Fall 2023 Experimental and Special Topics Course Descriptions

GEOL 294-01 – Vertebrate Paleo

3 credit hours

Systematic classification of vertebrate fossils, their geologic range, distribution, and habitat, and use of fossils in reconstructing paleoclimate.

PHIL 294-01 – Religion in Philosophy

3 credit hours

This course covers issues about God and religious experience from a philosophical point of view, including approaches that are both sympathetic and critical. Topics include how to describe God, whether miracles happen, the nature of the sacred, religious experience, how God's existence has (or has not) been already proven, the problem of evil, whether there is life after death, and the atheist complaint.

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 times, 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.

PSYC 601-98 – Top: Psychology of Good & Evil

3 credit hours

This course exams a variety of behaviors most human societies characterize along a continuum ranging from "good, too bad, to evil". Applying a bio-psycho-social perspective, the course takes an advanced and in-depth look at the research and theory behind a psychological understanding of topics that include: helping, love and happiness, excuses, gossip, prejudice, torture, murder and genocide.

PSYC 601-99 – Top: The Developmental Context of Relationships in Adulthood 3 credit hours This seminar will examine how family and interpersonal relationships evolve across adulthood. The role of context in shaping relationship dynamics will be emphasized.