joyous package! We encourage you to join us and to invite your students (maybe even for extra credit?). Please see the linked flyer: [2019 All Abilities Awareness Week](#)

MACKchats

October 28 - November 1, 12:00-1:00PM

McQuade ERC (2nd Floor)

MACKchats - come any day and bring your lunch for a wonderful and eye-opening experience where a variety of students share their stories of grit, overcoming obstacles, and advocacy of having a disability in college. Here are promotional videos: [Netflix Documentary](#) and [HBO Series](#).

Comedy show from *Asperger's Are Us*, as seen in their shows on HBO & Netflix

Wednesday, October 30, 6:00 PM

McQuade Auditorium (Ground Floor)

Asperger's Are Us is the first comedy troupe composed of people diagnosed with Asperger's Syndrome. They've performed over 150 original absurdist sketch shows in 10 countries since 2010. They do not poke fun at (or mention) Asperger's and they did not form to prove that autistic people can be funny.

Pumpkin Painting with DREAM, Harvest Fest, and Disability Discussions

Friday, November 1, 5:00 PM

McQuade Alden Lab (3rd Floor)

“Of Gods and Men” Film Screening

Tuesday, October 29

7:00-9:00 PM

Crowe Hall, Room 126

“Des Hommes et des Dieux” is based on the true story of eight French Christian monks who live in harmony with their Muslim neighbors in Tibhirine, Algeria, from 1993 until their kidnapping in 1996.

Teaching Circles

CETL Teaching Circles are founded on the idea that teachers learn from one another. Teaching Circles meet over the course of two semesters and are designed to meet the needs of the participants. Consider joining a faculty-led Teaching Circle by contacting the facilitators or emailing CETL@merrimack.edu.

Using Metacognition to Support Academic Success and Independent Learning

Faculty Facilitators: Dr. Sarah Benes & Dr. Leah Poloskey

Fall Meetings: 10/31, 11/14 and 12/12 at 10:00

CETL, Sullivan Hall, Lower Level

(If you cannot attend on these dates/times, please contact faculty facilitators who may be able to amend.)

This teaching circle will focus primarily on metacognition. Metacognition can support not only academic success, but can also help support students in taking charge of their own learning.

Metacognitive strategies support self-awareness, growth mindset and a deeper understanding of themselves as learners. Importantly, these abilities can be transferred outside of the classroom and into students personal and professional lives. Finally, metacognition benefits all students and can be applied within any discipline.

Transformative Learning: An Introduction to Augustinian Pedagogy

Faculty Facilitator: Dr. Mark Allman

Fall Meetings: Nov 12, Dec 10, Jan 21, 12:00-1:00 (Lunch included)

CETL, Sullivan Hall, Lower Level

We will explore Augustinian Pedagogy with an emphasis on reflection on experience, learning in community, orienting teaching and learning to the common good, and nurturing the virtue of humility in the pursuit of truth. We begin with an introduction to the life of Augustine and the impact his thought and writing has had on a variety of academic fields. The remainder of the sessions follows Rev. Gary McCloskey's course, "Augustinian Pedagogy" and include short videos followed by discussion.

Interdisciplinary Institute Events for November

Interdisciplinary Teaching in Prison: A Conversation with Brittnie Aiello and Emma Duffy-Comparone

Friday, November 1, 12:30-2:00 PM (Lunch will be served)

Arcidi B

Campus Activism Against Gender Based Violence: The Power of Student Voice, Featuring Dr. Ruth Lewis, Northumbria University, UK

Thursday, November 7, 2:00--3:15 PM

Crowe 126

Researching Gender Based Violence on College Campuses: A Conversation with Dr. Ruth Lewis, Northumbria University, UK

Friday, November 8, 12:30-2:00 PM (Lunch will be served)

Arcidi B

Presidential Fellowships 2020-2021: Information Session

Friday, November 22, 12:30-2:00 PM (Lunch will be served)

Sullivan Hall, CETL Conference Room

For more information contact Simona Sharoni at director.institute@merrimack.edu

CETL Professional Learning: Fall 2019

Sessions held in the CETL classroom, Sullivan Hall, B-2

[Registration Link for All Sessions](#)

Motivational Strategies to Keep Students on Track from Thanksgiving to Christmas!

Tuesday, November 5, 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Discuss the power of groups and community in a digital or face to face environment, revisit growth mindset, and create an interactive environment for your students to thrive.

Video and Screen Capture Basics

Thursday, November 7, 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Create videos - introductory & explanatory or upload existing videos to Panopto, Merrimack's video hosting solution. Learn how to add quizzes, discussion points, and create captions to your videos so that all students can enjoy your resources.

Coffee with an Instructional Designer

Drop-In Mondays

9:00 - 12:00 PM

CETL, Sullivan Hall, B-2

The CETL is your one stop shop for all of your fall course design needs. Bring your course design challenges. Anything goes!

Important Advising Information to share with students

This advising period, please share information about two great opportunities for your undergraduate students.

Double Warrior program – Benefits to students include:

- An automatic 25% savings off graduate tuition for most online and on-campus programs when they earn a master's degree at Merrimack.
- An accelerated application process which waives the personal statement and recommendations requirement.
- The option to take up to two graduate courses during senior undergraduate year, which are covered by the 25% Double Warrior scholarship. Interested students should complete the online form at www.merrimack.edu/DW.
- Students whose senior schedules are unable to accommodate graduate courses can use the Double Warrior scholarship and fast track application after graduation.
- Additional information, including details on participating degrees, may be found at www.merrimack.edu/double-warrior. Note the Double Warrior scholarship cannot be combined with fellowships, which have a separate application process.

Winter Session: January 2 – 15, 2020

- Winter Session is a great way for students to earn four credits in just two weeks. Registration for dozens of online undergraduate courses -- including a special 9/11 New York experiential learning course -- opens on **October 31**.
- See the list of courses at www.merrimack.edu/winter. For questions, contact the Office of Professional and Continuing Studies at professionalstudies@merrimack.edu or x5484.

Registration for MACK GIVES BACK WEEK Now Open

Mack Gives Back week is Friday, November 1- Friday, November 8. During that week faculty, staff, students, alumni, and their families are encouraged to join together to honor our nation's Military Veterans and the sacrifices they have made by engaging in a few hours of service to others. Register now by clicking on the link below and selecting the category that applies to you. If your club/organization/group name is not listed on the drop down menu please email mackgivesback@merrimack.edu. We also gladly accept individual volunteers [REGISTER FOR MACK GIVES BACK HERE!](#)

Internship Institute

The O'Brien Center for Career Development is pleased to announce the Internship Institute at Merrimack College! Relevant internship and work experiences are imperative to career success upon graduation and the Internship Institute will serve to prepare, refine and connect students to internships through a series of [skill-based boot camps and networking events](#).

Please encourage students to register on [Handshake](#) by **November 15th**. As a member of the Merrimack community, we would welcome your feedback regarding how best to prepare students in our boot camp programming based on your experience and industry. [Internship Institute Feedback Survey](#)

Other Events this Week

October 21st

Moon Over Merrimack: 2nd Annual Family Astronomy Night

5:30-8:00 PM

Mendel Hall, Observatory

See the stars, walk on Mars! Come celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing! Walk through the solar system, explore the moon, code a bot to explore Mars. Weather permitting, we will use Merrimack's 20-inch telescope to explore the universe! There will be multiple related STEM investigations, design challenges, and displays designed to engage ages 0-99.

October 22nd

Annual English Career Night

7:00-11:00 PM

Merrimack Club, Sakowich Campus Center

The Annual English Career Night is a chance to meet and network with recent alumni from the English Department, all of whom took various paths after graduating from Merrimack College. Students from all majors are invited to attend and interact with the various professionals.

October 23rd

Crosson Sisters

12:30 PM

Rogers Center for the Arts

The Rogers Center Atrium Series presents the young and talented Crosson sisters. Enjoy delicate and complex sounds of the harp and violin along with complimentary coffee and tea.

October 25th

Last day for Fall Session 1 graduate online courses

Future Events

Cantus

Thursday, October 31

7:30 PM

Rogers Center For the Arts

“One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind...” The all-male vocal ensemble performs an a cappella concert inspired by one of man’s great achievements. [More Information.](#)

Lise Funderburg

Thursday, November 7

4:00 PM

The Writers House

Lise Funderburg’s books include *Black, White, Other: Biracial Americans Talk about Race and Identity*, *Pig Candy: Taking My Father South, Taking My Father Home*, and *Apple, Tree: Writers on their Parents*. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *The Washington Post*, *National Geographic*, and elsewhere.

<http://www.merrimack.edu/academics/the-writers-house>

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