



FIGs for Clark Honors College Students

What is a FIG?

A FIG (“First-Year Interest Group”) is a curated set of classes around a topic that brings together first-year students with common interests to build community and help develop skills for college success. Each FIG has a 1-credit College Connections course that is co-led by a dedicated faculty member and a peer-mentor called a FIG Assistant. Your faculty member will provide passionate expertise about the FIG subject, and your FIG Assistant will connect you with resources and know-how on being a college student. Alongside the 1-credit College Connections course, you will enroll in other UO courses that your FIG faculty selects that are designed to expand on what you’re learning in the College Connections course.

Should CHC students enroll in a FIG?

It is neither required nor expected that incoming CHC students will join a FIG, but they can be exciting opportunities to form connections with people outside of the CHC and delve deeply into a field or interest that you are passionate about.

Will enrolling in a FIG help me complete CHC requirements?

It depends on the FIG you select, your unique academic history and goals, and any credits you have brought in through transfer, AP, or IB courses. If you are motivated to ensure your FIG will help you with [CHC requirements \(“Outside the CHC” courses\)](#), you should first check with the CHC’s Director of First-Year Experience, Dr. Angela Rovak (arovak@uoregon.edu).

The recommended list of FIGS on the following pages outlines how the classes offered in each FIG might fulfill [Outside the CHC requirements](#). Again, this is dependent on your individual academic record and goals, so be sure to check with Dr. Rovak first.

FIGS may also help fulfill requirements in your intended major/minor. You can compare the list of required classes against major/minor requirements to verify if any would be appropriate for your major/minor.

How do I sign up for a FIG?

FIG Registration will be open from Thursday, May 25 starting at 4:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time and ending on Monday, June 12th, at 4:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time. A link will be emailed to first-year students and featured on our website prior to registration opening on Thursday, May 25th. To log in to Qualtrics and complete FIG Registration, you must first [claim your Duck ID](#). Make sure you have done this prior to the day of FIG registration.

After this date, students will be able to change, add, or drop their FIG during their Academic Advising Session at [IntroDUCKtion](#). Changes to FIG registration will be available after the initial advising appointment throughout September until classes begin.



To read full descriptions of the listed FIGs, visit the [FIGs for Clark Honors College webpage](#)

Brain Stories

What kind of person explores the brain, that 3 lb. piece of meat that creates the mind? They're more like you than you might think.

Total Credits: 10

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG seminar (1 cr)
- PSY 201: Mind and Brain (4 cr)
- J 201: Media and Society (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (J 201)
- [Non-HC Science](#) (PSY 201)

Brilliant Imperfection

Disability Studies is an important and growing interdisciplinary academic field. If you have or think you may have an interest in disability issues and/or the Disability Studies Minor at UO, this is the FIG for you.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG seminar (1 cr)
- PHIL 335: Medical Ethics (4 cr)
- WGS 221: Bodies and Power (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts & Letters](#) (PHIL 335)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (WGS 221)
- Cultural Literacy – US: Difference, Inequality, and Agency (WGS 221)

Breaking the Wall

Learn the history and sociology of Germany from the end of World War II to the tearing down of the Berlin Wall.

Total Credits: 5

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- GER 221: Postwar Germany: Nation Divided (4 cr)
- SOC 204: Introduction to Sociology (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts and Leaders](#) (GER 221)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (SOC 204)
- Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives (GEOG 341)

A Trip Down Memory Lane

In this FIG we will travel back in time through stones and see how scientific and literary study can be combined to investigate what we can learn about past natural disasters from the traces they leave buried both in the ground and in cultural memory.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- EARTH 306: Volcanoes and Earthquake (4 cr)
- ANTH 145: Principles of Archaeology (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (ERTH 306 and ANTH 145)
- Cultural Literacy – Global Perspectives (ANTH 163)





To read full descriptions of the listed FIGs, visit the [FIGS for Clark Honors College webpage](#)

Hip Hop & The Politics of Race

Hip Hop and the Politics of Race encourages students to explore artistic practices of hip hop and learn how to produce and promote a hip hop music/art event.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- MUS 360: Hip-Hop: History, Culture, Aesthetics (4 cr)
- ES 101: Intro to Ethnic Studies (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts & Letters](#) (MUS 360)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (ES 101)

From War to Peace

The practice and technology of war is a profound force of history, while literature in the Russian context has long been concerned with social and political questions.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- RUSS 204: Intro to Russian Literature (4 cr)
- HIST 240: War and the Modern World I (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts & Letters](#) (RUSS 204)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (HIST 240)
- Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives (RUSS 204)

Development Safari

This FIG exposes students to the Swahili worldview & way of life (East Africa) in the First Year Swahili Class and then pushes them to interrogate dominant global models of International development.

Total Credits: 10

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- SWAH 101: First Year Swahili (5 cr)
- GLBL 101: Intro to International Issues(4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- Begin working on [Second Language Requirement](#) (SWAH 101)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (GLBL 101)
- Cultural Literacy – Global Perspectives (GLBL 101)

Startups from the Ground Up

Would you like to be the next dorm-room entrepreneur like Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook) or Reshma Saujani (Girls Who Code)? Join Startups from the Ground Up to gain practical experience and insight into the world of technical startups and becoming an entrepreneur.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- CS 110: Fluency with Information Technology (4 cr)
- BA 101: Intro to Business (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (BA 101)
- [Non-HC Science](#) (CS 110)





To read full descriptions of the listed FIGs, visit the [FIGS for Clark Honors College webpage](#)

Gurus and Governors

This FIG combines the study of key texts from Asian religious traditions together with the engaging “Reacting to the Past” role-playing learning that focuses on a pair of concrete historical, political, and social contexts in which Indian religious traditions play pivotal parts.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- REL 101: World Religions: Asian Traditions (4 cr)
- HIST 211: Reacting to the Past (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts & Letters](#) (REL 101)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (HIST 211)
- Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives (REL 101)

Cultural Encounters

We hope that this FIG will strengthen your ability to look at different aspects of culture, language, society, and politics through a creative and critical lens. You will explore how these factors shape our identities and outline privileges and challenges people may face to help us inform the decisions we make as contributing members of society on a local and global scale.

Total Credits: 10

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- ITAL 101: First Year Italian (5 cr)
- GLBL 101: Intro to International Issues (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- Begin working on [Second Language Requirement](#) (ITAL 101)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (GLBL 101)
- Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives (GLBL 101)

Cracking the Case: Forensics, Freshmen, and FIGS

In exploring the ways in which Anthropology and Sociology are connected, and will discuss criminology, taphonomy, challenges of forensic based research, and options for research and careers in this and related fields.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- ANTH 176: Forensic Anthropology (4 cr)
- SOC 204: Introduction to Sociology (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (ANTH 176)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (SOC 204)

Food & The Garden

Working together, we will explore the various traditions of garden making and how food shapes our community. This is primarily an outdoor FIG that takes place at the UO Urban Farm and includes fun garden activities such as planting, harvesting and pressing cider from apples grown on the farm.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- LA 260: Understanding Landscapes (4 cr)
- ENVS 225: Introduction to Food Studies (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts & Letters](#) (LA 260)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (ENVS 225)





To read full descriptions of the listed FIGs, visit the [FIGS for Clark Honors College webpage](#)

Mural, Movies, Musica y Muertos

Would you like to be bilingual some day? Are you drawn to art (murals, paintings, music, movies, crabs)? This FIG is designed for students with no prior experience with Spanish or up to two years of Spanish in high school.

Total Credits: 10

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- SPAN 101: First-Year Spanish (5 cr)
- LING 144: How to Learn Language (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- Begin working on [Second Language Requirement](#) (SPAN 101)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (LING 144)

Speak to the World

This FIG aims to increase students' awareness about how languages are learned in general and how they learn them as individuals.

Total Credits: 9-10

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- LING 144: How to Learn Language (4 cr)
- One first- or second-year language course: SPAN 101, PORT 101, KRN 101, FR 111, SPAN 111, GER 201, SPAN 201, etc. (4-5 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (LING 144)
- Work on [Second Language Requirement](#)

Just Futures

How does transportation affect climate change? This FIG will explore different socio-ecological visions of the future that are now emerging from our uneven planetary conditions.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG seminar (1 cr)
- SOC 204: Intro to Sociology (4 cr)
- ENVS 203: Intro to Environmental Studies: Humanities (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts and Letters](#) (ENVS 203)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (SOC 204)

Speak For Yourself

In this FYE seminar we will explore public speaking and speaking in public – in other words: active ways to share your ideas and find your voice.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- TA 271: Intro to Theater Arts (4 cr)
- LING 101: Intro to Language (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Arts and Letters](#) (TA 271)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (LING 101)





To read full descriptions of the listed FIGs, visit the [FIGS for Clark Honors College webpage](#)

The Asian Lens

In this FIG, through discussions, guest speakers, hands-on activities and field trips, we'll explore how global forces are seen and reported through the eyes of ordinary people living in a range of Asian societies.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- GLBL 101: Intro to International Issues (4 cr)
- ASIA 111: Great Books on Asia (4 cr)

- **CHC Requirements fulfilled:**
- [Non-HC Arts & Letters](#) (ASIA 111)
- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (GLBL 101)
- Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives (GLBL 101)
- Cultural Literacy: Global Perspectives (ASIA 111)

The Future We Want to Build

When it comes to global climate change, we don't have a data or science problem, we have a storytelling one. In this FIG we will read stories of a climate-changed world or "cli-fi" and investigate how those stories impact us and others..

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- PPPM 205: Intro to City Planning (4 cr)
- GEOG 141: The Natural Environment (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (PPPM 205)
- [Non-HC Science](#) (GEOG 141)

Thinking Media

A critical engagement with life and society through the lenses of popular culture and mass media.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- J 201: Media and Society (4 cr)
- PHIL 130: Philosophy and Popular Culture (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (J 201)
- [Non-HC Arts and Letters](#) (PHIL 130)

Planning for the Planet

How does transportation affect climate change? What can cities and residents do to promote sustainable transportation? This FIG uses Eugene as a laboratory to examine how transportation affects climate change and what to do about it.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- PPPM 205: Intro to City Planning (4 cr)
- ENVS 203: Intro to Environmental Studies: Humanities (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Social Science](#) (PPPM 205)
- [Non-HC Arts and Letters](#) (ENVS 203)





To read full descriptions of the listed FIGs, visit the [FIGS for Clark Honors College webpage](#)

CHEMISTRY THEMED FIGS

Chemistry FIGs require completion of the [Math](#) and [Chemistry placement tests](#) and a conversation with an advisor about Chemistry placement. If you are interested in taking a Chemistry FIG, you can sign up for one during or after your advising session in the summer. Please contact us (figs@uoregon.edu) if you want more information on Chemistry FIGs.

Coffee: Chemistry and Culture

Numerous physical and chemical processes play a determining role in the quality of a cup of coffee, ranging from agricultural practices, to roasting and brewing.

Total Credits: 7

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- CH 221: General Chemistry (4 cr)
- CH 227: General Chemistry Lab (2 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (CHEM 221)

Make It Stick

From our early childhoods we have all endeavored to create with adhesives. From the original glue stick to the transition to more robust binding agents, we've learned that much imagination and creativity can be found within these seemingly humble tools. We will also discuss how historical cultures relied upon adhesives for their survival.

Total Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- CH 111: Intro to Chemical Principles (4 cr)
- MATH 111: College Algebra (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (CHEM 111)
- [Math/Quantitative Reasoning](#) (MATH 111)

The Problem with Problems

Have you had a rocky relationship with science and math problems? Do your knees start to shake when you see a problem that's longer than a single short sentence? In college, success in a science or math course depends, to a great extent, on your ability to solve complex problems. The exams that you will take and the homework you will complete contain a lot of tough problems

Credits: 9

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- CH 111: Intro to Chemical Principles (4 cr)
- MATH 111: College Algebra (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (CHEM 111)
- [Math/Quantitative Reasoning](#) (MATH 111)





To read full descriptions of the listed FIGs, visit the [FIGS for Clark Honors College webpage](#)

CHEMISTRY THEMED FIGS

Chemistry FIGs require completion of the [Math](#) and [Chemistry placement tests](#) and a conversation with an advisor about Chemistry placement. If you are interested in taking a Chemistry FIG, you can sign up for one during or after your advising session in the summer. Please contact us (figs@uoregon.edu) if you want more information on Chemistry FIGs.

Science, College, Life!

Are you interested in science and wondering how it can fit with your plans for college, and life beyond? We'll talk about how to make science, college, and life work together for you.

Total Credits: 7

FIG Courses:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- CH 221: General Chemistry (4 cr)
- CH 227: General Chemistry Lab (2 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (CHEM 221)

Science in Media

Are you ever frustrated by the level of science literacy among the public, especially as it impacts policy decisions or general wellbeing? This FIG will consider how science stories and information are presented by mainstream, popular, and social media, emphasizing how scientific knowledge and issues can be most effectively communicated to nonscientists.

Total Credits: 7 - 9

FIG Courses:

Combo 1:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- CH 111: Intro to Chemical Principles (4 cr)
- MATH 111: College Algebra (4 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (CHEM 111)
- [Math/Quantitative Reasoning](#) (MATH 111)

Combo 2:

- UGST 109: FIG Seminar (1 cr)
- CH 221: General Chemistry (4 cr)
- CH 227: General Chemistry Lab (2 cr)

CHC Requirements fulfilled:

- [Non-HC Science](#) (CHEM 221)
-

