**Teacher Leadership Shiłgozhóó Institute**

**2022 Seminar Descriptions**

Moral Courage

Julie Piering, PhD

Professor, Philosophy

Is knowing that something is the right thing to do enough to ensure that we will do it? Or, is something else necessary to move us from knowledge to action? How do external pressures *not* to do what is right affect our ability to do what we know we ought to? This seminar will raise such questions and ask us to propose possible answers by focusing on the concept of moral courage. ‘Moral courage’ is an ethical term used to describe the fortitude it takes for people to act ethically when doing so is dangerous or difficult. Historically, humans have had a grim record when it comes to doing what they know is right if they are confronted with peril, duress, authority, or even the pressure of time constraints. We will ask what moral courage is, how it arises, and whether we think it can be cultivated. Is being morally courageous distinct from being a moral hero? Where in literature and history can we find evidence of moral courage and its counterpart, moral cowardice? Is there any way to help establish this virtue in ourselves, our students, and our communities?

Stewardship of Trees and Forests for Environmental and Human Health

James Allen, PhD

Professor, Forestry

Trees and forests play vital roles in virtually all human societies. This seminar will begin with an introduction to the forests in the Southwest and the ways they are important to people, with an emphasis on the forest types found on the San Carlos Apache Nation. We will also explore the various roles of trees outside of the forest, especially trees that produce food or medicine, as well as trees that are planted around homes and public buildings for other purposes. We will then explore a variety of ways that we can tend forests or individual trees. The specific topics we’ll cover will depend on the interests of the Teacher Fellows, but may include restoring forested watersheds and riparian areas, Traditional Ecological Knowledge, stewardship of forested landscapes based on the concepts of First Foods and food sovereignty, and incorporating trees into crop production and livestock management. Finally, we will explore ways that students of various ages can gain hands-on experience with trees and forests, such as by learning some basic forestry skills and establishing small orchards or “food forests” on school grounds.