

FALL 2013
NON-CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ANTH 110 INTRODUCTION TO ANTHROPOLOGY

This course provides an overview of the 4-field discipline of Anthropology. Each of the four fields is covered in order to provide students with a broad-based introductory knowledge of Anthropology. The four topics include Archaeology (the study of the material remains of the past), Cultural Anthropology (the study of human diversity), Physical Anthropology (the study of the human body and human evolution), and Linguistics (the study of language)--is introduced and discussed, while providing a basis in the theories and methods that Anthropologists use to study humankind.

BIOL 397 TOPICS: BIOCHEMISTRY

A study of the chemistry of cellular constituents, enzymes and catalysis, metabolism, and the control of metabolic processes with particular emphasis upon the dynamic aspects of cellular metabolism.

Prerequisites: BIOL 234 and CHEM 145 or 201

BSAD 397 SPORT LAW - LEGAL ENVIRONMENT OF SPORT

This course examines the legal environment in which professional and amateur sport operates. Areas of law to be examined include contract, tort, criminal law, intellectual property, agency, dispute resolution and the court system. This course may be substituted for BSAD 340 for BSAD or SM majors. Students who have taken BSAD 340 may not take this course without instructor approval.

CIVT 203 JUSTICE: JUSTICE AND THE STATE OF ISRAEL

(See RELI 255)

CIVT 204A FREEDOM: THE CLASH OF CAPITAL AND CLASS

In this discussion seminar, students will work together with the professors via a wiki to explore the relative degrees of freedom enjoyed by capitalists and workers throughout American history. Particular emphasis will be placed on the Lawrence, Massachusetts textile strike and dynamite plot of 1912, a key moment in the history of American capitalism that pitted a capitalist seemingly straight out of an Horatio Alger novel, the "Wool King" William Madison Wood, against the nation's most radical labor union, the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW or Wobblies). Due to labor unrest at Lawrence and elsewhere, employers increasingly came to see their workers as "human capital" rather than mere "hired hands," and governments, especially in the Northeast, began to show more support for workers and their unions. Globally, similar improvements in working conditions are palpable but by no means universal. Cross listed with HIST 297.

ECON 197 TOPICS: MODERN MONETARY THEORY

The essential insight of Modern Monetary Theory (MMT) is that a sovereign currency-issuing country can never be forced into default. Federal government finance that relies on currency issuing for expenditures is simply nothing like the currency-using finance of households, businesses, or even state and local governments. This introductory course is organized around watching and discussing the eight videos produced by Modern Money and Public Purpose, an interdisciplinary series held at Columbia Law School during the 2012-2013 academic year. The series explores new perspectives and progressive policy proposals on a range of contemporary issues facing the U.S. and global macroeconomy. The videos will feature a mix of academics and practitioners on topics ranging from the history of debt and money and the structure of the financial system to economic human rights for the 21st century. In addition we will read a variety of original and secondary sources about MMT. Grading is S/U only and based primarily on attendance, engaged participation, and weekly quizzes.

EDUC 397 TOPICS: ENL LINGUISTICS

What is known about human language, its structure, its universality, and its diversity? This linguistics course, the scientific study of language, will include an introduction to the theory and methods of linguistics and cover language acquisition as it applies to English Language Learners.

ENGL 200B THE LITERARY EXPERIENCE: CHRISTIANITY AND LITERATURE

In this topics-based variant of "The Literary Experience," students will be challenged to understand how the Christian tradition shaped the cultural experiences of significant authors' lives, and thus their writing. Authors in this course may include notable historical figures, such as St. Augustine, Dante, Donne, Milton, Bunyan, Hopkins, and Dostoevsky. In order to demonstrate how Christianity continues to shape the literary experiences of the post-modern world, the course also will include a healthy range of literature from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries (T. S. Eliot, Flannery O'Connor, John Updike, and others).

ENGL 200E THE LITERARY EXPERIENCE: AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

This section of ENGL 200 is designed to introduce students to a variety of African American literature, including important themes, issues, and strategies in Black American writing. We will take an historical and cultural approach to reading and discussing the texts we read—this means that we will think about the authors and the works in this class as influenced by and responding to significant moments, places, and ideas in African American history and culture. In addition to reading canonical literary works, we will also be looking critically at Black American writers and producers of popular culture (including rap and hip-hop) and considering their relationship to African American literature.

HIST 297 TOPICS: THE CLASH OF CAPITAL AND CLASS

(See CIVT 204A)

JOUR 297 TOPICS: STORYTELLING TECHNIQUES FOR THE DIGITAL JOURNALIST

Students in this course will sharpen their interviewing abilities as they learn to create and edit video news and feature stories. Some attention will be given to podcasting. Permission of the professor is required.

MDFL 397 TOPICS IN MFL (NON-LIT): REVOLUTIONARY FICTION – CUBA

Fifty years of defiant socialism has earned Cuba a reputation in Americans' imagination for political repression and economic shortages. This course will help you understand the island as Cubans do. By analyzing classic Cuban works of poetry and fiction, central themes of Cuban life will become clear: indignities and successes of a socialist experiment, fear of the U.S, exile, and the racial legacy of slavery. To make these stories more meaningful, our course examines the historical context that inspired authors: Spanish colonialism, U.S' occupation of Cuba, Fidel Castro's revolution, and the Cold War. Classes and readings are in English.

PHIL 297 TOPICS: PHILOSOPHY OF MIND

In this course we will investigate the nature of our minds. We will consider such questions as: Can minds be reduced to brains? If so, then how can they represent the world, or carry meaning? And how can we be rational agents? If, on the other hand, minds are immaterial things, how could they emerge out of, and interact with, the physical world? Can we create machines that have minds? Can things with artificial intelligence be subjects of consciousness? What does it mean to have consciousness, or be a subject, anyway? Questions about what minds are and how they fit into a coherent picture of the physical world informed by natural science are both interesting puzzles and of central importance to our understanding of our own identities and what it means to be a person.

PHIL 332 SEMINAR: GLOBAL ETHICS

In this course we will investigate fundamental ethical questions and problems that arise from global interconnections and the interdependence of people around the world. Can there be a global ethical framework given the significant cultural diversity around the world? Are human rights a universal moral standard? In what ways is globalization good and in what ways is it harmful? Do affluent people have any responsibility to help impoverished persons throughout the world and if so, what should they do? We will consider a variety of theoretical responses to these questions and their practical consequences.

PSYC 397 TOPICS: SENIOR SEMINAR

This discussion-based seminar will explore some of the most important recent advances in psychology. Students will read a selection of best-selling books popularizing research conducted by top scholars in various areas of psychology (e.g., cognitive, developmental, social, clinical). In addition, students will read the original research articles upon which the books were based. Discussions will center on critical evaluation of the research, and how to apply research findings to students' intended careers and personal lives.

Prerequisites: JR OR SR STANDING, AT LEAST 3 PSYC COURSES.

RELI 332 SEMINAR IN CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY: LIVING AS CHRISTIANS

What does it mean to live a Christian life in the 21st Century? How shall Christians live their lives in secular places such as the mall, the voting booth, or the mountains? This course will draw on the ethics of contemporary Christian theologians to explore various methods, sources, principles, values and virtues to help Christian thinkers do Christian ethics and live a Christian life amidst an ever-changing world. Attention will be paid to the theory and practice of the discipline of ethics as well as discerning how to walk the Christian ethical talk in our everyday communities.