



SPRING 2021 Honors Courses

WRTR 2306: FIRST-YEAR HONORS HUMANITIES SEMINAR II

This course confronts profound ethical questions through considerations of history, literature, psychology, philosophy, and sociology. Beginning with a story by Flannery O'Connor that poses questions about ethical conduct, students explore texts and events that challenge the foundations of philosophical and religious ethical systems. The course also addresses contemporary ethical questions regarding individual freedom and responsibility and the meanings of "community."

Section	Instructor	Meeting Time	Location
001H	Joan Arbery	MWF 9:00 – 9:50 AM	157 Dallas Hall
002H	Joan Arbery	MWF 10:00 – 10:50 AM	157 Dallas Hall
003H	Joan Arbery	MWF 11:00 – 11:50 AM	157 Dallas Hall
004H	Brandon Miller	MWF 11:00 – 11:50 AM	132 Dedman Life Science
005H	Vanessa Hopper	MWF 12:00 – 12:50 PM	Virtual
006H	Vanessa Hopper	MWF 1:00 – 1:50 PM	Virtual
007H	Vanessa Hopper	MWF 2:00 – 2:50 PM	Virtual
008H	Russell McConnell	TuTh 9:30 – 10:50 AM	106 Hyer Hall
009H	James Ray	TuTh 9:30 – 10:50 AM	152 Fondren Science
010H	Russell McConnell	TuTh 11:00 AM-12:20 PM	106 Hyer Hall
011H	Richard Bozorth	TuTh 11:00 AM-12:20 PM	Virtual
012H	Russell McConnell	TuTh 12:30 – 1:50 PM	106 Hyer Hall
013H	Jordan Ivie	TuTh 12:30 – 1:50 PM	110 Dedman Life Science
014H	Russell McConnell	TuTh 2:00 – 3:20 PM	106 Hyer Hall

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

KNW 2300-L03H: INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN

Andrew Quicksall | W 6:30-9:20 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.

HIST 2306-001H: THE KIDS ARE ALRIGHT

Crista DeLuzio & Bruce Levy | TuTh 12:30-1:50 PM | VIRTUAL

UC 2016: Historical Contexts, Human Diversity, Information Literacy, Ways of Knowing, Writing

CC: Historical Contexts, Writing

The Kids are All Right examines from historical, literary, and other disciplinary perspectives key issues associated with American youth. The course explores childhood and adolescence as flexible social constructs that reflect – and respond to – larger forces of historical change. Among the questions we will seek to answer are these: At any given historical moment, what were the prevailing expectations for girls and boys growing up and how did those expectations resonate with broader cultural hopes, longings, and anxieties? How were young people shaped by prevailing expectations for growing up and how did they play a role in shaping those expectations and the wider society in return? We will consider children and adolescents in a variety of contexts: in the family, at school, at work, at play, as consumers, and as cultural icons. Throughout the course, we will pay close attention to the multiple paths of growing up in the United States, especially to the ways in which experiences and representations of childhood and adolescence have been shaped by the categories of gender, race, ethnicity, and class.

HIST/HRTS 3317-001H: PERSECUTION TO AFFIRMATION

David Doyle & Maxime Foerster | TuTh 2:00-3:20 PM | 217 Harold Simmons Hall

UC 2016: History, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Ways of Knowing

CC: Global Perspectives, Historical Contexts, Human Diversity, Writing

The focus of this class will be issues of gender and sexuality across time and place. The progression of course will begin with readings on the modern human rights movement and its basic components. We will then move to a series of comparative readings that examine how sexuality and sexual orientation and gender “slippage” have been understood in different parts of the world over time and continue to be today. These ‘case studies’, while necessarily limited in scope, will begin to illustrate for the student just how differently those with same sex attractions or gender bending have been understood—and treated—across time and place. In an effort to illustrate people’s real agency in the face of adversity, cruelty, and discrimination the readings will not focus entirely on oppression, but will also detail how the human spirit manages to innovate and adapt.

MDVL 3351-802H and N10H: THE MEDIEVAL PILGRIMAGE

Note: Student must enroll in both sections – lecture and discussion section

Bonnie Wheeler, Shira Lander, & Stephanie Amsel

TuTh 11:00 AM - 12:20 PM | VIRTUAL

UC 2016: Language and Literature, Ways of Knowing, Writing

CC: Literary Analysis and Interpretation, Writing

This course will examine the sites, objects, routes, and theoretical principles surrounding the act of medieval pilgrimage. Centered around the city of Jerusalem, we will discuss how pilgrimage functioned within the faiths of the three major Abrahamic religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Both a physical and spiritual act, pilgrimage served as a mode of belief that fused past and present, allegory with reality. As we consider the paradigm constructed by these acts, students will engage with an interdisciplinary array of texts (both literary and historical) and images in their own imitation of the pilgrim’s way.

UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM COURSES

UHP 3100: HONORS JUNIOR SEMINAR

Section 001H: David Doyle & Rachel Ball-Phillips | Tu 4:00-5:00 PM | VIRTUAL

Section 002H: David Doyle & Rachel Ball-Phillips | W 4:00-5:00 PM | VIRTUAL

UC 2016: Information Literacy

The primary purpose of this course is to guide Honors students through the fellowship application process, and help students best prepare for fellowship and graduate school

applications. The course will introduce students to the post-graduate fellowship opportunities available in all fields, prepare students for the application process, assist in creating complete portfolios for at least two national fellowships, and facilitate interview opportunities to prepare for potential in-person interviews. By preparing national fellowship applications in the spring of the junior year, students will have more time to work on the fellowship application process, enhancing the quality of the applications. National fellowship applications for post-graduate studies/experiences often include personal statements, leadership statements, statements of grant purpose, Curriculum Vitae, and a complete list of recommenders (prepared to write recommendations for the fall application cycle).

Although this is a one-credit course, it is also an Honors course, so the expectations are high. Attendance and participation are mandatory, and at minimum, required to succeed in the class.

Recommended for Juniors & selected Sophomores.

UHP 4100-001H: HONORS TUTORIAL

TBA | TBA | TBA

No UC/CC Credit

Once tutorial topics are approved for the spring, we will update this section.

HUMANITIES COURSES

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

Greg Brownderville | Tu 3:30-6:20 PM | VIRTUAL

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 2337-001H: HISTORY OF SPORTS IN THE UNITED STATES

Alexis McCrossen | TuTh 11:00 AM-12:20 PM | VIRTUAL

UC 2016: Historical Contexts, Human Diversity

CC: Historical Contexts, Human Diversity

This course presents an overview of the development of amateur and professional athletics during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in the United States. It considers the social, cultural, and business history of sport in the United States. Class meetings will include sports history lectures (often illustrated), the screening of sport documentaries, guided discussions, and student presentations.

PHIL 1305-001H: INTRODUCTION TO PHILSOPHY

Eric Barnes | MWF 10:00-10:50 AM | VIRTUAL

UC 2016: Philosophical and Religious Inquiry & Ethics

CC: Philosophical, Religious, & Ethical Inquiry

A general introduction to the central questions of philosophy; topics include the theory of knowledge, philosophy of religion, metaphysics, philosophy of mind, ethics and political philosophy. Typical questions might include: Can we know the world outside our minds? Is it rational to believe in a God who allows evil to exist? Do the laws of physics allow for human freedom? Is morality more than a matter of opinion? Can there be unequal wealth in a just society? Readings will include classical authors such as Plato, Descartes, Locke, Hume and Mill, as well as contemporary philosophers. The focus of the course will be on arguments for and against proposed solutions to key problems of philosophy.

Recommended course for first-year UHP students.

PHIL 1319-002H: TECHNOLOGY, SOCIETY, AND VALUE

Joshua Crabill | MWF 2:00-2:50 PM | VIRTUAL

UC 2016: Philosophical and Religious Inquiry & Ethics; 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.

MATH AND SCIENCE COURSES

BIOL 3303-001H EVOLUTION

John Wise | MWF 9:00-9:50 AM | 131 Dedman Life Science

No UC/CC Credit

A study of the principles of biological evolution. Includes natural selection, adaptation, molecular evolution, the formation of new species, the fossil record, biogeography, and principles of classification. Includes 3 hours of lecture each week.

Prerequisite: BIOL 1301/1101 (or BIOL 1401) and C- or better in BIOL 3304

PHYS 1010-001H: HONORS INTRODUCTORY PHYSICS LAB

Stephen Sekula | M 6:00-7:20 PM | VIRTUAL

No UC/CC 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

ANTH 3399-001H: IN SEARCH OF ICE AGE AMERICANS

David Meltzer | TuTh 9:30-10:50 PM | 201 Hyer Hall

UC 2016: Human Diversity, Information Literacy, Natural and Applied Sciences, Ways of Knowing

CC: Exploring Science, Writing

It is widely accepted that the first Americans arrived here over 12,000 years ago, when the earth was in the waning grip of an Ice Age. But ascertaining who these colonists were, where they came from, when and how they got here, and how they adapted to their new landscape has proven challenging – if not highly controversial. The primary goals of this course are to develop an understanding of the peopling of the Americas. Given the inherently interdisciplinary nature of the topic this requires attention to a variety of

scientific fields: you will learn about and critically assess how that understanding is being developed across multiple disciplines including archaeology, glacial geology, genetics (including ancient DNA), linguistics and physical anthropology.

ECO 1312-001H: PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS

TBD | TuTh 8:00-9:20 AM | 306 Dallas Hall

No UC/CC Credit

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.

Prerequisites: C- or Higher in ECO 1311

Recommended course for first-year Honors students.

HRTS 3316-001H: ETHNOVIOLENCE

Ben Voth | TuTh 2:00-3:20 PM | 201 Hyer Hall

CC: Human Diversity

Introduces topics and approaches to the study of ethnviolence, including specific disciplinary approaches such as sociology, communication studies, postcolonial studies, film studies, political science, and human rights. Students meet twice a week, once with the entire class, and once in groups of 20 to take a more sustained disciplinary approach to the question depending on the background of the individual instructor. Some lectures are delivered by guest speakers.

PLSC 1340-003H: INTRODUCTION TO COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Michael Lusztig | MWF 8:00-8:50 AM | VIRTUAL

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 3330-002H: LAW, POLITICS, AND THE SUPREME COURT

Joseph Kobyłka | MW 4:00-5:20 PM | VIRTUAL

UC 2016: History, Social and Behavioral Sciences; Information Literacy, Oral Communication

CC: Social and Behavioral Sciences, Writing in the Major

An introduction to the uniquely political and legal role played by the Supreme Court in elaborating the scope of governmental power and defining individual rights and liberties.

PLSC 4370-002H: THE REPUBLICAN HERO

Michael Lusztig | MWF 9:00-9:50 AM | VIRTUAL

No UC Credit

CC: Writing in the Major

Explores the evolution of democratic values through the lens of heroism. Identifies a typology of heroism and demonstrates the relevance of heroism from Homer to Batman.