

Wesleyan Graduate Liberal Studies

Summer 2026 Course Listings

Summer Term: May 27, 2026 – July 24, 2026

Make-up classes, final presentations, and examinations may be scheduled in the following week (through July 28, 2026).

GLS Program Overview

Tuition & Fees:

- 3-credit GLS course: \$3,699
- Audited course (not for credit): \$1,233
- Registration fee (non-refundable): \$100
- Additional course fees may apply
- Note: Tuition and fees are subject to change.

Programs and Degrees:

- **Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (MALS):** Concentrations in arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, or education and human development. Includes capstone option. No prerequisites or required courses.
- **Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Liberal Arts:** Requires a prior master's or postbaccalaureate degree. Includes a final thesis.
- **Graduate Certificate in Writing:** Six-course certificate aimed at business professionals, aspiring writers, and others.
- **Non-degree Enrollment:** Anyone with a four-year degree may take GLS courses and use full academic resources.

Course Options:

- **Online Courses:** Some courses and the writing certificate can be completed online (no fully online degree).
- **Schedules:** Flexible offerings—fall/spring evening classes; summer includes morning, afternoon, evening, and immersion formats.

Student Life:

- **Campus Housing:** Available during the summer only.
- **Facilities Access:** Library and gym access provided for enrolled students.
- **Class Observations:** Prospective students may sit in on classes. Contact Glenn Knight at gknight01@wesleyan.edu for arrangements.

GLS SUMMER 2026 COURSE LISTINGS

Adolescence on Stage

Instructor: Alex Keegan

Mode: ONLINE | **Dates:** 6/29/2026 – 7/28/2026 | **Times:** Tue/Thu 09:00AM - 12:45PM

Location: ONLINE

Tags: adolescence, identity, gender, culture, classical plays

Description: This course examines how adolescence has been portrayed on stage, from classic plays to contemporary works, exploring how theater has evolved to center teenage protagonists. Students will consider questions of authenticity, gender, identity, and cultural context, while drawing on psychological and critical texts to analyze how narratives of youth reflect changing societal views of adolescence and shape our understanding of coming of age.

Animal Minds

Instructor: Sharisse Kanet

Mode: ONLINE | **Dates:** 5/27/2026 – 6/25/2026 | **Times:** Mon/Wed 06:00PM - 09:00PM

Location: ONLINE

Tags: animals, consciousness, ethics, culture, behavior

Description: This course introduces philosophical approaches to understanding animal minds and ethics, examining how animals experience the world and what counts as consciousness, agency, and well-being. Students will explore how scientific insights into animal behavior inform ethical questions about welfare, moral status, and the limits of how humans study and interact with animals.

Data for Impact: Using Evidence to Answer Real-World Questions

Instructor: Lisa Dierker

Mode: ONLINE | **Dates:** 6/14/2026 – 6/18/2026 | **Times:** Sun - Thu 10:00AM - 03:30PM

Location: ONLINE

Tags: data, statistics, analysis, research, hypotheses

Description: This course introduces students to working with data and using statistical tools through a hands-on, question-driven research approach. Students will develop core research and statistical skills by forming hypotheses, analyzing large data sets, and interpreting results, with an emphasis on using statistics to answer meaningful questions.

Free Speech and Its Critics

Instructor: Melissa Matthes

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 6/29/2026 – 7/28/2026 | **Times:** Mon/Wed 01:00PM - 04:45PM

Location: Boger Hall 110

Tags: speech, democracy, power, law, expression

Description: This seminar explores the philosophical foundations and contemporary challenges of free speech, examining how law, culture, power, and technology shape what counts as speech in democratic societies. Students will analyze classic and contemporary texts, legal cases, and media to evaluate competing views of expression, equality, and responsibility in public life.

Humans in Nature

Instructor: Magdalena Zapiedowska

Mode: ONLINE | **Dates:** 5/27/2026 – 6/25/2026 | **Times:** Mon/Wed 06:00PM - 09:00PM

Location: ONLINE

Tags: environment, human, race, environmental justice, nature

Description: This course uses literature and critical theory to examine ideas of nature and the human through the lens of environmental and social justice, centering Black and Indigenous perspectives. Students will explore how race, colonialism, and capitalism shape human–environment relationships while gaining an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of the environmental humanities.

Intensive Creative Workshop

Instructor: Tula Telfair

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 6/22/2026 – 6/26/2026 | **Times:** Mon - Fri 09:00AM - 05:00PM

Location: IN PERSON

Tags: studio, practice, vision, media, technique

Description: This studio course supports students in advancing their existing artistic practice by developing vision, technique, and conceptual clarity through an open-ended project. Through individual work, group discussion, and feedback, students refine their approaches to media, process, and audience while producing an ambitious body of work.

Seminar in Narrative Practice: Irish Literature

Instructor: Joseph Reynolds

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 6/29/2026 – 7/28/2026 | **Times:** Mon/Wed 06:00PM - 09:00PM

Location: Fisk Hall 122

Tags: literature, creative writing, narrative, technique, analysis

Description: This seminar bridges literary study and creative writing, combining discussion of student narratives with analysis of iconic Irish texts. Students will explore narrative techniques, experiment with their own writing, and engage critically with how foundational elements like scene, conflict, and pace function in literature.

Leaders Rule Forever! In Films

Instructor: Amir Bogen

Mode: ONLINE | **Dates:** 6/29/2026 – 7/28/2026 | **Times:** Mon/Wed 06:00PM - 09:00PM

Location: ONLINE

Tags: film, biopics, world leaders, representation, politics

Description: This course examines cinematic biopics of world leaders, exploring why audiences are fascinated by their public and private lives. Students will analyze films, biographies, and critical texts to understand representations ranging from propaganda to satire, considering how history, politics, and storytelling shape these portrayals.

Mathematics in Fashion and Textile Design

Instructor: Rehana Patel

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 6/14/2026 – 6/18/2026 | **Times:** Sun – Thu 09:00AM - 05:00PM

Location: Allbritton Center 304

Tags: mathematics, fashion, textiles, design, pattern

Description: This course explores the connections between mathematics and fashion, examining how concepts like volume, scale, shape, proportion, and pattern inform clothing construction and textile design. Students will study how mathematical ideas shape creative practice in fashion and design.

Natural History of Summer

Instructor: Geoffrey Hammerson

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 6/22/2026 – 6/26/2026 | **Times:** Mon - Fri 08:00AM - 03:00PM

Location: Science Tower 139

Tags: ecology, biodiversity, fieldwork, plants, animals

Description: This course investigates New England's natural world in summer through hands-on field observation of plants and animals, emphasizing ecological interactions, biodiversity, and life cycles. Students will document findings through photography or art and engage in readings and presentations to deepen understanding of ecological processes.

Psychopathology and Psychotherapy in Film: Portrayal and Impact

Instructor: Jennifer D'Andrea

Mode: ONLINE | **Dates:** 6/29/2026 – 7/28/2026 | **Times:** Tue/Thu 06:00PM - 08:45PM

Location: ONLINE

Tags: mental illness, psychotherapy, film, stigma, society

Description: This course examines how popular movies portray mental illness and psychotherapy, exploring how these representations shape societal attitudes and stigma. Students will analyze films, read scholarly articles, and reflect on how media influences understanding of psychiatric disorders and therapeutic practice.

Religion, Secularism and Nationalism

Instructor: Peter Gottschalk

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 6/29/2026 – 7/28/2026 | **Times:** Tue/Thu 01:00PM - 04:00PM

Location: Fisk Hall 312

Tags: nationalism, religion, secularism, politics, identity

Description: This course examines the intersections of nationalism, religion, and secularism from historical and contemporary perspectives. Students will explore how political, cultural, and religious forces shape nationhood, identity, and governance, analyzing key figures, movements, and modern challenges in global contexts.

Science of the Brain

Instructor: Noel Garrett

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 5/27/2026 – 6/25/2026 | **Times:** Tue/Thu 05:30PM - 09:15PM

Location: Fisk Hall 101

Tags: nervous system, brain, neurons, sensory, movement

Description: This course introduces the mammalian nervous system, focusing on the structure and function of the human brain. Students will study nerve cells, sensory systems, motor control, learning and memory, and the neurochemical bases of brain diseases.

Teaching in the Riptide

Instructor: Sharisse Kanet

Mode: IN PERSON | **Dates:** 6/29/2026 – 7/28/2026 | **Times:** Mon/Wed 09:00AM - 12:45PM

Location: Boger Hall 113

Tags: education, obedience, students, psychology, behavior

Description: This course explores the concept of obedience in education, examining why students sometimes resist or subvert classroom expectations. Teachers will study the psychological motivations behind obstructive and constructive student behaviors and reflect on how these actions impact learning and curricular goals.

The Anatomy of a Scene: Writing for the Screen

Instructor: Sandra Luckow

Mode: ONLINE | **Dates:** 5/27/2026 – 6/25/2026 | **Times:** Tue/Thu 05:30PM - 09:15PM

Location: ONLINE

Tags: screenwriting, scenes, structure, film, analysis

Description: This course focuses on the structural elements of screenwriting, teaching students how to craft effective scenes that form the foundation of a film. Through analysis of scripts and their cinematic counterparts, students will study dramatic theory, the three-act structure, and collaborative perspectives while developing and critiquing their own writing.

For more information about Summer GLS courses, please [visit our website](#).

**If you would prefer to speak with a team member, please email Glenn Knight
gknight01@wesleyan.edu.**