

Spring 2022 PIO 201 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

PIO 201 – 01 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 – 02 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 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 – 04 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.

PIO 201 – 05 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 – 06 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 – 07/08 The Disappearing Body – Instructor Todd Comer

3 credit hours

If we live long enough, we all end up disabled. This is a truism in disability studies. Despite this fact, and the fact that we are all born weeping, dependent, and, yes, lacking ability, we are for the most part incapable of looking at our bodies as the fragile, mortal things that they are. This course addresses how and why we refuse to look, *really* look, at bodies *as* bodies. We will examine this question through close readings of Frank Miller's *300*, *Rudolph-the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, Pixar's *Toy Story*, Octavia Butler's *Kindred*, Bernard Pomerance's *The Elephant Man*, Genesis, and many, many secondary readings in sociology, history, and cultural studies. Our larger ethical goal will be to refocus our attention on the human body, as one body among many others in a complex, interdependent ecological world.