

Baltimore in Fiction, Film, TV - AS.220.123

Baltimore has long inspired a diverse group of writers and filmmakers. Students will gain access to the creative soul of the city by reading works by W.E.B. Du Bois, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Lucille Clifton; watching films by Barry Levinson and John Waters, and viewing episodes of The Wire. They will also take a literary walking tour of Mount Vernon and meet with local writers and filmmakers. Finally, students will write their own Baltimore-inspired stories and scripts.

Public Health, Community, and You - AS.280.247

This course will engage first-year students in a week-long opportunity to learn more about the Baltimore community while exploring their own social value of doing grassroots or community development work. Each student will explore a passion area and identify the intersection of their specific issue with public health and education in Baltimore.

Art in Baltimore's Museums - AS.389.179

This freshman course functions as an introduction to art museums throughout Baltimore. Students will visit the American Visionary Art Museum, the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Walters and Evergreen Museum and have the opportunity to engage in conversations about understanding art, curatorial choices, and the role of museums in a modern city. We will examine historical and contemporary art and consider museums as incubators of societal change. Students will read select texts exploring art appreciation and write responses summarizing their own ideas on the role of art in Baltimore today.

From Incarceration to Liberation - AS.140.166

This course makes racialized mass incarceration local by exploring the history of incarceration and anti-carceral activism in Baltimore. It works from the premise that criminals and prisons are not given constructs, but are made through epistemological and technological practices. This premise provides a particular lens from which to view the Baltimore jail complex's architecture and to meet with community organizations working to provide alternatives to incarceration and to assist with reentry.

Junk Food vs. Whole Foods - AS.280.205

This course looks closely at the environment of Baltimore City's complex food systems and what it would take to improve these systems to assure widespread access to nutritious, adequate, and affordable food. Students will gain hands-on experience through visiting a supermarket, a corner store, and an emergency food distribution center. The in-class sessions are structured primarily as discussion seminars based around the readings and trips, supplemented with some lectures and guest lectures. Eating is more than just grabbing a meal; it's a fundamental part of our social fabric. In fact, 3 times a day / 7 days a week we have the opportunity to choose Junk Food vs. Whole Food, build social connections, explore new tastes through culinary adventures, and support the local farming economy by eating local – all while consuming good nutrition for our optimal mental and physical performance.