The faculty of the University of Puget Sound has designed the core curriculum to give undergraduates an integrated and demanding introduction to the life of the mind and to established methods of intellectual inquiry. The Puget Sound undergraduate’s core experience begins with two first-year seminars that guide the student through an in-depth exploration of a focused area of interest and that sharpen the student’s skills in constructing persuasive arguments. In the first three years of their Puget Sound college career, students also study five “Approaches to Knowing”—Artistic, Humanistic, Mathematical, Natural Scientific, and Social Scientific. These core areas develop the student’s understanding of different disciplinary perspectives on society, culture, and the physical world, and explore both the strengths of those disciplinary approaches and their limitations. Connections, an upper-level integrative course, challenges the traditional boundaries of disciplines and examines the benefits and limits of interdisciplinary approaches to knowledge.

Further, in accordance with the stated educational goals of the University of Puget Sound, core curriculum requirements have been established: (a) to improve each student’s grasp of the intellectual tools necessary for the understanding and communication of ideas; (b) to enable each student to understand themself as a thinking person capable of making ethical and aesthetic choices; (c) to help each student comprehend the diversity of intellectual approaches to understanding human society and the physical world; and (d) to increase each student’s awareness of his or her place in those broader contexts.

Students choose from a set of courses in the eight Core areas, developing over four years an understanding of the liberal arts as the foundation for a lifetime of learning.

**University Core Requirements**

Each candidate for the first baccalaureate degree shall have completed the following Core curriculum.

**The First Year: Argument and Inquiry**

Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 1 ......................... 1 unit
Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 2 ......................... 1 unit

First-year seminars may not be used to meet major, minor, or emphasis requirements, nor may students enroll in them after fulfilling the core requirement. Some first-year seminars can simultaneously fulfill the Knowledge, Identity, and Power graduation requirement. Students may not enroll in more than one seminar per term. SSI1 is a prerequisite for SSI2.

**Years 1 through 3: Five Approaches to Knowing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Unit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artistic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Humanistic</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematical</td>
<td>(strongly recommended in the first year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Scientific</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Scientific</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Junior or Senior Year: Interdisciplinary Experience**

Connections ........................................... 1 unit

Full course descriptions for the Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry and the Connections Core courses follow this section; descriptions of all other Core courses are in the departmental sections of this Bulletin.

**Seminars in Scholarly Inquiry** (two units)

Two first-year seminars to develop the intellectual habits necessary to write and speak effectively and with integrity. To be taken in the first year. May be taken only to fulfill the core requirement. A course labeled SSI1/SSI2 in the following list has two versions, one satisfying the Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 1 requirement and the other satisfying the Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 2 requirement. Generally, a student will not be granted credit for both versions of the course.

See course descriptions starting after this listing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Unit</th>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 100 Ideology, Democracy and Dictatorship</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 102 Rhetoric and Religion</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 104 Why Travel: Tales from Far and Wide</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 105 Imagining the American West</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 106 Cleopatra: History and Myth</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 107 Leadership in American History</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 108 Empowering Technologies: Energy in the 21st Century</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 109 Rhetoric, Film, and National Identity</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 110 Examining Dogs Through the Lens of Science</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 111 Life, Death, and Meaning</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 112 Salsa, Samba, and Soccer: Popular Culture in Latin America</td>
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<td>SSI1 113 Imagining a New World</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 115 Imaging Blackness</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 116 Communicating Forgiveness and Revenge</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 117 Coming Out! Stonewall and the Gay Liberation Movement</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 118 Doing Gender</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 119 Water in the Western United States</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 120 Hagia Sophia in Istanbul: Politics, Religion, and Cultural Patrimony</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 121 Multiracial Identities</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 122 Ecotopia? Landscape, History, and Identity in the Pacific Northwest</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 123 Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo: Lives of Art and Politics</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 124 Utopia/Dystopia</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 125 Geomythology of Ancient Catastrophes</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 127 Hip Hop Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 128 The Philosophy and Science of Human Nature</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 129 Mao’s China: A Country in Revolution</td>
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<td>SSI1 130 Transgressive Desires in Chinese Fiction</td>
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<td>SSI1 131 Athens, Freedom, and the Liberal Arts</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 132 Wild Things</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 134 Dreams and Desire: The Liminal World</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 135 From Earthquakes to Epidemics: Catastrophe in United States Culture</td>
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<td>SSI1 137 A History of Latinx Popular Culture</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 138 How Dramatic Comedy Makes Sense of the World: From Aristophanes to the Absurd</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 139 The Third Wave: Rock After the Beatles</td>
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<td>SSI1 140 Protest and Resistance: Contemporary Activist Movements in the United States</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 141 Architectures of Power</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 143 Controversies of Communication and Technology</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 144 Constitutional Controversies</td>
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<td>SSI1 145 Anime Bodies: Metamorphoses and Identity</td>
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<td>SSI1/SSI2 146 The Good Life</td>
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<td>SSI1 147 Contemporary Art Theory and Critique</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1 148 Journalism and Democracy</td>
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<td>SSI1 149 Transgressive Bodies</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSI1/SSI2 150 Exploring Bioethics Today</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SSI 151 Just Asking Questions: The Power, Psychology, and Politics of Fake News and Conspiracy Theories
SSI 152 Gender and Performance
SSI/SSI 153 Scientific Controversies
SSI/SSI 154 The Anthropology of Food and Eating
SSI 155 Are Prisons Necessary?
SSI 156 Music of the Vietnamese Diaspora
SSI 157 The Russian Revolution
SSI 158 The Digital Age and its Discontents
SSI/SSI 159 Evolution for All
SSI 160 The Dilemmas of Statecraft: Foreign Policy and the Ethics of Force
SSI 161 Social Order and Human Freedom
SSI 162 Colonialism and Films
SSI/SSI 163 Becoming Modern: Paris 1870-1900
SSI 164 Born to Build
SSI 165 Never Really Alone: Symbioses and Parasitism Around and Within Us
SSI 167 Anthropology, Culture, and Difference
SSI 168 Climate Change and the Law
SSI 169 Cancer in Context
SSI/SSI 170 Perspectives: Space, Place, and Values
SSI 171 Medical Discourse and the Body
SSI 172 “The Law” in America
SSI 173 Alexander Hamilton’s America: The Political Economy Behind the Musical
SSI 174 Lethal Othering: Critiquing Genocidal Prejudice
SSI 175 Utopia and the Imagination
SSI 176 American Autobiography from Franklin to Facebook
SSI 177 What is Marriage For?
SSI 178 Muslim Fictions
SSI 179 Women, Art, and Power in Byzantium
SSI 180 Global Bioethics
SSI/SSI 187 Controversies of Communication: The American Dream
SSI 188 The Tudors
SSI 191 Unsolved History: Engaging with the Mysterious Past
SSI/SSI 192 Elvis and MJ: The Image of the Kings
SSI 193 An Investigation of Literary Naturalism
SSI 194 Technologies of Power
SSI/SSI 195 A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare
SSI 196 Northwest Urbanism
SSI/SSI 197 Rhetoric and Religion
SSI/SSI 198 Imagining the American West
SSI/SSI 199 Cleopatra: History and Myth
SSI/SSI 200 Leadership in American History
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SSI/SSI 159 Evolution for All
SSI/SSI 163 Becoming Modern: Paris 1870-1900
SSI/SSI 170 Perspectives: Space, Place, and Values
SSI/SSI 187 Controversies of Communication: The American Dream
SSI/SSI 192 Elvis and MJ: The Image of the Kings
SSI/SSI 195 A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare
SSI 203 Understanding Brain Function
SSI 204 Travel Writing and The Other
SSI 207 Coming Out! The Gay Liberation Movement
SSI 208 Global Foodways: Human Appetites
SSI 212 American Songs
SSI 213 The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence
SSI 215 Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo: Lives of Art and Politics
SSI 217 Hip Hop Philosophy
SSI 219 Religion on the Border: Boundaries of Religion and Politics
SSI 219 Personal Finance
SSI 221 Social Justice and Radical Politics in Early 20th-Century America
SSI 225 The Natural History of Dinosaurs
SSI 226 American Autobiography
SSI 227 Medical Narratives
SSI 229 Creationism vs. Evolution in the U.S.
SSI 231 Justice, Arts, and Incarceration
SSI 232 Chinese Painting in the West
SSI 234 The Digital Age and Its Discontents
SSI 235 From Earthquakes to Epidemics: Catastrophe in United States Culture
SSI 238 The Good Life
SSI 239 Architectures of Power
SSI 241 Controversies of Communication and Technology
SSI 243 From Earthquakes to Epidemics: Catastrophe in United States Culture
SSI 245 Modernist Literature
SSI 247 From Earthquakes to Epidemics: Catastrophe in United States Culture
SSI 249 The Third Wave: Rock After the Beatles
SSI 251 Dreams and Desire: The Liminal World
SSI 253 Wild Things
SSI 255 The Philosophy and Science of Human Nature
SSI 257 From Earthquakes to Epidemics: Catastrophe in United States Culture
SSI 259 The Digital Age and Its Discontents
Artistic Approaches (one unit)
A course to develop a critical, interpretive, and analytical understanding of art through the study of an artistic tradition. This course should be taken during the first three years.

AFAM 215 On the Real: Black Popular Culture is Art
ALC 205 Introduction to Asian Literature
ARTH 278 Studies in Western Art I: Ancient through Medieval Art
ARTH 276 Studies in Western Art II: Renaissance to Modern Art
ARTH 278 Survey of Asian Art
ARTH 302 The Art of Mexico and Mesoamerica
ARTS 101 Visual Concepts through Painting and Drawing
ARTS 102 Principles of 3D Design
ARTS 103 Visual Concepts through Drawing and Print Media
ARTS 104 Visual Concepts through Digital Media
ARTS 202 The Printed Image
ENGL 211 Introduction to Creative Writing: Story vs. Anti-Story
ENGL 212 The Craft of Literature
ENGL 213 Biography/Autobiography/Memoir
ENGL 226 Introduction to Journalism
ENGL 227 Introduction to Writing Fiction
ENGL 229 Introduction to Creative Nonfiction
GERM 300 German Cinema of the Weimar Republic and under National Socialism, 1919-1945
GERM 305 Culture in the Third Reich
GERM 310 VWH in Literature and the Other Arts, 1908-1938
GERM 350/350 From Rubble to New Reality: German Cinema after World War Two
GLAM 231 Ancient Tragedy
GLAM 232 Ancient Comedy
HON 206 The Arts of the Classical World and the Middle Ages
HUM 200 Homer to Hitchcock: the History of Ideas in the Arts
HUM 290 Introduction to Cinema Studies
HUM 367 Word and Image
LTS 376 The Art of Mestizaje
MUS 100 Survey of Western Music
MUS 105 Music in the United States
MUS 123 Discovering Music
MUS 126 History of Popular Music
MUS 221 Jazz History
MUS 222 Music of the World’s Peoples
MUS 223 Women in Music
MUS 224 The Age of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven
MUS 225 Romanticism in Music
MUS 226 Twentieth-Century Music Through Film
MUS 227 Musical History of Tacoma
MUS 230 Western Music From Antiquity to the End of the Baroque Era (C. 500 BCE to 1750)
MUS 435 Firing the Classical Canon
THTR 200 The Theatrical Experience

Humanistic Approaches (one unit)
A course to develop an understanding of how humans have addressed fundamental questions of existence, identity, and values and to develop an appreciation of these issues of intellectual and cultural experience. This course should be taken during the first three years.

AFAM 101 Introduction to African American Studies
AFAM 205 Survey of Race and Culture in Ethnic Literature
AFAM 305 Black Fictions and Feminisms
AFAM 310 African Diaspora Experience
AFAM/LTS 320 Race, Power, and Privilege
AFAM 400 The 1619 Project
ALC 225 Visualized Fiction: Cinematic Adaptations of Traditional Chinese Literature
ALC 310 Death and Desire in Pre-modern Japanese Literature
ALC 320 Self and Society in Modern Japanese Literature
ALC 325 Chinese Cinema: Ideology and the Box Office
ALC 330 Writing the Margins in Contemporary Japanese Literature
ALC 345 Revenge and Retribution
COMM 170 Introduction to Media Studies: Governmentality and Torture
COMM 171 Introduction to American Civic Rhetoric
COMM 180 Introduction to Critical Issues in Public Culture: Democracy and Identity in US Public Discourse
COMM 190 Introduction to Film Studies: Transnationalism and Modernity
ENGL 204 The American Dream: Loss and Renewal
ENGL 206 Literature by Women
ENGL 214 Science Writing
ENGL 231 Medieval and Renaissance Literature
ENGL 232 Romanticism, Consciousness, and the Psychedelic Renaissance
ENGL 234 American Literature and Culture: Colonial to Early National
ENGL 238 Afrofuturism
ENGL 250 Introduction to Literary and Critical Theory
GERM 222 Intermediate German
GERM 425 Nature and Human Being in the Anthropocene
GLAM 101 Introduction to the Ancient Mediterranean
GLAM 110 Before East and West
GLAM 130 Ancient Myth
GLAM 210 History of Ancient Egypt
GLAM 211 History of Ancient Greece
GLAM 212 History of Ancient Rome
GLAM 230 Ancient Epic
GLAM 233 The Ancient Novel
GLAM 323 Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece and Rome
GQS 201 Introduction to Gender, Queer, and Feminist Studies
HIST 102 Europe from Absolutism to Revolution, 1648 - 1815
HIST 103 History of Modern Europe, 1815 to the Present
HIST 112 Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages
HIST 113 Europe and the Mediterranean World, 1050-1650: A History in 100 Objects
HIST 152 American Experiences I: Origins to 1877
HIST 153 American Experiences II: 1877 to Present
HIST 224 Russia Since 1861
HIST 230 England from the Romans to the Tudors
HIST 245 Chinese Civilization
HIST 248 History of Japan: 1600 to Present
HIST 254 African American Voices: A Survey of African American History
HIST 280 Colonial Latin America
HIST 281 Modern Latin America
HIST 291 Modern Africa
HIST 293 Early Africa to 1807
HIST 371 American Intellectual History to 1865
HON 211 Metamorphosis and Identity
experiences and identities. In these courses, students also develop their capacity to understand the dynamics and consequences of power differentials, inequalities, and divisions among social groups and the relationship of these issues to the representation and production of knowledge. In these courses, students also develop their capacity to communicate meaningfully about power, disparity, and diversity of experiences and identities.

Knowledge, Identity, and Power (one unit)

Courses in Knowledge, Identity, and Power (KNOW) provide a distinct site for students to understand the dynamics and consequences of power differentials, inequalities, and divisions among social groups and the relationship of these issues to the representation and production of knowledge. In these courses, students also develop their capacity to communicate meaningfully about power, disparity, and diversity of experiences and identities.

AFAM 101 Introduction to African American Studies
AFAM/REL 265 What is Justice?
AFAM/ENVR 301 Environmental Racism
AFAM 304 Capital and Captivity: African Americans and the U.S. Economy
AFAM 310 African Diaspora Experience
AFAM 355 African American Women in American History
AFAM 360 The Art and Politics of the Civil Rights Era
AFAM/COMM 370 Communication and Diversity
AFAM/COMM 370 Communication and Diversity
AFAM 375 The Harlem Renaissance
AFAM 398 Methods in African American Studies
AFAM 400 The 1619 Project
ALC 325 Chinese Cinema: Ideology and the Box Office
ARTH 394 Interrogating Methods of Art History: From Artist Biographies to Global & Decolonizing Perspectives
ASIA 344 Asia in Motion
BIOL 362 Nanobiology
BUS 365 Cultural Diversity and Law
CLJ/REL 307 Prisons, Gender and Education
COMM 361 Organizing Difference
COMM 372 Contemporary Media Culture: Deconstructing Disney
CONN 334 Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa and Beyond
EDUC 419 American Schools Inside and Out
EDUC 420 Multiple Perspectives on Classroom Teaching and Learning
ENGL 238 Afrofuturism
ENGL 242 Introduction to Native American Literature
ENGL 247 Introduction to Popular Genres
ENGL 250 Introduction to Literary and Critical Theory
ENGL 371 History of the English Language
ENGL 372 History of Rhetorical Theory
ENVR 326 People, Politics, and Parks
ENVR 343 Buddhist Environmentalisms
FREN 260 Cultures of the Francophone World
FREN 340 Francophone Women Writers
FREN 391 African Women Writers
GDS/IPE 211 Introduction to Global Development
GERM 300 German Cinema of the Weimar Republic and under National Socialism, 1919-1945
GERM 305 Culture in the Third Reich
GLAM 110 Before East and West
GLAM 322 Race and Ethnicity in the Ancient World
GLAM 323 Sex and Gender in Ancient Greece and Rome
GLAM 330 Theories of Myth
GQS 201 Introduction to Gender, Queer, and Feminist Studies
GQS 220 What is Queer? The Politics and Practices of Fashioning the Self
GQS 320 Queerly Scientific: Exploring the Influence of Identity on Scientific Knowledge Production
HIST 200 Doing History: An Introduction
HIST 305 Women and Gender in Pre-Modern Europe
HIST 307 The Crusades
HIST 375 History of Sport in US Society
HIST 383 Borderlands: La Frontera: The U.S.-Mexico Border
HON 214 Interrogating Inequality
HUM 368 A Precious Barbarism: Enlightenment, Ideology, and Colonialism
IPE 101 Power and Wealth in Global Affairs: Introduction to International Political Economy
LAS 100 Introduction to Latin American Studies
LTS 200 Latina/o America: A Critical Introduction to Latina/o Studies
LTS 300 Latina/o Literatures
MUS 221 Jazz History
MUS 223 Women in Music
MUS 227 Musical History of Tacoma
MUS 234 Introduction to Ethnomusicology
MUS 321 Music of South Asia
MUS 330 Opera: Based on a True Story
MUS 393 Introduction to Secondary Music Education
PG 104 Introduction to Political Theory
PG 315 Law and Society
PG 345 Intersectionality as Theory and Method
PG 346 Race in the American Political Imagination
PG/PHIL 390 Gender and Philosophy
PHIL 106 Language, Knowledge, and Power
PHIL 389 Race and Philosophy
PSYC 265 Cross-Cultural Psychology
PSYC 373 Perceiving Self and Other
REL 202 Introduction to the Study of World Religions
REL 222 Antisemitism and Islamophobia
REL 270 Religion, Activism and Social Justice
REL 302 Ethics and the Other
REL 323 Gender and Sexuality in Muslim Societies
The Core Curriculum

REL 340 Imagining Religion: Scholars, Theories, and Cases in the Study of Religion
SOAN 101 Introduction to Sociology
SOAN 102 Introduction to Anthropology
SOAN 215 Race and Ethnic Relations
SOAN 222 Culture and Society of Southeast Asia
SOAN 370 Disability, Identity, and Power
SPAN 211 Introduction to Iberian Cultures
SPAN 404 The Returning Resistance: Memory, Gender, and Nationalisms in Spain
SSI1 104 Why Travel: Tales from Far and Wide
SSI1/SSI2 106 Cleopatra: History and Myth
SSI1 127 Hip Hop Theatre
SSI2 127 Hip Hop Philosophy
SSI2 185 Queer Case Files: Gender and Sexual Deviance in Postwar America
STHS 330 Evolution and Society Since Darwin
STHS 344 Ecological Knowledge in Historical Perspective
THTR 250 World Theatre I: African Diaspora
THTR 252 World Theatre II: Asian Theatres

Language Graduation Requirement (two units)

At the University of Puget Sound, all students are required before graduation to demonstrate college-level knowledge of a language other than English, either ancient or modern.

ARTH/ARTS 371 East Asian Calligraphy
CHIN 101 First Year Chinese
CHIN 102 First Year Chinese
CHIN 201 Second Year Chinese
CHIN 202 Second Year Chinese
CHIN 230 Grammar and Articulation
CHIN 250 Culture and Communication
CHIN 260 Situational Oral Expression
CHIN 301 Across the Strait: Cultures of China and Taiwan
CHIN 303 Greater China: Commerce and the Media
CHIN 305 From Bamboo Grove to Cyberspace: Chinese Literary Texts Now and Then
CHIN 307 Through the Cinematic Lens: Old and New China in Film
CHIN 309 Phoenix Claws and Lion’s Head: Food and Chinese Culture
CHIN 311 Chinese Thought: From the Dao to Mao
CONN 330 Finding Germany: Memory, History, and Identity in Berlin
FREN 101 Beginning French
FREN 102 Beginning French
FREN 201 Intermediate French
FREN 202 Intermediate French
FREN 220 French Pop Culture
FREN 230 In Other Words: French Translation
FREN 235 The Paris Connection
FREN 240 French Contemporary Issues
FREN 245 Women Writers of the Francophone Diaspora
FREN 250 Culture and Civilization of France
FREN 260 Cultures of the Francophone World
FREN 270 Conversational French and Film
FREN 280 Topics in French/Francophone Culture
FREN 300 Introduction to French Literary Studies
FREN 310 Introduction to French Short Fiction Through the Ages
FREN 320 Introduction to Contemporary French Literature
FREN 330 Introduction to Francophone Literature
FREN 340 Francophone Women Writers
FREN 350 French/Francophone Major Authors
FREN 380 Advanced Studies in French and Francophone Culture
FREN 391 African Women Writers
FREN 420 Classicism and Enlightenment
FREN 430 Romanticism to Symbolism
FREN 440 French Fiction of the Twentieth Century
FREN 450 Twenty-First Century French Literature
FREN 480 Seminar in French / Francophone Literature
GERM 101 Elementary German
GERM 102 Elementary German
GERM 201 Intermediate German
GERM 202 Intermediate German
GERM 305 Culture in the Third Reich
GERM 320 Introduction to Germanic Linguistics
GERM 350/350 From Rubble to New Reality: German Cinema after World War Two
GLAM 120 Greek and Latin Roots in English
GRK 101 Beginning Ancient Greek
GRK 102 Beginning Ancient Greek
GRK 201 Intermediate Greek
GRK 301 Advanced Greek
JAPN 101 First Year Japanese
JAPN 102 First Year Japanese
JAPN 201 Second Year Japanese
JAPN 202 Second Year Japanese
JAPN 230 Kanji in Context
JAPN 250 Popular Culture and Society
JAPN 260 Situational Oral Expression
JAPN 301 Third Year Japanese
JAPN 311 Communicative Japanese: The Harmony of Writing and Speaking
JAPN 315 Kanji in Context II
JAPN 325 Shibuya Scramble Crossing: Developing Listening Skill Through TV Drama
JAPN 350 Japanese Travelogue: Japanese through Geography and Culture
JAPN 360 Japanese Through Fiction and Film
JAPN 380 Reading Modern Japanese Prose
JAPN 385 Not Lost in Translation: English to Japanese Translation
LAT 101 Beginning Latin
LAT 201 Intermediate Latin
LAT 301 Advanced Latin
SPAN 101 Spanish 1
SPAN 102 Spanish 2
SPAN 201 Spanish 3
SPAN 202 Spanish in Professional Contexts
SPAN 203 Advanced Grammar and Composition
SPAN 204 Reel Talk: Spanish Conversation in Context
SPAN 205 Spanish in the United States
SPAN 211 Introduction to Iberian Cultures
SPAN 212 Introduction to Latin American Cultures
SPAN 300 Literature, Theory, and Practice
SPAN 301 Literature of the Americas
SPAN 302 Spanish Literature: An Overview
SPAN 303 Hispanic Short Story
SPAN 304 Hispanic Poetry
SPAN 305 Spanish Film
Mathematical Approaches (one unit)
A course to develop a variety of mathematical skills, an understanding of formal reasoning, and a facility with applications. This course should be taken during the first three years.

- CSCI 161 Introduction to Computer Science
- CSCI 261 Computer Science II
- HON 213 Mathematics of Symmetry
- MATH 103 Introduction to Contemporary Mathematics
- MATH 150 Finite Mathematics
- MATH 160 Introduction to Applied Statistics
- MATH 170 Calculus for Business, Behavioral and Social Sciences
- MATH 180 Calculus and Analytic Geometry I
- MATH 181 Calculus and Analytic Geometry II
- MATH 260 Intermediate Applied Statistics
- MATH 280 Multivariate Calculus
- PHIL 240 Formal Logic

Natural Scientific Approaches (one unit)
A course to develop an understanding of scientific methods and to acquire knowledge of the fundamental elements of one or more natural sciences. This course should be taken during the first three years.

- BIOL 101 Introduction to Biology
- BIOL 102 Evolution and Biology of Sex
- BIOL 111 Unity of Life: Cells, Molecules, and Systems
- BIOL 112 Evolution and the Diversity of Life
- CHEM 105 Chemistry in a Changing Climate
- CHEM 110 General Chemistry I
- CHEM 115 Integrated Chemical Principles and Analytical Chemistry
- CHEM 120 General Chemistry II
- CHEM 230 Integrated Chemical Principles and Analytical Chemistry
- CHEM 250 Organic Chemistry I
- CHEM 251 Organic Chemistry II
- ENV 105 Environmental Science
- GEOL 101 Physical Geology
- GEOL 104 Physical Geology of North America
- GEOL 105 Oceanography
- GEOL 110 Regional Field Geology
- GEOL 140 Climate Change
- HON 212 Origins of the Modern World View
- PHYS 109 Astronomy
- PHYS 111 General College Physics
- PHYS 112 General College Physics
- PHYS 121 General University Physics
- PHYS 122 General University Physics
- PHYS 205 Physics of Music
- PHYS 221 Modern Physics I
- PHYS 222 Modern Physics II

Social Scientific Approaches (one unit)
A course to acquire an understanding of theories about individual or collective behavior within a social environment and of the ways that empirical evidence is used to develop and test those theories. This course should be taken during the first three years.

- COMM 156 Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
- COMM 160 Introduction to Organizational Communication
- COMM 181 Introduction to Online Communication
- ECON 101 Introduction to Markets and Macroeconomics
- ECON 170 Contemporary Economics
- GDS/IPE 211 Introduction to Global Development
- HON 214 Interrogating Inequality
- IPE 101 Power and Wealth in Global Affairs: Introduction to International Political Economy
- IPE 331 International Political Economy of Food and Agriculture
- PG 101 Introduction to United States Politics
- PG 102 Introduction to Comparative Politics
- PG 103 Introduction to International Relations
- PG 104 Introduction to Political Theory
- PHIL 106 Language, Knowledge, and Power
- PSYC 101 Introductory Psychology
- SOAN 101 Introduction to Sociology
- SOAN 230 Indigenous Peoples: Alternative Political Economies
- SOAN 250 Sociology of Science and Technology
- SOAN 301 Power and Inequality
- SOAN 320 Inequality and Crisis in the Neoliberal Era

Connections (one unit)
A course to develop an understanding of the interrelationship of fields of knowledge. To be taken after completion of all other university core requirements, in the junior or senior year, and must be taken at Puget Sound.

See course descriptions starting on page 23.

- AFAM 346 African Americans and American Law
- AFAM 355 African American Women in American History
- AFAM 360 The Art and Politics of the Civil Rights Era
- AFAM 375 The Harlem Renaissance
- AFAM 401 Narratives of Race
- ALC 340 First Encounters: Japan and Europe in the 16th Century
- ASIA 305 Heroes and Rebels: Martial Arts Culture in China and Beyond
- ASIA 344 Asia in Motion
- CONN 303 Art-Science: Inquiry into the Intersection of Art, Science, and Technology
- CONN 304 The Invention of Britishness: History and Literature
- CONN 307 Hooch: The Natural and Social Science of Liquor
- CONN 308 People and Portfolios
- CONN 309 Applied Environmental Politics and Agenda Setting
- CONN 311 Interactive Fiction
- CONN 313 Biomimicry and Bioart
- CONN 318 Crime and Punishment
- CONN 320 Health and Medicine
- CONN 322 Jihad, Islamism, and Colonial Legacies
- CONN 325 The Experience of Prejudice
- CONN 330 Finding Germany: Memory, History, and Identity in Berlin
- CONN 333 Nations and Nationalism in Modern Europe
- CONN 334 Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa and Beyond
- CONN 335 Race and Multiculturalism in the American Context
- CONN 340 Gender and Communication
- CONN 344 Magic and Religion
- CONN 345 Economics of Happiness
- CONN 350 Modeling Earth’s Climate
- CONN 354 Hormones, Sex, Society, & Self
- CONN 357 Exploring Animal Minds
- CONN 359 The United States in the 1960s
- CONN 365 The Science & Practice of Mindfulness
- CONN 370 Rome: Sketchbooks and Space Studies
The Core Curriculum

CONN 372 The Gilded Age: Literary Realisms and Historical Realities
CONN 375 The Art and Science of Color
CONN 377 Caesar in Vietnam: PTSD in the Ancient World?
CONN 379 Postcolonial Literature and Theory
CONN 387 Never-Never Land
CONN 390 Black Business Leadership: Past and Present
CONN 393 The Cognitive Foundations of Morality and Religion
CONN 395 China and Latin America: A New Era of Transpacific Relations
CONN 397 Migration and the Global City
CONN 410 Science and Economics of Climate Change
CONN 420 The American Progressive Ideal
CONN 478 Animals, Law, and Society
ENVR 325 Geological and Environmental Catastrophes
ENVR 330 Water and Wild Nature
ENVR 335 Thinking About Biodiversity
GLAM 330 Theories of Myth
GQS 320 Queerly Scientific: Exploring the Influence of Identity on Scientific Knowledge Production
HON 401 What is America?
HUM 301 The Idea of the Self
HUM 302 Mystics, Knights, and Pilgrims: The Medieval Quest
HUM 303 The Monstrous Middle Ages
HUM 330 Tao and Landscape Art
HUM 368 A Precious Barbarism: Enlightenment, Ideology, and Colonialism
IPE 389 Global Struggles Over Intellectual Property
IPE 405 The Idea of Wine
IPE 427 Competing Perspectives on the Material World
LAS 380 Around Macondo in Eighty Days
LAS 387 Art and Revolution in Latin America
LAS 399 Latin America Travel Seminar
REL 301 Consciousness and the Bourgeoisie
REL 302 Ethics and the Other
STHS 301 Technology and Culture
STHS 302 Cancer and Society
STHS 318 Science and Gender
STHS 330 Evolution and Society Since Darwin
STHS 333 Evolution and Ethics
STHS 340 Finding Order in Nature
STHS 345 Science and War in the Modern World
STHS 347 Alchemy and Chemistry: Historical Perspectives
STHS 348 Strange Realities: Physics in the 20th and 21st Centuries
STHS 352 Memory in a Social Context
STHS 354 Murder and Mayhem under the Microscope
STHS 361 Mars Exploration
STHS 370 Science and Religion in the United States: From Evolution to Climate Change
STHS 375 Science, Technology, and Politics

The following prefixes are used to denote course subjects.

ACAD Academic Advising
AFAM African American Studies
ALC Asian Languages and Cultures
ARTH Art History
ARTS Studio Art
ASIA Asian Studies
BIOE Bioethics
BIOL Biology
BUS Business and Leadership
CHEM Chemistry
CHIN Chinese
COMM Communication Studies
CONN Connections
CSCI Computer Science
CWL Center for Writing and Learning
ECON Economics
EDUC Education
ENGL English
ENVR Environmental Policy and Decision Making
EXLN Experiential Learning
EXSC Exercise Science
FREN French Studies
GQS Gender and Queer Studies
GEOL Geology
GERM German Studies
GLAM Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies
GDS Global Development Studies
GRK Greek
HIST History
HON Honors
HUM Humanities
IPE International Political Economy
JAPN Japanese
LAS Latin American Studies
LTS Latina/o Studies
LAT Latin
MATH Mathematics
MUS Music
NRSC Neuroscience
OT Occupational Therapy
PE Physical Education
PG Politics and Government
PHIL Philosophy
PHYS Physics
PSYC Psychology
PT Physical Therapy
REL Religion, Spirituality, and Society
SIM Special Interdisciplinary Major
SOAN Sociology and Anthropology
SPAN Hispanic Studies
STAF Student Affairs
STHS Science, Technology, Health, and Society
THTR Theatre Arts

Frequency of Course Offerings

Not all elective courses are offered every year. These courses are offered as departments are able to fit them into faculty members’ teaching schedules, which may result in some courses being offered on an infrequent basis. However, each department makes certain that all required courses and an appropriate range of electives are offered regularly so full-time students are able to graduate within four years. This Bulletin lists all courses in the curriculum in order to convey the richness of the wide variety of interests and expertise the faculty bring to the academic program at Puget Sound.
Seminars In Scholarly Inquiry

**Purpose**

In these first-year seminars, students increase their ability to develop effective arguments by learning to frame questions around a focused topic, to assess and support claims, and to present their work to an academic audience both orally and in writing. As part of understanding scholarly conversations, students learn to identify the most appropriate sources of information and to evaluate those sources critically. Over the course of two seminars, students—with increasing independence—contribute to these conversations and produce a substantive scholarly project. To be taken in the first year. May be taken only to fulfill the core requirement. An approved first-year seminar can simultaneously fulfill the Knowledge, Power, and Identity graduation requirement. A course labeled SSI1/SSI2 in the following list has two versions, one satisfying the Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 1 requirement and the other satisfying the Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 2 requirement. Generally, a student will not be granted credit for both versions of the course.

Only students meeting the Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry core requirements may enroll for these courses. Students not take an SSI course as an elective or to satisfy major, minor, or emphasis requirements. Seminar offerings vary from term to term.

**SSI1 100 Ideology, Democracy and Dictatorship** Why Democracy? Why Dictatorship? This course explores the question of why countries differ in their path to governance, by looking at both theoretical explanations and the ideological justification for forms of governance. The first part of the course considers differences between authoritarian and totalitarian regimes, understanding their ideological justification and how they have functioned in practice. This will be compared with modern democracies and how they manage politics. The second part of the course considers examples of democratization, investigating how and why countries transition from authoritarianism or totalitarianism to democracy. The first part of the course considers threats to democracy itself, and how democratic practices can decline and collapse. In each section students work with both theoretical material and case studies drawn from the past century and from various parts of the world. Affiliated with Politics and Government

**SSI1/SSI2 102 Rhetoric and Religion** This course considers rhetoric as an analytical tool for studying religion, and religious discourse as a distinctive form of, and problem for, the study of rhetoric. Through analysis of religious texts, students study the dynamics of classical rhetoric, including the three appeals (ethos, pathos, logos), the three branches (forensic, deliberative, epideictic), the five cannons (invention, arrangement, style, memory, delivery), and the six parts of a speech (exordium, narration, division, proof, refutation, peroration). Students perform close rhetorical analyses and criticisms on a variety of religious texts and speeches, make regular oral presentations in class (both in groups and individually), and engage in group debate and discussion in order to acquire practical skills in the art of persuasion and public speaking. A large research project/paper is the practical focus of the semester. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society

**SSI1 104 Why Travel: Tales from Far and Wide** Why do people travel? Our ancestors were nomadic, of course, and as far as we can tell, settled humans have continued to feel the itch to explore and move beyond the boundaries of their known world. We have traveled so much that it would not be entirely unreasonable to call our species homo peripateticus! This course engages theories of travel—drawn from a range of academic disciplines such as anthropology, history, and philosophy—and examine some seminal instances of travel writing (from Herodotus, the “father” of both History and travel writing to Columbus to contemporary writers such as James Baldwin and Orhan Pamuk). In each instance, students test a theory against one or more case. Affiliated with English

**SSI1/SSI2 105 Imagining the American West** Throughout the history of the United States, the physical and human resources of the American West have been imagined in numerous, often contradictory ways—as a place to increase the voting power of pro-slavery and abolition forces in the years leading up to the Civil War, and as a place where freed slaves might own their own land; as a place where middle-class families could own their own productive farms, and as the “Great American Desert;” as a place with unlimited natural resources to be exploited, and as the birthplace of the modern environmental movement. The American West spans a huge area of land and has meant many things to many people—at the same time, though, “the West” is a meaningful concept within American culture. In this course, students begin developing the intellectual habits necessary to write and speak effectively and with integrity, through focusing on interdisciplinary perspectives on the American West as an “imagined” place. Students engage in independent research and produce a substantial paper on an issue in the American West. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English

**SSI1/SSI2 106 Cleopatra: History and Myth** Who was Cleopatra? To the Romans, she was the foreign queen who tried to steal their empire and who represented the most dangerous threat to their civilization in 200 years; to the Egyptians she was a goddess incarnate, the universal mother, and a liberator who came to free them from oppression. But equally fascinating has been the reception of Cleopatra’s image: to Chaucer she was the model of a good wife; to Shakespeare she was a tragic lover; to painters of the Renaissance she was a passive victim; to the Romantics she was a femme fatale; to post-Enlightenment colonialists she was an exotic Easterner; to Hollywood she has been a temptress, a sex-kitten, and a vamp. This course examines not only the limited historical facts known about Egypt’s most famous queen, but how she has been re-created and re-interpreted over the centuries to suit the social, racial, and gender needs of different cultures. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Greek, Latin, Ancient Med Stady

**SSI1/SSI2 107 Leadership in American History** In 1976, leadership theorist and political scientist James McGregor Burns wrote that “Leadership is one of the most observed and least understood phenomenon on earth.” While this still rings true today, social science researchers have since discovered much about how leadership processes function. This course introduces students to contemporary scholarship in the field of leadership studies and asks them to apply aspects of that research to cases studies in American history. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

**SSI1/SSI2 108 Empowering Technologies: Energy in the 21st Century** Throughout a variety of readings, in-class discussion, and short writing assignments, students increase their ability to develop effective oral and written arguments and become familiar with concepts and practices of information literacy. The course topic revolves around the technologies currently in use for electrical power generation. Students gain an understanding of the physical principles involved in electrical power generation, the historical development of electrical power in
the United States, and the variety of sources used to generate electrical power. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Physics

**SSI1/SSI2 109 Rhetoric, Film, and National Identity** This course approaches the study of argumentation using popular film as a primary source material. Film texts will provide the basis for critical examination of public disputation about the politics of public memory and collective identity. The course is concerned with both argument through film and argument about film in other public venues. The course explores the role of popular and independent film in shaping or contesting public perspective on what it means to be a nation; public disputes over what counts as national interests; and public disputes over who counts as a citizen with fully endowed rights. The course links film and national identity to gender, race, and social class. Some of the films viewed in this course have an R rating. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Communication Studies

**SSI1/SSI2 110 Examining Dogs Through the Lens of Science** Humans share their homes with dogs, spend billions of dollars every year on their needs, and worry about what they are feeling. Although dogs and humans have been sharing their lives for thousands of years, most people do not realize that such an intimate association between two different species of animals is highly unusual. How, when, and why did this association come about? Of all animals to domesticate and bring into our homes, why did early humans choose a predator? What do dogs know about humans and what do humans really know about what dogs think and feel? Through learning about the evolution and social cognition of dogs, students continue to refine their close reading skills and their ability to use different types of sources to build effective arguments. In this course, students also learn how to search for appropriate sources as they embark on a major research project that investigates some aspect of dogs in society. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Biology

**SSI1/SSI2 111 Life, Death, and Meaning** This course is devoted to a number of philosophical issues surrounding death and the meaning of life. The main focus is a number of existential questions and different attempts, past and present, to answer these questions. The central question of the course is: What gives life meaning? Some philosophers have argued that meaning is to be found in one of the following: the pursuit of pleasure of one’s own happiness, the pursuit of justice or the common good, religion, the pursuit of knowledge, the pursuit of some other value (like artistic value or human excellence); while other have argued that life has no meaning (life is absurd). In addition, the following questions are examined: Is freedom of some sort necessary for a meaningful life? Would life have meaning if we lived forever? Is it rational to fear death? Does causing someone to exist always benefit that person? Is letting life go extinct bad? Readings for this course include a number of existentialist writers (Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Sartre, Camus, de Beuvvoir), some excerpts from classic writers (Plato, Aristotle, Epicurus), and a number of contemporary writers (Nagel, Williams, Feldman, Nozick, Parfit, Taylor, Wolf). Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Philosophy

**SSI1/SSI2 112 Salsa, Samba, and Soccer: Popular Culture in Latin America** This course considers the intersections of gender, race, and class in the production of popular culture as an introduction to, and a way to understand, Latin America, and as a vehicle for students to develop essential skills by examining a variety of sources and developing and supporting arguments in class and on paper. Beginning with introductory historical and theoretical frameworks, students examine a variety of contemporary forms of popular culture: popular religious symbols and rituals, secular festivals, music, dance, food, and sports. Students explore the tensions between elite and popular cultures; popular culture as a resistance or opposition; attempts by the state to manage popular culture as a symbol of national identity or a form of social control; the relation of popular culture to mass and commercial culture; and the migrations of cultural forms between Latin American countries and the rest of the world. The final project is a substantive paper based on independent research. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with History and Latin American Studies

**SSI1 113 Imagining a New World** This course explores how early modern writers grappled with new texts, experiences, and existing paradigms of reality to rethink ontology, including ideas about geography, nature, religion, gender, and race. Students read early historical and literary discovery narratives (Raleigh, Shakespeare, Montaigne) as well as revisionist works by contemporary postcolonial writers. Affiliated with Humanities

**SSI1/SSI2 115 Imaging Blackness** The study of film is a key aspect of visual rhetoric, a growing area of academic interest linking film studies and rhetorical theory. This seminar focuses on the study of popular visual images as public argument. Students examine the political economy (ownership, production, dissemination), engage in a textual/visual analysis (what meanings are embedded), and examine audience reception of black film (how do audiences understand and use these media images). Students explore how these films function as public argument advocating particular views of black identity while contesting counter arguments as part of a larger agenda of promoting blacks and shaping US public life. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with African American Studies and Humanities

**SSI1/SSI2 116 Communicating Forgiveness and Revenge** Students critically consume and analyze a variety of challenging texts, formulate and support argumentative claims, produce written assignments, and present their work orally. Students examine forgiveness as a relational and communicative process along with the implications of forgiving between dyads, small groups, and society at large. In addition, alternative post-transgression options such as unforgiveness and revenge that are commonly depicted in opposition to forgiveness are considered. Ultimately, students work to uncover the light and dark sides of both forgiveness and revenge during an examination of these relational processes. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Communication Studies

**SSI1 117 Coming Out! Stonewall and the Gay Liberation Movement** This course examines the Stonewall riots of June 1969 and the impact of this event on the gay liberation movement that grew in the years after the riots. This incident of queer protest has become iconic as a beginning of LGBTQ activism in the United States, but scholars and activists alike debate both the details of what happened in the riot and this incident’s significance as a movement beginning. Students explore a range of popular and scholarly viewpoints about Stonewall, which respond to questions that range from “who threw the first brick?” to “what actually changed?” By engaging these readings, students will also learn how to distinguish between different types of information and how to evaluate sources for biases, reliability, and appropriateness. In a short final essay, students intervene in these debates with arguments of their own, which will draw from interdisciplinary scholarship about how and why—or why not—to remember and memorialize the Stonewall riots as part of the LGBTQ past. Prerequisite: Credit
will not be granted to students who have received credit for SSI2 117. Affiliated with Gender and Queer Studies

SSI1/SSI2 118 Doing Gender Students create both oral and written arguments via the examination of how gender is constructed in communication. The course is grounded on the premise that all we create—including cultures, political and economic systems, and of course gender—is accomplished through communication. Students learn that biological difference between the sexes are really very few, and examine how and why masculinity and femininity are socially constructed and maintained. The class challenges students to examine taken-for-granted perspectives and values. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Communication Studies and Gender and Queer Studies

SSI1 119 Water in the Western United States In a map of annual precipitation, the vast majority of western United States stands out for how little rain falls. Yet, somehow, despite this scarcity, the West has many things that require abundant water: large urban centers, productive agriculture, hydroelectric plants, and substantial recreation centered on water. How is this possible? In this course students will answer this question. This course will explore the issue of water in the western United States from multiple perspectives: scientific, environmental, historical, legal, political, and from a social justice perspective. The course will also apply these perspectives to delve deeply into case studies of conflicts over water. It will further consider how the West can face a future of climate change while preserving both the livelihoods of people that rely on the scarce water resources and the critical aquatic habitats of Western streams, lakes, rivers, and estuaries. Affiliated with Physics

SSI1/SSI2 120 Hagia Sophia in Istanbul: Politics, Religion, and Cultural Patrimony The church of Hagia Sophia in Constantinople was not only a daring architectural achievement at the time of its completion in 537 but also a significant religious and political statement. It was the primary church of the Byzantine capital, constructed after the crushing of a riot that nearly removed the Emperor Justinian from his throne. After the Ottoman Turks conquered Constantinople in 1453, Hagia Sophia was refurbished and redecorated as a mosque serving as a constant reminder of victory over Byzantium. The building became a museum in 1935, but was reconsecrated as a mosque in 2020 under the leadership of President Erdogan. This course explores ideas related to this single but fundamental monument of world heritage across multiple cultures and periods and from the perspective of various disciplines in order to provide students an opportunity to engage with the process of scholarly inquiry. The course emphasizes how architectural structures can embody religious affiliation, political power, cultural patrimony, and claims on the past. Students amplify their skills in creating effective arguments, synthesizing complex ideas based on multiple sources, and deepen their skills in critiquing primary and secondary sources by completing extensive reading and writing assignments. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Art and Art History

SSI1 121 Multiracial Identities Maria Root, considered a pioneer in the study of multiracial people, wrote, “The topic of racially mixed persons provides us with a vehicle for examining ideologies surrounding race, race relations and the role of social sciences in the deconstruction of race.” Beverly Daniel Tatum, a developmental psychologist and expert on racial identity formation, observed that the process of multiracial identity formation is potentially fraught with challenges that are personal, societal and environmental. This course examines what people of mixed-race descent write and say about their own identity development in the context of the ideologies of race extant in the United States. Affiliated with African American Studies

SSI1/SSI2 122 Ecotopia? Landscape, History, and Identity in the Pacific Northwest In his novel Ecotopia, Ernest Callenbach envisioned Northern California, Oregon, and Washington separating from the USA to become a breakaway “green” republic. Using this vision of the Northwest as a sustainable society as a touchstone, this course explores the multifaceted relationship between human identity and landscape (or place) in the region over the last century. Probing historical documents, visual representations, and literature, students investigate how different peoples have encountered, experienced, and represented the environment in the Pacific Northwest and how, in turn, the environment has shaped their sense of who they are. Additional topics may include the wilderness idea, globalization, and the way that social divisions such as gender and race have intersected with the process of making and re-making places in the region. Students write a substantial research paper on place and identity in the Northwest. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with History

SSI1 123 Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo: Lives of Art and Politics During the first half of the 20th century, Diego Rivera was known as Mexico’s most famous and influential living artist, and Frida Kahlo was known mostly as his wife. Soon after their deaths in the mid-20th century, Kahlo became known as Mexico’s most famous and influential artist, and Rivera was known mostly as her husband. This first-year seminar examines Mexico’s most famous modern couple and their changing critical fortunes at three levels: biographical; artistic; and political. The questions the course asks and the answers pursued are informed by the disciplines of history, art history and the interdisciplinary endeavor of the humanities. Questions include: Who were these two individuals, and how were their lives as a couple shaped by socially constructed gender roles? What was the nature of their distinct artistic production, and how was the work of each shaped by gender and by the work of the other? How did they participate in the politics and the cultural movements following the 1910 Mexican Revolution, and how did “the revolution” shape their lives, art, and political roles? And finally, why did the life and art of Kahlo overshadow that of her husband after their deaths? Affiliated with History and Latin American Studies

SSI1/SSI2 124 Utopia/Dystopia What is human happiness? Can human beings live together in harmony? What is the perfect society? Is it possible to achieve such a society? This course examines how selected writers and communitarians have answered these questions in theory, fiction, and practice. The SSI1 course studies the themes of utopianism and anti-utopianism in Western thought from ancient times to the twenty-first century. Readings for the SSI1 version vary but may include Plato’s Republic, More’s Utopia, Voltaire’s Candide, Gilman’s Herland, Zamynin’s We, Atwood’s Handmaid’s Tale, and documents from actual utopian communities. The SSI2 version will emphasize researching communitarian societies in American history. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with History

SSI1 125 Geomythology of Ancient Catastrophes The Biblical story of the Great Flood and Plato’s account of the Sinking of Atlantis are two examples of mythical tales that describe events bearing a striking resemblance to natural disasters, such as floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions. In this course students explore the possibility that some of these mythological accounts may be based on actual events that occurred in the distant past. The course focuses mainly on
Mesopotamian, Greek, and Biblical myths but also includes material from the Pacific Northwest and other cultures. The course includes a required weekend field trip to examine evidence of catastrophic flooding. Affiliated with Geology

**SSI1 127 Hip Hop Theatre**  Hip Hop Theatre will involve the close and critical reading and analysis of a host of plays from the expanding genre of Hip Hop Theater. Students will analyze, discuss, and write about how aesthetics like sampling, layering, non-linearity, flow and rupture, fragmentation, etc. inform the dramaturgy of Hip Hop playwrights. They will also examine how such aesthetics allow playwrights to reference and revise themes and conventions from traditional Western drama in powerful and innovative ways. Most importantly, students will critically reflect on the larger socio-political aspects of Hip Hop aesthetics on and off the stage. Affiliated with Theatre Arts

**SSI1/SSI2 128 The Philosophy and Science of Human Nature**  Is there a universal human nature, and if so what defines it? For millennia now philosophers have debated this question, proposing a number of starkly different accounts of human nature in the process. More recently scientists have gotten in on the action as well, bringing empirical results to bear on various hypotheses regarding what human beings are like. This course examines the interaction between philosophical and scientific approaches to the study of human nature. Topics include the following: Which features of human minds are innate? What is the relation between the language a person speaks and the way in which that person conceptualizes the world? What does evolution entail about human nature? Is the existence of free will compatible with various scientific findings regarding human beings? What are the moral and political implications of different views of human nature? Do men and women have fundamentally different natures? What is the relation between human nature and religion? The course examines works by Aristotle, Hobbes, Rousseau, Marx, Darwin, and Mead, as well as many contemporary philosophers and scientists. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Philosophy

**SSI1 129 Mao’s China: A Country in Revolution**  In 1949 the People’s Republic of China was established, with Mao Zedong at its helm. For the past forty years China has been in almost constant political and cultural turmoil, experiencing the dawn of a republican era, warlord rule, invasion by Japan, and a bloody civil war. The Communists brought an end to the warfare but inaugurated an era of great change to both state and society. This course examines Chinese history under Mao Zedong, focusing on the process and experience of the Chinese Communist Revolution. Topics explored include Mao’s life history, the philosophical underpinnings of the revolution, the ways in which the revolution was experienced by people of different backgrounds, and the social and cultural legacy of Mao’s vision. Affiliated with Asian Studies and History

**SSI1 130 Transgressive Desires in Chinese Fiction**  In a world where feelings of meaninglessness have become a widespread problem, what is the meaning of concepts such as fate, love, trust, risk, and security? Literature, which has played an important role in the search for self-realization in many cultures, is one place where one might begin to find an answer. This course focuses on the concept of self in relation to society as it was explored in vernacular short stories in seventeenth-century China, a period of great change in many realms—economic, social, philosophical, technological, among others. Through analysis of the vernacular short stories—a central fictional genre of the time—students will explore such questions as what constitutes a “self” in this transitional period? How might self-actualization go against social conventions and expectations? How does literature attempt to solve this tension and bring self and society into reconciliation? How does fiction invite readers to share other people’s (i.e. fictional characters) experiences of making decisions and living through the consequences—for oneself and one’s family—of those decisions? As the course progresses, students may find that the Chinese tradition has both similarities and fundamental differences from the West. Affiliated with Asian Languages and Cultures and Asian Studies

**SSI1 131 Athens, Freedom, and the Liberal Arts**  In this course students explore the first development of the idea of “freedom” in classical Greece, with a particular focus on Athens and its radical democracy in the late fifth-century BCE. Freedom requires practice, discipline, and an understanding of “the rules,” so that one may use, manipulate, and break the rules; thus students study the arts of grammar, rhetoric, and logic—the foundational skills of the liberal arts—so that they may speak, reason, and practice freedom more effectively. Students test their newly acquired skills through close reading and analysis of texts from the Greek tragedy, comedy, history, rhetoric, and philosophy. Students put new skills into action through daily discussions, weekly debates, and performances of Greek drama. Students also participate in a four-week role-playing simulation of the Athenian assembly in which students have to decide on the best form of government, putting their notions of freedom into practice. This course thus offers students an authentic foundation in the liberal arts and in doing so prepares them for their life as a free person. Affiliated with Greek, Latin, Ancient Med Stdy and Humanities

**SSI1/SSI2 132 Wild Things**  The concept of wilderness—and the related category of the wild—has proved a central imaginative paradigm for much of the environmental literature produced in and about the United States and Canada since the time of European settlement. By examining a varied selection of ecologically minded texts, this seminar explores how and why writers have argued for particular understandings of the concepts of wilderness and wild. Drawing on nature writing in several genres, the course further explores the social, political, and cultural issues at stake in these contested definitions. Among the questions the course considers: Is wilderness a useful conceptual category for current ecocritical analysis, or is it fraught with excess ideological baggage? Is wild a more productive concept for a critical practice that might inform effective resistance to current environmental degradation? How do wild and wilderness intersect with the familiar critical issues of race, gender, and colonial legacy? Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English

**SSI1/SSI2 134 Dreams and Desire: The Liminal World**  The theme of this course is the exploration of the liminal world—the terrain for which there is evidence but no proof. For example, what do religion, anthropology, philosophy, medicine, psychology, and literature have to say about the seen and the unseen, the threshold between life and death—issues that shoot to the core of human existence and exert the strongest hold on the human spirit? Students explore the validity of claims about belief and unbelief, the world beyond the senses, made by prophets, priests, poets, shamans, scientists, philosophers. As both writers and speakers, students construct persuasive arguments based on an evaluation of sources that either contradict or defend given assumptions about the role of liminality in culture, history, identity, and the natural world. Students begin with texts that insist upon controversial readings, such as Toni Morrison’s Beloved, Louis Owen’s Wolfsong, and Isabel Allende’s The House of the Spirits. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English
SS1/SSI2 135  From Earthquakes to Epidemics: Catastrophe in United States Culture  This course uses catastrophic events and moments as a lens for the exploration of American culture. Our explorations will range from the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906 to the terrorist attacks of 9/11, the Iraq War, and recent state violence against people of color. Because our focus is on the development of independent research projects, we will not attempt to “cover” the full range of events, but rather explore a number of arguments scholars make about American experiences and reactions to catastrophe, and test those theories against primary sources drawn from a range of catastrophes. Some of the questions we will engage include, for instance, what counts as a catastrophe? How might we define the difference between a “natural” and a “human-made” catastrophe? What role has social identity played in shaping the disparate experiences of catastrophe that were intentionally caused—by other Americans, even by government officials—fit into our understanding of the nature of catastrophe? How have Americans dealt with the private trauma of disaster? And finally, what role has public memory played in shaping those private experiences? Exploring these questions and more will allow us to understand more fully the relationship between the day-to-day and the catastrophic occurrences that have shaped American life. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SS1 seminar. Affiliated with History

SS1 137  A History of Latinx Popular Culture  This course is centered on the history of Latinx popular culture in the United States. In particular, the course looks at how Latinx film, theater, television, music, food, and sport can serve as a lens to understanding the broader experiences of Latinx people in the United States over the past century. The course begins by exploring the theoretical underpinnings of Latinx identity as a historical concept and the use of popular culture as a means of understanding culture, history, and society. The rest of the course is organized thematically around mediums where issues such as gender, ritual, race, sexuality, migration and a variety of other themes are considered in relation to the experiences of Latinx people in the United States. Affiliated with History

SS1/SSI2 138  How Dramatic Comedy Makes Sense of the World: From Aristophanes to the Absurd  This course studies dramatic comedy, from ancient Greece to twenty-first century America, with a focus on how the recurring structures, plots, and characters of this genre reflect and shape wider cultural beliefs about religion, reason, and the meaning of the universe. Specifically, and somewhat distinct from an investigation of jokes and laughter, readings and assignments in this course address the formal aspects of comedy, especially as defined by their origins in Greek fertility rites through to their absurdist postmodern manifestations, and beyond. Students read, discuss, and write about plays from four or five epochs, in light of theories of comedy put forth by thinkers like Plato Aristotle, Sigmund Freud, Bertrand Russell, Susan K. Langer, Mikhail Bakhtin, Northrop Frye, Martin Esslin, Linda Hutcheon, and Simon Critchley. Theoretical readings by such writers as Plato, Aristotle, Henri Bergson, Sigmund Freud, Bertrand Russell, Susan K. Langer, Mikhail Bakhtin, Northrop Frye, and Martin Esslin provide frames not only for interpreting comedy itself, but also for understanding the relationship between comedy and society. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SS1 seminar. Affiliated with History

SS1/SSI2 139  The Third Wave: Rock After the Beatles  This course surveys rock music in the immediate post-Beatles period from 1970 to 1990, two decades witnessing an unprecedented diversity of rock music styles. Close reading of representative works by numerous artists (such as David Bowie, The Rolling Stones, Patti Smith, Sex Pistols, Talking Heads, Michael Jackson, Bruce Springsteen, Madonna) will develop critical listening and basic music-analytic skills. Scholarly works from numerous perspectives (musicological, sociological, historical) are engaged closely and intended to introduce students to the academic response to rock music. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SS1 seminar. Affiliated with School of Music

SS1 140  Protest and Resistance: Contemporary Activist Movements in the United States  This course explores protest and resistance, and examines the ways that marginalized groups engage in protest to resist systems of power. This course considers the ways that contemporary activist movements around race, gender, sexuality, etc. challenge systems of power and inequality, and identifies the ways that marginalized groups (African Americans, women, LGBTQIA+, Latinx/e, Indigenous, etc.) assert themselves in the public sphere. The course will look at activist movements like Black Lives Matter, Say Her Name, #MeToo, the Women’s March, and many others to examine the rhetorical acts that shape and define contemporary protest discourse. Students will also be asked to draw from their interests and passions to develop critical writing and advocacy projects. Affiliated with English

SS1/SSI2 141  Architectures of Power  Using words as its building blocks instead of bricks or stones, writing has power to evoke or create socially-coded (and sometimes socially subversive) meanings for its readers. The title of this seminar, “Architectures of Power,” suggests that there is some kind of mechanism, be it actual or theoretical, that structures power and one’s ability to act effectively. Focusing on the power dynamics that structure writing, cultural interactions, and individual mindsets, this course is composed of a series of units that, building on one another, move students from the basic questions one asks of writing to more complex written assignments that require integration of a number of provided source materials. In analyzing a variety of texts (linguistic, visual, and even aural), students explore, develop, and analyze the kinds of social and communicative powers that writing can construct. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SS1 seminar. Affiliated with English and Greek, Latin, Ancient Med Styd

SS1/SSI2 143  Controversies of Communication and Technology  Technology is now a pervasive aspect of daily life. In this course, students discuss controversies as they relate to technology and communication. Some technology-related discussion topics include online privacy, cyberbullying, surveillance, trolling, and online dating. In addition to reading about developing and structuring arguments, students view relevant media and read popular press and academic articles about various issues relating to technology and communication. In the process of examining these controversies, students encounter the two central aspects of the humanistic tradition of rhetorical education: argumentation and effective oral and written expression. Students engage in a variety of activities and exercises and prepare a final project of an extended policy paper, designed to develop their fluency in written composition and oral expression and refine their ability to argue in a variety of contexts. Students are required to retrieve, evaluate, and integrate primary academic sources into each course project. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SS1 seminar. Affiliated with Communication Studies

SS1/SSI2 144  Constitutional Controversies  This course focuses on the U.S. Constitution in order to introduce students to frameworks for analyzing both policy and interpretive arguments on issues such as bicameralism, presidential veto, equal protection, and racial preferences. In the SS1 version, students develop their analytical skills using texts provided by the instructor. In the SS2 version, students research
an ongoing legal controversy and prepare arguments on it. Students also gather materials concerning an amendment debate and analyze them. Students examine and assess arguments from authority, with particular attention to what makes for credible authority in a particular area. Through a series of short writing assignments, students prepare to undertake the major writing assignment emphasizing the various analytical perspectives. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Communication Studies

SSI1 145 Anime Bodies: Metamorphoses and Identity Japanese animation (anime) has exploded in popularity over the last thirty years as more people around the world have grown to appreciate not only the technical skill of the filmmakers but also the complex narratives that often tackle difficult questions of identity in nuanced ways. Many anime films feature adolescent characters whose bodies have magical powers or go through some form of metamorphosis. The changes these characters experience may or may not be welcome, but they clearly reflect the difficulties of the passage from adolescence to adulthood, and also raise questions about identity, technology and authority in a rapidly changing world. In this course, students will study six anime films that feature magic and metamorphosis and examine the ways that those changes both reflect and construct adolescent, gendered and national identities. Affiliated with Asian Languages and Cultures and Asian Studies

SSI1/SSI2 146 The Good Life What is happiness and how can human beings achieve it? Can a bad person be truly happy or is moral virtue required for happiness? Is suffering valuable, and if so, should we pursue suffering? Is it better to be detached and invulnerable from loss, or are love and attachments always worth the risk? Do emotions give us any knowledge? What does it mean when cognitive scientists talk about “the divided mind”? What is implicit bias and how can we fight it? What does it mean that race or gender or disability are a “social construct”? These are questions concerning human flourishing that both philosophers and scientists have contributed to answer, or to attempt to answer. In this course, students are invited to engage in a variety of debates concerning happiness, morality and identity. Readings range from ancient primary philosophical texts to contemporary cognitive science articles. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Philosophy

SSI1 147 Contemporary Art Theory and Critique This course explores the intellectual, expressive, and aesthetic issues involved in the creation of contemporary art from the historical context of modernism and the current arena of visual culture. The focus of the course is to engage in written analysis and critical conversations about contemporary art by examining the art of pivotal 20th and 21st century artists and art movements that have redefined our ideas about art and the creative process. Through lectures, discussions, readings, written assignments, group critiques, studio art projects, and attendance at professional art exhibitions the class will address the following questions: What is Art? What developments influenced shifts in artistic practices? In what ways(s) do I understand a particular artist’s creative pursuit? What ideas are manifested by curating a collection of art works into an exhibition? Affiliated with Art and Art History

SSI1 148 Journalism and Democracy Journalism is sometimes called the “Fourth Estate,” a vision in which the press serves an essential function akin to the checks and balances of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches within the American government. In such a vision, the press provides the unbiased information necessary for a citizenry to make informed decisions. But, of course, this idealized vision is complicated. Our country is a diverse country, encompassing a wide range of geographic, cultural, and ideological positions, and the work of journalism is no simple matter. Where (literally and figuratively) is journalism coming from? Who is developing the content? Through what medium is journalistic content being disseminated? Who is funding it? Where is the line between reporting news and creating news? What stories are being told and what stories are not being told? How do the answers to these questions affect the state of democracy? In this course, students explore these and other questions through engaging in writing and speaking assignments that build on a variety of readings from different academic disciplines as well as from modern and historical journalism. Students discuss what the current state of journalism means for them as citizens, consumers, scholars, and—potentially—journalists. Affiliated with English

SSI1 149 Transgressive Bodies Many art forms reflect and comment on the political and cultural climates of their time. Art may serve as a lens or mirror for sensitive social issues, and act as a catalyst for change. But nowhere, perhaps, can one find artistic expressions of a culture as powerful and uncomfortable as in twentieth-century dance. From the modernist reinvention of ballet by Diaghilev’s Ballets Russes and Balanchine’s neoclassicism to the explosive experiments of modern dance by Isadore Duncan, Mary Wigman, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham, and Alvin Ailey, dance becomes a vehicle for social movements: a means of critiquing norms and values, and representing tacit anxieties about gender, race, sexuality, nation, and collectivity. Twentieth-century dance is made more transgressive by its medium: the body. The dancing body has been a site for controversy in academic discourse, as the vestiges of our Kantian mind-body dichotomy linger. By exploring embodiment and social activism in watershed music-dance collaborations of the twentieth Century, this course invites students to face the social issues of today and ask: what can the study of dance mean for us? Affiliated with Humanities and School of Music

SSI1/SSI2 150 Exploring Bioethics Today This seminar examines Western philosophical and religious approaches to a range of topics and cases in contemporary bioethics, especially those posing challenges for public policy. Topic examples include: issues at the beginning of life (abortion, assisted reproduction, embryo controversies such as stem cell research); issues at the end of life (death and dying, assisted suicide/euthanasia controversies, brain death); and issues in between life and death, such as new genetic technologies, enhancement therapies, public health, health care reform and questions of justice for the underserved at the intersection of race, gender, and medicine. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society

SSI1 151 Just Asking Questions: The Power, Psychology, and Politics of Fake News and Conspiracy Theories This course allows students to understand, and assess the rise of misinformation, including the prevalence of conspiracy theories and fake news. Misinformation has always been in political discourse but the internet era has seen a rise in public consumption of conspiracy theories and fake news, as well as numerous sites dedicated to fact-checking, such as Politifact. Donald Trump is a president of the United States who seemingly has difficulty distinguishing between truth and lies and who apparently disseminates his own misinformation. News and social media have been pushing back, attempting to live fact-check speeches and flag sources as “fake news”, but the term has been co-opted by those who identify all news with which they disagree as fake. Extensive research across multiple academic disciplines has demonstrated that the human brain is not just susceptible to misinformation but is also resistant to being set straight. In the current political, and cultural climate, it is essential
that citizens of a democratic community be able to identify the psychological, social, and political factors that lead to misinformation, critically evaluate news sources to identify bias and reliability, explain why political elites intentionally disseminate misinformation, and understand ways of convincingly advancing their own arguments. **Affiliated with Politics and Government**

**SSI1 152 Gender and Performance**  How do people “do” gender in everyday life and on stage? What histories of gender presentation do plays present, trouble, and remake? Through the reading of play texts as well as contemporary interdisciplinary scholarship, this class widely explores the topics of gender and performance in all their dimensions, including: gender as performance, gendered performance, and the performance of gender within and outside of theatrical contexts. Assignments focus on the key goal of the first Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry: to develop the intellectual habits necessary to write and speak effectively and with integrity. **Affiliated with Gender and Queer Studies and Humanities and Theatre Arts**

**SSI1/SSI2 153 Scientific Controversies**  This course focuses on scientific theories, practices, and/or discoveries that have been controversial. How do scientific controversies arise? What intellectual, religious, social, and political factors shape the debate? How do scientific controversies end? By studying historic debates, students learn general methods for analyzing scientific and non-scientific factors that influence the trajectory and outcome of a scientific controversy. Examples to be treated may include Pitydowm man, Galileo’s trial, mass extinction, global warming, Lysenkoism, and meteorites. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. **Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society**

**SSI1/SSI2 154 The Anthropology of Food and Eating**  The quarry of the anthropologist - the deep social patterns and cultural meanings that shape human existence - are often disguised, out of sight, or behind the curtain of the world as it appears before us. In seeking a vantage point from which one might glimpse these phenomena, this course follows a well-beaten anthropological path: beginning with a commonplace, everyday practice, students work outward in scope and backward in time, constructing an informed, analytic, and critical perspective on human society and culture through the seemingly pedestrian substance of food. The course is organized in two segments. In the first portion of the semester, students engage a set of readings intended to provide an introduction to the multiple research agendas that characterize the burgeoning scholarship on food and eating. In the second segment of the course, students delineate a conversation in that scholarship that they wish to join, and deploy an independent research project of their own design that triangulates between existing scholarship and ethnographic data they collect. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. **Affiliated with Sociology and Anthropology**

**SSI1 155 Are Prisons Necessary?**  What is the purpose of a prison? Why do we punish, and how do we determine what is just punishment? How does punishment feed off and into the major bases of social division and inequality — race, class, sexuality, ethnicity, gender, age, and nationality? This course explores the history, theory and social and cultural consequences of imprisonment and punishment in the U.S. while addressing the Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 1 learning objectives. **Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society**

**SSI1 156 Music of the Vietnamese Diaspora**  The story of Vietnam is told through its music. Situated on the coast of Southeast Asia, Vietnam is a country with a long history of conflict, acculturation, and ancient traditions. This course is centered around culture and identity through musical discovery of Vietnamese popular, folk, and classical music ranging from imperialist time periods to the present day. We will explore how the Vietnamese diaspora impacted Vietnamese musical development around the globe. **Affiliated with Asian Studies and School of Music**

**SSI1 157 The Russian Revolution**  The Russian Revolution was a defining event of the twentieth century. It was in Russia that the Marxist ideology was first implemented, creating a new kind of political and social order that would create a new dividing line in world history. In this course, students examine the Tsarist old regime, the different revolutionary movements that challenged it, the dramatic events of the 1917 revolutions, and the Civil War and new revolutionary order that followed. Throughout, the course asks how we should understand historical upheavals that were marked by idealism and social change but also chaos and violence. **Affiliated with History**

**SSI1 158 The Digital Age and its Discontents**  The topic of this course can be boiled down to an observation and a question: advances in digital technology are transforming the way we read, write, communicate, and even, according to some scholars and scientists, think; what are the consequences of these transformations? As part of a generation of “digital natives,” university students and their peers are at times the objects of study, the evidence for various arguments, and the authority on digital technology. The goal for this course is for students to finish the semester with greater insight into the complexities of how technology shapes their lives. Students leave the course as savvy readers, thinkers, and writers, with the ability to transfer the skills they have developed for understanding this area of academic argument to any number of important social and academic debates. **Affiliated with English**

**SSI1/SSI2 159 Evolution for All**  Evolution is the process that allows one to make sense of the wondrous diversity of species, physiologies, behaviors, and everything else biological around us. The course explores both historical and current work that uses an evolutionary lens to look at all kinds of biological questions and focuses on issues near and dear to humans, such as food, sex, violence, and religion. Following the examination of a series of instructor-led case studies, students pursue their own independent research into the historical and/or current evolutionary analysis of a particular trait or characteristic. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. **Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society**

**SSI1 160 The Dilemmas of Statecraft: Foreign Policy and the Ethics of Force**  The use of force to achieve political ends is the most consequential decision a leader can make. Those uses of force may be used to conquer, dominate, and annihilate. Since force is a tool that can be used for both good and ill, it is not surprising that there is significant debate about the conditions for its appropriate use. After examining two schools of thought addressing the ethical obligations of leaders, students embark upon an exploration of difficult cases designed to shed light on the consequential decisions that leaders of countries face. Was Truman justified in dropping the atomic bombs on Japan in 1945? Is it permissible to order a military intervention that violates a state’s sovereignty to in order to protect people from ethnic cleansing? Is the use of drones to conduct targeted assassination an acceptable part of a counter-terrorism strategy? These are just some of the questions this
course poses. In examining these issues students complete extensive reading and writing assignments, learn to assess sources of information, develop their ability to read and think critically, and practice writing and speaking persuasively. Affiliated with Politics and Government

SSI 161 Social Order and Human Freedom This seminar examines the apparent, and perhaps genuine, contradiction between the concepts of social order and individual freedom. An ordered society implies that people generally do what they are supposed to do when they are supposed to do it. Our casual observation of society confirms persistent patterns to human behavior. At the same time, however, most of us cling to the notion of our individual freedom and our legal system is indeed premised upon this assumption. The central question then is this: Are we truly free or do we simply follow the patterns our society has constructed for us? The relationship between the individual and society has captured the attention of some of the greatest sociologists, philosophers, historians, and literary figures. With only slight exaggeration one might say it is the central question of Western Civilization, especially since the Enlightenment. This course provides an introduction to this important area of human inquiry. Affiliated with Sociology and Anthropology

SSI 162 Colonialism and Films This course begins with the assumption that cinema plays a constitutive role in discursive formations about race, class, gender, sexuality, nation, empire, and so forth. Working from this assumption the course explores representations of colonialism, and empire across a history of Western feature film. Although, the course focuses on a particular genre of films, the course aims to teach students the basic language of film more broadly through interpretation and close analysis of film as argument and public arguments about film. The course workshops student’s written work that culminates with the production of a video essay presenting a completed argument about a specific film. Affiliated with Communication Studies

SSI 1/SSI 2 163 Becoming Modern: Paris 1870-1900 This course focuses on the years 1870 to 1900 in Paris, a period marked by profound transformations in politics, society and the arts. Students follow a cast of characters, from politicians and architects to writers and artists, as they come to terms with modernity through these turbulent years and seek to answer the question: What does it mean to become modern? Students who sign up for this course must be willing to actively participate in a role-playing academic game which will make them think critically, and practice writing and speaking persuasively. Typical assignments include: Why do people behave in certain ways? What helps and what detracts from building meaningful community? Students read, listen, watch, observe, interact, question, write, converse, and experiment. Building community helps students integrate into campus life and enriches their lifetime community building skills. In the course’s progression, students also build the intellectual and personal skills for college success, from time management and goal setting, to writing and speaking effectively, to framing questions, making claims, and supporting claims with evidence. In addition, the classroom community strives to be a safe and enjoyable setting to put concepts into action and build a community of scholars. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

SSI 165 Never Really Alone: Symbioses and Parasitism Around and Within Us This course explores the prevalence, impact, and history of the associations between organisms (including human beings), from the very large to the microscopic, throughout the biosphere. A growing paradigm shift in science places diverse associations between organisms as central to evolutionary theory and life on Earth: not so much competition among organisms, but complex “networking” between them. The course examines relationships between organisms through this lens, including examples such as crustaceans that replace the tongues of fish, the tiny “wildlife” that lives on and within human beings, and the fact that life as known on Earth has resulted from ancient symbioses. Students develop skills in evaluating, discussing, and presenting concepts relating to symbiosis and parasitism, from historical, philosophical, and scientific viewpoints. Affiliated with Biology

SSI 167 Anthropology, Culture, and Difference In this first-year seminar, students will deeply engage and explore the ethnographic canon — the total body of work assembled by anthropologists over the past century that seeks to describe the many different and diverse ways of being in this world that humans have configured. Students will commence with the journals and records of the travelers, writers, and thinkers that predated the formation of the discipline of anthropology. Students will then begin to read original ethnographies — a set of assigned texts that includes several disciplinary classics. Students will ponder and discuss the enduring issues that have long puzzled anthropologists, and will simultaneously assess the critiques sometimes levied against the sustained engagement with cultural otherwise that anthropologists pursue. While the geographical scope of this class is global in nature, course readings will partly emphasize the indigenous peoples of the Pacific Northwest. In addition to meeting the SSI1 Core requirement, this seminar will provide an ideal entry point for any career trajectory concerned with understanding and engaging with diversity in our modern world, and any career trajectory that will grapple with cultural difference on a global scale. Affiliated with Sociology and Anthropology

SSI 168 Climate Change and the Law This course explores how the law has been used or could possibly be used to address the issue of climate change and its environmental and societal consequences. Focus is primarily on state and federal domestic law, but international agreements and aspirations, and foreign domestic laws are also considered. Students examine questions about climate change and law, such as: Is law an appropriate vehicle to address climate change? What are the limits of law in this area? To what extent should responsibility for climate change be sought, assigned, or penalized? How might law be used to cultivate a climate recovery? Students will examine these questions from a legal perspective, by reading, discussing, writing, and critiquing. Students are also responsible for presenting their work at the end of the semester. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

SSI 169 Cancer in Context This SSI1 Seminar examines the history of cancer discovery and treatment. Students will build a solid foundation in the science, history, and social context of cancer to allow thoughtful exploration and critique of where we’ve been and to identify future areas of concern and hope. Through class participation, reading, writing, and speaking students will increase their ability to frame and explore questions, support claims, and thoughtfully consider their own and other’s assumptions. Written work will range from commentaries on
readings to a series of essays. Prerequisite: Credit will not be granted to students who have received credit for STS 302. Affiliated with Biology

**SSI1/SSI2 170 Perspectives: Space, Place, and Values** This discussion-based course is designed to introduce the fundamental representations of landscape in visual art as frameworks for broader, multi-disciplinary discussions. In particular, the course explores how representations of water and earth art involving water reflect intertwined connections amongst conceptions of space, senses of place, and human values. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Art and Art History

**SSI1 171 Medical Discourse and the Body** The human body presents a challenging topic for discourse. The body is at once universal and yet radically subjective; everyone has a body, but not all bodies are the same or similar. Moreover, knowledge about the body varies dramatically between different groups of people. This course focuses on discourse about the body: who has authority to speak about the body? Why and for what reasons? What kinds of language do people employ when they write or speak about the body? How does their language use change depending on the audience? Students begin thinking about these questions by reading several texts about legislation debates concerning the body. A human body forms the single most basic legal entity in our society, and also perhaps the most contested. Who has power over an individual? What are the limits of that power, and how are such limitations determined? These discussions are followed by reading several accounts by doctors—people who spend their lives examining and interacting with many kinds of bodies in different situations. How do doctors understand their relationship to the kinds of bodies they see? Finally, students consider how people conceptualize their own relationship to their bodies. Affiliated with English

**SSI1 172 The Law in America** Our focus is on the development and application of laws in America, with the United States Constitution and the Supreme Court as constant guides. Be clear that this is not a “Constitutional Law” offering, but rather a jurisprudence course; that means we look at “the law’s” evolution from three different perspectives: moral, ethical, and legal. Simply put, though certainly not simple to achieve, we seek to understand “where” our country was before historically significant Supreme Court cases and “where” we are today. A pragmatic reality is that if you want to know where you are likely going, you need to understand how you got where you currently stand. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

**SSI1 173 Alexander Hamilton’s America: The Political Economy Behind the Musical** Hamilton: An American Musical has enthralled audiences across the country. Despite the accolades and shower of awards for the artistic achievement that is “Hamilton”, it is worth asking — how much of this is accurate history, political analysis, and economics? Using the music and the musical as our guide, students in this course will read, dissect, critique, and compare written, visual, and aural works in order to understand the foundations of U.S. political economy. Through close reading and evaluation of primary sources and secondary analysis students will learn about Alexander Hamilton’s role in creating the foundational systems of our economy and government. Students also gain experience using sources judiciously and effectively to build arguments and support a position. Affiliated with Economics

**SSI1 174 Lethal Othering: Critiquing Genocidal Prejudice** The anthropological study of prejudice looks critically at the process of "othering" — that is, the fear-based tendency to regard groups and individuals who are “dangerously different from us” in ways that emphasize (“their”) threat versus (“our”) safety. Logically, this perspective can lead to attitudes, policies, and actions that aim to annihilate the difference between “us” (the in-group) and “them” (the dangerous outsiders) — either by forced assimilation or even by genocide.

This course examines the ways that prejudice has been a part of such murderous and inhumane activity, beginning with a sustained exploration of the role of anti-Semitic prejudice in pogroms that took place at a time and place when such violence would seem least likely to occur: almost immediately after the Holocaust, in the country where most of the Nazi death camps had been located. At the same time, the course serves as a vehicle for students to learn, in more general terms, how to read, question, analyze, talk and write about human problems at a level that is not just symbolic (e.g. hijab and trans flags are pieces of cloth with deeper meanings), but moral as well (e.g. eliminationist rhetoric — “We’d be better off without them” — can lead to actual genocidal policies.

The scholars we will be reading and discussing in this class have studied, written books and articles, and worked for decades in the fields of anthropology, sociology, history, and law. In addition, their projects have also included documentary films; extensive studies of images such as “the Jewish bloodsucker” trope, the non-white immigrant/ “polluter” of national purity; and various memorialization projects (museums, statues, and other public creations intended to symbolize and emotionally recognize noble heroes, long-suffering victims, do-nothing bystanders and death-dealing perpetrators). Students will thus read, study and discuss verbal arguments concerning the process and consequences of “othering” those groups and individuals who are perceived to be “not at all like us”, (and thus a deadly danger to us, deserving of some kind of elimination), but will also explore ways of replacing an imagination that reacts with disgust, horror, and dehumanization to frightful “others” with an imagination that, instead, tries to look at “difference” with open-minded wonder if not heartfelt compassion. Affiliated with Sociology and Anthropology

**SSI1 175 Utopia and the Imagination** In 1516, Thomas More wrote a fanciful story about the New World and called it Utopia. While the term he coined, u-topia, literally means no-place, his fictional text served as a powerful indictment of English society. Among other things, he argued for a radical rethinking of education, a reduction in territorial expansion, and an oddly progressive approach to gender relations and marriage. While More coined the term, the notion of utopia as a societal critique stretches back to foundational texts such as Plato’s Republic and Genesis. In fact, it is hard to conceive of the progress of Western thought without the presence of utopian thinking. This course explores utopian thought, examining utopian theories of the golden age, economics, religion, architecture, gender relations, technology, etc. Students are asked to use this frame to examine and critique today’s society. This is a writing-intensive course which uses the theme of utopia to teach critical thinking and scholarly writing. Affiliated with English

**SSI1 176 American Autobiography from Franklin to Facebook** The urge to tell one’s life story has a long and illustrious history in American literature. Benjamin Franklin wrote one of the first American autobiographies, a life story and at the same time a blueprint for Franklin’s vision of a new kind of person—an American. Frederick Douglass’s devastating first-person slave narrative worked to establish the humanity of African-Americans and attacked the system of chattel slavery. Maxine Hong Kingston’s experimental memoir told of another new kind of American, the urban immigrant. These masters of the genre used their personal stories for varied rhetorical aims. In the process, each helped create a distinctively American literary genre: biography of self-as-nation, slave narrative, and immigrant story. Over the course
of this seminar, students read American autobiographies, addressing a set of linked questions: What is autobiography? Why have Americans chosen to write it? How have its rhetorical functions in American life altered over time? What does it mean to be an American, and how are American autobiographies shapers of and shaped by this notion? The varied conclusions students reach will help them achieve a clearer understanding of both the uses of literature and the complexities of American identity. Course texts include autobiographical works by Benjamin Franklin, Frederick Douglass, Maxine Hong Kingston, and Art Spiegelman, as well as social media. Affiliated with English

SSI1 177 What is Marriage For? This course begins by asking a deceptively simple question: what is marriage for? While the question might seem at first tied to the recent political and legal battles over same-sex marriage, this course explores a number of important ways this question has been at the heart of social and political change across a wide swath of Anglo-American history and examines how tension and conflict inherent in that change show up in literature. Students first encounter this question in the plays of William Shakespeare and John Webster, and in John Milton’s impassioned plea for the right to divorce. The inquiry of the course is shaped by Stephanie Coontz’s sweeping historical text Marriage, a History: How Love Conquered Marriage. Students examine the brief period of post-WWII America where “traditional” marriage can be understood as having been the norm, at least for some classes. Equipped with a better grasp of the history of marriage, at the end of the semester students turn their attention to the way extending marriage to same-sex couples does or doesn’t raise the question: what is marriage for? They might also wager an answer. Affiliated with English and Gender and Queer Studies

SSI1 178 Muslim Fictions This course uses literatures of Muslim societies to introduce students to themes from the history of Islam that are often neglected in discussions of the religion. Two themes in particular will be explored: travel and transgression. Students will study the famous and famously complex Thousand and One Nights from a variety of perspectives. This work will help students to think about the space covered by premodern Islam, meaning both the imagined geographical space through which characters travel and the wide range of expressions of Islam in the premodern period. The class will then study modern appropriations of the work to see how it continues to inspire possibilities for Muslim expression in the present. As a Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 1, students will analyze various kinds of sources. They will practice reading closely and critically. Special attention will be given to how scholars in various disciplines develop questions, rely on those who have gone before them, and come up with novel answers. Students will apply these skills to their own scholarship. Written and oral assignments in this course will foster students’ abilities to enter scholarly conversations by training them to ask questions, develop theses, and defend ideas. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society

SSI1 179 Women, Art, and Power in Byzantium This course examines the visual and textual representations of women from the 4th through the 11th centuries from the Byzantine Empire and from the perspective of multiple disciplines to offer insight into the role of women and the operation of gender in Byzantium. Because the surviving sources privilege the elite, this course focuses on women of the upper classes, with particular attention to empresses. The course examines the infamous Theodora (6th c.) who rose to imperial rank from the slums of Constantinople, as well as Irene and Theodora (8-9th c.) who affected a lasting change in the religious policy of the empire, and the curious sisters, Zoe and Theodora, who even reigned by themselves briefly in 1042. To shed light on the role of women of the lower classes, the course also explores marital and home life, women’s work, child-bearing, women’s attitudes toward icons, and the importance of the cult of the Virgin Mary. The course provides students an opportunity to engage with the process of scholarly inquiry by completing extensive reading and writing assignments. Students amplify their skills in creating effective arguments, synthesizing complex ideas based on multiple sources, and deepen their skills in critiquing primary and secondary sources. Affiliated with Art and Art History

SSI1 180 Global Bioethics This seminar explores contemporary bioethical issues in a global context with particular attention to vulnerable populations. It examines various philosophical, religious, and cultural approaches to a range of bioethical topics. The topics may include reproductive health, physician-patient relationship, death and dying, and medical tourism. Students will explore the interaction between health and human rights in cross-cultural perspectives. Affiliated with Bioethics and Religion, Spirit., & Society

SSI1/SSI2 187 Controversies of Communication: The American Dream Students continue to strengthen their critical and analytic skills in this course as they critically consume and analyze a variety of challenging texts, formulate and support their own assertions related to course content, and engage in the process of constructing, enacting, and producing an independent research paper both in written and oral form. In this class, students examine the American Dream as it permeates daily life in the United States. Students explore the myths and meaning(s) of the American Dream and the ways in which it operates as a rhetorical device that privileges some groups while marginalizing others. Ultimately, students uncover the good, the bad, and maybe even the ugly ways in which talk that centers on the American Dream operates in society. Prerequisite: SSI1 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Communication Studies

SSI1 188 The Tudors The relatively short Tudor period (1485-1603) is among the most studied and romanticized of any in English history. This era saw radical revisions in government, religion, society, and the arts, as English men and women lived through the birth of Protestantism and capitalism, embraced print culture, experienced new forms of state control and nationalistic fervor, and learned to see themselves in global terms as they founded colonies and trading posts halfway around the world. At the center of these changes were the five Tudor monarchs themselves, all of whom have been the subject of much debate among historians. This course introduces students to the raw materials of Tudor history and culture, giving them practice evaluating different types of primary sources with an eye toward issues of authorship, bias, and audience. The course also invites students to identify and critically assess conflicting claims made in secondary sources, including both modern works of scholarship and popular interpretations, and gives them analytical tools needed to enter into these ongoing conversations. Affiliated with History

SSI1 191 Unsolved History: Engaging with the Mysterious Past Too often, history is thought of as authoritative and unified, the singular record of “what really happened” in the past. In reality, history is complex, contested, and incomplete. Historical evidence is frequently missing, contradictory, or open to multiple interpretations. Historians’ development of arguments and narratives involves as much art as science. This course uses a series of case studies—involving everything from circulating chapatis to baby-stealing dingos—to examine how historical knowledge is produced and how historians grapple with the problem of uncertainty. How much can be truly known about the past? Is it “another country”? How certain do historians need to be in order
to make responsible arguments? Are there pieces of the past that are simply lost forever? Are historians at the mercy of “who lives, who dies, who tells the story”? Students address all of these questions as they consider how to write and speak clearly and coherently about a past that is rarely clear or coherent. **Affiliated with History**

**SSI1/SSI2 192 Elvis and MJ: The Image of the Kings** This course examines several instances of rock celebrity, focusing on the recent tragedy surrounding Michael Jackson, the “King of Pop,” which, in many ways, parallels that of his predecessor Elvis Presley, the “King of Rock and Roll.” While Jackson’s career trajectory is eerily similar to that of Presley, his story involves additional complex issues of race, gender, mental illness, and criminality. Mega-celebrity is a phenomenon cutting across all the performing arts. However, rock superstardom has been a particularly difficult status to manage, perhaps because rock artists play pivotal roles in youth culture and are often perceived as mirroring broader societal changes. We examine how artists interact with the media forces through which they work. How do artists manage their image? Can this image be hijacked, and, if so, by whom and to what end? Can this image be reclaimed? In addition, we engage these artists as musicians and evaluate their impact on the development of rock music from the mid 1950s to the present day. **Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with School of Music**

**SSI1 193 An Investigation of Literary Naturalism** This course introduces students to Literary Naturalism, a controversial movement that took root in Europe and the United States in the second half of the 19th Century and that continues to flourish today. The course begins by examining the socio-political and intellectual climate of the Naturalist period, especially the influence of Darwin, Marx, and others on beliefs about progress, social responsibility, human motivation, and the purposes of literature and art. Students then read fiction and drama by several important practitioners of Naturalism, as well as contemporary reviewers’ responses to their works and short critical writings in which the writers themselves explain what they are doing and why. Included in this group are the dramatist August Strindberg and fiction writers Emile Zola, Stephen Crane, Jack London, Frank Norris, Edith Wharton, and Theodore Dreiser. Students also study Jacob Riis’ photojournalism, which focused, like many of the early Naturalist novels, on the plight of the urban poor. **Affiliated with English**

**SSI1 194 Technologies of Power** This course focuses on the changing forms and mechanisms of power, coercion, and control. Students consider the workings of power, from the interpersonal physical violence of the Classical world through developments in surveillance and technology that have transformed control from a question of physical strength to more subtle and pervasive systems of dominance. The course considers how dominance and ideology interact: What does a culture’s manifestation of power say about its beliefs and values? How do different forms of coercion and control reflect or affect human nature? How do systems of dominance shape individual and collective experience? How does power intersect with categories of identity such as gender, race, religion, etc.? How does power negotiate the relationships between the individual and society? Students consider these and other questions about human nature, society, and technology across multiple eras and societies. **Prerequisite: Admission to the Honors Program. Affiliated with English and History and Honors**

**SSI1/SSI2 195 A Year in the Life of William Shakespeare** Part of what explains Shakespeare’s growing popularity in the Renaissance—and, as some would argue, his popularity through the centuries—is his ability to capitalize on the immediacy and adaptability inherent to the theatre, a responsiveness that uniquely positions its engagement with contemporary political and cultural events. In what ways are these plays shaped by their historical moment, or even the materials of their production? Conversely, how might the plays have shaped the political, literary, and theatrical conditions of the period? This course begins with the analysis of a selection of plays Shakespeare produced in 1599, by all accounts a remarkable year in the life of the dramatist and in Elizabethan England. From there, students turn to a play and year of their own choosing, the analysis of which forms the basis of an independent project. Strategies for research and critical thinking are developed through the study of both dramatic and non-dramatic texts, and in situating work among competing theories of literary historicism. **Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English**

**SSI1 196 Northwest Urbanism** This freshman seminar, configured as the gateway course to an LLC (Living Learning Community), is designed for students who are interested in cities and fascinated by urban life. Working collaboratively on a singular thematic project that changes each semester, students will have ample opportunities to find their footing in the scholarship and research pertinent to urban planning and urban life; students will master a multifaceted set of research tools and deploy those tools in multiple field-based exercises; students will learn how scholarly and academic work can be applied in the resolution of real world problems and policy-making conundrums; and students will hear from a variety of experts and practitioners at work here in the Pacific Northwest, thereby building the initial components of a professional network. Along the way, students will improve their writing skills, their capabilities with photography, their presentation styles, and their capacities to confidently conduct independent, field-based research and carry significant projects to the finish line. **Affiliated with Sociology and Anthropology**

**SSI2 103 Understanding Brain Function** How does the typical human brain function, and why do some brains function differently? Students will examine brain functioning through a discussion of four different types of neurological variation: Tourette’s syndrome, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, Autism, and Alzheimer’s disease. We will examine each condition from a variety of viewpoints: those of scientists, clinical neurologists, novelists, and from the perspective of the affected individuals and families themselves. The primary sources will include first-hand accounts, movies and documentaries, novels, and popular science articles. As the class engages in this discussion, students will look at their assumptions of what it means to think, feel, and know. By turning our gaze to the views of those whose brains differ from what is considered neurotypical, students will better understand how brains shape our identities and experiences. **Affiliated with Biology and Neuroscience**

**SSI2 104 Travel Writing and The Other** The course focus is “Travel Writing & the Other.” Because the field of travel writing is so extensive, students hone in on a smaller slice of the topic: the relations between dominant and dominated peoples that originated during the colonial expansion of Europe. The theoretical frameworks students engage in in the early part of the term draw on this encounter and are the shared foundation for the semester. As the semester progresses, students develop independent topics and projects that lie within the orbit of the larger topic. **Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English**
**SSI2 114 Humans, Nature, and the Environment**  We are living in a time of increasing technology and consumption with increasingly fewer resources. Industrialized and urbanized societies worldwide have become detached from nature. Some argue that we need to lean into technology and scientific advancement to solve these problems, while others argue that we need to step back and reconnect with ourselves and nature. Students will examine both of these strategies in this class through readings, in-class discussions, hands-on activities, and writing assignments that culminate in a major research project. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Biology

**SSI2 117 Coming Out! The Gay Liberation Movement**  In 1960, homosexuality was considered a mental illness and sex between men (and sometimes between women) was a crime in every state. A 1967 CBS News poll found that 2/3rds of Americans said they reacted to homosexuality with “disgust, discomfort, or fear.” In these days of marriage equality, it can be difficult to understand the challenges lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people faced in attempting to improve their lives. This course examines the gay liberation movement beginning with the Stonewall riots of June 1969. To understand what the riots meant, students will simulate a meeting just after Stonewall, playing the parts of people from various factions seeking to work together to improve the lives of LGBT people. Students will use the early class information and experiences to discover their own area of research interest related to the gay liberation movement. Students will consider the nature of LGBTQ history in the mid-20th century and what this history suggests for our current society. The class requires the use of primary documents found in the Archive of Sexuality and Gender and other sources to create a research paper addressing an important question related to gay liberation. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Education and Gender and Queer Studies

**SSI2 119 Foodways: Human Appetites**  This class supports students as they learn to develop an independently researched paper with multiple sources. Our topic is Food and Food Writing, and we will address a number of critical food issues, e.g. food colonization; genetically modified foods; the marketing of products; food excess, scarcity, and waste; gender and food; food blogging and cookbooks; globalization and localism; the travels of products and their socio-political role in human history; hybridity and appropriation of cuisines, etc. Students will each select a topic of interest to further delve into for their final researched, thesis-based paper. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English

**SSI2 121 American Songs**  A song is a historical and cultural document that makes a kind of argument (although what the argument may be is often up for interpretation). Many songs bring together music and text in surprising ways. A performance adds yet another interpretive layer. This course includes three kinds of American songs: spirituals, art songs, and popular songs. Students consider the historical contexts for songs, texts, and performances; how words and music work together (or don’t); how a song changes from one version to another; and what songs can mean to different listeners (including themselves). **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with School of Music

**SSI2 123 The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence**  Are humans the only sentient beings in the universe? What is the likelihood that others exist in the cosmos? Can they visit or communicate with earth? Where are they? This seminar examines the last fifty years of the scientific search for intelligent life off the earth. The occurrence of intelligence on a planet depends on astrophysical, biological, and environmental factors. Students investigate these factors and attempt to estimate the number of civilizations within the galaxy. The seminar also examines the view that humans are truly the only intelligent life in the galaxy based on the lack of extraterrestrial artifacts within the solar system. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Physics

**SSI2 125 Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo: Lives of Art and Politics**  During the first half of the 20th century, Diego Rivera was known as Mexico’s most famous and influential living artist, and Frida Kahlo was known mostly as his wife. Soon after their deaths in the mid-20th century, Kahlo became known as Mexico’s most famous and influential artist, and Rivera was known mostly as her husband. This first-year seminar examines Mexico’s most famous modern couple and their changing critical fortunes at three levels: biographical, artistic, and political. The questions we ask and the answers we pursue will be informed by the disciplines of history, art history and the interdisciplinary endeavor of the humanities. Questions include: Who were these two individuals, and how were their lives as a couple shaped by socially constructed gender roles? What was the nature of their distinct artistic production, and how was the work of each shaped by gender and by the work of the other? How did they participate in the politics and the cultural movements following the 1910 Mexican Revolution, and how did “the revolution” shape their lives, art, and political roles? And finally, why did the life and art of Kahlo overshadow that of her husband after their deaths? The final project is a substantive scholarly paper based on independent research. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with History and Latin American Studies

**SSI2 127 Hip Hop Philosophy**  A central element of Hip Hop is the cypher. In the cypher, Hip Hop practitioners form a circle. Taking turns, each participant steps into the middle and shares their diverse knowledge, skills, and styles. This course works to put Hip Hop Studies, Hip Hop music and culture, Hip Hop Theatre, as well as the knowledge we create in the classroom into an intellectual cypher. Central to the course is the comparative analysis of the ways Hip Hop’s rhymes and reasons produce philosophical thought concerning ways of being in the World. As a class, we will interrogate a narrow archive of Hip Hop lyrics, scholarship from Hip Hop Studies, and Hip Hop Theater texts in order uncover how they work with and against each other as we work to achieve the Seminar in Scholarly Inquiry 2 learning objectives. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Theatre Arts

**SSI2 129 Religion on the Border: Boundaries of Religion and Politics**  In this course students will examine the entanglement of religious and political borders in three border regions: Kashmir, Northwest China, and The United States. Our aim with each of these cases is to consider the multiple ways that religious difference intersects with political boundaries and borders in the modern era. We will ask questions like: Do political borders fall along religious lines? How do political borders foster or exacerbate tensions between people of different religions? Can religion provide an avenue through which political borders are crossed or challenged? These are the questions we will consider as we investigate the presents and pasts of religious difference and political boundary drawing in these diverse parts of the globe. **Prerequisite:** SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society
SSI2 130  Personal Finance  This course is designed to introduce students to the elements of critical reading, argumentation, and speaking and writing that are essential to successful college-level work. Students study topics in personal finance and must be able to develop independent opinions about the often-subtle controversies that exist in academic disciplines. Graduating from college, young adults often find themselves not understanding basic concepts surrounding personal financial management from filing taxes, taking on too much or too little debt, to saving and investing, to name just a few. This course introduces students to contemporary scholarship in finance and asks them to apply aspects of that research to select topics in personal finance. The ever-changing financial markets landscape can make it seem like an enigma for anyone without business background. Should I take a student loan or open a credit card? Should I rent or buy an apartment? Should I invest or deposit my savings? What is an IRA? What is a Roth IRA? Which one is a better fit for me? Does it really matter if I buy that $5 coffee every day? In this course, students will develop understanding of financial concepts applied to everyday life as well as explore the complexities of composing arguments. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

SSI2 131  Social Justice and Radical Politics in Early 20th-Century America  This course takes students to the beginning of the modern era when urbanization, industrialization, and massive waves of immigration were transforming the U.S. way of life. In 1913, suffragists were taking to the streets demanding a constitutional amendment for the vote: What, they ask, is women’s place in society? At the same time, the Labor movement turned to the strike to demand living wages and better conditions. Is corporate capitalism compatible with an economically just society or must it be overturned? Members of these groups converged in Greenwich Village with the artists and bohemians who were discussing how to remake America for the modern age, as well as with African-Americans who were continuing to suffer from disenfranchisement. Their debates about suffrage and labor thus intermingled with other concerns about gender roles, sex and birth control, racial segregation, and art as America entered the twentieth century. As part of exploring these issues, students will participate in a role-playing simulation in which they must decide: Which social changes are most important, and how does one achieve one’s goals? After the exercise, students will embark on a research project exploring an issue of their own choosing arising from their study of this crucial period in American history. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Greek, Latin, Ancient Med Stdy

SSI2 136  Suburbia: Dream or Nightmare?  This course builds explicitly on skills students develop in SSI 1 by requiring them to produce an extended piece (12-15 pages) of independent writing. The course first offers an introduction to the history of U.S. suburbanization, especially the post-WWII rise of the suburban ideal, during which students familiarize themselves with the existing critical conversations regarding the causes and implications of our love affair with suburban living. The majority of the course is then spent on the sequential, guided development of individual research projects, with an emphasis on the essential processes of scholarly research: posing a research question, performing research, drafting, refining, and revising. The course divides the research process into a series of shorter assignments, and emphasizes the recursive and collaborative elements of successful writing. Students will also be asked to present their work orally at several stages, and to reflect on both the product and process of their work in the course. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English

SSI2 145  Exploring Gender Issues in Business  This course is designed to introduce students to critical reading, argumentation, speaking, and writing, all essential elements for effective college-level work. To succeed in college, students must be able to find, summarize, analyze, and synthesize information from various types of texts. They must be able to develop independent opinions about the many controversies that exist in academic disciplines, and be able to refine and organize original ideas to argue persuasively about these controversies. And, students must be able to understand and use the range of rhetorical, grammatical, and stylistic options available, so that they can communicate orally and in writing in ways that are appropriate to different audiences. This course seeks to develop the skills above by focusing on understanding the range and complexity of gender issues faced by individuals and organizations in the context of a global marketplace. The course examines best practices that individuals and organizations can implement to facilitate the achievement of personal and professional goals while achieving organizational goals. The course explores how gender issues are manifested in organizational areas, such as management, leadership, marketing, and entrepreneurship. Finally, the course examines the impact of intersections of gender with other characteristics such as age, race/ethnicity, and income. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

SSI2 147  The Law in America  The focus of this course is on the development and application of laws in America, with the United States Constitution and the Supreme Court as constant guides. Be clear that this is not a “Constitutional Law” offering, but rather a jurisprudence course; that means we look at “the law’s” evolution from three different perspectives: moral, ethical, and legal. Simply put, though certainly not simple to achieve, we seek to understand “how” our country was before historically significant Supreme Court cases and “where” we are after. A pragmatic reality is that if you want to know where you are likely going, you need to understand how you got where you currently stand. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

SSI2 148  Medical Narratives  This class focuses on narratives we create about illnesses and what those narratives reveal about our discourse of the body: who has authority to speak about an illness, disease, or condition? Why and for what reasons? What kinds of narratives people construct when they write or speak about an illness or disease? Why do they construct these texts and what are the effects of such narratives on how we understand medicine, patients, and medical professionals? Students examine these sources in order to discuss the implications of these narratives both at an individual and personal level, and more broadly in terms of the global, political, cultural, and social implications. Assigned readings come from a variety of authors, including academics, journalists, medical professionals, and patients, and may include a range of media types (original medical reports, popular news articles, autobiographical memoirs or plays, radio programs, TV shows, and film excerpts). Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English

SSI2 149  Creationism vs. Evolution in the U.S.  This course examines the historical context of “teaching evolution” trials in the U.S. as a window into debates over the place of science and religion in American life. Starting with the famous Scopes “Monkey” trial of 1925 as an illustrative case study, students learn how to analyze the complex factors in such debates. Students complete an extensive research project on one of various subsequent trials or debates on teaching evolution. Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society
SSI 151  The Natural History of Dinosaurs  Through a variety of readings, in-class discussion, and writing assignments that culminate in a major research project, students increase their ability to develop effective oral and written arguments and become familiar with concepts and practices of information literacy. The course topic focuses on dinosaurs, and students gain an understanding of the history, perception, and practice of paleontology. Students learn about evolutionary relationships over geologic timescales, and the intersection between geological and biological sciences. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with Geology

SSI 156  Justice, Arts, and Incarceration  This class develops research, writing, and oral presentation skills while investigating the theory and practice of arts-based justice work with incarcerated people. Class reading and examples focus on theatre and prisons, including but not limited to plays made from the narratives of incarcerated or formerly incarcerated people and prison performance programs. While class case studies focus on theatre, students will have the option to research any type of arts and education program carried out with incarcerated people for their final project. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with Theatre Arts

SSI 157  Chinese Painting in the West  This seminar deals with how Chinese painting, one of the unique art traditions in the world, was dramatically exposed to the West at the turn of the twentieth century. This course also explores how market demand, public interest, and academic inquiry contributed to making Chinese painting an inseparable cultural element in the shaping of modern Western society. The course format includes slide lectures, a museum visit, reading assignments, group discussions, and an individual research project. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with Art and Art History and Asian Studies

SSI 158  The Digital Age and Its Discontents  The topic of this course can be boiled down to an observation and a question: advances in digital technology are transforming the way we read, write, communicate, and even, according to some scholars and scientists, think; what are the consequences of these transformations? As part of a generation of “digital natives,” university students and their peers are at times the objects of study, the evidence for various arguments, and the authority on digital technology. The goal for this course is for students to finish the semester with greater insight into the complexities of how technology shapes their lives. Students leave the course as savvy readers, thinkers, and writers, with the ability to transfer the skills they have developed for understanding this area of academic argument to any number of important social and academic debates. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with Art and Art History and Asian Studies

SSI 160  Modernist Literature  In this course, students examine key authors in the Modernist movement. Focusing on the most important figures, such as Woolf, Eliot, Stein, H.D. and Hemingway, students trace the development of a style that pushed the boundaries of all of the arts as it attempted to understand a radically changing world. To frame this investigation, students become fluent in their ability to distinguish between the multiple movements within Modernism as a whole—Imagism, Cubism, Surrealism, the Harlem Renaissance, Bauhaus—and will even try their hand at some of these creative techniques. Students ponder their dreams with Freud, sing off-key with Stravinsky, turn the world into geometry with Picasso, and figure out why Frank Lloyd Wright could stick a house on top of a waterfall. While introducing students to this broad view of the period, however, the course asks, above all, that students deeply investigate the writers of this period. The course aims to ignite the imagination while demanding critical thinking and expert writing. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with English

SSI 162  Mary and Aisha: Feminism and Religion  Does religion oppress women? Might it empower women? Might it do both? This course asks all these questions. It focuses on two central women in Islam and Christianity: Mary and Aisha, both in Islam and Christianity. By looking at how these women have been represented, and reimagined, students better understand these two religious traditions in their historical contexts. Then students will look at how feminist thinkers in these traditions look to these two figures in order to re-imagine women into a patriarchal past and to re-think roles of women in the future. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with Gender and Queer Studies and Religion, Spirit., & Society

SSI 166  This Land Is Whose Land? Contested Territories in Modern Times  The University of Puget Sound sits on land once belonging to the Puyallup and Coast Salish people. As institutions begin to acknowledge and wrestle with the brutal colonial history of the world’s largest settler-states, it is easy to lose sight of the fact that struggles over land and sovereignty are hardly in the past. From Ammon Bundy and the Malheur Wildlife Refuge in Oregon to the Seattle Capitol Hill Autonomous Zone, to land reform in Brazil, to the Indian state of Kashmir, people are making (and contesting) claims to land—the right to be, in a place—over all the world, every single day. This class will examine modern struggles over land and territory, in the US, the Middle East, Latin America, and your own home town. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with International Political Econ

SSI 167  The Russian Revolution  This course builds on skills developed in SSI 1 by leading students through the process of researching and writing an extended piece of scholarly writing. The first part of the course is devoted to close examination of the Russian Revolution, a defining event of the twentieth century. In this section of the course, students examine the Tsarist old regime, the revolutionary movements that challenged it, the dramatic events of the 1917 revolutions, and the Civil War and new revolutionary order that followed. This historical work provides opportunities for selecting and evaluating sources, formulating questions, and presenting work in written and spoken form. The course then focuses on the different stages of undertaking an independent research project, including posing a research question, selecting sources, compiling research materials, drafting, revising, and executing a research presentation. Prerequisite: SSI 2 enrollment requires completion of SSI 1 seminar. Affiliated with History

SSI 168  Zen Insights and Oversights  While Zen is perhaps the most well known form of Buddhism outside of Asia, it may also be the least understood. This course studies Zen in its Asian contexts, examining the emergence of Chan/Zen within Buddhist history, the interplay between Zen, aesthetics, and philosophy, and the relation between Zen and such developments as nationalism and social discrimination. The course aims to avoid a romantic study of Zen and to develop instead a balanced understanding, exploring the insights as well as oversights that have appeared within the Zen tradition. As the second course in the first year seminar series, a major part of this course is geared towards developing academic independence by guiding students through the
process of writing a major research paper in which they advance an academic argument related to some aspect of Buddhism. Prerequisite: SSII enrollment requires completion of SSII seminar. Affiliated with Asian Studies and Religion, Spirit., & Society

SSII 176 American Autobiography The urge to tell one’s life story has a long and illustrious history in American literature. Benjamin Franklin wrote one of the first American autobiographies, a life story and at the same time a blueprint for Franklin’s vision of a new kind of person—an American. Frederick Douglass’s devastating first-person slave narrative worked to establish the humanity of African-Americans and attacked the system of chattel slavery. These masters of the genre used their personal stories for varied rhetorical aims. In the process, each helped create a distinctly American literary genre: biography of self-as-nation and slave narrative. Over the course of this seminar, students read and research American autobiographies, addressing a set of linked questions: What is autobiography? Why have Americans chosen to write it? How have its rhetorical functions in American life altered over time? What does it mean to be an American, and how are American autobiographies shapers of and shaped by this notion? The varied conclusions students reach help them achieve a clearer understanding of both the uses of literature and the complexities of American identity. Prerequisite: SSII enrollment requires completion of SSII seminar. Affiliated with English

SSII 177 The Digital Present and Our Possible Techno Futures This course is designed to explore the wildly ramified effects digital technology is having on people’s intellectual, educational, social, professional, and economic lives. Students will be introduced to a number of arguments about the nature and consequences of some of the changes digital technology is fostering; however, each student is asked to pose his or her own scholarly question within this broad field of inquiry. These questions, and the research they inspire and require, will shape the true content of the course. Students leave this course with new and important information about the potential futures made possible by digital technology. More importantly, however, they leave this course with information literacy, research practices and habits, analytical and argumentative strategies, and rhetorical skills they use across the Puget Sound curriculum and throughout their intellectual lives. Prerequisite: SSII enrollment requires completion of SSII seminar. Affiliated with English

SSII 178 George Gershwin George Gershwin (1898-1937) composed works such as Rhapsody in Blue and An American in Paris that draw audiences to orchestra concerts around the world. His songs, including "Fascinating Rhythm" and "They Can't Take That Away from Me" are favorites of singers, jazz musicians, and casual whistlers alike. He straddled the divide between classical and popular music like no one before him. He also blazed a trail as the first American composer who could be called a celebrity: his rags-to-riches story, friendships with movie stars, glamorous bachelor lifestyle, and shocking death from a brain tumor before age 40 have all contributed to a fascination with Gershwin that goes well beyond rhythm. In this first-year seminar, students explore Gershwin from various angles: as a celebrity, a songwriter, and a target of criticism. By finding and looking at primary and secondary sources, listening closely to music, and considering the social and cultural contexts in which Gershwin lived (and in which his music and memory live on), students will gain insights about music, history, biography, and culture, while also continuing to develop as researchers, communicators, and critical thinkers. Prerequisite: SSII enrollment requires completion of SSII seminar. Affiliated with School of Music

SSII 179 A Russian Mystery: Casting Shadows, Casting Light In this seminar students are led through the stages of the research process beginning with popular concepts and sources through increasingly more sophisticated primary and secondary sources as they journey more deeply into the course subject: the Butakov Papers. Over a hundred years old, these documents form a mosaic of images and texts that tell an extraordinary story of privilege, courage, tragedy and loss. They include field diaries, letters, passports, birth, death, marriage certificates, news articles, as well as many pictures. The story of their provenance begins and ends with a mystery: how did these documents travel from St.Petersburg, Russia, to Spokane, Washington, finally be found in a cardboard box in a storage unit north of Seattle? What stories does this journey tell? Students discover facts and put them together in an order that yields the deepest and most logical thesis. Where there are missing facts, students discover ways to use secondary sources to fill in the contexts. Where there are blank spaces, students collaborate on ways to imagine linkages that suggest the deepest and most meaningful interpretations. In other words, out of these recovered facts, students create a life story set against a backdrop of one of the most astonishing periods in modern history. Prerequisite: SSII enrollment requires completion of SSII seminar. Affiliated with English

SSII 180 The French Revolution The tumult of the French Revolution animates this SSII seminar and provides students with ample material for developing writing and research skills. Several writing projects allow students to hone their abilities to construct a convincing argument as they learn about both the historical and philosophical underpinnings of the fall of the French monarchy. The course begins by addressing the social structure of pre-revolutionary France and the events and ideas that led to its upheaval. Significant time is spent analyzing the details of the revolutionary years and the formation of a new government. The course closes with a study of the period from the Terror to the rise of Napoleon. Students must be willing to actively participate in a role-playing academic game which makes up a significant portion of the class sessions. Class is taught in English. Prerequisite: SSII enrollment requires completion of SSII seminar. Affiliated with French Studies

SSII 182 Against Equality? The Marriage Equality Movement and its Queer Critics This course explores the legal findings and social changes that allowed marriage rights to be extended to all couples, and the critiques of the marriage equality movement that came, not from social conservatives outside of the LGBTQ community, but from the most progressive camps within that community. This course will examine how queer critiques of marriage equality can help students understand the institution of marriage more fully, especially in terms of what personal and social benefits marriage is intended to confer. By mid-semester, students will develop a research question addressing the evolution of marriage as an institution and/or legal and social progress toward LGBTQ rights in the US. Students pursue of answers to their research questions will structure the second half of the semester, which will culminate in 10- to 12-page researched argument essays. Prerequisite: SSII enrollment requires completion of SSII seminar. Affiliated with English and Gender and Queer Studies

SSII 185 Queer Case Files: Gender and Sexual Deviance in Postwar America This class explores the case files of the George W. Henry Foundation (1948-1971), a New York-based counseling agency that provided services to persons who “for reasons of sexual deviation were in trouble with themselves or with the law.” The years of its service — just after World War II through the beginning years of the Gay
The Core Curriculum

SSI2 196 Postmodernism and the Challenge of Belief  This course studies the philosophical, historical, and aesthetic underpinnings of the late twentieth-century zeitgeist known as postmodernism, the assumptions of which continue to govern much of how we think today, especially in the academy. While many of the ideas central to postmodernism are many centuries old, their significance with respect to matters of belief (whether ethical, epistemological, or religious) has never before been so fully realized. The nature of subjectivity, truth, reality, morality, and knowledge itself have all been radically ‘problematized’. Without recourse to claims of truth, or moral systems, how do we distinguish right from wrong? How do we adjudicate conflicts in a world in which all values are equally contingent? How do we convince others of the validity of our positions, and is it even ethical to do so? The course explores the origins of postmodernism; the social, moral, and philosophical consequences of its core assumptions; its benefits and limitations in addressing real world concerns; and how it is itself a system of belief with a worldview no less totalizing and morally rigorous than the religious and Enlightenment precursors it sought to displace.  Prerequisite: SSI2 enrollment requires completion of SSI1 seminar. Affiliated with English

SSI2 197 Race, Gender, and Poverty in the Economy  This course investigates the underlying causes of discrimination and inequality and the resulting experiences of these groups to provide a thorough understanding of the economic constraints facing diverse groups in the economy. This course introduces students to the analytical approaches used by economists to critically assess the causes and consequences of gender and racial differences through the examination of data and research that provides evidence for disparities and inequities in earnings, labor force participation, occupational choice and the division of labor within the home. In this course, students develop their own research questions and find data and evidence to support these claims in the process of writing an academic research paper. Affiliated with Economics

Connections

Purpose

The purpose of this core area is for students to develop an understanding of the interrelationship of fields of knowledge. The Connections core course is normally taken after completion of all other university core requirements, in the junior or senior year, and must be taken at Puget Sound.

AFAM 346 African Americans and American Law  This course explores the relationship between African Americans and American law, especially but not exclusively American constitutional law. The first part of the course examines important antebellum cases such as Scott v. Sanford (Dred Scott). The second part of the course traces two conflicting trajectories of legal decisions that emerged as the federal courts sought to determine whether and how the fourteenth amendment altered race relations in America. The final part of the course begins with the landmark Brown decision and then examines two important domains of American law: race, law, and American educational practices (e.g. desegregation, busing, affirmative action, school assignment policies) and race, law, and the workplace (e.g. employment discrimination, affirmative action). Affiliated with African American Studies and Communication Studies

AFAM 355 African American Women in American History  This course examines the distinct historical experience of African American women and explores the importance of race and of gender in the American past. Some of the topics considered include African American
women and slavery, free black women in antebellum America, African American women and reform, issues of the family in slavery and freedom, sexuality and reproductive issues, African American women and the world of work, African American women in the struggle for education, and African American women and organized politics. The exploration of values is an important component of the course. Readings emphasize the use of primary sources ranging from slave narratives to contemporary fiction. Affiliated with African American Studies and History

AFAM 360  The Art and Politics of the Civil Rights Era  This course employs an interdisciplinary approach to explore the history and expressive culture of the civil rights era. Emphasizing what historians call the “long civil rights movement,” the course explores earlier strategies of resistance, the civil rights and black power movements, and legacies of these movements. An interdisciplinary approach is particularly applicable for a course focused on the civil rights movement because the literature of racial protest and of the “black arts” was not simply parallel to the political upheavals. As Amiri Baraka put it in 1971, “Art is Politics.” Readings and assignments engage the complex, sometimes contradictory, legal, political, literary, artistic, and musical responses of this charged historical period, and the intersecting struggles over knowledge, power, and identity. Affiliated with African American Studies and History

AFAM 375  The Harlem Renaissance  This course examines the renaissance of African American literature, music, and visual art that, for the most part, emerges from Harlem, a cultural hub in the 1920s and 1930s. The course also approaches the literature, music, and visual art, as well as the social changes in Harlem, from different disciplinary perspectives, including literary criticism, cultural history, music criticism, art criticism, and aesthetic theory. Students explore social and aesthetic debates that arose during the Harlem Renaissance and connect these to parallel debates today. Students also make connections between and among different artists and thinkers of the period, including Langston Hughes, W.E.B. Du Bois, Zora Neale Hurston, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Jean Toomer, Jessie Redmon Fauset, Wallace Thurman, Claude McKay, Sargent Johnson, Romare Bearden, Cab Calloway, Bessie Smith, and Walter White. The course invites students to make connections between literature, visual art, and music from the period and between the Harlem Renaissance and their own ideas about art and society. Affiliated with African American Studies and English

AFAM 401  Narratives of Race  This course takes as its central object the idea of race. Race is understood as a social construct that designates relations of structural difference and disparity. How race is treated is a crucial issue in this course. It is in this question of ‘the how’ that the term narrative becomes salient. The term narrative intentionally focuses attention on the material practices through which we have come to define race as a social construct. This terminology, ‘narratives of race’ spotlights an interest in investigating the historical events and visual and verbal images employed in the linking, patterning, sequencing, and relaying our ways of knowing race and its social relations. Implicated in the construction of race is its production and deployment of the moral and intellectual values that our academic disciplines bear. In considering such values as part of the investigation, this course includes careful comparative analyses of the ways in which the disciplinary systems of ontology, epistemology, aesthetics, and politics are used in the making and remaking of the academic and social grammars of race. Thus the analysis necessarily includes an intertextualization of the several academic disciplines engaging the question of race. Affiliated with African American Studies

ALC 340  First Encounters: Japan and Europe in the 16th Century  The arrival of the first Portuguese trade ship in Japan in 1542 brought to Japan and some European countries a new and different Other that forced both sides to reevaluate their understanding of their own cultures. A wide range of texts produced during the first 100 years of that encounter document how both sides struggled to define the new cultures they found and place them in the context of their known worlds, even as those worlds were often changed by that process. Using a multidisciplinary approach, students will examine letters, maps, reports, religious treatises, legal documents, and literary accounts produced by European traders and missionaries on the one hand, and by Japanese officials, religious scholars and chroniclers on the other, to identify the discourses that these documents constructed of the Other during this period. They will analyze which voices dominated those discourses and which were silenced, what political, economic and religious factors influenced them, and what power those discourses exerted over relations between Japan and Europe. Finally, they will read two 20th-century Japanese fictional accounts of the period and watch an American film, and examine how those earlier discourses were employed in the analysis of contemporary issues and themes. Affiliated with Asian Languages and Cultures

ASIA 305  Heroes and Rebels: Martial Arts Culture in China and Beyond  Martial arts culture, an invented tradition still in the making, is a site where the cultural, political, and social intersect. At once national, diasporic, and transnational, it challenges and redefines established boundaries and collapses dualisms such as East vs. West and traditional vs. modern. It is therefore a promising entry point into discussions of cultural exchanges in the global context. From a transhistorical and cross-media perspective, this course engages multiple disciplinary approaches — including literary studies, film and media studies, history, religion, gender studies, and cultural studies — to examine the representations of martial arts culture in Chinese literature as well as in films from China and other East Asian countries. Through a close examination of 1) historical records and traditional short stories, 2) twentieth-century martial arts novels, and 3) martial arts and Kung Fu cinema, students will gain a historically informed understanding of the martial arts tradition and its cultural and political significance at different historical moments and in various locations. Students will also read selected scholarly works to enter the academic conversation on this topic. Affiliated with Asian Studies

ASIA 344  Asia in Motion  This course explores the interactions of Asian peoples’ the commodities, social practices, and ideas which they produce across borders, both political and imagined. The course crosses disciplinary borders, as well, drawing upon divergent materials from the humanities and social sciences in an attempt to do justice to a contemporary context that could be called ‘Asia in motion.’ An underlying thesis holds that, since nineteenth-century colonialism, nations in the ‘West’ and ‘Asia’ participate in a global, dialectical movement in which notions of identity (national, cultural, ethnic, religious, territorial, linguistic) shape moments of fluidity and fixity. Prerequisite: Two Asian Studies courses or permission of the instructor. Affiliated with Asian Studies and Politics and Government and Sociology and Anthropology

CONN 303  Art-Science: Inquiry into the Intersection of Art, Science, and Technology  This class explores how new trends and technologies in the fields of biological sciences and biotechnology influence emerging art and artists. The course looks at the world around us from differing perspectives, with the aid of technology, biological phenomena, and artistic eye. The class is designed for students of all disciplines, including the non-declared, with the goal to inspire...
students to think outside of the box, explore divergent and convergent thought, and seek out knowledge and inspiration from many different disciplines. Students are encouraged to collaborate with peers. Satisfies the Connections core requirement. Affiliated with Biology and Neuroscience

CONN 304  The Invention of Britishness: History and Literature  This course addresses the question what it means to be British through historical and literary texts. Beginning with the premise that Britishness is not innate, static or in any way permanent, but ‘invented’ and constantly constructed and deconstructed, this course traces the development of British national identity from its origins in the eighteenth century to the present. Students read both historical and literary works that elucidate the changing meaning of ‘Britishness’ as the state expanded and collided with its counterparts on the British Isles and its imperial holdings in other countries. The course examines the formation of ‘racial’ identities as they intersect with class and gender identities. Affiliated with English

CONN 307  Hooch: The Natural and Social Science of Liquor The art and science of distilling alcohol dates back to the fourth century BC. Today, making hooch is something that nearly every society has in common. Moonshine from Tennessee, mescal from Oaxaca, palinka from Hungary, airag from Mongolia, feni from India, cachaca from Brazil, sopi from Indonesia, the list goes on and on. While fermentation and distillation are nearly universal in human society, every flavor of hooch has its own botanical, chemical, cultural, economic, and political story to tell. This class takes a cross-disciplinary approach to the study of hooch, from yeast and plant to bottle to society. Students read scientific, historical, anthropological, and political economic texts, watch films, listen to music, and participate in experiential learning modules designed to teach the art and science of liquor production. Students leave the class with a clearer understanding the biology and chemistry behind their libations and how these drinks are both shaped and have helped shape the world we live in. Affiliated with Biology and International Political Econ

CONN 308  People and Portfolios This course contrasts how people should and how they do create portfolios. To explain how they should, the course covers applied modern portfolio theory, including mean-variance optimization and Monte Carlo simulation using Excel and Crystal Ball software. To address how they do, it covers cognitive and emotional behavioral biases, as well as behavioral portfolio theory, adaptive portfolio theory, bounded rationality, and prospect theory. Students may choose to focus either on institutional portfolios (like endowments and pension funds) or on individual portfolios (like 401(k)s). The course requires junior or senior standing and completion of the mathematical approaches core. Prerequisite: Junior or senior standing and completion of the Mathematical Approaches core. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

CONN 309  Applied Environmental Politics and Agenda Setting This course examines the politics underlying the societal decisions we make regarding the environment. It is more ambitious than a survey of environmental problems in the U.S. because problems do not speak for themselves. While environmental problems reflect certain empirical realities about our physical world, they come to our attention through human contests over values. Environmental problems are strategically defined, managed, promoted, and challenged by a complex array of social actors. The essential question for this course is: Why do some environmental problems rise on governmental agendas while other problems are neglected? Students in this course 1) develop enduring understandings of the politics affecting our societal environmental decisions; 2) cultivate analytical and research skills that reveal the values, incentives, and strategies of political actors affecting environmental policy; and 3) gain familiarity with a range of national and regional environmental problems. The content of this course is divided in half between the theory and application of environmental politics. The first half of the course grapples with theoretical questions central to environmental politics. It explores and critically assesses existing theoretical frameworks and concepts that attempt to explain the values that influence environmental decisions, the strategic selection and definition of the environmental problems we address as a society, and the identification of solutions to these problems. The second half of the course centers on an applied project concerning environmental politics in our region. Work on this project involves engaging environmental stakeholders and decision makers to develop a set of local case studies. Prerequisite: PG 101. Affiliated with Politics and Government

CONN 311  Interactive Fiction  Technological innovations over the past several decades have greatly increased our ability to tell stories in which the reader’s choices affect the narrative. These can range from text-based novels in electronic form that contain a couple of branching plot points, to episodes of television shows that require the viewer to select an option to advance the narrative, to sophisticated computer and video games featuring multiple alternative storylines. Historically, the term “interactive fiction” has tended to refer to computer-enabled stories that are text-based. This course focuses primarily on parser-based interactive fiction, in which the reader types commands indicating the action she wishes to perform. However, it also considers some choice-based works, in which the reader selects his action from a list of options. Students will learn some of the history of interactive fiction; read and analyze several works of interactive fiction; learn Inform 7, a programming language designed to create interactive fiction; and write their own works of interactive fiction using Inform 7. Affiliated with Mathematics & Computer Science

CONN 313  Biomimicry and Bioart Designers, engineers, and artists are beginning to use biologically inspired or biologically derived materials for solving a variety of world issues—from self-cooling buildings inspired by bees to sticky tape inspired by geckos to DNA origami. This has influenced a variety of fields such as architecture, technology, visual art and fashion design. This course provides a broad framework of such design principles in use and allows students to create their own biologically inspired designs. Affiliated with Biology

CONN 318  Crime and Punishment The U.S. has 2.3 million people in prison with glaring racial and class disparities. Why is this? Is there something distinctive about American culture and/or politics that produces these outcomes? Are we simply a more crime-prone people or a more punitive people who impose exceptionally harsh sanctions? This class will explore changing ideas of crime and punishment in the U.S. through philosophical, historical, religious and social scientific perspectives. Students will also look at the U.S in a comparative context, seeking to understand how different democratic political systems confront problems of crime and punishment. The class looks specifically at issues such as mental health in prison, the death penalty and restorative justice. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society

CONN 320  Health and Medicine Drawing from the biological, behavioral, and social sciences, as well as ethics and public policy, this course provides the opportunity to explore intrinsic and extrinsic factors that contribute to and detract from health and human performance. By applying concepts and critical thinking processes developed in this
course to personal lifestyle and political decisions, students are prepared to make more informed choices on emerging personal and policy issues related to health. The course emphasizes holistic approaches to understanding and preventing disease. Both allopathic and alternative interventions are explored. Major topics include defining health; therapeutic options including allopathic, complementary (e.g., homeopathy, Chinese medicine, etc.), and more experimental approaches (e.g., gene therapy); the central, somatic, and autonomic nervous systems; psychology; stress and stress management methods; approaches to prevention and treatment of conditions such as cancer and AIDS; issues in public policy and financing of mainstream and alternative healing approaches; ethical dilemmas such as informed consent, confidentiality, compliance, health care directives, allocation of resources, euthanasia, dying, grieving, and hospice. Affiliated with Psychology

CONN 322 Jihad, Islamism, and Colonial Legacies The emergence of Islamic fundamentalism and Islamist political thought in the twentieth century has garnered much media attention in the last few decades. This course examines how Islamic fundamentalism developed in the first half of the twentieth century in the wake of Western colonization and why it gained so much support during the second half of the century. The course develops in three stages: (1) historical background of Muslim confrontations with the West and the emergence of fundamentalism, (2) case studies of selected Muslim countries and regions, and finally (3) discussion of challenges and problems of fundamentalism in a pluralistic world. Similarly, the course examines the major intellectual figures of Islamist thought and its malcontents in the Middle East, the Indian Subcontinent, and the Muslim communities of Europe and the Americas. Examples include: Hassan al-Banna, Abu Ala Mawdudi, Sayyid Qutb, Ayatollah Khomeini, Usama bin Ladin, Ayman al-Zawahiri, Khaled Abou El Fadl, Sherman Jackson, among others. Islamist ideas of modernity and the revival of a traditionalist approach towards the life and sayings of the Prophet Muhammad is also discussed. Finally, students take a close look at the idea of jihad and discuss the implications of Sharia law for the twenty-first century. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society

CONN 325 The Experience of Prejudice This course uses the disciplinary lenses of psychology and literary studies to examine how the world looks and feels from the perspective of someone who is a member of an oppressed or negatively stereotyped group. The course provides an introduction to the assumptions, scientific methods, and forms of writing used by experimental social psychologists and to theories and research findings bearing on the experience of prejudice. Analysis of literary texts including poetry, fiction, and autobiography provide additional insights into the experience of prejudice. Integration and synthesis occurs by comparing and contrasting the two approaches, using psychology as a lens for analyzing literature, using literature as a source of ideas to inform psychology, and considering how insights gained from both approaches might be used together to create positive personal or social change. Affiliated with Psychology

CONN 330 Finding Germany: Memory, History, and Identity in Berlin Germans are still asking themselves the question: "What does it mean to be German?" Throughout its recent history, Germany has repeatedly turned to Berlin, its re-designated (and re-designed) capital, in an attempt to find its own identity. In this way, Berlin could be seen as a mirror of German affairs. Emphasizing the textual and visual histories of the city, this interdisciplinary course explores the effects of transition and upheaval on Berlin, highlighting the interconnectivity of history and memory discourses, topography, popular culture, the arts, politics, urban renewal, and multiculturalism. Discussions focus on Berlin’s ever-changing façade and constant self-reinvention and re-evaluation. Definitions of “metropolis” and close readings of the city as “textual space” will be covered within the framework of questions of modernity and post-modernity. The course meets on-campus during ten weeks of the spring semester, with individual consultations and preparation for Germany thereafter, and has a required study-abroad component that will take the class to Berlin for five weeks during summer to engage the course themes first-hand. No previous German-language experience or coursework is required. Course taught in English. Affiliated with German Studies

CONN 333 Nations and Nationalism in Modern Europe This course examines the rise of nationalism in continental Europe from 1789 to 1918, a period beginning with the French Revolution and ending with World War One. Drawing on interdisciplinary scholarship, the course explores a period when modern nationalism emerged as a coherent way of seeing the world and then emerged as the principle ideology for organizing states and societies in Europe. Primary focus is on highly interrelated nation-building projects in five parts of Europe: France, Germany, Hapsburg Austria, Poland, and Russia. Seminar discussions draw on major theoretical works on nationalism as well as primary source texts like speeches, literary works, memoirs and diaries written by Europeans who embraced or struggled with national identity. Affiliated with History

CONN 334 Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa and Beyond This course uses South Africa’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission (established in 1995) as a starting point for considering questions around historical trauma, transitional justice and the production of knowledge. Students analyze the TRC in terms of South African history and identity, examining ways in which it both replicated and sought to remake relationships of power within that country, and also explore points of comparison with TRCs in other countries. As a Connections core course, the course introduces students to a variety of disciplinary perspectives. Students consider the TRC as a self-conscious (re)writing of history, as a political strategy for nation-building, as a psychological treatment for trauma, as the creation of a body of narratives, and as a religious/spiritual exercise. As a KNOW course, the course requires students to think about how issues of identity and positioning impacted the engagement of various South Africans with the TRC and to reflect on how their own positionality shapes their understanding of truth and reconciliation, both in South Africa and elsewhere, including the United States. Affiliated with History

CONN 335 Race and Multiculturalism in the American Context The objective of this course is to cultivate an appreciation of the intersection of a sociological and historical approach to understanding the complexity and dynamics of race relations and multiculturalism in the American context. Using scholarly resources from these two distinct disciplinary traditions, the course provides students with a comparative and critical appreciation of the development of race relations in the United States. In examining the concrete historical developments and sociological patterns in race/ethnic relations, the course enables student to develop a more nuanced and comprehensive appreciation of a multidisciplinary approach to the study of race relations and multiculturalism. Through such an integrated approach, students better recognize and understand the unfolding of relations among different racial/ethnic groups; better appreciate current conflicts; and explore the significance of ethnic membership in shaping our social world. Affiliated with Sociology and Anthropology

CONN 340 Gender and Communication Using gender as the primary focus, this course engages students in critical analysis of
the ways in which symbol systems in their cultural contexts function to create subjective spaces (e.g. assign specific roles) for particular groups of people. Students learn how communication practices shape the ways gender is viewed, how these practices constrain or promote resistance, and how individuals and groups negotiate their subjective spaces and ‘genderized’ practices. Students study the role of imagery and language in constructing gendered identities, the social construction of culturally defined categories such as masculinity and femininity, the gendered body, and contemporary trends of theories on gender to examine gender across race, class, nation, and empire. Additionally, students make connections between their everyday lives, their specific disciplinary backgrounds, and the course materials. Affiliated with Communication Studies

CONN 344 Magic and Religion This course in intellectual history draws upon history, religion, anthropology, and sociology in order to understand how the categories of ‘religion’ and ‘magic’ have been shaped by the Western, and largely Christian-influenced, tradition. ‘Magic’ and ‘religion’ arose out of the history of the West’s engagement with internal groups decried as ‘deviant,’ such as medieval ‘heretics,’ or Catholics in the Protestant imagination, and then, during colonialism, in response to other societies and cultures. The course draws upon a range of disciplines to examine how intellectual categories are dynamic, how they shaped over time, and how particular assumptions and viewpoints inform the creation of these categories. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit, & Society

CONN 345 Economics of Happiness This course explores the intersection of economics and happiness. It critiques several of the key assumptions in mainstream economic theory, in particular those involving how the production and acquisition of greater material goods affect well-being. The course taps the research in the burgeoning field of the economics of happiness, much of which counters traditional economic ideas. The course also draws on recent related findings in positive psychology and to a lesser degree in neuroscience, specifically the findings in neuroscience that relate to mindfulness and meditation. In addition, the course utilizes several metrics (such as the Genuine Progress Indicator and the Happy Planet Index) to assess the happiness and well-being of different countries; these measures are juxtaposed with the standard measure of economic well-being: Gross Domestic Product (GDP). One of the alternative measures to GDP, Bhutan’s Gross National Happiness, serves as a vehicle to further consider the implications of Buddhist wisdom for economics. While examining these alternative measures, students consider the implications for social policy regarding issues such as consumerism, inequality, ecological sustainability and work-family balance. Affiliated with Economics

CONN 350 Modeling Earth’s Climate In this course, students take on the challenge of quantitative modeling of Earth’s climate. This is done by employing high-level computer programming languages (such as Python) to build original computer codes, and by learning to manipulate existing codes (such as Global Climate Models). Modeling focuses on energy, winds, and carbon flows through the atmosphere, on a global scale. Students also acquire systems thinking skills that frame the nonlinear processes inherent to climate dynamics, especially feedbacks, time delays, and the notion of stocks and flows. These skills and insights are designed to provide students quantitative grounding for addressing climate change: its drivers, predictions, consequences, and mitigation. While computer programming skills are taught from the ground up, it is expected that students possess a baseline familiarity with scientific methods and algorithmic thinking as taught in foundational (100-level) college-level courses, as well as an enthusiasm for developing quantitative computational modeling. Prerequisite: Students must have completed 1) any college-level, laboratory-based science course, and 2) any college-level course in MATH or CSCI. Affiliated with Chemistry and Biochemistry

CONN 354 Hormones, Sex, Society, & Self Ways of identifying vary and are informed by both lived experience and aspects of biology. Our language around identity, gender identity in particular, has grown and evolved over time. Yet there remains a critical gap in understanding the contribution of biology and the biological sexes to this deeply personal psychosocial construct. There is, however, a growing body of literature that demonstrates that the sex of the brain itself (i.e. sex-typical patterns of neural organization), genetic sex (i.e. chromosomal sex), and phenotypic sex (i.e. how ones body develops and presents) can be disassociated from one another. That disassociation speaks to a biological reality that is not adequately (or often accurately) codified by the dominant social construct of gender. This course examines the intricacies and nuances of sexual differentiation with the goal of understanding this process from a multi-level view from which solid inferences can be made as to the biological underpinnings of certain aspects of gender and sexual identity formation variability. Prerequisite: BIOL 101 or 111. Affiliated with Psychology

CONN 357 Exploring Animal Minds In 2012, seven neuroscientists collaborated to write the Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness—effectively stating that many other species, including octopuses, have the same neurobiological mechanisms that are associated with conscious awareness in humans. This interdisciplinary course integrates perspectives and concepts from biology, psychology, and philosophy as well as ethics and law to further explore the nonhuman animal mind. Topics include what consciousness is and whether it has a physical home in the brain, why being conscious might be evolutionarily adaptive to species other than humans, specific tasks scientists have developed to assess consciousness in other species, as well as ethical, legal, and societal repercussions of deeming other species conscious. Students who have some background or interest in biology, neuroscience, and/or psychology may find this course particularly relevant. Prerequisite: Junior or Senior standing. Affiliated with Psychology

CONN 359 The United States in the 1960s This course explores the history of the United States during the “long 1960s.” Focusing especially on topics and themes in political, social, and cultural history, the course emphasizes the movements for change that challenged existing norms in arenas as varied as race relations, sexuality, gender, and foreign affairs, and engages the intersection of politics and art in these contests. Employing methods and sources from a range of disciplines, key themes in the course include the construction of cultural concepts of liberalism and conservatism, of gradualism and radicalism; the complications of alliance across racial, class and gender lines; Americans’ often conflicting views of themselves, of the responsibilities of citizenship, and of their role in the world; the complex role of the media in shaping those understandings; the complicated relationship between activism and the counterculture on the one hand, and between events at home and abroad on the other; the exposure of secrecy and abuse of power in the government and a corresponding growth of distrust among the citizenry; and generational conflict. This course counts as an upper-division elective in the History Major. Affiliated with History

CONN 385 The Science & Practice of Mindfulness The goal of this course is to provide an in-depth, accurate understanding of mindfulness, from both an academic and experiential perspective. The history of mindfulness is examined, including its roots in Buddhism, along
with the more recent integration of mindfulness practice in Western psychology. The course explores what mindfulness is, common misconceptions about mindfulness and mindfulness meditation, how mindfulness works, and also the qualities and virtues cultivated in mindfulness practice. Both through readings as well as applied practice, the course explores different forms of mindfulness meditation, from present-moment awareness in everyday life and activities, to formal sitting meditation, body awareness, walking meditation, loving-kindness meditation, and movement-based meditations including qigong. Throughout, the course is grounded in an exploration into the science and neuroscience of mindfulness, including research evidence on the effects of mindfulness practice and mindfulness-based interventions on the brain, immune system, physiological stress reactivity, and overall physical and psychological health. Along the way, the course addresses important questions about the self and the mind, through the lenses of philosophy, psychology, and contemporary neuroscience. These questions include: Is there such a thing as a self? Is there such a thing as a mind, which is separate from the brain? And if so, how are the mind and brain related? Affiliated with Psychology

**CONN 370 Rome: Sketchbooks and Space Studies** Rome Sketchbooks and Space Studies synthesizes studio art practices and art historical methodologies to explore representations of landscape and the social and aesthetic implications of select public spaces, culminating in a three-week study abroad experience centered in Rome, Italy. Experiential sketchbook exercises complement weekly reading assignments and more sustained independent research assignments. Additionally, this course explores connections between American landscape painting and public sites and historically significant sites in Italy. Connections 370 meets once a week during spring semester followed by a three-week intensive trip to Italy. Prerequisite: ARTS 101 and permission of instructor. Affiliated with Art and Art History

**CONN 372 The Gilded Age:** Literary Realisms and Historical Realities This course considers the connections between literature and history in (and beyond) the American era known as the Gilded Age, 1873-1889. Reading three popular novels of the time, William Dean Howell’s *The Rise of Silas Lapham*, Mark Twain’s *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur’s Court*, and L. Frank Baum’s *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, students gain an understanding of the American Realist tradition and will discuss how these literary texts both represent and reinvent what was ‘real’ about the Gilded Age. To gain an understanding of social developments and concerns beyond the literary, students read speeches, essays, and excerpts from longer works, rounding out this historical contextualization with contemporary essays and film relevant to our study. Ultimately, student in the course study the interplay between literary and historical subject matter and methodology in shaping a lasting and influential myth about the emergence of American might. Affiliated with Psychology

**CONN 375 The Art and Science of Color** Why do people see? What is color? How do people see? How do people think of and label color? These questions involve a highly interdisciplinary understanding of chemistry, physics, biology, studio art and art history. This class exposes students to the history of color and the understanding of color theory, i.e., the principles that define color contrast and interaction. Many interesting stories and cultural practices are associated with different colors. Students explore select, compelling narratives and cultural associations integral to the use and development of distinct pigments and colors. Students discover the relational nature of color and its role in evoking expressive content, communicating symbolically, and creating illusions of space and sensations of light. They discuss influential visual artists who have changed the way color is organized, opened up new perceptual possibilities, and experimented with new pigments and dyes. Students are initially exposed to the complex and beautiful steps (both chemically and physically) in the process of human vision, from initial light source to the signal in the brain. This fundamental background concerning the interactions of light and matter are continuously reflected upon as the history of color unfolds. The course explores subtractive and additive color systems through the history of pigments, dyes, and technologies that project light, such as modern day computer screens. Affiliated with Art and Art History

**CONN 377 Caesar in Vietnam:** PTSD in the Ancient World? This class takes a penetrating look at the burgeoning scholarly interest in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and its possible relevance to ancient combat in Greece and Rome. Extensive readings include selections from Homer’s *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, the tragedies *Aias* and *Herakles Mainomenos*, and Roman battle accounts. Students then look at how various of these works have been interpreted as proof of PTSD in the ancient world, most notably by psychologist Jonathan Shay, but also by an increasing number of classical scholars. Modern studies of the causes of PTSD, its definition, and how it is diagnosed provide theories of how combat causes traumatic injury. Along the way students engage with first hand accounts of combatants from multiple periods and battle zones. Each student then writes a research paper that explores a pre-industrial account of combat using the theoretical models from modern psychological and social scientific writing as well as modern comparanda. Students reach their own conclusions, but must argue with sophistication and demonstrate an awareness of the different types of evidence and the particular challenges posed by each source and approach. Is human reaction to trauma situational or inherent or a bit of both? Affiliated with Greek, Latin, Ancient Med Stdy

**CONN 379 Postcolonial Literature and Theory** This course examines the literature produced by and about Britain’s colonial spaces during the process of decolonization, from the late nineteenth-century to the present. It explores texts from Ireland, India, the Sudan, and Trinidad, as well as other former colonies and territories. Authors studied include Joseph Conrad, James Joyce, Tayeb Salih, Sam Selvon, Buchi Emecheta, Salman Rushdie, and Zadie Smith; theorists considered include Gayatri Spivak, Aijiz Ahmad, Homi Bhabha, John Boli, Benjamin Barber, and Lourdes Benera. This course understands the term postcolonial in its broadest sense, with its focus spanning texts written under colonialism that argue for decolonization to texts that address such properly postcolonial issues as neocolonialism and globalization. The study of fiction and postcolonial theory is complemented by readings drawing from political theory, sociology, gender studies, and economics. Course requirements include active participation, discussion leadership, a conference-style presentation, two short essays, and a final project. Affiliated with English

**CONN 387 Never-Never Land** Children are unique in American law as they are caught somewhere between adult and non-existent status. At least in theory the law is separate from individual moral beliefs or institutional ethical standards, but children blur such distinction. This course attempts to examine the evolution and future of children in the American legal system under legal, ethical, and moral perspectives, while likely recognizing that any pure compartmentalization is impossible. The course addresses issues such as when a ‘child’ exists, what rights may exist before birth, the allocation of power between the state and parents, children’s rights within educational frameworks, child abuse and neglect, medical treatment decisions for children, child custody, juvenile delinquency, and limitation on minors’ liberties. While
students focus on children, they find that these topics lead to broader issues such as social media and human trafficking. Case law is the primary analytic tool; students also use select readings from narrative, professional, and other sources as necessary to supplement content or structure. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

CONN 390  Black Business Leadership: Past and Present  Students in this cross-disciplinary course develop an understanding of both the historical and contemporary experiences of African-American business leaders in the United States. Black business leaders herein are defined as either entrepreneurs or as managers and executives working within for-profit enterprises. Students draw connections and contrasts between critical issues and decisions facing black business leaders past and present by analyzing the influence of racism and prejudice on the evolution of American black capitalism. Among the broader topics are black business intellectualism, business-government relations, gender and black enterprise, and celebrity-athlete entrepreneurship. Affiliated with School of Business & Leadership

CONN 393  The Cognitive Foundations of Morality and Religion  Cognitive science is the interdisciplinary study of the mind that exists at the intersection of philosophy, psychology, neuroscience, evolutionary biology, and anthropology among other fields. There are now burgeoning research programs devoted to developing accounts of the cognitive foundations of morality and religion. This is an upper level survey of some of the leading views from these fields. Topics to be covered may include: the role of emotions and reason in moral deliberation; the nature of our moral intuitions; whether the scientific study of the mind can help us decide between competing moral theories; whether cognitive scientific accounts of moral psychology show morality to be a sham; the elements of mind involved in the formation of religious belief; whether religion is a kind of evolutionary byproduct; whether religion is a part of human nature; and whether scientific accounts of the cognitive foundations of religion show religious beliefs to be irrational. Affiliated with Philosophy

CONN 395  China and Latin America: A New Era of Transpacific Relations  As a Connections course, this class examines the changing relations between China and Latin America using a full range of social-scientific and humanistic methods to understand the nature and stakes of this newest wave of transpacific relations. The course examines historical encounters between the regions, including the colonial, cold war, and contemporary, in order to interrogate both the changing meaning of China and Latin America and also the implications of these changes on the social, economic, and political relations between the two regions. By focusing on diverse spaces of encounter, including international organizations, state negotiations, popular cultural production, activism, social media, and business relations, the course materials highlight the diverse actors, institutions, and arenas shaping transregional politics. The course also explores a range of contemporary issues, such as extractivism and energy, ilicit economies, new forms of entrepreneurism, food security, shifting diasporic identity, and state politics, to highlight the dynamics that form the ground for debate, controversy, and collaboration between the two regions. Some background in Asian or Latin American Studies is recommended, but not required. Affiliated with International Political Econ and Latin American Studies and Sociology and Anthropology

CONN 397  Migration and the Global City  This course explores the political, cultural, historical, and social footprint of urban life in the contemporary era of unprecedented mobility. Students explore scholarly frameworks used to understand contemporary migration and mobility, and the foundational scholarship that shapes our conceptualization of urban space and the urban landscape. Putting theories regarding state formation of immigration regimes into conversation with the lived experience of migrants in the urban landscape provides a multidimensional vantage point on the patterns and consequences of migration. After students develop these theoretical foundations, they deploy these new perspectives in field excursions in the Puget Sound region, framed by a series of series of lecture/discussions and encounters with a number of experts, specialists, and practitioners concerned with Tacoma. Lectures, guest speakers, and field excursions focus on the city's history of migration, the legal framework governing contemporary admissibility, the lived experience of foreigners' place-making in the city, the interactions between migration flows and the built landscape of the city, and the cultural web through which the foreign presence is framed. These themes are then carried abroad: At the conclusion of the semester, students depart on a faculty-led trip to cities in Europe and the Middle East, and work closely with faculty to conduct independent research projects that conclude the course. Affiliated with Politics and Government and Sociology and Anthropology

CONN 410  Science and Economics of Climate Change  This interdisciplinary Connections course draws together atmospheric science and economics to explore the climate change problem. Students address this overarching question: How do science and economics inform and direct climate change policy? To answer this question, students begin the course by working with climate data to see firsthand evidence of climate change. As students gain competence with data manipulation, they apply those skills to economic models and concepts. No prerequisites are required but ECON 170 is recommended. This course satisfies the policy elective requirement for the Environmental Policy and Decision Making program. Affiliated with Economics

CONN 420  The American Progressive Ideal  In 1872, Prussian-born and longtime Brooklyn resident John Gast painted “American Progress,” an artistic rendering of Americans’ dominant-cultural belief that they were destined to expand throughout the continent. In the painting, Columbia, an angelic female figure betokening Anglo-American “civilization,” drives benighted forces of “savagery” into oblivion and ushers in their replacements, those 19th-century emblems of progress, the telegraph wire, the locomotive, the farmer, the schoolbook. The technologies and the agrarian ideal may strike us today as quaint, but we may not question the nature or inevitability of American progress. Through the pairing of English Studies and Political Theory this Connections course identifies and interrogates an American narrative of progress beholden to the biological, political, economic, and sociological philosophies of mid-19th- to early 20th-century Europe. Within a capitalist and “socially Darwinistic” system, what is progress? Who progresses and how? What does it mean to be “progressive”? The critical and creative engagement with such questions about the mid-19th to early 20th-century U.S. equips students to examine inherited notions of American progress that are regularly invoked in American politics and culture today. From these various perspectives (primarily literary and philosophical, but also biological, historical, and sociological), students will develop an understanding of the development of an idea—progress—as an American political value. “Connections days” are discussion-oriented classes specifically devoted to cross-disciplinary dialogue so that students and faculty alike can interrogate these myriad perspectives. Finally, student writing assignments are devised to help students learn to work with textual materials and to situate and problematize this narrative in contemporary American discourse. Affiliated with Politics and Government
ENVR 325 Geological and Environmental Catastrophes This course is a survey of natural and human-influenced geological "catastrophes," and focuses primarily on four hazards that are relevant to the Puget Sound region: (1) volcanic eruptions, (2) earthquakes, (3) floods, (4) landslides. It examines the relationship of science and other fields, including economics and politics, in the development of policy to help us cope with potential catastrophes. The course reviews some of the scientific literature bearing on each disaster, discusses points of controversy with the scientific community, and considers ways in which our society - primarily government - uses this information to develop hazard mitigation strategies and regulations. Each unit concludes with analysis and discussion of one or more case studies. Affiliated with Environ Policy & Decision Mkg and Geology

ENVR 330 Water and Wild Nature This course examines the effects of water use, dams, and habitat on salmon in the Columbia basin through multi-disciplinary perspectives including art, history, policy, and ecology. Water and Wild Nature in the Columbia Basin begins in the summer. A series of readings will prepare students for a two week summer study away component and optional one week rafting trip on the Middle Fork Salmon river. Pacific Northwest history, identity, Lower and Upper Columbia tribes’ cultural practices, climate change, and ecology will inform this course's content. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Affiliated with Environ Policy & Decision Mkg

ENV 335 Thinking About Biodiversity The preservation of biodiversity of the variety of living organisms here on Earth has recently become a major focus of scientific and environmental concern and policy. This course draws on perspectives from history, ethics, environmental studies, and conservation biology to explore the ways in which ideas and values have shaped scientific approaches to biodiversity and to the current biodiversity crisis. Affiliated with Biology and Environ Policy & Decision Mkg

GLAM 330 Theories of Myth This course examines classical, world, and contemporary myths, with a particular emphasis on the history of theories used to study myth. The course starts with Greco-Roman theories for analyzing classical myths, then analyzes in detail theories that have arisen since the end of the eighteenth century: comparative approaches, linguistics, psychology, structuralism, religion and ritual, class-, race-, and gender-based approaches. It is recommended that students have previously taken a course in myth or literary/gender theory (e.g., GLAM 210, ENGL 344, GNDR 201, etc.). Affiliated with Greek, Latin, Ancient Med Stdy

GQS 320 Queerly Scientific: Exploring the Influence of Identity on Scientific Knowledge Production This course is organized around a set of interlocking questions: Who tells the story of scientific knowledge? Through what lens? Who does the work of producing scientific knowledge? To what end? While "the sciences" are often figured as disciplines and practices that both value and produce objectivity and facts — categories imagined to exist independent of the identities of the people making scientific inquiry or serving as the object of that inquiry — this course seeks to situate scientific knowledge within the matrix of gender, race, and sexuality that is inextricable from the human experience. We ask: How would a more diverse scientific community change the lives of those working in the sciences? And how would it change science? Affiliated with Chemistry and Biochemistry and Gender and Queer Studies

HON 401 What is America? What is America? This course provides a comparative, interdisciplinary, and critical examination of "America" (the U.S.) and its endurance as both idea and ideal. Students consider what "America" means—as a place and as a concept, historically and in contemporary times, and to different constituents. Readings and discussion topics address broad issues that have shaped U.S. history and contemporary life, especially those areas around which national identity coheres and those about which the nation has been most conflicted: politics and governance; slavery and freedom; the natural world; capitalism and consumption; industry and technology; immigration and exclusion; civil rights and social justice; culture and
the arts. Prerequisite: Honors program student and completion of all other Honors core courses, or permission of Honors program director. Affiliated with Honors

HUM 301 The Idea of the Self This course engages philosophical and literary works from the late Seventeenth to the Mid-Twentieth Century that document the emergence of the modern concept of the self. The authors considered explore such questions as, “Is the self static, determinate, and unified, or is it dynamic, ephemeral, and fragmented? Is it autonomous or culturally conditioned? Does it will its own actions, or are these determined by external circumstances? Is it innately good, or evil, or neither?” Working from literary, philosophical, historical, and psychological perspectives, the course traces how early modern thought in the West has variously represented the self, how these representations have reflected and influenced its cultural evolution, and how they remain imbedded in contemporary formulations of selfhood. Authors include Pascal, Hobbes, Bunyan, Locke, La Rochefoucauld, De Lafayette, Franklin, Rousseau, Diderot, Hume, Blake, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Dostoevsky, Freud, Kojeve, and Girard. Affiliated with Humanities

HUM 302 Mystics, Knights, and Pilgrims: The Medieval Quest This course offers students an introduction to high medieval culture through verbal and visual experience of the quest. Medieval romances and spiritual quest literature are informed by the neoplatonic idea of a transcendent reality, a divinely ordered world beyond us that yields an ultimate truth. At the same time, all such journeys begin in the post-Edenic world where the fallen senses can deceive the knight, the pilgrim, and the visionary navigating the dark forest, the garden of erotic pleasure, or the castle, where seemingly noble conduct masks sin. When the knight or pilgrim sets forth, he or she experiences not only the soul’s journey to God but also the construction of identity. The course asks students to draw informed connections between the disciplines of history, art history, literary history, the history of gender, and the history of religion. Affiliated with Humanities

HUM 303 The Monstrous Middle Ages Why does monstrosity assume such a visible place in medieval culture? Gothic babwyns (grotesques) gambol in the margins of liturgical manuscripts, function as downsprouts on cathedrals, and appear in epics and chivalric romances as forces of both good and evil. This course explores medieval ontology, the nature of creation, and our human ability to know it fully, through the monstrous. The course begins with an art historical introduction to Classical theories of monstrosity reflected in visual traditions that medieval artists and writers inherited. The role of the monstrous in pagan, classical culture serves as a contrast to the place monsters assume in the evolving Christian contexts: the course sets forth as interdisciplinary case studies in medieval monstrosity. Each case study sets up a historical context for the study of monstrosity, informed by a specific material and literary culture. Recent research in art history, geography, anthropology, literary history, and cultural studies inform the course’s interdisciplinary format. Affiliated with English and Humanities

HUM 330 Tao and Landscape Art Taoism is one of the most influential beliefs in East Asia, and is perfectly embodied in landscape art. As a significant visual tradition in the world, this landscape art reveals the complicated relationships between man and self, man and man, man and society, and, above all, man and nature. From an interdisciplinary perspective the course examines the richness of this cultural heritage. The achievements of Taoist landscape art in China, Korea, and Japan are approached through slide lectures, museum visits, creative work sessions, writing assignments, group discussion, and class presentation of research project. The emphasis is placed on students’ comprehension of Taoism and appreciation of landscape art and their capacity to explore the intricate relationships between art and religion. Affiliated with Art and Art History and Asian Studies and Humanities

HUM 368 A Precious Barbarism: Enlightenment, Ideology, and Colonialism This course presents a constellation of influential critiques of Western intellectual history, especially examining Enlightenment liberalism and its ideological afterlives. Themes include: critique, Euro-American centrism, orientalism, de-colonial struggles, postcolonial theory, pathologies of freedom, power, hegemony, racialization, identity, liberalism, the democratic illusion, mass deception, the Holocaust, camps, mass migration, terrorism, comprador intellectuals, and culture war. Horkheimer and Adorno’s Dialectic of Enlightenment provides the starting point for our humanist and aesthetic critique via readings of Horner, mythology, philosophy, and religion. Important “non-western” authors might include Aime Cesaire, Frantz Fanon, Edward Said, Sylvia Wynter, Gayatri Spivak, and Hamid Dabashi. Affiliated with Humanities and Religion, Spirit., & Society

IPE 389 Global Struggles Over Intellectual Property This course examines a wide range of contemporary struggles over global intellectual property, especially patents, copyrights, and trademarks. Drawing upon and contrasting the disciplines of political science, economics, law, and cultural studies, the course examines how rules governing intellectual property have been established, who benefits from them, and how some people are using political power - and law-breaking - to try to achieve alternative intellectual property systems. Some specific cases that will be analyzed are struggles over generic medicines in developing countries, counterfeiting, music and software piracy, and “bio-piracy.” Affiliated with International Political Econ

IPE 405 The Idea of Wine Wine is a simple thing. The idea of wine, however, is very complicated, since it reflects both wine itself and wine’s complex and dynamic social and economic terroir of values, attitudes, and interests. Because wine intersects social processes in so many ways, the question of which idea of wine will prevail, or how the contradictions between and among the different ideas will be resolved or not, has important implications. This course looks closely at the battle for the idea of wine with special attention to its interdisciplinary aspects and conflicts and consideration of how the globalization of wine has intensified the inherent conflicts. Affiliated with International Political Econ

IPE 427 Competing Perspectives on the Material World Many sociologists have joined economists in the study of that entity we call the economy. Apart from this interest, however, the two groups share very little in common. The disagreements include the importance of rationality and selfishness, the proper methodologies, the nature of explanation, and even the definition of the field of study. This course surveys the different ways in which economists and sociologists approach the material world and the key debates between them. Affiliated with International Political Econ

LAS 380 Around Macondo in Eighty Days This course explores the concept of Modernity as it applies to the creation and development of the modern nation with particular attention to the Latin American region. The role of the local and autochthonous cultures versus global and external trends and forces, and the impact of modern inventions and technical developments in an ever-evolving society are examined using literary, historical, and political texts, combined with readings on post-colonialism and post-modernism, globalization and neo-liberalism.
These texts inform the reading of the English translation of “One Hundred Years of Solitude,” by Colombian author Gabriel García Márquez, a novel often read as a allegory of the forces at play in the shaping of modern Latin America. Affiliated with Latin American Studies

LAS 387 Art and Revolution in Latin America This course combines the disciplines of history and art to consider the ways in which artists participated in and created a visual analogue to the political and social transformations wrought by successful revolutions in Latin America. The interaction of art and revolution in Mexico (from the late nineteenth-century to the 1940s) forms the foundation of the course. Its revolution (1910-1920) produced the most successful, vibrant, and internationally recognized artistic formation of national identity of the last century. The final third of the course analyzes and compares the similarity explosive changes that occur in revolutionary Cuba from 1959 and in Nicaragua from 1979-1990. These three revolutions demonstrate a connection between art and politics to a rare degree, as artistic expression (painting, prints, photography, and architecture) become fundamental to both creating, reflecting, and challenging the new order. Prerequisite: Second year standing or above. Affiliated with Art and Art History and History and Latin American Studies

LAS 399 Latin America Travel Seminar The Latin America Travel Seminar combines an on-campus semester-long class with group travel to Latin America after the completion of the semester. The instructors, themes, and travel destinations vary each time the course is offered. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. Affiliated with Hispanic Studies and Latin American Studies and Philosophy

REL 301 Consciousness and the Bourgeoisie “‘Know thyself’ is a maxim central to the religious quest, but individuals who are intensely and urgently driven to know themselves often occupy the outskirts of ordinary society. Although these ‘outsiders’ are a part of their culture and contribute to their culture, they no longer share the common values of their society. The course seeks to explore the role of outsiders (those who desire inner freedom and transformation) in the context of bourgeois society. The first half of the course draws on ancient materials (‘Epic of Gilgamesh,’ “The Oresteia,” and Plato’s “Republic”) in discussing ideas of ontology, psychology, consciousness, and transformation. The second half of the course relies on novels and novellas by Ouspensky, Hesse, and Mann for a discussion of bourgeois attitudes toward the outsider and toward the outsider’s struggle to become an individual who confronts the habitual, unconscious, and mechanical patterns of existence. Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society

REL 302 Ethics and the Other This course provides an opportunity for students to examine the contours of an ethical framework of responsibility by exploring contemporary moral and religious narratives about the “other” from a multicultural perspective. Students learn to apply various ethical theories to particular issues and dilemmas, such as race-class-gender, violence, sexuality, and issues of “difference.” Affiliated with Religion, Spirit., & Society

STHS 301 Technology and Culture Science and technology revolutionize our lives, but memory, tradition and myth frame our response. Technology has powerfully shaped and altered human experience. In this course, students examine what is technology, how is our relationship with technology changing, how does technology shape our modern culture and, in turn, how does our culture shape our technology. Topics covered may include: the industrial revolution, the airplane, Julia Child’s kitchen, the Chernobyl disaster, and the development of the internet. Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

STHS 302 Cancer and Society In this course students develop an understanding of the history of cancer medicine, the biology of cancer, and analyze public perceptions of both. Students build a solid foundation in the science, history, and social context of cancer to allow thoughtful exploration and critique of cancer history and to identify future areas of concern and hope. Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

STHS 318 Science and Gender This course explores the relationship between ideas about gender, science and society. Taking a comparative approach, students critically examine the history of ideas about the biological and social factors that influence gender roles and sexual preferences as well as sexual orientation and gender identity. Students consider ideas about how variation in sex and gender may have evolved through natural and sexual selection, and how human perceptions of gender feedback influence the scientific study of animals. Policy and ethical implications of scientific research on gender are also considered. Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

STHS 330 Evolution and Society Since Darwin This course examines the historical relationship between the theory of evolution and society in the twentieth century, with an emphasis on Britain, Germany, and the United States since 1870. Students examine a range of efforts to apply evolution theory to human society (including social Darwinism, eugenics, scientific racism, and the biology of war and peace), and place these efforts in historical context. In doing so, students study the complex relationship between science and society, and the place of science in the intellectual, social, and cultural history of the twentieth century. Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

STHS 333 Evolution and Ethics The study of evolution and ethics ‘at the intersections between biology, the human sciences and philosophy’ has received a lot of attention in recent years. News stories abound that give, in sound byte form, the (often controversial) ethical implications that may or may not result from different interpretations of the conclusions of evolutionary biology. Affiliated with Philosophy and Science, Tech, Health, Society

STHS 340 Finding Order in Nature What does it mean to live a scientific life? Historically, people have studied nature for many different reasons—to better understand humanity’s place in the universe, to assist in the production of food and medicine, to satisfy curiosity, etc.—and this knowledge and understanding of the natural world has evolved over time. Science reflects not only nature’s inner workings, but also social and cultural values and is shaped powerfully by what people want to see and know. This course examines how humanity found order and regularity in twentieth-century scientific studies and how and why people pursued that knowledge. Using a biographical approach, students develop a deeper appreciation for not only science, but also “the ambitions, passions, disappointments, and moral choices that characterize a scientist’s life.” Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society
SSTS 345 Science and War in the Modern World  This course examines the connections between 20th century science (with particular emphasis on physics) and the effects of science on public policy, international relations, and the strategy and tactics of modern warfare. During the first half of the 20th century, physicists’ concepts of the universe changed as new fields of thought emerged: relativity, quantum theory, and eventually nuclear physics. At the same time, the interactions between scientists and governments evolved significantly, as the scope of war expanded and, in response, new technologies were integrated into warfighting. The course focuses on the role that scientists played in the two world wars, culminating in the Manhattan Project, which produced the first atomic bombs. It also examines the consequences of scientific and technological advancements for the conduct of 20th century warfare, including the impact of trains and machine guns on the battlefields of the First World War and of tanks and airpower in World War II. After considering the development of the atomic bomb and the results of its use against Japan, the course moves to explore the role of nuclear weapons during the Cold War and in the 21st century, as well as the emergence of new science-based military technologies, such as cyberwar.  

Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

SSTS 347 Alchemy and Chemistry: Historical Perspectives  “Better things for better living...through chemistry” was a popular slogan used by DuPont in the mid-to-late twentieth century to market laboratory-developed products. Increasingly, concerns have been raised about the merits and consequences of chemicals in our food, goods, and environment. This class analyzes how we know what we know about chemistry, and how studies of the very small shape fundamental questions about the world, e.g. what is natural, what is artificial, does the difference matter, and if so in what contexts? By investigating a series of historical episodes that highlight some of the key intellectual, social, and political challenges of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, this course examines how we learn about, modify, and relate to our environment chemically. From the development of the periodic table to the study of pollution, this course encourages students to gain an appreciation for the science of chemistry while engaging in cross-disciplinary dialogue about ways in which chemistry affects our daily lives.  

Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

SSTS 348 Strange Realities: Physics in the 20th and 21st Centuries  In the early Twentieth Century, new experimental evidence encouraged physicists to abandon a consistent and nearly complete description of nature. They replaced common sense notions about the physical world with strange realities based on the new theories of relativity and quantum mechanics. As the physicists’ new explanations of nature grew increasingly counter-intuitive, it became harder for non-physicists to understand precisely what physicists were doing. Without using higher mathematics, this course explores quantum mechanics and relativity as they describe the nature of matter and energy and the structure of space and time. It also addresses how physicists struggled to understand the philosophical implications of the new physical theories, how they worked to express their strange descriptions of nature to both public and professional audiences, and how they maintained public support for their increasingly expensive explorations of nature.  

Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

SSTS 352 Memory in a Social Context  This class provides an intensive introduction to the scientific study of memory, and then examines the application of this science to four important social contexts. These include the social implications of age-related changes in memory, the role of memory in between-individual and between-group relations, the role of memory in the courtroom, and the role of memory in advertising and marketing.  

Affiliated with Psychology and Science, Tech, Health, Society

SSTS 354 Murder and Mayhem under the Microscope  Why do people commit crimes and what role does forensic science play in determining who is culpable? Using a historical approach, this course examines the development of forensic science and criminology. It focuses on the history of forensic medicine and psychology, fingerprinting, toxicology, blood typing, DNA evidence as well as the role of expert witnesses in homicide investigations. It also includes a discussion of the legal issues surrounding what constitutes admissible evidence and how that has changed over time.  

Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

SSTS 361 Mars Exploration  A survey of the history, science, and technology of Mars exploration. Topics include the discovery of Mars by ancient civilizations, the first telescopic observations of Mars, the economics and politics of the U.S. and Russian Mars exploration programs, spacecraft design and the technologies needed for planetary exploration, and the future of Mars exploration including a possible manned mission to Mars. The scientific component of this course focuses on the planetary evolution of Mars and the question of whether life might have arisen on Mars. The class also takes a brief look at Mars in popular culture including literature, radio, and film.  

Affiliated with Science, Tech, Health, Society

SSTS 370 Science and Religion in the United States: From Evolution to Climate Change  This course examines the historical relationship between science and religion in the United States with particular attention to debates over human origins and climate change. The course is guided by the following questions: How have beliefs regarding God and Nature diverged in the U.S. and why? What roles have changing answers to the questions (addressed by both scientists and theologians) about the origin of human beings and human nature played in this history? Who, historically, got to determine the terms of debate, why, and to what end? What underlying divergences in values, beliefs, and assumptions influence different stances on these issues, and what is the history of those divergences? What potential insights (and challenges) does studying this history offer to present-day, interdisciplinary efforts to deal with debates that concern science?  

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SSTS 375 Science, Technology, and Politics  There is a long tradition of seeing science as apolitical, but historically a complex relationship has existed between science and politics. Scientists work within political structures, and those systems in turn influence what kinds of science and technology are pursued within a given society. Science has also come with norms that make claims about what kind of political systems support the best kind of science. This course draws on historical, sociological, and philosophical studies of science and technology, primary source material from scientists, politicians, and others, as well as literature, film, and cartoons. Students examine a broad set of issues such as: the types of science that get done within democratic and totalitarian systems (in communist, socialist, and capitalist societies); how and why science has been harnessed in fights over political authority; and how political decisions direct scientists’ careers and the trajectory of scientific disciplines and technological development.  

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