

The College of Liberal Arts invites you to experience what college classes are like by joining us in celebrating the Harry Potter series. Spend the day on the campus of West Liberty University and study a variety of subjects.

- No fees
- Open to all juniors, seniors, and Harry Potter fans
- Scholarship drawing
- Free lunch and t-shirt
- Choose four out of eight classes to attend

Schedule

9-9:30	Registration/ Trivia
9:30-10:15	Session 1
10:15-11	Session 2
11:15-12:15	Free lunch
12:15-1	Session 3
1-1:45	Session 4
1:45-2	Closing/ Scholarship Drawing

Register at

[https://westliberty.edu/
liberal-arts/hogwarts-registration](https://westliberty.edu/liberal-arts/hogwarts-registration)



208 University Drive, CUB 130
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(304) 336-8061

westliberty.edu/liberal-arts

Hogwarts on the Hilltop



Friday, Sept. 28, 2018

Class Descriptions

“The Magic of Misinformation: Fake News in the Harry Potter Series”

with Dr. Brian Fitzpatrick, Instructor of Political Science

The Ministry of Magic in the Harry Potter series uses the newspaper the Daily Prophet to give their version of events, and only their version of events, knowing if they can control information they can control how people think and act, no curse required. The Ministry of Magic is not unique in trying to control information; governments know if they control information they can control how people act. Come learn the power governments and politicians can yield when they are able to control and manipulate information, and explore why a free press is enshrined in the constitutions of democracies, seen by their founders as essential to maintaining democracy.

“How Language Works and Where Words Come From”

with Dr. Shannon Halicki, Professor of French, Spanish, and Linguistics, Dean of the Honors College

Spells such as Expelliarmus, Accio and Alohomora all have cool-sounding names. But J.K. Rowling did not conjure them out of thin air. Most of the spell names in Harry Potter are derived from Latin, Aramaic and other ancient languages. Linguists are scholars who study how languages used to sound, how they pattern today, and what might happen to languages in the future. Linguists also analyze the psychology of language speakers and their reactions to different words and expressions. Why do words like 'Avada Kadavra' sound intriguing and mysterious, but words like 'Mudblood' sound vulgar and crude? By applying basic principles of linguistics and language change, we can classify many types of word associations, both in Harry Potter's world and our own.

“Freedom and Identity in Harry Potter”

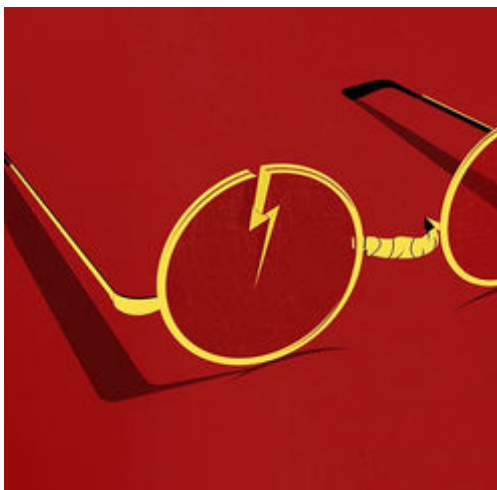
with Dr. Aaron Harper, Associate Professor of Philosophy

Philosophers investigate deep questions of morality, truth, and reality. The Harry Potter series raises numerous such philosophical questions, and we will discuss two of particular importance to all of us. First, the Harry Potter universe includes ghosts, shapeshifters, spells, and horcruxes. Each of these risks changing a person's identity, even possibly destroying the individual. So, who am I? Second, activities like time travel and divination suggest that threaten our ability to act freely, suggesting that a choice has already been made, or is impossible in the first place. If so, am I free?

“Why Is the ‘Magic’ in Harry Potter's Universe Not Magic?”

with Dr. Dominique Hoche,
Associate Professor of English

The center of Harry Potter's world is magic and its use (and mis-use) for good and evil. They address each other as wizards and witches -- but the truth is that the students at Hogwarts aren't actually practicing magic. They are practicing... sorcery! Come and find out the difference between magic and sorcery and the difference between a wizard, a witch, and a sorcerer.



“From Cricket to Quidditch: A Brief History of House Matches in British Schoolboy Literature”

with Dr. Jeremy Larence, Professor of English, Assistant Provost for Innovation and Strategic Planning

Long before Harry Potter faced the Sorting Hat at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, house allegiance was a major attribute of the British public-school ethos, both in real life and in the pages of schoolboy literature. Specifically, through a brief study of the influence of the “games ethos” in British culture—with special attention given to the Victorian and Edwardian eras—fans of the Harry Potter series will gain a deeper appreciation of the ways in which the house system played a critical role in cultivating British identity, especially in terms of masculinity, nationality, and ethics.

“Harry Potter and Geography”

with Dr. Rob Kruse, Professor of Geography and Planning and Aron Massey, Assistant Professor of Geography and Planning

The geographies of Harry Potter first take us to Edinburgh, Scotland where author J. K. Rowling would roam a lonely cemetery in search of names to use in her story. From there we go to the (real) King's Cross railway station in London where the reader transfers to the Hogwarts Express. From that point on, the taken-for-granted geographies of our everyday lives are transformed through a whirlwind of new places, each with its own set of amazing characteristics. It soon becomes very clear that the characters in the Harry Potter stories must be good geographers in order to understand, utilize and transport themselves through the unique geographies of their extraordinary world.

In this workshop, students will learn about basic cartography and map interpretation and apply those skills to the Marauders Map. Throughout the session students will be introduced to the ways geography helps us understand and appreciate different places in the “real” world. They will then have the opportunity to apply some of the tools of professional geographers to understand and navigate through the fantasy world of Harry Potter.

“Finding Girl Power in Harry Potter”

with Dr. Amanda Tennant, Assistant Professor of Composition

Prior to being accepted by a small publisher, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone was rejected twelve times. One of the reasons behind these rejections was that publishers thought the heavy focus on Harry and other male characters would not appeal to female readers.

Fortunately, these initial concerns have been proven wrong as millions of girls continue to be fascinated by the series, and particularly by Hermione's intelligence and strong will. This presentation will tell how the books and films have been transformed into tools for empowering young women across the globe. Dr. Amanda Tennant will describe her work with the Partnership for Appalachian Girls' Education and how the organization used the first book to engage middle school girls in a summer literacy program. If you are wondering how you might use the series you love in your future career as a teacher or writer, this is the presentation for you!

“From ‘Mudbloods’ to ‘The Chosen One’: Exploring Deviant Behavior and Labels in the Wizarding World”

with Dr. Kimberly Underwood, Assistant Professor of Sociology

Scholars in Sociology are intrigued by the ways in which groups of humans in a society or culture collectively define what is “good” and “bad,” or “normal” and “deviant.” Sociologists are also interested in understanding how individuals might be able to shift social perceptions of “normal” and “deviant.” In the wizarding world of Harry Potter, there are many dividing lines created that convey what is considered normal and what is not. We will first discuss the themes in terms of how some unique definitions of “normal” and “deviant” were established and maintained through social interactions. Although a society dictates certain social expectations of what its citizens “ought to be,” can there be attacks made against social customs that change the society's norms for behavior? We will discuss whether Harry and others engaged in acts of resistance and their ability to redefine social rules and negative labels.

Sign Up

To register for the event, go to

<https://westliberty.edu/liberal-arts/hogwarts-registration>

Be sure to fill out the entire form. We will do our best to put you in the classes you select. However, classes will be filled as registrations come in, so we can only guarantee you will be in four different classes throughout the day.

Notes to Educators

If you are bringing a group of students, please contact us about where to drop them off and pick them up. Once on campus, WLU volunteers will guide them to where they need to be throughout the day.

You are welcome to stay and sit in on classes. Just be sure you let us know you'll be joining us for the day, so we can make sure you get lunch.

Email us at harrypotter@westliberty.edu.

**Registration Deadline
Friday, September 14th**