

SESSION 2 2009

AN 251 THEMES IN ANTHROPOLOGY

Examination of a geographic or subject area not available in existing course offerings. For example, the course may focus on post-colonial Australia, contemporary Ireland, or studies in primate behavior. The course in a different subject area may be repeated for credit. *Prerequisite:* permission of the instructor.

AN 251C BIOLOGICAL BASES OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR

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This course provides an overview of the current ideas on the origin and development of human behavior from an anthropological perspective. We will examine human behavior in the context of the behavior and biology of non-human primates, which are our closest living relatives. We will explore the "nature versus nurture" debate in detail and what impact each factor has on present-day human behavior. Topics covered in this course include basic evolutionary theory and human origins, sociobiology, intelligence, cognition, infancy, adolescence, aggression, and the concept of race. Controversy may surround many of these "hot topics" and will provide interesting insights into human biology, behavior, and culture and the interactions between these three factors. We will also focus on how scientific and pseudo-scientific research gets incorporated into popular knowledge and the public consciousness. Christina Grassi

AR 101 INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING

3

AR 101Z INTRODUCTION TO PAINTING WORKSHOP

non-credit

An introduction to painting as a medium of visual expression. Emphasis is placed upon exploration of formal and technical concerns. Basic studies include drawing and will explore a variety of subject matter and media directed toward the organization of the two-dimensional plane. *Summer only.* Not open to Skidmore art majors. (Credit course fulfills arts requirement.) Lab fee: \$50 David Bradford

AR 111 BASIC CERAMICS

4

Basic issues of aesthetics and technique developed through the direct manipulation of clay. A variety of forming techniques will be explored and demonstrated, including pinching, coiling, slab constructing, and throwing. In addition to group and individual critiques, weekly lectures will provide a working knowledge of kiln firing (both gas and electric) and clay and glaze formulation. (Fulfills arts requirement.) Lab fee: \$75 Edward (Ted) Camp

AR 131 VISUAL CONCEPTS

4

AR 131Z VISUAL CONCEPTS WORKSHOP

non-credit

An introduction to the study of visual relationships on a two-dimensional plane. Through guided exercises using both drawing and design mediums, the course builds understanding of principles of design and composition, as well as skills in perception, visual thinking, problem solving, and creativity. Drawing from observation, conceptual research, and manipulation of visual elements are integrated in this course. (Fulfills arts requirement.) Lab fee: \$50 Kathleen Thum, Rebecca Shepard

AR 132 FORM AND SPACE

4

Fundamental study of form in three dimensions. This course develops understanding of formal visual concepts as well as skills in perception, visual thinking, problem solving, and creativity. Drawing as a means to translate ideas into three-dimensional form; processes using minimal tools and easily worked materials; and working methods that emphasize planning, study, and experimentation form the basis for this course. (Fulfills arts requirement.) Lab fee: \$50 John Galt

AR 134 COLOR

4

An introduction to the study of color in studio art. This course develops understanding of the characteristics of color through color theory, observation, organization, and experimentation, and builds skills in perception, visual thinking, and creativity. Guided exercises explore the role of color in compositional relationships, the psychological and expressive effects of color, and the physical properties of color mixing. (Fulfills arts requirement.) Lab fee: \$50 David Bradford

AR 209 COMMUNICATION DESIGN

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AR 209Z COMMUNICATION DESIGN WORKSHOP

non-credit

An introduction to visual design and communication theory. Emphasis is on developing a strong foundation in visual perception, design principles, and typography. Students will undertake studio problems aimed at developing visual awareness, analytical thinking, craftsmanship, and use of hands-on media and digital techniques. Lab fee: \$100 Adam Daily

AR 351 SPECIAL TOPICS IN STUDIO ART

Intensive, specialized study within a studio discipline. Specific topics will vary from year to year, providing students with unique opportunities to engage methods and concepts not found in the department's regular course offerings. All courses are designed to meet 300-level maturity requirements and are open to all students who have fulfilled the appropriate prerequisites. This course may be repeated once for credit provided that the topic is in a different discipline.

AR 351 I BRONZE CASTING

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Students are taught basic foundry practices including rubber molding, waxwork, gating and shelling. (Other technologies presented are TIG welding, chasing and patina.) No casting experience is necessary but students must have significant experience in sculpture beyond the foundation level. Student applications must include three photographs of a finished sculpture ready to be cast in bronze. Acceptance into the program is dependent upon instructor approval of the scale and nature of the work. Lab fee: \$225. Lab fee does not include the cost of bronze, wax or other miscellaneous supplies. John Galt

BI 150 BIOLOGY: THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF LIFE

4

An introduction to the basic principles underlying the study of life. Topics may range from the origin and evolution of life to the molecular basis of heredity and development, to the structure and function of the global ecosystem. The lectures and labs emphasize the diversity of life, the unifying characteristics shared by all organisms, and an understanding of life based on scientific methods of analysis. (Fulfills natural sciences requirement.) Marc Toso

CH 103 FUNDAMENTALS OF CHEMISTRY WITH LAB

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This course supplements the lectures of Chemistry 101 with a lab experience. Experiments are performed which illustrate the concepts presented in the lecture and problem sessions. May not be used to satisfy major or minor requirements in chemistry or biology-chemistry. *Prerequisite:* QR1. (Fulfills QR2 and natural sciences requirements.) Kara Cetto-Bates

ED 323 ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT

3

Examination of the adolescent period to determine what characteristics distinguish this stage of life from that of childhood and adulthood. Readings from anthropological, historical, sociological, biological, psychological, and literary perspectives are used to investigate the adolescent experience and to determine whether it is universal or particular. Donna Brent

EN 103 WRITING SEMINAR I

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Introduction to expository writing with weekly writing assignments emphasizing skills in developing ideas, organizing material, and creating thesis statements. Assignments provide practice in description, definition, comparison and contrast, and argumentation. Additional focus on grammar, syntax, and usage. This course does not fulfill the all-College requirement in expository writing. Justin Rogers-Cooper

EN 105 WRITING SEMINAR II

4

This seminar immerses students in the process of producing finished analytical essays informed by critical reading and careful reasoning. Special attention is given to developing ideas, writing from sources, organizing material, and revising drafts. Additional emphasis is on grammar, style, and formal conventions of writing. Students respond to one another's work in workshops or peer critique sessions. This course fulfills the all-College requirement in expository writing. Francois Bonneville

EN 211 FICTION

3

Designed to enhance the student's capacity to read novels and short stories. Explores fundamental techniques of fiction, such as symbol and myth, irony, parody, and stream-of-consciousness, within both conventional and experimental forms. Recommended preparation for advanced courses in fiction. (Fulfills humanities requirement.) Justin Rogers-Cooper

FL 263 SPECIAL TOPICS IN FOREIGN LITERATURE AND CULTURE

Study of a special topic in which the interrelatedness of literature and other cultural representations is explored from a comparative and/or theoretical perspective. Interdisciplinary in nature, the course will bring together works of different cultural origin and background.

FL 263 JAPANESE POPULAR CULTURE

3

This course introduces students to the world of Japanese popular culture. Emphasis will be given to Japanese visual culture, including manga (comic books) and anime (Japanese animation), two most important and popular cultural forms in contemporary Japan. After examining the historical origins of manga and anime, students will study some of the prevailing themes and genres of manga and anime

in their cultural and historical contexts. Through the examination, students will also think and learn about the aspects of manga and anime that appeal to audience beyond cultural boundaries. Other topics include feature films, TV shows, popular sports, hip-hop and other popular music. This course gives the students a direct taste of the subject matter. Masami Tamagawa

- FL 269 CULTURAL CHINA: TRENDS AND THEMES 3**
A course surveying twentieth-century Chinese literature, film, and popular culture, introducing some important cultural and intellectual issues of contemporary China. Students will consider the impact of cultural changes in Chinese society, their causes, and their representations in fiction, poetry, popular literature, film, and music. Students will gain a critical understanding of the intricate relationship between self and society, social change and alienation, family and gender relationships, nationalism and orientalism, revolution and memory, media and propaganda, and love and violence in China. (Designated a non-Western culture course.) Mao Chen
- GE 101 EARTH SYSTEMS SCIENCE 4**
An introduction to Earth's dynamic systems and geologic processes. The planet is studied from its deep interior to its oceanic, surficial, and atmospheric components to develop a scientific understanding of Earth as a holistic environmental system, of which the biosphere, including humanity, is one component. Within this context, course topics such as rocks and minerals, mountain building, earthquakes, volcanoes, oceans, glaciers, and deserts are examined from the perspective of the interactions between geologic processes and humans. Prerequisite: QR1. (Fulfills QR2 requirement; qualifies as a natural science laboratory course for breadth requirement.) Sarah Black
- GO 103 INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS 3**
A survey of the key concepts and principles of comparative politics and international relations. Issues covered include state building and state failure; the functioning of democratic and non-democratic regimes and the ideologies that support them; the changing nature of the international system; the causes of war and search for peace; and problems of national and transnational security, such as terrorism, globalization, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and environmental challenges. (Fulfills social sciences requirement.) Paul Hockenos
- GO 353 SEX AND POWER 4**
Examines changing patterns in the regulation of sex, sexuality, and representations of sex and sexuality under constitutional and statute law in the United States. Attention will be focused on how these regulations support or challenge power relationships. Students will participate in a moot court. Prerequisite: GO101 or permission of instructor. Patricia Ferraioli
- HI 122 AMERICAN HISTORY SINCE THE CIVIL WAR 3**
An exploration of major issues and problems of the American past: from the Civil War to the present. (Fulfills social sciences requirement.) Colin McCoy
- HI 363 TOPICS IN HISTORY**
Topically organized courses based on problems and issues of special interest at the advanced level. The specific themes to be examined will vary from year to year. Recent offerings include "The Historian as Detective," "Utopias and Science Fiction," and "The Fifties." This course with a different topic may be repeated for credit.
- HI 363 R LINCOLN AND THE CIVIL WAR 4**
The Civil War was the central event in the history of the American republic, marking a fundamental shift in the political, social and economic relations of the nation. At the heart of the war was Abraham Lincoln, whose election in 1860 sparked the secession crisis, whose early decisions led to the outbreak of war, and whose leadership brought both military victory and the end of the scourge of slavery that had sparked the war in the first place. This course will examine Lincoln's ideas and actions in the larger context of the Civil War era, from the political crisis of the 1850s to Grant's final victory at Appomattox. We will explore a few of the competing interpretations of Lincoln and of the war itself, but our main emphasis will be on Lincoln's own writings and speeches, from his debates with Stephen Douglass to his eloquent Second Inaugural Address, delivered only a few weeks before his death by an assassin's bullet. Colin McCoy
- MA 108 CALCULUS WITH ALGEBRA I 3**
An introduction to derivatives, integrals, and their applications. Primarily for students who are not adequately prepared for MA111, this course (together with MA109) covers the same material as MA111 but integrates the material requisite to calculus with the calculus itself. Note that MA108 alone can not be used as a substitute for MA111. Successful completion of MA108 and MA109 is equivalent to completion of MA111. Prerequisite: Permission of instructor. Daniel Hurwitz
- MA 111 CALCULUS I 4**

Derivatives, integrals and their applications. Techniques of differentiation. Integration and differentiation of exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions. *Prerequisite:* high school preparation including trigonometry or consent of department. (Fulfills QR2 requirement.) Una Bray

MP 179 WEST AFRICAN DRUMMING I 2

This class study of instrumental performance covers hand drumming techniques, bell and shaker patterns, development of specific Ghanaian polyrhythms, and the cultural context from which this music arises. Limited to fifteen students. (Fulfills arts requirement.) Yacub Addy

PS 101 INTRODUCTION TO GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY 3

An introduction to the science of psychology through a survey of theories, methods, facts, and principles of behavior. Echo Leaver

PS 231 NEUROPSYCHOLOGY 3

An introduction to the relationship between the brain and mind through the assessment of human patients (and animals) with brain damage. This focus will show how scientists are better able to understand components of the mind (i.e., processes related to attention, perception, cognition, personality, emotion, memory, language, consciousness) and behavior, and how this information can be used to refine theories of psychological functioning. A case-study approach of humans with brain damage will be adopted in this course. *Prerequisite:* PS101 or NS101. Echo Leaver

RE 103 RELIGION AND CULTURE 4

An introductory study of the nature of religion, the interaction of religion and culture, and the function of religious belief in the life of the individual. Consideration will be given to such phenomena as myth and ritual, sacred time and space, mysticism, evil, conversion, and salvation. Readings will be drawn from classical and modern sources. (Fulfills humanities requirement.) Thomas Davis