The Great Problems Seminar (GPS) is a two-term course that immerses first-year students into university-level research and introduces them to the project-based curriculum at WPI. As part of The Global School at WPI, the course gives students and faculty the opportunity to step outside their disciplines to solve problems focused on themes of global importance. This culminates in annual Poster Presentation Days that celebrate students’ innovative research on a wide range of solutions to some of the world’s most critical challenges. Alumni report significant gains from their GPS experience, citing the strong preparation for all stages of WPI’s project- and team-based curriculum, as well as positive impacts on their job readiness.

GPS students report:
- Increased self-confidence
- Ease building community
- Enhanced preparation for internships, research experiences and careers
- More likelihood of leadership roles at WPI
- Life-enrichment equivalent to college friendships
- Meaningful relationships with faculty

Secure a spot now in this valuable 1st year project-based learning opportunity! This year, we are offering:

- Heal the World (AB)
- Seeking Sustainability (AB)
- Recover, Reuse, Recycle (AB)
- Climate Change (AB)
- Shelter the World (AB)
- Our Unequal World (AB)
- Extinctions (AB)
- Smart and Sustainable Cities (AB)
- Humanitarian Engineering (BC)
- Power the World (BC)
- AI, Design, and Society (BC)

Questions? Talk to your academic advisor or reach out to Professor Sarah Stanlick, Director of the GPS, at sstanlick@wpi.edu