

INTERSECTIONS

An Introduction to the Liberal Arts at Central College

INTERSECTIONS is an interdisciplinary seminar which all first-year students take in the fall semester. It is an exploration of the “intersections” where disciplines, ideas and events converge, connect and collide. All sections share a common topic and many common readings and experiences, while each instructor adds a unique emphasis. The contribution of varied fields—natural sciences, behavioral sciences, fine arts, humanities—are included. Because this is a Central Foundations course, students are introduced to college-level skills of reading, writing, speaking, listening, critical thinking and information literacy.

Intersections is designed to help first-year students begin the process of achieving the College Goals for Students (See College Mission and Goals). In particular, the Intersections course will specifically focus on these areas of student development:

1. Joining the academic community
2. Curiosity and personal responsibility dispositions
3. Inquiry and study habits
4. Communication and information literacy skills

After one semester of Intersections, students will improve their ability to

1. Listen to others
2. Participate in class
3. Comprehend a variety of texts
4. Apply basic methods of library research and citation
5. Evaluate evidence and arguments
6. Write clearly and persuasively
7. Respond to creative works
8. Take responsibility for their own education