

Honors Program Course Offerings, Updated as of 9/28/21

Spring Quarter, 2021-2022

Course		Day/Time	Instructor
HON 205: Interdisciplinary Arts	<p>The Beatles This class is designed to introduce students to the music, the films, and the world of the Beatles in both the US and England. Materials will be presented in an analytical and historical context in order to explore the musical, cultural, literary, cinematic, and aesthetic value of the Beatles' work. Students will also consider cultural artifacts to explore the social climate in which they were created, and learn to listen to the music and write about selected works in informed, analytical, and critical fashion. Students will also learn elements of music notation in order to compose simple pieces derived from chord progressions used by the Beatles.</p>	Mon/Wed: 1:00PM-2:30PM	Cathy Elias
HON 205: Interdisciplinary Arts	<p>Film, Photography, Time and Memory With the unveiling of the photographic process in the early 19th century, followed by the moving photographic image at the end of that century, our conceptions of time and memory were resolutely shaken. Suddenly time seemed to become malleable, able to be frozen, elongated, and repeated. This plasticization of time offered by photographic processes also altered notions of memory. Students in this course will consider a number of texts in which issues of time and memory intertwine with photographic methods, while exploring how these processes point to the elusiveness and subjectivity of memory.</p>	Mon/Wed: 11:20AM-12:50PM	Steve Harp
HON 205: Interdisciplinary Arts	TBD	TBD	TBD
HON 208: Topics in Sociocultural Inquiry (Cross-listed with HON 302)	<p>Race & Urban Public Policy This course analyzes the intersection of race and public policy in the United States. We will begin with an in-depth look at different ways to consider race and political representation in America and how race has been intertwined with policy development in the 20th and 21st century. Then, we will study case-by-case examinations of several modern public policy areas such as education, policing and mass incarceration, income inequality, public housing, and immigration. This course will primarily be taught from a Political Science lens, but will also incorporate other social science disciplines, such as Sociology, History, and Economics, to critically assess race and public policy.</p>	Tues/Thurs: 2:40PM-4:10PM	Darry Powell-Young
HON 208: Topics in Sociocultural Inquiry (Cross-listed with HON 302)	<p>Cannabis Studies Cannabis has been recognized throughout history as a pharmacological agent to treat a variety of conditions. This history was interrupted by a series of prohibitions and criminalization policies that were driven by racism in the U.S. and elsewhere. This course examines systems of power that have perpetuated the criminalization of cannabis, the suppression of research into its viability as a pharmacological agent, as well as contemporary efforts to promote harm reduction, social justice and racial equity in the wake of the War on Drugs. Students will investigate the underlying structures that have created injustice among persons who use cannabis in the U.S., and they will study the ways in which racism has perpetuated inequality and oppression. Students will develop research skills by examining specific issues at the intersection of cannabis use or policy and social justice in depth, and evaluating approaches to redressing systemic injustice and creating a more equal society. Readings will be supplemented by guest speakers from cannabis policy, research, and social justice spheres.</p>	Tues/Thurs: 1:00PM-2:30PM	Doug Bruce

HON 208: Topics in Sociocultural Inquiry (Cross-listed with HON 302)	<p>Just Interventions: Social Conflict, Resilience, and Transformative Healing – Responses for Justice and Human Rights</p> <p>This course will give students an understanding of the different forms of conflict and how these arise and are dealt with especially as responses to social injustice and human rights violations. The main intention of the course is to look at both historical and current manifestations of these either in the USA or as global movements, with an emphasis on the use of nonviolence, the resource and development of resilience in individuals and social groups (and related organizations), and both traditional tools and current initiatives for “transformational” healing.</p>	Mon/Wed: 9:40AM-11:10AM	Mary Jeanne Larrabee
HON 208: Topics in Sociocultural Learning	<p>The Design of Learning Environments</p> <p>This course will examine research and theories on various factors that foster effective learning environments to consider the most fruitful ways to design environments that promote optimal learning experiences. Students will reflect on the settings in which their own learning has flourished (and has not) and deliberate the merits of current examples of learning environments, including different kinds of schools, museums, and other informal learning spaces.</p>	Mon/Wed: 11:20AM-12:50PM	Hilary Conklin
HON 208: Topics in Sociocultural Inquiry (Cross-listed with HON 302)	<p>Healthcare and Social Justice</p> <p>In this course we will use concepts from decolonial thought, critical race theory, and critical development theory to analyze health and health care inequities, both globally and within the U.S. The ultimate goal of the course will be to articulate concrete means of addressing such inequities in a manner that is cognizant of their nature as manifestations of structural oppression and violence. Topics to be considered include malaria, HIV, and tuberculosis epidemics, the Ebola epidemic of 2013-2014 in West Africa, maternal and child mortality, access to affordable quality health care, international “aid and development” work, and the current COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	Tues/Thurs: 11:20AM-12:50PM	James Walker
HON 225: Honors Lab Science Topics	<p>Archaeology</p> <p>Archaeology spans the academic worlds of the physical sciences and the social sciences. In this course, the physical science qualities of the discipline are introduced. Throughout the quarter students will look at datasets modeled after work done in South America, in order to introduce students how archaeologists collect data through survey, excavation, and artifact analysis to reconstruct past human experiences. For a final paper, students will have to write a research paper detailing the research method of their choosing and the way that this type of research allows us to understand the past better. This course includes one hour and a half lab.</p>	Lecture and Lab TBD	Christopher Milan
HON 225: Honors Lab Science Topics	<p>Environmental Science</p> <p>This course provides an overview of the interrelationships between humans and their environment from a scientific perspective, focusing on the application of scientific methodology to understanding, evaluating, and solving environmental issues. This interdisciplinary course is designed to provide an understanding of ecological principles and their relation to human populations and how cultural and societal institutions influence the availability and use of resources.</p>	Lecture and Lab TBD	Jim Montgomery

HON 225: Honors Lab Science Topics	<p>Women's Health</p> <p>This course will focus on the scientific and historic trends in women's health. The intersectional determinates of the health of women will be explored along with individual health behaviors. Students will collect data from existing sources regarding predictors of health in a variety of populations. Contraception, body image, gender identity, risk factors for heart disease and cancer, mental health, addiction, sexual harassment and violence. The framework of the course will include multiple sources including the World Health Organization's definition of health, the health belief model, feminist nursing research and a broad base of influences on women's health. Individual health assessment and risk analyses will be used to compare to demographic data on populations.</p>	Lecture and Lab TBD	Kim Amer
HON 300: Research Seminar	<p>Research Grants and Scholarships</p> <p>This 2-credit seminar helps students apply for prestigious national scholarships such as the Boren, Fulbright, Marshall, and Truman awards. These fully-funded scholarships typically provide students with living and travel allowances so they can reside abroad while learning languages, teaching English, or carrying out an independent research project.</p>	Fri:10:00AM-1:00PM	Phillip Stalley
HON 301: Junior Seminar in Multiculturalism (Cross-listed with HON 203)	<p>Language and Identity in the US</p> <p>In this course, we will consider the relationship between language and social identity, and explore how we use language to construct "self" and "other." The course introduces students to the concepts, theories, and methods used to analyze language and its role in the definition and construction of individual and group identity. We will look specifically at how social and individual factors may influence linguistic structure and vice-versa. The course will explore the interaction between language and speakers' membership in various groups and linguistic variation across groups.</p>	Mon/Wed: 1:00PM-2:30PM	Lourdes Torres
HON 301: Junior Seminar in Multiculturalism (Cross-listed with HON 203)	<p>Domestic Identities: Race, Gender and Cosmopolitanism</p> <p>This course introduces students to changing ideals about relations with nonwestern civilizations at the turn of the twentieth century as innovations in economics and transportation and communication technologies began to proliferate. We will focus on the popularity among middle-class women of orientalism (representations of Asian peoples and cultures in the arts) and evolving views about otherness and race when these women sought such arts to escape the confines of the home and move beyond the limited travel opportunities available to them. We will use contemporary fiction, paintings and popular magazine illustrations, and theatrical performances along with postcolonial and gender theory to consider the ways these increasingly global contacts at the beginning of the twentieth century shaped interfaces between personal and public identities with each other.</p>	Tues: 11:20AM-12:50PM Online: Hybrid	June Chung
HON 301: Junior Seminar in Multiculturalism (Cross-listed with HON 203)	<p>Multiculturalism in the US School System</p> <p>This course investigates the intersections of American society and educational efforts in a multicultural framework. Various readings are used to examine cultural groups within their own environment, the interactions of people from different backgrounds, and other sociocultural phenomena. This course will explore how persons can advance from a monocultural perspective to a more multicultural one. Students are asked to consider culture as learned behavior and perspective, reflecting on their own experiences, as well as those of others (family, friends, community members, etc.). The goal is a realization of culture as a respected framework using schools, in part, as a focus.</p>	Tues/Thurs: 2:40PM-4:10PM Hybrid (Tues F2F, Thurs Zoom)	Horace Hall

<p>HON 301: Junior Seminar in Multiculturalism (Cross-listed with HON 203)</p>	<p>Pride and Protest: LGBTQ+ Activism in America On the street, in courtrooms, and at the ballot box, LGBTQ+ communities and activists have waged defiant protest movements against the “straight state” by forming vibrant queer social spaces in neighborhood enclaves, engaging in direct-action campaigns for equal rights, and demanding public and cultural visibility in the name of sexual and gender identity. In short, the fight for LGBTQ+ equality represents one of the most sweeping and remarkable social movements in recent history. Through an examination of these historical inflection points, including the Stonewall Riots, the 1970s sexual revolutions, AIDS epidemic, and recent political and legal campaigns for marriage equality and Transgender rights, students will evaluate the strategies and tactics that LGBTQ+ activists employed, and in particular, investigate how participants and leaders of these movements experienced, harnessed, and promoted “PRIDE!” To do so, we will take a deep dive into the primary source documents of groups like the Gay Activist Alliance, the Radicalesbians, and ACT UP, as well as the pivotal role that social media organizing sites like @translawcenter and @lgbt_history currently play in archiving the activist queer past and spearheading current efforts for civil rights and social justice.</p>	<p>Mon/Wed: TBD</p>	<p>David Goldberg</p>
<p>HON 350: Capstone</p>	<p>International Terrorism This interdisciplinary seminar examines terrorism (domestic and international) from a variety of perspectives. Following an historical overview of the phenomenon, students will examine terrorist groups and organizations, tactics, incidents, and ideologies as well as strategies to combat the threat. They will complete a research project examining the subject from the perspective of their particular disciplines and to share their work with the seminar.</p>	<p>Tues/Thurs: 9:40AM-11:10AM Hybrid</p>	<p>Tom Mockaitis</p>
<p>HON 350: Capstone</p>	<p>American Literature and the Environment American Literature and the Environment, examines American attitudes toward nature from pre-Columbian times to today. We will discuss concepts such as nature, culture, wilderness, ecology, and biodiversity. We will also look at the relationship between cities, especially Chicago, and nature. We will focus weekly on key environmental topics such as climate change, water, plants, and environmental justice. Readings are mainly literary fiction and nonfiction; they include socioeconomic and environmental history. We will also go on field trips including an urban nature walk, a visit to the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, and a hike in a forest along the Chicago River. The 8 am meeting time will allow us to make the most of our time out in nature.</p>	<p>Mon/Wed: 8:00AM-9:30AM</p>	<p>Jim Fairhall</p>
<p>HON 350: Capstone</p>	<p>Wicked Problems</p>	<p>TBD</p>	<p>Deans</p>