

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY

FULTON SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS

Arts • Humanities • Social Sciences



General Education Courses

Fall 2026

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY

Make Tomorrow Yours

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PLEASE NOTE: Information provided is for planning purposes only; please refer to the Academic Requirements Report in GullNet or the academic catalog for official information.



Civic and Community Engagement (CCE)

ART 369 Advanced Photography

Cara Wade

In this continuation of your photography odyssey, we'll dive deep into the conceptual rabbit hole. We'll tickle your brain and challenge you to think outside the preverbal box while also exploring our community to use our skills for good. The possibilities are as limitless as your imagination and your creative voice.

ART 380: New Media II

David Gladden

An intermediate level class in new media art theory and practice. Be further exposed to the history of new media art, as well as discover contemporary artists working in the field. New Media II is designed to offer students hands-on experiences with stop motion animation and the creation of special effects using video.

COMM 344: Writing for the Professions

Joshua Bolton

Learn the format and style of many of the tools public relations professionals utilize every day. Work with a community partner to research, plan, and design all of the artifacts for a public relations campaign.

COMM 451: Health Communication

Vinita Agarwal

Be a part of a unique opportunity to make a meaningful and personally rewarding impact on the health of middle- and high schoolers in our community. Gain vital team-client communication skills and learn how to present health messages intentionally and effectively in a range of health communication contexts using involvement, engagement, and creative action. Gain industry-facing experience in being authentic and building trust with your on-site audience, getting information across to others, and raising awareness for employers looking to communicate to an audience. Finish with a demonstrable portfolio starring knowledge on health communication and health campaigns based on real life scenarios and memorable first-hand field experiences. Above all, use your knowledge of health communication to make a difference everywhere – online, in families and communities, and in everyday communications!

PACE 206: Democracy Across the Disciplines

Multiple Instructors

Examine local issues within the broader framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Weekly lectures from SU faculty and other experts provide conceptual background and local context. Ongoing sandbox sessions facilitate problem-solving alongside residents and nonprofit, for-profit and government agencies. Please Note: This course will fulfill Civic and Community Engagement only when taken in conjunction with IDIS 205.

PHIL 103: Critical Thinking

Joerg Tuske

Critical thinking requires the evaluation of arguments to find a non-arbitrary way of deciding which beliefs we should accept and which beliefs we should reject. Study the basic concepts of argumentation and informal logic and discuss the difference between logic and rhetoric. Use examples from different subject areas paying particular attention to the realm of local politics and community.

PHIL 402: The Problem of God *(General Education designation under review)*

Instructor to be Assigned

Involves students in thinking through the ultimate questions philosophy asks about God's nature and existence. Attention is given to a variety of themes, including the relationship between God and nature, the personhood of God, atheism, and the meaningfulness of human speech about God. Emphasis is placed on public discourse around theology in both religious and secular contexts.

PHIL 207: Philosophy of Education

Cristina Cammarano

This course is an introduction to seminal texts, central questions, and rival traditions in philosophy of education. Our inquiry revolves around one main question: What is it "to be educated?" We think of schools as the place where we get an education, but what does that even mean? As we look at the main question from different angles, discover that themes of schooling, learning, curriculum, and childhood are woven into our examination of "education." The course is also an invitation to develop an appreciation of the role of philosophy for personal and communal growth, and to form one's own philosophy of education.

PYSC 415: Community Psychology

Michele Schlehofer

Provides an overview of ecological perspectives on causes and treatment of psychological and social problems, with a focus on prevention, empowerment and understanding "person in context." Topics covered include community diversity, coping, prevention, community action and community organizing, processes of social change, and community empowerment.



Communication Through Writing (CTW)

ENGL 103: Composition and Research

Multiple Instructors

A course in college-level academic writing. Focus on argument, critical reading and writing, and information literacy



Diversity and Inclusion (DI)

ANTH 100: Cultural Anthropology and Linguistics

Christine Vasallo

Introduction to the study of human culture and communication across a wide range of traditional and modern societies, with an emphasis on participant-observation ethnographic fieldwork.

ENGL 257: Introduction to Multiethnic U.S. Literatures

Isabel Quintana Wulf

Are you ready to read literary texts by ethnic U.S. authors you probably have never encountered before? Join this class to dive into 21st century literature and explore what it means to live in a multiethnic society when you are part of a minority group. This course gives you the opportunity to engage with the issues of our time, using literature as a way of exploring history and culture.

ENGL 382: African-American Literature I: Found Race and a Nation

April Logan

Study of major African-American literature from America's inception to the Harlem Renaissance. May include such writers as Terry, Equiano, Smith, Wheatley, Douglass, Jacobs, Brown, Harper, Hopkins, Dunbar, Chesnutt and Grimke.

ENVR 205: Art, Nature, Culture

Multiple Instructors

Considers how humans – individually and collectively – have understood nature, primarily drawing from philosophy, literature, history, and the arts. Special emphasis upon the genre of natural history as a bridge between the questions raised by the humanities about the living world and the natural sciences.

HIST 101: World History to 1500 *(General Education designation under review)*

Multiple Instructors

Examination of patterns of change in world history from prehistoric times to ca. 1500 to the present emphasizing economic, social, cultural, religious, political and environmental factors. Application of analytical concepts including continuity, change over time, causation, historical perspective and context.

HIST 212: Pan-Africanism and Black Liberation

Joseph Venosa

From Cambridge, MD, to Cape Town, South Africa, the 19th and 20th centuries saw the rise of numerous struggles for racial, political, and economic empowerment throughout communities of African descent. Nevertheless, today the broader pan-African and Black liberation struggles across Africa and the Americas still remain some of the most complex and misunderstood developments in contemporary history. Examine the origins and growth of pan-Africanism, its central tenets and how broader social trends have continued to shape ongoing movements for justice and inclusion in our modern, increasingly diverse world.

HIST 250: America in the 1970s

Dean Kotlowski

Archie Bunker, bell bottoms, The Exorcist, Nixon, Grease, and disco – the 1970s conjure memories of such personalities, fads and other pop-cultural phenomena. Survey American history during the so-called “Me Decade” using films, documentaries, readings, discussions, lectures and primary sources to explore political, diplomatic, economic, social, intellectual, and cultural trends.

HIST 335: Modern Latin America 1800-Present

Emily Story

Survey of Latin American history from the age of independence from Spain and Portugal through the early 2000s. The primary focus is the origins and development of natural wealth and social deprivation in political, social, and cultural developments in several different regions.

HIST 364: Modern Japan

Michael McCarty

Japan's rapid and successful evolution to modern industrial nation-state, surprising though it was, was nevertheless a difficult and uneven process. Examine the modern history of Japan, from roughly 1600 to the present. By examining Japan's internal dynamics and its role in the world, re-evaluate some common misconceptions about Japan's isolation and place it more firmly in global and regional history. Engage with the themes of modern Japanese history, including warrior culture, engagement with the west, modernization and industrialization, empire, the role of gender, democracy and popular protest, war, occupation, and economic growth.

SOCI 313: Criminology and Penology

Carleigh Jones

Examines crime and delinquency as forms of deviant behavior, emphasizing social causes, social reactions, and applicable sociological theories.

SOCI 334: Sociology of Mental Health

Christine Vassallo

Introduction to the sociological study of mental health and illness. Examines how macro-level social forces – such as inequality, discrimination, neighborhood characteristics, economic conditions, and social organization – shape mental health outcomes.



Environmental Sustainability (ES)

ART 365/ENV 345: Woodworking and Sculpture

Bill Wolff

Knowing how to effectively use a wood shop is one of the most practical skills you can have. Beginning with the basics, develop a foundation in safe wood shop practice and the science and craft of woodworking. In this class, you will explore the use of wood and trees in art and design, including carving, furniture, and contemporary approaches, all while fulfilling the Environmental Sustainability requirement. Deeply connected to cultural practice, wood continues to respond to the environment after it is cut. Explore the fundamentals of working with this widely used, renewable, living material.

ENGL 348: Literature and the Environment

Stephanie Bernhard

A detailed study of attitudes toward and representations of the environment in literature, especially of the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Become equipped with a rigorous understanding of environmental sustainability and cultural and ethical perspectives on environmental sustainability. Topics may include indigenous environmental justice, Romanticism, Transcendentalism, climate fiction, the Anthropocene in science and literature, and improving human/nature relations.

ENVR 100: Planet in Crisis, People in Action

(General Education designation under review)

Tami Ransom

Gain an introduction to the interdisciplinary field of environmental studies. Explore a survey of our global environment and the interplay between human and natural systems. Focus upon particular examples of environmental and social change as well as gain basic environmental literacy. Interdisciplinary environmental methods and concepts are applied to current and past environmental situations to better understand the root causes of change, the high stakes of human actions for the present and future generations, and the ways in which individual actions, larger social forces and environmental change interact.

ENVR 102: Introduction to Sustainability

Multiple Instructors

Experiential examination of the effects human activities have on the environment. Focus on a different module weekly, examining environmental processes and the effects of humans on these processes, on the environment and on each other. Field trips and class topics may include climate change, environmental justice, landfills, factory farms (of both plants and animals), organic farms, large-scale composting operations, sewage treatment plants, pine plantations, drinking water plants and more.

FILM 325: Environmental Cinema

Ryan Conrath

Cinema has always aimed to reveal truths about our world through images and sounds. But how does it address the complexities of planet Earth, now and in the future? In the Anthropocene epoch, the distinction between human and natural domains has blurred, as human impact on the planet is profound and irreversible. Explore how cinema can offer new ways of thinking about and addressing these environmental entanglements. Survey how cinema – especially documentary, genre cinema, experimental film, and art cinema – has engaged with ecological and environmental issues. Additionally, study significant critical perspectives in the environmental humanities, such as queer ecology, eco-feminism, Anthropocene studies and environmental racism. While the course is rooted in film studies, the goal is not to prioritize one discipline over another. Instead, aim to examine “the environment” and “the cinema” as interconnected worlds, enriching understanding of both.

SOCI 390: Sociology of the Environment

Ryan Sporer

Examines the environment as a social product and investigates how structural factors create environmental problems. Uses case studies of mining and forestry to illustrate how environmental degradation, disease, death, and disability are socially produced.



Experiential Learning (EL)

ENGL 417: Writer's Craft

Christa Spillson

Creative writing track capstone course designed to provide a deeper understanding of a chosen genre (poetry, fiction or nonfiction) and teach how to “professionalize” as writers by gaining experience in the fields of teaching and publishing, as well as writing. Workshop and complete publication-ready creative and critical work in preparation for graduate study and contextualize writing within a creative heritage.

ENGL 454: Writing Centers: Theory and Practice

Melissa Bugdal

Introduces students to peer tutoring as a mode of collaborative learning. Focuses on preparing students to lead writing center consultations.

FILM 407: Video Essays

Elsie Walker

This is a hands-on course for learning how to “write” analysis using pieces of cinema. Learn how to edit the films of your choice to create argumentative and creative compositions from them as “found materials” that you uniquely reframe, interpret, interact with, and present to different audiences on your own terms. Learn aesthetic and poetic ways of working with your film/s to produce knowledge along with having artistic impact. At the end of the course, you will have mentoring about submitting your work to online journals and film festivals.

HIST 430: Research Seminar Capstone: The Making of Medieval Europe

Belen Vicens

Did you know that the idea of creating a shared legal space in Europe comes from the Middle Ages? Indeed, the European Union owes much to a revival of Roman law that took place in the twelfth century. And just as the European Union has seen its fair share of detractors (think of Brexit), medieval noblemen often clashed with kings over their evolving understanding of law and sovereignty. The so-called “long 12th century,” between 1095 and 1229, is considered a foundational period in European history. The recent worldwide commotion over a burning Gothic cathedral in Paris and the institution of parliament, among others, are a few examples of the enduring legacy of twelfth-century developments. While scholars agree on the significance of this period, they disagree on how to best characterize it. For some, the long 12th century represents a Renaissance in its own right (rivaling the Italian Renaissance of a few centuries later), for others it represents a Reformation (no less significant than the Reformation of the early modern period), and yet for others this was a period of profound crisis. Well, you may ask, what is it then? The jury is out there, but in this course, explore what we know about this period and how historians have interpreted it over the course of the past century until today.

PHIL 475: Seminar in Philosophy: Moral Attitudes

(General Education designation under review)

Instructor to be Assigned

This seminar examines the place of perception, emotion, and attitude in our relations with others. We begin with Iris Murdoch's *The Sovereignty of Good*, which argues for the importance of mental life to moral development, especially the role of attention in the moral task of "unselfing." We then turn to Troy Jollimore's *Love's Vision*, which develops Murdoch's themes in the context of close, personal relationships, showing how love reshapes our reasons, perceptions, and values. Finally, we turn to Stephen Darwall's *The Heart & Its Attitudes*, which examines a wide range of emotions – "heartfelt attitudes," as he calls them, in contrast to reactive attitudes – such as trust, gratitude, hope, and remorse. With Darwall, we explore how these emotions shape not only personal relationships but also the broader social and political life. Throughout, we consider how these ideas shed light on contemporary issues (e.g., race, disability, education), applying moral philosophy to current struggles over recognition and justice.



First Year Seminar (FYS)

FYS ART01: Strange Coincidences: Synchronicity and Creativity

David Gladden

Take a skeptical and serious look at the concept of synchronicity through an interdisciplinary, multimedia lens. Synchronicity is a controversial theory that attempts to explain occurrences of extremely improbable coincidences between events where there is no apparent link. Although Carl Jung coined the term synchronicity in the 20th century, these kinds of 'strange occurrences' have been common to many cultures across time and space. Engage in a historical overview of the topic, as well as research and writing assignments, an oral presentation, and several hands-on, creative projects. Basic computer skills will be taught with commonly used applications.

FYS ART10: Mindful Art: Making Time in the Attention Economy

Brooke Rogers

Activate your creativity and train yourself to be happier and more productive. Learn how to slow down and do less, while at the same time accomplishing more. It may sound counterintuitive, but increased productivity is linked to a work-life balance that prioritizes improved concentration over constant busy-ness, what author Cal Newport calls 'pseudo-productivity.' Artists can point the way. Making art starts with learning how to see. Seeing better and more deeply is a skill that can be developed like any other. Explore the latest research into the science of habit forming, the importance of everyday rituals, finding your natural working pace, and setting healthy limits.

FYS ENG05: Language, Power, and Prejudice

Anjali Pandey

Examine how power and prejudice are constructed and sustained in and through language practices in modern society. The accumulating effects/consequences of marginalizing discourse on access to power, prestige, and privilege in a plethora of public spheres are examined using multimodal evidence and innovative uses of game-based learning. Draw on real-world examples for in-class activities, discussions and course projects.

FYS ENG10: Reading the Biblical World

Nick Melczarek

Study Jewish and Christian biblical narratives in two simultaneous ways: what those texts already tell us about the daily ancient worlds of their origin, and what new understanding of those texts we can reach by bringing specific research into daily ancient and Classical life back to those texts. See how a working knowledge of the foods, laws, clothing, warfare, trade, citizenship qualifications, slavery system, communication systems, sex and gender formulations, economics, and language quirks of the ancient biblical world illuminate current readings of those passages in their original contexts.

FYS ENG11: Language Matters

Derya Kulavuz-Onal

Engages in a variety of language matters in many aspects of our lives. Facilitates reflection, analysis and understanding of how and why language matters in our lives by exploring language-related research from a variety of disciplines, often through a social justice and equity lens. In this interdisciplinary and inquiry-driven course, examine language matters in media, psychology, history, education, cross-cultural communication, social justice, public health, politics, society, criminal justice, and literature, among others.

FYS ENV01: People and Climate

Bright Nkrumah

The changing global climate is part of the context in which you live your life: it impacts virtually every issue we care about. We explore the far-reaching effects of climate change on the world's peoples and societies, and empower students to understand, to cope with, and to address these changes.

FYS FLM01: Storytelling in Cinema, Writing, and Life

David Johnson

Study storytelling in one of the most popular storytelling media of the past century – cinema – and learn how cinema creates meaning through style. Apply concepts in discussions and writing assignments that explore cinema's techniques and, potentially, other media, as students craft final projects in a storytelling medium of their choice. Along the way, consider how storytelling informs our thinking habits in productive and unproductive ways, including how life often resists story. By the end of the semester, feel more confident understanding how story works in cinema, how story works in writing, and how story is or is not comparable to life itself.

FYS FLM02: What Is a Campus?

Ryan Conrath

The campus is – or is about to become – central to our lives. Still, we don't often get the chance to step back and examine that structure: what a campus is, or what it was, or what it could be. Use the medium of cinema to have a broad discussion about the history, present and future of the campus. Watch select movies depicting campus life to investigate broader historical developments, public perceptions and political realities of the American higher education system. Discussion topics range from the idea of the campus as a hotbed for political change to that of a replacement for the nuclear family, from disability and access to “hookup culture” and Greek life.

FYS HST02: Love, Sex, and Relationships Through History

Belen Vicens

A study of how individuals and communities across different time periods and regions have understood love, sex, and relationships.

FYS HST06: Empathy and Dehumanization in the Modern World

Joseph Venosa

A study of the 20th and early 21st century movements in which human societies engage simultaneously in empathetic and destructive processes against different kinds of communities.

FYS HST07: The Samurai Invasion of Korea

Michael McCarty

Investigate East Asia before, during and after the disastrous Imjin War (1592-98) in which a Japanese warlord invaded Korea, leading to Chinese intervention and a devastating three-way conflict. While introducing the range of library and academic resources at Salisbury University, and building skills in critical thinking, reading, and writing, explore a unique moment in world history in which three societies originally built on the same model of culture and civilization had diverged across an unbridgeable gulf into different political, military and ideological values. By hearing the voices of the past through primary sources and evaluating different scholarly approaches to the war, explore the benefits of multiple disciplinary approaches to learning. Finally, not only study a war and its aftermath – which intersects with timeless issues of trauma, empire and defeat – but also raise broader questions of culture, identity, nationalism, civilization and belonging that are still as relevant to us today as they were to people in early modern East Asia.

FYS HST09: The Way of the Warrior

Emin Lelic

Explore the history of warrior societies across human civilizations with an emphasis on understanding a crucial aspect of history – war and mentalities that lead to war. Develop an understanding of human conflict and friction by posing historical questions about warrior experiences across history.

FYS HST11: An Alcoholic History of America

Tom Goyens

Undertake an introductory exploration of American history and society through the lens of drinking habits and policies from colonial times to the present. Studying the history of drinking offers an alternative look at American society. The so-called “liquor question” has historically been enmeshed with issues of ethnicity, gender, and class, as well as economics, public policy, civil liberties, and labor history. What was the relationship between changing drinking habits and various forms of control like temperance and prohibition? Why did the working-class saloon become such an American institution and why did it die out? Why did national prohibition become law? Studying the cultural politics of drinking provides a window into modern American society and helps us understand today’s attitudes, customs, and policies around alcohol.

FYS HST14: Nature, Science, and the Human World

Richard Bowler

Starting with prehistory and continuing up to the present day, explore the dynamic relationship between humanity and its natural conditions, examine the manner in which human beings have attempted to understand and control nature, and reflect on how important challenges facing humanity today can be viewed as the culmination of historical processes. Ponder how these challenges might be addressed.

FYS IDS05: Adventure Begins with Curiosity: Interdisciplinary Leadership

Ryan Weaver

Learn concepts and strategies to become interdisciplinary leaders. Engage the local contexts of Salisbury University’s campus and the surrounding Salisbury community as you learn skills for educational and professional success through the development of your personal leadership platform and strategies for continual growth as leaders. Interdisciplinary leadership requires curiosity that leads to adventure.

FYS MUS01: How to Write One Song: Lyrics, Lives, and Listening

Instructor to be Assigned

A survey of perspectives and creative approaches to sound and music. Philosophies on music through different eras and cultures as well as the accounts of musicians are included. The craft of music-making is explored, in both lyrics and music, toward the creation of an original song. Material is presented in lecture with analysis of texts and musical examples, discussion, and listening. Prior musical experience is helpful but not necessary.

FYS PHL01: Imagine This Is Our World: Philosophy and the Graphic Novel

Tim Stock

Examine philosophical issues as they arise in graphic novels, especially graphic memoir. Study integrates elements of textual analysis, reflection, discussion and interpretation with the goal of learning to recognize philosophical ideas, to discuss them with our peers and to use them to think critically about our own perspective. It’s an opportunity to reflect on the artistic and literary expression of lived experiences and explore why certain experiences are significant to ourselves and others. Course texts are about difficult choices, weighing competing values and commitments, seeking to understand ourselves and what happens to us, and connecting to a broader sense of human life. Seek to understand why we value what we do, what philosophical questions arise naturally out of our lives, and to articulate how knowing the lives of others contributes to our own philosophical development.



Human Expression (HE)

ART 104: Art Appreciation

Sally Molenda

Interested in art? This is a great place to start! Discover what art is, who creates it, and how it is used in our lives every day. In this world tour, look at art across cultures and history, learning what makes the art of each place and time unique.

ART 121: Design Principles

Instructor to be Assigned

Art and design are everywhere in our lives, from sports logos and fashion design, to video games and streaming content. We help you unlock the secrets of effective design in this hands-on studio art class for beginners and enthusiasts of every stripe. Learn by doing in a casual, friendly environment. Required for art majors, but open to everyone.

ART 129: Introduction to Digital Photography

Cara Wade

Welcome to digital photography demystified. Get ready to decode the alien photography language of ISO, aperture, and shutter speed. We're here to guide you in turning your pixel predicaments into photographic triumphs! We'll teach you the art of framing that's more genius than a Renaissance painting and composition that'll make your pet goldfish look like a supermodel. If you have a digital camera, great, but your phone camera should work just as well.

ART 215: Ceramics I

David Smith

Introduction to the art of making clay forms using methods of hand building, forming, glazing, decorating, and firing. This is an introductory ceramics course, which will include the history, development, and aesthetics of ceramic vessels and sculpture. Students learn basic technical aspects of building with clay, working with glazes, and the firing of ceramic objects.

ART 246: Painting I

Instructor to be Assigned

Are you looking to deepen your painting skills and diversify your artistic output? Painting is the universal language of self-expression and one of the earliest forms of human expression. Learn everything about oil painting, from old masters to contemporary painting styles. You will become a painter after this course.

ART 261: Sculpture I

Bill Wolff

Any material, any technology, any shape, any concept. Sculpture is the "big tent" of contemporary art. If you can develop the idea, it is our job to support it and help you make it real. We use everything from textiles to 3D printing and scanning to wood to welding to cast bronze and many other materials and technologies. No idea or form or student is too strange. Join us in our new state-of-the-art facility.

ART 271: Glass I

Instructor to be Assigned

Embark on an exhilarating journey into the world of glass! Discover the essential skills required to master the art, while placing teamwork and safety at the forefront of your journey. Experience this centuries-old art form through captivating demonstrations and immersive hands-on training in glass blowing, sculpting and kiln-forming techniques.

ART 280: New Media I

David Gladden

An introduction to new media art in theory and practice. Explore the history of new media art and discover contemporary artists working in the field. New Media I is designed to offer hands-on experiences with video, animation and audio hardware/software. Learn computer basics as well as timeline-based editing skills across disciplines.

COMM 100: Fundamentals of Communication

Multiple Instructors

Does the thought of public speaking make your heart race and your stomach sink? Perhaps you're confident in front of an audience, but you want to enhance your ability to connect with people from all walks of life. Learn how to speak your mind confidently and ethically to diverse audiences in a variety of contexts. Sharpen your interpersonal and group communication skills, while gaining an overview of the dynamic communication field.

COMM 260: Business and Professional Communication

Amanda Welch Hamill

Have you ever had to speak to someone in a professional setting or interview for a job? Need to know how to communicate at work? Want to know more about business, organizations, or strategic communication? Unsure how to give a professional presentation? This class helps you with all the above. Learn the basics of professional and strategic communication through activities, discussion, analysis, and presentations.

DANC 167: Ballet I

Jennifer Johnson

Grace. Strength. Expression. Gain an introduction to beginning classical ballet technique. Focuses on placement and body alignment, barre work, and simple adagio and allegro movements. Little to no previous training is required for this introductory class.

DANC 168: Jazz Dance

Sammy Reyes

Big movement, bold style! Gain an introduction to beginning jazz dance technique. Focuses on placement, isolations, and rhythmicity. Little to no previous training is required for this introductory class.

DANC 267: Ballet II

Jennifer Johnson

Already spent some time in ballet slippers at the barre? Consider this course that is a continuation of classical ballet principles and techniques. Focuses on complex adagio and allegro sequences.

ENGL 253: The Short Story (Genre)

Multiple Instructors

A study of the historical development of the short story, its forms, characteristics, and its most successful practitioners.

ENGL 257: Introduction to Multiethnic U.S. Literatures

Isabel Quintana Wulf

Are you ready to read literary texts by ethnic U.S. authors you probably have never encountered before? Join this class to dive into 21st century literature as we explore what it means to live in a multiethnic society when you are part of a minority group. This course gives you the opportunity to engage with the issues of our time, using literature as a way of exploring history and culture.

ENGL 348: Literature and the Environment

Stephanie Bernhard

A detailed study of attitudes toward and representations of the environment in literature, especially of the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Become equipped with a rigorous understanding of environmental sustainability and cultural and ethical perspectives on environmental sustainability. Topics may include indigenous environmental justice, Romanticism, Transcendentalism, climate fiction, the Anthropocene in science and literature, and improving human/nature relations.

ENGL 351: Creative Writing

Multiple Instructors

This is a mixed genre introduction to the practices (including workshop mechanics) and major conversations of creative writing. It will be divided into three units: nonfiction, fiction, and poetry.

ENGL 380: American Literature I: Beginnings to 1860

John Wenke

Study of major American literature from the nation's origins to 1860. Authors to be studied may include, but are not limited to, Edwards, Franklin, Hawthorne, Irving, Melville, Poe, and Whitman.

ENGL 382: African-American Literature I: Found Race and a Nation

April Logan

Study of major African-American literature from America's inception to the Harlem Renaissance. May include such writers as Terry, Equiano, Smith, Wheatley, Douglass, Jacobs, Brown, Harper, Hopkins, Dunbar, Chesnut, and Grimke.

FILM 220: Introduction to Film

Elsie Walker

This course is a foundational introduction to the big concepts and techniques of film studies, with special attention to editing, camerawork, sound tracks, and mise-en-scène. Explore why films have so much impact, enhancing your skills of audiovisual literacy. Analyze why films matter on social, cultural, and individual levels.

FREN 101: Elementary French I

Aurélie Van de Wiele, Amy Jones

Beginning spoken and written French with emphasis on the sound system and the basic structures of the language.

FREN 102: Elementary French II

Susan Mahoney

Continuation of skill development in spoken and written French with further study of major structures.

FREN 201: Intermediate French I

Aurélie Van de Wiele

Continued development and refinement of language skills with emphasis on reading, writing, and vocabulary development.

FREN 202: Intermediate and Applied French

Aurélie Van de Wiele

Continued development, refinement, and application of language skills with emphasis on reading, writing, and vocabulary development. Satisfies the language requirement for English majors.

MUSC 114: Connecting Through Music

Multiple Instructors

A general historical survey of musical styles and genres from around the world. Topics may include music and wellness, Western classical music, non-Western cultures, folk music, and jazz.

MUSC 201: Introduction to Music Theory

Sachi Murasugi

Principles of music construction based on a historical perspective of music theory in Western culture. Emphasis on the nature of modes and the organization of rhythm, pitch, melody, and harmony utilizing basic elements of keys, scales, chords, and form. Exploration of the role music theory plays in the creation and understanding of music of diverse genres, styles and cultures.

MUSC 305: Music History I

Eric Shuster

A historical survey of musical style from the earliest times to the present. Music History I covers music from Gregorian chant through the Baroque period. Music History II covers music from the Pre-Classical through the Modern periods. Non-Western music is also included in both classes. Analysis, listening, and discussion of music in a cultural context is covered. Ability to read music is necessary.

MUSC 320: Music Video

Eric Shuster

Examine and analyze diverse, artistic approaches to music video through classroom screening and discussion. Study related music and film concepts, techniques and design principles. Respond to creative prompts to develop a music video treatment. Through demonstrations and hands-on practice, learn video editing software, and produce original music videos. Studio work outside of class and group critique of students' work required.

PHIL 101: Introduction to Philosophy

Multiple Instructors

Invites students to philosophize, asking and creatively responding to basic questions about human existence which are usually left unasked, e.g., are we free, what is the self, what value should we live for?

PHIL 203: Ethics

Grace Clement

Are right and wrong relative terms? Is morality based on God's commands? Why be moral? Do the ends justify the means? If you have asked these questions, you may want this course. If you haven't, you need it. Discuss moral philosophers' accounts of what makes an act right or wrong or a person good or evil, and consider what those mean for our own lives. The semester ends with an "ethics bowl" competition in which students work in teams to discuss and debate moral issues.

SPAN 101: Elementary Spanish I

Sally Perret, Nora Hetzler, Edgar Larrea, Belgica Nina-Valdez

Beginning spoken and written Spanish with emphasis on the sound system and the basic structures of the language.

SPAN 102: Elementary Spanish II

Ricardo Vazquez Diaz, Corrine Pubill

Continued skill development in spoken and written Spanish with further study of major structures.

SPAN 201: Spanish in the World

Ricardo Vazquez Diaz

Explores the various cultures of the Spanish-speaking world, while continuing developing and refining skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) in Spanish.

SPAN 310: Spanish Communications

Corinne Pubill

Continued development of oral and written communication in Spanish. Explores patterns of Spanish syntax, develops vocabulary by preparing frequent oral and written compositions, and integrates authentic engagement with Spanish-speaking communities to improve communication skills.

THEA 100 Theatre Appreciation

John Raley

See theatre differently – understand the art behind the applause! Gain an introduction to theatre as a unified art with emphasis upon the performative, literary, cultural, and social significance of theatre in our society. Explore the areas of performance, history, and design.

THEA 150: Acting I

Jamie McKittrick

Explore the creative acting process by investigating the emotional, intellectual, and kinesthetic resources central to performing. Improve communication, presence, and self-confidence through techniques that translate far beyond the stage.



Humanity in Context (HIC)

ART 202: Introduction to Art History: Prehistory-1400

Nikki Pareja

From prehistoric cave paintings to Buddhist temples, and everything in between, examine global art history through the Medieval era (cs. 1400), starting with prehistoric excavations and ending with the rise of Medieval art in the 14th century. Learn about the way artworks are affected by and also impact the immediate history, politics, and economy to better understand how images and artworks function today.

ART 203: Introduction to Art History: 1400-Present

Jenn Kruglinski

From Giotto's Italian frescos, Edo-era Japanese woodblock prints by Hokusai, to Jackson "Jack the Dripper" Pollock's Abstract Expressionist paintings, discuss global art history starting with late Italian Gothic artworks and ending in the 21st centuries. Learn about the way artworks are affected by and also impact the immediate history, politics and economy to better understand how images and artworks function today.

ENGL 240: Introduction to the Study of Language

Multiple Instructors

Study of the ways language works and an introduction to the scientific study of language and linguistics. Examine how language works as both a linguistic system and a social, dynamic, and living phenomenon as appropriated by its users. This class presupposes no formal study or knowledge of language or linguistics.

ENGL 349: Norse Literature in Translation

Ross Leasure

Explore the Viking Age through the lens of medieval sagas. Discover the history, culture, and ethos of their society through tales that tell of the Northmen's astounding territorial expansion, their abrupt conversion to Christianity, and their proto-parliamentary politics. How did the Norse settlers live? What did they eat? How did they construct such remarkable ships? Why did they engage in bloody family feuds? What became of their many gods? These questions and many more guide our study the people, the places, and the practices associated with those we have come to call the Vikings.

FREN 308: Introduction to Francophone Studies through Film

Aurélie Van de Wiele

Introduces the analytical tools necessary for French and Francophone studies through the study of films that highlight social issues, current sociopolitical debates, and cultural differences. Exposes the diversity of the French-speaking world and specific methodologies of literacy and cultural studies. Reinforces all language skills, such as grammatical knowledge and the acquisition of new vocabulary through reading and writing of summaries of articles and structured compositions, and through oral participation and presentations. Taught in French.

HIST 201: History of the United States to 1865

Multiple Instructors

Survey of the political, economic, social, and cultural factors that have shaped the pattern of life in the United States. Particular problems examined in the light of their sources and historical development.

HIST 202: History of the United States After 1865

Multiple Instructors

Survey of the political, economic, social, and cultural factors that have shaped the pattern of life in the United States. Particular problems examined in the light of their sources and historical development.

HIST 250: America in the 1970s

Dean Kotlowski

Archie Bunker, bell bottoms, The Exorcist, Nixon, Grease, and disco – the 1970s conjure memories of such personalities, fads, and other pop-cultural phenomena. Survey American history during the so-called “Me Decade” using films, documentaries, readings, discussions, lectures, and primary sources to explore political, diplomatic, economic, social, intellectual, and cultural trends.

HIST 310: History of England to 1660 *(General Education designation under review)*

Kristen Walton

Survey of England from Roman times through the reign of William and Mary emphasizing political, legal, economic, social, and cultural institutions and trends.

HIST 335: Modern Latin America 1800-Present

Emily Story

Survey of Latin American history from the age of independence from Spain and Portugal through the early 2000s. The primary focus is the origins and development of natural wealth and social deprivation in political, social, and cultural developments in several different regions.

PHIL 103: Critical Thinking

Joerg Tuske

Critical thinking requires the evaluation of arguments to find a non-arbitrary way of deciding which beliefs we should accept and which beliefs we should reject. Study the basic concepts of argumentation and informal logic and discuss the difference between logic and rhetoric. Use examples from different subject areas paying particular attention to the realm of local politics and community.

PHIL 207: Philosophy of Education

Cristina Cammarano

This course is an introduction to seminal texts, central questions, and rival traditions in philosophy of education. Our inquiry revolves around one main question: What is it “to be educated?” We think of schools as the place where we get an education, but what does that even mean? As we look at the main question from different angles, discover that themes of schooling, learning, curriculum, and childhood are woven into our examination of “education.” The course is also an invitation to develop an appreciation of the role of philosophy for personal and communal growth, and to form one’s own philosophy of education.

PHIL 311: Modern European Philosophy

Grace Clement

A study of the critically important period in western philosophy between 1600 and 1800. Influenced by developments in science and mathematics, philosophers of this period rejected appeals to authority in favor of appeals to observation and reason. Focus on the different ways the modern philosophers addressed how and what we can know about the self, the external world, God, and morality. Consider what we can learn from modern philosophy and how should we move beyond modern philosophy.

PHIL 323: Buddhist Philosophy

Joerg Tuske

Gain a general introduction to the Buddhist philosophy of the Indian subcontinent, Tibet, China, Japan, and Korea. Discuss the teachings of the historical Buddha before concentrating on a number of Buddhist schools that developed from these teachings. The main emphasis is on Buddhist metaphysics, epistemology, ethics, and philosophy of mind.

SPAN 315: Multiculturalism in Spain

Sally Perret

Study of issues related to multiculturalism in the Spanish-speaking world from the perspective of dominant and marginalized groups. Explore themes of religion, gender, family relationships, race, language, and the dilemmas of work-leisure, sports-cruelty, and honor-death through prose, drama, and other selected material.



Personal Wellness (PW)

ART 107: Creative Wellness: Art as a Path to Emotional, Financial, and Physical Well-Being

Multiple Instructors

“Art as self-care (and then some).” In this course, making art goes far beyond aesthetics – it becomes a practice in emotional balance, financial mindfulness, and healthy living. Explore everything from building a personal budget and making healthy choices to imagining your own business, all alongside calming brushstrokes and creative projects. The goal? To discover what supports your well-being and how creativity can be just as good for you as a workout – only way more fun. No art experience required, just bring your stress, and we’ll turn it into something colorful.

DANC 150: Yoga

Multiple Instructors

Unroll your mat and take a breath! This extremely popular course is both the study and practice of yoga. Focuses on sequences for strength, flexibility, and balance and techniques for breath awareness, meditation, and relaxation.

MUSC 318: Wellness in Performance

Instructor to be Assigned

Designed to address the physiological and psychological issues that are encountered by all types of performers. Examine specific issues concerning physical, mental, and financial wellness concepts, as well as practice techniques and performance preparation. Addresses all students who need pedagogical help with performance preparation, regardless of area or instrument. Open to all students in the area of music, acting, musical theatre, sports, dance, and public speaking.



Social Configurations (SC)

CADR 200: Foundations of Conflict and Conflict Resolution

Multiple Instructors

Surveys the basic practical and theoretical foundations of conflict and conflict resolution. Introduces students to the basic theories and practices of conflict resolution providing them with a grounding in theories of conflict, their application, the dynamics of conflict, and an overview of key conflict resolution processes. Learn to understand one's own conflicts and how the theories, skills, and practices of conflict resolution can make conflict productive.

COMM 101: Introduction to Human Communication Studies

Multiple Instructors

Learn the foundational history, theories, research questions, and conceptual parameters of the interdisciplinary field of communication. Come to appreciate the communication discipline's contributions to our collective self- understanding in relation to multiple communication contexts, including interpersonal, group, organizational, and intercultural.

COMM 102: Introduction to Mass Media

Multiple Instructors

Becoming media literate is like seeing the world in a whole new way. Gain deeper insights into your own mass media consumption habits as you come to understand the foundation and trajectory of mass media in U.S. history from the advent of the printed word to binge-watching Netflix. Gain a comprehensive understanding of mass communication, including essential theories and ethical considerations, as you cultivate your media literacy savvy.

COMM 205: Interpersonal Communication

Freda Akosua Lekey

Want to minimize the drama in your relationship? Interpersonal communication involves communicating with those who have influence over each other within different types of relationships. Explore communication concepts and theories as they relate to family, friend, coworker, and romantic relationships.

ENGL 433: Language and Culture

Derya Kulavuz-Onal

Explore the intricate relationship between language and culture, emphasizing how language reflects and shapes social identity. Examine language variation within communities based on gender, age, geography, ethnicity, socio-economic class, education, and other social factors, considering their educational, political, and economic implications. Also look at how choices between languages, dialects, styles, or registers within a speech community carry social significance, and how speakers learn to distinguish between varieties and choose one over other for saying "the same thing."

ENVR 210: Principles of Environmental Economics

Jill Caviglia-Harris

Introduction to the concepts and tools economists use to understand human behavior in the context of scarce resources with applications to environmental goods and services that are not typically traded in markets. Analytic tools, including how markets work (and how they fail), are used as an introduction to the trade-offs of alternative environmental policies to deal with pressing issues such as forest degradation, air pollution, water quality, and global warming.

HIST 101: World History to 1500

Multiple Instructors

Examination of patterns of change in world history from prehistoric times to ca. 1500 to the present emphasizing economic, social, cultural, religious, political, and environmental factors. Application of analytical concepts including continuity, change over time, causation, historical perspective, and context.

HIST 102: World History Since 1500

Multiple Instructors

Examination of patterns of change in world history from ca. 1500 to the present emphasizing economic, social, cultural, political, and environmental factors. Application of analytical concepts including continuity, change over time, causation, historical perspective, and context.

HIST 315: African American History from 1865

Aston Gonzalez

Explore African American history from the Civil War to the present. Examine how people of African descent understood themselves to be part of local, regional and global communities. Situate experiences within the economic, political, cultural, and intellectual systems that evolved over the course of more than 150 years. Major topics include African American education, artistic production, Black activism, religious expression, cultural production, the Civil Rights movement, and institution-building.

POSC 101: Introduction to Politics and Government

Eric Rittinger

Introduces the study of political science through an examination of the nature of politics, the role of government in society, and the processes of governance.

POSC 200: Political Ideologies

Michelle Fletcher

Analyzes political ideologies as both justifications for and radical critiques of social, economic, and political structures and processes. Covers a number of ideologies, including fascism, liberalism, socialism, and anarchism.

POSC 210: Introduction to International Relations

Instructor to be Assigned

Introduces contemporary issues in world affairs, including state creation and collapse, balance of power, war, nuclear proliferation, arms control, global trade, monetary and development issues, environmental challenges, and the role of international institutions such as the World Bank and multinational corporations (MNCs). Explores diplomacy and international law as tools for conflict resolution.

PSYC 101: General Psychology

Karl Maier, Michele Schlehofer, Mark Walter

Survey the history of and general principles underlying human behavior, including, for example, the nervous system, perception, learning, emotion, development, personality, social influences, and psychological disorders. Research findings are applied to practical situations.

SOCI 101: Introduction to Sociology

Ryan Sporer, Carileigh Jones

Introduction to the basic concepts of sociology with emphasis on the interrelationships among structures, systems, and institutions, as well as the social processes through which societies evolve.

SOCI 220: The Family

Timothy Dunn

Examines the diversity of families in the United States. Topics include demographic trends in family formation, marriage, parenting, childbearing, and controversial issues such as unmarried couples, alternative families, abortion, surrogacy, and family violence.

SOCI 334: Sociology of Mental Health

Christine Vassallo

Introduction to the sociological study of mental health and illness. Examines how macro-level social forces – such as inequality, discrimination, neighborhood characteristics, economic conditions, and social organization – shape mental health outcomes.

SOCI 390: Sociology of the Environment

Ryan Sporer

Examines the environment as a social product and investigates how structural factors create environmental problems. Uses case studies of mining and forestry to illustrate how environmental degradation, disease, death, and disability are socially produced.



Social Issues (SI)

ENGL 430: Principles of Linguistics

Farzad Karimzad

Detailed study of primary linguistic systems, including phonetics/phonology, morphology, semantics, syntax, and pragmatics. Introduces important research concerns in applied linguistics to ensure the sustainability of the world's linguistic resources. No prior experience in linguistics is required.

POSC 103: Introduction to American Public Policy

Michelle Fletcher, Adam Hoffman

Introduces the field of public policy analysis in the context of American politics. Examines the structures and processes of federal policymaking – including Congress, the presidency, the bureaucracy, and the courts – as well as the roles of interest groups, social movements, social classes, and the media.

POSC 301: Political Parties and Pressure Groups

Adam Hoffman

Examines American political parties and interest groups with attention to political socialization and voting behavior. Combines descriptive and analytical approaches.

PSYC 200: Developmental Psychology

Lance Garmon, Heidi Fritz

Survey of the characteristics of and theories explaining the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development of individuals throughout the life span.

PSYC 250: Psychology of Infancy and Childhood

Rhyannon Bemis, Jason McCartney

In-depth study of the implications of and issues surrounding the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development of children from conception to adolescence.

SOCI 201: Social Problems

Timothy Dunn, Christine Vassallo

Examination of selected social problems in contemporary society, with emphasis on the sociological processes through which these problems are defined and understood.

SOCI 313: Criminology and Penology

Carileigh Jones

Examines crime and delinquency as forms of deviant behavior, emphasizing social causes, social reactions, and applicable sociological theories.



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