Common Experience Seminar, Adirondack Program
Dr. Janelle A. Schwartz
Office hours: Mondays 2:30 – 4:00pm; and happily by appointment
Email: jschwart@hamilton.edu
→ Class meets promptly in the dining room of The Main House, unless otherwise specified

• All assigned electronic course material will be available via Blackboard, provided as a link below on the Course Calendar, or else its location will be discussed in class.
• All assigned material that can be purchased can be found on Amazon or the like. You may also purchase/order books through Lake Placid’s local bookstore, The Bookstore Plus (518-523-2950). In addition, a hard copy of these readings will be available for your shared use in the reference library on site in The Main House of The Mountain House.

Course Description—
This Common Experience Seminar focuses on the structure and tenets of our intentional, living-learning community. It is a discussion-based synthesis course, duly centered on ideas of stewardship and sustainability, includes an emphasis on food systems/food waste, and highlights the Adirondack Park as a “learning laboratory” of global import. It is meant to contextualize your internship experiences fully with your semester coursework, communal duties, significant issues in and of the Adirondack Park, potential career paths, and recreational pursuits. It is also an opportunity to speak with several park experts from our Guest Speaker roster, as well as affiliated Hamilton faculty and staff. Largely dictated by your own immediate individual and communal experiences this semester, and so dependent on all of you to be actively contributing members, we will discuss and implement the following “5 community tenets”:
• accountability
• self-reliance
• adaptability
• situational awareness
• community engagement

A professional documentary film workshop, led by Incite Pictures, is integrated into this course. There will also be a final Internship Symposium presentation. (Details to follow in class.) Readings and other activities are assigned by Janelle and by our guest speakers, and reflect this vibrant community of which you are already an indelible part!

Grade Distribution—
• Participation and discussion preparation*: 30%
• Communal duties discussion and execution: 25%
• Documentary film workshop and final film production/presentation: 25%
• Internship Symposium and Info Session preparation: 20%

*you are expected to attend every class session, with the exceptions being extreme illness and/or prior consent from the professor (with appropriate lead time—e.g. not the day of or before)
COURSE CALENDAR—

Note 1: On the days with guest speakers on site, we will host a casual communal lunch @ 12:00pm. Most, if not all, of our guest speakers will be joining us! Rotational hosting/lunch prep duties will be assigned accordingly, with 2 students per lunch. Lunch prep will start no later than 11:30am, and clean up will occur either directly before or directly after the actual class (as a group effort). You will sign up for this duty at the start of the semester.

Note 2: The class meeting times noted below are inclusive of any necessary travel time (for when the session is held off site). Please read the details within each calendar listing carefully, so that you can determine departure times—as they are prompt departures. Return times are close approximations.

Note 3: Primarily from your own recommendations for guest speakers this fall, Professors Marianne Janack (Philosophy), Rick Werner (Philosophy), Doug Ambrose (History), and potentially others will be joining us for “Fireside Chats,” a new initiative in the program that hosts additional faculty for an overnight. This offers you a chance to discuss your experiential semester here in ADK in the context of particular professors’ areas of expertise and interest. Such chats will largely take place during and/or directly after one of our communal dinners. Very informal, very enlightening, very fun! More details to follow.

Note 4: As you’ll see on the calendar, there are a few slots left open for your own design, i.e. for student-choice field trips. Some examples may include: pottery workshop and kiln-firing at Craigardan, dinner + movie night in Lake Placid, tour of the newly expanded sugaring operation at Black Rooster Maple, tour of Fort Ticonderoga, The Adirondack Experience (formerly, the Adirondack Museum), The W!LD Center, etc., etc. All this is to say that these field trips are entirely up to you. I will help you to plan the logistics, and within reason the program will pay entrance/tickets fees. But these trips are wholly motivated and argued for their programmatic significance by you.

Note 5: After the first few weeks of the semester have passed, and we all gel as a powerful communal cooking cohort (!), I strongly encourage you to invite members of our local ADK community to some of our communal dinners. This is a fantastic opportunity to get to know our neighbors in a casual, delicious environment, and to continue to inform our neighbors about what we are doing in and for the community. I am happy to provide possible invitees (such as Pete Nelson, Michele Drozd, Chase Twichell, and Russell Banks), but want your recommendations as well!

WEEK 1

M Aug 28 7:30 – 9:30am: guest speaker, Fiona Burns, ADK Cafe
“Kitchen Workshop I: Cooperative Cooking” (includes communal breakfast!)
→ Read the sections “Your Pace or Mine” + “Anti-Malbouffe” (from Ch 9) in Stuffed and Starved, Raj Patel (p286 – 297).
→ We will focus on “best practices” for working in a busy kitchen, e.g. how to cook as a team, safety in numbers, efficiency, etc. We will also continue our food values discussion that was opened during our first week together.
→ Note: there is the possibility that Fiona will not be able to make this workshop, given that August is the busiest month at the ADK Café and they are
dependent on an international staff (which doesn’t always work out). If Fiona is unavailable, Janelle will run the workshop/communal breakfast.

Note: Professor Pfitsch and I have switched our class meeting times for just this day, so you will meet for Intensive Seminar @ 1 – 2:15pm on 8/28.

W Aug 30

communal lunch @ 12:00pm

HOSTS: __________________________

1:00 – 2:15pm: guest speaker, Phil Terrle, Adirondack Historian and Professor Emeritus at Bowling Green University


→ Read excerpts from The Quiet Revolution in Land Use Control, pages 1 – 4; 314 – 326; review the table of contents; and browse additional points of interest. This reading will help you to contextualize the establishment and reach of the Adirondack Park Agency, as well as what has happened in the Adirondacks as part of a national movement.

http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED067272.pdf (see also hardcopy in program library)

5:30 – 7:30pm: guest speaker, Wynde Kate Reese, Green Goddess Natural Market

“Kitchen Workshop II: Knife Skills”

→ Wynde Kate will show you how to safely cut vegetables in a variety of ways. The vegetables you practice with will be used to make an Asian Stir Fry, served over seasoned brown rice.

WEEK 2

M Sept 4

1:00 – 2:15pm: food sourcing and diet discussion I + food waste audit begins

→ Read p1 – 43 in Waste Free Kitchen Handbook, Dana Gunders

→ Read Intro + p1 – 39; p44 – 58 in American Wasteland, Jonathan Bloom

→ Google image “food waste” (literally, just scroll through images!)

W Sept 6

12:45 – 3:30pm: guest speakers, Keith McKeever, Public Information Officer (APA) and David Winchell, Public Outreach, Region 5 (DEC)

“High Use, Misuse, and Overcrowding in the Adirondack Park”

→ gather at Main House for 12:45pm departure (talk is from 1:30 – 3:30pm)

→ Read the following recent articles in the Adirondack Almanack:


→ Additional preparatory reading materials TBA

5:30 – 7:30pm: guest speaker, Wynde Kate Reese, Green Goddess Natural Market

“Kitchen Workshop III: Flavor Layering and Combining”

→ Wynde Kate will show you how and when to season food to get the most flavor out of any dish. You will be making a Hearty Lentil Stew with Roasted Cauliflower to illustrate the techniques.
WEEK 3

M Sept 11  1:30 – 3:30pm: guest speaker, Eileen Longware, Master Preserver and Nutrition Program Coordinator for Cornell Cooperative Extension
“Kitchen Workshop IV: Food Preservation/Canning”
7:00pm: dinner and movies! (brainstorm film project topics; create groups; watch last fall’s videos on the big screen)

W Sept 13  12:30 – 4:30pm: tentative... studio tour, Wayne Ignatuk, master woodworker (Jay, NY)
→ In preparation for our visit, research different building techniques for constructing log cabins. Also research building specifically in the Scandinavian Full Scribe technique, as well as building with Eastern White Cedar logs.
8:00 – 10:00pm (and/or over dinner): “Documentary Short: ADK film project,” introductions with Marion Lipschutz, Rose Rosenblatt, and Alex Mason* of Cine Qua Non/Incite Pictures
→ From Alex: “Please come prepared with multiple documentary ideas [casual brainstorming is fine], which will then be workshopped into the final concept for the documentary you intend to make.”
→ You are expected to take the initiative and develop your film projects on a weekly basis. To this end, Marion, Rose, and Alex have provided a weekly, 13-week schedule of expected activities and assignments. See below, under “Assignments” (following this calendar). In addition, there are specific dates on this Course Calendar dedicated to workshopping your works-in-progress with your peers: 10/23, 11/6, and 12/6.

WEEK 4

M Sept 18  1:00 – 2:15 pm: food sourcing and diet discussion II + food waste audit results
→ Read p44 – 117 (+ browse thru to the end) in Waste Free Kitchen Handbook
→ Read Intro (p9 – 27) + Ch 5 (p107 – 127) in Stuffed and Starved, Raj Patel

W Sept 20  communal lunch @ 12:00pm HOSTS: ________________________________
1:00 – 3:30pm: guest speaker, Rocci Aguirre, Director of Conservation, Adirondack Council
“Managing Success: Challenges and Opportunities Facing Stewardship of the Forest Preserve For a New Millennium”
→ Read the following two documents produced by the Adirondack Council:
→ Rocci has also asked that you come prepared with a few sentences in response to the following questions: “What does the Park look like, feel like to you? You can talk about the actual state lands, the communities around the Park, the technology, politics, whatever feels most important to you. As the next generation of potential decision makers, what key issues are most important or pressing?”
→ session will take place at the Adirondack Council, Elizabethtown, NY. We depart MH @ 1:00pm promptly.

F Sept 22 - Sun 24 (overnight): Andrew Jillings’ led trip / outdoor leadership workshop(s). Details to follow.
**WEEK 5**

**M Sept 25** 12:00 – ~5:00pm: guest speaker, **John Davis**, Wildlands Network

“Split Rock Wildway” (guided hike, CATS trail location TBD)

- Review websites for Wildlands Network and The Rewilding Institute.
  - [https://wildlandsnetwork.org/](https://wildlandsnetwork.org/)
  - [http://rewilding.org/rewildit/](http://rewilding.org/rewildit/)
- For background on Split Rock Wildway, read the overview drafted by John, which also suggests some of the basic books on the importance of habitat connections. (This overview is on Blackboard, for CES.)
- pack lunch! We depart MH @ 12:00pm promptly.

11:00pm: film thesis statements and argument outlines due (via email to janelle)

**W Sept 27**

communal lunch @ 12:00pm  HOSTS: ________________________________

1:00 – 2:15pm: guest speaker, **Chris Morris**, Communications Officer at the Adirondack Foundation

“Strengthening Community Through Philanthropy”

- Read also “Community Philanthropy: It’s Not Just for the Wealthy Anymore,” from NonProfit Quarterly
  - [https://nonprofitquarterly.org/2012/03/13/community-philanthropy-its-not-just-for-the-wealthy-anymore/](https://nonprofitquarterly.org/2012/03/13/community-philanthropy-its-not-just-for-the-wealthy-anymore/)

(Note: You may need to copy and paste the links above to access the articles.)

4:00pm – thru dinner: guest speaker, **Hillary Joy Pitoniak**, Primitive Skills Instructor

“Kitchen Workshop V: Foraging and Wild Edibles”

**WEEK 6**

**M Oct 2** 12:00 – TBD: field trip... student choice

**W Oct 4** 12:00 – ~5:00pm: guest speaker, **David Thomas-Train**, Friends of Poke-O-Moonshine

“Firetower Restoration on Poke-O-Moonshine” (guided hike)

- Read “High Profile: Our Enduring Fascination with Adirondack Fire Towers“, by Annie Stoltie, in *Adirondack Life* (October 2016), as well as the Poke-O-Moonshine Centennial Story, written by David. (Both articles are on Blackboard, for CES. And original/color copy of the Firetower article from *Adirondack Life* can also be found in the program library.)
- David recommends a visit to the Essex County Historical Museum, in Elizabethtown, prior to our hike. Exhibits there cover The Suffragette Movement and its local advocates; hiking the Adirondacks; working in a wild landscape; tourism; photography; French and Indian War forts; and sports and transportation artifacts like the stage coach and bobsled; and the fire tower exhibit (curated by David himself).
- David may also present a slide show on fire history and the Poke-O-Moonshine Fire Tower restoration work, just prior to the hike or at a prior communal dinner.
- pack lunch! We depart MH @ 12:00pm promptly.
WEEK 7

M Oct 9 1:00 – 4:00pm: tour of Ward Lumber (Jay, NY), multi-generational lumber mill
→ We depart MH @ 1:00pm promptly.

W Oct 11 no class, fall recess

WEEK 8

M Oct 16 1:00 – 2:15pm: mid-semester round-up
→ Skype check-ins for film project… entire week availability (1 check-in required)

W Oct 18 communal lunch @ 12:00pm HOSTS: _________________________________
1:00 – 2:15pm: guest speaker, Mike Mortimer ’07, PhD Candidate at UC Davis in the History Department and Native American Studies
“The Wisdom of O:nenste: Native American Agriculture and Climate Change”
→ Plan an Indigenous Adirondack dinner, using the “Native Ingredient Guide”
(on Blackboard for CES).
→ Read excerpt from Robin Wall Kimmerer’s Braiding Sweetgrass (on Blackboard for CES).
→ Read “‘The Year without a Summer’: A Historical View,” by Edward Skeen (on Blackboard for CES).
→ Together with Mike, we will prepare and enjoy our communal dinner using indigenous foods.

WEEK 9

M Oct 23 1:00 – 2:15pm: work on film projects (screen work-in-progress for critique); 1 minute maximum footage screening per film + ample discussion
→ class may run over the allotted time, due to Marion, Rose, and Alex (from Incite) being on site to provide immediate feedback and work directly with you

W Oct 25 communal lunch @ 12:00pm HOSTS: _________________________________
1:00 – 2:15pm: guest speakers, all of you! (food sourcing and diet discussion III)
→ Read Ch 8 – 10 (p221 – 324) in Stuffed and Starved

Su Oct 29 communal dinner @ 5:00pm HOSTS: __ALL____________________________
7:00 – 9:00pm: community talk: plenary speaker, Jerry Jenkins, ecologist with the Wildlife Conservation Society Adirondack Program
“Visualizing Ecology”
→ gather at Main House for prompt 6:15pm departure [to Keene Central School]

WEEK 10

M Oct 30 12:00 – 2:15: work on symposium presentations (introductions)
→ Skype check-ins for film project… entire week availability (1 check-in required)

W Nov 1 communal lunch @ 12:00pm HOSTS: _________________________________
1:00 – 2:15pm: guest speaker, Brian Houseal, Director of SUNY-ESF’s Adirondack
Ecological Center (AEC)

“The Adirondack Park and Biosphere Reserve as a model for international large landscape conservation planning and management”

→ From Brian “In 1989 UNESCO designated the Champlain – Adirondack Biosphere Reserve (CABR). It would be helpful if the students did some preliminary research on biosphere reserves in general and the CABR in particular. The Obama Administration was attempting to revive the concept via the US Department of State and US National Park Service. I have written a UNESCO-required periodic review report in my capacity as a member of the US Biosphere Reserve Committee, which has now been filed with UNESCO.” (See Blackboard for CES course.)

→ Read, “Adirondack Park: The Great Conservation Experiment,” in Regional Planning for a Sustainable America, which Brian co-authored with Ross Whaley, former head of the Adirondack Park Agency and well known (among many accolades) for his quote that Adirondackers “would rather fight than win” (on Blackboard for CES).

F Nov 3 9:30 – 10:45am: guest speaker, Aubreya Adams, Assistant Professor of Geology, Colgate University

WEEK 11

M Nov 6 1:00 – 2:15pm: work on film projects (screen work-in-progress for critique); 2 – 3 minute maximum footage screening per film + ample discussion

→ Skype check-ins for film project… entire week availability (1 check-in required)

W Nov 8 1:00 – 2:15pm: work on symposium presentations

Alternate plan: tentative… Diversity Symposium, Lake Placid (full day)

WEEK 12

M Nov 13 12:00 – tbd: field trip … student choice

W Nov 15 communal lunch @ 12:00pm HOSTS: __________________________________________________________________________

1:00 – 2:15pm: guest speaker, Maurice Isserman, Publius Virgilius Rogers Professor of American History, Hamilton College

“Mountains and Mountaineering in the American Imagination”

→ Read the following article from The Alpinist journal, written by Maurice: http://www.alpinist.com/tcl/email/2015/aug-2/images/alp51-wired.pdf

WEEK 13

M Nov 20 no class, Thanxgiving recess

W Nov 22 no class, Thanxgiving recess

WEEK 14

M Nov 27 1:00 – 2:15pm: critique workshop/run-through for Internship Symposium

W Nov 29 communal lunch @ 12:00pm HOSTS: __________________________________________________________________________

1:00 – 2:15pm: guest speaker, Amy Godine, Independent Scholar of Adirondack History
“Dispatches from the Dark Side of the Woods: Adirondack History You Won’t Find in Books”

➔ Read "Conservation's Dark Side," Amy Godine (Adirondack Life 2014). (on Blackboard for CES)
➔ At Amy’s request: Visit the permanent exhibit, “Timbuctoo,” at the John Brown Farm Site in Lake Placid, in advance of her visit. Be sure to read through the captions for each exhibit piece. Amy is the curator.

WEEK 15

M Dec 4 1:00 – 2:15pm: dress rehearsal, Internship Symposium presentations
➔ schedule spring presentation date (1st or 2nd week of semester)

W Dec 6 3:00 – 4:30pm (mandatory) / 8:00 – 10:00pm (optional): screen complete film for final critique (Marion, Rose, and Alex from Incite Pictures will be in attendance!)

Sat Dec 9 5:00 – 7:00pm: film project festival—FINAL presentations and party, hosted at Keene Valley Library*
(Marion, Rose, and Alex from Incite Pictures will be in attendance!)
*invite internship mentors, guest speakers, and additional community players…
Assignments—

DOCUMENTARY FILM WORKSHOP
You will create a short nonfiction film about your internship work, research activities, communal duties, recreational pursuits, or other experiences within the living-learning community, under the expert guidance of Cine Qua Non/Incite Pictures (based in New York City). Over the course of this semester, you will develop, research, produce, direct, edit, and finalize a three-to-five-minute documentary. Access to a video camera is needed; your smart phone camera is preferable. You will utilize iMovie, Final Cut Pro, or other comparable software to produce the film, using either your personal computer or the program’s shared desktop computer. You may work individually, in pairs, or in threes (please no groups larger than this).

Over the course of the semester, you will be responsible for shooting interviews and footage (with guidance and feedback provided by Marion, Rose, and/or Alex). In-class screenings of works-in-progress (i.e. captured footage/interviews) will occur on 10/23 and 11/6 for direct feedback from peers and professor, and on 12/6 for feedback from peers, professor, and Incite. (You are encouraged to hold your own peer-led screenings as often as you’d like, either as a full group or amongst just a few of you at a time.) Works-in-progress cuts exported as QuickTime files are required to be sent to Incite Pictures via webtransfer during the open critique weeks (weeks of 10/16, 10/30, and 11/6), with direct feedback sessions done via Skype during these same weeks. (Note: you may send footage or email questions to Incite for feedback at any time during the semester, as well.) Completed rough cuts will be screened and discussed during the third on site workshop (12/6), then finalized for their public screening (12/9).

13-Week Assignment Schedule: Film Workshop
(Note: this schedule aligns with the weekly course calendar above)

Week 3 (9/11) brainstorm film project topics; create groups
            (9/13) Meet with Incite on site.
            Select film partner(s), if applicable.
            Workshop film subject ideas, narrow to one.
            Introduction to editing software and methods.
            Assignment: flesh out idea; find interviewees; research formats
            (e.g. verite, talking heads, b-roll, animation, etc.)

Week 4 (9/18) Discuss interviewees and ideas for b-roll shooting.
              Discuss format.
              Assignment: start shooting footage

Week 5 (9/25) Assignment: continue shooting footage

Week 6 (10/2) Begin screen selects of shot footage.
              Assignment: start editing an assembly; begin to cut film

Week 7 (10/9) Continue screen selects of shot footage.
              Assignment: continue editing an assembly; continue cutting film
Week 8 (10/16)  Continue screen selects of shot footage.
Assignment: continue editing an assembly; continue cutting film

Week 9 (10/23)  Screen 1st cut for peers.
Incite Pictures will be on site to provide immediate feedback.
Assignment: continue shooting and editing; select music as you edit; make list of footage/music/etc. still needed (“to do” list)

Week 10 (10/30)  Continue screen selects of shot footage.
Optional, but encouraged: send revised cut and “to do” list to Incite Pictures for feedback.
Assignment: continue editing an assembly and shooting footage; continue cutting film

Week 11 (11/6)  Screen 2nd cut for peers.
Optional, but encouraged: send cut to Incite Pictures for feedback.
Assignment: editing and shooting footage

Week 12 (11/13)  Optional, but encouraged: send revised cut and “to do” list to Incite Pictures for feedback.
Assignment: editing and shooting footage; refine cut

Week 13  Thanksgiving recess

Week 14 (11/27)  Assignment: editing and shooting footage; screen on your own with peers (optional, but encouraged); refine cut

Week 15 (12/4)  Assignment: editing and shooting footage; screen on your own with peers (optional, but encouraged); refine cut

(12/6)  Screen full rough cut for peers and Incite (on site).
Assignment: finalize film

(12/9)  Present final films @ Keene Valley Library

INTERNSHIP SYMPOSIUM AND INFO SESSION PREPARATION
Each presentation should be no longer than 5 minutes, including any visuals you wish to present—e.g. PowerPoint slides, still images, video and/or interview clips, etc. (Note: visuals are highly recommended!) Think of your presentation as an “elevator pitch,” during which you want to inform your audience quickly, clearly, and enthusiastically of why you chose the internship(s) you did; what you accomplished; how you were challenged; the contribution(s) you made to the Adirondack community; how the work fed into your semester experience as a whole; and how the work may (or may not) inform your future plans.

You are responsible for determining the content and form of your individual presentation, as well as a catchy title for the presentation itself. You will then decide as
a group the most effective order of the symposium as a whole. (The title and order of presenters will appear on a promotional poster!)

There are two formal workshop days on the Course Calendar dedicated to work on your presentations (10/30, 11/8). A dress rehearsal (i.e. full run-through) of all of your presentations, in their determined order, will occur toward the close of the semester (12/4). As a group, you will also need to determine the date/time of the actual Internship Symposium and Info Session to be held on campus at the start of the Spring 2017 semester. (It is preferable that this symposium takes place during the first week or two of the spring semester; Janelle will be on campus to introduce you all and to bring a sampling of local ADK foods to further entice your audience. Suggestions welcomed!)

Prompt (questions to help you start thinking about the focus of your brief presentation):

1. What is the single greatest lesson learned during your internship(s)?

2. Name the two greatest obstacles/challenges confronted during your internship work.
   a. Did you overcome them? If so, how? If not, why not?

3. What was your most significant contribution to the organization(s) you worked for?

4. How did your internship work inform/contribute to your understanding of the Adirondack Park and issues of stewardship and sustainability? How did your work enhance your understanding and commitment to the Adirondack community-at-large?

5. How do you envision your internship work informing/contributing to your studies back on Hamilton’s campus and/or your future career plans/plans after graduation?

6. Would you recommend your internship choice(s) to future Adirondack Program enrollees? Why/why not?

Grading Rubrics—

- **Participation and discussion preparation**: This portion of your grade asks that you be present, be attentive, ask questions, and contribute thoughtfully to our conversations both as a group unto ourselves and when we are joined by guest speakers. You may be asked to bring prepared questions to particular class sessions; however, it is recommended that you do this regardless. This course is, by and large, about what you want to discuss within the framework of its preparations. Consequently, you can only make this course your own if you actually contribute to it and participate in it fully!

- **Communal duties discussion and execution**: This portion of your grade will be handled via a three-pronged approach:
   1. Throughout the semester, several of our formal class meetings as well as dinner-table discussions and house-meeting discussions, will focus on the execution of our communal duties. Sincere engagement in these discussions is necessary, with an eye toward expediency and impact, enjoyment, and conflict resolution (when necessary).
   2. At the end of the semester, you will rate each other’s work with regard to whether or not the communal duties were completed satisfactorily.
3. At the end of the semester, you will each write up a self-assessment that speaks to how you view your own execution of the communal duties.

- **Documentary film workshop and final film production/presentation:** Details are posted to Blackboard, under the Information tab: “Film Project Grading Guidelines.”
- **Internship Symposium and Info Session preparation:** Details are posted to Blackboard, under the Information tab: “Internship Symposium Grading Guidelines.”

**Grades will be based on the following scale:**

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**Course Guidelines and Resources—**

The **Honor Code** (which you signed) stipulates a standard of integrity that you should uphold in all of your courses. This course is no different. I stand firm on the College’s policies for dealing with academic dishonesty. Please communicate to me any questions or concerns you might have pertaining to Honor Code violations. If you are uncertain what constitutes academic dishonesty do not hesitate to discuss it with me. If, for example, you try to explain after the fact that you “didn’t know” what you did “counted” as a violation, I will not be appeased, nor will I accept it as an extenuating circumstance. Bottom line: Don’t do it!

**Technology Policy.** Limited technology use is encouraged during class (e.g., when we are referencing a reading, showing film projects, or at the behest of a guest speaker). Printing paper copies of readings and the like should be limited to necessity. Out of respect for your classmates and your professor, as well as any guests of the program, laptops and cell phones should be closed during discussions, presentations, and anytime when they are not directly in use. Do not toggle between taking notes and checking Facebook/email. This program is, in large part, about slowing down and “being present.” Exceptions may include a documented learning disability or through personal appeal to me.

**Research Librarians.** The Burke library staff is happy to help you—even off campus. Please feel contact Reid Larson (the Adirondack liaison; rslarson@hamilton.edu) and Glynis Asu (the Environmental Studies liaison, gasu@hamilton.edu). They are great at helping you find resources in Hamilton’s collection and beyond and can answer questions you have about appropriate citations, copyright issues, etc. When in doubt ask a research librarian!

**Blackboard.** The course syllabus and other pertinent documents and information will be available on Blackboard.

**Disability Support Services.** Hamilton College will make reasonable accommodations for students with properly documented disabilities. If you are eligible to receive accommodation(s), and would like to make a formal request for this course, please discuss it with me during the first two weeks of class. All discussions will remain confidential. Should you have further questions, contact Allen Harrison, Associate Dean of Students for Multicultural Affairs and Accessibility Services (Elihu Root House; 315 859 4021; aharriso@hamilton.edu).