

**STUDENT FELLOWS
AT THE CENTER FOR THE HUMANITIES
FALL 2002**

The Center for the Humanities invites applications from students in their junior year interested in participating as Student Fellows in the Fall 2001 Faculty Seminar directed by Vyacheslav Ivanov, Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Humanities. Up to five students will be selected as Fellows to join a working group of faculty and the visiting professor who will meet weekly to discuss selected readings on the seminar theme "Semiotic Approaches to the Total Work of Art." The seminar will meet Tuesdays from 4:15-6:00 p.m. Student Fellows will also be invited to a weekly lunch of seminar participants.

Seminar Theme: Semiotic Approaches to the Total Work of Art

The idea behind synthetic art—the *Gesamtkunstwerk*, art that combines a variety of media into a unified whole—is not new, despite the current popularity of multimedia events, exhibits, and publications. In fact, a synthetic approach to art was characteristic of the first half of the twentieth century and of artists including Skriabin, Eisenstein, Man Ray, Meyerhold, and Fellini. Even intellectuals and scholars outside the arts were influenced by this new approach: Lévi-Strauss, Victor Turner, and Olga Freidenberg adapted a synthetic approach to their own revolutionary works on anthropology, theater, and literature. In this seminar we will trace the total art movement from its pre-history (which can be seen in the works of Baudelaire, Nietzsche, Rimbaud, and Wagner) to the present day. Particular attention will be paid to the first decades of the twentieth century and the influence this period had on later music, theater, cinema, literature, and visual arts.

Eligibility:

Students interested in becoming Student Fellows at the Center for the Humanities can have majors in any department. All applicants must have an overall GPA of 3.5 or higher and must be able to attend the weekly meetings. Students will not receive credit for their participation and no formal writing assignments will be required. Students will be encouraged to think about how their work during the semester might be developed into a MAP during the Spring semester.

Application Procedure:

To apply to be a Student Fellow at the Center for the Humanities, interested junior students should submit the following:

- A statement of their interest in the topic of the Seminar (no more than 750 words)
 - A transcript of their coursework at Grinnell
 - Names of two faculty references
-

Deadline for Applications:

Applications must be turned in by Friday, April 5, 2002 at 5 PM to Helyn Wohlwend, Steiner 209. Selected students will be notified before pre-registration.

Review Committee:

The Center for the Humanities Advisory Board will review the applications.