

Spring 2013 Experimental and Special Topics Course Descriptions

ART 394: Experimental Video

3 credit hours

This course is an introduction to the practices and techniques of capturing video using HD Digital Single Lens Reflex cameras (DSLR), editing short films using iMovie software and an understanding of contemporary ethics and aesthetics related to film. While learning how to capture and edit digital video, students will investigate the elements of art, composition and visual narrative.

ARTH 294: Introduction to Buddhist Art

3 credit hours

An exploration of Buddhism through its rich visual tradition as it emerges in India and makes its way through Central Asia into China and Japan. The ways in which art shifts to accommodate new practices and local tastes as Buddhism traverses Asia will be a major focus of the class. This course is taught in conjunction with HIST/REL 270 (Introduction to Buddhism) as a learning community.

ARTH 294: Pre Columbian Art

3 credit hours

Objects and monuments, rather than written accounts or contemporary descriptions, inform of the beliefs, practices, and traditions of many ancient civilizations of the world. This course explores through the arts the Olmec, Maya, Aztec, and Inca civilizations of Mesoamerica and the Andean South America. A focus of the class will be investigating the similarities and differences between these cultures and Euro-American traditions in terms of both aesthetics and worldviews. A 10-day trip to Peru, during which students will have the opportunity to visit museums, explore sites like Machu Picchu, and meet and interact with Native Peruvians, will provide an opportunity to experience and understand the culture up close.

ASTR 294: Life in the Universe Lab

1 credit hour

Are we alone? Is Earth the only place where life exists? Or is life a common occurrence, as depicted in countless movies, novels and television programs? If we ever venture beyond our own Solar System, will we find diverse, habitable worlds or just empty space, punctuated by stars and nebulae? If there are alien races out there, why haven't they visited? (Or have they???) While these questions may seem like the stuff of science fiction, science itself is now in a position to begin addressing them.

COMM 380: Health Policy

3 credit hours

Health policy is a problematic issue throughout the world, but it is particularly challenging in the United States. With current debates focusing on the Affordable Care Act and other such legislation, a comprehensive look into how health policy within the U.S. is developed is warranted. Throughout the course of the semester, we will explore the current and historical issues with the U.S. healthcare system, consider alternatives for future policy, review the political processes that influence planning in healthcare settings, evaluate the ethical considerations that must enter into the health policy process, and look at the roles, skills, and leadership that health professionals can bring to the policy-making process.

ENGL 364: Romancing the Beast

3 credit hours

An in-depth examination of the portrayal of animals in film, from *King Kong* and *Bringing Up Baby* to *Whale Rider* and *Grizzly Man*.

ENGL 394: Historical Fiction

3 credit hours

This course is an interdisciplinary exploration of the relationship between History and Literature, focusing on the ways historians, literary critics, and creative writers approach historical storytelling. This course aims to provide you with an understanding of the methodological and perspective differences between the two disciplines as well as a sense of how they borrow from each other to create interdisciplinary analyses. You will also gain an understanding of the interrelation between truth and fiction in historical writing, particularly focused on attempts to capture the British past.

HIST 294: History of American Medicine and Public Health

3 credit hours

This course offers an introduction to the history of medicine in the United States from the colonial period to the present. It will address themes such as the emergence of a medical profession, the rise of the hospital, the relationship between medicine, science and politics, and the roles of medicine and society in defining and interpreting bodies, health, and disease.

HIST 294: Women in East Asia

3 credit hours

The purpose of this course is to examine the lives and writings of women in East Asia, from the earliest written records to the beginning of the 20th century. The geographical range will include China, Japan and Korea. The focus will be on how women perceived themselves and the world about them, and also how they were and are recorded within their worlds. We will be considering these lives within their social, cultural, political and economic contexts. We will pay particular attention to questions concerning gender and gender relations. Classes will consist of a combination of lecture and discussion, with a good portion being devoted to the texts that have been assigned.

HIST 394: New Testament

3 credit hours

An introduction to and exploration of the writings that make up the Christian New Testament We will seek to understand how this text functions a historical primary source, as literature, as a starting point for discussion of contemporary issues and experience, and as sacred text for the Christian tradition. We will learn about some controversial issues related to biblical interpretation, develop our own critical faculties and use them to arrive at our own interpretations of biblical passages and themes.

HIST 394: Historical Fiction

3 credit hours

See ENGL 394: Historical Fiction

JAPN 194: Japanese Language & Culture

2 credit hours

An introductory course in Japanese, designed for students who have little or no knowledge to develop basic listening, speaking and communication skills. Students will also gain an understanding of Japanese culture in this course.

LEAD 294: Non Profit Leadership

3 credit hours

This course is an introduction to the nonprofit sector and its role in American political, social and economic life. Students will examine the context, issues and skills associated with leadership in the nonprofit (voluntary) sector by evaluating various aspects of organizational capacity including marketing, human resources, programs and planning, operations and governance, financial resource development and management and information technology.

LEAD 294: Leadership for Social Justice

2 credit hours

This course offers an in-depth study of the American Revolution from the perspective of the people who fought it. Often forgotten in our visions of heroic officers, elegant political treaties, and statesmen of the time are the ordinary people who agreed to face bayonet charges and cannon blasts in pursuit of both common and individual goals. The course will explore a wide range of participants including Native Americans, militiamen, Continental soldiers, British regulars, Loyalists, slaves, sailors, as well as female soldiers and camp followers. We will split our time between discussing social, cultural, and military histories of the war and closely examining primary sources. Exploring the thoughts and experiences of common people will provide a better understanding of the wider significance of the war.

MCM 510: Topics: Advertising Campaigns

3 credit hours

This course provides the experience of developing strategic communication campaigns, from creative to presentation, in a setting that mirrors the actual business environment. Students will develop a complete plan for each campaign that includes the following components: executive summary, situation analysis/research, objectives, strategies, budget, media recommendations, creative recommendations, advertising, sales promotion, public relations/publicity, and an evaluation. Additional fees apply.

MCM 510: Topics: Crisis Communication

3 credit hours

This course explores the process of crisis communication and an understanding of crisis communication practices. It focuses on issues concerning how organizations, companies, and individuals communicate with the news media, employees, and consumers in times of crisis. The planning, development and execution of crisis communications plans for businesses and organizations, and public relations techniques for communicating with stakeholders during a crisis will be emphasized.

PHED 194: Hatha Yoga II

1 credit hour

An introduction to twelve advanced hatha yoga positions and will help develop greater awareness of hatha yoga as a lifetime physical fitness activity. Special attention will be paid to the importance of breath control and awareness.

POLS 294: Judicial Politics

3 credit hours

This course is a broad introduction to the political science of law and the United States courts. This course does not cover the substance of judicial opinions and the law. Instead, this course covers the scientific research of the court and politics. We focus on the study of judicial decision-making and the relevant institutional features of judiciary. The topics we will cover include models of judicial decision-making, strategy of opinion writing, institutional interactions, and public opinion and the court.

RELI 394: New Testament

3 credit hours

See HIST 394: New Testament

SMGT 481: Topics: College Athletics

3 credit hours

Intercollegiate athletics has played an integral and undeniably significant role in the American system of higher education since the mid-nineteenth century. This course will include an historical overview of college sport and will focus on a variety of events and issues that speak to the impact of intercollegiate athletics at colleges and universities. Topics include, among others, the debate surrounding required academic standards for college athletes, athletics department relationships with corporate entities, the impact of sports programs on campus culture, student-athlete well being, the role of college and university presidents in intercollegiate athletics. Class discussion will be critical to understanding and analyzing various alternatives for the challenges facing the contemporary intercollegiate sports model.

SPAN 360: Topics: Latin American Poetry

3 credit hours

This course will study poetry from Modernismo to the present, focusing on avant-garde experiments in shaping and reinventing the Spanish language in and for Latin America.

SPAN 394: Strange Hispanic Stories

3 credit hours

In this course, we will examine the marvelous, miraculous, and impossible as it appears in selected texts from the Spanish-speaking world. While we will study some Renaissance texts, we will spend most of our time examining twentieth-century Latin American texts that narrate or lyricize an experience through a fantastic lens. Our purpose in this class is to begin to answer the question of what is the significance of using the writing strategies or tropes of the marvelous, of marking a particular kind of experience as marvelous and of imagining an experience that is impossible.

SPTM 294: Sports Medicine Down Under

3 credit hours

This course will allow students to learn different medical techniques and cultural differences in the United States and other countries. It will also allow students to gain hands-on practical experience in Australia. This course is linked to a study abroad trip. The class will leave the Tuesday following graduation for 14 days to Australia. Students will participate in class work on campus as well as some lectures in Australia. Students may also be able to gain practical hours working with different clinics, teams, and hospitals. Additional costs besides tuition will be needed to pay for the trip.