Dear Future FIG Student,

Welcome to the University of Oregon!

Hi guys, my name is Caroline and I am your FA for the FIG “Intersections of Expression”, which combines Comparative Literature 101 (with Professor Leah Middlebrook) and Art History 204 (with Professor Jeffrey Hurwit). The FIG is a wonderful combination because the two classes connect so well. There is a lot of art in comparative literature and a lot of literary influence in art.

I am a senior journalism major from Bellingham Washington. I love being with my friends, Oregon sports, summer, parks, the ocean, farmers markets, driving with the music really loud, playing intramural sports, taking pictures, and traveling! I really enjoyed Comparative Literature my freshman year, and I loved Art History my sophomore year!

Our College Connections professor is Leah Middlebrook. She is also your professor for Comparative Literature, so our FIG provides an excellent opportunity to get to know a faculty member in a smaller setting. We are excited to introduce you to the great world of the intersections of expression and culture. As a FIG, we will take a field trip or two and maybe get together for some pizza dinners, trips to the local dollar-fifty movie theatre or check out the downtown “First Friday” art walk. Professor Middlebrook is also very excited about the upcoming visit of the visual and language artist Lesley Dill. Dill will be on campus during Week 1 of classes, and will be visiting COLT 101 to give a guest lecture. We’ll be sure to check out her exhibit in the campus art museum, since her work provides some intriguing examples of “intersections of expression”!

But the big event of the year is an overnight trip to Ashland, Oregon and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. As a class, we will be attending a matinee of Romeo and Juliet and attending a few special events—including a meeting and workshop with some actors. This should really help with the readings in Comparative Literature 101. In addition, we’ll get a chance to enjoy Ashland, which is a great town. We will stay in a hostel, share a few meals and then be back before the weekend is done. So save the date for October 20 and 21 because you are all highly encouraged to go. If you cannot make it you will be missing out on not only great FIG bonding, but also a unique academic experience.

In preparation for fall term, we would like you to research the works of artist Lesley Dill this summer. Go online to the link below and begin to think about language as it is used in art: http://www.lesleydill.net/pressCrosscut.html You can also find all kinds of sites for her on YouTube and through various museum websites. See if you can read a review or two of “Poetic Visions”; get well acquainted with the material.

We would like for you to have looked into her work and be prepared to discuss it in the fall.

One thing we would like you to bring with you to each meeting is your Student Handbook, as we will be referring to it and doing some small projects with it throughout the fall. The Handbook will
be really helpful for getting acquainted to the University, explaining requirements and showing you where all your classes are.

We will meet up during Week of Welcome on **Friday, September 21st, 2012 in Columbia 150 at 10 a.m.** to start to get to know each other and get more information about the first week. Then save the date for University Convocation, **Sunday, September 25th, 2012**. We will be heading over as a group to hear the University President, the ASUO president and more esteemed faculty ring in the new school year.

Please e-mail me with your contact information and any questions you have. We can’t wait to meet all of you and have a great start to fall term!

See you soon,

Caroline Martin

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Artist Lesley Dill: [http://www.lesleydill.net/](http://www.lesleydill.net/)