

## **SPRING 2022**

### **NON-CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **ANTH 297 TOPICS: ETHICS AND OSTEOLOGY**

Students in this course will trace the ethical trajectory of osteology from the early days of anthropology in the nineteenth century through the present. In addition to exploring these historical interventions, students will also learn how ethics are enacted in the field (forensic or archaeological) versus the lab; gain an understanding of what constitutes appropriate vocabulary and visual representation; and explore how “professional” ethical codes intersect with the legal system, as well as the humanitarian duties osteologists may encounter. Because osteologists today work in a variety of fields and contexts, this course underscores the importance of developing an ethical code that will guide students in their chosen career paths.

#### **ANTH 397 TOPICS: THE VIETNAM WAR: CULTURE AND CONFLICT**

The class will address anthropological theories of human aggression; utilizing the Vietnam War as the cornerstone of the discussion. This is a special offering focusing on the most disruptive cultural event of the last century of the American story. The class will be developed around videos and lectures by visiting participants/experts of the Vietnam era.

#### **ASL 397: TOPICS: BENEATH THE SURFACE: DEAF PERSPECTIVES**

This course focuses on exploring deaf culture and the dynamics of American Sign Language in a variety of educational settings. Deaf children’s needs continue to be diverse thus interpreters and deaf educators must identify specific needs and in turn, empower deaf children with a tailored support culture. Learn to recognize indicators of deaf children’s needs and what can be done to support their individual language development. Additionally, a closer look at how to effectively use classifiers with sexual and reproductive health topics as well as working effectively with gender and sexual minorities to ensure deaf children have equal access to information.

#### **CIVT 204 FREEDOM: BONHOEFFER AND BEYOND: FREEDOM FROM? FREEDOM FOR?**

What does it mean to be free? Are we free from? Are we free for? The course explores these questions in light of the German Church Controversy during Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s time (The Nazi Regime/World War II) and traces the themes in contemporary liberation movements and religious traditions (post-Bonhoeffer). Utilizing Luther’s writings about freedom during the Reformation Era and theological controversies in World War II as background, we will analyze contemporary, controversial understandings of freedom through the use of case studies. (Examples: the Covid crisis, teaching critical race theories).

#### **COMM 197 TOPICS: PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCACY**

Effective advocacy is essential in contemporary society. When discussing social issues, critical thinking and speaking are needed to effect change. These statements are particularly true in public health. Whether it is COVID-19, cancer or the common cold, the health care system suffers from inadequate, inconsistent, and often incorrect communication. Consequently, students will critically analyze the current state of public health communication to develop compelling arguments. Students will also develop critical messaging skills to inform, persuade, and motivate people with better public health communication.

#### **FREN 397 TOPICS: HISTORY OF FRENCH CINEMA**

A historic and esthetic examination of some of the most important French films of the last 100 years. At the end of this course, students will be able to identify and to characterize major French cinematographic movements; to discuss in detail important contributions of significant French film directors; and to employ the language of cinema to analyze the French films screened. The course is conducted in French.

#### **GERM 396 TOPICS IN GERMAN LITERATURE**

This class explores life and social issues in the German-speaking world through media, press, and a recent novel and film. At the end of this class, students will have progressed in all language skills and acquired reading and communicative strategies necessary to discuss complex cultural topics.

#### **HIST 297 TOPICS: THE ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY OF THE US**

This course provides students with an alternative analytical framework for understanding US History through the lens of the environment. Beginning in the colonial period and proceeding to modern day, key episodes and developments of the American experience will be re-evaluated with a focus on the interaction between humans and the plants, animals, and places encountered over time and through space. Often taken for granted in a survey level course, the primary objective here will be to determine and to properly contextualize the very real consequences of such interactions. Issues involved include land management, urban development, disease, natural disaster, pollution, institutional responses, and environmentalism.

**INTR 397 TOPICS: BENEATH THE SURFACE: DEAF PERSPECTIVES**

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**SOCI 297: TOPICS: HOUSING THE AMERICAN DREAM**

This course examines a range of issues related to housing and the family, with an emphasis on understanding the role housing plays in a family's economic and social stability. Topics include neighborhoods and schooling, residential segregation (including the history of real estate redlining and other discriminatory housing market practices), wealth accumulation and social mobility, affordable housing, and the cultural link between homeownership and the American Dream. We will also investigate how housing policy and the non-profit sector shape the housing landscape. Students will have regular opportunities to learn from local practitioners in housing and community organizations.