

Spring Semester 2012
Special Topics Course Descriptions

ART 398 – Art of Revolution

The course explores the relationship between the twentieth-century political revolutions and the arts. The course focuses on lesser covered artistic responses to the revolutions of the twentieth century in Russia, China, and Iran. Prerequisite(s): ENG 112. *Ter-Stepanian*.

ECO 398 – Law and Economics

This course applies economic theory and tools to the problem of evaluating the consequences, efficiency and institutional settings of legal rules. Prerequisite(s): ECO 100 and 101 or instructor permission. *Savage*.

ENG 298 – Folk and Singer-Songwriter Traditions

Working within the closely related genres of folk, folk-rock, and the singer-songwriter movement, this course will investigate the song as a musical and literary art form. Course content will include a study of the poetic elements of lyrics, song structure, musical elements, and how songwriters use these tools for artistic effect. The course will also consider influential artists, their inspirations and work, and the historical and social contexts that led to these musical movements. Prerequisite(s): ENG 217. *McClain*.

HIS 298 – American Revolution

This course explores one of the most dramatic, truly formative eras in all of American history. The emphasis throughout is on the origins, events and consequences of the American struggle for national independence and republican government. We will be examining the issues of freedom, loyalty, and equality that the thirteen colonies struggled with as they attempted to become a nation. We will explore the lives of men and women: rich and poor, slave and free, Indian and settler, northern and southern, Loyalist and Patriot, soldier and pacifist, within this struggle. And we will attempt to offer interpretations to major questions of the Revolution: Why did the colonies revolt, when they were becoming more British? Why did the very different thirteen colonies unite? What is the legacy of that Revolution? The Revolution did not follow a straight line from colonies to independent democratic nation and the pits and falls, the decisions and their consequences, conflicts and compromises, accomplishments and failures of this era have profound impacts on American society today. Prerequisite(s): HIS 110. *McDaniel*.

HIS 298 – Great American Trials of the 20th century

Historical examination of high-profile American trials that reflected and transformed 20th century America: Sacco & Vanzetti, Scopes, O. J. Simpson, and others. Students will consider conceptions of justice, the roles of legal actors and the media, and the significance of the court of public opinion. Prerequisite(s): NONE. *DeBrincat*.

HIS 398 – The American Presidency

This course analyzes the development of the roles, jurisdictions, and powers of the American Presidency from the first George W to the recent George W. The influence of personalities will be noted, along with institutional growth. Both domestic and foreign policy issues will be studied. Students consider the original intentions of the framers of the Constitution, the significant events and the leadership decisions of various presidents, all in their historical context. The sweep of time through 223 years of U.S. history permits appreciation, if not always approval, of the changes that have created the contemporary presidency. Prerequisite(s): 9 credits of HIS. *Judd*.

HON 298 – Mathematics and the Environment

Fundamentals of quantitative reasoning and their application to environmental issues; major topics include descriptive statistics, numeracy, modeling and regression with linear, exponential, and power functions. Prerequisite(s): Honors College student and (MAT 100 or MAT 102 or a Math Placement score which includes MAT 122). Special Conditions: Graphing Calculator required. *Tait and Mugno*.

IDS 298 – PacE Scholar's Seminar

Weekly seminar in science and math for recipients of the Pathways to Academic Excellence (PACe) scholarship. Prerequisite(s): None. Special Conditions: For PACe scholarship recipients only. *Fields*.

JRN 398 – Courts & Crime

Introduction to the knowledge and techniques for covering state and federal courts. Prerequisite(s): JRN 201 or Department permission. *Griffin*.

MAT 298 – Topics in Statistics

A second course in statistics, focusing on categorical data analysis and design of experiments. The course is meant to be a continuation of a statistical class, which covered statistical inference. The class will focus on applying statistical procedures to analyze categorical data and design of experiments. A software package is required. Prerequisite(s): MAT 107 or MAT 221 or MAT 320. *Mugno*.

MDS 298 – Contemporary Media Debates

This course will explore contemporary media debates that affect media consumers, media educators, media producers, media organizations and media policy makers. Please note that this is not an oral or written debate course. Prerequisite(s): None. *Burke*.

MDS 298 – Social Media: Public Life/Private Life

A critical examination of social media's digital transformation of public and private life. Students will examine public/private life in terms of history, social functions, fluidity and redefinition in today's social networking environment. Prerequisite(s): None. *Conforti*.

MDS 398 – Daily Resistance: Television and Political Satire

This course critically explores contemporary television satire of national politics and its reflection and/or reinforcement of cultural cynicism. Through irony and satire, *The Daily Show*, *The Colbert Report*, and *SNL* offer audiences resistance to the mainstream political "spin" saturating television during political election seasons. Drawing upon the empirical and theoretical work of key thinkers in media criticism, this course explores how the satire geared toward a generation already versed in irony influences political thought. From Stewart's "fake" news to Colbert's Super PAC, "Citizens for a Better Tomorrow, Tomorrow" students will explore the possibilities of ironic texts opening up new systems of meanings and political identification for audiences. Prerequisite(s): ENG 112. *Dellinger-Pate*.

MGT 498 – Green Management

How to manage a business to reduce its environmental footprint. The course will cover the current status of environmental problems, government regulation, ecological economic theory, the principles of process and product design for the environment, and competitive environmental business strategies. The course will emphasize applying theory to case studies and will include tools and techniques for assessing/reducing environmental footprints. Prerequisite(s): None. *Robbins*.

NUR 498 – Advanced Special Topics in Health Care: Palliative and End-of-Life Care Colloquium

Students will develop knowledge in the specialized field of palliative and end-of-life nursing care for patients across the lifespan and their families. Physical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs of patients and their families will be explored, using the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) modules as a conceptual framework. Prerequisite(s): Senior nursing students only. *Denhup*.

PHI 398 – Virtue Ethics & its Challenges

This course introduces students to virtue ethics which had been neglected in modern moral philosophy and has made a come-back in recent 30 years. We will discuss issues concerning the nature of virtues, the relation between moral virtues and intellectual virtues, virtue and action, and moral education. In discussing these issues two ancient virtue ethics traditions: the Aristotelian and Confucian virtue ethics will be introduced. We will also discuss some challenges to virtue ethics. Prerequisite(s): one course in Philosophy. *Yang*.

PSC 398 – Alexander Hamilton

Examination of Alexander Hamilton's thought, policy prescriptions, and their relevance to America Government today. Prerequisite(s): None. *O'Hara*.

SOC 298 – Medical Sociology

This course focuses on the connection between health and illness from a sociological point of view. After taking this course students will be able to: identify issues of health and illness during the life-course influenced by individual action and cultural norms; explain the influence of sociological factors such as gender, race/ethnicity and socioeconomic status on health and illness outcomes in the larger population; explain challenges to the American health care system selected countries, and describe the influence of modern technologies for health and illness outcomes as well as ethical problems. Prerequisite(s): None. *Eich-Krohm*.

THR 298 – Beginning Modern Dance

This course will establish an artistic foundation in the art of Modern Dance. The student will develop both physically and mentally gaining skills in phrasing and musicality. An appreciation for the specialized art form will be gained by exploring the styles of Graham, Limon, Cunningham and others that will enable the student to progress as a movement artist and scholar. Prerequisite(s): None. *Nye*.

THR 498 – The Art of Improvisation

The Art of Improvisation is a specialized technique of acting/presentation in which no formal script is used. The students will explore improvisational styles that have endured from the ancient Romans (Attellan Farce) through Commedia dell'Arte to contemporary sketch comedy. Students will be encouraged to apply these skills in the development of three dimensional characters for the stage. In addition, each student will have the opportunity to explore their own creativity and develop communication skills in a non-threatening environment. The class will present an informal studio production as a final. Prerequisite (s): None. *Lenzi-Magoveny*.

WMS 298 – Asian American Women's Experience

This course will provide an overview of the historical experience of Asian women in the United States from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. The impact of historical, social, economic and cultural forces on the experience of Asian American women will be examined. Distinctive contributions made by Asian American women to the historical development and contemporary life of American society will be documented. Prerequisite(s): None. *Yun*.

WMS 298 – The Non-Western World: Women, Culture, Displacement

In this course, we read, analyze, and critique works & voices, critical and creative, from the Americas (including the Caribbean), Asia, the Pacific, and Africa. The course offers us an opportunity to explore the relationships between women, Culture, and displacement. Prerequisite(s): None. *Lin.*

