



FAQs About the ECCE Speaker Series Course

What is the Speaker Series?

The Engaged Citizenship Common Experience Speakers Series is a one-hour course that is part of the Engaged Citizenship Common Experience (ECCE) curriculum, the distinctive set of courses taken by undergraduates at UIS to foster the appreciation for and practice of diversity and the active effort to make a difference in the world.

For one hour of credit over the course of the semester, students will participate in four campus-sponsored lectures or events presented by speakers who exemplify engaged citizenship. After each event students respond to discussion questions about the event on the course Black Board site. At the end of the semester students write an integrative essay about their experiences. Other than an introductory class meeting, there are no regular classroom meetings for this course. No textbook is required.

Who should take the Speaker Series course?

All undergraduates completing a degree at UIS and entering in Fall 2007 must take one hour of Speakers Series. Students who entered with fewer than 30 hours in Fall 2006 must also take one hour of Speakers Series.

When should I take the Speaker Series course?

This course may be taken in any semester during a student's baccalaureate experience, but students should plan to complete the Speakers Series requirement while taking or after having completed at least one other ECCE course (100-level Comparative Societies Humanities and Social Science courses count for this requirement).

When and where does the Speaker Series class meet?

Students will attend a minimum of four Speaker Series events of their choosing out of approximately fifteen events scheduled during the semester. Students taking the class on the UIS campus will be required to attend one 60 minute class meeting at the beginning of the semester to review the syllabus, class policies, and introduce the Black Board site. (Several of these introductory meetings will be held on different days and times, including evenings, to accommodate students' schedules.) After the initial classroom meeting, Black Board software will be used to track student progress in the course. Online students will be oriented via Black Board courseware.

What are Speaker Series Events?

Each semester the Speaker Series course will feature campus and community sponsored lectures and events on a variety of topics. Participating speakers may be local, national, or international individuals or groups from a variety of disciplines. The one thing all participants all have in common is they exemplify engaged citizenship.

How do I find out what Speakers or Speaker Series Events are offered this semester?

The schedule of Speaker Series events will change each semester. A schedule of Speaker Series events will be posted on our web site at www.uis.edu/generaleducation . Once you are enrolled in the course, Speaker Series event details will be posted on the Black Board site and email reminders will be sent to you. Because Speaker Series events are free and open to the public, most events will also be advertised to the campus community and the local community.

What are the course requirements?

Students must demonstrate the ability to learn from the lectures they attend by posting Discussion Board comments on Black Board and submitting an integrative essay at the end of the semester. No textbook is required for this course.

Can I take the Speaker Series course online?

Online sections of the Speaker Series course are available only for students enrolled in online degree programs. Online students participate in Speakers Series events through live webcasts or video on demand recordings.

How do Peoria Center students participate in Speaker Series?

UIS Peoria Center students may take the Speaker Series course online. If you are a Peoria student and wish to take this course online instead of attending events in person, please contact Kimberly Craig (craig.kimberly@uis.edu) for registration information.

What if I have questions or need help?

All students enrolled in the Speaker Series will have access to an online Black Board site. Detailed course information, as well as event updates, will be available on the Black Board site. For questions about the course, contact your instructor. For questions about events, contact speakerseries@uis.edu .

Where are Speaker Series events held?

Most Speaker Series events will be held on campus in the PAC or Brookens Auditorium. Check the event schedule for more information.