A Message from the Directors

Welcome to the Jefferson Scholars Program! Our program is new, but what it contains is something that has provoked, challenged, and inspired many generations of young men and women seeking a liberal education: a first-hand, rigorous encounter with the great books that helped to make our world what it is, and that can equip you to face new challenges well.

The Jefferson Scholars Program will educate you as leaders and as citizens, but first of all, as human beings. Prepare to be startled, puzzled, and disturbed. Prepare to question what you think you know, but, also perhaps, to discover in your own minds the first stirrings of wisdom about things you may have thought no one could know. Prepare to listen, to take risks, and to enter into debates with your classmates, your professors, your books, and, not least of all, with yourselves.

There is a great deal of talk these days about the economic value of an education. You have perhaps also heard that UT Austin is a great party school. Learning how to think is always useful, and college should certainly be fun. But most of all, college should be a time to enjoy a precious kind of freedom, rare in human history, rare even or especially in modern day America, with all of our incredible busy-ness and networking and start-ups and connectivity—and that is the freedom of true leisure. The ancient Greeks asked themselves what was most worthwhile in life, after we set aside the work we must do out of necessity and the play we need to relax from work, and their answer was: serious leisure, at the heart of which they put the pursuit of learning.

You will soon be arriving on the campus of a great university, a place where you can follow your curiosity about almost anything in the world, study it at the highest level, and discuss with like minded students. You have probably never been so free as you soon will find yourselves. Once all life’s responsibilities begin to crowd in on you after graduation, you may never be so free again. Make the most of it!

Our best,

Lorraine Pangle
Professor of Government
Co-director, Thomas Jefferson Center

Thomas Pangle
Joe R. Long Chair in Democratic Studies
Co-director, Thomas Jefferson Center
JSP Fall Activities and Events

JSP Fall Opening Lecture
"Jerusalem vs. Athens: The Great Debate"
Thomas Pangle, Joe R. Long Chair in Democratic Studies, Department of Government
Monday, August 24, 5-6:30 pm
Pizza and pool party to follow for the freshmen and their peer mentors.

Thursday Lunch Seminar Series
Throughout the year we will have professors give short, informal talks over sandwiches and cookies on topics related to your coursework in the program. These will all be on Thursdays from 12:30 to 2, so please keep that time free in your schedule if possible.

Peer Mentor Groups
As part of our effort to create a small-college learning experience within the large university that is UT, we would like to encourage all JSP freshmen to take advantage of the opportunity to be paired with a peer mentor. Mentors are current Jefferson Scholars or Junior Fellows who will each have a group of up to 6 mentees and a fund that they can draw on to take you to lunch, coffee, bowling, and to cultural events on and off campus. As much as possible, we will assign mentors to students who all have a common lunch hour free and who are taking a course in common.

Jefferson Book Club
The Jefferson Book Club meets approximately every 3 weeks for an informal discussion of a classic movie or a short work or selection from a great book. The fall’s first meeting will be a screening of Touch of Evil on August 27 at 5 pm.
JSP Course Information
for Communication Majors

The freshman program for Jefferson Scholars consists in two fall courses, one on the ancient Greeks and one on the Bible, and two spring courses, one on the history of political philosophy and one on American government. You are encouraged to take both JSP courses each semester if you have room in your schedule. Each semester’s courses are designed to work as a pair and to address common themes from different perspectives. Many Jefferson Scholars, however, are also involved in other demanding programs that leave room for them to take only one JSP course at a time, and it is perfectly fine to spread the six JSP courses over as many semesters as you need to finish the program.

JSP Communication majors who are also in Liberal Arts Honors or Plan II should consult the Course Information page for that program. Others will follow one of the following paths in their freshman year:

Option 1:

fall: UGS 303 Discovery of Freedom
      CTI 304 The Bible and Its Interpreters (if schedule allows)

spring: CTI 302 Classics of Social and Political Thought
        GOV 312P America’s Constitutional Principles (if schedule allows)

Option 2:

fall: CTI 310 Introduction to Ancient Greece
      CTI 304 The Bible and Its Interpreters (if schedule allows)

spring: UGS 303 Justice and the Human Good
        GOV 312P America’s Constitutional Principles (if schedule allows)

Both options include very similar material, but the first includes a course, CTI 302, that meets the UT social science requirement and the second does not, so this may be a relevant consideration depending on your available AP credits. Also, as there is less space in the second option, it may not be available in later orientation periods.
Hello Jefferson Scholars!! Congratulations on being chosen for this wonderful opportunity. I write to share some information with you about how registration will work for Fall 2015 while you are here at New Student Orientation.

We have reserved seats for you in all the freshman JSP courses. To choose your JSP courses for fall, please see your college- or program-specific Course Information Form. Below are the available sections in each course and information on how to register for each one.

CTI 302 Classics of Social and Political Thought
Most of you will be taking this course in the spring, but the following fall section is reserved for those JSP students who need it:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Number</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33007</td>
<td>TTH 9:30-11 AM</td>
<td>Liebeskind</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CTI 304 The Bible and Its Interpreters
We have five sections of this course, all of which are small and discussion-based. The following sections have been reserved especially for JSP freshmen and you are encouraged to select one of these if it fits your schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Number</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33010</td>
<td>MWF 10:00-11 AM</td>
<td>Landau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33025</td>
<td>TTH 2:00-3:30 PM</td>
<td>Koefoed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33029</td>
<td>TTH 6:00-7:30 PM</td>
<td>Miller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following sections also have a few seats available for JSP freshmen:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Number</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33015</td>
<td>MWF 11:00-12 AM</td>
<td>Flexsenhar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33020</td>
<td>MWF 9:00-10 AM</td>
<td>King</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CTI 310 Introduction to Ancient Greece
We have reserved seats for JSP in the following section, which will be small and discussion-based:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Number</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33065</td>
<td>TTH 3:30-5</td>
<td>Rabinowitz</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For students who have a required course in their major that conflicts with this time, the following large open section may be substituted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Number</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33060</td>
<td>MWF 10-11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UGS 303 Discovery of Freedom
The following sections are reserved for JSP students:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unique Number</th>
<th>Day/Time</th>
<th>Professor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61715</td>
<td>TTH 330-5 PM</td>
<td>Woodruff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F 2-3 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61720</td>
<td>TTH 330-5 PM</td>
<td>Woodruff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F 3-4 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61725</td>
<td>TTH 330-5 PM</td>
<td>Woodruff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F 3-4 PM</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>61730</td>
<td>TTH 330-5 PM</td>
<td>Woodruff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F 3-4 PM</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

I will make all JSP students eligible for all of the restricted sections of CTI 304 and 310 so you can register for any of them that you need. In addition, Plan II JSP students, who will be beginning with CTI 302, will all be made eligible for that course. For UGS 303, though, I will need you to email me before your registration time to get cleared for the section you want.
Registration Instructions
1. Read your college or program specific JSP Course Information page.

2. Read the JSP Fall Activities and Events page for information on peer mentor groups and the lunch seminar series.

3. Select your courses. Keep Thursdays from 12:30-2 free if at all possible.

4. If you wish to take UGS 303 Discovery of Freedom, email me with the unique number of the section you want, along with your EID, before 11:00 AM on Day Three.

5. Register for courses.

6. Email me with your preferences for a peer mentor group, indicating all of the following times you have free: Tuesday 8-9 pm; Wednesday 12-1 pm; Wednesday 1-2 pm; Thursday 12:30-2 pm; or that you wish to opt out of the peer mentor program. If we don’t hear from you, we’ll assign you to a mentor at random.

I will be available to answer questions for you on Day Three from 11 AM to Noon in BAT 2.102, which is the Government and CTI Undergraduate Advising Office.

We are very much looking forward to having you this fall, and if you need anything, please feel free to contact me. My information is listed below. We have sent this information to your Academic Advisor as well, so you both should be able to work the classes into your schedule.

Take care, and see you soon!!!

Nathan Vickers, Academic Advising Coordinator
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