Pacific Seminar I is a shared intellectual experience with a uniform syllabus and common course reader that introduces students to the question “What is a Good Society?” The discussion-oriented course is designed to expose students to the rigor of university study by reading, discussing, and writing about the ideas and arguments of historical and contemporary writers who address the following aspects of a good society: education, family and civil society, politics, law and government, and human relationship to the natural world.

Thus, this course represents an introduction to general education in the best sense of the term: education for self-examining and self-governing citizens.