

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

AAS-290-001 Special Topics in African American Studies: Introduction to Queer Studies and Queer of Color Critique

Social justice work, in both theory and praxis, is most effective when it includes everyone. Separating progress into phases and approaching them one by one—moving through the list of gender, sexuality, race, class, nationality, ability, age, etc.—means that people will invariably be left out: anti-racist work that only helps men, or feminism that only helps white women, is insufficient. Too, this linear model implies a project of inclusion: adding people, group by group, to a limited but real world of rights and fairness. But what if that world is a myth? Or, worse, what if it exists for some precisely by excluding others? Building upon the rich theoretical traditions of woman of color feminism and queer theory, queer of color critique is a broadly interdisciplinary field focused on the intersections of identities and oppression. By engaging its critical lineages, methodologies, and exciting new areas of inquiry, we'll learn in this course to interrogate structures of power and dream up more livable worlds. In conversation with theory, fiction, graphic novels, and film from the 1960s through the present day, we'll theorize what it means to survive, to be recognized, and to be free. We'll also identify concrete ways to build the better worlds we imagine. This introductory-level course is designed for students interested in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, African American Studies, or any related discipline; there are no prerequisites for this course. [CROSS-LISTED WITH WGS-290-002.](#)

ART-290-001 Special Topics in Studio Art: Intro to Archival Studies

The purpose of this course is to introduce, examine and understand core components, concepts and methods of the archives, records, and manuscripts profession. The course seeks to explore basic theoretical issues and archival principles as well as provide insight into their practical application. It attempts to strike a balance between theory and practice so that students will learn how to perform archival functions as well as understand the principles underlying these functions. Students will gain an overall understanding of the archival profession in the United States and be introduced to the many technologies currently impacting the profession. Class discussion will focus on the assigned readings, the changing nature of recordkeeping, and the broader influence of records on societal and cultural memory. [CROSS-LISTED WITH HIS-290-001 AND NPM-290-001.](#)

ART-290-002 Special Topics in Studio Art: Intermediate Graphic Design I

This course builds upon the knowledge students acquired in the introductory graphic design course by exploring additional design principles, methods, and applications. Students will learn more advanced techniques for effective visual communication, integrating type and graphic elements, using Adobe design software and traditional media to create compelling print and digital graphics projects. *Prerequisite: 100-level studio ART course or permission of the instructor.* **Additional art/film materials fee of \$100 is required.**

BUS-290-001 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.

BUS-290-002 Special Topics in Business Administration: PR Practicum

This class is the next phase of the Oglethorpe PR firm, which acts as a real PR agency. Students will design and implement PR & Marketing campaigns for real clients by taking on roles and responsibilities as they would at an actual PR firm. Students will leave this course with not only a greater understanding of campaign design and implementation, but actual work product to put on their resume and digital portfolio. [CROSS-LISTED WITH COM-290-001.](#)

COM-290-001 Special Topics in Communication Studies: Strategic Communication Practicum

This class is the next phase of the Oglethorpe PR firm, which acts as a real PR agency. Students will design and implement PR & Marketing campaigns for real clients by taking on roles and responsibilities as they would at an actual PR firm. Students will leave this course with not only a greater understanding of campaign design and implementation, but actual work product to put on their resume and digital portfolio. (Please note: The course replaces COM 440, PR Campaigns. It can be taken at the 200 or 400 level; there are no prerequisites for students who take it at the 200 level, but students who wish to take it at the 400 level must have had one PR or marketing course. Students taking the course at the 200-level will have different assignments and responsibilities than those who take the course at the 400 level. The course can be taken twice, but only counts as one 400-level requirement for the COM major.) [CROSS-LISTED WITH BUS-290-002.](#)

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COM-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Communication Studies: Strategic Communication Practicum

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COR-104-090 Explorations in Core: Art and Culture from the LGBTQ Perspective

This course examines the history of art from ancient to contemporary periods through the lens of the LGBTQ perspective. Particular attention will be given to artists and works of art which have hitherto been underappreciated, undervalued and/or ignored through the traditional canon of the history of art. Related elements of Queer Art Theory and the LGBTQ diaspora will also be examined and compared against the long-extant art-historical canon dominated by white, male heterosexual artists, critics, curators and collectors. The course will also examine the emergence of LGBTQ artists and related professionals of the past fifty years when societal boundaries were slowly lifted and enabled a more critically objective interpretation of LGBTQ artists and their work.

ENG-340-001 Hyper-Contemporary Literature

Where does the canon of modern and contemporary literature come from? This course will entail serious and sustained reflection upon the two terms invoked in its title: "literature" and "the contemporary." We will build our reading list from a series of very recent literary prize winners (Pulitzer, Nobel, Booker...), emphasizing prose fiction but spanning a range of established and emergent forms and genres. Our primary task will be a critical examination of the creation of cultural value by tracking ongoing shifts and mutations in notions of the literary. Together, we will ask how literary prizes work, how they influence what and how we read, and what they reveal about the shaping dynamics of our historical moment. Some of the authors we have read in past iterations of this class have included: Anna Burns, Ta-Nahisi Coates, Margo Jefferson, Viet Thanh Nguyen, Richard Powers, Sally Rooney, and Olga Tokarczuk. Our final text (or two) will be selected after the announcement of major prize winners in October 2022. *Prerequisites: COR 101/102, one 100-level English course, and ENG 210; or permission of instructor.*

ENG-340-002 The Master's House: Postcolonialism and Writing Back

Using the lens of Critical Race Theory via Postcolonial Criticism, we will investigate to what extent some of the most beloved masterpieces in British literature are actually agents of imperialism. What does it mean that there is a "madwoman" from the West Indian colonies haunting the west wing of Thornfield in Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*? Does the fact that Salman Rushdie was born some hundred years after Dickens's time and into a post-independent India make him "postcolonial"—or are there qualities in his writing style that make his novels fall under this label? These are just some of the questions to be explored in this course, which will introduce students to the terms and some of the literary theory of "transnational" and "postcolonial" literature in comparison with the "master texts" their stories respond to. Students will delve into the relationships between 3 canonical texts of nineteenth-century British fiction and 3 contemporary postcolonial novels, all while completing papers, one-paged critical responses, and oral presentations. We will also ask how developments in postcolonial literature affect other discussions of race, nation, gender, and identity and look at broader implications and connections to contemporary storytelling in a globalized and multicultural world.

FMS-490-001 Advanced Special Topics in Film and Media Studies: Documentary Filmmaking

This course will explore the theory and technique of creating a documentary film with a focus on the structure of documentary genres. With an emphasis on nonfiction field production, students will learn to consider audience, genre, and purpose in creating visual texts. Students will gain practical experience in planning a documentary film production by learning how to write a proposal, conduct research, write a script, produce, direct, shoot, and edit a documentary. Throughout the course of the semester, we will screen important documentaries as we observe and analyze technique and style. In addition, students will choose a well-known documentarian and complete a written report and an in-class visual presentation on the stylistic evolution and technique of their chosen documentarian throughout his/her career.

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FMS-490-002 Advanced Special Topics in Film and Media Studies: Great French Actresses

This course will study French film actresses and their roles in an attempt to understand the situation of women in France during the last half of the 20th century. Readings from *The Second Sex* by Simone de Beauvoir, written at the outset of the period in question, provide a counterpoint to the cinematic fiction. Actresses studied may include Isabelle Adjani, Arletty, Fanny Ardant, Brigitte Bardot, Juliette Binoche, Sandrine Bonaire, Catherine Deneuve, Isabelle Huppert and Irène Jacob. The course is conducted in English. Students may take the course as part of a French major or minor and complete readings, tests and written work in French. [CROSS-LISTED WITH FRE-404-001 and FMS-490-002.](#)

FRE-290-001 Special Topics in French: Independence Moves by Fanon and Ghandi

Franz Fanon and Mohandas Ghandi had very different positions on violence and its potential role in independence movements of Algeria and India respectively. This course looks at resistance to colonial violence in both contexts through these activists. Students debate the concepts of violence and non-violence in organizing political alternatives to colonialism and imperialism and think through the efficacy of these concepts in other contexts of our day. [CROSS-LISTED WITH FRE-490-002.](#)

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HIS-290-001 Special Topics in History: Intro to Archival Studies

The purpose of this course is to introduce, examine and understand core components, concepts and methods of the archives, records, and manuscripts profession. The course seeks to explore basic theoretical issues and archival principles as well as provide insight into their practical application. It attempts to strike a balance between theory and practice so that students will learn how to perform archival functions as well as understand the principles underlying these functions. Students will gain an overall understanding of the archival profession in the United States and be introduced to the many technologies currently impacting the profession. Class discussion will focus on the assigned readings, the changing nature of recordkeeping, and the broader influence of records on societal and cultural memory. [CROSS-LISTED WITH ART-290-001 AND NPM-290-001.](#)

INT-290-001 Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies: Academic and Career Explorations I

This course will engage students explicitly in questioning their own selves, purposes and passions as they enter the Oglethorpe community. Framing this aspect through the lens of your future academic and professional work, students will engage with their own personal characteristics, identifying strengths and weaknesses while also navigating the development of other key personal skills that factor into one's happiness, both personally and professionally. In an effort to identify what and where each individual finds purpose, meaning, success and happiness, this course will involve reflecting introspectively as students explore aspects of possible future work and create a plan to achieve happiness and purpose in their future lives.

NPM-290-001 Special Topics in Nonprofit Management: Intro to Archival Studies

The purpose of this course is to introduce, examine and understand core components, concepts and methods of the archives, records, and manuscripts profession. The course seeks to explore basic theoretical issues and archival principles as well as provide insight into their practical application. It attempts to strike a balance between theory and practice so that students will learn how to perform archival functions as well as understand the principles underlying these functions. Students will gain an overall understanding of the archival profession in the United States and be introduced to the many technologies currently impacting the profession. Class discussion will focus on the assigned readings, the changing nature of recordkeeping, and the broader influence of records on societal and cultural memory. [CROSS-LISTED WITH ART-290-001 AND HIS-290-001.](#)

POL-290-001 Special Topics in Politics: Political Islam

This course examines the historical, political, and theological roots of today's political Islam in its manifold expressions. The course focuses largely on the greater Middle East and North Africa (MENA), but also includes other important regions, such as Pakistan, Indonesia, Bosnia-Herzegovina. The late Ottoman period and the development of nation-states will be the approximate starting point for the class, and will continue through periods of modernization, post-colonialism and independence movements, to communal identity clarification in the era of globalization. The West and its interactions with the Muslim world will also be a key focus, examining especially why Western hegemonic aspirations have led to anti-Western backlash and the birth and growth of non-state Islamist groups. Key Islamist concepts, thinkers, and movements will constitute core elements of the course. Readings will be a combination of both primary and secondary sources.

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POL-290-002 Special Topics in Politics: American Political Thought

This course will broadly survey American political thought from the colonial era to the present. Our readings will be drawn from the competing arguments that statesmen and ordinary citizens make while actively engaged in the political events the day. We will put special focus on enduring debates about what the Declaration of Independence means by “all men are created equal,” the strengths and weaknesses of the Constitutional framework, the lead-up to the Civil War and its aftermath, and the upheavals of the industrial revolution and now the shift to a knowledge-based economy.

PSY-290A-001 Special Topics in Clinical Psychology

This course will provide students with an overview of the field of clinical psychology. Students will explore history and contemporary progress within the field. Students will explore the various career paths within clinical psychology and be introduced to the various assessment and psychotherapeutic strategies used by clinical providers in their daily practice. Other topics within the course will include cultural considerations, psychopharmacology, and ethics in clinical practice.

Prerequisite: PSY-101; minimum grade of C-.

THE-490-201 Advanced Special Topics: Performing Arts Non-Profit Management

Course description coming soon.

WGS-290-001 Special Topics in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Human Sexuality

In this course, students will learn about the biological, psychological, and social aspects of sexuality. Students will also learn about methods used in the scientific study of sex and will gain an understanding of the diversity of human sexuality across age, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and culture. [CROSS-LISTED WITH PSY-125-001.](#)

WGS-290-002 Special Topics in Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies: Introduction to Queer Studies and Queer of Color Critique

Social justice work, in both theory and praxis, is most effective when it includes everyone. Separating progress into phases and approaching them one by one—moving through the list of gender, sexuality, race, class, nationality, ability, age, etc.—means that people will invariably be left out: anti-racist work that only helps men, or feminism that only helps white women, is insufficient. Too, this linear model implies a project of inclusion: adding people, group by group, to a limited but real world of rights and fairness. But what if that world is a myth? Or, worse, what if it exists for some precisely by excluding others? Building upon the rich theoretical traditions of woman of color feminism and queer theory, queer of color critique is a broadly interdisciplinary field focused on the intersections of identities and oppression. By engaging its critical lineages, methodologies, and exciting new areas of inquiry, we’ll learn in this course to interrogate structures of power and dream up more livable worlds. In conversation with theory, fiction, graphic novels, and film from the 1960s through the present day, we’ll theorize what it means to survive, to be recognized, and to be free. We’ll also identify concrete ways to build the better worlds we imagine. This introductory-level course is designed for students interested in Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, African American Studies, or any related discipline; there are no prerequisites for this course. [CROSS-LISTED WITH AAS-290-001.](#)

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WRI-290-001 Special Topics in Writing: Playwriting

Students will explore writing for the theater through discussion, analysis, and practice of dramatic literature. They will also study various fundamental aspects of playwriting including character, dialogue, conflict, and structure via reading the works of contemporary playwrights. Students will also expand their conception of these components via writing assignments and workshop in which the class will provide feedback to strengthen each other's writing. [CROSS-LISTED WITH ART-290-001.](#)