

Fall 2023 PIO 201 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PIO 201 – 01 My Happy Place – Instructor Bev Hogue 3 credit hours

What Connects People to Places? Why do certain places feel like home, speak to our souls, or inspire a sense of stewardship? Students will read, write, and conduct research about the human connection to place and about their own special places in order to develop skills in information literacy, communication, and integrative learning, and to develop a greater understanding of their responsibility toward their special places.

PIO 201 – 02/03 Risky Business – Instructor Susan Peterson 3 credit hours

How can we manage our business ventures or projects to reduce risk? All projects are inherently risky because they are unique, constrained, based on uncertain assumptions and forecasts, performed by people, and subject to internal and external influences. The tools and techniques of risk management introduced prepare us to manage proactively the uncertainties, opportunities, and threats. The course explores iterative steps of risk and uncertainty identification, qualitative and quantitative assessment, communication, and mitigation. It integrates probability, statistics (data analytics,) economics, and cost/ schedule estimation with risk analysis to provide proven methods of communicating and managing risks across all disciplines represented in "the project." Examples from diverse industries) will illustrate risks, uncertainty, and the value of the risk management process.

PIO 201 – 04 Intersection of Art and Literature – Instructor Steve Rader 3 credit hours

This exploration of the ways literature, painting, and sculpture interact will force students to think about the nature of creativity and the relationship between the arts and reality. Unit 1 will focus on poetry and short stories inspired by and/or informed by art and allow students a preliminary experience in writing poetry. Unit 2 will examine Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are* and explore the relationships among the book, the film, and the opera. Unit 3 will examine the art so critical to *The DaVinci Code* and culminate with panel presentations analyzing the art at specific sites. Unit 4, focused on Stoppard's *After Magritte*, will examine a play written in the manner of the great surrealist artist Rene Magritte; and Unit 5 will lead students to develop a personal philosophy of modern art growing out of a study of Reza's play *Art*.

PIO 201 – 05 Neurodiversity – Instructor Alexandria Perry 3 credit hours

This course has three primary objectives. First, students will be introduced to the main philosophical and historical ideas surrounding mental health particularly as it relates to social justice and our understanding of "normal." This course will provide you with the tools to understand the major social issues and cultural themes that have defined concepts of normal, disordered, functional, etc. as related to mental health and illness. The second main objective of this course is to attempt to answer the question "how are scholarly questions in the liberal arts addressed?" by introducing students to different disciplinary approaches to the same overarching questions through the analysis of a variety of primary and secondary source readings. Finally, this course is designed to strengthen the critical reading, thinking, and writing skills of students. Students will read primary source documents and complete several writing assignments over the course of the semester.