

FALL 2008
NON-CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART 297 TOPICS: DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

The fundamentals of digital photography are explored with an emphasis on use of composition and design. The course goals are to become proficient at the technical aspects of photography and working with the images in Photoshop in an efficient and creative way. A strong feature of the course is to appreciate the art of photography through the study of historic and contemporary work and to apply that appreciation to your own work. Students are required to have a working knowledge of Photoshop and a SLR digital camera.

BIOL/CHEM/PHYS 397 TOPICS: BIOLOGICAL PHYSICS

This course will introduce a series of physical principles, based on statistical mechanics, which can be used to examine biological questions, specifically questions involving how cells function. Starting with a very general discussion of energy and order, we will develop a set of statistical and thermodynamics models for understanding the molecular machinery of life. Biological questions to be explored include: How can living organisms be so highly ordered? Why is the nanoworld so different from the macroworld? Given the random nature of the nanoworld, how can we form predictive descriptions of what's going on down there? If energy is always conserved, why can some devices be more efficient than others? What keeps cells full of fluid? How can a membrane push fluid against a pressure gradient? Why don't bacteria swim like fish? How can a molecular machine, sitting in the middle of a well-mixed solution, do useful work? In constructing the answers to these biological questions, we will lay the conceptual groundwork for the emerging fields of nanotechnology and soft materials, since the inspiration for these fields often come from tiny cellular machines and their component parts. Prerequisites: PHYS 222 or 202, CHEM 120 or comparable background. Calculus will be used without apology.

BSAD 197 CURRENT TOPICS IN BUSINESS

This course is taught by the Business Administration Department faculty. Its purpose is to help students become better informed about current events in business, the financial markets and the economy. The course promotes appreciation of different perspectives by encouraging discussion among the faculty and students. No prior business acumen is required, just a willingness to participate and learn. This course is graded S/U.

BSAD 232 REAL ESTATE I

This course will introduce the principles and practices of real estate as well as South Dakota law. The class will then use those principles to discuss real estate investments and development strategies as well as property management, fair housing, and land use. We will study topics in this course that will be useful to anyone that plans on purchasing a home or renting an apartment in the future

CHEM 250 MOLECULAR MODELING PROFICIENCY

This course will provide a solid introduction to molecular modeling through computational chemistry, with emphasis on worked examples. Methods covered will include molecular mechanics, Hartree-Fock calculations (ab initio and semi-empirical), and use of quantum density functional theory. The goal is to be able to use computational results as a tool to address real chemical problems. Corequisite: CHEM 201

CIVT/NPST 202 PERTINENCE: SOUTH DAKOTA AND THE WORLD

South Dakota is a political creation, not the result of an organic development. South Dakota and its culture, then, is the product of human invention. The result of this situation is a set of "stories," both historical and contemporary about South Dakota's relationship with the rest of the world. Using the pedagogy of regional studies, this course examines the stories South Dakotans tell themselves, and how these stories shape our thinking and influence contemporary debates about our past, present, and future. After studying South Dakota as a geographical "region," students will take the theoretical models learned and apply them to other areas of the world. Instructor permission required for non-Civitas students.

CIVT 203 JUSTICE: FOUNDATIONS OF JUSTICE: REASONS & REVELATIONS

This course will primarily study two classical texts that have wrestled with the meaning of justice, human and divine. We will pursue their arguments and grapple with their conclusions. Specifically, we will carefully read Plato's Republic and the Book of Genesis. These are foundational texts for understanding justice. They also share an important characteristic: each of them is presented not as a treatise on justice but as a narrative, providing us not with an abstract formulation of justice, but instead with a conversation and a context within which ideas are played out. Our task, then, will be to pay close attention to these texts where important ideas of justice emerge. The course will pay particular attention to certain key questions, most particularly: what is justice? And, do we understand justice through God's commandments, or through reason, or through both? Instructor permission required for non-Civitas students.

CLAS 397 GREEK MYTHOLOGY

The course will provide an introduction to the mythology of ancient Greece. Reading will be from primary texts, including epic and tragedy, and will end with a Roman retelling of Greek myths in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. The goal of this course will be to uncover the social and cultural values that the mythology reflects and to explore issues, such as heroism, gender, and identity.

COSC 197 MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

A critical qualification for managers within all business disciplines (e.g. accounting, finance, marketing) is computer technology know-how in general and familiarity with management information systems in particular. This course explores the application of computers to the organizational environment with a management perspective. Topics may include transaction processing systems, management reporting, decision support systems, strategic planning, security, controls and acquisition of hardware, software and services. This interface between the information systems professional and the manager will be defined. Case studies and use of appropriate software packages may be included.

HIST 297 THE ROMAN WORLD

A survey of ancient Rome, covering both the Republic and the Empire. The course will include an examination of major historical events and the legacy of Rome to the modern world, with an emphasis on Roman daily life and culture, and a look at some of the period's most important and colorful characters, male and female.

HIST 397 RADICALS, REFORMERS AND ROMANTICS

"Radicals, Reformers, and Romantics" is an upper-division examination of American radicalism, spanning from Early America to present. Radicalism, broadly conceived, can include political, social, intellectual, and cultural trends, from both the left and the right. This course, then, will explore the individuals, groups, and ideas that challenged main currents in American thought. Radical history, as students will discover, provides a valuable lens to understanding broader themes in American history.

NURS 297 INTRODUCTION TO PROFESSIONAL NURSING

This course is designed to provide the foundation for development of professional therapeutic presence. Theoretical perspectives on ways of knowing are addressed and basic concepts and models of communication in nursing and other disciplines are emphasized. Also emphasized are the essentials for practicing the art and science of professional nursing. Issues concerning the health experience of older persons in community are incorporated throughout the course. The course will introduce nursing theory and experiential activities, providing the opportunity for students to begin developing skills in communication in community.

PHIL 297 TOPICS: EXISTENTIALISM: FREEDOM AND MEANING

An introduction to existentialist philosophy, literature, and film with a focus on questions of human freedom and meaning in life. Who am I? Is there a meaning in life? Is it possible to be a free, authentic person in the modern technological and consumer-oriented world? We will investigate these questions in dialogue with thinkers such as Kierkegaard, Dostoevsky, Nietzsche, Sartre and Camus.

PHIL 332 SEMINAR: AMERICAN PHILOSOPHY

A survey of classical American philosophy, including the Puritans, the Transcendentalists, the Pragmatists, and contemporary thinkers. This class will focus on close reading of original texts and seminar-discussions of those texts.

RELI/CLAS 197 TOPICS: INTRO TO BIBLICAL HEBREW

This course introduces the student to the basic vocabulary, grammar and construction of biblical Hebrew. The emphasis will be on learning to read and translate the biblical text.