

# ***New Course Descriptions for Fall Term 2017***

## **Not Listed in 2016-2017 Catalog**

(updated 6/23/17)

### **Courses with New Descriptions**

#### **BIOL/ES 133: Marine Ecology (4)**

**Godard/Wilson**

Students in this course will examine the ecology of marine ecosystems. Additionally, they will learn to recognize and identify characteristics and behavior of more than 100 marine species. This course is only open to students that will be participating in The Caribbean Environment Short Term Course. Students will be enrolled by instructor.

#### **BIOL 350: Special Topics: Biogeochemistry: An Analysis of Global Change (4)**

**Carmichael**

Much like the human body, the Earth's climate and ecological systems have been finely tuned to maintain homeostasis. In the human body, this occurs via feedback loops and exchange between major organ systems. In the Earth's climate and ecological systems, this balance is maintained by the flow of energy and materials. Biogeochemistry is the study of this flow of energy and materials within the Earth's planetary system. In this course, we will cover processes that control the cycling of C, N, and P and other biochemical elements in terrestrial and aquatic systems, with special emphasis placed on the coupling between human and natural systems. Topics include the origin of Earth and the development of elemental cycles, the Earth as a chemical system, the biogeochemical cycling of elements in the atmosphere, lithosphere, and biosphere, the global cycles of H<sub>2</sub>O, C, N and P, and the expanding human footprint on biogeochemical processes. Prerequisite: CHEM 101/102 or CHEM 105, BIOL 207 or BIOL/ES 117.

#### **CMPS 217: Data Structures (4)**

**Schrementi**

Students will study fundamental data structures and their applications to problem solving. Object-oriented programming (OOP) is introduced and OOP techniques are explored, including inheritance, polymorphism, interfaces, and abstract classes.

#### **ENG/GWS 350: Writing from the Hyphen: An Introduction to Latinx Literature (4)**

**Miller**

In this class, students will examine how Latinx identities have been negotiated by exploring a range of genres, including short fiction, novels, poetry, essays, comics, and film. Students will engage in scholarly conversations about constructions of "Latinidad" in terms of race, gender, sexuality, and class while also exploring the relationship of Latinx artists to their communities and popular culture. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or permission. (w, x, DIV)

#### **GWS/POLS 250: Special Topics: Women and Addiction: A Feminist Analysis (4)**

**Thomas**

This course explores addiction within the contexts of the social construction of gender, popular culture and mental health. Discussion topics include the relationship between alcohol and drug abuse and a variety of forms of violence against women; the role that alcohol and drugs play in a hypersexualized consumer culture that enforces rigid gender roles; and the role of corrosive capitalism in promoting addiction as a means of suppressing class struggle and racial justice movements, among others. Through class discussions, readings, films, and in-class activities, students will gain a better perspective on gender, intersectionality, and addiction.

#### **INTL/POLS/REL 250: Special Topics: Religion and Global Politics (4)**

**Schwarz**

This course uses a critical lens to explore religion in global politics. Students will examine and analyze a range of topics, including the compatibility of religion with democracy, issues of gender in religion and politics, the politics of religious freedom, religious humanitarianism and development, and religion and politics in the public sphere. We will problematize our assumptions about "religion," "secularism," and "politics" and strive to move beyond common misperceptions about Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and other religions, and the roles they play in global politics. Instead of treating religious traditions and communities as static entities, we will view religions as "lived" - paying attention to the historical, social, and cultural contextual factors that shape religious actors and their political actions. Students will develop their understandings of how diverse religious, political, and cultural communities conceptualize and act on a range of religious and political issues. Students will learn to think critically about religion and global politics and present a clear and cogent argument on a related theme.

#### **PSY 281: Professional Development in Psychology (4)**

**Pempek Rahl**

This course will introduce students to career options available with a bachelor's degree in psychology. Course activities and guest speakers will help prepare students to apply to graduate programs and employment

opportunities. Examples of topics covered include careers in psychology, internship opportunities, the graduate school application process, resume writing, and tips for interviewing. Prerequisite: PSY 141

**REL 250: Special Topics: Sacred Story: Scriptures of the World's Religions (4)**

**Derrick**

This class is a survey of the major world religions through the voices of their sacred stories. We will consider how religious traditions understand and use their sacred texts – an exciting challenge since the meaning of these texts is not always clear. The course provides an opportunity to dig deeper into the texts, with the help of modern interpretation, to discover the richness of these religious writings and the faiths which inspired them. No prerequisite. Open to first-year students. (*f, w, x, PRE*)

**SOC 250: Special Topics: Deviance and Social Control (4)**

**Richardson**

This course will introduce students to the study of deviant behavior and mechanisms of social control. We will begin by learning the major criminological theories and how they explain deviance, including: strain/anomie theory, social disorganization theory, learning theory, control theory, labeling theory, conflict theory, and critical criminological theories. Mechanisms of social control include institutionalization, medicalization, punishment/deterrence, public fear, and felony disenfranchisement.

**SPAN 232: Conversation and Composition: Readings (4)**

**Diaz**

Students will develop writing and speaking skills at an advanced level using Hispanic short stories as the point of departure. Class discussions about the readings and frequent short writing assignments will allow students to hone their speaking and writing abilities in Spanish. Designation: Language/literature. Prerequisite: Placement, SPAN 112, SPAN 121, or permission.

**SPAN 362: Spanish Translation (4)**

**Ridley**

This course focuses on the history of translation and translation theory as well as the challenges in producing accurate translations due to idioms, false cognates, and differing vocabularies from one Spanish-speaking country to another. We will focus on the importance of contextual translations over literal, word-for-word translations. The course also includes segments on translation in various professions including business, medicine, and the law. The majority of the class will be dedicated to Spanish to English translations, but some English to Spanish translation will also be included. Designation: Language course. Prerequisite: Placement, one 200-level course, or permission.

**UNIV 250: Learning To Thrive: Academic And Personal Well-Being (2)**

**Beach**

Many people say they want to be successful, productive, and well, but few pause to explore what those terms and constructs mean. How does one define academic success? What does one mean by productive? What counts as being well? This course brings together intrapersonal, interpersonal, and rhetorical theories and practices to identify the many answers to these questions. Students who complete this course will learn skills useful for building an academic life of purpose, vitality, and resilience by gaining a better understanding of their own academic and personal well-being while developing a time management plan and identifying proactive and reactive behaviors that align with their academic and personal well-being goals. This course replaces COMM 250: Communication and Well-Being and is not open to students who have previously taken Communication and Well-Being.