FALL 2020 Honors Courses

DISC 2305: FIRST-YEAR HONORS HUMANITIES SEMINAR I

What do we know? *How* do we know? What complicates our efforts to know things directly, and what structures the ways we actually do "know" things? This course poses fundamental questions about how we understand the physical, conceptual, political, emotional, and social worlds we inhabit. We will read, discuss, and write about texts (from a range of disciplines, including literature, psychology, politics, linguistics, and science) that ask us to think twice about the nature, limits, and possibilities of knowledge. The goal of the course is to think and write clearly about even those matters that remain uncertain, and to take pleasure in the process of discovery.

Section	Instructor	Meeting Time	Location
001	Joan Arbery	MWF 9:00-9:50 AM	110 Dedman Life Sci
002	Joan Arbery	MWF 10:00-10:50 AM	142 Dallas Hall
003	Joan Arbery	MWF 11:00-11:50 AM	126 Clements
004	Vanessa Hopper	MWF 12:00-12:50 PM	Remote
005	Vanessa Hopper	MWF 1:00-1:50 PM	Remote
006	Vanessa Hopper	MWF 2:00-2:50 PM	Remote
007	Russell McConnell	TuTh 9:30-10:50 AM	126 Clements
008	Russell McConnell	TuTh 11:00-11:50 AM	152 Dallas Hall
009	Russell McConnell	TuTh 12:30-1:50 PM	126 Clements
010	Russell McConnell	TuTh 2:00-3:20 PM	152 Dallas Hall
011	Richard Bozorth	TuTh 11:00 AM-12:20 PM	Remote
012	Jordan Ivie	TuTh 12:30-1:50 PM	132 Dedman Life Sci
013	James Ray	MWF 9:00-9:50 AM	115 Dallas Hall

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

KNW 2300-L03H: INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN
Andrew Quicksall | W 6:30-9:30 PM| 202 Junkins
UC 2016: Oral Communication, Ways of Knowing
CC: Oral Communication

This course introduces engineering design methodologies and basic teaming skills. Students participate on a team in a term-long, multidisciplinary design experience in which each student provides basic engineering capabilities in mechanical, software, electronic, civil, and/or environmental systems. Each team designs a robot that achieves stated design objectives while operating autonomously, with as little human interaction as possible. Teams submit group design memos documenting the evolution of the design. Each team makes a preliminary design presentation and report and a final design presentation and report. A competition is held at the end of the term.

Prerequisites: MATH 1337. Recommended for first-year Engineering students. Students who are not Engineering students are invited to enroll, but should write to Dr. Quicksall before the start of class.

UHP 2100: HONORS SOPHOMORE SEMINAR
Section 001H: Honors Staff | Tu 4:00-5:00 PM | TBD
Section 002H: Honors Staff | W 4:00-5:00 PM | TBD
UC 2016: Information Literacy

The purpose of this course is to help Honors students realize their full academic potential. The semester will be focused on ways to foster a broader awareness of the liberal arts and science traditions, goals, and challenges including hands-on experience in putting together an individual research project, preparation for future upper level courses, research funding proposals, or an Honors project in the major. The course will also include a review of some of the significant resources available to the SMU student.

UHP 3300-001H: SECOND-YEAR HONORS HUMANITIES SEMINAR
David Doyle | TuTh 12:30-1:50 PM| TBD
UC 2016: Human Diversity, Language & Literature, Writing
CC: Writing

Examines the chronology of American history through an interdisciplinary lens with the question of "who is an American" as a thematic focus. Students learn about important moments in American history, and begin to understand the basic chronology of the country, as well as how these key events were understood and experienced by some of the country's most creative and probing minds. The organizing theme of who is an

American itself is an important examination of when and where the human rights of the country's inhabitants have been respected–or not respected–over the decades.

UHP 4100-001H: THE SCIENTIFIC ENTERPRISE

Scott Norris | Mon 2:00-2:50 PM | TBD

The purpose of this course is
- to expose students to the beauty and wonder of science on a grand scale,
- to highlight the unique reliability of knowledge produced by the scientific method
- to illustrate how the disciplines are interconnected parts of a common enterprise

As such, the course will not dive particularly deeply into any one branch of science, but will instead attempt to emphasize the breadth and history of scientific inquiry, while highlighting the idea of validation by experiment that spans all of the scientific disciplines. The scope will flow roughly from big to small – beginning with the origins of the universe, galaxies, and starts (astrophysics), down to the development of planets, continents, and geochemistry (earth science), through the emergence and development of life (biology), and finally to the rise of intelligent life able to contemplate all of these issues itself (neuroscience and psychology).

The philosophy toward science education and outreach just described is shamelessly stolen from – and masterfully demonstrated by – well-known scientists and authors such as

- Carl Sagan ("Cosmos")
- Steven Hawking ("A brief History of Time")
- Bill Bryson ("A Short History of Nearly Everything")

As such, we will not re-invent the wheel. Each week students will watch one episode of the recently re-booted television version of Sagan's Cosmos, hosted by Neil Degrasse Tyson, and read selected passages from the books listed above. In addition, students will read books on more focused topics, which however are still presented in the same broad, interdisciplinary manner.

HUMANITIES COURSES

ENGL 2390: INTRODUCTION TO CREATIVE WRITING – MAKE IT NEW!

Greg Browndervilleㅣ TuTh 3:30-4:50 PM ㅣ REMOTE
UC 2016: Creativity and Aesthetics, Writing
CC: Creativity and Aesthetics, Writing

This course is a poetry workshop, where timeless themes meet the new words of now. Students will write and revise their own poems, respond both verbally and in writing to one another's work, and analyze published poems in short critical essays. In-class workshops will demand insight, courtesy, and candor from everyone in the room, and will help students improve their oral-communications skills. There is no textbook; the instructor will provide handouts. As this is an introductory course, prior experience in creative writing is not necessary.

Recommended course for first-year Honors students.

HIST 1321-002H: BELONGING IN AMERICA

Neil Foley ㅣ TuTh 2:00-3:20 PMㅣ REMOTE
UC 2016: Historical Contexts, Writing
CC: Historical Contexts, Human Diversity, Oral Communication, Writing

Many Americans today live with a sense of cognitive dissonance about who we are as a nation. The United States, unlike most European nations, claims to be a nation of immigrants, yet it also tries to keep out as many immigrants, refugees, and asylees it deems undesirable. It welcomes immigrants when their labor is needed and turns them away when it is not. But this bipolar economic view of immigration over the last century fails to account for the interlaced politics of citizenship, immigrant exclusion, and unremitting nativism that lies at the very heart of American national identity.

This course explores how nativist ideology has sought to define who belongs and who does not, creating exclusionary laws and policies—based on race, citizenship, and national identity, as well as sex and gender—to enforce the boundaries of who belongs and who does not.

Recommended course for first-year UHP students.

HIST 1322-003H: DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONS: US, BRITAIN, FRANCE
Laurence Winnie | MWF 3:00-3:50 PM | 200 Hyer Hall
UC 2016: Historical Contexts
CC: Historical Contexts, Writing

This course explores the complex vision of Alexis de Tocqueville (1805-59), author of Democracy in America (1835, 1840), about the democratic revolutions that were transforming the world in the nineteenth century. Like many courses on Tocqueville's thought, it will engage with the ideas about democracy he developed in his famous book on America. Unlike other courses on Tocqueville, it will focus on his observations on these democratic revolutions in four countries: America, England, Ireland and France. This course will be valuable to students interested in American politics, American history, and British and French history, politics and culture.

Recommended course for first-year UHP students.

PHIL 1319-003H: TECHNOLOGY, SOCIETY, AND VALUE
Kenneth Daley | TuTh 8:00-9:20 AM | 307 Umphrey Lee
UC 2016: Philosophical, Religious, & Ethical Inquiry; Technology & Mathematics
CC: Philosophical, Religious, & Ethical Inquiry

Advances in technology are raising many ethical issues that require serious considerations. We will discuss issues surrounding such technologies and how they affect the views of warfare, privacy, human enhancement, and artificial intelligence.

RELI 1304-001H: INTRODUCTION TO WESTERN RELIGIONS
John Lamoreaux | TuTh 12:30-1:50 PM | 307 Umphrey Lee
UC 2016: Philosophical, Religious & Ethical Inquiry
CC: Philosophical, Religious, & Ethical Inquiry

A historical introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Topics include Moses and ancient Israelite religion; Jesus and early Christianity; rabbinic Judaism; Muhammad and classical Islam; the birth of Protestantism; and Jewish, Christian, and Islamic modernism.

Recommended for first-year students.

MATH AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE COURSES

MATH 3302-002H: CALCULUS III – MULTIVARIABLE AND VECTOR CALCULUS

Brandilyn Stigler | MWF 11:00-11:50 | 100 Hyer Hall
No UC Credit

Calculus III can be seen as simply extending Calculus I and II into the 3-dimensional world in which we live. The derivative in one variable is extended to the idea of partial derivatives in several variables. In parallel, integrals in one variable are extended to the cases of double and triple integrals in two and three variables. Next, we study integrals along curves and surfaces, and how these tools help us to understand the behavior of vector fields. Finally, we will use this knowledge to develop an understanding of differentiation and integration of vector fields, and to obtain governing equations for a wide variety of real-world physical phenomena. The honors version of this course will include supplemental material not found in the regular version, including computational approaches to visualization and calculation using MATLAB, variational calculus and functional minimization, extra focus on non-cartesian co-ordinates, and increased discussion of the application of vector calculus results to continuum modeling. To make time for these enrichment topics, students will be expected to perform significant pre-class readings, and occasionally cover the simpler course topics on their own.

Prerequistes: C- or Higher in MATH 1338 or MATH 1340.
Recommended course for first-year Honors students.

PHYS 1010-001H: HONORS INTRODUCTORY PHYSICS LAB

Randall Scalise | W 2:00-4:50 PM | REMOTE
No UC Credit

Students will engage in a semester long "Grand Challenge" problem-solving exercise. This will define the arc of the semester, setting the tone for planning our classroom activities and eventually defining the deliverable at the end of the course. In between class periods relevant to the development of solutions to the Grand Challenge Problem, the students will be engaged in demonstrations of physics principles and exercises to explore these demonstrations. These class periods will follow a pattern consistent with the scientific method: observation of a physical phenomenon, hypothesis building to explain the phenomenon, and calculation and testing to assess the hypothesis.

Recommended course for first-year Honors students (must be taken in conjunction with PHYS 1303, 1304, 1307, 1308).

SOCIAL SCIENCE COURSES

ECO 1311-001H: PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS
TBD | TuTh 9:30-10:50 AM | REMOTE
UC 2016: Quantitative Reasoning
CC: Quantitative Applications

This course studies the production of the entire economy, dealing with such issues as the general price level, the national employment rate, government spending, and the nation's money supply. Important to these issues is the definition and measurement of macroeconomic aggregates such as gross domestic product, consumer price index, the unemployment rate, and the government surplus and deficit. The course looks at the determinants of inflation and the relationship between inflation and other factors, including interest rates, the money supply, and unemployment.

Students must have background in calculus to enroll in this course.
Recommended course for first-year Honors students.

PLSC 1320-003H: INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
Joseph Kobylka | TuTh 11:00 AM-12:20 PM | REMOTE
UC 2016: Individuals, Institutions, and Cultures
CC: Social and Behavioral Sciences

The organization, functions, and processes of the national government, with particular attention to parties, pressure groups, and other forces that influence its course. Attention is also given to the Texas Constitution.

Recommended course for first-year Honors students.

PLSC 1340-002H: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS
Michael Lusztig | MWF 10:00-10:50 AM | REMOTE
UC 2016: Individuals, Institutions, and Cultures
CC: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Analyzes and contrasts different patterns of national political development in Western, Marxist-Leninist, and Third World countries. Political dilemmas confronting each type of system will be examined.

Recommended course for first-year Honors students.

PLSC 4369-002H: REPUBLICANISM AND THE GOOD SOCIETY
Michael Lusztig | MWF 9:00-9:50 AM | REMOTE
UC 2016: History, Social and Behavioral Sciences; Humanities and Fine Arts
CC: Civics and Individual Ethics

Examines the intellectual history of republicanism, its uneasy alliance with liberalism, and its various contemporary manifestations, particularly in the U.S. and Canada.

SOCI 2377-001: INTRODUCTION TO MARKETS AND CULTURE
Jessica Garrick | MWF 10:00-10:50 AM | 205 Hyer Hall
No UC Credit

This class is about economic and social life and our assumptions about them. Many political conversations come with strong statements about 'appropriate' roles for markets, states, private companies, and families. But a core insight of economic sociology is that these different spheres of social overlap in ways that make sweeping prescriptions like 'leave it to the market!' simplistic at best. Instead of taking things at face-value, we will drill down to the basics by examining works from sociologists, political scientists, economists, historians and philosophers. What exactly are markets and market societies? What are the roles for states and private companies in market societies? What does culture have to do with economic life? Students will gain a solid foundation in concepts central to sociology and the Markets and Culture major. Just as importantly, they will learn tools to critically examine the assumptions that guide many of society's most controversial conversations and will therefore be more informed participants in political dialogues.

Recommended course for first-year Honors students.

SSC 3310-001H: SPECIAL TOPICS: THE PRESIDENCY OF GEORGE W. BUSH
Ben Voth | TuTh 2:00-3:20 PM | 231A Fondren Science Building
No UC Credit

This course increases student understanding of advanced public speaking through the specific practice of forensics. Forensics is composed of individual events speaking and debate. Various formats of competitive public advocacy will be performed in order to make students more advanced public speakers overall and prepare them for local, national, and global advocacy.

Recommended course for first-year Honors students.