

CO-CURRICULARS

SPRING SEMESTER 2024

Registration for Co-curricular Offerings will begin at 12:30 pm on Friday, January 19, 2024 and continue through Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Registration for these offerings takes place after course registration and the first day of classes. The intent is to make sure students have a sense of their academic time commitments before taking on more activities with co-curriculars. You can register during the add period via the portal. Use the course number and section listed with the title.

Co-Curricular Etiquette: (1) in order to give all students a reasonable chance to register for co-curriculars, please limit your choices to no more than two, (2) don't register unless you are serious about attending, and (3) if you decide to drop out, notify the staff or faculty sponsor and the Registrar's Office by e-mail.

Co-Curricular Number, Section	Co-Curricular Title	Staff/Faculty Sponsor(s)
CC1602	Fondue-it-yourself	Stephanos Matsumoto
CC1811	Futures Thinking	Jessica Charlap
CC1707	Growing Edible Mushrooms (GEM)	Benjamin Linder and Susan Mihailidis
CC1810	History of Olin College	Joe Hunter
CC1914	Ice Skating	Victoria Dean and Corinna Kraemer
CC1304	Identity & Engineering	Breauna Campbell
CC1013	Knit & Crochet	Corinna Kraemer
CC1315	Let's work on LeetCode/Competitive Coding/AdventofCode problems together!	Orion Taylor
CC1106	Marvelous Reflections: Exploring the Social Tapestry through Marvel Comics	Mike Nguyen
CC1904	Music of Our Lives	Adva Waranyuwat and Jocelyn Jimenez
CC1906	Relaxing with Singing Bowls	Jean Huang
CC1014	Studio Art Foundations & Explorations	Elisa Hamilton
CC1701	Sustainable Beekeeping	Benjamin Linder

CC1602

Fondue-it-yourself

Faculty Sponsor: Stephanos Matsumoto

Enrollment Limited to 12 students; no staff/faculty this semester

In this co-curricular, we will learn about, and experiment with, four key components of a good cheese fondue. Each meeting will consist of a short lesson on a component of cheese fondue, followed by an experiment and tasting session. The co-curricular will meet four times over the course of the semester.

CC1811

Futures Thinking

Staff Sponsor: Jessica Charlap

Enrollment Limited to 30 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Jessica

Futures Thinking is a systematic and interdisciplinary approach to technological advancement and other trends, often for the purpose of exploring how people will live and work in the future. Together we will develop skills in simulation, foresight, collaboration, and action to increase our strengths in creativity, anticipation, mental flexibility, empathy, practical skepticism, and hope. Based on resources from the Institute for the Future.

CC1707

Growing Edible Mushrooms (GEM)

Faculty/Staff Sponsors: Benjamin Linder and Susan Mihailidis

Enrollment Limited to 20 students, with a 5 student waitlist; interested staff/faculty should speak to Ben

Grow your own mushrooms like oysters, lion's mane, and shiitake! Participants learn the basics of growing edible mushrooms from working with liquid cultures to myceliating substrates to pinning and fruiting. We will explore sharing our harvest, building community, and becoming self-sustaining. Students interested in doing research on fungi that are new to cultivation are encouraged to enroll to learn the skills involved. Meetings are on Tuesdays from 12-1:00 PM each week. Open to students, alums, staff, and faculty.

CC1810

History of Olin College

Staff Sponsor: Joe Hunter

Enrollment Limited to 12 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Joe

The co-curricular offers the opportunity to meet the founders of Olin College and explore the challenges they faced starting a new college dedicated to innovation. Among the founders featured in the co-curricular will be pioneering students who took part in the "Partner Year" and helped create the curriculum; founding faculty members; Olin's founding president, Richard Miller; founding trustees; and Olin's creative marketer, who convinced top prospective students to take a chance on an untested educational startup. The class will also bring history up to the present and look into Olin's ongoing commitment to its founding values. The co-curricular is led by Joe Hunter, former assistant VP for communication at Olin, who became Olin's historian over his 20-year career at the college.

CC1914

Ice Skating

Faculty/Staff Sponsors: Victoria Dean and Corinna Kraemer

Enrollment Limited to 18 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Victoria

1 hour a week, Corinna and Victoria will lead a group to open skating at the Babson Skating Center (right by lot A). Depending on your skill level, we can practice together and give you tips (or if you're good, we'll just give you compliments). Victoria can teach you the basics of figure skating: starting and stopping, crossovers, and maybe beginner jumps and spins. Babson skating instructors may also teach some of the classes.

We will meet on Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm. No skates required; if you don't have your own skates, you can rent them

from Babson.

CC1304 Identity & Engineering

Staff Sponsor: Breana Campbell

Enrollment Limited to 12 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Breana

Are there images of engineering that contrast with how you or others fit within the space? Who is the 'Olin engineer'? How can engineering really include everyone and be for everyone? How do we experience these identity questions differently depending on our own sense of ourselves? How do gender, race, sexual orientation, class, dis/ability play into this?

This co-curricular focuses on broad questions of engineering, identity, and the real and perceived connections between them. We can not only delve together into concepts and frameworks of interest (i.e. assumptions, microaggressions, the power of language), but also dive into what enrolled participants want to talk about. Brief readings or videos may be recommended to guide each session. Discussions are informal and very experientially based. Even if you've participated before, I encourage you to return!

Note that the relationship between identity and engineering affects everyone in engineering, and all are welcome to participate. Meeting time will be determined by those who register.

CC1013 Knit & Crochet

Staff Sponsors: Corinna Kraemer (with CAs, crochet assistants, Alex Zeigler '27 & Miriam Rich '25)

Enrollment Limited to 15 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Corinna

Interested in learning to knit or crochet? Already know how to and want to stitch with others? We will meet in the library weekly (Tuesdays ~4pm-~530pm; you do not need to be there the entire time) to hang out, chat, and of course - work on our knit and crochet projects. Knitters and crocheters of all levels are welcome (from total newbie to advanced stitcher). Staff and faculty are invited to stop by too!

CC1315 Let's work on LeetCode/Competitive Coding/AdventofCode problems together!

Faculty Sponsor: Orion Taylor

Enrollment Limited to 30 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Orion

Do you like solving data structures and algorithms (DSA) puzzles? Are you trying to prepare for the technical portion of your software engineering interview? Then this Co-Curricular may be for you. Time will mostly be spent solving LeetCode problems and going over some useful DSA concepts & problem-solving techniques. All levels of coding experience are welcome, some prior familiarity with Python would be useful (but not strictly required).

CC1106 Marvelous Reflections: Exploring the Social Tapestry through Marvel Comics

Staff Sponsor: Mike Nguyen

Enrollment Limited to 15 students, with a 5 student waitlist; interested staff/faculty should speak to Mike

This dynamic course delves into the rich history of Marvel Comics as a captivating mirror reflecting societal issues and experiences of its time. From the early origins of comic books to the revolutionary challenges posed by the Comic Code Authority, students will embark on a thrilling journey through the pages of Marvel's iconic publications. This course aims to unravel the intricate relationship between Marvel Comics and evolving social norms through critical analysis and in-depth discussions. Students can expect to delve into early comic book history, exploring the emergence of comic books and the cultural landscape that gave rise to Marvel Comics while analyzing the impact of early superheroes like Captain America, the Human Torch, and Namor on World War II-era America. We will also explore the Comic Code Authority Era, investigating the formation and implications of the Comic Code Authority on comic book content, and examine how Marvel navigated the restrictions imposed by the Comic Code while still addressing societal issues. From there, we will do a deeper dive into revolutionary Marvel storylines that reflect society by identifying key social issues depicted in Marvel Comics, such as the Civil Rights Movement, the fight for LGBTQ+ rights, evolving gender roles, and periods of political unrest; analyze how Marvel characters evolved in response to changing societal norms; explore groundbreaking Marvel story arcs that challenged conventional norms, including the X-Men's allegory for civil rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and feminism; and examine how characters like Spider-Man, Black Panther, and the Fantastic Four tackled contemporary social challenges. Students will be expected to read and critically analyze a curated selection of Marvel Comics, connecting narrative themes to real-world issues. By the end of the course, students will have a nuanced understanding of Marvel Comics as a powerful cultural artifact, providing unique insights into the evolving tapestry of society over the years.

CC1904

Music of Our Lives

Staff Sponsors: Adva Waranyuwat and Jocelyn Jimenez, with Vedaant Kuchhal

Enrollment Limited to 10 students; no staff/faculty this semester

Music, particularly music that defines our childhood, or our current lives, can provide powerful insight into who you were and are. As a group, we will ask participants to pick two songs each to share with the group each week. These songs should define or explain part of your experience or identity. We will listen to the song(s) together and discuss the lyrics. The goal of this co-curricular is to enjoy each other's company and musical tastes, deepen our understanding of each other, and share our lives together through music!

We hope to meet once every other week. Self-care is important to us and should be important to everyone, so we will adjust the schedule as needed throughout the semester!

CC1906

Relaxing with Singing Bowls

Faculty Sponsor: Jean Huang

Enrollment Limited to 15 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Jean

The sounds and tones of singing bowls are associated with relaxation and meditative healing. For this co-curricular we will set aside some time to play, listen to, and relax together with singing bowls. In developing a sound bath, we can collectively practice finding entry points for peace and rest. All are welcome, and no experience with singing bowls is necessary.

CC1214

Studio Art Foundations & Explorations

Staff Sponsor: Elisa Hamilton

Enrollment Limited to 10 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Elisa

In this hands-on artmaking course, we'll create artworks in various media from week to week, and we will display our creations in a pop-up art gallery for the Olin community to see. Students will have an introduction to many approaches to artmaking through experimentation and hands-on practice. Media will include drawing, painting, collage, assemblage, and several forms of printmaking. We will also focus on building visual literacy with an emphasis on utilizing the formal elements of art to develop compelling creations.

CC1701

Sustainable Beekeeping

Faculty Sponsors: Benjamin Linder

Enrollment Limited to 15 students, with a 10 student waitlist; interested staff/faculty should speak to Ben

Learn sustainable beekeeping practices while working in the Olin apiary and running Parcel Bees, the Olin honey CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) through which Olin alums buy shares in the annual harvest. Participants learn to handle honey bees, make observations of bee behavior, practice natural hive management techniques, harvest honey, and make lip balm. Full participants receive a share of honey over a year. Open to students, alums, staff, and faculty. We will meet on Fridays from 3:00 to 4:00 PM. This time is somewhat flexible to accommodate individual schedules.