

Spring 2011 Experimental Course Descriptions

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.

CHEM 394: Introduction to Independent Laboratory Research

3 credit hours

An introduction to independent laboratory research in chemistry and biochemistry. Students will learn how to search chemical literature via electronic search engines, propose an independent laboratory research project, become aware of ethical considerations in scientific research and keep a proper scientific notebook. Students will develop and deliver formal literature and laboratory research presentations. Students will also hear from guest speakers from graduate schools.

CHEM 494: Advanced Biochemistry

3 credit hours

Study of advanced topics in biochemistry grouped into three sections: cell signaling, biochemical mechanisms, and techniques used in the study of biochemistry. Emphasis on proteins involved in cell signaling, enzymatic reaction mechanisms involving coenzymes and cofactors. Use of current scientific literature for the study of techniques and/or instrumentation applied to biochemistry research.

Prerequisite: CHEM 420

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 as 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.

MNGT 194: History of American Business

3 credit hours

An exploration of the business firm and government-business relations in America from colonial times through the 20th Century. The increasing size and complexity of the business firm will be studied. Government's role as facilitator, director and regulator of business will be traced. Special attention will be paid to the increasingly diverse and complex roles played by managers.

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 394: Intro to Research Methods

3 credit hours

An introduction to political analysis, standard nomenclature and basic research methods relied upon in the study of politics. Emphasis is placed on quantitative methods, including definition of research problems, development of hypotheses, general methodologies, sampling, data collection and analysis. Students conduct primary research in order to develop the capacity to apply methods learned in class.

POLS 394: Mass Media in American Politics

3 credit hours

An exploration of the symbiotic relationship between the media and politics, along with the forces that drive news journalism and political coverage. Various explanations of why news organizations behave as they do are also assessed. Conflicts between freedom of the press and such values as privacy, national security and the right to fair trial are discussed. Political attempts to influence the media will also be examined.

RELI 394: New Testament

3 credit hours

See HIST 394: New Testament

SOCI 294: Comparative Studies of Injustice

3 credit hours

An examination and comparison of selected systems of injustice, including South African apartheid, American "Jim Crow," genocides in Armenia, Rwanda and Congo, and the mistreatment/oppression of Native Americans and Australian Aborigines.