Inquiry Studies (IS) 101 is the foundational class taken by all first-year students. This class begins during Orange EXCELeration, our fall orientation program. Often IS 101/O groups become good friends! The instructor for your section also will serve as your mentor, guiding you in making a successful transition to college.

Half the class includes content common across all IS 101 sections. You will have one textbook in common, do some of the same readings, and complete similar assignments as all other new students. The other half of the class, while aiming toward the same goals, will be focused on the topic chosen by the instructor. Please review these options carefully. Your choice will help place you in a class where you will meet other students and a faculty member with whom you share interests.

Next? • Read the IS 101 descriptions outlined in this brochure.
• Identify your top four course choices.
• Go online to www.wartburg.edu/pathways/firstyear.aspx and register for a SOAR date.

If you have questions, please contact the Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, professor of religion, at kathryn.kleinhans@wartburg.edu or 319-352-8283 or Dr. Kimberly Eversman, assistant professor of education, at kimberly.eversman@wartburg.edu or 319-352-8316.

Wartburg College is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.
LIVING-LEARNING COMMUNITIES
The following IS 101 sections will be linked in living-learning communities (sections 01 and 02). Students in the linked sections will be housed together in the residence halls. Joint learning activities will occasionally take place in the residence halls as well as the regular classroom.

IS 101:01 EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CHANGE
Why are you going to college? This course will explore this question and more broadly the role of education in society. How does it affect our lives, work, perspectives, and society? You will be encouraged to understand education as a call to action through citizenship and social change. In addition to reading, analyzing, and discussing, you will explore these issues by engaging in activities outside of the classroom. By the end of the term, you will better understand how positive social change applies to your life.
Instructor: Daniel Kettle, Dean of Students

IS 101:02 WHO ARE YOU WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING?
Bring excellence and ethics into your years at Wartburg. Take a close look at how your personal character can affect your schoolwork, friendships, employment, and vocation. Use critical thinking to reflect on differences and similarities as a community on campus and in the larger world and how that impacts your liberal arts education and social change. Build the groundwork for a lifelong commitment to making good decisions, taking responsibility for your actions, and learning from mistakes. This course will combine writing, reading, and activity-based learning. By the end of the term, you will have a better grasp on yourself as an individual, your role in your community, and how you can impact positive social change.
Instructor: Kristin Tang Torres, Center for Community Engagement

IS 101:03 FOOD FOR ALL
Waverly is poised to become one of the first “food secure” communities in the United States. This course will explore the concepts of food security locally, nationally, and internationally and what efforts are being made to increase food security in the world. We will engage in the following areas for all: Reading, writing, active-learning, service-learning, community-based research, and eating will be included in this course.
Instructor: Tammy Faux, Social Work

IS 101:04 BANNED BOOKS
This course will consider questions regarding why certain books have been banned. Many rich literary works have been censored at one time or another. Students are suspicious on political, religious, sexual, and social grounds will be studied in light of its status as censored work.
Instructor: Kimberly Everman, Education

IS 101:05 CODES AND CODEBREAKING
The evolution of secrecy through coding will be explored from its roots in military espionage to our battles to keep our secrets on the Internet. The course will focus on the people, the history, and, to some extent, the actual methods of cryptography.
Instructor: Terry Letcher, Math, Computer Science & Physics

IS 101:06 VAMPIRES, SLAVERS, AND POP CULTURE
This course examines how academics study popular culture, focusing on the vampire genre in film and television, with special attention to Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Students will be expected to view films and television episodes outside of class.
Instructor: Erika Lindgren, History

IS 101:07 FROM SURVIVING TO THRIVING: HOW TO HAVE THE RICHEST COLLEGE EXPERIENCE
How are you going to ensure that you get the most out of your four years? What are the strategies to be successful? How will you implement these strategies in your own life? This class will explore what you need to know about higher education, Wartburg, and yourself to not only survive in college, but to thrive in college.
Instructor: Lindsey Leonard, Admissions

IS 101:08 DIVERSITY AND THE MEDIA
Diversity and the Media presents a current analysis and historical perspective of various minority groups and how media depict these groups. This course helps students understand why and how stereotypical media portrayals have been produced and how the under-representation of diversified images affects students’ knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors toward other cultural/literary others. Students will investigate alternative media voices and creators, multicultural contributions to media, the image-rebuilding process, and corrective stereotypes.
Instructor: Pamela Oehr, Journalism & Communication

IS 101:09 A SOCIAL HISTORY OF PUNISHMENT
Since the earliest written societies, human societies have perceived a need to punish those who violate the group’s rules. While the methods of punishment and opinions about why we must punish have changed, a perceived necessity for punishment remains dominant in modern society. We will trace the history of the both the methods and reasons of punishment—from fines to torture, excommunication and death, and moral justice to deterrence—enduring on contemporary theories that question the need to punish at all.
Instructor: Brian McGuire, Sociology

IS 101:30 HOW TO SOLVE IT
This course will focus on a variety of techniques for solving mathematical or logical puzzles as described in the book How to Solve It by George Pólya. We will see how these problem-solving techniques extend beyond academic fields.
Instructor: Brian Bogen, Math, Computer Science & Physics

IS 101:32 BETTER LIVING THROUGH SCIENCE
Science and technology have quickly and radically changed the human experience over the last century. We will explore some of these changes, including the impact of both on human health and the environment. While the ways in which we use science and technology usually is touted as progress, we will also look at the downsides of better living through science. Also, the way we will look at the image and common uses of science among the general public.
Instructor: Matthew Zari, Chemistry

IS 101:33 FAITH AND THE QUESTIONING MIND
Does faith have to be blind? Can you believe and still have faith? What is the relationship between faith and reason? Is there one right way to believe? We will explore these questions, the intersection of religion and science, and other issues.
Instructor: Judith Jones

IS 101:34 THE END OF THE WORLD
The end of the world has fascinated humans for thousands of years. People write books about it, pastors preach sermons, and people form communities preparing for the end of time. The Bible and other religious texts have generated much of the interest, but secular society also has a fascination with the End. Novels, films, and video games present the so-called secular Apocalypse featuring plagues, ecosystem collapse, solar flares, asteroid collisions, alien or zombie invasions, nuclear accidents, and WMDs. This course will focus on the social history of end-time interest in literature, film, and music.
Instructor: Brian Jones

IS 101:35 LIES MY TEACHER TOLD ME
How do you know what you know? An authority told you what he or she learned from another teacher. But what if they were wrong? What if the reason you were so bored in American history was because the teacher did not have the same background as you? History is sanitized, processed, and repackaged to resemble reality. Investigate the myths about Columbus’ flat world, the enslavement and genocide of the Americas. The students rarely learn about events that happened in their teachers’ lifetimes. The course will focus on what was taught in high school American history, why much of that is bogus, how to know the difference, and why you should care.
Instructor: Walter C. Bouzard

IS 101:36 IDENTITY ON STAGE
Becoming independent, exploring new ways to communicate, and finding purpose. College is a time for developing your identity. We will examine how characters in plays deal with questions and choices that influence who they are and compare their experiences with our own.
Instructor: Vicki Edkhah

IS 101:37 WHAT'S IN YOUR WALLET? MEDIA ADVERTISING MESSAGING
In a world where you may be exposed to as many as 5,000 advertise- ments. We will think critically about advertising and our roles as consumers. We will explore how advertising approaches have shifted throughout time and examine how advertising, specifically, and media more generally, position us as consumers. We will also consider the ideological function of advertising.
Instructor: Cliff Brockman

IS 101:38 LEADING ON PURPOSE
Leadership is a choice. We cannot lead until we know our own purpose. This course is an opportunity to explore your transition from high school to college as a student leader. In this class, students will embrace their story to uncover and develop their own strengths, values, and resiliency. Reflect on where you’ve been and where you’re going as you start your adventure at a Wartburg Knight.
Instructor: Fred Waldstein

SCHOLARS PROGRAM
An invitation to apply for the Scholars Program has been extended to students in the top 10 percent of their graduating class, with an ACT score of 26 or higher, or who earned a high school GPA of 3.5 or higher. If a student applies and is accepted into the Scholar Program, SCH 101 substitutes for the IS 101 requirement in the Wartburg Plan of Essential Education. The two scholars sections will be linked in living-learning communities. Students will be housed together in the residence halls and participate in joint learning activities.

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