FALL 2014 VARIABLE TOPIC AND SPECIAL TOPIC DESCRIPTIONS

AMS-245-01 Shaping American Identities in Moving Images (new course previously offered as AMS-295)

This course explores representations of American identities and the binaries generated by these explorations including here/there, foreign/local, abroad/ home, American/Other. Films and readings will highlight the theme of amalgamation as an alchemic process (the melting pot) shaping Americanness and its association with characteristics such as respectability, recognition and respect. Prerequisite: one 100-level course in Humanties or Social Studies.

ANT-295-01 ST: Historic Schoolhouse Excavation

Special Topic: Historic Schoolhouse Excavation. During the week before classes start, students will practice archaeological skills including site mapping and excavation by mapping and excavating a historical site near Grinnell which was the location of a one-room schoolhouse from the late 1850s to about 1950. This intensive week will be followed by readings about the history of education in Iowa to put the project in context and individual projects analyzing the and writing up the results of the excavations. Prerequisite: ANT-104.

ANT-295-02 ST: Managing Entrepreneurship & Innovation (cross-list SST-295-02)

Special Topic: Solutions: Managing Enterprise and Innovation. Also listed as SST-295. This course, sponsored by the Donald L. Wilson Program in Enterprise and Leadership, takes a case-study approach to the management of innovations, or generating solutions to social, economic, and environmental problems, using case studies by alumni innovators, many of whom will visit class. We start, of course, with Grinnell's most famous entrepeneur, Robert Noyce. Innovations include changes in products, processes, and organizational structures. Alumni will participate throughout the course. Prerequisites: 2 courses in the social studies division.

ART-295-01 ST: Women and the French Rococo

Special Topic: Women and the French Rococo. As patrons and as subjects, aristocratic women played a key role in the development and the promotion of the Rococo style in France. This course will examine both the style itself and the women behind its efflorescence. In addition to reading the art historical literature on the subject, we will also examine the historical biographies of several important email patrons of the arts, including Madame de Pompadour and Marie Antoinette. Prerequisite: ART-103.

ART-295-02 ST: The Baroque Imaginary

Special Topic: The Baroque Imaginary. The Baroque has fascinated - and incensed - artists, historians, cultural critics, and philosophers from Henrich Wolfflin, Walter Benjamin, and Erwin Panofsky to Gilles Deleuze, Hubert Damisch, and Peter Greenway. Often aligned with an artistic "Golden Age" exemplified by the works of Bernini, Rubens, Velazquez, and Vermeer, the Baroque is also associated with decadence, irrationality, and effeminacy. We will explore the stakes of these connotations for seventeenth-century Baroque icons as well as for later, (Neo)Baroque artists. Prerequisite: ART-103.

BIO-150-01 Intro to Biological Inquiry W/Lab

Prairie Restoration. As a way to explore how biologists ask questions and develop answers to them, this class will focus on the biological problems involved in the restoration of tallgrass prairies. It will be taught in "workshop" format at Grinnell College's Conard Environmental Research Area (CERA), where we will use the college's prairie and savanna restorations as our laboratory. Students will be required to formulate research questions based on readings of the scientific literature, design experimental or observational studies to test these hypotheses, and communicate the results of these studies after the conventions of professional biologists. Papers resulting from a substantial independent project will be published in the class journal, Tillers. Prerequisite: None.

BIO-150-02 Intro to Biological Inquiry W/Lab

Microbial Pathogenesis. In this course we will investigate strategic pathogenetic microorganisms use to colonize our food and thrive inside the human body. Topics addressed will include: the biology of bacteria and viruses, factors important for biofilm formation, how microorganisms become resistant to antibiotics, and how we protect our food and ourselves from microorganisms. Students will isolate and characterize microorganisms attached to vegetables by using standard microbial and basic molecular biology techniques. Based on critical reading of the literature, students will design and carry out independent research projects, analyze and report the results in scientific papers, posters and oral presentation. The class will have two, three hour meetings per week, which combine lecture, lab, and discussion. Prerequisite: None.

BIO-150-03 & 04 Intro to Biological Inquiry W/Lab

The Language of Neurons. In this course students will actively learn how biologists study the nervous system. Specifically, students will work as neuroscientists for a semester and will attempt to learn something novel about how nerve cells communicate with one another at chemical synapses. Students will present their findings at the end of the semester via both oral and written presentations. Papers resulting from a substantial independent project will be published in the class journal, Pioneering Neuroscience: The Grinnell Journal of Neurophysiology. Students with a strong background in high school physics will benefit most from this section of Biological Inquiry. Prerequisite: None.

BIO-395-01 ST: Principles of Pharmacology

Advanced Special Topic: Principles of Pharmacology. An examination of the fundamental principles by which pharmacological agents are produced, work and used. A major part of the course will explore basic concepts of pharmacokinetics (absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion), as well as receptor, theory, dose responses and other key concepts. Some common drug classes will be examined to illustrate basic physiological and pharmacological principles of drug action. Aspects of drug discovery, development and policy will be introduced. Three lectures and one scheduled laboratory each week. Prerequisites: BIO-252 or BCM-262.

CLS-257-01 The Roman Republic (see cross-list HIS-257-01, new course)

Also listed as HIS-257. This course examines the rise of Rome from a village on the banks of the Tiber River to an imperial Mediterranean power governed by a republic (753 BCE to 14 CE). It focuses on Rome's expansion in Italy, its struggle with Carthage, the tumultuous "fall" of the republic, the Augustan settlement and the transition to empire. Attention is also given to Roman social and religious life. Students analyze both literary texts and archaeological evidence. Prerequisite: History 100 or second-year standing.

CSC-151-01 & 02 Functional Problem Solving w/lab

In this section of CSC 151, we will ground our study of functional problem solving in media computation. In particular, we will explore mechanisms for representing, making, and manipulating images. We will consider a variety of models of images based on pixels, basic shapes, and objects that draw. The course will be taught using a workshop style: In most class sessions, students will work collaboratively on a series of problems. Includes formal laboratory work. Prerequisite: None.

CSC-161-01 Imperative Problem Solving and Data Structures w/lab

This section of CSC 161 will utilize robotics as an application domain in studying imperative problem solving, data representation, and memory management. Additional topics will include assertions and invariants, data abstraction, linked data structures, an introduction to the GNU/Linux operating system, and programming the low-level, imperative language C. The course will utilize a workshop style, in which students will frequently work collaboratively on a series of problems. Includes formal laboratory work. Prerequisite: CSC-151.

CSC-281-01 Life Beyond Grinnell-Learning From Computer Science Alum (new course previously offered as CSC-295)

This course challenges you to think beyond your time at Grinnell. Alumni with careers related to computer science will tell their own stories so that we can learn how they constructed their lives and careers. They will also provide advice as you think about your life and career. Readings and assignments will encourage further reflection. **S/D/F only**. Prerequisite: CSC-151.

CSC-321-01 Software Development Principles and Practices (new course)

Provides a foundation for "programming in the large" and developing high-quality software that meets human needs. Introduces the software lifecyde, agile development methods, professional tools, and software design principles. Includes laboratory work. Prerequisite: CSC-207.

CSC-322-01 Team Software Development for Community Organizations (new course)

Application of software development principles and practices to a large-scale project. Teams will develop software for a community organization, supported by a faculty adviser and an alumni technical mentor. Students will gain experience working with a client, as well as a substantial code base suitable for inclusion in a professional portfolio. Students are encouraged to repeat the course for credit to experience multiple roles within a team and multiple phases of the software lifecycle. Prerequisite: CSC-207 and completion of or concurrent registration in CSC-321.

EAS-195-01 ST: Languages in Japan (see cross-list JPN-195-01)

ECN-295-01 ST: Managerial Economics

Special Topic: Managerial Economics. This introductory level course in managerial economics will apply and extend microeconomic analysis as studied in introductory economics (e.g., demand, cost, production, and pricing theories) to business decision making. Additional topics covered will include such topics as business capital budgeting, risk analysis, multinationals, and ethical decision making. We will use business case studies to illustrate the analysis and decision-making methodologies we study. This should be a good basic course for students from any major who may work for for-profit firms or non-profit organizations after graduation. Prerequisite: ECN-111.

ECN-395-01 ST: Behavioral & Experimental Economics

Advanced Special Topic: Behavioral & Experimental Economics. This course is an introduction to methods in experimental economics as applied to specific topics such as trust and cooperation, public goods, social preferences and auctions. Where possible, we will follow a series of experiments to illustrate how experiments build on one another to give clearer answers. While the focus will be on laboratory and field experiments, our discussions of the findings and implications will also serve to highlight important topics in behavioral eonomics. Prerequisite: ECN-280.

ECN-395-02 ST: Seminar in Macro Finance

Advanced Special Topic: Seminar in Macro Finance. This course will familiarize students with the theory and application of economics to analyze issues in Macro and Financial Economics. It will focus on regulatory and strategic issues impacting investment decisions and aggregate fluctuations and will explore how information availability, agency conflicts, and regulatory structures impact aggregate economic outcomes through their influence on institutional decision-making. Topics include governances, bailouts, bankruptcy, restructuring, corporate control, shareholders and stakeholders, boards of directors, agency conflicts, and information transmission. Prerequisite: ECN-282.

ENG-120-01 Literary Analysis

In this course we will read travel writing by novelists, journalists, and explorers in different historical periods. Before the great upsurge in tourism in nineteenth-century Europe, travelers who ventured across the seas in search of trading opportunities or on journeys of exploration recounted tales of different people and their cultures. In our century, tourism has become one of the most important activities of the middle and upper-classes in the industrial world. The purpose of the course is to study the formal features of different literary genres from the eighteenth century to the present. We will begin with the poetic journeys of William Wordsworth, Alfred Tennyson, W.B. Yeats, T. S. Eliot, and Derek Walcott, which range over continents, cultures, geographies, and postcolonial histories. Travel becomes a personal quest for identity in M. Scott Momaday's "The Way to Rainy Mountain" and Flannery O'Connor's "A Good Man is Hard to Find." We will study representations of Asia and Africa in National Geographic, one of the most popular of travel magazines today. If Jamaica Kincaid's satirizes tourists in A Small Place, Amitav Ghosh re-directs us to the pleasures of travel as a way of recovering and rediscovering political and cultural histories of remote parts of our world in Dancing in Cambodia, At Large in Burma. Prerequisite: None.

ENG-120-02 Literary Analysis – Description not available at this time

ENG-120-03 Literary Analysis

In this course, we will practice and implement several analytical methodologies for explicating texts. These texts will represent a set of unsolved literary problems, about which there is no definitive critical consensus. Together, we will establish and differentiate our critical positions through collaborative annotation, historicist research, formal analysis, and applications of theory. By the end of the semester, you will have a basic set of reliable tools for working on poetry, fiction, and film, a series of four completed implementations of a selection of these tools, and a prospectus toward an extensive research project in literary analysis. Prerequisite: None.

ENG-120-04 Literary Analysis

Students in this section will explore methods of analyzing novels, short fiction, films, and poetry. We will begin with a unit that involves reading a novel to use as a touchstone while exploring a range of critical and theoretical approaches. The course will then examine literature that embodies traditionally formal as well as experimental strategies in poetry, film, and other modes. We will discuss the ways authors craft their works, and we will develop strategies for analyzing those choices in academic papers. Graded assignments will include frequent short writing assignments and longer papers. Prerequisite: None.

ENG-120-05 Literary Analysis

In this section of Literary Analysis, you will develop the tools required to read and critique poetry and prose written in English. Besides mastering the basics of the "close reading," you will analyze texts through the lens of critical theory to develop a rich and nuanced vocabulary for discussing literature. We will explore the notion of canon formation and consider how African American writers "signify" upon "master narratives." Specifically, we will read works by Wanda Coleman, George C. Wolfe, Octavia Butler, and Kyle Baker-to name a few-to understand how race and gender impact black texts, if they impact them at all. Prerequisite: None.

ENG-121-01 Introduction to Shakespeare

This course will help students develop foundational tools for literary analysis by focusing on the poems and plays of William Shakespeare. As we read these Renaissance texts, we will consider the ways in which modern literary theory can open up new ways of exploring meaning and signification within literary works. We will also discuss Shakespeare's status as a cultural icon, the relationship between theatrical production and the printed page, and the ways in which generic classification affects our response to particular plays. Prerequisite: None.

ENG-224-01 The Tradition of English Lit II

This course will explore the aesthetic progression of representation in British prose and poetry from the Restoration to the end of the nineteenth century, including works by Daniel Defoe, Jonathan Swift, Samuel Johnson, William Blake, Jane Austen, Emily Bront‰, and Oscar Wilde. Through these texts, we will discuss several of the major religious, economic, and moral debates of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and their relationship to the development of new literary styles and strategies by British authors. We will be particularly concerned with representations of religion, sexuality and gender, race and national identity, consumerism and money, and sentimental love, each of which undergoes substantial transformation across this period. Students will write a short analytical paper and a review of an article in literary criticism, as well as a longer research paper that will build on this earlier work. There will also be a final exam in which students will be able to demonstrate engagement with the aesthetic history outlined in the course. Prerequisite: ENG 120 or ENG 121 for majors; for non-majors, ENG 120 or 121 or any course in the study of literature in another language department.

ENG-225-01 Introduction to Postcolonial Literatures

An introduction to postcolonial literatures and theory from the Caribbean, Africa, South Asia, and the Pacific. Prerequisite: ENG 120 or ENG 121 for majors; for non-majors, ENG 120 or 121 or any course in the study of literature in another language department.

ENG-232-01 Traditions of Ethnic American Literature

This survey course examines how a variety of American writers negotiate the contradictions, ambiguities and anxieties embedded in questions of American national identity at the intersection of race and citizenship. We will read fiction, poetry, plays, and essays by 20th-century and contemporary American authors who identify with African American, Asian American, Native American, Jewish, Latino and Chicano heritages, amongst others. Reading texts within and against their specific cultural and historical contexts, we will explore how these writers use literary form and language as a way to articulate alternative histories of the nation, national identity, and belonging. Readings will include major works by James Baldwin, Maxine Hong Kingston, Philip Roth, Louise Erdrich, Amiri Baraka, Yusef Komunyakaa, Li-Young Lee, Anna Deveare Smith, David Henry Hwang, Jhumpa Lahiri, and Junot Diaz. Prerequisite: ENG-120 or ENG-121 for majors; for non-majors, ENG-120 or ENG-121 or any course in the study of literature in another language department.

ENG-314-01 Milton

This course is an intensive study of Milton's poetry and prose. Our understanding of Milton's career will be shaped by a single hypothesis: Milton radically transformed every poetic form he encountered because he was a masterful writer in prose. Milton's career as a poet was interrupted by a major political event - the English Civil War - during which he wrote fiercely polemical pamphlets in prose. As a result, Milton was the first poet in the English tradition to take prose seriously as a model for poetry, and he critiqued the constraints of formal poetic versification as a type of political oppression binding the English language in shackles. We will first read Milton's initial efforts to master the traditional range of poetic forms in his early lyric. We will then analyze the polemical prose tracts to identify how Milton harnessed the resources of classical rhetoric and oratory to develop a prose form unique to the English language. Finally, we will study how Milton's career as a masterful prose stylist defined the aesthetic force of his major epics, Paradise Lost and Samson Agonistes, and how these texts argue that the stylistic choices one makes in language determine the possibility of political freedom and free will. We will conclude the class by testing a second hypothesis: given Paradise Lost's debt to Milton's prose style, his epic is the first English novel. A note on method: this course will use close reading in conjunction with computational methods (primarily natural language processing software) to test experimental hypotheses against Milton's entire prose corpus. We will think about why different, or analogous, arguments emerge from the different methods. Prerequisite: ENG 223 or 273.

ENG-327-01 The Romantics

Literature of Excess: Gothicism and Romanticism This course will examine ways intersections between two literary movements that are usually treated separately: the rise of the gothic novel and the development of British Romanticism. Primary readings will include works of gothic fiction by authors such as Horace Walpole, Matthew Lewis, Ann Radcliffe, Mary Wollstonecraft, Mary Shelley, and James Hogg, as well as works by major Romantic writers such as William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, John Keats, and Lord Byron. Assignments will include responses, a midterm paper, an annotated bibliography, and a research paper. Prerequisite: ENG 224.

ENG-329-01 Studies in African American Literature

This course examines how black women's literature and feminist scholarship illuminates the impasse between how black women see themselves and how they are seen. Bearers of the burden of representation and experts in the politics of respectability, black women writers and black feminist critics often address-either implicitly or explicitly-the stereotypical portrayals of black womanhood that misrecognize black women or render them invisible. To better grasp the applicability of this longstanding history within a contemporary context, we will read Kathryn Stockett's The Help, alongside representative reviews of the novel and film, to reveal the troping of black women's bodies, voices, and stories as a mechanism for advancing social fantasies of racial harmony. Specifically, we will: examine how Stockett, a white woman, represents black women, their voices and thoughts; delineate how her portrayals compare to the black female protagonists figured in texts by black women writers; and distinguish between how Skeeter views "the help" and how black women literary scholars, historians, and cultural critics view themselves and the black women they study. Prerequisite: ENG-225, 227, 228, 229, 231, 233 or 273.

ENG-349-01 Medieval Literature

Grappling with Beowulf. This seminar will undertake an extensive study of Beowulf by considering how its historical and literary context can be coupled with modern theory to help us appreciate its complexity. The course will survey Old English and Norse literature, including poems, riddles, and sagas, as well historical and religious writings that both reflect and shape the social world of Anglo-Saxon England. All of the readings will be in modern English translations, but we will spend some time discussing features of the Old English language. In addition to studying Beowulf's sources, we will also consider its legacy and influence, and the course will conclude with a unit on J.R.R. Tolkien's The Hobbit. Prerequisite: ENG 223.

ENV-295-01 ST: Environmental History of Infectious Disease

Special Topic: An Environmental History of Infectious Disease. Infectious diseases have determined the fates of cultures and of nations more than any army or geopolitical thrall ever could. This course will examine the fundamental pathogenesis, etiology and epidemiology of infectious diseases, both human and zoonotic, including smallpox, plague, yellow fever, rabies, malaria, river blindness, syphilis, yaws, kala-azar, influenza, HIV, rinderpest, hoof-and-mouth disease, and the potato blight. It will also examine the geopolitical and social changes these diseases have wrought on human demography, history and destiny, from the spread of rodent-vectored plague westward along the Silk Road, to the decimation of New World populations by smallpox after their conquest by Europeans, to the depredations of HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, to the modern-day emergence of antibiotic-resistant pathogens (among others). Prerequisite: Second-year standing.

GLS-281-01 Major Russian Writers: Dostoevsky (see cross-list RUS-281-01, previously numbered GLS-353)

GWS-295-01 ST: Gender, Race, & Science

Special Topic: Gender, Race, and Science. Gender dynamics are woven in and through all the institutions that shape our lives. Our goal in this interdisciplinary course is to examine the historical, sociological, economic, and political processes that shape the ways that gender, race class, disability, sexuality and nation intersect with science, medicine and technology. We will consider the complex relationships between construction of nature, language, race, and the body to highlight how culture, politics, and economics influence the theory and practice of science, medicine, and technology in Western societies. Prerequisite: ANT-104, BIO-150, GWS-111 or SOC-111.

GWS-395-01 ST: Queer Cinema/Queer Theory (cross-list HUM-395-01)

Advanced Special Topic: Queer Cinema/Queer Theory. Also listed as HUM-395. This seminar will provide an intensive exploration of contemporary queer theory, with particular attention given to key terms and on-going critical debates in the field. The theoretical concepts of queer theory will be examined in relation to queer cinema, grounding theoretical insights in the textual analysis of dominant and avant-garde cinema. Films screened for this course include: Suddenly Last Summer, Brokeback Mountain, Edward II and Sister My Sister and key figures of queer cinema such as Kenneth Anger, Isaac Julien, Bruce La Bruce, Ulrike Ottinger, and Sadie Benning. Prerequisite: GWS-249, ENG-274 or HUM-185.

GDS-395-01 ST: Development in sub-Saharan Africa: Policies, Institutions, and Actors

Advanced Special Topic: Development in sub-Saharan Africa: policies, institutions, and actors. This course will investigate development in sub-Saharan Africa as a process of social and political change. It will include an overview of development policy in Africa in historic perspective (colonial, state-led, post-structural adjustment) and engagement with contemporary challenges facing the continent such as food security, civil conflict, and urbanization. It will examine these challenges, past development failures, and perceived ways forward through several different theoretical frameworks with particular attention to issues of governance. Prerequisite: GDS-111 and ANT-238, ECN-230, ECN-233, ECN-240, EDU-217, HIS-262, POL-251, 257, 258, 259, 262, SOC-220, or SOC-240.

HIS-100-01 Making History

After the Great War. This course provides an introduction to issues of historical causation, argumentation, and evidence, by exploring the impact of the First World War (1914-18) on the political, social, and cultural institutions of Europe and the wider world, and using the current centenary of the war to consider its legacy. After introductory units on historical methods and the experience of the war, we will investigate how European citizens and subjects attempted to reconstruct, reinvent, and make sense of "a world undone." Topics will include cultural memory and modernism; gender and the "New Woman"; the rise of Nazism; internationalism and the League of Nations; colonialism and nationalism. Prerequisite: None.

HIS-100-02 & 03 Making History

Europe under the Great Dictators. This course provides an introduction to issues of historical causation, argumentation, and evidence by examininng European history under two of the moste repressive dictators in all of world history--Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin. After an introductory unit on historical methods, we will use a variety of primary and secondary texts to investigate the workings of the Nazi and Stalinist dictatorships, examining subjects like everyday life under totalitarianism, the personal role of Hitler and Stalin in determining state policy, the use of state terror and the secret police, the rise of the leader cult, the origins of the Holocaust, and the nature of Stalin's Great Purges. Prerequisite: None.

HIS-257-01 The Roman Republic (see cross-list CLS-257-01, new course)

HIS-275-01 China's Revolutions (new course previously offered as HIS-295)

Revolutions taking place in 1911, 1927, 1949 have massively impacted the evolution of state-society relationships in China today. Each week, we will examine the forces which pushed forward China's revolutionary process, the obstacles which revolution encountered, and the inequalities it created and re-created. Through close reading of primary documents we will answer questions such as - What does revolution mean? How can this concept be meaningfully applied to China? What are its contemporary legacies? Prerequisites: HIS-100 or second-year standing.

HIS-295-01 ST: Tudors and Stuarts, 1485-1707

Special Topic: Tudors and Stuarts, 1485-1707. Tudor and Stuart monarchs were some of the most intriguing characters to walk on the world's stage. Their reign heralded a series of radical changes in British and Irish political, religious, economic, and cultural life that had significant consequences for the shape of the modern Anglophone world. Key themes include: Personalities and politics, monarchy and republicanism, sex and power, civil war, public sphere and news media, religious reformations, relationships between the three kingdoms. Prerequisite: HIS-100 or second-year standing.

HIS-295-02 ST: Cold War Radical Politics

Special Topic: Cold War Radical Politics. This course explores the development of Cold War-era radical politics, focusing on the Americas and Europe during the 1960s and 1970s. The primary object of our investigations will be the New Left, a complex and multi-sited international movement with profound legacies for contemporary political practice. Using sources from around the world, we will examine the diverse intellectual underpinnings and contexts of New Left politics. In the process, we will address how political identities were constructed through categories of race, gender, class, sexuality, and nationality; organizational aspects of grassroots politics; and the impact of protest on the norms and institutions of Cold War societies. Prerequisite: HIS-100 or second-year standing.

HIS-322-01 Sex & Sexuality in American History

This seminar investigates the history of sex and sexuality in the United States, from the colonial era through the twentieth century. We will identify changes, contradictions, and continuities in sexual ideals as well as the even more complicated realities of Americans' sexual experiences. We will discuss the invention of heterosexualities and same-sex sexualities, as well as the laws, policies, and traditions that shape them. Students will write in-depth research papers on some aspect of American sexual history. Prerequisites: HIS 100 and HIS 222 or GWSS 111.

HIS-336-01 The European Metropolis

This seminar takes as its starting point the explosion of large cities in Europe from the mid-nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries. As the narrative goes, parallel political and economic revolutions made possible-–even inevitable-–the blossoming of entirely new spaces characterized by unprecedented population density and diversity, radical shifts in architecture and infrastructure, and vertiginous social and cultural developments. We examine this phenomenon by concentrating upon the ways in which artists and intellectuals in London, Paris, Vienna, and Berlin (and occasionally elsewhere) grappled with the idea and the experience of the metropolis. Our investigations include political developments, social theory, the visual arts, film, literature, architecture, consumer culture, and music. Among the myriad of qualities and tensions inherent in the modern urban experience, we consider community and alienation, the fluidity of the self, spectacle and entertainment, disease and criminality, gender, and class. Prerequisites: HIS 100 and HIS 236, 237, 238, 239, or 241.

HIS-373-01 Chimerica: History of Special Relationship

This seminar will address the history behind China and America's tumultuous - and increasingly symbiotic - bilateral relationship by examining American/Chinese interactions over the course of the 20th century. After reviewing the rich historiography on international, economic, and intercultural contact between these two Pacific states, we will turn to mapping out a collaborative research agenda based on available resources at Grinnell and surrounding libraries and archives. Students will then write individual research papers focused on some aspect of China-U.S. relations, with an eye toward explaining how contemporary patterns have been anticipated by historical interaction. Our penultimate goals will thus include: 1) extensive drafting and re-writing of a substantive, paper-length work of original research, and 2) developing an understanding of U.S.-China relations which accounts for the multiple levels of exchange, meaning, and past precedent at work in shaping our global present. Prerequisites: HIS 100 and any 200-level course on East Asian history or U.S. History.

HUM-295-01 ST: Interdisciplinary Publishing: Founding a Prairie Studies Journal (see cross-list SST-295-01)

HUM-395-01 ST: Queer Cinema/Queer Theory (see cross-list GWS-395-01)

JPN-195-01 ST: Languages in Japan (cross-list EAS-195-01)

Special Topic: Languages in Japan. Also listed as EAS-195. This course will explore language use in the contemporary Japanese society from the perspectives of linguistics and second language acquisition. The course will especially emphasize language learning, language diversity, and linguistics minorities in Japan by examining examples from second language acquisition, linguistic and historical studies. By the end of the semester, students will gain knowledge about how languages are processed, used and learned in Japan and be familiar with important theories of second language acquisition. Prerequisite: None.

LAT-395-01 ST: Sallust: The Jugurthine War

Advanced Special Topic: Sallust: The Jugurthine War. Sallust's historical monograph, *Bellum Iugurthinum*, narrates Rome's war, in 111-105 BCE, against Jugurtha, king of Numidia (modern Algeria). We will examine Roman imperial policy on the North African frontier in the later Republic, the influence of social class on the politics of war in Rome as talented men of lower social rank challenged the traditional hold of aristocrats on high office, and Sallust's conception of human nature and historial causation. Prerequisite: LAT-222, 225, or placement into 300-level Latin.

LIN-295-01 ST: Linguistic Typology

Special Topic: Linguistic Typology. This course is an introduction to the field of linguistic typology and the search for universals within language. We will look at the diverse range of phonological inventories, word order patterns, and lexical categories found within the world's languages and also examine a variety of grammatical categories such as tense/aspect/modality, case, possession, and negation. Our goal is to determine which categories are found in all languages and which ones are more restricted in their distribution. Prerequisite: LIN-114.

MUS-201-01 Topics in Music & Culture: Music and Mind

Topics in Music and Culture: Music and Mind. This course explores the rapidly growing field of music perception and cognition. In light of the advances in cognitive science and music theory, we will examine perceptual and cognitive foundations of how humans perceive, understand, and create music. Topics to be covered include evolutionary origins of music, music and emotion, musical learning and development, music and the brain, the perception and cognition of music structure, and the processes involved in composition, improvisation, and performance. (Each participant in this course shall lead a discussion on a topic of her or his choice, probably related to the paper/presentation required at the end of the semester.) Prerequisite: None.

MUS-202-01 Topics in American Music: Popular Music

This course examines the confluence of popular music, culture, and society in North America from 1890 to present. The class is primarily organized around genre - itself a key concept in popular music studies - moving from late 19th-Century minstrelsy through blues, country, rock and roll, punk, and contemporary hip hop. As we explore the musical development of each genre, we will use music as a means to begin to unravel the web of racialized, gendered, sexualized, and class-based relationships that have characterized North American culture through the twentieth century and into the twenty-first. Prerequisites: None.

MUS-202-02 Topics in American Music:

Course description available at a later date. Prerequisites: None.

MUS-203-01 Regional Studies in World Music: Zimbabwe; Music, Culture, and Colonialism.

Regional Studies in World Music: Zimbabwe; Music, Culture, and Colonialism. This is a co-taught course with Tute Chigamba, a master mbira player and spiritual elder who is visiting from Zimbabwe. In the course we will explore the role of music in Shona religious practices and impact of colonialism and its aftermath on local religion, music, and society. Mr. Chigamba will teach us about the mbira, a local musical instrument, as well as the importance of Shona ancestors and other spirits. We will conclude the class with an exploration of Zimbabwean popular music and its role in social life since independence. Prerequisite: None.

PHI-392-01 Advanced Studies/Anglo-American Philosophy: Davidson

In this seminar we will investigate the views of the contemporary American philosopher, Donald Davidson, on meaning, interpretation, knowledge, action and mind. The course will divide into three sections: the first will fill in Davidson's philosophical background in Quine and Tarski and examine his theory of meaning paying particular attention to the following questions: whether a Tarski-style theory of truth can do service as a theory of meaning, how such a theory can be empirically tested, and whether it can provide an adequate semantic representation of natural language. The second considers the supposed anti-sceptical epistemological consequences of his theory of meaning. The third will be concerned with his conception of the relation between reasons and causes for action and his theory of 'anomalous monism' in the philosophy of mind. Prerequisites: PHI-253, 256, 257, or 258.

POL-295-01 ST: African Politics

Special Topic: African Politics. An overview of the major phenomena in contemporary African politics and an assessment of competing explanation for those phenomena. Among the topics discussed are democratization, economic development, state collapse and intra-African wars. Among the explanatory possibilities, colonialism/neocolonialism, the end of the Cold War and ethnic diversity. **Dates September 08 to October 03. Short course deadlines apply.** Prerequisite: POL-101.

POL-320-01 Applied Policy Analysis (see cross-list PST-320-01 and PSY-320-01)

PST-320-01 Applied Policy Analysis (cross-list POL-320-01 and PSY-320-01)

Improving Public Decision Making and Problem Solving. Also listed as POL-320, PSY-320).This seminar will explore how research in psychology might inform (a) the design, implementation, and evaluation of public policies and (b) decision-making processes which rely on the analysis of public problems. Among other topics, we will examine research into human judgment, problem solving, decision making, and reasoning about information, risks, and other uncertainties. We apply this research to understand how problems are framed, how risks are perceived and acted on, and how taking psychology into account can influence policy design and implementation. Analytical tools used to advise decision makers-such as cost-benefit analysis, decision trees, methods of debiasing, and program evaluations-will also be explored and applied. Prerequisite for PST-320: PST-220. Prerequisite for POL-320: POL-216, POL- 239, POL-222, or POL-250. Prerequisite: for PSY-320: PSY-220 or PSY-260 and PSY-225.

PSY-295-01 ST: Sensation & Perception

Special Topic: Sensation and Perception. This course will present a survey of theoretical frameworks and empirical findings addressing the questions of how the body detects sensory information and of how the mind integrates this incoming sensory information into a coherent understanding of experience. This course will provide a mix of disciplines and approaches, including attention to the physiology of natural systems (e.g., us) the engineering of smart devices (e.g., robots) and remaining challenges. Prerequisite: PSY-113 and 225.

PSY-320-01 Applied Policy Analysis (see cross list POL-320-01 and PST-320-01)

PSY-395-01 ST: Atypical Development

Advanced Special topic: Atypical Development. This course will cover research on situations in which children develop atypically. We will read empirical research on developmental disorders such as autism and Down syndrome, and on atypical development resutling from impoverished environments. Our readings will focus on the etiologies and outcomes of development, with special emphasis on cognitive and linguistic effects. Students will lead discussions, write reflections, and write a research proposal. Prerequisite: Two 200-level Psychology courses.

REL-103-01 Studying Religion: the Middle East

This course introduces religious studies through examination of the Middle East. We will begin by exploring the intertwined development of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam through topics such as myths or origin, the Crusades, and medieval interactions in the Mediterranean region. We will then turn to religion in the modern Middle East, focusing on issues like European colonialism, Christian missionary movements in the Middle East, and the development of the nation-state in the region. Prerequiste: First or second year standing.

REL-195-01 ST: Introduction to East Asian Religions

Introductory Special Topic: Introduction to East Asian Religions. This course explores the dynamic cultural landscape of East Asia, providing an overview of religion as it has been constructed in the states that are today known as China, Japan and Korea. Moving beyond the paradigms defined as the singular traditions of Confucianism, Daoism, Shintoism and Buddhism, the course delves into shamanistic and folk traditions, and practices that are across traditions, in order to provide students with tools to resist simplistic understandings of religious identity. Prerequisite: None.

REL-295-01 ST: Gender/Sexuality in Buddhist Communities

Special Topic: Gender and Sexuality in Buddhist Communities. Seen as androcentric and misogynist by some, and liberating and non-judgmental by others, Buddhism and Buddhist institutional attitudes related to gender and sexuality have been imagined through complex interactions between ancient traditions and the different cultures Buddhism has developed in as it has traveled. This course will explore some of these re-imaginings in India, China, Tibet, Japan, Thailand and Korea and will anchor these explorations in theoretical considerations of gender, sexuality and religion. Prerequisite: Second-year standing or one 100-level "Studying Religion" course.

REL-295-02 ST: Religion in Contemporary China

Special Topic: Religion in Contemporary China. This special topics course explores the position of religion in contemporary Chinese society and culture. It will engage with discussions related to the impact of rapid social and political change over the past century on social and moral identities, and will allow students the opportunity to think about broader questions related to the relationship between religion, modernity, and secularism for states and individuals in one of the world's most diverse, and misunderstood nations. Prerequisite: Second-year standing or one 100-level "Studying Religion" course.

REL-295-03 ST: Buddhism and the Environment

Special Topic: Buddhism and the Environment. Despite the popular perception of Buddhism as a religion that is based on ideals of renunciation, the Buddhist tradition in its varied cultural manifestations has always been concerned with the world around it. This course will provide a survey of classic Buddhist texts that engage with the environment, and the role of humans within that environment, as well as indigenous forms of environmentalism in different Buddhist cultures. Prerequisite: Second-year standing or one 100-level "Studying Religion" course.

RUS-281-01 Major Russian Writers: Dostoevsky (cross-list GLS-281-01, previously numbered RUS-353)

Also listed as GLS-281. This course examines Dostoevsky's artistic growth from early short works to major novels; philosophical development within the context and structure of the literary works, including The Double, Notes from Underground, Crime and Punishment, The Brothers Karamazov. Conducted in English. Plus-2 option available. Prerequisites: None.

RUS-389-01 Advanced Russian Seminar: Pushkin's Onegin

This semester's seminar focuses on Aleksandr Pushkin's novel-in-verse, Eugene Onegin. We will read the novel and discuss its central place in the history of Russian literature and culture. We will also consider important critical works on Eugene Onegin and artistic interpretations (film, opera, translations) of what is arguably Russia's most famous literary work. Conducted in Russian. Prerequisite: RUS-313.

SOC-295-01 ST: Sociology of Education

Special Topic: Sociology of Education. Educational opportunity has long been considered the lynchpin of mobility in the United States, and yet education paradoxically reproduces inequalities across generations. This course explores the sociological study of education, focusing on the crucial question of when and how schooling ameliorates or exacerbates inequalities. Topics to be addressed include: social mobility and stratification; social reproduction; the dynamics of race, class, and gender in education; social capital; school choice; social and generational change; and higher education. **This course will begin on August 22nd, one week before the start of the official fall semester.** Prerequisite: SOC-111.

SOC-295-02 ST: Sociology of Science

Special Topic: Sociology of Science. It is hard to imagine our contemporary world without science. Yet, how is scientific knowledge created, where does this activity take place, and why do we believe it (or not)? Sociologists examine science both as a powerful source of institutional authority and as a set of practices for making and using knowledge. Drawing on controversies over research, policy implications, and challenges from social movements, this course is designed to provide a sociological framework for unpacking central issues around science which concerns us all. Prerequisite: SOC-111.

SPN-320-01 Cultures of the Spanish-Speaking World

The Worlds of Spanish-speaking Immigrants. This course will focus on the cultures of Spanish-speaking immigrants moving from Latin America to the United States, Spain, and within Latin America. We will discuss and analyze their reasons for migrating, the challenges faced by these migrants, and the perceptions about immigrants in the countries of arrival. The course will include articles from various disciplines as well as films, documentaries, and web material. Prerequisite: SPN-285.

SST-195-01 ST: Intro Geographical Analysis & Cartography

Special Topic: Introduction to Geographical Analysis and Cartography. This course offers an introduction to geographic information systems (GIS) for spatial analysis and mapmaking. Covers topics such as the nature of geographic information, GIS data models, georeferencing and map projections, cartographic design, as well as basic and intermediate spatial analysis skills. Focus on understanding the major underlying theories and concepts of GIS, which students put into practice using GIS software applications in a series of lab exercises. **Dates: August 28 to October 16. ½ semester deadlines apply.** Prerequisite: None.

SST-195-02 ST: Intro Geographical Analysis & Cartography

Special Topic: Introduction to Geographical Analysis and Cartography. This course offers an introduction to geographic information systems (GIS) for spatial analysis and mapmaking. Covers topics such as the nature of geographic information, GIS data models, georeferencing and map projections, cartographic design, as well as basic and intermediate spatial analysis skills. Focus on understanding the major underlying theories and concepts of GIS, which students put into practice using GIS software applications in a series of lab exercises. **Dates: October 28 to December 11. ½ semester deadlines apply.** Prerequisite: None.

SST-295-01 ST: Interdisciplinary Publishing: Founding a Prairie Studies Journal (cross-list HUM-295-01)

Special Topic: Interdisciplinary Publishing: Founding a Prairie Studies Journal. Also listed as HUM-295. This course will train students as entrepreneurs and publishers by involving them in creating an interdisciplinary multimedia on-line journal highlighting North America's prairie region. Students from across the divisions will join instructors and Grinnell alumni from the publishing world to collaborate on an editorial vision for the journal, create a dynamic on-line template, develop an effective marketing plan, solicit and review submissions, and ultimately produce the journal's first issue. Prerequisites: Second-year standing.

SST-295-02 ST: Managing Entrepreneurship & Innovation (see cross-list ANT-295-02)

SST-295-03 ST: Balancing Privacy and National Security and the Role of the Press

Special Topic: Balancing Privacy and National Security and the Role of the Press. We'll wrestle with some hard issues confronting our country: Balancing privacy and national security--the role of the press--and the burgeoning social media. What are the limits? Who says? Analyzing the rule of law. Taught by four lawyers, two of whom are experienced press professionals, we'll also discuss--we hope demonstrate--those professions' essential skills. Plus at least one great movie and a chance to be in a relevant play! An intellectual adventure! **Dates: September 29 to October 17. Short course deadlines apply**. Prerequisites: None.