
Issues in Social Sciences:
HONR 112.041 MW 9-10:40am
Dr. Pat McDermott
Contemporary China

Do you know the real People's Republic of China? The recent Games focused attention on China and its rapid development, but there is so much more to talk about after the Olympic flame has moved on. In this course, we will study key issues in China's development and how these issues affect the rest of the world. Such issues include but are not limited to Democracy vs. Totalitarianism, Environmental degradation, Chinese youth, education, WTO, civil rights, and Deng Xiao Ping. As a result we will gain a much broader conception of world social and political dynamics and where the United States fits in. You should leave this course with a better understanding of political theory, international business, world trade, the rule of law, and many related challenges that will impact the future of the U.S. and the world.
Satisfies a Group III-B requirement.

Issues in Social Sciences:
HONR 112.042 MWF 1-1:50pm
Dr. James King
What's race/sex got to do with it? The Clarence Thomas /Anita Hill Hearings

This course will focus on the October 1991 Clarence Thomas/Anita Hill hearings. His former employee, Anita Hill, brought charges alleging sexual harassment and impropriety against Supreme Court justice candidate Clarence Thomas. Our research will include reading and analyzing the transcripts of this hearing, as well as exploring writings these hearings generated, in support of both Justice Thomas and Professor Hill, such as commentary on the topic generated by Toni Morrison, Sen. John Danforth, Cornel West and others. This course will challenge students to venture into an analysis of the racial/sexual dynamics of the period, in an attempt to gain insight into their significance then and now within American politics.

Satisfies a Group III-B requirement.

Issues in Social Sciences:
HONR 112.043 TR 11am-12:15pm
Dr. Lucy Morrison
Genocide: Sudan & Its 20th Century Predecessors

The images began appearing upon the nation's television screens in 2003: hundreds of thousands of families were trying to escape an unspeakable death as the rest of the world struggled to understand another African conflict. In this course, we will explore the 21st century Sudanese genocide as an event in history, literature, and film—as well as journalism. We will then explore the ways in which such an event could (and did) come to pass: how did ethnic hatred reach such a point in this African nation? What are the origins of such racial and ethnic distinctions? Why was the rest of the world so reluctant to take any action to stop the killing, which itself may have been attributable to state efficiency? We will examine these questions and more by considering Sudan's beginnings, discussing the social and cultural construction of race, and almost unavoidably comparing this more recent genocide with other genocides from the twentieth century. Exploring and understanding how the Sudanese genocide came to be may help us to become a part of ensuring such atrocity does not and cannot occur again.

Satisfies a Group III-B requirement.

Issues in Social Sciences:
HONR 112.044 TR 2-3:15pm
Dr. Catherine Beise
Web 2.0 and Beyond: Social Implications of Internet Evolution

A twenty-something loses her job because of what she shares on her Facebook page. Elections are won or lost because falsehoods become facts if enough people share them across the Net. Students can wander through the Taj Mahal, the Louvre, the Pyramids, and other virtual locations, without leaving their homes. Do you belong to an electronic tribe? Are virtual communities replacing real communities, and is this good or bad? We will explore how the Internet has evolved to offer a growing variety of ways for

people to form social networks in virtual communities. We will reflect and discuss issues such as communication, privacy, identity, ethics, and positive and negative implications of new Internet applications and technologies for individuals, organizations, and society. As part of our exploration we will use the tools we're discussing, such as blogs, wikis, del.icio.us, Twitter, Second Life. You will be encouraged to produce podcasts and/or videos suitable for YouTube, as term projects.

Satisfies a Group III-B requirement.

Issues in Natural Sciences:
HONR 212.041 MWF 11-11:50am
Dr. Piet DeWitt
Science and the Crystal Ball: Predicting Environmental Impacts

Science is a vital tool in understanding how our actions affect the environment. How do the moves our government makes today change the world of tomorrow? The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires Federal officials to predict how various features of the environment will be changed by their actions years to decades into the future. Accurately envisaging the future is extremely difficult (think about forecasting the weather or the stock market) and these predictions must be developed under public scrutiny and review. Since NEPA's 1970 signing, many branches of the physical and biological sciences have developed applied approaches to provide Federal officials the information they need to make such predictions. Can science provide us with the answers we need in order to shape the future of our world? What information do these scientific disciplines develop, how is it used, and by whom? Come and find out!

Satisfies a Group IV-B requirement.



Issues in Natural Sciences:
HONR 212.042 MWF 12-12:50pm
Dr. Richard England
Darwin's Century (& a half): Science Evolving

Darwin's *Origin of Species* (1859) is a masterpiece of scientific reasoning and rhetoric, and his profound insights into the nature and origin of life have transformed the way we understand the world. In the biological sciences the impact is of course most profound, but beyond the lab and field notebook Darwin has reshaped the way humans think about themselves and their most unique cultural endeavors. In this class we will read Darwin and his contemporary champions and critics, as well as modern biologists and commentators on evolution. By the end of the course you will understand the details and biological implications of Darwinism, and so be better able to understand its significance in science and culture today.

Satisfies a Group IV-B requirement.

Interdisciplinary Seminar:
HONR 311.041 MW 4:30-5:45pm
Dr. Mike Lewis
Metaphors for Humanity

We all carry with us conceptions of what it means to be human. Often, these conceptions are shaped by key organizing ideas—noble savages, sinners made in the image of God, evolved apes with selfish genes, the rational actor or homo economicus, the mob and the masses, supermen and drones. Though seldom consciously analyzed, these organizing ideas carry with them implications for how we all view the past and the future: our metaphors for humanity shape what we believe to be humanly possible. So what can we do and be? In this course, we will approach the question of defining the 'nature' of humanity by considering classic works of literature, philosophy, political and economic theory, and science. Do humans despoil our environment like rats in a cage? Are we one technology away from salvation? And in a world of crises and concerns, such as melting ice-caps and species extinctions, how one understands humanity can mark the difference between despair

and hope, between resignation and action, between journeys to the Heart of Darkness and pilgrimages to the Promised Land. Join me in figuring out our future—and what we may be able to make of it.

Interdisciplinary Seminar:

HONR 311.042 TR 9:30-10:45am

Dr. Scott Mazzetti

Sport & Fitness: Physiological & Social Issues

Sport holds a special place in American culture and history, but there are many aspects of it that we take for granted or fail to examine carefully. Should all citizens be active physically? Should fitness grant health insurance rebates? And just why are beer companies so invested in sports advertising? This course will examine such moral and ethical conundrums, examining how sociological issues of today are driving various sports and fitness elements, as well as how physiology can be used to explain, increase public awareness about, or challenge the ethics of a particular issue. Students will engage in research of topics such as race and potential genetic determinants of speed and athletic performance, transgendered individuals competing in the Olympics, the “French Paradox”, the replacement of the chair and desk with a computer mounted on a treadmill, plastics and breast cancer, the powerful influence of lifestyle on obesity in America, and more. Come and investigate the culture, corruption, and consciousness of the sporting world of America.

Interdisciplinary Seminar:

HONR 311.043 TR 12:30-1:45pm

Dr. Charlotte England

Tragic Heroes: The Dark Side of Brilliance

Indulge your dramatic tendencies! Readings in the theory of tragedy will be accompanied by the study of some first rate tragic plays to help us understand this compelling dramatic art form. Students will work extensively on Shakespeare’s *King Lear*, and Marlowe’s *Dr. Faustus*, witness the death of the unfortunate Duchess of Malfi and

listen as Salieri airs his grievances in *Amadens*. We may even take a spin with J.M. Synge’s *Playboy of the Western World*. Intensive study will involve looking at source texts, alternate versions and revisions of some of the plays as we consider authorial decisions about presenting and enhancing dramatic tragedy. Those with a histrionic streak will enjoy working on their own stage tragedy as part of the creative enhancement for the course. Come prepared to wax poetic, weep, wrestle, and have your withers wrung as you indulge in very close reading of things that will put your February Blues into perspective!

Satisfies a Group I-B literature requirement.

Honors Research/Creative Project

HONR 312.041, TBA

Dr. Lucy Morrison or Dr. Richard England

Honors students complete a research or creative project in a 300-400 level course of their choosing (this does not have to be an honors course) and will present their research or creative project at a public symposium or conference. (One credit, pass/fail.)

Honors Thesis Preparation

HONR 490.041, TBA

Dr. Richard England

In HONR 490, before students begin work on the thesis, students select a thesis committee comprised of a thesis director (mentor) and two readers. The mentor and one reader are chosen from the student’s major department; the other reader is selected from faculty in one’s school. Additionally, students do preliminary research on their topic and write a prospectus (which must be approved by their committee) describing what they hope to accomplish in their thesis. In addition to meeting as necessary with their mentor, students will meet together regularly with the Honors Program Director to discuss progress and problems. (One credit, pass/fail.)

Honors Thesis

HONR 495-041, TBA

Dr. Lucy Morrison

The Honors thesis is a three or four credit, focused, in-depth project in one’s major field. What distinguishes an Honors thesis from a research paper in a regular classroom is the willingness of the student to go beyond the classroom and to assume the responsibilities associated with commitment to scholarship. *Prereq: Completion of HONR 490; Coreq: Honors 496-041*

Honors Thesis Consult

HONR 496-041, TBA

Dr. Lucy Morrison

WINTER 2009

HONR 311/ENGL 342 MTWRF 2-5pm

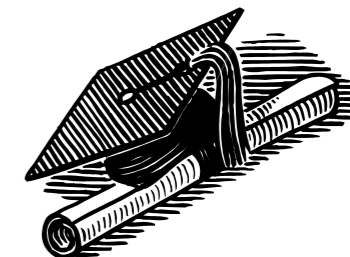
Dr. Lucy Morrison

Women in Literature

How do women write—and what do they write about? Can women write men (and vice versa)? What literary traditions and insights can we investigate by considering only women writers? This course is designed to explore the range of literature written by women, starting with Aphra Behn and getting up to the late twentieth century by the end of the course, while trying to include as many ethnicities and nationalities as possible. We will thus follow a historical path and include the study of literary elements and social contexts as we consider a range of texts. Students should emerge from the course familiar with some of the major women authors of literary history, as well as having the opportunities to explore “differences” demonstrated by various genres, nationalities, and ethnicities. This fast-paced course will engage with great literature and challenging and fascinating insights—what more could you ask for?

Satisfies a Group I-B literature requirement.

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY



Thomas E. Bellavance Honors Program

Course Offerings For

Spring Semester

2009
