

Special Topics

The courses described below are offered under “Special Topics” course numbers. Departments offer Special Topics only occasionally and the selection is different every semester. Special Topics courses do not repeat material presented by regular semester courses.

A/ST 490 Section 1 Hindi Language, Literature and Culture

This course will introduce Indian culture through the select study of Hindi language, literature and film. Topics include history; language, politics and regionalism; film representations (Bollywood); and some pre-modern and modern Hindi literature and stories in translation. No prior knowledge of Hindi is required.

AH 497/597 Section 1 Greek Vase Painting

This seminar explores the major stages in the history of Greek pottery production, both figured and plain, as they are understood today. We will use a variety of methodological and theoretical strategies to evaluate the ways of studying Greek pottery and decoration.

AH 497/597 Section 2 Patronage in the Renaissance

This seminar will explore the relationship of patrons and artists in Europe during the late middle ages and Renaissance. It will address issues including who was commissioning art and for what purposes, and how the patrons' wishes might be expressed in specific artworks. Intended for advanced majors and graduate students.

AIS 490 Section 1 American Indian Museum Studies

This course will focus upon the historical, theoretical, and practical applications of American Indian Museum Management. Museum practices, such as mounting exhibitions, collections management and handling, display, exhibition design, storage of collections, installation design, signage, museum publications, educational outreach, and handicap accessibility, will be examined.

ANTH 490/600 Section 1 Death and Funeral Rituals in Cross-Cultural Perspective

This course examines the diversity of rituals surrounding death. We will examine the symbolic, emotional, and political dimensions of death cross-culturally. By exploring themes such as spirituality, gender, economics, and power we will study how culture shapes interpretations of death.

ART 10 All Sections Art Matrix

Students must pick up a course syllabus at the Art Department Student Services office in FA4-106. This course is required of art majors. Students must participate in art and design exhibitions, openings, lectures and special events.

ASAM 490 Section 1 and 2 Filipino/a American Cultural Productions

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
This course includes lectures, demonstration, and instruction in “traditional” and contemporary Filipino/a expressive cultures. Students in this course are required to actively participate in the production of the Filipino Cultural Night (PCN), which is scheduled at the Carpenter Center on April 6, 2006.

B/ST 490 Section 1 Special Topics in Black Studies

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.
This course explores images of Blacks in the Ancient Mediterranean World.

CHIN 490/CHIN 590 Section 1 Chinese Matrix of Change: Novels and Films

Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing or consent of instructor.
This course explores the matrix of change in China during the Cultural Revolution and modernization period. Through an examination of the visual and textual representations of this era, the novels and films bring us *vis a vis* with an emerging and changing Chinese identity.

COMM 490 Section 1 The Rhetoric of Dissent

This course examines the goals, strategies and effectiveness of social, moral, and political movements that

advocate significant societal change. Social protest theory and constitutional issues surrounding freedom of dissent will be addressed. The class covers case studies of contemporary movements in the U.S. – i.e., the abortion controversy, civil rights, student and anti-war protests, the labor union movement, women's rights, and gay and lesbian rights – as well as more global movements related to trade, the environment, terrorism, and revolution.

COMM 490 Section 2 Health Communication

This course examines an emergent specialty within the field of communication at different levels. At the interpersonal level, we explore such topics as effective versus ineffective communication between health care professionals and those in their care, and provider-provider communication. Organizationally our communication interests shift to communication between the health care community and legislative/political bodies, insurance providers, and other groups inside the health care industry. Mass communication strategies such as in Public Service Announcements, health awareness campaigns, and community-focused interventions are scrutinized from both theoretical and ethical perspectives.

COMM 490 Section 3 Communication in Development and Fund Raising

This course examines the role of communication in development and fundraising. Emphasis is placed on creating capital campaigns, donor networking and organizing fundraising events. Students will participate in organizing a professional development campaign for a non-profit organization.

COMM 490 Section 4 Ensemble Performance

This course is a performance class with an emphasis on interactive peer education, performance for social change and service learning. As a class we will be creating, scripting and staging scenes on relevant sociopolitical issues that are designed to elicit audience participation.





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CWL 349 Section 1 **Literary Movements - The Gothic in World Literature**

This course examines the idea of the “gothic” (“terror” and /or “horror”) as it is seen in world literature and culture from 1800 onwards.

CWL 449/549 Section 1 **Critical Studies Major Continental Writers - Comic Realism**

This course examines the uses of comic realism in the works of Rabelais (Gargantua and Pantagruel), Cervantes (Don Quixote), Gogol (Dead Souls), and Garcia Marquez (One Hundred Years of Solitude). We will analyze elements of the grotesque, surreal, fantastic and carnivalesque, and how comic realism works as social critique and as an interpretation of the human experience.

CWL 452/552 Section 1 **Studies in Mythology - Mythology & the Stages of Life**

This course examines the relation of the mythology of various cultures to the stages in the life of a human being, focusing particularly on the world of Joseph Campbell.

CWL 461/561 Section 1 **Cultural Studies: Histories, Theories, and Issues**

This course will examine issues within Cultural Studies, including theories of discursive practices and identity politics, in a global, comparative context. We will read and discuss cultural critics such as Michel de Certeau, Stuart Hall, and Dick Hebdige, in addition to other theorists such as Antonio Gramsci, Edward Said, and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak. We will re-construct how cultural studies reframe the topics of nationalism, postcolonialism, globalization, sexuality, gender, and media representation.

ENGL 469 Section 1 **Wordsworth and Coleridge**

In this course, we will examine together the closely connected works and lives of William Wordsworth, Dorothy Wordsworth, and Samuel Taylor Coleridge. We will also look briefly at their circle of friends, including De Quincy, Charles and Mary Lamb, and the Beaumonts. Reading for the course includes

poetry, prose and correspondence: the major works we will consider are the important collaboration *Lyrical Ballads*, Wordsworth’s *Prelude*, and Coleridge’s *Biographia Literaria*.

ENGL 469 Section 2 **Dryden and Pope**

This course will focus on two great writers of the English Enlightenment. John Dryden and Alexander Pope wrote very funny satire, established literary criticism as a professional genre, and translated classical texts into elegant and popular English.

ENGL 479 Section 1 **Edith Wharton**

This course will offer in-depth, comprehensive treatment of the career of a major twentieth-century American novelist, focusing on Wharton’s works of fiction in longer form. In addition to matters of style and craftsmanship in her writing, we will explore the many rich social and cultural contexts of Wharton’s work.

ENGL 681 Section 1 **Keats**

This course will offer in-depth study of the youngest of the major English Romantic poets, John Keats. Students will read Keats’ poems, his engaging letters, a biography, and critical essays from a variety of theoretical approaches.

ENGL 681 Section 2 **Stevens and Williams**

This course will offer in-depth study and comparison of two major American modernists. Wallace Stevens and William Carlos Williams offer contrasting views of the relationship between the imagination and reality, and develop distinctly different poetics to express their ideas. Students will have the opportunity to examine their poetry and prose from a variety of critical and theoretical angles.

ENGL 683 Section 1 **History of Composition Instruction**

This seminar examines the ways in which writing has been taught in educational institutions and various other settings. Particular attention will be paid to the development of writing instruction in United States secondary schools, colleges, and universities and the academic theories, political forces, and social issues involved.

ENGL 683 Section 2 **Medieval Drama**

This course will offer an intensive study of Middle English dramatic traditions, with some reference to other relevant materials. English plays will be read in the original language.

ENGL 683 Section 3 **Feminism and Modernism**

This course examines the way shifting gender definitions in the early twentieth century were translated into issues of aesthetic practice, especially by women writers of this period. Authors examined may include Virginia Woolf, Isak Dinesen, Djuna Barnes, Gertrude Stein, and T.S. Eliot.

FRENCH 490/604G Section 1 **Seminar 19th Century Literature**

This course includes in-depth reading and analysis in group discussions of some of the principal prose works of the 19th Century. Particular emphasis is given to the psychology of love and to the changing role of women, as well as to the movements of realism and naturalism. Taught in French.

GERM 498/511 Section 1 **Through Eyes of Others**

This course will focus on the reports, letters, and journals of travelers who wrote about their experiences and observations on Nazi Germany and the immediate post-war period and the rebuilding efforts. The class will be taught by a visiting professor from Berlin, Germany. Taught in German.

GERM 498/511 Section 2 **Jewish Life in Germany Today**

This course will focus on a newly established and growing Jewish community in Germany, its demographic make-up, its historical roots, its presence and role in today’s German society. Taught in English.

HIST 495 Section 1 **Foucault and His Critics**

This course will explore the writings of Michel Foucault with particular emphasis on power/knowledge, sexuality and “the gaze”. It will also explore various critiques and applications of Foucault’s thought both in theory and in historical practice. At the very least, students enrolled should have successfully completed History 302 or an equivalent course.

JAPN 490 Section 1 **Anime & Manga: Study of Japanese Culture**

This course is a cultural study of Japanese anime & manga. Students will critically analyze Japanese anime directors' vision in their films and the cultural context.

JOUR 490 Section 1 **Katrina and the Culture of Crisis**

This interdisciplinary course will explore the way the media covers hurricanes and other natural disasters, and will examine how this kind of coverage has differed throughout U.S. history from man-made disasters, such as 9/11 and the Challenger explosion, and political scandals such as Watergate and the impeachment of President Bill Clinton.

MAE 590/690 Section 1 **Complex Variables and Engineering Applications**

Prerequisite: Math 370A.

This course provides an analytical study of complex variables theory and the applications of complex analytical functions in solid and fluid mechanics.

PHIL 491/591 Section 1 **Kant's Transcendental Deduction of the Categories**

This course will be an in-depth study of Kant's Transcendental Deduction of the Categories. Of primary interest in this course will be the proof-structure of the Deduction, an understanding of which is crucial for evaluating many critical assessments of the Deduction.

PHIL 496/596 Section 1 **Nietzsche's Re-evaluation**

This course will explore Nietzsche's "Re-evaluation of ALL Values" against its valueless base.

PSY 390 Section 1 **COR Basic Research Methods**

This course will provide intensive training in research methods and is restricted to psychology students in their junior year who are in the COR program.

PSY 490 Section 1 **Qualitative Methods in Psychology**

This course will examine data collection and analysis techniques for words rather than numbers. Practice

conducting interviews, focus groups, and observation. Analysis of participants' words, field notes, and documents using computer software and methods such as content analysis, narrative analysis, and grounded theory.

PSY 490 Section 2 **COR Advanced Research Methods**

This course will provide intensive training in research methods and is restricted to psychology students in their senior year who are in the COR program.

SOC 490 Section 1 **Medicine or Magic? Health and Healing in Latin America**

This course explores the historical and cultural roots of traditional (indigenous), biomedical and alternative paradigms of health and medicine in Latin America including curanderismo, voodoo, spirit and religious healing and homeopathy. The course also links population health inequities to processes of globalization, and outlines the current Latin American health care crisis in relation to health policies and health reform.

SOC 492 Section 1 **Sociology of Youth**

This course will examine the stage of life known as "youth" in all its complexity. We will explore a wide array of topics from the historical emergence of the concept of "youth", to the recurring efforts by society to treat young people as "problems", to the growth of youth cultures and subcultures, to the potential of young people to radically change society.

SOC 494 Section 1 **The Sociology of Globalization and Democracy**

This course will explore how globalization affects democratic institutions and political participation. Themes include: 1) concepts of, and debates about, globalization; 2) democracy as a local and global concept; 3) global institutions, the democratic deficit, and changing forms of political power; 4) the emerging transnational civil society and rebuilding participatory communities "from below": creating social capital, and the role of labor, the "new"

student movement, consumer movements, and community-based organizations.

UNIV 3011 Sections 1-4 **Utopia 101**

In this course, each student will be given a blank planet. Pursuant to the students' vision of what would be the perfect world, the students will evolve their planet's populations and develop civilizations, formulating social structure and institutions, including but not limited to: law, government, morality and faith, education, health care, arts and entertainment, scientists and technology, building and property development, commerce, military etc. Once the students' planets are evolved, then they will begin to interact with each other, leading to quantifiable outcomes and conclusions as to the correlation of intentions, acts and results, and the value of lessons from Earth's history. Our present human institutions will be analyzed and debated as models – for and against – the students' utopian visions.



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