



Special Topics Course Descriptions Fall 2021

These are the course descriptions for Fall 2021 course offerings on special topics. Descriptions for regularly offered courses can be found in the [Wabash College Academic Bulletin](#) and in the [Self-Service Academic Catalog](#).

ART

ART-225-01 Special Topics in Studio: Narrative Filmmaking

TuTh 1:10pm-3:00pm

This Art studio production course focuses on cinema's most popular style of storytelling: live-action narrative filmmaking. Students will study various techniques and important aspects associated with using moving images and sound to engage audiences and convey narratives. They will become familiar with basic hardware and software, space and screen direction, composition and orientation, shape within the frame, editing and transitions, camera position and movement, costumes, and location considerations. Along with readings and screenings, students will create short collaborative group projects, narrative film challenges, as well as have the opportunity to explore their own original narrative ideas.

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Mohl D

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Film & Digital Media

ART-225-02 Topics in Studio: Metalsmithing

TuTh 1:10pm-3:55pm

This course introduces students to metal as a medium for artistic expression. Over the semester, we will learn basic techniques for the fabrication of metal objects and small-scale sculptures. Students will practice sawing, filing, sanding, riveting, hard (silver) soldering, and finishing pieces made of non-ferrous metals. Forming, texturing, and shaping metal will also be explored.

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Mohl J

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts

ART-225-03 Topics in Studio: Sculpture Experiments

TuTh 1:10pm-3:55pm

In this course students will create work based on a focused range of materials and topic-themed project prompts. Written documentation will also be emphasized, in order to better understand the development of ideas and the design decision-making process. Project media will range from the conceptual and ephemeral (light, shadow, time) to the traditional and tangible (stone, wood, metal) and to the contemporary (found objects, plastics and recyclables). This is an opportunity to explore numerous ideas.

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Mohl J

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts



ASIAN STUDIES

ASI-112-01 East Asian Popular Culture

MWF 2:10pm-3:00pm

This course considers the production, circulation, and consumption of East Asian popular culture as a global phenomenon. Topics include Japanese anime, Korean pop music, Chinese science fiction, Hong Kong martial arts cinema, etc. Special attention will be paid to new media forms and transnational networks of cultural exchange. All readings in English.

Prerequisites: none

Instructor: Healey C

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Film & Digital Media; Asian Studies

REL-196-01/ASI-196-01/HUM-196-01 "Old Pond – Frog Jumps In": Religion in Japanese Literature

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

"Old pond – frog jumps in – sound of water." So runs the famous *haiku* by Basho. Is it religious? For the Japanese, yes. In Japan religion and art are arguably the same thing. In this course we'll ask how and why. We'll study Japanese ideas about art and religion (e.g. emptiness, solitude, "sublime beauty"), and how they appear in Japanese literature. We'll read selections from Japanese poetry (including *haiku*), *Nō* drama, a classic novel (*The Tale of Genji*), and some short stories.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Blix D

Credit: 0.5 (2nd half semester)

Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL; Asian Studies

ASI-277-01/GEN-101-01 Introduction to Gender Studies: Focus on East Asia

MWF 10:00am-10:50am

This course introduces students to the interdisciplinary field of gender studies by exploring questions about the meaning of gender in society with a special focus on East Asia. The course will familiarize students with the central issues, questions and debates in Gender Studies scholarship by analyzing themes of gendered performance and power in law, culture, education, work, health, social policy and the family. Key themes may include but are not limited to the relationship between sex and gender, the legal and social workings of the private / public distinction, the way that disciplinary practices code certain behaviors as masculine or feminine, the intersection of gender with race and ethnicity, the gendered structure of power, the tension between difference and equality, the production and circulation of gender expectations in the media, and the contested role of the law in achieving equality.

Prerequisite: none

Instructor: Healey C

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Asian Studies; Gender Studies; PPE Diversity

ECO-277-02/ASI-277-02 The Economics of Asia

MWF 9:00am-9:50am

This is an introductory course on the economic development in East and South Asian Countries. The goal of this course is to explore the elements of emerging financial markets with a focus on the determinants and impact of capital flows, globalization, economic development, financing and financial crises. Several Asian economies experienced speedy economic growth in the last sixty to seventy years. After World War II, Japan was the first high-growth economy in Asia. And, it was quickly followed by a set of very diverse



countries, for example, China, India, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore and Vietnam. China and India had sudden emergence onto the world stage as active traders, investors, and consumers. Common characteristics of these countries' growth success are macroeconomic stability, relatively less inequality and investment in people, export promotion, etc. This course focuses on the economic characteristics and the development strategies of these Asian economies to examine similarities and differences among them, how the Asian regions grew from an agricultural area into a newly-developed area, and how the institutional environment supported the economic growth. Finally, it is worth noting that growth has also levied a toll on these countries' environment and has led to the rapid degradation of their natural resources.

The goal of this course is to explore the key components and features of the rapidly growing/grown East and Southeast Asian economies. This course analyzes the development strategies of the individual countries to help better understand the roles of the institutions that have contributed to and shaped development in these countries.

Prerequisites: ECO-101

Instructor: Saha S

Credit: 1

Applies to: Behavioral Science; Asian Studies

BLACK STUDIES

BLS-270-01/ENG-370-01 The Black Body

TuTh 8:00am-9:15am

The Black Body is a site of surveillance and violence. It is, also, used to depict both the sacred and profane. Moreover, the Black body signals the erotic and grotesque. How is this possible? We will review the history of sighting, picturing, describing and embodying Blackness. From James Van DerZee's photos of Black life and culture in 1930s Harlem, NY, to Kerry James Marshall's paintings, the goal is to read representations of Blackness as a possible way of understanding what it means to be human.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Lake T

Credit: 1

BLS-270-02/ENG-260-01 Black Movies & Films

TuTh 9:45am - 11:00am

We will survey the history of Black Movies and Films from Oscar Micheaux to Spike Lee to Jordan Peele. Additionally, some attention will also be given to Black TV shows. This course will introduce you to the period of Black protest films, Blaxploitation films, urban realism and speculative film. The political and social implication of visual representation, as well as, the financial aspects of the movie industry will be covered here. We will read films as texts with the goal of learning the meaning(s) of Black life in the modern world.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Lake T

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies; Film & Digital Media; PPE Diversity



MUS-104-01/BLS-270-03 Special Topics "And All That Jazz!"

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

This course will explore the history and methods of American Jazz. Students will study the musical genres, geographical issues, and social movements that led to the creation of jazz and the development of the genre into present day. Major composers, arrangers, band leaders, and performers will be studied. As much of this music was derived from the combination of white and black experiences, racial issues associated with the arts and artistic creation will also be studied and discussed. The course will include a creative component where students will choose to write lyrics, compose music, and/or perform some jazz themselves. No prior musical experience is required to have a great time learning about jazz in American heritage!

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Williams S

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies

EDU-230-01/BLS-270-05 The School-to-Prison Pipeline

TuTh 1:10pm-2:25pm

"In the last decade, the punitive and overzealous tools and approaches of the modern criminal justice system have seeped into our schools, serving to remove children from mainstream educational environments and funnel them onto a one-way path toward prison....

The School-to-Prison Pipeline is one of the most urgent challenges in education today."

(NAACP 2005)

In this course, we will examine the ways in which the U.S. system of P-12 public education has become increasingly enmeshed with the criminal justice system. As the ACLU has noted, school disciplinary measures have become more rigid and more likely to divert students toward local law enforcement agencies. Beyond the area of school conduct issues, inequities that predict students' success in our testing-focused educational system may also predict students' likelihood of engagement with law enforcement (eg: family income and educational levels, presence/absence of learning exceptionalities, stereotyping based upon personal and/or cultural identity, and wealth/poverty levels of schools and neighborhoods). In this class, we will examine the underlying policies and school-level practices that contribute to this destructive pattern, along with interventions that have been developed, such as greater attention to students' educational and vocational needs, restorative justice approaches to behavioral issues, and a focus on social-emotional learning.

Prerequisite: FRT-101

Instructor: Seltzer-Kelly D

Credit: 1

Applies to: Black Studies; PPE Diversity

THE-103-01/BLS-270-07 Civil Rights and the Black Arts Movement

MWF 11:00am-11:50am

The 1950s and 60s saw the emergence of two sociopolitical movements: the mostly rural-based Civil Rights Movement, and the mostly urban-centered Black Arts Movement. In this course, we will examine Black theatrical contributions to the movements: witnessing the sanctioning of violence on Black citizens and the representation of Black life and community. In 1955, the funeral of Emmett Till ignited wide-spread activism and James Baldwin's THE AMEN CORNER premiered at Howard University. In 1959, Lorraine Hansberry's A RAISIN IN THE SUN was the first play written, directed, and performed by Black theater artists on Broadway; and paralleled the news coverage of the Greensboro, South Carolina lunch counter sit-ins, as well as simultaneous sit-ins across the South.

In the 1960s, Black-run theatres such as the New Lafayette in Harlem, the Negro Ensemble Company, and

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the Free Southern Theater produced playwrights Amiri Baraka, Ed Bullins, Ron Milner, Sonia Sanchez, Adrienne Kennedy, Alice Childress, Douglas Turner Ward and Joseph A. Walker, who were writing in a new Black idiom. In these plays of the Black Arts Movement, the protests and violence of the era are confronted on the stage, both in dialogue and action, melding the spheres of public and dramatic performance.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Vogel H

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies; PPE Diversity

BLS-300-01/FRE-377-01/ENG-270-01 African Cinema

TuTh 1:10pm-2:25pm

This course will study the evolution of African cinema since 1950. Traditionally dominated by the celluloid film, known for its sobering representations of Africa, the African cinematic landscape has recently witnessed the rise of the video film, generally characterized by a more aggrandizing portrayal of local cultures and communities. While analyzing the generic differences between these two types of films, we will also examine their appeal among African and international audiences. Furthermore, we will consider and reflect on the nexus points between African orality especially African myths and legends, and several contemporary issues among which immigration, globalization, gender relations, identity formation and modernity. Our primary resources will be films produced by acclaimed directors hailing from Cameroon, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Egypt, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This course will be offered in English, however French students will submit all writing assignments in French. This course can be an elective for the Film and Digital Media Minor.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Pouille A

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies; Film & Digital Media; PPE Diversity

CHEMISTRY

CHE-461-01 The Biochemistry of Covid-19

TuTh 8:00am-9:15am

This half semester course will focus on how Covid-19 “works” on a biochemical level, including how it enters cells, interacts with normal cellular processes, and elicits immune responses, as well as the biochemistry of vaccines and potential treatments.

Prerequisite: CHE-361 or permission of instructor

Instructor: Taylor A

Credit: 0.5, second half-semester

CHE-471-01 Special Topics in Chemistry: Materials Chemistry & Nanoscience

TuTh 8:00am-9:15am

Materials chemistry is a dynamic research field that has steered the evolution of civilization and continues to impact our daily lives. Ceramics, polymers, semiconductors, superconductors, alloys, nanoparticles, and composites are the materials of choice for a host of applications ranging from building materials and advanced microelectronics to food packaging and medical implants. In order to develop or select the proper material for a certain application, scientists and engineers must understand the structure of various materials at the microscopic level. This is because macroscopic properties (density, chemical resistance,



color, biocompatibility, etc.) are dictated by chemical structure. Today's chemists, engineers, physicists, and biologists are working diligently to develop exotic new materials to enable the revolutionary technologies of the future. This course will present a survey of the field and explore its frontiers (e.g. nanoscience) via the primary literature. This one-half credit course meets twice each week for the second half of the semester.

Prerequisite: CHE-321

Instructor: Porter L

Credit: 0.5, second half-semester

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

CHE-491-01 Integrative Chemistry: Advanced Structure, Bonding, & Spectroscopy of Inorganic Compounds

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

This senior capstone course will challenge students with an application of fundamental group theory principles to structure, bonding, and vibrational spectroscopy. Group theory provides a powerful analytical tool for determining how molecular symmetry dictates infrared/Raman spectra and molecular orbital descriptions of chemical bonding. Although the primary focus will include inorganic substances, this course will build upon concepts established in previous coursework from across many subdisciplines of chemistry. In-depth exploration will connect overarching themes in the major and provide a powerful launching point for written comprehensive exam preparation. Critical engagement with the primary literature, small-group problem solving, and diverse modes of oral and written presentation will be emphasized. This one-half credit course is required of all chemistry majors and meets twice each week for the first half of the semester.

Prerequisites: CHE-331 & CHE-351 (or permission of instructor)

Instructor: Porter L

Credit: 0.5, first half-semester

CLASSICS

CLA-213-01/HIS-210-02 Rome, Mad Men, & Monuments: The Art of Power

TuTh 2:40pm-3:55pm

Immense power rested in the hands of Rome's emperors. And while their peccadillos tend to dominate our imaginations today, in antiquity emperors' public images were carefully curated in a way that would make Madison Avenue ad agencies proud. Key in this endeavor was the deployment of artwork and building projects, which ranged from musclebound portraits and gilded building complexes to infrastructure that we might initially consider mundane, such as aqueducts and sewers.

This course travels back in time to investigate the strategies that the imperial court used to claim, justify, and maintain its power within the city of Rome itself. To that end, part of our consideration will revolve around the monuments' multiple audiences – rivals to power, traditionalists, and a cosmopolitan population drawn from every corner of the empire. Presentations, quizzes, and a final project form the backbone of evaluation for the course.

Prerequisite: none

Instructor: Hartnett J

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; HIS/PHI/REL



COMPUTER SCIENCE

CSC-271-01 – Special Topics: Intro to Data Science

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

This course examines key elements of the data-to-knowledge pipeline: gathering data from reliable sources; cleaning, processing and visualizing data; analyzing data with appropriate statistical tools; and making informed decisions. Using a variety of computational and statistical tools, students will develop practical data science skills in a collaborative, project-based environment. We will use the programming languages Python and R, though only proficiency in Python is a prerequisite. There is no mathematics prerequisite for this course. Students who have completed MAT 223 should consider CSC/MAT 338.

Prerequisites: CSC-111

Instructor: Westphal C

Credit: 1

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

MAT-338-01/CSC-338-01 Topics in Computational Mathematics: Machine Learning

TuTh 2:40pm-3:55pm

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, neural networks and deep learning.

Prerequisite: CSC-111 and MAT 223

Instructor: McCartin-Lim M

Credit: 1

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

DIVISION I

DV1-277-01 The Chemistry of Wine

WF 2:10pm-3:25pm

This course will explore the chemistry and technology of modern wine making. Primary literature and a wine chemistry text (Understanding Wine Chemistry, Waterhouse et al.) will form the core material for the course, with representative wine parings 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 necessary in any form of wine education. In more detail, the course will explore i) how the chemical components of grapes and wine (sugars, alcohol, phenols, esters, among many others) are influenced by terroir, climate, fermentation, etc. 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. Each example wine would be tasted in the context of identifying these specific chemical characteristics, also (briefly) discussing the geographic and cultural origins of each particular example.

Restrictions: Instructor permission required (application for immersion course, age restricted)

Prerequisite OR Corequisite: CHE-221

Instructor: Schmitt P

Credit: 1

DV1-277-02 Intro to Epidemiology

M 2:10-3:50pm, W 2:10-3:00pm

Epidemiology is the study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states or events in specified populations, and the application of this study to the control of health problems (M. Porta, A Dictionary of Epidemiology, 5thed. 2008). This course will introduce you to basic epidemiologic concepts including determinants of health and patterns of disease in populations, population health descriptive techniques, use of health indicators and secondary data sources. You will gain an understanding of the role of Epidemiology in developing prevention strategies and policy. Among the topics to be covered are measures of mortality and morbidity, design and analysis of observational studies, community health assessment and program evaluation. Using well-studied case studies, you will learn from one another through selection and presentation of recent public health topics, and discussion of epidemiological principles applied to their study.

Prerequisite : None

Instructor: Wetzel E, Hodges T

Credit: 1

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

ECONOMICS

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

MWF 10:00am-10:50am

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 (including cultural, ethnic, and racial diversity, and economic inequality). 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 (examples may include 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.).

Prerequisites: ECO-101

Instructor: Mikek P

Credit: 1

Applies to: Behavioral Science; Hispanic Studies

**ECO-277-02/ASI-277-02 The Economics of Asia****MWF 9:00am-9:50am**

This is an introductory course on the economic development in East and South Asian Countries. The goal of this course is to explore the elements of emerging financial markets with a focus on the determinants and impact of capital flows, globalization, economic development, financing and financial crises. Several Asian economies experienced speedy economic growth in the last sixty to seventy years. After World War II, Japan was the first high-growth economy in Asia. And, it was quickly followed by a set of very diverse countries, for example, China, India, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore and Vietnam. China and India had sudden emergence onto the world stage as active traders, investors, and consumers. Common characteristics of these countries' growth success are macroeconomic stability, relatively less inequality and investment in people, export promotion, etc. This course focuses on the economic characteristics and the development strategies of these Asian economies to examine similarities and differences among them, how the Asian regions grew from an agricultural area into a newly-developed area, and how the institutional environment supported the economic growth. Finally, it is worth noting that growth has also levied a toll on these countries' environment and has led to the rapid degradation of their natural resources.

The goal of this course is to explore the key components and features of the rapidly growing/grown East and Southeast Asian economies. This course analyzes the development strategies of the individual countries to help better understand the roles of the institutions that have contributed to and shaped development in these countries.

Prerequisites: ECO-101**Instructor: Saha S****Credit: 1****Applies to: Behavioral Science; Asian Studies****ECO-277-03 Behavioral Economics****TuTh 1:10pm-2:25pm**

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: Dunaway E****Credit: 1****Applies to: Behavioral Science**

EDUCATION STUDIES**EDU-230-01/BLS-270-05 The School-to-Prison Pipeline****TuTh 1:10pm-2:25pm**

"In the last decade, the punitive and overzealous tools and approaches of the modern criminal justice system have seeped into our schools, serving to remove children from mainstream educational environments and funnel them onto a one-way path toward prison....

The School-to-Prison Pipeline is one of the most urgent challenges in education today."

(NAACP 2005)

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In this course, we will examine the ways in which the U.S. system of P-12 public education has become increasingly enmeshed with the criminal justice system. As the ACLU has noted, school disciplinary measures have become more rigid and more likely to divert students toward local law enforcement agencies. Beyond the area of school conduct issues, inequities that predict students' success in our testing-focused educational system may also predict students' likelihood of engagement with law enforcement (eg: family income and educational levels, presence/absence of learning exceptionalities, stereotyping based upon personal and/or cultural identity, and wealth/poverty levels of schools and neighborhoods). In this class, we will examine the underlying policies and school-level practices that contribute to this destructive pattern, along with interventions that have been developed, such as greater attention to students' educational and vocational needs, restorative justice approaches to behavioral issues, and a focus on social-emotional learning.

Prerequisite: FRT-101

Instructor: Seltzer-Kelly D

Credit: 1

Applies to: Black Studies; PPE Diversity

EDU 230-02 Studies in Rural Education (Request for new number EDU-235 pending)

MW 2:10pm-3:25pm

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 education policy and academic research. This course offers an introduction to rural education, focusing on the various historical, cultural, economic, social, and political factors that shape rural education in the U.S. Students will explore some of the most pressing issues facing rural schools: the ramifications of state and federal funding, the challenges of hiring and retaining teachers, the viability of popular reform initiatives (e.g., school consolidation, rural charter schools, and distance learning), underlying conditions of poverty, and curricular programming including career and college readiness. The course is open to all students.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Pittard M

Credits: 0.5

ENGLISH

ENG-260-01/BLS-270-02 Black Movies & Films

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

We will survey the history of Black Movies and Films from Oscar Micheaux to Spike Lee to Jordan Peele. Additionally, some attention will also be given to Black TV shows. This course will introduce you to the period of Black protest films, Blaxploitation films, urban realism and speculative film. The political and social implication of visual representation, as well as, the financial aspects of the movie industry will be covered here. We will read films as texts with the goal of learning the meaning(s) of Black life in the modern world.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Lake T

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies; Film & Digital Media; PPE Diversity

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BLS-300-01/FRE-377-01/ENG-270-01 African Cinema

TuTh 1:10pm-2:25pm

This course will study the evolution of African cinema since 1950. Traditionally dominated by the celluloid film, known for its sobering representations of Africa, the African cinematic landscape has recently witnessed the rise of the video film, generally characterized by a more aggrandizing portrayal of local cultures and communities. While analyzing the generic differences between these two types of films, we will also examine their appeal among African and international audiences. Furthermore, we will consider and reflect on the nexus points between African orality especially African myths and legends, and several contemporary issues among which immigration, globalization, gender relations, identity formation and modernity. Our primary resources will be films produced by acclaimed directors hailing from Cameroon, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Egypt, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This course will be offered in English, however French students will submit all writing assignments in French. This course can be an elective for the Film and Digital Media Minor.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Pouille A

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies; Film & Digital Media; PPE Diversity

ENG-370-01/BLS-270-01 The Black Body

TuTh 8:00am-9:15am

The Black Body is a site of surveillance and violence. It is, also, used to depict both the sacred and profane. Moreover, the Black body signals the erotic and grotesque. How is this possible? We will review the history of sighting, picturing, describing and embodying Blackness. From James Van DerZee's photos of Black life and culture in 1930s Harlem, NY, to Kerry James Marshall's paintings, the goal is to read representations of Blackness as a possible way of understanding what it means to be human.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Lake T

Credit: 1

FRENCH

FRE-277-01 Language and Literature

MWF 11:00-11:50am

This is an intermediate-level French course designed to reinforce grammar structures, writing skills, and oral expression through a diverse sampling of French and Francophone readings and films. Particular focus will be placed on writing compositions that address literary themes or cultural topics, while in-class conversation will be emphasized through discussion questions. Conducted in French.

Prerequisite: FRE-201

Instructor: Quandt K

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts

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FRE-377-01/ENG-270-01/BLS-300-01 African Cinema

TuTh 1:10pm-2:25pm

This course will study the evolution of African cinema since 1950. Traditionally dominated by the celluloid film, known for its sobering representations of Africa, the African cinematic landscape has recently witnessed the rise of the video film, generally characterized by a more aggrandizing portrayal of local cultures and communities. While analyzing the generic differences between these two types of films, we will also examine their appeal among African and international audiences. Furthermore, we will consider and reflect on the nexus points between African orality especially African myths and legends, and several contemporary issues among which immigration, globalization, gender relations, identity formation and modernity. Our primary resources will be films produced by acclaimed directors hailing from Cameroon, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Morocco, Egypt, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo. This course will be offered in English, however French students will submit all writing assignments in French.

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Pouille A

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies; Film & Digital Media; PPE Diversity

HISPANIC STUDIES

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

MWF 10:00am-10:50am

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 (including cultural, ethnic, and racial diversity, and economic inequality). 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 (examples may include 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.).

Prerequisites: ECO-101

Instructor: Mikek P

Credit: 1

Applies to: Behavioral Science; Hispanic Studies

HISTORY

HIS-210-01/REL-250-01 Topics in Ancient History/Topics in Judaism

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

The course is a social and political history of Roman Judea and Galilee in the context of the life and death of Jesus of Nazareth and the Jewish Revolt against Rome. Both events offer windows into understanding

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the Roman world in the first century CE and the formation of Judaism from the diversity of the Second Temple Period. The course will include a strong emphasis on archaeology and the material culture of the sites, which have given scholars new insights into Jesus and the war in the past 40 years.

This course includes an immersion trip to Israel during Thanksgiving Recess, 20–28 November 2021. We will visit the Galilee, Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem, Qumran, and Masada.

Prerequisites: Students with at least one previous course in ancient history (including HIS-101), biblical studies, or Classics at Wabash.

Instructor: Royalty R

Credit: 1

Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL

CLA-213-01/HIS-210-02 Rome, Mad Men, & Monuments: The Art of Power

TuTh 2:40pm-3:55pm

Immense power rested in the hands of Rome's emperors. And while their peccadillos tend to dominate our imaginations today, in antiquity emperors' public images were carefully curated in a way that would make Madison Avenue ad agencies proud. Key in this endeavor was the deployment of artwork and building projects, which ranged from musclebound portraits and gilded building complexes to infrastructure that we might initially consider mundane, such as aqueducts and sewers.

This course travels back in time to investigate the strategies that the imperial court used to claim, justify, and maintain its power within the city of Rome itself. To that end, part of our consideration will revolve around the monuments' multiple audiences – rivals to power, traditionalists, and a cosmopolitan population drawn from every corner of the empire. Presentations, quizzes, and a final project form the backbone of evaluation for the course.

Prerequisite: none

Instructor: Hartnett J

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; HIS/PHI/REL

HUMANITIES

REL-196-01/ASI-196-01/HUM-196-01 "Old Pond – Frog Jumps In": Religion in Japanese Literature

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

"Old pond – frog jumps in – sound of water." So runs the famous *haiku* by Basho. Is it religious? For the Japanese, yes. In Japan religion and art are arguably the same thing. In this course we'll ask how and why. We'll study Japanese ideas about art and religion (e.g. emptiness, solitude, "sublime beauty"), and how they appear in Japanese literature. We'll read selections from Japanese poetry (including *haiku*), *Nō* drama, a classic novel (*The Tale of Genji*), and some short stories.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Blix D

Credit: 0.5 (2nd half semester)

Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL; Asian Studies



MATHEMATICS

MAT-178-01 - Financial Mathematics

MWF 3:10pm-4:00pm

The course focuses on mathematical approaches to analyzing bonds and to loan repayment. We will start by looking at the growth of money due to interest, then move on to the present value of an annuity, bond pricing for option-free bonds, yield measures, spot rates, forward rates, return analysis, and the important concept of duration as a measure of price volatility. We will finish with mathematical approaches to loan repayment, with a special focus on a sinking funds approach. This course does not count toward the mathematics major or minor. Credit cannot be given for both for this course and MAT 106 Financial Mathematics or MAT 252 Mathematical Interest Theory.

Prerequisite: none

Instructor: Thompson P

Credit: 0.5 (first half semester)

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

CSC-271-01 – Special Topics: Intro to Data Science

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

This course examines key elements of the data-to-knowledge pipeline: gathering data from reliable sources; cleaning, processing and visualizing data; analyzing data with appropriate statistical tools; and making informed decisions. Using a variety of computational and statistical tools, students will develop practical data science skills in a collaborative, project-based environment. We will use the programming languages Python and R, though only proficiency in Python is a prerequisite. There is no mathematics prerequisite for this course. Students who have completed MAT 223 should consider CSC/MAT 338.

Prerequisites: CSC-111

Instructor: Westphal C

Credit: 1

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

MAT 277-01 Introduction to Proofs

MWF 10:00am-10:50am

An introduction to formal logic, set theory, and methods of proof. Topics include logic, quantifiers, set theory, mathematical induction, proof by contradiction and contraposition, relations, functions, modular arithmetic, and divisibility. Not available to students who have already completed MAT 331. Will count toward a Math major or minor. Will count for distribution in Quantitative Literacy.

Prerequisite: MAT 112

Instructor: Ansaldi K

Credit: 0.5 (second half semester)

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

MAT-338-01/CSC-338-01 Topics in Computational Mathematics: Machine Learning

TuTh 2:40pm-3:55pm

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.

Wabash.

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, neural networks and deep learning.

Prerequisite: CSC-111 and MAT 223

Instructor: McCartin-Lim M

Credit: 1

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

MAT 377-01 - Multivariate Statistics

MWF 10:00am-10:50am

The course gives a matrix-based treatment of multivariate statistics. Topics will include a brief review of linear algebra (idempotent matrices, orthogonal matrices, spectral decomposition theorem for symmetric matrices), principal components, multivariate distributions, the multivariate normal distribution, the Wishart distribution, multivariate regression, Hotelling's T², and factor analysis. Credit cannot be given for both for this course and MAT 355 Regression Models. This course may be substituted for MAT 355 Regression Models as a required elective in the Financial Mathematics track of the Mathematics major.

Prerequisites: MAT-223 and MAT-254

Instructor: Thompson P

Credit: 0.5 (first half semester)

Applies to: Quantitative Literacy

MUSIC

MUS-104-01/BLS-270-03 Special Topics "And All That Jazz!"

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

This course will explore the history and methods of American Jazz. Students will study the musical genres, geographical issues, and social movements that led to the creation of jazz and the development of the genre into present day. Major composers, arrangers, band leaders, and performers will be studied. As much of this music was derived from the combination of white and black experiences, racial issues associated with the arts and artistic creation will also be studied and discussed. The course will include a creative component where students will choose to write lyrics, compose music, and/or perform some jazz themselves. No prior musical experience is required to have a great time learning about jazz in American heritage!

Prerequisites: None

Instructor: Williams S

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies



PHILOSOPHY

PHI-269-01 Topics in Metaphysics and Epistemology: Knowledge and Skepticism

TuTh 2:40pm-3:55pm

Here are some things that I take myself to know. The world around me is real, and not merely a simulation. The universe is billions of years old, and did not come into existence five minutes ago. Antarctica is a continent, but the Arctic is not. There are 211 Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives. The sun will rise tomorrow. But how do I know those things? What reliable information can I really have about the world around me? These questions are made particularly pressing by the existence of philosophical skepticism, according to which it is impossible for us to know what the world around us is actually like. Despite skepticism's absurd appearance, it is of enduring interest because of the power of the arguments in favor of it. Thus, to study skepticism, we will direct most of our attention to the careful study of arguments. The arguments we study will come from classic and contemporary philosophical works, and we will study them by using software called MindMup to map their structure. This will put us in a position to understand and evaluate these skeptical arguments, with an eye toward determining how we can have knowledge of the world around us.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Carlson M

Credit: 1

Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL

PHI-449-01 Senior Seminar: Plato's Republic

MWF 2:10pm-3:00pm

The senior seminar focuses on one text across the semester – Plato's *Republic* – with the goal of having students develop a seminar paper in which they take up their own set of questions and concerns about the text. Students will develop research skills to write a long essay on the text. Required for all senior philosophy majors.

Restrictions: Senior philosophy majors only

Instructor: Trott A

Credit: 1

Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL

PHYSICS

PHY-277-01 Special Topics: Nonlinear Dynamics

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

This course will serve as a broad introduction to nonlinear dynamics, for students with no prior exposure to the subject. Topics will include bifurcations, oscillations, phase portraits, limit cycles, chaos, and fractals.

Prerequisites: PHY-112 and MAT-223

Instructor: Tompkins N

Credits: 1



PSYCHOLOGY

PSY-110-01 Special Topics: Happiness

Th 9:45am-11:00am

The Declaration of Independence asserts that the “pursuit of Happiness” is a fundamental right, endowed by none other than the Creator. Great news! But what exactly are we pursuing? And how do we catch it? This course will introduce students to the science of well-being and its implications for the everyday pursuit of happiness. Course activities will include exercises for increasing a sense of well-being. Meets one day a week for the full semester.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Bost P

Credit: 0.5

Applies to: Behavioral Science

RELIGION

REL-196-01/ASI-196-01/HUM196-01 “Old Pond – Frog Jumps In”: Religion in Japanese Literature

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

“Old pond – frog jumps in – sound of water.” So runs the famous *haiku* by Basho. Is it religious? For the Japanese, yes. In Japan religion and art are arguably the same thing. In this course we’ll ask how and why. We’ll study Japanese ideas about art and religion (e.g. emptiness, solitude, “sublime beauty”), and how they appear in Japanese literature. We’ll read selections from Japanese poetry (including *haiku*), *Nō* drama, a classic novel (*The Tale of Genji*), and some short stories.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Blix D

Credit: 0.5 (2nd half semester)

Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL; Asian Studies

HIS-210-01/REL-250-01 Topics in Ancient History/Topics in Judaism

TuTh 9:45am-11:00am

The course is a social and political history of Roman Judea and Galilee in the context of the life and death of Jesus of Nazareth and the Jewish Revolt against Rome. Both events offer windows into understanding the Roman world in the first century CE and the formation of Judaism from the diversity of the Second Temple Period. The course will include a strong emphasis on archaeology and the material culture of the sites, which have given scholars new insights into Jesus and the war in the past 40 years.

This course includes an immersion trip to Israel during Thanksgiving Recess, 20–28 November 2021. We will visit the Galilee, Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem, Qumran, and Masada.

Prerequisites: Students with at least one previous course in ancient history (including HIS 101), biblical studies, or Classics at Wabash.

Instructor: Royalty R

Credit: 1

Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL

**REL-275-01 Topics in Religion and Philosophy: Religion and Science****TuTh 9:45am-11:00am**

Are religion and science in conflict with each other? In agreement? How or why, one way or the other? These are our questions. We'll do two main things in this course. First, we'll take a careful look at the different "ways of knowing" that are characteristic of science and religion, respectively. Second, we'll look at several models for thinking critically and responsibly about how they are related. Readings will include selections from Bertolt Brecht, Alan Lightman, Jacob Bronowski, Adam Frank, and others, as well as some classic texts in the history of science.

Prerequisite: None**Instructor: Blix D****Credit: 0.5 (1st half semester)****Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL****REL-280-01 Topics in American Religion: Christianity and the American Founding****TuTh 2:40pm-3:55pm**

What role did Christianity play in the founding of the United States? In shaping the thought and actions of its founding figures? Its foundational documents? Was the U.S. established as a Christian nation? A secular nation? Something else? This seminar will delve into these critical questions that have animated American history and continue to impact our collective cultural, social, and political life. We will examine the history of Christianity in colonial America and the new nation, with particular focus on the Revolutionary War, the development of the Constitution, and its implementation in the early republic. Relevant topics include religious pluralism, freedom of religion, disestablishment, and religion in public life.

Prerequisite: None**Instructor: Baer J****Credit: 1****Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL****REL-297-01 Anthropology of Religion****TuTh 9:45am-11:00am**

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, especially among indigenous peoples. 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: Baer J****Credit: 1****Applies to: HIS/PHI/REL**



RHETORIC

RHE-270-01 Rhetoric, Science, and Public Policy

MWF 11:00am-11:50am

What is the role of rhetoric in the public understanding of science, and in the creation of science-focused public policy? This course investigates the intersections of rhetoric and science in public engagement, exploring historical and contemporary examples in medicine, health, environmental studies, space, and nanotechnology. Throughout the semester, we will consider the use of tropes in science communication, how the technical, public, and personal spheres of argumentation impact public policy, and the opportunities and challenges of public engagement in science. This course is well suited for rhetoric students interested in analyzing science-focused public discourse, and science students interested in the public communication of science.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Drury S

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts

RHE 370-01 Rhetoric of the News Media

MWF 10:00am-10:50am

The news media have been the subject of much heated debate in the past several years. In this seminar-style course, we will explore the role, nature, truthfulness, and functions of the news media through a rhetorical lens. More specifically, we will approach news reports as rhetorical texts as we ask such question as: What qualifies as news; who decides; and how might charges of falsehood relate to these queries? How do traditional journalists and partisan outlets differently define, frame, and report news? And how do their stories influence our perceptions of the topics they address? Finally, what is or should be the role of the news media in a democratic society? In our discussion of these and similar questions, we will consider the historical development of the news media as well as the financial, media, and institutional factors that shape and constrain the news. Students will engage in close rhetorical analysis of news stories and will produce their own news reports.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Abbott J

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts



SPANISH

SPA-313-01 Hispanic Crime Fiction & Film Noir

TuTh 1:10-2:25pm

This course introduces students to the origins, developments, elements, and ideological uses of Hispanic crime fiction and film noir. We will explore the main features of the crime genre in a short collection of literature/film in the Hispanic world from the early 20th century to the present. By emphasizing aesthetics, representation, and leitmotifs, students will analyze how authors and filmmakers engage issues of identity, belonging, and memory in the genre. This interdisciplinary course aims to give students a better understanding of crime fiction and film noir as a cultural space to discuss and critique social and political issues. This course can be an elective in the Film and Digital Media minor.

Prerequisites: SPA-301 and SPA-302

Instructor: Greenhalgh M

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Hispanic Studies; Film & Digital Media

THEATER

THE-103-01/BLS-270-07 Civil Rights and the Black Arts Movement

MWF 11:00am-11:50am

The 1950s and 60s saw the emergence of two sociopolitical movements: the mostly rural-based Civil Rights Movement, and the mostly urban-centered Black Arts Movement. In this course, we will examine Black theatrical contributions to the movements: witnessing the sanctioning of violence on Black citizens and the representation of Black life and community. In 1955, the funeral of Emmett Till ignited widespread activism and James Baldwin's *THE AMEN CORNER* premiered at Howard University. In 1959, Lorraine Hansberry's *A RAISIN IN THE SUN* was the first play written, directed, and performed by Black theater artists on Broadway; and paralleled the news coverage of the Greensboro, South Carolina lunch counter sit-ins, as well as simultaneous sit-ins across the South.

In the 1960s, Black-run theatres such as the New Lafayette in Harlem, the Negro Ensemble Company, and the Free Southern Theater produced playwrights Amiri Baraka, Ed Bullins, Ron Milner, Sonia Sanchez, Adrienne Kennedy, Alice Childress, Douglas Turner Ward and Joseph A. Walker, who were writing in a new Black idiom. In these plays of the Black Arts Movement, the protests and violence of the era are confronted on the stage, both in dialogue and action, melding the spheres of public and dramatic performance.

Prerequisite: None

Instructor: Vogel H

Credit: 1

Applies to: Lit/Fine Arts; Black Studies; PPE Diversity