

Spring 2023 PIO 201 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PIO 201 – 01 Journalism in Film – Instructor Linda Lockhart 3 credit hours

An in-depth examination of how journalists and journalism have been portrayed in film and what these images tell us about the public's perception of the journalist's role in liberal democratic societies. While watching and critically analyzing, using fundamental elements of formal film analysis, movies focused on journalism, students will seek answers to the question: how does the portrayal of American journalism and journalists in films shape our understanding of the role of "the press" in our democratic society, especially relating to particular climates/events in history? The course will include frequent in-class discussion and critical writing assignments.

PIO 201 – 03 The Nature of Expertise – Instructor Joe Sullivan 3 credit hours

In *The Nature of Expertise*, students will examine the meaning and significance of expertise. We will use a range of cases to wrestle with the following questions: How do we decide if one is an expert or generalist? What does it mean to be an expert in a given area? Why is having specialized knowledge important, particularly if experts are not always certain in their determinations? How does expertise in a particular area transfer to other areas? Can expertise make us less flexible, "outside the box" thinkers and problem-solvers, and if so, are there methods we can employ to help counter this? Course texts will include Ericsson and Pool, Peak, Johnson's *The Ghost Map*, and Thoreau's *Walden*.

PIO 201 – 04 Crime and Punishment – Instructor Mike Tager 3 credit hours

This course addresses two related big questions: what causes crime and how should we deal with it? We will look at different theories of crime associated with disciplines like law, political science, psychology, sociology, economics, etc., and how they might help explain several kinds of crime. Also of interest is how the U.S. went from incarcerating people at a similar rate to other developed democracies in the 1970s to today having the world's highest incarceration rate, and whether it might be appropriate or possible to reduce what some have called America's "carceral state." The course will follow a discussion format with lecture kept to a minimum.

PIO 201 – 05 Religious Freedoms – Instructor David Torbett 3 credit hours

Students will learn the origin of the religion clauses in the First Amendment of the US Constitution, and trace the developing meaning of these clauses over time through famous Supreme Court cases, which deal with issues that range from polygamy to public schools to peyote; from wedding cakes to contraception to travel bans. For the culminating project, students will present and argue for their own positions regarding some of the most recent Supreme Court decisions dealing with church/state issues and religious freedom.

PIO 201 – 06 Reefs in Time and Space – Instructor Dave Jeffery 3 credit hours

Reefs have a history going back more than 3.3 billion years and have been heavily studied in the ancient and the modern as the heralds of evolutionary innovation, mass extinction, and climate change. We understand ancient reef ecology by comparing them to modern reefs, while vice versa, the ancient can also inform us about past climate fluctuations to help us understand processes going on now. This course will address these issues by looking at both modern and ancient reef communities, understanding the controls on their growth and community structure, reviewing mass extinction events, and looking at the modern crisis in reef communities under the strain of eco-tourism, pollution, and global climate change.

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PIO 201 – 07 Who Are You – Instructor Brent Beeson

3 credit hours

This course invites students from varied disciplines, majors and personal backgrounds to explore their own answer to the timeless *Big Question* posed by the iconic rock band The Who - *Who Are You?* Students will identify themes and messages from self-selected classical, popular, and alternative music, literature, poetry, visual, dance, and dramatic arts.

Utilizing these identified themes and messages as springboards, students will then analyze, compare, and contrast multiple theories and perspectives through critical reading and synthesis assignments (verbal and written) which explore the emergence of an individual 's sense of self.

In addition, students will identify and actively engage aspects of their own intersectional identity, as well as the emerging identities of their peers on a weekly basis. Ongoing integration will be explored through the creation and sharing of students' own multimedia/artistic expressions through music, poetry, narratives, visual art, video and movement, reflective class processing and discussion, and weekly journaling.

PIO 201 – 08 Who Makes History? – Instructor Nicole Livengood

3 credit hours

The questions of who/what makes history or owns knowledge may seem preposterous—but the fact is that the narratives regarding Marietta College education, ca. 1969 to the history of medicine, from the understanding of the most popular novels to labor uprisings, depends on what records are kept or maintained, what are accessible...and which are read, studied, and deemed worthy of value. Thus, the questions of “who makes history” and “who owns knowledge” extend to others, including: If history is stories, who gets to tell the stories? Whose voices get heard, and how do we hear them? Further, how *can* we hear voices and stories and truths for those whose voices have been marginalized, muted, or even silenced? Why does it matter?

In this class, we will ponder these “big questions” on a small scale, through experiential learning labs and reflections informed by guest speakers, theoretical readings, and primary and secondary research about physical and digital archives. We will focus especially on newspapers, literary journals, and periodicals in general, and will examine them as both literature and as history. Students are encouraged to bring their own interests and disciplinary lenses to the course as they recover, edit, and interpret an archival document of their own.