

FALL 2019 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART-225-01 Topics in Studio: Experimental Animation

This survey course will provide students with the basic knowledge and tools needed to create their own animations using Adobe After Effects. Techniques covered may include: Animating layers, working with masks, distorting objects with the Puppet Tools, using the Roto Brush Tool, color correction and working with the 3D Camera Tracker. Sound design, composition and other basic image making principles will be explored. We will also examine the aesthetic nature of experimental film and specifically how it can be applied to animation. There will be a studio art component during the second half of the semester during which each student will create their own original short experimental animation.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: D. Mohl

ASI-112-01=HIS-260-01 Topics in Asian Culture: Premodern China

This survey course introduces Chinese history and cultural traditions from ancient times to 1911, outlining historical trends such as Confucianism, Daoism, Buddhism, dynastic cycles, literati culture, traditional gender roles, and interactions with the West. We will analyze a variety of primary sources (in translation), including poetry, fiction, philosophical writings, historical records, and visual art. No pre-requisites. May be taken as Literature/Fine Arts (ASI-112) or History/Philosophy/Religion (HIS-260).

Instructor: C. Healey

ASI-177-01=HIS-260-02 Modern Asian Culture and History through Film: Global Chinese Cinemas

This course traces major trends in Chinese cinema, including works from mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. We will analyze films from multiple angles, including aesthetics, historical context, production, and circulation. In particular, we will focus on tensions between nationalism and transnationalism in Chinese cinema. Film screenings in class Wednesdays 2:10-4:00. N May be taken as Literature/Fine Arts (ASI-177) or History/Philosophy/Religion (HIS-260).

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: C. Healey

BLS-270-01=REL-280-02 Intro to African American Faith Traditions

This course will introduce students to the critical study of African American religious practices and traditions. Students will be exposed to the historiography of African American institutional religion (i.e., the history of black churches, temples, etc.) as well as the sectarian rituals and worldviews of worshipping black communities. The aim here is to get a rich understanding of the ways in which the religious life is manifested among black people as they respond to their period, region and social conditions.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: T. Lake

BLS-270-02=ENG-160-01 Intro to African American Literature

This course will introduce students to the critical study of African American literature as a means of racial identity formation and political and philosophical articulation. Among other things, African American art, literature, music, and cinema reflect an attempt to grapple with issues of human psychology, justice, love, race, and democracy. Moreover, it is these issues that form the major themes of the course.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: T. Lake

CHE-461-01 Bioengineering using CRISPR/Cas9 Second half semester course

The CRISPR/Cas9 system is a revolutionary technique used to specifically edit DNA in just about any organism, from bacteria to humans. This technique introduces double-stranded DNA breaks at very specific locations in DNA. Repair mechanisms to this type of trauma are error prone, allowing this technique to knock-out gene function in an organism or even introduce new DNA sequences into an organism's genome. We will explore the biochemistry of the CRISPR/Cas9 system at the molecular level using primary literature sources. Students will investigate the potential of the system to develop miracle cures and create engineered foods. The class will also examine the ethics behind the CRISPR/Cas9 system and potentially create their own edited organisms. 0.5 credits

Prerequisites: CHE-361

Instructor: W. Novak

CHE-471-01 Special Topics in Chemistry

Prerequisite:

Instructor: Staff

CSC-121-01 Programming in C++

This is a half-credit introduction to the C++ language for students who already have some programming experience. Students will build on their previous knowledge of a programming language to learn an additional language. C++ is a general-purpose programming language similar in some respects to Java, but different in others.

Prerequisite: CSC-111

Instructor: W. Turner

CSC-121-02 Programming in Haskell

This is a half-credit introduction to the Haskell programming language for students who already have some programming experience. Students will build on their previous knowledge of a

programming language to learn an additional language. Haskell is a functional programming language, which is very different from object oriented languages like Java.

Prerequisite: CSC-111

Instructor: W. Turner

CSC-271-01 Special Topics: Machine Learning

How does Alexa recognize your speech? How does Gmail filter spam from your inbox? How does Facebook identify you in photographs? How does Netflix recommend what movies you should watch? How does 23andMe link genetic factors to diseases? How does DeepMind develop artificial intelligence programs that can beat world champions in Chess and Go?

Algorithms that automatically transform data into intelligent decision-making processes are now ubiquitous in society. The convergence of “big data” with massively parallel computational hardware has led to a renaissance in the exciting world of machine learning.

This course will be an introduction to the theory and practice of machine learning. We will develop the foundations of machine learning, guided by principles such as Occam’s razor and in consideration of hinderances such as the dreaded “curse of dimensionality”. We will explore training and evaluation frameworks. We will look at a variety of tasks including classification, regression, clustering and reinforcement learning. We will learn about models such as decision trees, Bayesian learning, kernel methods, neural networks and deep learning. Prior experience with linear algebra and vector calculus are not required, but will be helpful for this course.

Prerequisite: CSC-111 and MAT-112

Instructor: M. McCartin-Lim

DV1-277-03 The Chemistry of Wine

The Chemistry of Wine will explore the chemistry and technology of modern wine making and analysis. Primary literature and a wine chemistry text will form the core material for the course, with representative wine pairings chosen to accompany each topic. The course will combine elements of organic chemistry, biochemistry, and analytical chemistry together with a basic study of geography, history, culture, and tasting protocols. Specifically, the course will explore i) how the chemical components of grapes and wine are influenced by terroir, climate, fermentation, and viticulture, ii) the structure/ properties of these compounds and how they are measured and quantified, and iii) how these compounds impact the taste, aroma, mouthfeel, longevity, and value of wine. This course has an immersion component to the University of California Davis and the Napa Valley wine region over Thanksgiving break 2019.

Prerequisite: CHE-221 (pre or co-requisite).

Instructor: P. Schmitt

ECO-277-01=HSP-277-01 Economics of Latin America

The course includes a variety of topics focusing on current economic policies and institutional arrangements in Latin American countries, such as monetary policy, exchange rate regimes, international debt policies, challenges of growth and development (including natural resources and demographic developments). The main goal of this class is to develop a deeper understanding of the economic structure and policies of a number of Latin American countries with particular emphasis on their international economic relations. Additionally, the class will help students to become familiar with some data sources for information on Latin America. Finally, economic policy is done in the cultural, historical and social context of individual countries, therefore some of this context will be included in class. The class will include a substantial number of case studies of particular economic issues in particular countries (for example, exchange rate crisis in Argentina, international debt crisis in Mexico, successful economic growth in Chile, dollarization in Ecuador, prospects of economic transition in Cuba etc.).

Prerequisite: ECO-101

Instructor: P. Mikek

ECO-277-02 Special Topics: Topics in Behavioral Economics

Behavioral Economics, a relatively new field in economic theory, attempts to bridge the divide between the classical microeconomic model and what we observe in the real world. In this class, we will explore concepts like mental accounting (or why my bank account never seems to have as much money in it as I remember), hyperbolic discounting (or why I keep hitting the snooze button on my alarm clock), reciprocity (or why I charge less to people I know better), and prospect theory (or why I weigh my fear of getting a C on an exam much more than my joy of getting an A on it), among other topics.

Prerequisite: ECO-101

Instructor: E. Dunaway

ECO-277-03 Special Topics: Black Markets

The issues this course addresses take place in the underground economy. The course will focus on different informal market sectors, namely the illicit markets for illegal drugs, alcohol in the 1920s, arms sales, the Soviet Union, and human trafficking. The objective is to apply economic reasoning to the analysis of the social issues surrounding these markets, drawing from principles of economics, and building on them, yet allowing the course to be interdisciplinary in nature, by allowing students to use their major areas of expertise in research.

Prerequisite: ECO-101

Instructor: N. Snow

EDU-230-01 Special Topics: Studies in Rural Education Second Half-Semester Course

According to the Center for Public Education “Approximately half the school districts in the United States are located in rural areas,” yet urban and suburban schools attract most of the nation’s attention both in terms of policy and academia. This course offers an introduction to rural education with attention to some of the most pressing issues facing rural schools: state and

federal funding, the viability of popular reform initiatives, curricular programs including vocational education, teacher shortages, access to technology, and poverty. 0.5 credits

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: M. Pittard

EDU-370-01=HIS-240-01 Special Topics: Social Studies Education for Democratic Citizenship First Half-Semester Course

This course examines the ways in which history education in the U.S. must grapple with complex historic content if it is to prepare citizens for active democratic engagement. Topics and events we will consider include those that may be omitted entirely or glossed over as too messy or difficult. Topics will be drawn from among the following in response to students' interests: U.S. immigration and exclusion policies across time; racial oppression of minoritized peoples including race riots, lynchings, and mass killings; the extension of the franchise to members of minority groups and to women; treaty negotiations and sovereignty issues for Native peoples; the elaboration of individual rights and freedoms; and the complex history of Charles Lindbergh, Henry Ford, and the U.S. fascist movement. 0.5 credits

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Deborah Seltzer

ENG-210-1 Special Topics in Creative Writing: Screenwriting

This course will introduce you to the basics of cinematic storytelling. You will learn dramatic structure, correct script form, and narrative conventions of successful screenplays. Since this is a workshopping class, much of the class will be devoted to your own original work, from writing treatments, scenes, a TV pilot, to developing your own full-length screenplay. Evaluation of your work will take place in a peer-reviewed workshopping environment, similar to a writing room at a movie studio. This course counts as an elective for the Minor in Film and Digital Media.

Prerequisite: ENG-110

Instructor: E. Freeze

ENG-300-01=BLS-300-03 African-American Crime Fiction

This course will trace the development of the African-American crime fiction genre from the end of World War II to the present. Starting with the hardboiled crime novels of Chester Himes, we will examine ways that African-American authors, filmmakers, and musicians have used black detectives and/or criminals to challenge misconceptions about black criminality in the U.S. We will particularly focus on the development of the crime genre in relation to major historical movements and events in post-World War II African-American experience—from the Civil Rights and Black Power Movements to #BlackLivesMatter.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: M. Lambert

ENG-497-01=BLS-300-02 South African Literature

In this course, we will focus on South African authors writing in the context of colonization, Apartheid, and the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. How did the writers and poets describe conflicts between assimilation and resistance in the colonial and postcolonial setting? How were the tribal, national, cultural, and individual identities affected by decades of foreign imperial presence and the Apartheid regime? Can we trace any intersections between South African writers' response to Apartheid and North American writers' response to Jim Crow and, more recently, to Ferguson? To understand and enjoy the texts, we will also study the historical and political contexts of Dutch and British imperialism and the anti-Apartheid resistance. The authors we will read include Sol Plaatje, Steve Biko, Nadine Gordimer, Bessie Head, Richard Rive, Zoë Wicomb, JM Coetzee, Zakes Mda, Thando Mqolozana, Koleka Putuma, and others.

Prerequisite: Senior only registration

Instructor: A. Szczeszak-Brewer

FRE-311-01 Studies in French Language: Adventures in Writing

With a focus on mastering expression in French writing, this course offers advanced grammar review along with questions of writing styles and methods. Writing exercises and tasks will involve peer review exercises in order to encourage collaboration inside and outside of class. Students will produce a series of short but high quality compositions prepared with a maximum level of care and preparation, in which various themes or grammar structures discussed in class will be incorporated. Over the semester, we will have a series of adventures with different writing objectives – such as description, portraits, press reviews, and literary analysis -- while touching upon various aspects of French and Francophone cultures along the way. A film and a full length contemporary novel will be included in the syllabus.

Pre-requisite: FRE 302. This course will be taught in French.

Instructor: K. Quandt

GER-377-01 Special Topics in German Literature & Culture

Prerequisite:

Instructor: Staff

HIS-200-01 History US-Russian Foreign Relation

In this course, we will examine how US-Russian foreign relations developed in the past hundred years, from the Russian Revolution to the present. You will learn about key moments in the development of an American diplomatic relationship with Russia, and evaluate competing theories about the social, political, ideological, and economic factors that shaped that relationship.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: S. Kunze

HIS-300-01 Human Rights in the Historical Imagination

In this course, we explore how human rights norms are deployed, to what effect, for whom, and by whom. You will learn about broad themes in the evolution of human rights norms including: migration, minorities, and refugees; late twentieth-century human rights talk; global justice; and indigenous rights as human rights. As we analyze these topics, we will seek to ground events and ideas in their historical context and examine the interplay of events, institutions, ideas, and cultural expression in causing social change.

Prerequisite: 0.5 credits in History

Instructor: S. Kunze

HIS-340-01=BLS-300-01 Race, Gender, Class and Punishment in America: A History of Mass Incarceration

The more than two million people incarcerated in the United States, constitute the largest prison population in the world. African Americans and Latinos comprise a disproportionate number of these prisoners and female imprisonment has outpaced men by 50% since 1980. (The Sentencing Project) The “prison industrial complex” has produced enormous profits for private prison corporations, growing deficits for state and local governments, and social crises in those communities targeted by systematic policing and imprisonment. It has also generated public and scholarly debates about the history, ethics, and function of mass incarceration. This course will examine the evolution of the “prison industrial complex” in the United States, from its antecedents in slavery and in the prison systems of the nineteenth-century, to the rise of mental institutions and prisons for profit during the twentieth-century. Throughout the course we will consider the relationship of race, gender, class and punishment at various moments in American history. Course readings will draw on the work of historians, sociologists, anthropologists, and lawyers, and will incorporate various experiential activities and other prisms through which to evaluate the culture of prison and punishment in American society.

Prerequisite: 1 credit from History

Instructor: S. Thomas

HIS-350-01=HSP-250-01 LA CAPITAL: History of Mexico City

This course covers the long history of the area today known as Mexico City, or Distrito Federal (DF). Complex civilizations have inhabited this region for over 2000 years, since before the time of the Aztecs (Mexica) until the present, as the world’s second largest urban area. Clashes and fusions between cultures have defined the history of the region, creating a complex and fascinating social tapestry today. In addition to engagement with primary and secondary sources, students will author a term paper about a subject of their choice. Over Thanksgiving Break the class will travel to Mexico City to further investigate historical elements of the region. Students selected by application.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: R. Warner

MAT-338-01=CSC-338-01 Topics in Computational Mathematics: Computer Algebra

Have you ever wanted a computer to do mathematics the way a person does it? Are you curious about how computer algebra systems such as MATHEMATICA and MAPLE work? This course offers an introduction to computer algebra, the discipline that develops mathematical tools and computer software for the exact or arbitrary precision solution of equations. It evolved as a discipline linking algorithmic and abstract algebra to the methods of computer science and providing a different methodological tool in the border area between applied mathematics and computer science. It has as its theoretical roots the algorithmic-oriented mathematics of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and the algorithmic methods of logic developed in the first half of the twentieth century, and it was sparked by the need of physicists and mathematicians for extensive symbolic computations that could no longer be conducted by hand. Prerequisites: CSC 111 and MAT 223, or permission of the instructor.

Instructor: W. Turner

MUS-204/401 Music and Social Change and Senior Seminar

This course will provide a broad exploration of how music has played a role in community building and social change, both in specific historical movements and in current society. The first section of the course examines music in several cultural and historical movements, like the South African apartheid and the American Civil Rights Movement. The second section of the course will study current musical organizations that are doing important social work in the 21st century, including the Sphinx Organization in Detroit, El Systema in Argentina, and Musiccambia in New York City. Over the course of the semester, we will visit several organizations that are doing social work using music, as well as put together a community-based musical project in Crawfordsville.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: R. Spencer

MUS-304-01 Conducting

This course will be an introductory study in the practice of conducting. The course will begin with the basics of conducting gesture, then apply it in practice to choral, band, and orchestral repertoire. Alongside the physical gesture of conducting, students will study musical score reading, rehearsal leadership, and relevant music history. At the end of the semester, the students will have the opportunity to conduct one of Wabash's musical ensembles in rehearsal/s.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: R. Spencer

PHI-109-01 Perspectives on Philosophy: Humans in the Age of Robots

This course will consider different conceptions of what it means to be human drawn from the history of philosophy and then pair each conception with a challenge brought about by existing, planned and imagined technology of robots. The guiding question of the course is whether technological advances in robots and algorithms have made it impossible for us to successfully

distinguish between human beings and non-human beings as philosophers have long tried to do. Technology poses some challenges to us in the way that we use “the cloud” and our smart phones as extensions of ourselves. It also poses challenges in the ways that AI is learning to think and robots come to resemble humans physically more and more. We will ask what the implications are for human life if this distinction is no longer possible. Students will read selections from Aristotle, Augustine, Descartes, Locke, Hume, Hegel, Arendt and Foucault as well as contemporary theorists of technology and watch films and television shows including *Ex Machina* and *Black Mirror* episodes.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: A. Trott

PHI-109-02 Perspectives on Philosophy: Friendship first half semester course

What are friends for? Who do we count among our friends? What are the ethical benefits and ethical dilemmas that occur in friendship? How do friendships contribute to our character and identity? What is the role of friendship in a good life? We will explore some of the ways philosophers have tried to answer these questions beginning with Aristotle and moving historically through such thinkers as Cicero, Seneca, Montaigne, and C.S. Lewis as well as several contemporary philosophers who are taking a renewed interest in friendship. We will also use film, case studies, and our own experiences to test philosophical analyses and deepen our understanding of friendship. This is a half-credit introductory course in philosophy. 0.5 credits

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: C. Hughes

PHI-109-03 Perspectives on Philosophy: Science Fiction & Philosophy second half semester course

Science fiction is always a kind of thought experiment, inventing new worlds that are often inhabited by something alien, or extending our current science and technology into an imagined future full of tough moral dilemmas, or simply playing with some of our most challenging ideas about space and time, the possibility of artificial intelligence, or the problems of personal identity and free will. Philosophy also uses thought experiments to question what we might otherwise take for granted, to explore familiar problems in new ways, or to construct ideas and test their possibilities. In this course, we will use science fiction literature and films as well as philosophical essays to explore a range of philosophical questions. This is a half-credit introductory course in philosophy. 0.5 credits

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: C. Hughes

PHI-219-01=PPE-228-01=GHL-219-01 Topics in Ethics and Social Phil: Environmental Philosophy

This course will first introduce some common approaches to environmental ethics by considering the question of the moral status of nonhuman animals. For example, we will examine debates

between utilitarian and Kantian moral theorists by asking whether nonhuman animals have moral and legal status, and whether nonhuman animals and ecosystems have intrinsic value or are merely valuable insofar as they are useful to human beings. We will then ask whether these common approaches to environmental ethics are adequate to the task of responding to the challenge of global climate change. Examining the political, economic, and ethical dimensions of climate change reveals at least one basic challenge to standard approaches to moral theory: the massive scale of potential harm—counted not only in terms of harm to human communities, like displacement, forced migration, poverty, hunger, and deleterious health effects that follow, but also in terms of harms to nonhuman animals like species extinction and ecosystem collapse—confounds standard accounts of moral and legal responsibility. Appreciating the severity of this problem invites us to reconsider how human beings are situated in nature and to explore alternative approaches to environmental ethics and to human dwelling.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: J. Gower

PHI-219-02=PPE-228-02=GEN-200-02 Topics in Ethics and Social Phil: Feminist Philosophy

Feminist philosophy considers the philosophical questions raised by our system of gender. The theme of the course is the meaning of difference. Historical inequality between men and women leads to the question of whether gender difference between men and women can be thought without hierarchy. This course considers numerous aspects and issues involved in these questions including how differences intersect in history and thought, whether men and women have different timeless and universal essences, whether philosophy's claim to knowledge is itself marked by gendered assumptions, what the role of pornography is in producing difference and inequality is and how the trans experience informs these questions. The last part of the course involves a philosophical examination of multiple feminist approaches – liberal feminism, difference feminism, radical feminism, Marxist feminism, Black feminism / womanism, and transnational feminism -- to these issues.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: A. Trott

PHI-299-01=MUS-104-01 History and Philosophy of Music

In the West, music and philosophy have exerted influence upon one another from Antiquity to the present day. In this course, we will survey relationships and mutual interactions between music and philosophy throughout history. Central questions of the course will include: What is the relationship between music and the emotions? Is music the language of the emotions? For that matter, is music a language at all? What do works of music mean, and how do they have these meanings? We will address these questions by analyzing the nature of music, aesthetics, and composition using specific case studies from Western music history and philosophy. In so doing, we will seek to understand relationships between different modes of philosophical

thinking and musical styles. This class is co-taught by professors from the philosophy and music departments, and it has no prerequisites. No background in either music or philosophy is required to participate in this course.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: M. Carlson

PHI-449-01 Senior Seminar: The Philosophy of David Hume

David Hume (1711 - 1776) was a central figure in the "Scottish Enlightenment" of the 18th century, and stands today as one of the most important and influential philosophers in the Western philosophical tradition. Hume produced groundbreaking new approaches in many areas of philosophical inquiry, including knowledge, morality, and the relationship between philosophy and science. While many of his arguments were, and are, disturbing to established systems of thought, the eloquence and intellectual integrity with which he made those arguments is beyond reproach. In this course, we will study some of Hume's central contributions to epistemology, ethics, and the study of human behavior by close and careful examination of his most important philosophical works, *A Treatise of Human Nature* and *Enquiries Concerning Human Understanding and Concerning the Principles of Morals*. This course is required for senior philosophy majors, but is open to other students.

Enrollment by instructor permission only.

Instructor: M. Carlson

PSC-210-01=PPE-238-01 The 2020 Census

Next year's census – the 24th count of the US population since the first constitutionally mandated census in 1790 – has been called the “most difficult in history.”* In addition to perennial concerns about racial and ethnic categories and fierce debates over the inclusion of a new citizenship question, it is the first time the census will be conducted digitally, which has raised questions as to whether sufficient field testing and funding have been provided to ensure an accurate count. This once-in-a-lifetime course will take a deep dive into these and other concerns related to the 2020 Census. We'll place current census politics in historical context, consider why it matters that the population is counted accurately, and explore the diverse range of viewpoints and interests that have been weighing in on 2020 census controversies. Finally, to complement our study of the national-level debates, we'll look at how local governments, which rely very heavily on census data, are preparing for the 2020 census and work with the City of Crawfordsville on its “get out the count” efforts.

*William P. O'Hare and Terri Ann Lowenthal, “The 2020 Census: The Most Difficult in History,” *Applied Demography Newsletter* 28 (2015): 8-10.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: S. Gelbman

PSC-230-01=PPE-238-02 Tocqueville and the Idea of Fraternity in America

Alexis de Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*, written after a year-long trip around America taken in his 20s, is arguably the most important book on democracy and the most important book on America. He identifies the American tradition of forming associations as its saving grace. In addition to studying Tocqueville's travelogue, the class will explore contemporary applications of his ideas of community (and community's failure). How does life in the contemporary world, including our addiction to social media, change the way we associate with others? And what would Tocqueville say about fraternities—can they help revitalize community?

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: L. McCrary

PSC-240-01=PPE-238-03 Arab Israeli Conflict

This course introduces students to the history, politics, and diplomacy of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We will begin by examining the conflict's historical origins, beginning in the late 19th Century. Students will understand how competing nationalisms – European Zionism and Arab nationalism – set the groundwork for what was to follow, and how British control following World War I exacerbated tensions between the two groups. The second half of the course will focus on what has transpired since Israel became an independent state in 1947. We will explore the causes and dynamics of the wars (1956, 1967, 1973, 2006) and uprisings (1987-1993, 2000-2005) that have occurred since, as well as efforts to make peace (1993, 2000, 2007) and why recent years have seen very little movement towards a resolution. In doing so, we will examine the role of the United States, Europe, other Middle Eastern countries, and the United Nations. Importantly, the course does not seek to determine which side or group is at fault for the existing state of affairs; rather, it aims to arrive at a common understanding of why the different actors thought and acted as they did. We will do so through by reading and analyzing primary source documents, speeches, interviews, literature, and films.

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Matthew Wells

PSC-320-01=HIS-230-01=GER-312-01=HUM-277-01 The Holocaust: History, Politics, and Representation

This course examines the Holocaust from historical, political, and cultural perspectives. While we will focus on the history of the event itself, from the rise of Nazism in the 1930s to the end of World War II, we will also devote significant attention to representations, reflections, and portrayals of the Holocaust in the world since.

While the Holocaust ended in 1945, Holocaust *history* continues to the present day. World leaders are routinely called 'Nazis' by those who disagree with them, and episodes of human suffering—from warfare, oppression, or even natural disasters – are often compared with the Nazi genocide and (rightly or wrongly) seen through its lens. The Holocaust, usually defined as the systematic attempt by Nazi Germany and its allies to eliminate the Jews of Europe, has clearly expanded beyond its strict historical setting to become a defining event in the global human

experience. Students will explore how the Holocaust is portrayed from various perspectives and how responses to the Holocaust have changed over time. This interdisciplinary course has no prerequisites and is open to students of any major. Students may apply the course toward distribution requirements in behavioral science; literature and fine arts; or history, philosophy, and religion. It also counts towards the PPE major's diversity requirement.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: E. Hollander

PSY-210-01 Special Topics: Evolution, Behavior, and Cognition

In this course, we will explore the cognitive, sensory, and behavioral abilities of nonhuman animals. We will review how evolution shaped our current perspective and outlook on animal intelligence and will learn about such topics as the sensory experiences of animals (namely, honeybees, bats, pigeons, dolphins, and chimps), concept formation, time and number, reasoning, social learning, communication and language, navigation, and much more. Such topics will be explored by reading, analyzing, and discussing two books, *Do Animals Think?* and *Animal Cognition*. An emphasis will be placed on critically evaluating claims of animal intelligence that can be extended to any type of scientific claim or research that you digest in the future. Although some background on Psychology would help, it is not necessary for this course.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: N. Muszynski

REL-196-01=ASI-196-01=HUM-196-01 "Dancing with the Moon":

Religion and Image in Chinese Poetry Second half-semester course

“In the heart, it’s intention; coming forth in words, it’s poetry.” So says the “Preface” to the *Book of Songs*, the ancient classic of Chinese poetry. In this course, we will read selections (in English) from the *Book of Songs*, and later poets like Li Bo [Li Bai], Du Fu, and Wang Wei. We will study how Chinese poets use image and metaphor to convey their distinctive ideas about nature, religion, and human life. On occasion, we will also read Chinese poems alongside selected English-language poems, comparing their techniques and aims. 0.5 credits. For first half semester at 9:45 TTH, see REL-275.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: D. Blix

REL-275-01 Gods and Brains: Religion and Cognitive Science First half semester course

Can religious beliefs be adequately analyzed or explained by cognitive science? If so, how and to what extent? If not, why not? These are the questions that this course will address. The relatively new field of cognitive science is the scientific study of the human mind, drawing on fields like psychology, anthropology, archeology, linguistics, and neuroscience. The course has 3 parts. First, we’ll read what some cognitive scientists have to say about religion, e.g. Pascal Boyer, *Religion Explained: The Evolutionary Origins of Religious Thought*. Second, we’ll read some philosophical and theological critiques of these ideas. Third, in light of these critiques, we’ll consider their adequacy to the task of analyzing or explaining religious beliefs. 0.5 credits. First half semester course. For second half semester at 9:45 TTH, see REL-196.

Prerequisite: None
Instructor: D. Blix

REL-280-01 Religion and Health in America

In this seminar, we will examine the various ways religious groups in America have understood the body and practiced health, focusing on issues of illness, medicine, healing, and death.

Discussions will be based on readings addressing health among a variety of religious adherents.

In particular, we will focus on the beliefs and practices of Christian groups in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as well as contemporary issues and medical research in health and religion.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: J. Baer

REL-297-01 Anthropology of Religion

A seminar examining the various ways anthropology describes and interprets religious phenomena. We will study anthropological theories of religion, and focus on how these theories apply to specific religions in diverse contexts. We will pay particular attention to the social and symbolic functions of beliefs and rituals and to the religious importance of myths, symbols, and cosmology.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: J. Baer

REL-373 Topics in Theology: Materiality and Embodiment

This class will study the history and theology of physicality. Is physicality to be contrasted with spirituality? How can the body of Jesus of Nazareth be incarnated by the Divine Logos, as Christians claim? If the material world has been ennobled by God's presence in it, as the early church asserted, not relegated to mere materiality as their Gnostic opponents seemed to teach, what should be the attendant view of the physical world and its bodies today? The implications of a theology of materiality for environmental issues as well as technological ones (such as mass production, virtual reality and artificial intelligence) may also be considered.

Prerequisite: One previous course in theology (REL 173 or REL 370)

Instructor: D. Nelson

RHE-370-01 Rhetoric of Religion

This course investigates the rhetoric of religion and religious practice. We will examine rhetorical theories that can be used to offer insights about the symbolic significance of religion, religious identity, and religious practice, as well as the intersections of religion and culture. In so doing, we will consider a range of historical and contemporary texts, including Puritan sermons, prophetic rhetoric, religious social movements, religious films, religious music, and U.S. civil religion. Course sessions will focus on reading essays of rhetorical criticism of religion and undertaking our own rhetorical analyses of religious texts. Students will undertake research on a

topic of their choosing relating to the rhetoric of religion, culminating in an essay and presentation. The course counts toward the Literature and Fine Arts distribution requirement.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: S. Drury

THE-206-01 Studies in Acting: Improvisational Theater

Improvisation, as seen in television shows like *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* or the comic sets of Second City or Upright Citizens Brigade, relies on a performer's wit, skill, and connections with collaborators instead of a written text. Whether you find that terrifying or liberating (or both), improv refines an actor's technique through deeper listening, in-the-moment reacting, and the generation of imaginative possibilities. This class will emphasize traditional comedic improv, devising new material, and "Playback" storytelling techniques.

Prerequisite: THE-105

Instructor: H. Vogel