



JACK, JOSEPH AND MORTON MANDEL YOUTH HUMANITIES ACADEMY

SUMMER 2023

Welcome to the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Youth Humanities Academy!

Reflect | Engage | Prepare for College Life

Over the next nine weeks, you will be introduced to the study of the humanities through discussion-based seminars, tutorials, digital humanities labs and City as Text experiences in Cleveland. By critically engaging with a set of Big Questions and collectively practicing different modes of inquiry, each one of you will grow as deep thinkers equipped with the tools to live thoughtful and reflective lives, evaluate and participate in contemporary civic life and succeed in future collegiate pursuits.



PERSEVERANCE
COMPLETION DRIVEN
Leadership
COMMITMENT OPPORTUNITIES
CHALLENGE

**Who are we as a
community of thinkers?**

Who am I?

**THE BIG
QUESTIONS**

**How do we know
what we know?**

What is justice?

MODES OF INQUIRY

Tutorials

The tutorial sessions are devoted to practicing the art of close reading and other disciplinary-specific humanities craft activities. These tutorials will equip students with different tools of analysis to critically engage with the Big Questions.

Seminars

The discussion-based seminars are reflective and critical discussion groups. The seminars will provide an open space and forum to discuss and debate the Big Questions in light of our readings.

Digital Humanities Lab

The Digital Humanities (DH) Lab sessions leverage immersive art, experimental documentaries, interactive games and new digital tools to explore our Big Questions from new virtual and digital perspectives.

The City as Text

The City as Text experiences are interactive and place-based inquiries of our Big Questions. The weekly trips will expose you to Cleveland's social and political geography while allowing you to engage with the humanities through place.

Writing Studio

The Writing Studio sessions will give you a space to experiment with a digital medium of writing and different genres to “make meaning” out of our various modes of inquiry. This session also gives you a time and place to write your individual blogs and work on team projects.

GUEST LECTURES

David Busch is the program director of the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Youth Humanities Academy and adjunct faculty in humanities. **Topic:** “What is history? Why is it important? Who was and why read W.E.B. Du Bois?”

Michael Piero is a professor of English at Tri-C where he teaches courses in composition and game studies. **Topic:** “What are game studies?”

Derek Hiley is an assistant professor of math at Tri-C and specializes in problem-based math teaching and the philosophy and history of math. **Topic:** “Investigating Math”

Natalie Lanese is a Cleveland-based artist and adjunct faculty member at the Cleveland Institute of Art. **Topic:** “We can all be artists”

McKinley Wiley is an artist who specializes in documenting intergenerational experiences through photography and film. **Topic:** “The Art of Photography”

Luke Schlueter is an associate professor of English at Tri-C where he teaches courses in composition, literature and creative writing. **Topic:** “The Art of Writing”

Justin Miller is an assistant professor of philosophy at Tri-C where he teaches courses in the philosophy of art, political philosophy and comparative religion. **Topic:** “What is the study of philosophy? Why is it important? Who were and why read Socrates or Plato?”

Gayle Williamson is an associate professor of English at Tri-C with particular interests in literature and storytelling. **Topic:** “What is the study of literature? Why is it important? Who was and why read Zora Neale Hurston?”

Derrick Williams is a professor of communication at Tri-C where he teaches courses on public speaking and interpersonal communication. **Topic:** “Civil Rights History in East CLE”

Bridget Kriner is an associate professor of English and women’s/gender studies at Tri-C where she teaches composition, developmental English and women’s studies. **Topic:** “Poetry at Lakeview Cemetery”

Matt Jordan serves as dean and chair for the humanities at Tri-C’s Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Humanities Center. **Topic:** “What is the study of theology? Why is it important? Who was and why read C.S. Lewis?”

Christine Wolken is an assistant professor of art at Tri-C where she teaches courses in art appreciation and art history. **Topic:** “What is the study of art/art history? Why is it important? How and in what way should we ‘experience’ an art museum?”

Michael Shirtz is a performer, educator, composer and conductor. He is known for his versatility with jazz, contemporary and classical music. **Topic:** “Music and the Humanities”

Christopher Bohan is a theater instructor at Case Western Reserve University. He is also a founding member of what is now Cleveland’s longest-running improvisational comedy company, Something Dada. **Topic:** “Improv and the Humanities”

Casanda L. Sweeney is an associate professor of English at Tri-C where she teaches composition courses centered around environmentalism and environmental justice. **Topic:** “Environmental Humanities at CVNP”

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Cleveland Votes is a nonpartisan, democracy-building and mobilization entity that aims to strengthen civic muscle and power to ensure we have a more informed, participatory and cohesive community. **Topic: “Civic Life at Public Square”**

Land Studio is an organization that aims to create places and connect people through public art, sustainable building and design, collaborative planning and dynamic programming.

Topic: “Public Art around CLE”



MONDAY

10 – 11:15 a.m.:
Guest Lecture

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.:
Tutorial

Lunch

1:15 – 3 p.m.: Seminar

TUESDAY

10 – 11 a.m.: Tutorial

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.:
Seminar

Lunch

1:15 – 3 p.m.: DH Lab

SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

10 – 11 a.m.: Tutorial

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.:
Seminar

Lunch

1:15 – 3 p.m.: City as Text

THURSDAY

10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.:
Writing Studio

Lunch

1:15 – 3 p.m.: DH Lab

IMPORTANT DATES

June 5

Start of the Mandel Youth Humanities Academy

July 3 – 7

Program break

Aug. 3

Last day of Mandel Youth Humanities Academy





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