COMM 193, FYS: Relationshipping. People need each other. Repeated studies show that relationships and feelings of connectedness are the keys to better mental health, improved cognition, and a longer, more joyful existence. So, if relationships can save us, then why is being with other people so... complicated? Drawing on a range of disciplines, this course will explore the ways relationships teach us how to love, how to grieve, how to live more emphatically, and how (and why) to establish boundaries. Most importantly, we will learn how other people not only sustain us but contribute to our growth. Since mediated relationships are part of our socialization, we will see how pop culture and celebrity inform us—teaching us relational norms of both what to do, even more likely, what not to do—when in the company of others. Instructor: Morehouse.

COMM 193, FYS: Communication, Culture & Liberation. This course will examine the interplay of culture, media and politics as communicative forces that shape American society. Through a multi-disciplinary approach that will develop your analytical and expressive powers, and, not least, enhance your appreciation and understanding of the process of human communication. A central theme is the reciprocity among politics, propaganda, and advertising, and how cultural values are inculcated, upheld, and/or contested. We will analyze communication phenomena through using concepts from semiotics, anthropology, phenomenology, communication and visual theory. Instructor: Osborne

EDTE 201, FYS: Learning Theories/Epistemologies. This course is designed to introduce the undergraduate student to the epistemology of various disciplines and to make them aware of their own personal epistemology. In addition, the contributions of behaviorism, humanistic psychology, and cognitive psychology will be examined in order to give a basis for critically analyzing how and why human growth and development occur in the teaching and learning act. Based on the dynamics of respect of individual differences within the learning community, prior learning and authentic scholarly exploration of historical and current literature, students will be able to articulate, develop and seek alternatives to their theories-in-use. Instructor: Cox

ENGL 193/FILM 193, FYS: Cinema, Films, & Movies. This first-year seminar takes an interdisciplinary approach to film studies, considering the aesthetic, social, political, and historical aspects of the medium in the United States and internationally. The course will consider film in relation to a variety of other academic fields, including history, philosophy, cognitive science, critical race theory, women’s and gender studies, literature, and economics; students taking this course will watch films from a variety of times, places, and perspectives, asking how film helps us to construct knowledge about ourselves and cultivate understanding of others. Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Instructor: Bolton.

ENGL 193, FYS: The Search for Meaning. This FYS is designed to introduce students to learning and knowing as deliberate, creative processes by engaging the question of what makes for a meaningful life. The course will emphasize writing and reading as tools for participation in the creation of meaning. The course will focus on building a personal map of meaning in conjuction with a study of how literary works approach meaning, along with consideration of the approach to meaning by various works from philosophy, psychology, and religious studies. Fulfills a Writing-Enriched (WE) designation*. Instructor: Butterworth
ENGL 193, FYS: 1960’s in 21 Songs. Before there was Black Lives Matter, there were the Black Panthers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King. Before Megan Rapinoe, there was Stonewall and Muhammed Ali. Before the War on Terror, there was Vietnam. And before the fracturing of audiences with Netflix, TikTok, and YouTube, 73,000,000 Americans watched four lads from Liverpool start a revolution on their televisions. The 1960s was a decade of mass movements and mass media, one when a “new generation” imagined better worlds... and, by the end, faced deepening nightmares. This class will examine the decade at the intersection of media and society, using the popular music of the day – artists such as Bob Dylan, the Beatles, James Brown, and Aretha Franklin -- to frame interdisciplinary discussions on civil rights, women’s and gay liberation, art, religion, war, and what it means to be American. Students will be expected to be active participants, reading and listening carefully, and contributing to class discussion. A number of controversial and difficult topics will be featured, and students are cautioned that the language and topics may be challenging. Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Fulfills a Social Justice (SJ) designation*. Instructor: Cooney.

ENGL 193, FYS: What is a University? The primary purpose of this First-Year Seminar is to explore as much as we can about a university. Drawing from a wide range of perspectives will provide us with insight as to how an institution of higher education operates. We will delve into the history of universities, the politics involved in academia, and the practicalities of keeping a university running. We will consider various types of universities while also focusing on Gonzaga and how it is similar to and different from other universities. Course activities will require students to research these issues and others and to share the knowledge that they gain from that research in our seminar meetings. The goal of this sharing is to “cultivate [an] understanding” of what it means to be part of a university community at this point of their education and to take that understanding with them when they leave Gonzaga. Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion and fulfills a Writing-Enriched (WE) designation*. Instructor: Pajer.

HEAL 193/ RELI 193, FYS: Religion and Medicine. See RELI 193 description below. Instructor: Tran

HIST 193, FYS: Rwandan Genocide. This course will focus on the Rwandan Genocide as a means to not only engage with this important event but to also explore the ways that historians, sociologists, and novelists approach understanding it. You will apply newly-gained knowledge about Rwandan history and the genocide as the class plays the Reacting to the Past game about the genocide, The Needs of Others. You'll see the reasons for the choices that actors made in response to this human crisis, and then be asked to reflect how your own preferred responses echo principles in Gonzaga’s mission. Instructor: Weiskopf.

HIST 193, FYS: The Sixties. This section of the First-Year Seminar will discuss the political ideologies, social movements, and cultural revolutions that emerged in America after World War II—as reactions to the Cold War, social injustice, and changes in ideals—that have influenced our contemporary lives. While we will follow a historical narrative, “The 1960s” will use basic modes of inquiry and expression from a variety of disciplines, including music, literature, film, political science, and sociology. Instructor: Donnelly
PHIL 193, FYS: Tolkien & Philosophy of Language. This course will look at the way language reveals truth, with a particular focus on the creation of stories through the use of metaphor and myth in J.R.R. Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings. It is an interdisciplinary course that weaves together the philosophy of language, literary theory, and Catholic sacramental theology to examine the sacredness of nature and the way that our role as creators allows us to participate in the ongoing act of divine creation. Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Instructor: Bradley

PHIL 193, FYS: Loneliness & Community. It’s hard to imagine any person existing without at least some experience of feeling or being lonely. For many of us, loneliness is situational: it’s what we feel when we first immerse ourselves into a new community or when a relationship ends. For some, loneliness is a feeling they wrestle with more consistently. In this class, we will look at what it is to be and feel lonely. We won’t stop there, though. We’ll study how community and connection to other people (might) help alleviate loneliness. We’ll ask if the experience of loneliness today is unique to our time, or if there is something common to all human experiences of loneliness. We’ll ask how different scholars from diverse fields suggest we “deal” with the problem of loneliness and discover whether there are skills and practices we can adopt to lessen our own and others’ lonely feelings. Fulfills a Writing-Enriched (WE) designation.* Instructor: Kulp

PHYS 193, FYS: Societal Impacts of Sports Science and Technology. In this seminar, we will explore advances in sports science and technology. Together, we will try to understand the advances in our own understanding of the human body through sports and how this applies to the health of the general population. Then, we will ask two questions, what should, and shouldn’t we do with this scientific information and when does advances in science and technology break what is considered ‘fair game’ in sports. Instructor: Hoeck-Mills

RELI 193, FYS: Indigenous Peoples and Global Issues. This course explores contemporary issues of indigenous peoples throughout the world. We begin by examining the concept of a "Fourth World." Who are indigenous peoples, and how have they been categorized about "ethnic groups," colonization, and the international system of states? We examine current debates within the United Nations about indigenous peoples and human rights. We look at the law and economics of colonialism and emerging issues of globalization. Through films, literature, and social science readings, this course looks at those issues and focuses on how indigenous peoples actively oppose their oppression and create sustainable futures. Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion and fulfills a Global Studies (GS) designation*. Instructor: Baraza

RELI 193, FYS: Paranormal. As a First-Year Seminar, this course investigates how we pursue knowledge and cultivate understanding. To achieve this, Para/Normal investigates what Americans have considered normal and paranormal. By taking the categories “normal” and “paranormal” as our object of study, this class asks questions about how people see and experience the world, the ways in which humans make meaning of those experiences, and whether or not the supernatural still has a place in today’s modern world. Along the way, we’ll meet witches, Bigfoot hunters, UFO abductees, ghost hunters, and more. And we’ll see what Americans fear, what Americans believe, and what Americans love to debunk. Instructor: Clark
RELI 193, FYS: Vietnam-Ethics of War. Addresses the first-year core question, “How do we pursue knowledge and cultivate understanding” through a multiple disciplinary analysis of the Vietnam War. In recent American history, few events have evoked as much controversy and debate as the Vietnam War. Positions on the war ranged from total support to total opposition with often little room in between these views. For this reason, the Vietnam War calls forth a variety of viewpoints regarding the political, social, and moral consequences of the war. Many of these viewpoints reflect concerns related to justice such as the morality of war, the just war theory, colonialism, cultural narratives, the cold war, protest movements, and the draft. Seen through the lens of ethics, history, popular culture, music, and politics, we will look at the war from the perspective of policy makers, soldiers, and the Vietnamese people. We will see how each of these groups dealt with the ethics of the war in relation to their own situation and role in the war. We will try to gain some understanding of the impact of the war on America, on Vietnam, and on the people whose lives became intertwined with the war. Since war is not an isolated phenomenon, this understanding will equip students to develop an analysis of war in a more contemporary context. *Fulfills a Social Justice (SJ) designation*. Instructor: Large

RELI 193, FYS: The Problem of God. The Problem of God explores the various ways in which human beings have asked and attempted to answer questions about the origin of existence, about the meaning and purpose of life, about the experience of suffering and death by appealing to God. Students will examine different methods for answering these questions through texts in theology, philosophy, and the sciences, as well as through the arts, spirituality, and ritual practice. *Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion*. Instructor: Mudd

RELI 193, FYS: Religion and Stuff. Is a religion primarily a set of beliefs and symbols? Or does religion also require things? How are beliefs developed and encoded in conversation with the things around us? And what impact do religions have on their material environments? This course seeks to explore religion and/as physical stuff, not only belief. Instructor: Porter

RELI 193, FYS: Violence and the Humanities. What insights and tools do the humanities disciplines offer students who wish to grapple with the problem of violence today? Students in this course explore various academic perspectives from the humanities, enter into discussion about different kinds of education, and apply humanities insights to unresolved conflicts. **Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion and fulfills a Global Studies (GS) designation**. Instructor: Sheveland

RELI 193, FYS: The Depths: Psalms and the Human Condition. Being a human being means at least, among many other things, to struggle with relationships; that is to struggle with one’s self intellectually and emotionally as well as to struggle with others and/or the “Other.” The psalms of the Hebrew Bible embrace this most human experience with startling honesty, urgency, humility, and empathy. This multi-disciplinary course allows students to creatively explore and then enter into the worlds of the psalmists while also giving voice to a student’s own developing self and engagement in the human condition. **Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion and fulfills a Social Justice (SJ) designation**. Instructor: Starbuck
RELI 193, FYS: Religion and Medical Science. Are religions and medical science compatible? How do they relate, support, and challenge each other over the history? What are the tensions that can be quite destructive between them at times? What opportunities can they bring to humanity if we can find a good way to utilize both properly? This course will examine questions such as these. The course aims at helping students to go beyond their preconceptions and develop a critical analysis to (1) concretely identify issues that need to be resolved, (2) avoid falling into the trap of exclusivity or extreme, (3) recognize elements that help to enrich rather than impoverish our ability, and (4) view everything through a humanistic and wholistic lens. Instructor: Tran

WGST 193, FYS: Gender & Sexuality in Games. This class will explore the impact of gender and sexuality within the history, theory, and design of both tabletop and video games. We will study how these issues arise within representation in games, gaming communities, and the wider industry. Readings will include both academic texts and a variety of different games. In the process, students will not only develop a deeper understanding of the interactive media they frequently consume but also apply this understanding through design. Engages with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Instructor: Dame-Griff, Avery

* To fulfill university core requirements, students must complete 2 Writing-Enriched (WE) designated courses (in addition to Writing), 1 Global Studies (GS) designated course (in addition to World/Comparative Religion), and 1 Social Justice (SJ) designated course. Designations double-count. That is, students completing an FYS with a designation, get credit for the FYS and fulfill the designation it carries. Transfer students with 45 or more credits have a reduced designation requirement (1 WE, and 2 total of either 1 WE, 1 GS, and/or 1 SJ), and students with 60 or more credits, including AA/AS-T degree holders, are not required to fulfill the designation requirements.