

SPRING 2022 EXPLORATIONS IN THE CORE, SEMINARS, & SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART-290-001 Special Topics in Studio Art: Introduction to Sculpture/3-D Design

This course introduces the fundamental principles of three-dimensional design and sculptural techniques through an array of media and artistic approaches. Students will create sculptures in various materials and will also be introduced to historical and contemporary sculptors, while also developing their analytic vocabulary through discussions and critiques. **Additional art materials fee of \$100 is required.**

ART-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Studio Art: Computer Animation II

This course further develops skills learned in Computer Animation 1. Students will expand their technical and conceptual expertise, learning more advanced animation methods to create both narrative and experimental animations using industry standard animation software. Students must acquire permission of instructor to register. **Additional art materials fee of \$100 is required.**

BIO-290B-001 Special Topics in Organismal Biology: Plant Behavior

Plants are a diverse and fascinating group of photosynthetic eukaryotes essential to life on Earth. This course will cover a wide variety of topics specific to kingdom Plantae, such as anatomy, physiology, phytochemistry, ethnobotany, evolution, genetics, taxonomy, response to environmental stimuli, reproductive biology, and ecology. The laboratory component builds from lecture topics through a hands-on inquiry-based approach to understanding plant biology and behavior, both in lab and in the field. *Prerequisites: BIO-110, CHM-101, and CHM-101L all with C- or better.* **Additional science lab fee of \$100 is required.**

BIO-290C-001 Special Topics in Ecological Biology: Freshwater Ecology

This course will use readings, lecture, laboratory exercises, in-class activities, and discussions of the primary literature to explore the physical, chemical, and biological features that structure freshwater ecosystems. The course will primarily focus on lakes and streams, with a brief introduction to the unique characteristics of wetland ecosystems. Throughout the semester, our studies will touch upon several important topics related to freshwater conservation and management. *Prerequisites: BIO-110, BIO-111, and CHM-101.* **Additional science lab fee of \$100 is required.**

BIO-290C-002 Special Topics in Ecological Biology: Avian Ecology

This course will use fieldwork, literature, exercises, lectures, and interviews to explore the intersection of bird biology, ecology, and urbanization. Enrolled students will develop academic knowledge, field and publication skills, and familiarity with career paths. *Prerequisite: BIO-111 and BIO-201 both with C- or better.* **Additional science lab fee of \$100 is required.**

BIO-490A-001 Advanced Special Topics in Cellular/Molecular Biology: Genetic Engineering

Emmanuelle Charpentier and Jennifer Doudna won the 2020 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for the development of genome editing technology. Charpentier and Doudna repurposed CRISPR/Cas9, part of the bacterial adaptive immune response, as a tool to precisely edit genomes of a variety of different organisms. What are the applications of genetic engineering? Should we be concerned about designer babies? What do farmers think of genetic modification? In this seminar-style course we will learn the molecular genetic techniques and cutting-edge biotechnology used to genetically engineer an organism. We will examine several examples of genetic engineering including genetically modified crops, transgenic animals for xenotransplantation, genetically modified insects for vector-borne disease control, "designer babies," human gene therapy, and pharmaceutical production. In addition, we will touch on the ecological, environmental, ethical, economic, and political issues associated with production and distribution of genetically engineered organisms. Readings from primary literature, review articles, and opinion and commentary pieces will guide our discussions. *Prerequisite: BIO-201.* **Additional science lab fee of \$100 is required.**

BIO-490A-002 Advanced Special Topics in Cellular/Molecular Biology: Immunology

As an introduction to the network of cells and soluble mediators that prevent human infection/disease, this course will investigate the interactions that underlie humoral and cell-mediated defense, standard lab techniques used to study immunity, and pathologies that result when the immune system malfunctions. *Prerequisite: BIO-201.* **Additional science lab fee of \$100 is required.**

BUS-290-101 Special Topics in Business Administration: Entrepreneurship

Students will learn the basics of entrepreneurial endeavor and understand the essentials of innovation through business creation. The focus will be on the key fundamentals of idealization, business planning, market evaluation, legal implications, capital development and execution of an idea allowing students to become more familiar with the real-world implications of launching a business. Students in this class can expect to complete the class having learned about the mindset of modern entrepreneurs, how businesses are initiated, some of the key elements of constructing a business plan and about some of the growth strategies of entrepreneurial ventures.

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COR-350-001 Core Elective: Decolonizing the Core: Contemporary Perspectives

Students will explore global twentieth- and twenty-first-century works by Margaret Atwood, Colson Whitehead, Ava DuVernay, Kevin Kwan, Hasan Minhaj and others that problematize the social order and explore some challenges of modernity, including systemic racism, sexism, ethnocentrism, globalization, and Climate Change. *Prerequisites: COR-101, COR-102, COR-201, and COR-202.*

ECO-490-001 Special Topics in Economics: Econometrics II

Econometrics II is an advanced undergraduate course in econometrics with a focus on methods used in contemporary empirical economic research. Topics will include simultaneous equations, times series, panel data (fixed and random effects models), and other applications utilizing STATA software and coding. *Prerequisite: ECO-429 or permission of instructor.*

ENG-241-001 Topics in Genre Studies: The Modern Novel

This course asks what it is to be modern as well as what it means for the novel as a genre to be modern. Through a survey of literary works from England, France, Germany, and Ireland, this course explores questions of how dramatic changes in technological and mass production altered how the world was seen and, in turn, how a new aesthetic of the modern world was created. Our texts will also take up issues of gender, sexual relations, marriage, what it is to know, or not to know (or what it is to know you do not know), the issue of character presentation (do all characters have an inner life?), and a relation to one's past – or to one's culture's past, and with that to history. *Prerequisites: COR-101, COR-102, and a 100-level ENG course (ENG-104 recommended).*

ENG-241-002 Topics in Genre Studies: Satanic School of Poetry

During a period of widespread political repression, conservative fear of revolution, and stifling regulation of works of literature, a small group of 19th-century writers dared to defy the authority of the government and the Crown. Dubbed "The Satanic School of Poetry" by arch-conservative poet Robert Southey, the works of Lord Byron and Percy Shelley (and their associates, including Mary Shelley) embraced atheism, equality for the working class, sexual liberation, and, ultimately, the profound political potential of the freedom of thought. Though their unorthodox lives drove them from England, this group of English writers wrote for and to an English public that at once feared their ideas and loved their writings. In this course, we'll read the major works of the members of this "school," alongside of the thinkers they were engaging with (William Godwin, Mary Wollstonecraft, Edmund Burke, John Milton), and in the context of historical scholarship that explains the political and religious strictures that their works defied. Work will include 3 formal papers, weekly informal response papers, 1 presentation, and daily reading quizzes. Permission of instructor can override course requisites. *Prerequisites: COR-101, COR-102, and a 100-level ENG course.*

ENG-341-001 Advanced Special Topics in Genre Studies: The Modern Novel

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FMS-290-001 Special Topics in Film and Media Studies: Mediterranean Cinema

Mediterranean Cinema will introduce students to the vast and rich cinematic history of both Spain and Italy. This course will take a chronological approach, giving students an introduction to the traditions of both Italian and Spanish filmmaking. Drawing

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on the unique histories of both countries, the course will put into context the common social, historical and economic issues that both countries faced during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries to highlight major movements and directors like neorealism, social realism, *La movida*, Fellini, Almodóvar, Rossellini, Bardem, Buñuel and more.

FMS-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Film and Media Studies: Post-Production

This foundational course covers the proper protocols, detailed workflow documentation, and division of labor-required to build a successful postproduction team. Students' experiences will cover the technical aspects of Premiere Pro, the fundamentals of picture editing based on story structure, the design, creation, and building of effective sound tracks, the selection and editing of music, and composite sound mixing and sound mastering to industry standard delivery requirements for independent media projects. *Prerequisite: FMS-150 or ART-105. Additional film studies fee of \$100 is required.*

FRE-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in French Language, Literature, and Culture: Postcolonial Thought, Practices, and Poetics in the French Caribbean

This course, taught in English, takes a "major authors" approach to reading Caribbean cultural theory from French-speaking Caribbean spaces. The course focuses on several contemporary Franco-Caribbean thinkers whose work highlights the impact of French colonial practice despite the many years it has been officially over. European universalism's failures, especially as it relates to its colonial history, have engendered different types of criticisms against the consequences of such thinking from the West. These authors have had a significant effect on engagements - creative, political, scholarly and otherwise - with the Caribbean, and have also illuminated the changing nature of French society through a process of contact, change and exchange that expands traditional notions of 'French-ness.' Haiti, Martinique, and Guadeloupe will be the main areas of focus from the Caribbean region, but understand that in our interrelated world, you will encounter collaboration with major thinkers from France, the Maghreb, and sub-Saharan Africa as well as the diaspora. We join two interconnecting conversations when we look at the contributions from these various French-speaking islands in the region and as we consider the region's position within the broader postcolonial, African-diasporic and hemispheric-American trajectories. In the first place, we will be making sense of Caribbean-ness through terms and questions such as *Négritude*, *Antillanité*, *Créolité*, modern blackness, creolization, language politics, hybridity, plantation societies, and transnationalism. Secondly, in the case of the islands that are DOMs, or overseas territories of France, their author contributions inform conversations about what it means to be French by challenging the myth of the absence of race in France. The course will be broken into groupings under THOUGHT (thinkers, theory, activists and more), PRACTICES (religious rituals such as Vodun, dance, performance art and more), and POETICS (literature, songs, poems and more). Taught in English. Cross-listed with History. [CROSS-LISTED WITH HIS-290-002](#)

HIS-290-001 Special Topics in History: Love, Marriage, and Gender in History

This seminar addresses questions of marriage, love, and gender from a multi-century, comparative, and global perspective. Using a wide array of archival, literary, and visual sources this course will explore how ideas, practices, laws and customs surrounding love, marriage, and gender have formed and transformed in a variety of contexts. This course will focus substantially on marriage, love, and gender outside of Western Civilizations, demonstrating the variety of practices and cultural conceptions of these seemingly universal human experiences. European traditions will be discussed as a means of comparing and contrasting sentimental ideas regarding masculinity, femininity, and the nature of marital relations. Particular emphasis will be placed on the historical transformation of these ideas in the wake of growing Western dominance, however, the course will avoid repeating Eurocentric judgments or expectations by ensuring at least half of the perspectives presented originate from non-Western sources, including minorities in European or American settings seeking to preserve their unique cultural traditions or revive lost legacies of non-binary gender expectations. [CROSS-LISTED WITH WGS-290-001](#)

HIS-290-002 Special Topics in History: Postcolonial Thought, Practices, and Poetics in the French Caribbean

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overseas territories of France, their author contributions inform conversations about what it means to be French by challenging the myth of the absence of race in France. The course will be broken into groupings under THOUGHT (thinkers, theory, activists and more), PRACTICES (religious rituals such as Vodun, dance, performance art and more), and POETICS (literature, songs, poems and more). Taught in English. Cross-listed with French. [CROSS-LISTED WITH FRE-490-001](#)

HIS-290-003 Special Topics in History: The World Since 1945: A History of Decolonization, Ethnic Cleansing, and Global Strife.

The 20th century was one of extremes. This class will traverse principal trends, ideas, events, and people that helped change the world. This course will discuss the rise of global interconnectedness, the Second World War, decolonization, the Cold War, and the ways in which the end of the Cold War affected the world. We will also discuss how major events affected ordinary people around the world including ethnic cleansings, increasing number of refugees, and the forging of new identities across the globe.

JPN-290-271 Special Topics in Japanese: Japanese Pop Culture in the Global Age

In recent decades, Japanese fashion, videogames, manga, anime, music and more have spread across the globe, shaping Japan's image in an age of digital networks and exuberant participatory culture. Fan gatherings such as Anime Weekend Atlanta draw tens of thousands, and the Crunchyroll streaming site has over two million paid subscribers. What makes Japanese popular culture so appealing, and what can it tell us about Japan? How are people from diverse backgrounds drawn into fan communities that cut across differences in gender, age, sexuality and ethnicity? This course will examine the ways in which Japanese popular culture is constructed, circulated and talked about. Students will become acquainted with methodologies drawn from a range of disciplines and will develop an awareness of how they themselves engage with Japanese popular culture. Course activities will include discussions of assigned readings and viewings, research papers, and presentations. No knowledge of Japanese is required.

MAT-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Mathematics: Complex Analysis

Think of this course as calculus for functions of a complex variable. Main topics include complex numbers, analytic (differentiable) functions, elementary functions, conformal mapping, complex integration, and infinite series. Permission of instructor required for registration.

MUS-290-001 Special Topics in Music: Symphonic Ensemble

The Symphonic Ensemble is a general curriculum course that includes all instruments. The ensemble studies and performs standard ensemble literature and is open to all students with instrumental experience.

PHI-290-001 Special Topics in Philosophy: Introduction to the Islamic World

This course is a historical approach to the foundational concepts, texts, and events in the Islamic tradition. We will pay particular attention to the political organization and cultural developments of the trans-national empires of the Caliphates. Women in Islam, scientific and mathematical achievements, Shariah law, and interfaith dialogue will be topics of discussion.

PHI-290-002 Special Topics in Philosophy: The Apocalypse: Revolution through Revelation

This is a course on early Jewish and Christian apocalypticism (the belief in an imminent end of this world) and apocalyptic literature (a literary genre produced in the context of this belief). By exploring the social origins and textual traditions, we will see how the apocalyptic imagination of dragons, wild beasts and militarized spirits gave voice to deeply felt political and religious tensions. Though historically grounded in the worlds of antiquity and late antiquity, the course invites students to consider the various ways people from other regions, religions, and eras—including within the context of COVID-19—have read and used these texts.

PHY-290-001 Special Topics in Physics: Fluid Mechanics

Fluid mechanics is the study of the behavior of liquids and gases at rest (statics) and in motion (dynamics). It has applications to numerous engineering fields, such as civil, mechanical, aerospace, and chemical engineering as well as applications in physics, such as plasma physics, geophysics, biophysics and astrophysics. This course will introduce key topics in the analysis of fluids including conservation laws, finite control volume analysis, viscous and inviscid flow, and dimensional analysis.

Prerequisites: PHY-211 and MAT-132

PHY-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Physics: Space Physics

Space physics is the study of the plasma state as it occurs naturally in space, from the solar core to the interstellar medium. The solar wind, shocks, and interactions with planetary magnetospheres will be discussed. This course will address space

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weather and implications for communication and satellites, as well as the design and use of instrumentation in spacecraft. If you have ever said to yourself, "I want to work for NASA" - this is the class for you. *Prerequisites: PHY-202 and MAT-233.*

POL-290-001 Special Topics in Politics: Public Policy in Real World: How the Sausage is Made

This course will equip students with an understanding of the formal, rules-based law-making process in Georgia, while providing practical insight into the many considerations and interests that shape policy. Case studies, guest speakers, and real-world concept application will provide students with a chance to put their learning into practice.

POL-290-002 Special Topics in Politics: Introduction to the Legal System

This course introduces students to the legal profession and the American legal system. There will be an examination of various legal specialties and students will hear from successful lawyers about their careers. We will explore the aptitudes and skills needed for being a lawyer, the best ways to prepare for a career in law, and the law school experience

PSY-290C-001 Special Topics in Cognitive/Developmental Psychology: Adolescent Psychology

This course will introduce you to the current theories and research about adolescent development. Topics include biological development, cognitive development, identity, gender and sexuality, and peer relationships. This course fulfills a cognitive/developmental elective. *Prerequisite: PSY-101*

PSY-290E-001 Special Topics in Psychology: Multicultural Psychology

Multicultural Psychology is the systematic study of how culture influences affect, cognition, and behavior. This course will explore psychological constructs unique to cultures around the world and identify how traditional psychological theories and constructs play out in culture specific ways. The course will explore themes from multicultural and cross-cultural psychology and will include a discussion of health, communication, education, gender and identity. The course will introduce students to cross cultural methods of research and modern indigenous researchers. The course will encourage students to explore their own intersectional identities and to broaden their knowledge of diverse communities within the context of psychology.

Prerequisite: PSY-101

PSY-290E-101 Special Topics in Psychology: Forensic Psychology

This course will review the application of clinical and abnormal psychology to criminal cases. Students will learn the many roles of forensic psychologists, gain an appreciation for the benefits and limitation of forensic psychology expert testimony, and have an opportunity to practice applying mental health concepts to forensic cases. Students will also be introduced to the research on controversial forensic techniques, such as the use of lie-detectors, handwriting analyses, and criminal profiling. In addition, we will investigate the use of mental health defenses in high profile cases, including the use of unusual defenses (e.g., Battered Spouse Syndrome, Dissociative Disorder). This class is different from, and does not overlap with, the department's course "Psychology and Law." Like the law class, this one is particularly relevant for those considering a career at the intersection of clinical psychology and the legal system. This class does not fulfill a specific area requirement for the B.S. Psychology Degree, but can serve as an elective for either the B.S. or BALS degrees. *Prerequisite: PSY-101*

PSY-290E-201 Special Topics in Psychology: Science of Happiness

Through recorded history, humans have sought answers to live a life that is both objectively and subjectively good. This course introduces students to the scientific study and pursuit of a good life, through which happiness can be attained. The syllabus draws on research from recent decades that shows what elements of happiness are under our control, and to what degree it is possible to be happy and contribute to the happiness of future generations. Selected insights from Eastern and Western philosophy will inform our interpretation of scientific research. We will also dispel common myths about happiness and learn techniques to increase tranquility during times of mental stress. Assignments in this course require reflection on how to apply course material to one's own life. [CROSS-LISTED WITH SOC-290-201](#)

SOC-290-001 Special Topics in Sociology: Sociology of Health and Medicine

Examines the field of medical sociology and the study of health, wellness, illness and morality. Delineates between biological and social scientific approaches to the study of health. Topics covered will include the social determinants of health and health inequalities tied to race, class, gender, sexuality and disability; health care as an institution; the relationship of health systems to political, economic and social conditions; and health care reform. *Prerequisite: SOC-101*

SOC-290-201 Special Topics in Sociology: Science of Happiness

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SPN-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Hispanic Language, Literature, and Culture: Latin American Icons: Representation of Eva Perón and Ernesto "Che" Guevara in Literature, Film and Popular Culture

This course explores the impact and legacy of two legendary figures from Argentina: former First Lady Eva Perón and revolutionary leader of the Cuban Revolution Ernesto "Che" Guevara. We will study some of the various Evitas and Ches created at different times and places (from the 1950s to the present) by examining literature, film, and popular culture. By the end of the course, students should be able to answer the following questions: Why are Guevara and Perón such powerful icons? How and why have representations of these historical figures changed? At the same time, students will become aware of historical, social, and cultural developments that will widen their knowledge of Latin America. Class conducted in Spanish. Readings in English and Spanish. *Prerequisite: SPN-302 or permission of instructor.*

THE-290-001 Special Topics in Theatre: Scenic Painting

This course will explore the techniques and processes used in painting scenery for theatrical productions. Students will learn the common tools, materials, and painting techniques necessary to translate typical visual textures from the page to the stage.

WGS-290-001 Special Topics in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies: Love, Marriage, and Gender in History

This seminar addresses questions of marriage, love, and gender from a multi-century, comparative, and global perspective. Using a wide array of archival, literary, and visual sources this course will explore how ideas, practices, laws and customs surrounding love, marriage, and gender have formed and transformed in a variety of contexts. This course will focus substantially on marriage, love, and gender outside of Western Civilizations, demonstrating the variety of practices and cultural conceptions of these seemingly universal human experiences. European traditions will be discussed as a means of comparing and contrasting sentimental ideas regarding masculinity, femininity, and the nature of marital relations. Particular emphasis will be placed on the historical transformation of these ideas in the wake of growing Western dominance, however, the course will avoid repeating Eurocentric judgments or expectations by ensuring at least half of the perspectives presented originate from non-Western sources, including minorities in European or American settings seeking to preserve their unique cultural traditions or revive lost legacies of non-binary gender expectations. [CROSS-LISTED WITH HIS-290-001](#)

WRI-331-001 Writing Prose, Fiction, and Nonfiction: Adaptation Prose to Screen

In this advanced writing course, students learn the unique characteristics and techniques of adapting literary works for the screen. Story themes, character archetypes, and different modes of adaptation will be examined in lecture and workshop. The real-world parameters of public domain and intellectual property rights will be examined. Students will employ screenplay methods to adapt pre-existing prose by an author other than themselves to the screen, creating a functional first draft short screenplay. *Prerequisite: COR-101, COR-102, and a 100-level ENG course.*

WRI-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Writing

This course provides the opportunity for an advanced, intense study of a topic in Creative Writing chosen by the student under the direct supervision of the instructor. Topics include but are not limited to a short story cycle, poem cycle, screenplay or theatrical playscript, novella, or essay collection. Written critical evaluation as well as a creative project are required. The student and instructor will collaborate throughout the semester to ensure the completion of a focused, individualized project. This course is suited for junior or senior students with a declared WRI minor. *Prerequisite: 3 courses from WRI.*