

**University of the Pacific
Pacific Seminars**

| Course | Description | LEAP Learning Objectives | LEAP Teaching Practices |
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| <p>PACS 1: What is A Good Society?</p> | <p>Taken in the first semester of the freshman year, PACS 1 is a broad introduction to the fundamental issues of a good society, such as the purposes of education, the role of the family, the nature of work and the economy, the purposes of law and government, the rights and responsibilities of the citizen, and the place of humans in the natural world. PACS 1 is a shared intellectual experience since there is a common course syllabus and a common reader. Students meet in small sections to examine and expand their beliefs about a good society through the process of critical thinking, which is promoted by careful reading, intensive writing, and class discussion. PACS 1 is Pacific's writing requirement. There are 45 sections composed of 21 students.</p> | <p>Written and Oral Communication Inquiry and Critical Thinking Civic Knowledge & Engagement Intercultural Knowledge Ethical Reasoning Foundation for Life-long learning</p> | <p>First-Year Seminar Common Intellectual Experience (Residential) Learning Communities (18 sections) Writing Intensive Diversity</p> |
| <p>PACS 2: Topical Seminars on a Good Society</p> | <p>Taken in the second semester of the freshman year, PACS 2 seminars focus in more depth on a particular issue or issues from PACS 1. Some sample seminars are "Pseudo, Voodoo and Junk Science," "Crime, Responsibility, Punishment," "Divided By Faith," "Mass Media and Popular Culture," "The Good City," "Shaping our Energy Future," and "The Value of Truth." The seminars are offered from virtually every department and academic unit on campus. Students meet in small sections to examine and expand their beliefs about a good society through the process of critical thinking, which is promoted by careful reading, intensive writing, and class discussion. All sections require informal and formal writing assignments—including a scholarly research project—and an oral presentation. There are 43 sections composed of 21 students.</p> | <p>Written and Oral Communication Inquiry and Critical Thinking Information Literacy Civic Knowledge & Engagement Intercultural Knowledge Ethical Reasoning Foundation for Life-long learning</p> | <p>First-Year Seminar Writing Intensive Diversity Community-Based Learning (in some sections)</p> |

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| PACS 3: The Ethics of Family, Work, Citizenship | Taken in the senior year, PACS 3 is a culminating general education experience. Based on a common course reader, students learn about ethical concepts and theories in order to identify their individual ethical values and ethical paradigm & their sources and to analyze ethical issues within the contexts of family/friends, work, and political life. Narrative is used—such as film, biography, and literature—to illustrate ethical issues. The centerpiece assignments is an ethical autobiography that, with the help of the course material, leads students to reflect back on their ethical development and to look forward to their future roles as family members and friends, as part of the workforce, and as citizens and members of communities ranging from the local to the national and global. There are 30 sections composed of 26 students. | <p>Written and Oral Communication</p> <p>Inquiry and Critical Thinking</p> <p>Civic Knowledge & Engagement</p> <p>Ethical Reasoning</p> <p>Foundation for Life-long learning</p> | <p>Common Intellectual Experience</p> <p>Writing Intensive</p> <p>Diversity</p> <p>Capstone Course</p> |



For more information about the Pacific seminars, see <http://web.pacific.edu/x9302.xml>. Lou Matz can be reached at lmatz@pacific.edu.