



Newsletter - July 2020

## July Humanities Lab Newsletter

During the coronavirus pandemic, we've gotten accustomed to receiving announcements of disruptions, cancellations, and often unwelcome changes in business as usual. I am happy to report that this announcement, although focused on change, is a positive one. In AY 2020-21, I will be on leave from my position as Humanities Lab director, while I pursue several collaborative research projects and begin research for a new book. This is a positive change because the Lab will be in excellent hands. Juliann Vitullo (SILC), who has been Lab co-director for the past year, will be joined by Heather Switzer (SST) as co-director for the coming year. Program managers, Monica Boyd and Maureen Kobierowski will continue to manage day-to-day operations, support existing Labs and develop new ones, and handle marketing and the host of other details that make the Humanities Lab possible. And we will be bringing new student workers on-board during the summer.

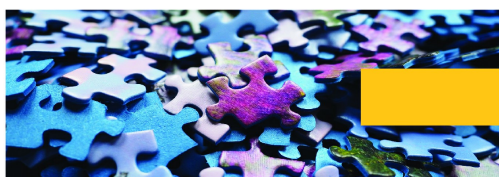
Even in the midst of the current crisis, things are good at the Humanities Lab. Fall 2020 marks the start of the Lab's fourth full year of operation, and there is lots to celebrate. The number of Labs offered and students enrolled have increased dramatically over the past three years. Both students and faculty who have been involved in Labs report excitement and pleasure from participating in the Lab's innovative pedagogy and learning environment. Labs' interactions with community groups have increased and promise to grow in the future. The Lab will also be occupying new space in two buildings in another eighteen months or so. Perhaps most important, in keeping with our commitment to address compelling social challenges, our faculty partners are currently creating new Labs focused on the intersecting crises now roiling societies across the globe.

Like other units on campus, the Lab is adapting to the new instructional circumstances. Lab faculty and students made adjustments to the university's lockdown in March basically overnight. Although students and faculty alike were disappointed to lose a half-semester of in-person collaboration, there were some amazing adaptations that continued to offer team-based learning experiences and to produce effective impact outcomes, some of which have been featured in this newsletter. Please check out the Lab website to see other examples ([humanities.lab@asu.edu](mailto:humanities.lab@asu.edu)).

This summer will be spent helping fall 2020 Humanities Lab faculty prepare for ASU Sync teaching modalities. An instructional design expert is assisting in finding pedagogical tools and approaches that will promote the collaborative, interdisciplinary, action-oriented goals and values of the Humanities Lab even in remote learning environments. Some fall Labs will also maintain an in-person component, if that's possible in light of the pandemic.

Farewell for now. I wish everyone a safe and healthy summer and year ahead.

Sally L. Kitch, PhD  
Humanities Lab Founding Director



Did you know?

Did you know that the Humanities Lab is an  
**INTERDISCIPLINARY**  
campus initiative?

Interdisciplinary refers to the integration of two or more academic disciplines or fields of knowledge into a single experience. Interdisciplinarity can be used as a tool to help expand one's perspective. At the Lab we apply it to tackling social challenges by bringing together diverse student, community, and faculty teams.

For example, imagine researching and generating questions regarding the effects an extreme weather event has had on a particular community. Then, imagine having the expertise of an Urban Planning professor and a Philosophy professor collaborating in unison to provide interdisciplinary frameworks as they, you and students from 3-4 other disciplines jointly collaborate with community members to devise possible solutions for the future.

This is how interdisciplinarity goes to work here at the Humanities Lab!

We are proud to bring faculty and student perspectives from the university's diverse collection of academic disciplines as they work to address some of the world's most pressing social challenges.

Below is a quick list of where some of our student and faculty teammates are joining from:

- School of Social Transformation
- Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering
- School of Political and Global Studies
- School of Life Sciences
- Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts
- Barrett Honors College
- School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning
- W.P. Carey School of Business
- School of International Letters and Cultures
- School of Sustainability
- Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication
- School for the Future of Innovation in Society
- Department of English
- College of Integrative Arts and Sciences
- School of Human Evolution and Social Change
- School of Historical Philosophical and Religious

Want to be part of this growing team? Click the link below to learn more about ways you can join.

[Click here to learn more!](#)



It is so HOT out, we know - but believe it or not Fall semester is barely a month away! We have been in dialogue with our Fall 2020 faculty and they are prepared to offer robust Labs in-person or online - rain or shine - whatever the climate calls for. Meet them in linked video trailers below!

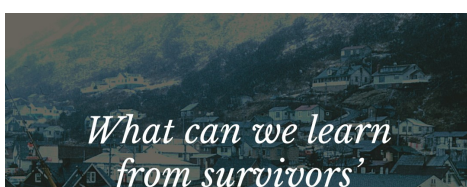
#### Something else to note...

We welcome students from ALL degree programs for our team-oriented collaborative Lab experiences of up to 25 students. You can sign up for a Lab under a variety of prefixes ([search](#) Lab titles for options). Interdisciplinary students (graduate and undergraduate) and faculty teams join together in ONE space for ONE semester to research and address their Lab's complex challenge and produce impact projects.

Humanities Labs offer students:

- General studies [humanities credit HU](#) (**APPROVED!**)
- Automatic honors credit to Barrett Honors students
- CISA students can earn capstone credit for 494 level Labs
- Research opportunities & a public forum in which to present their ideas
- An opportunity to continue course work in our *Beyond the Lab* program.

**Labs are filling - but... a few of our FAVORITES are still available!**  
(see below & linked)



#### Shaping Climate Narratives

Interested in being part of a creative endeavor that's taking action on climate change? The Shaping Climate Narratives Lab and its renowned faculty-team have gathered a unique collection of stories of survivor lived experiences from extreme weather events in the U.S. and around the world. Students collaborating in the Lab



will work closely with the faculty to co-create a live performance text out of existing interviews, narrative research and collaborative activities that address a series of Lab and student-driven questions.

Effect change while collaborating with accomplished faculty creators. Join [Michael Rohd](#) (HDA) & [Steven Beschloss](#) (JMC) this Fall!

HUL/HDA/ENG/SOS 494 & HUL 598

Thursdays 2-5 pm & \*Wednesday 3:15 - 4:30 pm  
\*Lab time reserved to work on collaborative Lab projects

[Watch Faculty Trailer & Enroll HERE!](#)



## Performing the Anthropocene

Wondering what the Anthropocene is and why its important?

Join us for "Performing the Anthropocene" with Rachel Bowditch (HIDA) and Scott Cloutier (SOS), where students will investigate global issues tied to human consumption and create impact projects that educate the public on the ways our individual actions have a rippling effect on the entire planet.

HUL/ THP 494 /598 and SOS 498 /594

Wed 9 am-12 pm & \* Lab time Mon 10:45 am-12 pm  
\*Lab time reserved to work on collaborative Lab projects

[Watch Faculty Trailer and Enroll HERE!](#)



## Why is the Amazon Burning?

In August 2019, fires in the Brazilian Amazon made international headlines. Want to learn more about the causes of these fires and ways we can respond? Register for our Lab, "Why is the Amazon Burning?!"

Team taught by Glenn Goodman (SLC) and Mary Jane Parmentier (SFIS), this Lab will allow students to examine the complicated human relationship with the rich and diverse ecosystem that is the Amazon Rainforest.

HUL/FIS/SLC/POR/SPA 494 & HUL/SLC/GTD 598

Tue/Thur 3-4:15pm & Lab time \*Tue 1:30-2:45pm  
\*Lab time reserved to work on collaborative Lab projects

[Watch Faculty Trailer and Enroll HERE!](#)

Fall Labs are being offered by a collection of accomplished faculty including a Pulitzer Prize nominee, a Regents Professor, an artistic director and authors around ... Come join them this fall and "do" the humanities!

[Click here for details on ALL Fall 2020 Labs](#)



Bright Opportunities Ahead

Looking to add a little excitement to your mix? "Bright Opportunities" offers a curated collection of hand-picked opportunities around campus and online that we think will help you grow, learn and succeed in all the best ways.



## Disability Studies Certificate!



The School of Social Transformation is now offering an undergraduate and graduate level dis/ability studies certificate. These certificates provide a socially embedded, intersectional overview of this emerging discipline: its history, culture, politics, philosophy and key concepts; its impact on services and supports to people with dis/abilities; its importance in disability research; and its influence in the formation of public policies.

Click [HERE](#) to learn more!



## Life is Better when you have an ASU Mentor!

So you're on track, you've selected a major and you're well on your way to meeting your career goals. Why not bolster those efforts by finding a mentor? The ASU **Mentor Network** is a great way to connect with professionals who are interested in supporting ASU students and alumni through mentorship. Meet someone who is in the career industry that you are headed towards, works in a position you want to learn more about or shares your same major in common.

Don't miss this great opportunity!

For more information:

Click [HERE](#)

YOU DIDNT COME THIS FAR TO ONLY COME THIS FAR

Resources & Support



## Curious about logistics for returning to campus in Fall?

### ASU - Live Well, Be Well

ASU has mapped out all the details for welcoming Sun Devils back to campus this Fall. Want to make sure that you are in the know and have the most up to date planning tools at the ready? The ASU **Live Well, Be Well** page will provide you with the most up to date information available.

Click [HERE](#) for the Details



## Need a device?

### Laptop & Hot-spot Checkout

If you are a student who was previously using ASU computer labs, or are a student who does not have a computer or internet access at this time, we are able to provide to help you, based on a limited supply of devices. Laptops and hotspots can be reserved by applicable students leveraging a check-out process at the library, and the equipment will be available for pick-up or shipping at this time. Technical support for set-up will be provided by the University Technology Office and students will be able to turn to the ASU Experience Center Help Desk for additional

support as needed.

To start the check-out process:  
Click [HERE](#)



### ASU Counseling Services

Counseling Services is offering new drop in sessions every day on their home page. There are also mind, body, and spirit options available that are run by professionals.

For more information:  
Click [HERE](#)



### Devils 4 Devils

Devils 4 Devils is a peer-led, peer-based, online platform for students to support and connect with each other while taking online classes and practicing social distancing. They build an entire "tv channel" filled with peer to peer fun/quirky/connection offerings. They believe that students need extra places to be social/connected, and they build an incredible offering of such opportunities.

For more information:  
Click [HERE](#)



### ASU Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center will continue operations to assist you in learning remotely. If you need additional support or information, contact your Disability Access Consultant (DAC) via their email, phone, or Zoom conference. If you haven't previously used DRC services but need accommodations, you may register with our office using the [New Student Application](#). DACs can complete your intake by email, phone, or Zoom conference. For more information on the DRC's continuity plans, please see the [DRC website](#) or contact us by phone at 480-965-1234 or by email at [DRC@asu.edu](mailto:DRC@asu.edu).

PS. If you like our newsletter please share it with your friends!  
We always welcome new faces and ideas to the Lab!



TEAM-TAUGHT | COLLABORATIVE | INTERDISCIPLINARY

Humanities Lab

[humanities.lab.asu.edu](http://humanities.lab.asu.edu)

Ross Blakley Hall, Room 177AB  
PO Box 870601

Tempe, AZ 85287-0601  
[humanitieslab@asu.edu](mailto:humanitieslab@asu.edu) | 480-727-7220