



## **Honors Courses Spring 2009**

### **FIRST YEAR HONORS RHETORIC**

#### **ENGL 2306 The Ethical, the Catastrophic, and Human Responsibility**

This course confronts profound ethical questions through considerations of history, literature, psychology, philosophy, and sociology. Beginning with a story by Flannery O'Connor that poses questions about ethical conduct, students explore texts and events that challenge the foundations of philosophical and religious ethical systems. The course also addresses contemporary ethical questions regarding individual freedom and responsibility and the meanings of "community."

#### **MWF**

001H	9-9:50 am	Stone (VS 203)
002H	10-10:50 am	Stone (VS 203)
003H	11-11:50 am	Hopper (Dallas 138)
004H	12-12:50 pm	Hopper (Dallas 137)
005H	1-1:50 pm	Hopper (Dallas 120)

#### **TuTh**

006H	9:30-10:50 am	Goyne (VS 203) and Grumbles (VS 303)
007H	11-12:20 pm	Goyne (VS 203), Grumbles (VS 303) and Hodge (Dallas 152)
008H	12:30-1:50 pm	Howard (VS 203) and Shattles (VS 303)
009H	2-3:20 pm	Goyne (Dallas 105)

### **LITERATURE**

#### **ENGL 2314-001H Doing Things with Poems TuTh 11-12:20**

Prof. Willard Spiegelman, Dallas 351

Introduction to the study of poems, poets, and how poetry works, focusing on a wide range of English and American writers. Some attention to matters of literary history. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program. Satisfies Poetry requirement for English Major.

#### **ENGL 1365 Literature of Minorities TuTh 2-3:20**

Prof. Bruce Levy, Dallas 115

Introduction Representative works of African American, Hispanic American, Gay, Asian American and Native American Literature, both in their immediate cultural context and against the background of the larger American culture.

#### **FL 3350.001H Existentialism & Literature TuTh 12:30-1:50**

Prof. William Beauchamp, Clements 134

Existentialism is one of the most influential philosophical stances of western culture in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Focusing on the "human condition"—that is, real peoples' lives and their everyday here and now—its recurrent themes include:

==ethical responsibility for one's choices and actions, both individual and social.



**ARHS 3379-001H Power & Spectacle: Arts of Spain and New Spain**

Amy Bueno, OFAC B600

**T/Th 9:30-10:50**

Examines the visual arts or early modern Spain and Colonial Mexico. Emphasis on the interplay and creative synthesis of European and New World visual cultures within the colonial sphere.

**Hist 1321-002 First Year Seminar-**

Sherry Smith, 106 Dallas Hall

**Th 2-4:50 pm**

Renaissance through Modern This course will introduce students to the study of Native Americans in the United States and to the discipline of history. We will use Indian biography and autobiography as vehicles to explore this distinctive angle of vision on American History. Topics range from the early English efforts to establish a colony in Virginia to the creation of the American Indian Movement (AIM) and the emergence of pan-Indian activism in the 1960's. Readings and class discussions will range across the centuries and the various regions of the nation, from the South to the Midwest, from the Great Plains to the Southwest. By rooting the study of Indian-European/American relations in the perspectives of actual Indian people, the class will humanize the subject. It will also give students practice in "doing history" through a class project dealing with Indian boarding school newspapers and yearbooks, available in DeGolyer Library. Readings include: 1) Camilla Townsend, Pocahontas; 2) a biography of Tecumseh; 3) Mountain Wolf Woman; Francis LaFlesche, The Middle Five; 5) Black Elk Speaks; 6) AIM founder Dennis Banks' autobiography; 7) and a biography of a 20<sup>th</sup> century Navajo woman and tribal council member. Limited to 15 First and Second Year Honors Students.

**We are at work adding one more History Perspective for students beyond the first year. Please contact Dr. Doyle for details.**

**RELIGIOUS/PHILOSOPHICAL THOUGHT****PHIL 1305.004H Introduction to Philosophy**

Brad Thompson: Hyer 111

**T/Th 12:30-1:50**

A general introduction to the central questions of philosophy. We will discuss topics from such areas as the theory of knowledge, philosophy of religion, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, ethics, and political philosophy. Typical questions might include: Can we know the world outside our minds? Is it rational to believe in a God who allows evil to exist? Do the laws of physics allow for human freedom? Is morality more than a matter of opinion? Can there be unequal wealth in a just society? Readings will include classical authors such as Plato, Descartes, Locke, Hume, and Mill, as well as contemporary philosophers. The focus of the course will be on arguments for and against proposed solutions to key problems of philosophy.

Enrollment Limit: 25

**PHIL 1318.007H Contemporary Moral Problems****MWF 2-2:50**

Soraya Gollop, Hyer Hall 104

An examination of current moral and legal issues. Topics may include abortion, euthanasia, animal rights, affirmative action, racism, sexism, drug legalization, censorship, and homosexuality. Enrollment Limit: 25

**PHIL 3302.001H Problems in Philosophy of Religion MWF 10-10:50am**

Clayton Littlejohn, Hyer Hall 107

The philosophy of religion, considering such problems as religious experience, human freedom, good and evil, belief in God, and immortality.

**RELI 1311-001H Judaism, Christianity, & the Bible****MWF 12-12:50 pm**

Richard Cogley, Dallas Hall 101

An exploration of the common and distinctive elements in Judaism and Christianity; a study of the historical relationships between Jews and Christians.

## **CULTURAL FORMATIONS**

**CFA 3313. 001H Europe in the Age of Renaissance TuTh 11-12:20**

Kathleen Wellman, Virginia-Snider Rm. 203

Sophomore standing is recommended. A history of culture in the Renaissance from the perspective of advances in scholarship and science and, above all, in appreciation of social and political contexts.

**CF 3363.001H Joan of Arc: History, Literature, & Film**

Bonnie Wheeler, Dallas Hall 156

**W 5:30-8:20**

No field is more interdisciplinary than the study of gender and sexuality. This course considers the life and later reception of the extraordinary peasant girl, Joan of Arc (ca. 1412 to 1431), who in two years changed the course of European history before she was burned at the stake. Fulfills Human Diversity co-requirement.

**CF 3311 Sex in America: An Introduction M/W 3-4:20 pm**

David Doyle, Virginia-Snider, Room 303

No field is more interdisciplinary than the study of gender and sexuality. As writers and scholars seek to understand how these two categories have changed over time, or remained constant, they routinely read in such fields as anthropology, feminist theory, literature and literary criticism, history, psychology, and sociology. To a greater or lesser extent all of these areas are considered in this course. Readings will cover theoretical materials, and books on American history that we will move through chronologically—from the colonial period to the present. Readings will include, Steven Seidman, *The Social Construction of Sexuality*; Will Roscoe, *Changing ones: Third and Fourth Genders in Native North America*; Clare A. Lyons, *Sex Among the Rabble: An Intimate History of Gender and Power in the age of Revolution*; Grace Metalious, *Peyton Place*; Norah Vincent, *Self Made Man: One Woman's Journey into Manhood and Back Again*.

Fulfills Human Diversity co-requirement

**CFA 3312 Making History: Representations of Ethical Choices**

Dr. Tom Stone, TBA

**MWF 12-12:50 pm**

Interdisciplinary course examining ethical issues associated with the writing of "historical fictions" and the production of historical exhibits. Students will complicate conventional distinctions between disciplines and genres by looking at how playwrights, novelists, filmmakers, and museum curators/directors shape their productions from the raw materials of historical data. They will explore the ways in which historical memory is created and represented, further developing and refining their own engagements with texts, films, and museums.

**CFA 3388.002H Warfare & Violence**

David Wilson, Heroy 426

**M 2-4:50 pm**

An examination of the origins and development of human aggression, violence and warfare using interdisciplinary data and theories from prehistory, ethnology, history and political science.

**CF 3405 Troubled Youth**

**TTh11-12:20am**

Bruce Levy, Dallas Hall 156

This course explores American adolescence from contemporary and historical perspectives, covering the period from the eighteenth century onward, and focusing on the period between the Civil War and the present. Limited to 20 Honors Students

Fulfills Human Diversity co-requirement

**CFB 3399.001H The Medieval Jewish-Christian Dialogue in Art & Text**

Dr. Pamela Patton, OFAC, 1635

**TTh11-12:20**

Examines the mutual perceptions, conflicts, and commonalities among medieval European Christians and Jews, as reflected in works of visual art and in philosophical, theological, legal, and literary texts.

**CFA 3316-001H The Immigrant Experience: New York City in Comparative Perspective**

Dr. Caroline Brettell, Hyer Hall 106

**MW 3:30-4:50**

An interdisciplinary focus on the issue of immigration in the United States. The course will explore the historical, ethical, social, cultural, and political dimensions of the immigrant experience, as well as America's attitudes toward the immigrant. Controversial issues such as bilingual education and illegal immigration will be examined. The majority of the readings will focus on the peopling of New York City as we follow the immigration story. These readings will include Nancy Foner, From Ellis Island to JFK: New York's Two Great Waves of Immigration; Hasia Diner, Lower East Side Memories; Johanna Lessinger, From the Ganges to the Hudson: Immigrants in New York City; Russell Leigh Sharman, The Tenants of East Harlem; Donna Gabaccia, We are What We Eat: Ethnic Food and the Making of Americans. Fulfills Human Diversity co-requirement. Limited to 15 Honors Students.

**This course includes a trip to New York City during Spring break funded by the University Honors Program and the Richter Foundation. Students will depart on 6 March and stay in New York through 11 March. We will tour Ellis Island, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, Chinatown, Harlem, the Museum of the City of New York, and visit with several immigration scholars based in New York.**