

# 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) in light of the new core curriculum.
- allows faculty the opportunity to be students 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 fields will participate.
- The seminar will take place during the spring semester and will meet once each week at a time to be determined by the participants.
- 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.
- One or more scholars will be selected by seminar participants to come to PC to share their work with seminar participants and the PC community and to become acquainted with ongoing scholarly activity at PC.
- At least one meeting will be held in the fall semester prior to the IFS for planning and preparation.
- Each seminar participant will facilitate at least one seminar session, in which he or she identifies and assigns seminar readings and facilitates discussion of the theme as it relates to his or her discipline.
- 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 product such as a manuscript, presentation, DWC colloquium, linked course, etc. The product may be proposed and developed beginning with the start of the seminar and into the following academic year.
- Additional compensation (stipend of \$3500.00) will be provided once the product is complete and presented to the CTE Advisory Group.