

10/26/2011

Spring 2012 Descriptions for Topics Courses

CRN#

40154 BUS 430-A Topics in Finance: Advanced Investments

Prof. M. Mullen

BA430 will build on the investment and analytical tools taught in BA320, BA327, and some of your accounting courses. The course will also rely on the breadth of your experience and your ability to leverage the foundations of your liberal arts education to think and communicate ideas and concepts. This course will develop a student's understanding of the investment research and portfolio management process. Emphasis will be on equities but may include discussions on fixed income securities and derivative security analysis as well. The class will simulate a real world management process covering the research and analysis of individual securities, formulation of these securities into portfolios and the use of derivative securities to modify the risk / return profile of the portfolio.

40221 COM 414-A Special Topics in Communication: Advanced Video Production

Prof. M. Yusna

Expanding the principals and elements of electronic media through a variety of small and large format video projects, including new media applications. Prerequisite: COM 215

40257 CRM 352-A Topics in Criminology: Transnational Crime and Globalization

Prof. A. Twyman-Ghoshal

Providing a foundation for understanding various forms of transnational crimes and their context, this course will initially discuss the diverse dimensions of globalization and its effects. Thereafter the nature and manifestations of transnational crimes will be examined, including topics such as criminal networks, maritime piracy, terrorism, smuggling and trafficking.

40619 EDU 333-A Topics in Education: Secondary Education Inclusion

Prof. P. Zinni

Examines conditions impacting learning, legal requirements, and the instructional methods/techniques used for serving students with exceptionalities at the secondary level in the general education classroom. Fieldwork with students with special needs is required. Pre-requisite: ED 102 or consent of the Instructor. Pre-practicum: 2 hours / week in special education.

40581 ENG 304-A Topics in Early Modern Literature: Spenser's Faerie Queene

Prof. H. Duncan

Contact instructor for description

40582 ENG 306-A Topics in British Literature, 1700-1900: Fictions of Englishness

Prof. S. Gracombe

*"It just goes to show, you go back and back and it's still easier to find the correct Hoover bag than to find one pure person, one pure faith, on the globe. Do you think anybody is English? Really English? It's a fairy tale!"—Zadie Smith, *White Teeth* (2001)*

As Zadie Smith's recent novel suggests, the "fairy tale" of Englishness has preoccupied British fiction for quite some time. Through close readings of novels, as well as films, Victorian periodicals, and contemporary scholarship, this course will examine that fairy tale. How have writers both reflected and shaped theories of Englishness? What forces influenced these theories of national belonging and how have they altered over the past 200 years? To answer these questions, we will trace cultural, territorial, religious, racial, and political aspects of Englishness. Particular attention will be paid to the significant, ongoing tension between an English identity grounded in race/ancestry and a more flexible—if no less contested—Englishness based in culture. To that end, we will analyze representations of England's Others, be they Bangladeshi immigrants (*White Teeth*), French artists and Jewish mesmerists (*Trilby*), or vampiric "Eastern" invaders (*Dracula*). Grappling with these Others both at home and abroad, our texts repeatedly ask whether it is possible to acquire Englishness rather than just inherit it. Can education, habits, and the consumption of cultural products, from books to food, succeed in making one authentically English? Throughout the semester, we will also explore whether novels are able to imagine Englishness in unique ways because of specific generic conventions. If, as Edward Said famously declared, "nations themselves are narrations," what narrative strategies and formal conventions have novelists from Austen to Smith developed to write England into—or out of—existence?

10/26/2011

40587 ENG 342-A Topics in Creative Writing: Poetry

Prof. A. Ross

The goal of this course is to help students strengthen and re-imagine their poetic voices and to consider aspects of the craft of writing poetry through reading, writing and revising poems, as well as participating in writing workshops. In pursuit of this goal, we will engage in peer and instructor critique in the workshop model, in-class writing, and take-home exercises. We will also read poets such as Dickinson, Bishop, Larkin, Brooks, Heaney, Komunyakaa, and Lorca (among many others) whose poems will serve as examples of the type of work that we are striving to create. The analysis of the work of their peers and of other published poets will enable students to hone their critical faculties and turn this same analytical eye on their own work. In addition, students will attend at least one poetry reading during the course and write a critical review of it, complete a critical written annotation of a poem, and compile a final portfolio of their work.

40588 ENG 343-A Topics in Creative Writing: Short Fiction

Prof. J. Green

This intensive creative writing workshop is designed to help the beginning and intermediate writer develop his/her voice through a focus on what has come to be known as "flash" or "sudden" fiction. Flash fiction is an emerging and increasingly popular genre of very short (1-3 pp.) narrative fiction. By focusing strictly on reading and producing very short forms (flash fiction stories, as well as haiku, 3-line "novels," prose poems), we will work on the essential elements of the writer's craft, including plot, setting, characterization, dialogue, and narrative tension. The workshop format will balance spontaneous, energetic writing exercises with careful revision and thoughtful, constructive critiques that will assist each author in realizing the full potential of his/her work. Students will produce a series of very short prose pieces and a longer final story. Readings will include prose by Baudelaire, Joyce, Kawabata, Hemingway, Kafka, Eggers, Wallace, Jin, Munro, Barthelme, and Kincaid, among others.

40589 ENG 349-A Topics in Irish Literature: The Importance of Being Irish

Prof. G. Piggford, CSC

An engagement with the English-language fiction, poetry, drama, and film of Ireland in the twentieth century, with an emphasis on colonialism, nationalism, partition, and the Troubles. Literary texts include those by Oscar Wilde, W.B. Yeats, James Joyce, Frank O'Connor, Brendan Behan, Samuel Beckett, Eavan Boland, Edna O'Brien, U2, and Neil Jordan.

40593 ENG 356-A Topics in British and Continental Literature, 1660-1800: Imaginary Voyages

Prof. R. Goulet

Plunging in the cosmos, climbing up the social ladder, sailing across the Atlantic, floating down the Thames, leaping out of a closet, darting behind a screen, escaping to an exotic place, rambling around the neighborhood, hopping from island to island, bouncing from bed to bed – all these travels can be found in this critical survey of texts representing the period that has been variously called the Enlightenment, the Age of Reason, the Augustan era, the Neoclassical period, and the Age of Exuberance.

40592 ENG 390-A Topics in Modernism: Literature and Anarchy 1870-1925

Prof. J. Green

In the last quarter of the nineteenth century, aesthetic challenges to tradition were paralleled in the spheres of political and social theory by the revolutionary forces of anarchist thought, igniting a literally explosive strain in British culture that culminated in the 1894 bombing of the Royal Observatory (an event later fictionalized in Conrad's *The Secret Agent*). We will begin our exploration of the tumultuous birth of British modernism by examining influences from France, Italy, Russia and Germany (including the work of Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, Charles Baudelaire, Arthur Rimbaud, Gabriele d'Annunzio, Mikhail Bakunin, Karl Marx and Friedrich Nietzsche). Moving forward to the turn of the century, we will examine the British aesthetes, decadents, anarchists and "New Women" who transplanted these radical influences to the United Kingdom. Particular attention will be paid to the relationship between movements in literature and the visual arts, including symbolisme, impressionism, and post-impressionism, along with early cinema. Key texts will include Joris Karl Huysman's *Against Nature*, Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, *Salomé*, and "The Ballad of Reading Gaol," George Bernard Shaw's, *Candida* and Joseph Conrad's *The Secret Agent*. Additional authors to be considered may include: Nordau, Mallarmé, Symons, Beerbohm, Pater, Harrison, Rame, and Paget. *This course counts toward the fulfillment of the Literary and Cultural Studies 1900-present area requirement.*

40595 ENG 422-A Seminar: Race, Gender and Reform

Prof. L. Scales

The nineteenth-century United States saw the rise of dozens of reform movements which interrogated—and sometimes also relied upon—established notions of gender and race in looking for new definitions of human rights, responsibilities, and behaviors. This course will examine questions of personhood, both political and literary, in some of the major texts of nineteenth-century reform. How does the work of the imagination construct itself in relation to

10/26/2011

the "real" and the "practical"? How do these movements imagine the relationship of public to private, of human to divine, of citizen to nation? We will give most of our attention to the major works of the abolitionist and women's movements in the antebellum period, but we will spend time on utopianism, the temperance movement, workers' reform and socialism, health reform, the Jim Crow era, and urban reform. Writers include, among others, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Henry David Thoreau, Frederick Douglass, Frances E.W. Harper, and Jacob Riis.

40596 ENG 422-B Seminar: Are We Post-Racial Yet?

Prof. D. Itzkovitz

Contact instructor for description

40636 GND 200-A Topics in Gender and Sexuality Studies: Postmodern Sexualities

Prof. G. Piggford, CSC

This course engages with literature, film, theory, and other texts related to sexuality and gender in the late twentieth century, with an emphasis on ideas in Michel Foucault's *History of Sexuality*, Judith Butler's *Bodies That Matter*, and Eve Sedgwick's *Epistemology of the Closet*. We will read these in relation to postmodern literature and film, including *Orlando*, *Paris is Burning*, *Ma Vie en Rose*, and *XXYY*. Context will be provided through consideration of contemporaneous legal discourses and social movements.

40719 GND 200-B Topics in Gender and Sexuality Studies: Women, Leadership, and Community Organizing

Prof. L. Farrow

Women, Leadership, and Community Organizing will examine women's contributions in community and transformational change work, both in local settings and society at large. Using best practice illustrative models, short narratives and films, and selected readings, women's leadership roles and results of their leadership will be explored and discussed. The class will cover a range of local, national and international women's leadership and community organizing examples / models. The framing question for this class will examine deeply and draw some conclusions on "How has women's leadership and transformational change movements mattered in society; what impact has it made."

40032 HIS 362-A World History Seminar: Chinatowns, A Global History

Prof. K. Teoh

Using Chinatowns in major world destinations as points of departure, this course surveys the history of Chinese migration in its global context from the sixteenth century onwards. We will draw from histories of urban development, socio-cultural practices, clan associations, business enterprise and food culture to illuminate one of the largest and longest international migrations in world history. The course examines the internal roots of emigration in China, the interactions of migrants with their host societies, processes of cultural adaptation and assimilation, and the significance of migration for concepts of Chinese identity. There will be a particular focus on Southeast Asia and North America as venues with large ethnic Chinese migrant populations, but we will also look at cases in Western Europe, South America and elsewhere. Prerequisite: Open to sophomore, junior and senior American Studies, History, International Studies and Political Science majors and minors. Limited to 15.

40387 IND 357-A Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies: Interdisciplinary Inquiry

Prof. R. Henderson

This seminar is designed for any student interested in exploring individualized, interdisciplinary work. How does interdisciplinary work differ from conventional departmental academics? What is gained by transcending departmental boundaries? What are some of the ways interdisciplinary research is developed? Guidance is offered in curriculum-building for interdisciplinary majors and minors and support given to students working on individualized projects. Examples of interdisciplinary work include: Writing, Art and Media, International Health Care, Peace & Conflict Transformation Studies, Art and the Everyday: Visual Culture and Social Life and Religion in American Politics.

40699 IND 357-B Special Topics in Interdisciplinary Studies: The Psychology of Carl Jung: Applications for Education, Arts Therapy, Spiritual Development and the Arts

This course focuses on a practical engagement with elements of Jung's psychology, highlighting its relevance for teaching, arts therapy, the development of one's spiritual life and for people in the arts. Exploration of the language of the psyche via dream interpretation, and various creative exercises to engage in what Jung described as active imagination. Examination of the concept of the *shadow* and the importance of taking ownership of it as crucial to human development. The work of contemporary Jungian analysts such as Thomas Moore, Helen Luke and Clarissa Estes will be included. Students will develop final projects that connect key Jungian principles to their work with people in various pre-professional environments.

10/26/2011

40305 MTH 399-A Topics in Mathematics: Topology

Prof. C. Curley

Topology is the mathematical study of 'shape'. Informally it is geometry on a "rubber-sheet or space" where figures may be stretched and shrunk, but not ripped apart or glued together. Thus topology is the study of the properties of an object that do not change under continuous deformations; unlike geometry itself in which objects may be moved around or flipped about but only in ways that preserve distances and angles.

To a geometer an equilateral triangle whose area equals 1 is the same (congruent) as any other equilateral triangle whose area equals 1 not matter where the triangles are positioned. While to a topologist a circle of radius 1 is essentially the same (homeomorphic) as a circle of radius 2. Even more strange, a triangle is the same as a square or a circle and a donut is the same as a cup for coffee. You may see a deformation of a donut into a cup at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Mug_and_Torus_morph.gif

40682 POL 357-A Topics in Politics: Transitions to Democracy

Prof. K. Buckman

This course explores many of the central issues involved as countries transition to democracy. We begin by studying several cases of democratic transition, including Iraq, Afghanistan and South Africa and the hurdles and obstacles countries may encounter during this process. We consider challenges to the new democracies posed by weak economic development, inadequate infrastructure, corruption, law enforcement, and ethnic identities. We also consider the central role of transitional justice in the emergence of legitimacy in the new regime. During the last four weeks of the semester, we engage in a constitution-engineering simulation for an emerging democracy. Students analyze the constitution they have drafted through the lenses of the cases and analytical frameworks they study in the first parts of the course.

40683 POL 357-B Topics in Politics: The Political Dimensions of Mass Media, the Internet, and Film

Prof. Jackson

The objective of this course is to investigate the relationship between mass media such as television or radio, the internet and social networking, and film with the political. Topics such as electronic media, journalism, media coverage of politics and wars, blogging, new and alternative mediums such as texting will be covered. Issues such as the role of government in media, corporate versus individual control, censorship, advertising, propaganda, will be explored. And, a review of film as a medium that can be used for political purposes will be analyzed by viewing several key movies that illustrated important political themes for their times.

40684 POL 357-C Topics in Politics: Immigration, Human Rights, and Equality

Prof. Gallagher

This course will consider the topic of immigration from a human rights perspective, particularly following the catastrophic events of 9/11. After offering students a brief overview of U.S. immigration law and those responsible for implementing it, weekly classes will examine the treatment and protection of "irregular and survival migrants," challenges associated with Comprehensive Immigration Reform legislation, detention, deportation and civil rights, and the exercise of discretion by state, local and federal authorities.

40700 REL 330-A Topics in Religious Studies: Mystics of Islam

Prof. D. Sander

This course aims at an understanding of Sufism, or Islamic mysticism, as a worldview and as a lived experience within the Islamic tradition. From the Sufis' standpoint, the inner "tasting" of divine love is at the heart of Islam, in spite of attempts by various interpreters to marginalize discussion of it. We will consult historical research as well as primary texts and expressions (including scriptures, poetry, folklore, visual art, music and cinema) to develop an awareness of the topic on different levels.

40727 REL 330-B Topics in Religious Studies: Authentic Personhood

Prof. P. DaPonte

This course in theological anthropology examines the category of human personhood from the perspective of Social Trinitarianism, in particular, the view of the *imago Dei* understood in terms of radical relationality. It investigates the historical development of the notion of the person and critically analyzes the adequacy of various conceptions of personhood throughout history. The course will also consider the practice of theological reflection as a responsible option for living out the call to authentic personhood.

40336 REL 347-A Topics in Religious Approaches to Moral Issues: Ecology and the Sacred

Prof. D. Sander

This course is an opportunity to expand our awareness of the often hidden relationships between ecology and religion. One could argue that much of the moral force within a religion is latent in its cosmology, its way of imagining

10/26/2011

the world. This is true of indigenous religions as well as modern, globalizing worldviews. In this class, we will explore the ecological implications of how various traditions have imagined the world and interacted with each other. We will do so by paying attention to language, histories, myths and rituals, as well as investigating our own forgotten assumptions about the world.

40051 VPT 406 A Seminar in Theatre Arts II: Playing Shakespeare

Prof. P. Sankus

This seminar will explore the aesthetic questions that arise in the production of Shakespeare's plays in the last 100 years with an emphasis on film adaptations. Discussions will center on actors, directors and reviewers and how the spirit of the time, individual artistic conception and the new language of cinema led to imaginative, provocative and, often, arguable interpretations of his work.