

Mellon Humanities Pathways Faculty Seminar AY 2021-2022 Syllabus
On Finding Meaning and Purpose in Work through the Humanities
Susan Elizabeth Gagliardi and Salmon Shomade, co-organizers

Thursday, 23 September

Hari, Johann. 2018. *Lost Connections: Why You're Depressed and How to Find Hope*. New York: Bloomsbury.

Deresiewicz, William. 2014. *Excellent Sheep: The Miseducation of the American Elite and the Way to a Meaningful Life*. New York: Free Press.

- Deresiewicz, William. "[Don't Send Your Kid to the Ivy League](#)." *The New Republic*, 21 July 2014.
- Davis, Lauren Cassani. "[The Ivy League, Mental Illness, and the Meaning of Life](#)." *The Atlantic*, 19 August 2014.

Thursday, 21 October

Jenkins, Barry (dir.). 2016. *Moonlight*.

Kantayaa, Shalini (dir.) 2020. *Coded Bias*.

Thursday, 18 November

Seneca (4 BCE-65 CE). 2014. "On the Shortness of Life," translated by Gareth D. Williams. In *Seneca: Hardship and Happiness*, 107-142. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Russell, Bertrand. 1932. "[In Praise of Idleness](#)." *Harper's Magazine* (October).

Dubner, Stephen. 2021. Episode 460: "[The True Story of the Minimum-Wage Fight](#)." *Freakonomics Radio: The Hidden Side of Everything*, 28 April.

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Thursday, 3 February

Graeber, David. 2018. *Bullshit Jobs: A Theory*. New York: Simon & Schuster.

Parreñas, Rhacel Salazar. 2015. *Servants of Globalization: Migration and Domestic Work*. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Thursday, 18 March

TikTok Songs. 2021. "[Wellerman TikTok Song Compilation – Soon May the Wellerman Come TikTok](#)," 14 January.

- McKean, Thomas A. 2021. "[When Old Sea Shanties Go Viral We Know that Tradition Matters](#)." *The Conversation*, 5 February.
- Floyd, Jessica. 2021. "[TikTok's Sea Chanteys – How Life Under the Pandemic Has Mirrored Months at Sea](#)." *The Conversation*, 26 January.
- Stevens, Kate. 2021. "[The Viral 'Wellerman' Sea Shanty is also a Window into the Remarkable Cross-Cultural Whaling History of Aotearoa New Zealand](#)." *The Conversation*, 21 January.
- York, Adrian. 2021. "[ShantyTok: Is the Sugar and Rum Line in Wellerman a Reference to Slavery?](#)" *The Conversation*, 21 January.

Thursday, 14 April

Bognar, Steven, and Julia Reichert (dirs..) 2019. *American Factory*.

Anders, George. 2017. *You Can Do Anything: The Surprising Power of a "Useless" Liberal Arts Education*. New York: Little, Brown and Company.