

SPRING 2023 NON-CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ASL 397 TOPICS: MIND, BODY & SOUL

This course is divided into three distinct sections - Mind, Body & Soul. Mind focuses on supplying information surrounding well-known deaf individuals who have impacted the deaf community and culture in the United States. Body provides tips, tricks and techniques for proper ergonomics required to remain healthy throughout an interpreting career. Soul delves into meditational practices necessary to maintain a healthy distance from interpreting work. All topics combine to guide students toward a lifetime of health and happiness while working professionally in and amongst the deaf community.

CIVT 202 PERTINENCE: THE LAW & MORALITY OF WAR

War is inherently transgressive, yet communities have frequently attempted to regulate the use of force by systems of morality and law. This course examines major approaches to war in moral theory (both secular and religious) and law (both domestic and international), with a particular focus on developments in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Topics include pacifism, realism, and the just war tradition; the right of national self-defense; wars of aggression; necessity and proportionality in war; terrorism; targeted killing; nuclear deterrence; the development of “humane” tactics in warfare; and more.

CIVT 204 FREEDOM: CANCELING CULTURE: FILM, CENSORSHIP & PUBLIC MORALITY

This course will examine the century-old tension between the freedoms assumed by creative artists and producers in the American film industry and the criticism of and limitations placed on those freedoms by institutions – legal, governmental, religious, public interest – concerned about the moral effects of movies on American society and culture. We will examine films that have been altered or withheld from distribution because of their content and presumed effects, as well as historical and theoretical essays addressing the relationships between films and their viewers, to understand the delicate relationship between artistic freedom and the public that freedom is intended to serve.

COMM 197 TOPICS: PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCACY (C)

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.

ECON 297 TOPICS: ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

This course focuses on applications of the concepts and tools of economic analysis to environmental issues and policy. Topics include markets, externalities and property rights; economic value of the environment; cost-benefit analysis and discounting; sustainable economic growth; management of renewable and nonrenewable resources; economics of climate change; environmental policy and welfare analysis.

PREREQUISITE: ECON120 or instructor’s permission.

ENST 297A TOPICS: ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS

This course seeks to examine the ever-important environmental issues facing our world today. We will consider politics and policy implications related to environmental issues, as well as economic and social interests. We will examine national, state, and local action in the US and abroad. We will also study how these levels of government interact with the public, media, non-governmental organizations, and interest groups. This course considers political challenges to addressing environmental issues at all levels and how to overcome these challenges. Lastly, we will discuss why and how various stakeholders have different proposed solutions to the various environmental issues.

FREN 396 TOPICS: THE FRENCH FAIRY TALE

The course fosters an exploration and critical analysis of French fairy tales, a significant literary tradition that continues to influence contemporary film and literature. Students will sample a variety of classic tales from primarily the seventeenth- and eighteenth-centuries, including celebrated works by Charles Perrault, Madame d'Aulnoy, Mademoiselle de la Force, and Mme Leprince de Beaumont. Students will also compose and perform their own reinterpretations of French classic fairy tales. PREREQUISITE: FREN 211. Conducted in French.

GOVT 297A TOPICS: ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS

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GOVT 297B TOPICS: LATIN AMERICAN POLITICS

This course will offer a general introduction to politics in Latin America to help students understand the diversity of Latin American politics. We will study historical backgrounds of various countries to provide context for modern situations. We will consider politics, economics, and society, with particular emphasis on the obstacles impeding the consolidation of democratic rules and procedures. We will study several Latin American countries in more detail tracing the various ways political history has influenced the current period. As we look at these specific countries, comparative cases will be examined to introduce students to the comparative method.

GOVT 297C TOPICS: THE LAW & MORALITY OF WAR

War is inherently transgressive, yet communities have frequently attempted to regulate the use of force by systems of morality and law. This course examines major approaches to war in moral theory (both secular and religious) and law (both domestic and international), with a particular focus on developments in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Topics include pacifism, realism, and the just war tradition; the right of national self-defense; wars of aggression; necessity and proportionality in war; terrorism; targeted killing; nuclear deterrence; the development of “humane” tactics in warfare; and more.

INTR 397 TOPICS: MIND, BODY AND SOUL

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PSYC 397 TOPICS: HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

This course examines how psychological states (e.g., anxiety, stress) influence physical health as well as how physical states (e.g., illness, pain, injury) influence psychological health. Topics include the impact of stress on health and proneness to illness; coping with illness, injury and trauma; and the role of health-enhancing and health-compromising behaviors in maintaining physical health.

PREREQUISITE: PSYC 115

RELI/PHIL 297 TOPICS: EXISTENTIALISM: FREEDOM & MEANING IN MODERN LIFE

An introduction to existentialist philosophy, literature, and film with a focus on questions of human freedom and meaning in life. Is it possible to be a free, authentic person in the modern scientific and consumer-oriented world? Are individuals unique in any significant sense? Is there meaning in life and could we ever know it? How can we live worthwhile lives amidst global tragedies and injustices? We will consider religious and atheistic existencialisms as well as contemporary criticisms and revisions of existentialism.

SPAN 396 TOPICS: THEATER WORKSHOP IN SPANISH

Students in this class will read and analyze a selection of theater plays from Spanish-speaking countries, representing diverse historical periods and styles. Readings on theory, literary criticism, as well as thematically related short stories and films will inform the discussion and interpretation of the plays. The final assignments for this course will be an analytical essay and a theater performance that will be open to the public. PREREQUISITE: SPAN 211.