New Course Descriptions for Spring Term 2020
Not Listed in 2018-2019 Catalog
(updated 8/14/19)

ART 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY (4) Morales
What is a documentary image? How do viewers read, decode, and understand photographs? In this course, students will photograph, research, and investigate documentary subjects of their own choice as well as examine issues of photojournalism, access, and ethics. Readings, slide lectures, and class discussions supplement group critiques of on-going work. Lab fee required. Some photographic experience helpful, but no prerequisite. Open to first-year students.

ART/ES 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: GREEN BY DESIGN: SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT (4) Hendricks
This course will explore Sustainable Architecture in the broadest sense: from the micro level of materials and technology, through the scale of buildings, to the macro scale of urban form and suburbanization. We will examine how environmentalism has informed architectural discourses, and how discourses on the built environment and urbanism have impacted environmentalism globally. We will be interested in looking at not only how the notion of Sustainable Architecture is conceptualized, interpreted and implemented at varying scales, but also how we might push the frontiers of knowledge toward new directions and dimensions. These new dimensions should challenge us to be conscious of resource use, ecological balance and minimizing environmental impacts, as well as the competing logistics of Green Buildings. (GLO, MOD)

BIOL/ES 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: ONE HEALTH: LINKING HUMAN, ANIMAL, AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (4) Gleim
Nearly two-thirds of all human infectious diseases are transmissible to animals and vice versa. One Health is a world-wide movement which focuses on the intersectionality of human, animal, and environmental health and how interdisciplinary efforts can be made to better study and solve these problems. This seminar-based course will take a case study approach to explore concepts and approaches integral to One Health. Key diseases and issues related to human, animal, and environmental health for which this approach could or has been utilized will be explored along with its associated peer-reviewed literature. This course is specifically targeted towards pre-health, pre-vet, and public health students, along with students interested in field biology and environmental science. Also listed as ES 250. Pre-requisites: BIOL/ES 207/207L, BIOL 236/236L, or permission.

CLAS 314: ROMAN HISTORY & SHAKESPEARE (4) Franko
Historians both establish facts about the past and interpret those facts by constructing narratives that reveal causes and effects tied to individual personalities and collective social factors. Shakespeare is one of the most sensitive and perceptive interpreters of Roman history, and Rome provided him with some of his best material. We will read, view, and discuss three of Shakespeare’s Roman plays (Coriolanus, Julius Caesar, Antony & Cleopatra). Our study of the ancient sources will extend beyond the texts of Plutarch, Livy, and other authors to include the contextual epigraphic, archaeological, and numismatic records. Our dual goals are to understand modern study of ancient history and to evaluate Shakespeare as an early modern interpreter of Roman history for the page and stage.

CMPS 360: APPLIED COMPUTING II: HOW TO THINK LIKE A DATA SCIENTIST (4) Clark, Wassell
Introduces students to the importance of gathering, cleaning, normalizing, visualizing and analyzing data to drive informed decision-making, no matter the field of study. Uses materials developed by Google and their University partners, and a combination of tools and techniques including spreadsheets, SQL, Python, and R to work on real world datasets via a combination of procedural and basic machine learning algorithms. Students will learn to ask good, exploratory questions and develop metrics for designing a well-thought-out analysis. Presenting and discussing an analysis of datasets chosen by students will be an important component of the course. Upon completion of CMPS 160, CMPS 360, and Stat 140 or Stat 251 students will be qualified to apply for Google’s free 10-week ML summer intensive. Prerequisite: MATH 242 or permission.

COMM 372: VISUAL CULT(URE) (4) Richter
Some images go viral. Others do not. Why? Can fear or irony be expressed, or power inequalities between groups be expressed or justified without spoken or written language? If so, how? We address these and related questions in this course, which focuses on the symbolic use of images and objects, especially in current day, Western cultural contexts. Specifically, you will learn basic theories of visual communication from Cultural Studies, Rhetoric and other academic perspectives, apply the theories by analyzing/critiquing images and objects, learn some hands-on techniques for designing persuasive images, and create your own persuasive visuals.
ENG/GWS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: READING NARRATIVES IN MEDICINE: AN INTRODUCTION TO THE MEDICAL HUMANITIES (4) Rosen
In this course, we’ll engage with the growing fields of Literature and Medicine and the Medical Humanities. Discussion topics include disease narratives, the role of African American medical experts in the spread of inoculation, and gendered perceptions of illness. Authors include Louisa May Alcott, Walt Whitman, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, the ACT UP collective, Leslie Jamison, and Esmé Weijun Wang. Prerequisite: one semester of college work or permission. (w, x)

ENG/GWS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: THE SEDUCTION NARRATIVE IN THE ATLANTIC WORLD (4) Rosen
This class examines the evolution of the seduction narrative and how this genre reflects cultural beliefs about the role of young women in changing societies. We will pay attention to how Atlantic World slavery and colonization shape its messages about self-determination, violence, romance, and consent, while always appealing to its audience. Authors include Aphra Behn, Eliza Haywood, Samuel Richardson, Susanna Rowson, and Jane Austen. Prerequisites: sophomore standing. (w, x)

ENG 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: WOMEN’S VOICES IN THE MIDDLE AGES (4) De Groot
Popular accounts of medieval women often reduce them to stereotypes: virgins, whores, queens, victims. This class aims to revise those simple narratives by centering women’s own voices as they created the genres in which they wrote and developed vernacular theologies that claimed authority directly from God. Texts include Book of the City of Ladies, Book of Margery Kempe, and Silence. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

ES 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: HISTORICAL AND CURRENT PERSPECTIVES ON ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IN THE U.S. (4) Christopolus, Cutler
This course provides an introduction to and overview of historical and current U.S. environmental policy. Students will explore the context in which major environmental laws have emerged in the U.S., with a focus on laws and policies governing air and water pollution, maintenance of biodiversity and endangered species, and the protection of natural resources. In addition, the course will also explore policies relevant to climate changes and issues of environmental policy and social justice thru the lens of local environmental issues (e.g. Mountain Valley Pipeline). This course will be taught by Dr. Diana Christopolus, local environmental advocate and historian and Dr. Rupert Cutler, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Agriculture and wildlife biologist. Students taking this course may substitute it for the core requirement of ES 234.

FILM 250: JAPANESE CINEMA (4) Ingle
The history of Japanese cinema explored chronologically. Auteurs such as Ozu, Kurosawa, Mizoguchi, and Miyazaki will be studied, as well as some of the major genres: samurai, kaiju, yakuza, pink films, and anime. No prerequisite.

FREN 262: TOPICS IN FRENCH II (4) Jégousso
Development of conversational and writing skills through discussion and analysis of an aspect of French literature, language, society, or culture. The topic changes from year to year. The topic this year is: Haïti Chérie: An Introduction to Haitian Literature and Culture. This course is designed to help students have a better understanding of Haiti’s literature and culture. Starting with the first Haitian novel, Le gouverneur de la rosée by Jacques Roumain, we will explore several important problematics in the field of Haitian studies including but not limited to: memory and History, the representation of the Haitian revolution, Haitian spiritual beliefs, ecopoetics, and Haiti relations with the rest of the Americas. Throughout the course students will be exposed to different aspects of Haitian culture through documentaries, music, films, short stories and novels. Prerequisite: FREN 112, FREN 118, FREN 121, or departmental placement in a 200-level course. Open to first-year students. May be repeated for credit with a different topic. (o, MOD)

FREN 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: HAITI CHERIE: AN INTRODUCTION TO HATIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE Jégousso
The topic this year is: Haïti Chérie: An Introduction to Haitian Literature and Culture. This course is designed to help students have a better understanding of Haiti’s literature and culture. Starting with the first Haitian novel, Le gouverneur de la rosée by Jacques Roumain, we will explore several important problematics in the field of Haitian studies including but not limited to: memory and History, the representation of the Haitian revolution, Haitian spiritual beliefs, ecopoetics, and Haiti relations with the rest of the Americas. Throughout the course students will be exposed to different aspects of Haitian culture through documentaries, music, films, short stories and novels. Prerequisite: a 200-level course. (o, MOD)
GWS/SOC 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT (4)  
Turner
This course examines key issues and debates in classical and contemporary Black feminist theoretical perspectives within and outside of the United States. Students will explore the contributions of Black feminist scholars and activists to the field of Gender and Women's Studies. A major focus of the course will be how Black women's lived experiences shape Black feminist theory and praxis. Prerequisite: GWS 141.

GWS/SOC 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE (4)  
Turner
This course examines the politics of reproduction in the United States, including the various actors and social institutions that shape reproductive legislation. Using an intersectional approach, students will explore topics such as forced sterilization, the policing of women of color's reproduction, and the connection between reproductive justice and other important issues, such as immigration and mass incarceration. Open to first-year students.

GWS 347: GIRLHOOD STUDIES (4)  
Costa
This course will explore the interdisciplinary field of girlhood studies. We will consider the cultural representations and productions of girls and girl cultures, both academic and popular. Themes of investigation may include: gender socialization, racialization, sexuality, self-esteem, identity formation, media, consumption, international development, empowerment, agency & activism. Discussions will be grounded in feminist intersectional approaches that investigate the diversities and commonalities of girls’ experiences as well as the larger structures of power that shape girls experiences. Students will have the opportunity to learn about girls’ experiences and organizations at the local, national, and global levels.

HIST 150: SPECIAL TOPIC: MAKING HISTORY (4)  
Nunez
This course will immerse students in the past through role-playing games. Students will take on roles based on real historical figures; express the philosophical ideas of those figures through speeches and papers; and debate big ideas with their peers. The course emphasizes strategic thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving. Open to first-year students.

HIST 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: AMERICAN CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL HISTORY (4)  
Florio
This course surveys the history of American ideas and culture from the colonial period to the near present. What ideas have Americans held in the past? When, how, and why have cultural convictions changed in the United States? In what ways and to what extent have ideas mattered across U.S. history? We will explore topics including Puritan theology, Transcendentalism, the anti-slavery movement, and the Culture Wars, drawing on historical sources ranging from presidential speeches to fiction to photographs.

HIST 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: WAR IN THE MODERN WORLD (4)  
Coogan
A study of the causes, conduct, and consequences of war since the beginning of the twentieth century. Topics covered will include but not be limited to the reasons nations go to war, the development of strategies and technologies to fight those wars, the conduct of men and women in battle, the effects of war on combatants and civilians, and the long and short-term legacies of those conflicts.

Coogan
This seminar explores European history from the 18th century through the 20th century by focusing on the interconnected themes of nationalism and imperialism. Topics will include: the emergence of the idea of the nation in the liberal revolutions of the 18th century; Napoleon; the Congress of Vienna; the revolutions of 1848; German and Italian unification; the Ottoman, Habsburg, and Russian empires; the First World War and the post-war peace treaties; the Second World War; the Cold War; and fall of the Soviet Union. Though our focus will be on Europe, we will place these developments in a global context. Prerequisite: 200-level proseminar or permission.

INTL/POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: CULTURAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND MUSEUMS (4)  
Breske
This course will look at the concept of ownership and examine how cultural property and heritage are defined throughout the world. We will also examine themes related to identity, memory, and ownership. Students will learn about the history of collecting, domestic and international cultural heritage laws, regulations, and policies related to indigenous objects and human remains; and, will also discuss the impacts of globalization, war, and historical colonial practices on the idea of culture. This course cannot be taken by students who have taken POLS/INTL 250, Culture of Ownership.

INTL/POLS/REL 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: RELIGION, POLITICS, AND THE MODERN WORLD (4)  
Breske
We will examine historical and political implications of religion in the modern world. Throughout the semester, we will discuss the history of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam to understand modern challenges to traditional religion.
and responses to these challenges, including the influence of religion on: law and sovereignty; gender and race; science and technology; and, identity and media representations.

INTL/POLS 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: REFUGEES AND RESETTLEMENT (4)  Breske
This course will examine significant political, social, and economic issues related to the movement of displaced peoples (both internally and externally displaced). Using local resources, we will explore the concepts of enculturation, socialization, and adaptation. In the course, we will also evaluate key concepts related to displacement, borders, migration, and international policies through an analysis of national policies, advocacy responses, and media sources to understand current issues related to displacement.

MATH 343: COMBINATORICS (2)  Lynch
An introduction to combinatorics, with potential topics including basic counting principles, recursions, permutations, graph theory, and partially ordered sets.

MATH 362: ANALYSIS: REAL ANALYSIS (2)  Wassell
An introduction to advanced calculus. Students will be reading and writing mathematical proofs that provide the theoretical basis for important topics from single-variable calculus, including limits, continuity, differentiation, integration, sequences, and series. Prerequisite: MATH 242 and 310.

MUS 112: MARIACHI ENSEMBLE (1)  Rudolph
Mariachi Ensemble is a group class devoted to the exploration, rehearsal, and performance of music from the mariachi tradition. No experience necessary. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. Course fee $150. May be repeated for credit.

MUS 150: SPECIAL TOPIC: GOLDEN AGE OF MUSICAL THEATRE (4)  Cline
Beginning with the building of the foundations for the American musical, this course will explore the musicals of the early 20th century and culminate with the rich repertoire of musicals of the Golden Era of the musical theatre stage. Works to be studied include musicals by the great teams of Rodgers and Hammerstein and Lerner and Lowe.

POLS 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: LAW AND POLITICS OF WORK (4)  Chenette
Is your Uber driver an employee? Why is the minimum wage different between states? Who pays for a sick day? Work in America is fundamentally shaped by law and politics. This course explores original sources of law to contextualize contemporary challenges for public and private employers and employees. Topics include forming and avoiding the employment relationship, state and federal government regulation of business, unions and labor organizing, wage and hour law, workplace discrimination and sexual harassment, and benefits and medical leave. Open to first-year students.

POLS/REL 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: RELIGIOUS LIBERTY (4)  Chenette
From criminalizing peyote rituals to regulating wedding cakes, licensing plural marriages to funding parochial schools, Abercrombie employees in hijab to medical service exemptions: defining religious freedom under the law is no easy separation of "church" from "state". This course explores intersections, collisions, and contradictions of American government and religious expression through the lens of the judiciary. We will critically explore original sources of law to understand the complex contours of religious liberty.

PSY 350: SPECIAL TOPIC: HOMICIDE (4)  Michalski
This seminar course focuses on key studies conducted on the psychology of homicide. We will review various theoretical perspectives applied to the study of homicide and review various types of homicide including fratricide, infanticide, serial homicide, and parricide. We will explore demographic information of both the victims and perpetrators and examine circumstances that precede homicides such as partner violence, sexual jealousy, same-sex conflicts over status and reputation, stalking, and robbery. Prerequisites: PSY 205 and PSY 208.

PSY 350: PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT (4)  Mann
This course explores modern techniques for evaluation of human behavior. Theory, interpretation, and administration of psychological tests will be discussed. Students will practice administering, scoring, and interpreting a variety of assessments. Examples of topics covered include intelligence, ability, aptitude, and personality tests, and test construction. Pre-requisites: PSY 141, PSY 205, PSY 208.

REL 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: NATIVE AMERICAN RELIGIONS (4)  Larsen-Harris
Long before Jamestown was founded, Native Americans practiced elaborate religious traditions—and they continue to do so today. This course will explore the rich diversity of practices that existed before first contact and those that
evolved when Christianity began to spread. We will read Native American myths and stories from around the continent and also research individual tribal traditions. We will seek to understand ancient native rituals such as the Sun Dance as well as those movements that arose in response to Christianity such as the peyote cult and Ghost Dance. No prerequisite. Open to first-year students.

REL 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: WEALTH AND POVERTY IN THE BIBLE (4) Derrick
Grounded in the biblical theme of Justice, this course will consider the importance of the biblical texts as they relate to wealth and poverty. We will examine a broad range of economic issues and how they are addressed in scripture. Based upon readings of primary texts from the Bible, the course explores the potential contributions and limitations of scripture to contemporary socio-ethical dialogue. No prerequisite. Open to first-year students. (j, w, x, DIV)

THEA 250: SPECIAL TOPIC: PASSION, POSSIBILITIES AND PURPOSE: PERSONALIZING THE ART OF MAKING THEATRE (4) Zulia
What makes us choose to participate in the art of making theatre? It goes beyond the satisfaction and recognition that come with putting a carefully rehearsed performance, or a beautifully executed design, or a well-crafted play in front of an audience. This course examines the art of making theatre as a way of living in the world, while at the same time making the world a better place. Theatre is an art form that is both deeply personal and gloriously collaborative. It takes on many forms as imagined by the artist. It demands a generosity of spirit to be shared with both fellow theatre makers and willing audiences. The student will explore personal and public philosophies that will serve as guideposts along an unfolding theatrical journey. In addition, the course will help identify the many skills acquired while studying and working in theatre, and how those skills can be applied to a positive and productive life in any arena.

Courses with New Descriptions

ART 351: ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE: PUBLIC ART (2) Schmuki
A two-credit course taught by the Frances Niederer Artist-in-Residence each year. This course will explore a variety of approaches to creating public art including types of socially engaged art, public intervention, guerilla art, monuments, wall works, performances, video, and sculpture. We will examine the processes, history, and role of contemporary public art through a collaborative project that involves the broader community and transcends the gallery setting. Lectures and/or studio work. Lab fee may be required. Prerequisite: one studio art course or art history course or permission of department.

ENG 151: CLOSE READING, CRITICAL WRITING: FOUR BY SHAKESPEARE (4) De Groot
An introduction to literary studies at the college level. This is a course about how important stories and ideas are reanimated across genre, time, and cultures. Along the way you will experience your own transformation as a reader, thinker, and writer. Topics in literature vary from term to term. Focus Spring 2020: This course aims to provide students with a basic toolkit for studying literature through close examination of four plays by Shakespeare. You will learn basic grammar, rhetorical devices, and general theoretical approaches to serve as a basis for close reading and critical writing. This course meets the 100-level literature course requirement for potential majors, but all are welcome. No prerequisite. (f, w, x, AES)

ENG 351: WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE: THE FUTURE IS NOW?: POETRY THAT RESPONDS TO WHITMAN’S “DEMOCRATIC VISTAS” (4) Spears Jones
In 1870, Walt Whitman wrote a powerful essay, “Democratic Vistas,” positioning poetry at the core of American political culture. By critiquing Whitman's vision, and considering the work of a range of contemporary poets, students' work as poets and scholars will help to define what America has made of Whitman’s vision. Topic and genre varies each year in accordance with the writer-in-residence. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisite: ENG 142 and sophomore standing or permission.

ENG 354: FILM AS A NARRATIVE ART II: VAL LEWTON(4) Dillard
This course focuses on a study of films by directors such as Federico Fellini, Akira Kurosawa, Stanley Kubrick, and Orson Welles, as moral, aesthetic, and psychological narratives, with particular attention to the development of cinematic style in relation to concerns throughout their careers. Subject: The poetic horror films produced at RKO in the 1940s by Val Lewton. Films include: Cat People, I Walked with a Zombie, The Leopard Man, The Seventh Victim, The Ghost Ship, he Curse of the Cat People, Mademoiselle Fifi, Isle of the Dead, The Body Snatcher, and Bedlam. Also listed as FILM 354. Prerequisite: Sophomore standing or permission of instructor.
FILM 271: WORLD CINEMA (4)  Ingle
This course will examine the cinemas and media industries of several countries across the globe. These may include, but are not limited to, France, Spain, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Russia, Romania, Italy, Japan, China, Iran, Israel, Nigeria, Senegal, Mali, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, and Cuba. Film screenings will supplement the pertinent issues of national identity, as well as historical and contemporary political issues. This course will also focus on the key filmmakers, genres, and movements. Open to first-year students. No prerequisite. (AES, MOD)