

Approved Student Forums –Spring 2025

The following Student Forums have been approved. Student leaders will pick up a Student Forum Registration roster from the Registrar's Office and have interested students sign the roster during the Drop/Add period. The student leader will return the form with all signatures to the Registrar's Office by the last day of the Drop/Add Period and the student will be enrolled. Enrollment limit is 15 per class plus the student leader(s).

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| AFAM420-01 | Black Sitcoms | .50 | |
| | Student Leader: | Nyahera Santeliz | |
| | Faculty Sponsor: | Kevin Ball | |
| | Description: | This forum will hilite a range of black sitcoms from 1950 - to the present. Currently, there are very few classes centered on TV studies and none to my knowledge on Black TV. This forum will make an important contribution to discourse. | |
| AMST420-01 | A Shaken History: The Making of America and Mixology | 1.0 | |
| | Student Leader: | Teva Corwin and Gavin Brangham | |
| | Faculty Sponsor: | Joel Pfister | |
| | Description: | This forum is a significant contribution to the field of U.S. Food Studies and the U.S. history of taste. The lab section will provide sensory and embodied ways of knowing beyond reading texts. This forum will provide the opportunity to learn about the history and practice of alcohol in the US, specifically focusing on the category of "the cocktail."
YOU MUST BE 21 OR OVER TO ENROLL. | |
| AMST420-02 | Culture in Cuisine: The Americanization of Foreign Food and Culinary Practices as a Reflection of Cultural Differences | | |
| | Student Leader: | Hai Tong Zheng and Marcus Brown | .50 |
| | Faculty Sponsor: | Roberto Saba | |
| | Description: | The students will explore food as an element of broader identities and politics. This is a very important topic in the study of American culture. | |
| AMST420-03 | Smashing the Panel: Autobiography, Male Power Fantasy, and Cultural Critique in Comic Books | .50 | |
| | Student Leader: | Isaiah Fraley | |
| | Faculty Sponsor: | Roberto Saba | |
| | Description: | Comic books have shaped American culture since at least the early 20th century. By exploring narratives and visual elements, the students will learn how this genre transformed the way Americans saw power, gender, race, and other elements of their own society. | |

AMST420-04 Through the Grapevine: Exploring the History, Culture, and Production of Wine .50

Student Leader: Eloise Bartell and Jessica Scheer

Faculty Sponsor: Roberto Saba

Description: Through the study of wine, its production, circulation, and consumption, the student leaders will address questions such as the law, entertainment, health, imperial expansion, labor exploitation, economic development, indigenous dispossession, commodification, and environmental change.

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ANTH420-01 What is Resettlement? Exploring the Refugee Experience 1.0

Student Leader: Juliette Vermmer, Dikshya Kuikel and Leila Bernbeck

Faculty Sponsor: Katherine Burnson

Description: This forum, in partnership with IRIS (Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services) in New Haven, will combine lessons on the refugee experience and the legal processes of refugee resettlement with practical, experience based learning.

ANTH420-02 History and Anthropology of Palestine 1.0

Student Leader: Reana Akthar and Rowan Roudebush

Faculty Sponsor: A. George Bajalia

Description: Given the lack of courses on Wesleyan's campus addressing the historical and contemporary nuances of the colonization of Palestine from before the British Mandate period to the presents, this forum will prepare students to engage with the social, political, and cultural phenomena that have resulted from the process.

ARCP420-01 Rearranging the Museum: Creating a Proposal for JWP's future 1.0

Student Leader: Lilly Hochhauser

Faculty Sponsor: Wendi Field Murray

Description: This forum is dedicated to introducing Wesleyan's unique collections to students. It aims to create a space for students to learn about the history of Wesleyan's unique collections and provide a student perspective into the future of Wesleyan's paleontological and geological collections.

ARST420-01	Applied Portrait Drawing for the Digital Concept Art Style Student Leader: Victor Yang Faculty Sponsor: Kate TenEyck Description: This forum was designed to provide current Wesleyan students with the opportunity to learn an area of the arts that is currently lacking in the Art Studio curriculum, this being digital art. This forum will cover the subsection of art studies on how to draw the portrait as this is the most important part of the body, which every artist needs to master to enter the digital art industry.	1.0
CEAS420-01	Hidden Truths: Uncovering Korea's Societal Realities Through Media Student Leader: Veronica Mendoza and Nagen Latifi Faculty Sponsor: Jahyon Park Description: This forum will equip students with the tools to critically engage with South Korean popular media with a cultural awareness of South Korean culture and societal norms.	1.0
CEAS420-02	Tea Time Talks: Contemporary China from Mao to Now Student Leader: Baron Fisher and Dylan Clack Faculty Sponsor: Stephen Angle Description: This forum introduces China in a balanced and engaging way. The student leaders will share the complex fascinating reality of China with a range of students who would otherwise be limited to the shallow sound bytes found on-line.	1.0
CHEM420-01	The Science and Art of Chemical Demonstrations Student Leader: Kayla Alexander and Claire Larson Faculty Sponsor: T. David Westmoreland Description: This forum focuses on the use of science demonstrations as an effective method to teach important concepts in chemistry. It will explore the pedagogical value of demonstrations as well as safe, effective methods of presentation.	1.0
CIS420-01	Success in STEM: Strategies for Success After Early Setbacks Student Leader: Zuha Anjum and Daniel Tung Faculty Sponsor: Cori Anderson Description: This forum aims to help students that have struggled in their STEM courses in the fall. It will focus on students reflecting on their past semester as well as connecting them with the proper tools, resources and mentors at Wesleyan so that they can be successful in their endeavors in STEM.	.25

COMP420-01 Technical Student Forum .50

Student Leader: Ugochukwu Osondu and Prosper Ndobele
Faculty Sponsor: Dan Licata
Description: This forum will cover specific material that doesn't fit into COMP 211/212/213 that is known to come up in interviews. Students will also practice their general algorithm design skills.

CSPL420-01 Seeding Impact: System Thinking for Social Innovation and Change .50

Student Leader: Valensia Tandeas, Podchara Boonbhati and Sida Chu
Faculty Sponsor: Ahmed Badr
Description: This 6 week, half credit class will help students think differently about social and environmental change, starting with the understanding of a problem and the systems that create or influence it. Each student will select a social or environmental issue to focus on; students can work alone or in teams.

CSPL420-02 Wesleyan Shark Tank: The Art of the Pitch 1.0

Student Leader: Michael Astorino and Ben Carbeau
Faculty Sponsor: Ahmed Badr
Description: This forum will play a strong role in preparing students to apply the PCSE's New Venture Awards in the Spring. The student leaders will be key collaborators in ensuring that Wesleyan's entrepreneurship community continues to expand, thrive, and connect across sectors and lived experiences.

DANC420-01 Tap Dance and the Movie Musical .50

Student Leader: Nicole Schully and Tatiana Wolkowitz
Faculty Sponsor: Patricia Beamon
Description: This forum will bring a community of tap enjoyers together once a week; since there are no tap courses offered in the dance department or a formal tap club.

DDC420-01 Experimental Audiovisual Techniques: History and Theory to Practicum 1.0

Student Leader: Lampton Enochs and Soli Gareh
Faculty Sponsor: Pedro Bermudez
Description: This forum will provide students the opportunity to receive training within our newly constructed recording studio. It is the first semester long class to take advantage of our new technology.

ENGL420-01

Tea Forum: Understanding Taste as Method

.50

Student Leader: Harry Gleicher and Josh Pythian

Faculty Sponsor: Douglas Martin

Description: This forum seeks to engage students in an interdisciplinary exploration of tea as a cultural, historical, linguistic and sensorial phenomenon by studying the history of tea, its industrialization, and its role.

ENVS420-01

Farm Forum

1.0

Student Leader: Isaac Moss and Emma Jean Knapp

Faculty Sponsor: Paul Erickson

Description: This forum allows students to integrate practical experience working on Wesleyan's student-run Long Lane Farm with readings that situate their work on the farm within the larger context of the history of agriculture and food, and contemporary issues of agriculture, environmental sustainability, and social justice.

FGSS420-01

The Abortion Doula: Historical Perspective, Theory and Practice

1.0

Student Leader: Sofia Rinaldi and Chiara Mapp

Faculty Sponsor: Amanda Anderson

Description: This forum introduces students to reproductive justice theory, centering the work and perspectives of abortion doulas, as well as takes an intersectional approach to equip students with the tools to provide well-informed and equitable care. Given the current political climate surrounding reproductive rights and bodily autonomy in the U.S., it is important and urgent work.

IDEA420-01

Interactive Prototype Studio

1.0

Student Leader: Kate Lyman and Alex Kaplan

Faculty Sponsor: Christopher Weaver

Description: This forum serves as a logical progression for students to apply skills from IDEA350 and similar interactive software courses. It offers a platform to refine their abilities in using game-development tools and engines, designing to creative prompts, and engaging in objective self-analysis.

LANG420-01	<p>Crash Course in Conversational American Sign Language</p> <p>Student Leader: Bailey Nadeau and Sam DeLeo Faculty Sponsor: Pedro Pascual Description: This forum is a crash course offering of a valuable opportunity to learn and engage with the language and culture.</p>	1.0
MUSC420-01	<p>The Disengineering Society Forum</p> <p>Student Leader: Sam Boston and Beatrix Briggs Faculty Sponsor: Ron Kuivila Description: This forum aims to create a learning environment for people of all years and skill levels to have the resources to explore DIY electronic building and hardware hacking with and emphasis on sound.</p>	1.0
PSYC420-01	<p>Breaking Barriers: Psychedlics 101</p> <p>Student Leader: Jerron Chan Faculty Sponsor: Matthew Kurtz Description: This forum will provide an educational opportunity for students to explore the history, science and cultural significance of psychedelic substances. It aims to challenge the dominant narrative surrounding psychedelic drugs and promote a more nuanced understanding of their effects on the human mind and body.</p>	1.0
SOC/AFAM420-01	<p>Deconstructing the Devine Feminine</p> <p>Student Leader: Kailer Brothers Faculty Sponsor: Courtney Patterson-Faye Description: This forum will explore femineity, divinity, spirituality and identity making in the Black and queer communities. Within the context of the New Age spirituality movement on social media, widely led by white women who have co-opted ideas and practices from various religions, students will be challenged to critically engage with a movement and group that has been historically exclusionary of Black womxn/womxnhood.</p>	1.0
STS420-01	<p>The Scientific History of Performance-Enhancing Drugs</p> <p>Student Leader: Luke Consolati Faculty Sponsor: Anthony Hatch Description: This forum will look to give students biological, historical, and cultural perspectives of performance-enhancing drugs in society. Students will be asked to think critically about the implications of performance-enhancing drug use and will look to gain an understanding of their impact in the classroom, on the field, and on the battlefield.</p>	1.0