

SPACES AND PLACES

This semester's Honors Lecture Series invites students and faculty to journey through the layered meanings of space and place—from the intimate terrain of the mind to the expansive realms of public, historical, and imagined environments. Featuring thought-provoking talks by scholars across disciplines—literature, climatology, design,

history, and more—the series explores how space shapes identity, memory, justice, and belonging. Highlights include reflections on the U.S. Constitution's relevance in everyday life, the role of women in politics, and the role of public spaces in climate resilience. Join us as we reimagine the places we inhabit and the stories they hold.

**8/25 Course Introduction:
Considering Space(s) and Place(s)**

Philip E. Phillips, Honors/English

9/1 LABOR DAY—NO CLASSES

**9/8 Placing Yourself in the Space
Between Your Ears: Imagining
Literature's Transformative Power**

*William E. Engel,
Sewanee: The University of the South*

**9/15 Reading the U.S. Constitution,
Courtyard, University Honors College
(BTC ACTIVITY)**

***9/17 We the People: The Place of the
U.S. Constitution in Students'
Everyday Spaces**

*David Brooks, New York Times
(BTC ACTIVITY)*

**9/22 The Life of Cemetery School:
Light to Dark to Light Again**

*Vincent Windrow,
Cornucopia Consulting Group*

**9/29 Milieu Mindfulness in Design
Thinking**

Janis Brickey, Human Sciences

**10/6 Sacralizing Secular Spaces through
Ritual, Sound, and Imagination**

*Rebekka King, Philosophy and
Religious Studies*

10/13-10/14 FALL BREAK—NO CLASSES

**10/20 Turning Down the Pressure Cooker:
How Public Spaces Can Reduce
Inequitable Heat Exposure and
Increase Community Health and
Resilience**

Alisa Hass, Geosciences

**10/27 Space, Place, and How to See
Unseen Worlds**

Jeremy Aber, Geosciences

11/3 Who Speaks for Space?

Chuck Higgins, Physics and Astronomy

**11/10 Soil Stories: Feminist Composting
and Historical Memory in Australian
Fiction**

Laura White, English

**11/17 Woman's Place in Public Space:
Tennessee Women Claiming the
Public Sphere**

Mary Evins, History

**11/24 National and International
Fellowships for MTSU Students**

Laura Clippard, Honors

12/1 Honors Student Presentations

