

Providence College Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar

Sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs and the Center for Teaching Excellence

Description:

The Providence College Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar (IFS) brings together up to eight faculty members from across the disciplines on campus in a collaborative teaching and learning experience each year. Participants devote an entire semester to a multidisciplinary and multidimensional study of a particular theme with the potential for additional individual or collaborative work on the theme through the subsequent academic year.

The Providence College Interdisciplinary Faculty Seminar:

- advances the mission of the College by fostering academic excellence, providing a supportive and unique opportunity for faculty members to engage in intellectual, social, moral, and spiritual growth, and enhancing the Dominican tradition of quality teaching and scholarship.
- provides time, space, and institutional arrangements for faculty to venture beyond the walls of their disciplines to interact with fellow faculty as mutual scholars, teachers, colleagues, and students.
- examines the connections among disciplines that make up the fabric of university life and represents in palpable form a microcosm of the idea of the university.
- provides faculty with critical tools in interpreting and understanding issues from other disciplinary perspectives.
- promotes scholarly research and publications among PC faculty.
- increases visibility of scholarly and intellectual activity at Providence College to outside academic communities.
- generates proposals for cross-disciplinary teaching collaboration (e.g., new courses or modifications to existing courses, DWC Colloquia, linked courses).
- allows faculty the opportunity to be learners as well as teachers, giving them an appreciation for the problems and needs of their own students.
- generates cross-campus conversation, partnership, and *communitas*.

Seminar Format:

- Up to eight faculty members from different disciplinary backgrounds will participate.
- The seminar will take place during the spring semester and will meet once each week at a scheduled time.
- Each participant will be given a one course load reduction during the IFS semester.
- One of the selected participants will act as seminar coordinator and will be paid a stipend.
- Scholars and pedagogical experts may be selected by seminar participants to visit PC to share their work with seminar participants and the PC community.
- At least one meeting will be held in the fall semester prior to the IFS for planning and preparation.
- IFS participants will contribute to a CTE-sponsored event where scholarship, teaching, and interdisciplinary experiences are shared.
- Seminar participants will have the option to expand their work on the theme via a pedagogical mini-grant.
- The mini-grant may be proposed and developed beginning with the start of the seminar and into the following academic year with review and guidance provided by the CTE Advisory Group.