



TASP

TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION SUMMER PROGRAMS

Preparing students for a life of service through an education in critical inquiry, self-governance, and communal living.

JUNE 25–AUGUST 5, 2017

CORNELL UNIVERSITY
Ithaca, New York

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Ann Arbor, Michigan

tasp.tellurideassociation.org

A FREE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

The unusual character of TASP reflects the educational philosophy of their sponsoring institution. The summer programs are only one of the projects of Telluride Association, an independent, not-for-profit organization committed to promoting the highest good by educating promising young people to serve thoughtfully in the world. Telluride Association and its sister institution, Deep Springs College, were founded by Lucien L. Nunn (1853–1925), a pioneer in the development of the electric power industry. Nunn lived and worked for much of his life in Telluride, Colorado, from which Telluride Association takes its name.

Telluride Association seeks out ambitious, public-spirited young people and helps them grow intellectually and as community members. The association values diversity and has no political or religious affiliations. Cornell University and the University of Michigan, whose educational objectives coincide with the purposes of TASP, join Telluride Association in sponsoring and supporting the summer programs on their campuses.

For more information, write to telluride@tellurideassociation.org or visit:

tellurideassociation.org

WHAT IS TASP?

Seminar Learning

TASP centers on an academic seminar that meets every weekday for three hours. Each seminar is led by a team of two scholars who are selected for the distinction of their scholarship and the excellence of their teaching.

Classes emphasize group discussion rather than lectures. Participants can expect to spend several hours on assigned readings or other preparation for each class, and they will complete a number of writing assignments over the six-week seminar. The discussions and essays allow the faculty and students to engage the material in detail and to form a close community of scholars. Throughout the program students receive written and oral feedback from faculty to help them develop their writing and critical-thinking skills. Students emerge from the academic experience of TASP understanding the demand of collegiate writing and having one-on-one direction from top academic scholars.

Community Life at TASP

Life at TASP extends well beyond academic exploration. One of the program's remarkable features is that the students are responsible for organizing most of their

out-of-classroom time through weekly group meetings and through smaller committees. This element of self-governance is an essential part of the TASP experience. Students plan all kinds of activities, including group-wide discussions, field games, community service projects, music and theater events, reading groups, and excursions to state parks and art museums. Participants also share responsibility for keeping their environment clean and safe. Between all of the formal events, TASP students always find time for impromptu discussions and parties, movie-going, and pickup sports.

Students also participate in a public speaking program during which they give a presentation for the community on a topic of personal interest. These talks allow participants to pursue independent research, receive feedback on their public speaking style, and help promote community discussion. In addition to student talks, TASP features a series of lectures held by guest speakers. These events allow students to learn about a range of ideas and academic disciplines, encouraging them to develop broad interests. Recent guest speakers have included a Nobel laureate physicist, a DNA researcher, a lawyer who worked at Guantanamo Bay, a prominent poet, a prison reform scholar/activist, and a college president.

Apply online! tasp.tellurideassociation.org

Locations

Two distinguished academic institutions will host Telluride Association Summer Programs in 2017: Cornell University and the University of Michigan. Each host institution has its own distinctive character.

Cornell University is located in Ithaca, a small city in upstate New York. Cornell combines a strong liberal arts tradition with a commitment to research in the sciences, enabling it to sponsor an unusually broad range of academic endeavors. Set on a hillside that overlooks Cayuga Lake and surrounded by scenic state parks, the campus affords beautiful views across a broad valley. Ithaca, known for its breathtaking gorges, makes a delightful setting for nature walks, field trips, and picnics. TASP participants (TASPers) have access to Cornell's libraries and to Ithaca's summer theater and movie offerings. Telluride's partnership with Cornell dates back to 1910, when our founder L.L. Nunn began a century-long tradition of intellectual community and public service at Telluride House, an Arts and Crafts-style residence on West Campus.

University of Michigan is in Ann Arbor, a vibrant center of culture and the arts located 50 miles west of Detroit. The "U of M" is a leading public research university with a distinguished liberal arts college and several renowned professional schools. It is also home to the Michigan branch of Telluride Association, an established living-learning scholarship house near campus with a special focus on public service. Top scholars in a range of fields will lecture to the TASPers on topics of their choosing. Michigan TASPers can also ramble through "the Arb," Ann Arbor's sprawling botanical preserve and recreation area, visit sidewalk cafes and bookstores, and attend concerts, outdoor movies, and the famous Ann Arbor Art Fair. Fourth of July celebrations will include spectacular fireworks along the Huron River.

WHO ATTENDS TASP?

The Telluride Association selects students who are thoughtful, intelligent, and generous with their talents and energies. TASPers come from all walks of life and are uniquely motivated by their own measures of success while demonstrating a keen sense of community responsibility. Students attend TASP because they want to participate in the unique intellectual challenge of merging their intellectual and social lives. There are no grades or college credit. TASPers participate solely for the pleasure and rewards of learning with intelligent, highly motivated students of diverse backgrounds.

Each TASP forms a focused democratic community that actively plans and manages the daily life at the program through self-governance guided by program facilitators. Telluride summer programs emphasize a commitment to building a reflective intellectual community that strives to be free of cliques and exclusive relationships. During the TASP program students are encouraged to share definitive life experiences and identities while interacting with others coming from a variety of different backgrounds. Student participation in this community experiment is central to the TASP program. The Telluride Association strives to provide students with the opportunity to create an experience that supports the development of intellectual vitality, interpersonal awareness, and community responsibility—traits that will prepare them for leadership in whatever walk of life they choose.



WHO FACILITATES TASP?

The students at each TASP organize and execute their summer with the help of two college students called factotums (a Latin term for "those who do everything"). The factotums live with the students and attend seminar and other TASP activities. They serve as counselors, administrators, and teaching assistants. They are available to help students in every way possible. The factotums also present and enforce the rules and Telluride Association program policies throughout the summer. For more information: www.tellurideassociation.org/tasp-faq

TASP IS COMPLETELY FREE!

We believe so strongly in the value of the TASP experience that we cover all the program costs—tuition, books, room and board, and field trips—in order to eliminate all financial barriers for you to participate. If needed, we can also help pay for all of your travel costs to and from the program. We recognize that you may be expected to work a job, take care of younger siblings, and shoulder all sorts of other responsibilities over the summer to help your family. We can cover these expenses, too! Thanks to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, we have more funding than ever before to make attending TASP financially possible for everyone. We want the brightest minds at TASP and we won't let finances be a barrier for you this summer.

Seminars

Cornell I TASP

An Introduction to Medieval Romance:
Voyages to the Otherworld

Thomas D. Hill

Department of English
Cornell University

Charles D. Wright

Department of English
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Medieval myths and legends provide insight into the cultures of a distant time. How did the medieval Celtic (Irish and Welsh) and Norse (Viking) peoples imagine their gods and heroes (both male and female)? Does the Thor of Marvel Comics have anything to do with the Norse god of the medieval period? What did these myths mean to the medieval Celtic and Norse peoples? What can modern readers still learn from them? Why have they remained so potent for almost a millennium?

In this course we will explore the myths and legends of the Celts and of the Vikings (the Icelanders and Scandinavians) from the Middle Ages. We will read Irish tales of gods and goddesses, druids and druidesses, heroes and heroines: of voyages to the Otherworld, of feasts where warriors contend for the “champion’s portion,” of strange births and tragic deaths, magical transformations, courtships, and cattle-raids. We will also read the Welsh collection of stories called the *Mabinogion* concerning the journey of Pwyll to the Otherworld, the marriage and humiliation of the lady Branwen, the adventures of Pwyll’s wife Rhiannon and son Pryderi in an enchanted land, and the adultery and treachery of Blodeuedd, a woman conjured out of flowers.

On the Norse side we will read selections from the Prose Edda of Snorri Sturluson and from the Poetic Edda, both dealing with the creation of the world, the origins and adventures of the Norse gods (including Odin, Thor, and the trickster Loki), and their final defeat by the monsters of Ragnarök. We will also read selections from the heroic epic literature of the Icelanders, their sagas and short stories about such diverse topics as killings, burnings, and pet bears. All readings will be in modern English translation, and the course presumes no previous knowledge of these topics.

Cornell II TASP

Say It, Say It Anyway You Can

Aurora Masum-Javed

Department of English
Cornell University

Henry Mills

Writing Corps
Fresh Education and
Teachers and Writers Collaborative

How do we speak about the things that haunt us? In a world plagued by tragedy and oppression, the specters are both personal and political. Is there a way to honor, name, examine, and transform these traumas into stories and poems? What is their impact when we do? It is a question as old as literature, but the techniques that emerge are renewed by each generation of writers. In this course, we will analyze the craft and methods of authors who’ve tackled war, loss, illness, racism, and murder through fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. We will pose the big questions, those most fundamental to the art of writing. What is truth? Who has the right to a story? What do we do when language is not enough? By unpacking and comparing texts from authors such as Tim O’Brien, Adrienne Rich, Tarfia Faizullah, Ross Gay, and James Baldwin, we will consider the complexities of these questions, formulating our own theories in response. We will then turn the same curious eye to our own writing. This course is both a seminar and a writing workshop. It is a place to build, discuss, and experiment. Each day will include in-class writing and sharing, and each week will end with the analysis of our own original submissions. As writers, we can learn as much from each other as we can from the books before us. By the end of the six weeks, students will select one piece from their edited writing portfolios to share during a formal reading with the TASP community.



Summer Programs 2017

Michigan I TASP

Thinking About Cities: In Particular, Detroit

Deborah Dash Moore

Department of History
University of Michigan

Jason Schulman

Center for Applied Liberal Arts
New York University

A city is compact enough to allow for interactions and exchanges, both welcome and unwanted. How do thousands of people, crammed into a relatively small geographic area, get along? How do they live and work together to foster governance, community, law and order, and prosperity?

This course explores urban diversity, Detroit-style. We will look at the racial, ethnic, and religious diversity of Detroit, the twentieth century's quintessential American metropolis. We will examine its rich and complex history of racial, ethnic, and religious conflict, competition, and cooperation through a focus on a single street: Chene Street. Home to Polish and Italian Catholic and East European Jewish immigrants and African Americans, Chene Street offers a microcosm for urban historical research.

Through the transformation of Chene Street from the most prosperous shopping street in Detroit into a veritable urban wilderness, the course asks how America's fourth largest city, synonymous with the American automobile industry and with a style of popular African American music, dealt with the intersection of diversity with politics, law, and economics.

Michigan II TASP

Technology and Social Change

Chiara Ricciardone

Department of Rhetoric
University of California, Berkeley

Micah White

Independent Scholar

Our time is typically considered an era of unprecedented technological change. New tools are transforming human work, values, and relationships. At the same time, human actors are consciously using the Internet and social media to pursue diverse cultural and political agendas. The rate of technological change today may be new, but technology has defined every historical age—and humans have always sought to harness its power. In this course, we explore the interdependent relationship between technology and social change from a variety of angles. We will ask: how do the tools we use change who we are?

This course considers five different kinds of landmark techno-social innovations: technologies of language and the written word; technologies of the self and subjectivity; technologies of social media and social networks; technologies of war and protest; and the potential technological event known as the "Singularity," or the imagined advent of super-intelligent machines. We will draw on texts from philosophy, history, fiction, and social movements, from perspectives ranging from the most critical to the most utopian. By looking at how past technological innovations have shaped human life, we hope to gain new perspective on the possibility of social change in the present.



TASP

TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION SUMMER PROGRAMS

June 25–August 5, 2017

HOW TO APPLY

We accept applications at tasp.tellurideassociation.org.

You can also request an application by mail or download it from our website and mail it to:

Administrative Director
Telluride Association
217 West Avenue Ithaca, NY 14850

High school juniors are invited to apply to TASP. High school juniors from historically underrepresented groups—especially students of color and those from financially disadvantaged backgrounds—are encouraged to apply.

The application requires essay responses because we want to learn more about your personal and academic interests and abilities. We hope you find the experience of writing the essays personally challenging and rewarding. Your application will be judged not only on your demonstrated talents, but also your potential for future development and how TASP can contribute to that development. Applications must be submitted online or postmarked by **Tuesday, January 24, 2017**.

Students who are selected for interviews will be notified in early March. These students will be asked to submit a transcript, letter of recommendation, and a paper written for class. Further instructions will be given with the notification. Applicants selected as finalists are interviewed in March and April. Final admissions decisions are made in late April.

For answers to common questions about the application and the program: www.tellurideassociation.org/tasp-faq

Further inquiries should be directed to:
tasp-queries@tellurideassociation.org or 607.273.5011.



TELLURIDE ASSOCIATION

Telluride Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical disability.

Telluride Association occasionally shares applicants' names and addresses with our partner institutions for the purpose of informing them of scholarship and other opportunities.

Applicants who plagiarize all or part of their application will have their application returned to them and will not be considered for admission into the program. Telluride Association and its officers may also, at its own discretion, contact the staff of these students' respective schools in order to notify them of any instance of plagiarism.

It is the policy of Telluride Association not to grant any special consideration, positive or negative, to students who apply to summer programs when those students have a parent or sibling who has participated in or been employed by a Telluride program. Immediate family members of TASP faculty are ineligible for the program.

The 2017 programs are made possible in part by the bequest of Frank Monaghan in honor of Elmer M. "Johnny" Johnson and George Lincoln Burr. Johnny Johnson joined Telluride Association in 1915 and later served as chancellor of Telluride Association from 1930 to 1960. George Burr was a Cornell librarian from 1890 to 1922 and variously a Cornell professor of ancient, medieval, and modern history. He lived at Telluride House as a faculty fellow from 1915 to 1938.

Funding support for Telluride Association's Summer Programs is provided by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation (www.jkcf.org)



Apply online! tasp.tellurideassociation.org