

Valente Seminar FAQs

How does the seminar work?

All seminar participants – about 16 students and 5 faculty members – meet once a week for a double block to discuss challenging and important books. Everyone will be reading and learning the books together, and all participants take equal responsibility for the discussion. Small groups of students will initiate the discussion a couple of times during the semester by coming up with some opening questions on the reading, but—by design—no one will be teaching the course. The goal of the seminar is for all participants, students and faculty alike, to learn from the readings and from each other.

There are no exams, but each participant will be expected to write a short paper during the term and a major paper on some aspect of the course subject at its conclusion.

What qualifications are required to participate?

- Any Bentley student with a GPA of 3.0 or above can apply.

What requirements does the course satisfy?

- Though it is not an honors course, it can count for Honors credit; it **cannot count** as an Honors capstone course.
- In some cases the seminar may count toward an LSM with the approval of the LSM Program Director.
- With the permission of the appropriate advisor(s), the final seminar paper can serve as a “first draft” of LSM culminating experience.
- The seminar satisfies no major requirements.

What are course requirements?

- This counts as a three credit course. To receive credit for the seminar students must:
 1. Attend and participate in all seminar meetings.
 2. Twice during the semester be prepared to participate as part of a team to lead the day’s discussionComplete a short midterm and final research essay

Are there any extra benefits?

The seminar meets Tuesdays from 11:00 to 2:00 and the Valente Center provides lunch for all seminar participants. There may be also occasional off campus events including dinners, and a variety of cultural events. In previous years Valente fellows have gone to museums, theatrical performances, and the Boston Ballet.

How do I apply and when will I be notified?

To apply send a brief statement—between 500 to 750 words—explaining why you want to participate, as well as a copy of your DAS, to Prof. Christian Rubio [crubio@bentley.edu]. Accepted students will be notified by November 10th. Seniors will be notified sooner so that they can plan their spring registration accordingly.