Spring 2009 Experimental Course Descriptions

COLL 294: Internships for Undecided Students

1 credit hour

This course is designed for any student who is undecided about an academic major but has an internship opportunity. Students develop goals for their internship, maintain an internship journal, develop their résumé and make a final presentation about their internship experience. This course is intended for students who are about to begin an internship.

EDUC 494: Geometric Concepts and Strategies

3 credit hours

The study of concepts in Euclidian and non-Euclidian geometry and the strategies for the teaching of concepts. Materials selection, technology integration, task development, subject integration and methods of assessment are included along with problem-solving, investigation and hands-on learning with manipulatives. This course will focus on curriculum development, teaching and assessing students of varying cultural backgrounds and learning styles with respect to national, state and local curricular standards.

ENGL 294: Diversity in American Literature

3

credit hours

In this course, we will read the fiction and non-fiction by Mexican-Americans, Asian-Americans and Native-Americans. We will consider how factors such as the past and present; cultural traditions; food; immigration; education; assimilation and generational conflict shape ethnic Americans' experiences as Americans and how these experiences challenge or re-shape concepts of America and the American Dream. We will, as well, consider how this literature helps us see ourselves, our heritage and our nation from new or more in-depth perspectives.

HIST 394: African-American Experience

3 credit hours

This course is designed to introduce students to African-American political, social, economic and religious issues from the development of the Atlantic slave trade to the present. The African-American experience will be explored chronologically, allowing students to place African-Americans in key historical events where their significance has often been overlooked in the past.

MASS 394: World Broadcasting: China's Dramatically Changing Media Industry 3 credit hours

This course will critically examine mass media facilities, employees, processes and outputs in the United States and contrast/compare this system to those in other countries through research, tours, observation and interviews. Additionally, students will examine/contrast/ compare the other countries' American-based media processes and outputs. The course will focus on the Chinese television medium market.

PHED 194: Track & Field Event Management

3 credit hours

This course will use the NCAA Outdoor Championship meet as a platform to learn about high level event management. Students will be introduced to a number of concepts spanning from the inner workings of each specific event in track& field to the administration of track & field meets to the business of purchasing equipment and establishing sponsorship.

credit hours

This course provides a broad overview of the politics of Latin America and examines in more depth several countries in the region: Mexico, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela and Cuba. While the region encompasses a great deal of geographical, ethnic and class diversity, some common themes for consideration will include the neo-liberal versus more populist paths taken to achieve economic development, the consolidation (or decline) of democracy, the challenges posed by new social movements and inter-American relations.

POLS 394: Politics of War and Peace

3

credit hours

This course will delve into how politics, both international and domestic, can trigger the occurrence of war as well as shape its conduct. Of particular interest in this class will topics such as: the causes of great power conflicts; domestic politics as a cause of warfare; the role that individual leaders can play in war; strategic restrain and means of establishing international stability. The course will use both case studies and theoretical concepts to study the relationships between politics and the outbreak of war and the causes of durable and lasting peaces.

RELI/HIST 394: Hebrew Bible

3 credit hours

This course will be an introduction to and exploration of the Jewish Tanakh, or Hebrew Bible, which Christians call their Old Testament. We will read substantial portions of the three major sections of the Hebrew Bible (law, prophets and writings) in English translation with the help of a number of secondary sources. We will focus mainly on understanding the biblical texts in their own historical contexts but we will also explore how biblical themes resonate in other periods, including the present.

THEA 294: Stage Management

3 credit hours

The course introduces students to the field of stage management. Students learn and then practice in a production environment the skills associated with stage management.