

CO-CURRICULARS

SPRING SEMESTER 2026

Registration for Co-curricular Offerings will begin at 12P on Thursday, January 22nd and continue through the end of the Add period (February 3rd). Registration for these offerings takes place after course registration and the first day of classes. The intent is to make sure students have a sense of their academic commitments before taking on more activities with co-curriculars. You can register during the add period via the portal. Use the course number and section listed with the title.

Co-Curricular Etiquette: (1) in order to give all students a reasonable chance to register for co-curriculars, please limit your choices to no more than two, (2) don't register unless you are serious about attending, and (3) if you decide to drop out, notify the staff or faculty sponsor and the Registrar's Office by e-mail.

Co-Curricular Number	Co-Curricular Title	Staff/Faculty Sponsor(s)
CC1712	Olin Garden Spring Seed Starting & Planting	Dan Sambor Linda Canavan Sam Eldridge
CC1915	The History & Practice of Queer Line Dancing	Annick Dewald
CC1318	Experimenting with Generative AI	Elisabeth Sylvan
CC1019	Pane-Staking Projects	Dyllan Nguyen
CC1319	ECE & ME Technical Interview Preparation	Chris Lee Brad Minch
CC1020	Puzzle Hunting	John Bell
CC1320	How It's Made IRL	Coby Unger
CC1906	Relaxing with Singing Bowls	Jean Huang
CC1701	Sustainable Beekeeping	Ben Linder
CC1013	Knit & Crochet	Corinna Kraemer
CC1510	We Are On Native Land	Chhavi Goenka

CC1712**Olin Garden Spring Seed Starting & Planting**

Faculty/Staff Sponsor(s): Dam Sambor, Linda Canavan and Chef Sam Eldridge

Enrollment Limited to 15 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Dan

Do you want to get your hands dirty and unwind with some gardening? Join us to start seeds, plant fruits and vegetables, and build the soil at the Olin Garden. We will begin by planning which types and varieties to grow and then starting seeds indoors in late winter for transplanting in the spring. For example, tomatoes are started in early March and transplanted after the last frost in May. Cold-tolerant varieties like radishes and salad greens can be directly sown into the soil as soon as it can be worked in April, and harvested relatively quickly. Other crops like squash and beans can be started indoors in early spring or sown in late spring. We'll continue to work the soil by adding compost. We will begin the co-curricular during the second half of February beginning with planning what to grow.

CC1510**We are on Native Land**

Faculty Sponsor: Chhavi Goenka

Enrollment Limited to 10 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Chhavi.

Most of us are settlers here on land that has been stewarded by Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island. It is our responsibility to live in good relations with the land, with the peoples who have stewarded it and continue to do so and the non-human beings who share this land with us. But what does it mean to be in good relation? What does it mean to be in solidarity with and an ally to the Indigenous peoples? Where do we begin? One of the first steps could be to learn from them – their histories, their presents and their futures as told by them. In this co-curricular, we will read texts by Indigenous authors, listen to podcasts created by Indigenous peoples and think through what we have learned together. The regular meetings for this co-curricular will be 1 hour every other week, and if there is time and interest during the semester, we will plan to visit a Tribe-managed museum as well (might be a day trip on a weekend). This semester we will also visit the North American Indian Center of Boston (NAICOB) and attend their events when possible. This semester one of the main foci of our learning will be Indigenous technology.

CC1701**Sustainable Beekeeping**

Faculty Sponsors: Ben Linder

Enrollment Limited to 18 students, with a 5-student waitlist; interested staff/faculty should speak to Ben.

Learn sustainable beekeeping practices while working in the Olin apiary and running Parcel Bees, the Olin honey CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) through which Olin alums buy shares in the annual harvest. Participants learn to handle honey bees, make observations of bee behavior, practice natural hive management techniques, harvest honey, and make lip balm. Full participants receive a share of honey over a year. Open to students, alums, staff, and faculty. We will meet on Mondays from 4:00 to 5:00 PM. This time is flexible to accommodate individual schedules, so you can come late or leave early if necessary.

CC1915

The History & Practice of Queer Line Dancing

Faculty Sponsor: Annick Dewald

Enrollment Unlimited; interested staff/faculty should speak to Annick.

Line dancing is built from short, ordered sequences of stomping, grape vining, and other simple moves that repeat throughout a song. For those of us with math- and science-oriented brains, the structure, patterns, and repetition are often surprisingly easy and satisfying to pick up. We'll learn line dances spanning old-school and modern country, pop, Latin, and hip hop, set to music from artists ranging from Nickelback to Beyoncé to Céline Dion. Each week we will learn a couple new dances, beginning with simple follow-along dances like the electric slide and the cupid shuffle, slowly increasing the complexity as we build confidence in the movements. We will meet weekly for an hour (time TBD), and the class will be in the quintessential do-learn style known and loved here at Olin.

But what makes it queer? This tradition grew out of LGBTQ+ communities who carved out space in country bars and dance halls when few welcoming spaces existed. Dance floors served a critical role during the AIDS crisis, allowing for connection when physical touch between queer folks was taboo. We will explore videos, articles, and historical accounts that explain the rich history of this queer line dancing scene exploding in LA and NYC. Here in Boston, we have our own vibrant queer country dancing community with a rich history, including Gays for Patsy and 617 Country. I hope to welcome local organizers to campus to share dances and history, with an optional off-campus outing to a local dance event.

Open to all, regardless of identity or prior dancing experience. I am not a dancer, so please don't be intimidated!

CC1318

Experimenting with Generative AI

Faculty Sponsor: Elisabeth Sylven

Enrollment Limited to 20 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Elisabeth.

Generative AI is rapidly changing and many of us are using it for personal, school, and work purposes. In this community of interest, we will meet weekly to work on projects together and talk about what we are doing and learning. Every session will include some project ideas for participants to try, some of which will build over multiple weeks. People can also work on their own projects, whether those are already in progress or created during the co-curricular. We will use our sessions to get feedback and support from one another. We will talk about AI-related current events such as changes to tools, applications of the tools, social and environmental concerns, and governance. Experience with generative AI is not required but an interest in rolling your sleeves up is. Students, staff, and faculty are welcome. If you aren't sure whether this is for you, feel free to come to the first session to find out.

CC1906

Relaxing with Singing Bowls

Faculty Sponsor: Jean Huang

Enrollment Limited to 15 students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Jean.

The sounds and tones of singing bowls are associated with relaxation and meditative healing. For this co-curricular we will set aside some time to play, listen to, and relax together with singing bowls. In developing a sound bath, we can collectively practice finding entry points for peace and rest. All are welcome, and no experience with singing bowls is necessary.

CC1019

Pane-Staking Projects

Staff Sponsor: Dyllan Nguyen

Enrollment Limited to 12 students, interested staff/faculty should speak to Dyllan.

Have you ever thought to yourself: I'd love to make things that are prone to shattering but that also interact with light in really wonderful ways?

Did you get to (or want to) participate in the Fall Gathering glass workshop (sorry to everyone still waiting on their pieces, it was significantly more popular than we anticipated) and find yourself thinking about all the ways you could compose colors and shapes while avoiding splinters and sharp edges?

Join us in Pane-Staking Projects* this semester to make some small but magical projects in glass. We'll meet for demos and worktime on Xday from Ytime to Ztime (2 hour block, actual day and time to be finalized by 1/21/2026) and participants are welcome to work on projects outside of this time. Examples of skills you can expect to learn : making plate glass smaller, methods for joining small pieces of plate glass together, bending stringers and ribbons. Reach out to Dyllan by slack/email or visit 112 with

questions.

* pun courtesy of ChatGPT, pain is not an expected outcome of this learning experience

CC1319

ECE & ME Technical Interview Preparation

Faculty Sponsor(s): Chris Lee and Brad Minch

Enrollment Limited to 24 graduating students; interested staff/faculty should speak to Chris.

Going through the job search process? Digging up and reviewing all your old course materials?

Wondering if you'll be ready for a technical interview? If you're looking for an ECE or ME related job, Brad and Chris can help you prepare for that interview. We'll identify and review foundational topics that we think you should know, then we'll grill you like a well-done steak. After practice sessions with us, the real thing will be a walk in the park.

CC1020

Puzzle Hunting

Faculty Sponsor: John Bell

Enrollment unlimited; interested staff/faculty should speak to John

Puzzle hunting is an activity in which someone strives to solve intellectual puzzles, in which the method of solving the puzzle is itself a mystery to be solved (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puzzle_hunt). These are usually done in teams. There will be a weekly puzzlehunt puzzle provided for free for anyone to solve at lunch in the dining hall.

In addition, there are puzzlehunt events held throughout the year, in which teams race to solve puzzlehunts. Funding for this co-curricular would be for the purpose of sponsoring student teams in signing up for puzzle hunt events.

CC1320

How It's Made IRL

Staff Sponsor: Coby Unger

Enrollment is limited to 15; interested staff/faculty should speak to Coby

Each week we tour a different manufacturing plant. Students get the opportunity to ask questions of industry professionals across a variety of fields. Facilities on the list for this coming semester range between medical device makers and thin film coating machines to modular homes and boats. Tours will be scheduled for Thursday mornings. Most weeks involve between half an hour and 90 min of travel time, and thus require an early morning start.

CC1013

Knit & Crochet

Staff Sponsor: Corinna Kraemer

Enrollment is limited to 15; interested staff/faculty should speak to Corinna

Join the Knit & Crochet Co-Curricular — a creative space to learn new skills, share projects, and unwind together. We meet once per week for one hour in the library workroom. All experience levels are welcome, from absolute beginners to seasoned crafters. Bring your own project or start something new with guidance from peers. Come for the yarn, stay for the community!

