



The Evergreen State College

September 14 – 20, 2016

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Canvas site: <https://canvas.evergreen.edu/courses/1222>

SYLLABUS

I think we have to own the fears that we have of each other, and then, in some practical way, some daily way, figure out how to see people differently than the way we were brought up to.

—Alice Walker

Institute Description

Welcome to the Evergreen Student Civic Engagement Institute (ESCEI), an intensive, residential academic program designed to launch your successful career as a co-learner and leader at Evergreen. During our seven days together, we will explore democracy, citizenship, and civil discourse through a variety of texts and activities. We'll hear from elected officials, non-profit leaders, community activists, educators, students, artists, and a spiritual leader. We'll wrestle with real-world issues—both global and local. We'll read and write, listen and speak. Most importantly, we'll think. And we'll put our bodies to work—building ourselves as a team on a challenge course, visiting a sensitive environmental site, experimenting with improvisational theater, and getting dirty at a non-profit farm with a program for local youth.

Program Schedule

The residential portion of the Institute runs from Wednesday, September 14 through Tuesday, September 20. Then there will be a few fall quarter activities and you'll complete a project and some modest academic work. We'll celebrate your work with ESCEI friends and collaborators at an evening event (7-8:30 pm on November 16). Here's the week at a glance, though we may have some adjustments. A [detailed schedule](#) is provided as a separate document.

ESCEI Week at a Glance

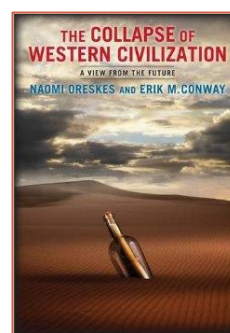
Wednesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Move-in to Evergreen Housing Campus tours Student Introductions and Family Q & A with Vice President Wendy Endress and Provost Ken Tabbutt Welcome dinner with Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner '91 and Evergreen President George Bridges. 	Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dispute Resolution Center Workshop, part 1 Introduction to community-based learning and the Books to Prisoners project Self-care for leaders and citizens and <i>Shinrin Yoku</i> forest walk People and Place: Teachings from a Northwest Tribal Elder
Thursday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is Civic Engagement? faculty member Nancy Koppelman Mapping the week ahead and fall quarter work Challenge activities Stories of Finding Common Ground, the Heartsparkle Players 	Monday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clergy Letter Project with Vice President Michael Zimmerman Seminar: <i>The Collapse of Western Civilization</i> Dispute Resolution Center Workshop, part 1 Talk Data to Me: An Exploration of Big Data and its place in public decisions Dessert with President George Bridges
Friday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Future of Capitol Lake: A Case Study* Engaging Politics, with elected officials and others in politics† Washington Secretary of State Kim Wyman Trivia Night <p>*In downtown Olympia. †At the Capitol campus.</p>	Tuesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for New Student Move-in Panel with 2015 ESCEI alums Being a Leader at Evergreen, faculty Nancy Koppelman Closing remarks and celebration
Saturday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based learning at GRuB farm Unscheduled time. Explore your new College campus, go to downtown Olympia, take in a movie on campus 	

Learning Objectives

- 1) To identify and strengthen the habits of thought and action—the virtues if you will—that increase our capacities to live an engaged life in a democratic society. These are virtues, for example, that help us to embrace complexity, have empathy for others' points of view, persist through difficulties, be reflective about our thoughts and actions, and continue to nurture hope and joy.
- 2) To observe civic engagement in action through learning about the work of a variety of involved citizens and organizations.
- 3) To gain and practice skills in effective listening, conflict resolution, and community-based service and learning.
- 4) To create and experience your first academic learning community at Evergreen.
- 5) To enjoy a week together getting to know Evergreen and your greater community while settling into life as a college student.

Texts

Our primary reading assignment for the Institute will be Evergreen's common reading for fall 2016, *The Collapse of Western Civilization: A View from the Future*, by Naomi Oreskes and Erik M. Conway. You will receive a copy of the book in the mail at least couple of weeks before classes begin. The book itself is short, and we have some additional short (mostly very short) required readings to help inform our thinking over the week as a whole and during specific sessions. We may not have a sustained discussion about each selection, but spending time with these writers will begin to steep you in many of the ideas and values we'll explore during our week together. **Please read these materials before arriving at the Institute and take the opportunity to review them the night before each session.** This will help ensure that you and your fellow Institute participants are able to get the most out of each session. I am also providing a list of some recommended longer readings for you, should you find you're hungry for more.



Texts and Media (organized by Institute [schedule](#))

WEDNESDAY

Shea, Carolyn. "Rallying the Motherhood Movement." Evergreen Magazine. Fall 2013.
<http://www.evergreen.edu/magazine/2013fall/rallying-the-motherhood-movement.htm>.

Momsrising.org web site: www.momsrising.org/.

THURSDAY

Carter, Stephen L. "The Varieties of (Not) Listening." In *Civility: Manners, Morals and the Etiquette of Democracy*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1999. blogs.evergreen.edu/mclainj/files/2015/08/CarterSelection.pdf.

Janowitz, Naomi. "Civility and Its Discontents at UC Davis." Windows into Civility Project. Davis, CA: University of California, Davis.
civilityproject.ucdavis.edu/Windows_Civility_Discontents.pdf.

Orozco, Daniel. "Orientation: A Short Story by Daniel Orozco." Work in Progress. May 2011.
www.fsgworkinprogress.com/2011/05/orientation-by-daniel-orozco. [Or listen to a reading on the radio program This American Life: www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/37/the-job-that-takes-over-your-life?act=4.]

Solnit, Rebecca. "Looking into Darkness," "Other Ways of Telling," and "Across the Great Divide." In *Hope in the Dark: Untold Histories, Wild Possibilities*. New York: Nation Books, 2006. blogs.evergreen.edu/mclainj/files/2015/08/SolnitSelections.pdf.

FRIDAY

Washington Department of Enterprise Services. Frequently Asked Questions.
des.wa.gov/about/pi/CapitolLake/Pages/CapitolLakeFAQ.aspx.

———. Long-term Planning for Capitol Lake/Deschutes Estuary. des.wa.gov/about/pi/CapitolLake/Pages/LTP.aspx.

———. Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan: Net Social and Economic Benefit Analysis.
[des.wa.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/About/CapitolLake/32-FactSheet6-NetSocialAndEconomicBenefitAnalysis\(2\).pdf](http://des.wa.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/About/CapitolLake/32-FactSheet6-NetSocialAndEconomicBenefitAnalysis(2).pdf).

Washington Department of General Administration. Capitol Lake Adaptive Management Plan: Advisory Committee Recommendation Fact Sheet. [www.des.wa.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/About/CapitolLake/35-Fact-Sheet9-AdvisoryCommitteeRecommendation\(2009\).pdf](http://www.des.wa.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/About/CapitolLake/35-Fact-Sheet9-AdvisoryCommitteeRecommendation(2009).pdf)

Washington Department of Ecology. Focus on: Understanding the Scientific Process Used for the Budd Inlet, Capitol Lake, and Deschutes River Water Cleanup Plan; fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/1503026.pdf.

Capitol Lake Improvement and Protection Association. 2016 Capitol Lake Timeline. blogs.evergreen.edu/mclainj/files/2015/08/CLIPA_Lake_Timeline_8-11-16.doc.

———. Cost Sheet. blogs.evergreen.edu/mclainj/files/2015/08/CLIPA_Alt_Costs_2016.doc.

———. FAQ Sheet. blogs.evergreen.edu/mclainj/files/2015/08/CLIPA_FAQ_8-11-16.docx.

Milne, David H. Why Capitol Lake is Better than Having an Estuary. blogs.evergreen.edu/mclainj/files/2015/08/Capitol-Lake-15-reasons-TESC.doc.

Squaxin Island Tribe. Deschutes Estuary Questions and Answers. squaxinisland.org/government/departments/natural-resources/deschutes-estuary.

Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team. Why Restore the Estuary? www.deschutesestuary.org/why-restore-the-estuary.

———. Washington's 2016 Deschutes River Watershed Guide (optional). www.deschutesestuary.org/wp-content/uploads/DERTGuide_5-16_final.pdf.

Nisqually Wildlife Refuge. Rivers and Tides: Restoring the Nisqually Estuary (optional video). nisquallydeltarestoration.org/nisqually_restoration.php.

WBUR Boston. "In Washington, Millennial Lawmakers are Reaching across the Aisle." *Here & Now*. May 8, 2014. hereandnow.wbur.org/2014/05/08/washington-millennial-lawmakers.

SATURDAY

Garden Raised Bounty (GRuB) web site: goodgrub.org.

KAOS Olympia. *KAOS Community Connections Report*. July 10, 2015. soundcloud.com/kaosolympia/kaos-community-connections-report-july-10-2015?in=kaosolympia/sets/kaos-community-connections (1:02 to 4:15 on the recording).

Kim Gaffi. "Food Justice High." May 1, 2013. www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpsJ1ZQdEgQ (optional video).

SUNDAY

Civico, Aldo and Bill Carmody. "3 Powerful Conflict-Resolution Strategies from an Anti-terrorism leader." March 2016. www.mediate.com/articles/CivicoA2.cfm.

Lederach, John Paul. "How Does Humanity Unite?" *Mediate.com*. July 2016. www.mediate.com/articles/lederachjbl20160721.cfm.

Lenski, Tammy. "5 Uncomplicated Ways to Gain Psychological Distance During Conflict (And Why You Should)" (optional). www.mediate.com/articles/LenskiTb120160805.cfm.

Evergreen's Center for Community Based Learning and Action web site: www.evergreen.edu/communitybasedlearning.

Olympia Books to Prisoners Olympia web site: olympiabtp.org.

MONDAY

The Clergy Letter Project web site: www.theclergyletterproject.org.

Zimmerman, Michael. "Evolution Weekend: An Opportunity for Reasoned Debate." *The Huffington Post*. April 27, 2013. www.huffingtonpost.com/michael-zimmerman/evolution-weekend-an-oppo_1_b_2547638.html.

Oreskes, Naomi, and Erik M. Conway. *The Collapse of Western Civilization: A View from the Future*. New York: Columbia University, 2014.

Recommendations for Further Reading (before, during or after the Institute)

Carter, Stephen L. *Civility: Manners, Morals and the Etiquette of Democracy*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1999.

Forni, P.M. *Choosing Civility: The Twenty-five Rules of Considerate Conduct*. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 2002.

———. *The Civility Solution: What to Do When People Are Rude*. New York: St. Martin's Griffin, 2008.

Haidt, Jonathan. *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People Are Divided by Politics and Religion*. New York: Vintage, 2012.

Sexton, John. "Dogmatism and Complexity: Civil Discourse and the Research University." Based upon a February 2, 2005 speech delivered at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. New York: New York University, 2005. www.nyu.edu/about/leadership-university-administration/office-of-the-president-emeritus/communications/dogmatism-and-complexity-civil-discourse-and-the-research-university.html. .

Solnit, Rebecca. *Hope in the Dark*. New York: Nation Books, 2006.

Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. "Civic Engagement." May 2013. plato.stanford.edu/entries/civic-education.

University of California, Davis. Civility project. civilityproject.ucdavis.edu.

Assignments and Requirements

Your assignments are outlined on [Canvas](#) and detailed on a [separate document](#). You will earn two quarter hours of credit in Civics and Community Service if you do ALL of the following:

- ☐ The weeklong Institute, [September 14-20](#). Arrive on time each day; complete all reading, class, and writing assignments; participate in all Institute activities.
- ☐ Regular journal entries about your Institute experiences and subsequent activities during fall quarter.
- ☐ A meeting with Institute Director John McLain about your solo or group project by October 21. Sign up for your appointment during the week of the Institute. Bring an outline of your proposed project to the meeting.
- ☐ A solo or group project completed by November 11. See [Assignments and Activities](#) for more information.
- ☐ Participation in the fall 2016 concluding event on Wednesday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m., Seminar 2 E1105. Prior to this event, create an outline or script for your two-minute public presentation about your project, given at the evening event. (Two minutes is about one double-spaced page in 12-point type with 1" margins. Don't exceed 120 seconds—practice beforehand!)
- ☐ Completion of the following assignments (see [Assignments and Activities](#)):
 - ☐ Your final 3-5 page essay.
 - ☐ Your self-evaluation. (File your final copy through my.evergreen.edu during by the end of evaluation week.)
 - ☐ A clean written copy of your presentation from November 16.

Turn the above items in on [Canvas](#) by 5 pm November 18.

Credit

Successful participation in the activities of the weeklong Institute will result in the award of one credit. Two credits is awarded for participation in the weeklong Institute and completion of all academic work.

Mentors

We're lucky to have several mentors working with the program this year. They are all returning Evergreen students who participated in ESCEI last year. Please ask them for help or information at any point!

Attendance and participation

Plan on participating in all non-optional activities during the weeklong Institute, as well as the final evening celebration on November 16. If you cannot make a particular event or activity, notify the Director by email (mclainj@evergreen.edu) right away, in advance if possible.

Some activities may involve taking risks for you. Please make an effort to challenge yourself to the best of your abilities. ESCEI, however, is a Challenge-by-Choice program. Don't skip any activities because you think you might be uncomfortable. There are many ways one can participate

Some Final Notes

As we engage in this Institute together, we form an academic community. As such, we need to work together as a group. It is important that we speak openly about our needs and concerns and that we respect the needs and concerns of others. The Institute requires us to remain open to ideas and values that are different from our own, but we agree to proceed with respect. If we critique an idea or position, we agree to offer constructive criticism, including the posing of possible alternatives. We may critique ideas during our discussions, but we should not criticize one another personally. Evergreen's [Social Contract](#) includes provisions on freedom, civility, rights, prohibition against discrimination, intellectual honesty, and other topics. The Social Contract governs all members of the Evergreen community. Take some time to review it if you haven't done so already. Evergreen is a collaborative, non-competitive academic environment. We are all, including your

faculty, co-learners together. In ESCEI especially, our learning is best facilitated by kindness to one another and to ourselves.

I want you to thrive academically in this program and in your time at The Evergreen State College. The use of alcohol and other drugs often has a negative effect on students' academic success. If I am concerned that you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol during class meetings or activities, I will express my concerns to you. Use of alcohol or marijuana in an illegal manner and use of illegal drugs is prohibited on field trips. Behavior that violates the [Student Conduct Code](#) will need to be reported to the Senior Conduct Administrator in the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. A special note on marijuana: I want you to be aware that, because The Evergreen State College receives federal funding (such as federal student financial aid), the possession and use of marijuana on campus remains illegal.

The Evergreen State College is committed to an educational environment free from sexual harassment and sexual misconduct. In order to connect students with the best possible services and all available options, members of the faculty are required to report disclosures of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct made by students to Evergreen's Title IX Coordinator. Students may speak with the Title IX Coordinator for information about their rights and options at Evergreen, to access support services, or begin a formal complaint. Members of the faculty are also required to report abuse of minors. Confidential support is available to students affected by sexual harassment and sexual misconduct in Student Wellness Services, Office of Sexual Violence Prevention and Response, Seminar 1, 4119, (360) 867-5221. Find out how you can help stop sexual assault, partner violence, and stalking by joining [Green Dot](#).

Academic honesty is essential in a learning community. It makes coherent discourse possible and is a necessary condition for all sharing, dialogue and evaluation. All forms of academic dishonesty, including cheating, fabricating, facilitating academic dishonesty and plagiarism, are violations of the Social Contract. Visit the [Academic Honesty site](#) for more information.

The quarterly student health fee covers office visits for medical and counseling services at [Student Wellness Services](#), Seminar 1, 2110. Services include screening and treatments for cold, flu, reproductive and sexual health, depression, anxiety, and drug and alcohol use. If you or someone you know needs assistance once classes begin, please contact Student Wellness Services at (360) 867-6200. During your time with ESCEI, however, Student Wellness Services will be closed. If you have a health concern during the Institute, please talk to John McLain, the ESCEI director, or to any staff in the College residences.

If you are a person with a disability and would like to request an accommodation to support your full access and participation in this program, please contact Evergreen's Office of Access Services at 360-867-6364 or inocenc@evergreen.edu.

Please note that the campus core is completely non-smoking. You may smoke only in [designated areas](#). On field trips during ESCEI, please follow applicable laws and rules in place at the organizations or locations we are visiting. Refrain from smoking in the proximity of others during shared activities, even if smoking is permitted.

If you are bringing your own vehicle to campus, you will need to purchase a parking pass to avoid being ticketed. You can purchase parking passes on September 14, our move-in day, in the [Parking Services Office](#), Seminar 1 3157.