

Fall 2022 Experimental and Special Topics Course Descriptions

CSCI 394 01 - Portable Software

3 credit hours

The purpose of this course is to study issues in the practical development of portable software. Software portability is an important but often neglected aspect of the software engineering process. Computer applications and environments are proliferating, and user expectations continue to grow. Mobile applications are rapidly changing the landscape. Development resources will be much more effectively used if programs developed initially for one environment can be reused with limited effort in other environments.

MATH 294 01 - Intro to LaTeX

1 credit hour

This course will provide an introduction to LaTeX and the features it offers. We will start with an introduction to basic LaTeX documents and packages for writing homework, articles, lab reports, and other documents. Then move on to how to include graphics, tables, and figures into documents. At the end of the course we will learn how to use the Beamer package in LaTeX in order to make presentations.

PHIL 194 01 - Knowledge, Self, Reality

3 credit hours

This is a philosophy course taught on the introductory level, exploring philosophical ideas about knowledge, reality, what a self is, and what a self does. The philosophical materials include classic texts and ideas, as well as videos and short stories. The main topics of the course will be the following: The distinction of appearance and reality, the question of what we can know; the nature of religious experience, miracles, and the existence of God; the problems of evil and suffering; the meaning of self-realization and the paths to it; the pursuit of simplicity in life; the question of whether free will exists; the issue of making responsible choices in life; the issue of whether mind exists and what it is.

COMM 380-01 – Top: Media & Health

3 credit hours

This upper-level course is designed for undergraduate students to engage in meaningful dialogue surrounding media & health communication. Often, media representation drastically skews the perception and reality surrounding health. In this course, we will critically investigate the complex relationship between communication, health, and media. We will also explore intersections of gender, sexuality, class, ethnicity, race, and language within the media as they relate to health. Moreover, we will explore the role media and communication have within the context of health. Readings, discussions, and assignments are designed to stimulate critical thinking related to media and health within society.

ENGL 362-01 – Top: Horror Literature

3 credit hours

What is horror and why does it appeal to us? Why do we choose to read and watch stories meant to make us feel terror, revulsion, and discomfort? In this class, we will explore the horror genre, how it came to exist, the techniques modern horror writers use to terrify and disgust us, and the appeal the genre holds for expressing our deepest, darkest thoughts, feelings, and influences. We will read and watch works of modern horror and discuss them through various critical lenses, including feminist theory and CRT among others. Participants in the course will discuss various definitions for horror, explore the horror genre's influence on modern literature, and write critically about aspects of horror literature.

MUSC 332 01 – Top: Song Literature

3 credit hours

It teaches students how to choose repertoire for their instrument, create themed recitals, and improve general knowledge in the field. An examination of selections of art song from the classical vocal literature. This class is presentation based and will explore British, American, Russian, Czech, and Italian art song, French Chanson, German lied, and the song cycle.

THEA 350 -01/02 – Top: Female Playwrights

3 credit hours

This course allows students the opportunity to study and understand the works of 21st century female-identifying playwrights, with a special emphasis on inclusion of BIPOC voices. It requires students to examine their personal perspectives and consider the viewpoints of writers whose races, ethnicities, genders, cultures, and life experiences may be unfamiliar. Encountering the perspectives of others through art allows students to gain empathy and a broader understanding of the world.