

FALL 2021 Honors Seminars Suitable for First-Year Students

6/13/2021

Notes: this is a draft and there may be changes in the seminars available before it is time for you to register so please look for updated documents as summer progresses.

Investing 101: Honors BADM 2010 CRN 72267 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [1] Instructor - David Carter, Time - F 1030 - 1120

This 1 credit-hour honors seminar will explore the world of investing and finance. This is an introductory class, so students do not need to have a background in business or finance. Students will be engaged by learning how to invest on their own, by reading about current financial events and their effects on the economy, and by listening to guest lecturers from the financial world. Students will also learn the vocabulary of the finance and investing world. We will discuss stocks, bonds, options, and cryptocurrencies. This class is designed to help students understand the fundamentals of investing and the economy.

Entrepreneurial Value Creation in Society: Honors EEE 4010 CRN 66111 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [1] Instructor - Per Bylund, Time - F 0930 - 1020

This 1-hour honors seminar presents an intellectual framework for understanding the economic and ethical implications of the forces that promote or hinder the creation of value in society. In particular, students will engage in readings, discussions, and periodic interactions with guest lecturers, related to topics such as: individual liberty and responsibility, economic freedom, fairness and equality, scarcity and property rights, intellectual property, competition and anti-competition, cronyism and despotism, and globalization and free trade. The aforementioned topics will be examined and discussed within the context of governments, institutions, business entities, and consumers, and their collective impact on innovation, entrepreneurship, and advances in societal well-being. This seminar should be of interest to students from diverse majors and backgrounds. There are no prerequisites.

Entrepreneurial Value Creation in Society: Honors EEE 4010 CRN 70761 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [1] Instructor - Per Bylund, Time - F 1030 - 1120

This 1-hour honors seminar presents an intellectual framework for understanding the economic and ethical implications of the forces that promote or hinder the creation of value in society. In particular, students will engage in readings, discussions, and periodic interactions with guest lecturers, related to topics such as: individual liberty and responsibility, economic freedom, fairness and equality, scarcity and property rights, intellectual property, competition and anti-competition, cronyism and despotism, and globalization and free trade. The aforementioned topics will be examined and discussed within the context of governments, institutions, business entities, and consumers, and their collective impact on innovation, entrepreneurship, and advances in societal well-being. This seminar should be of interest to students from diverse majors and backgrounds. There are no prerequisites.

Financial Perspectives (DS): Honors FFP 2613 CRN 72127 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Katherine Mielitz, Time - TR 0900 - 1015

An introduction to the personal relationship with money focusing on similarities and differences between Race/Ethnicity, Sex/Gender, Aging, Religion, and Family Structure. This course provides an overview of history, present day application, seeks solutions, and encourages reflection on the personal and societal relationships with money.

Women and Autobiography: Honors GWST 3450 CRN 71751 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Jessica Turcat, Time - MW 1430 - 1545

This course is an interdisciplinary exploration of women's life-stories as narrative autobiographies, memoirs, and personal journal writings. Together, we will examine artfully crafted books as well as poetry, vignettes, diary entries, and film adaptations while focusing on the diverse ways female authors approach issues surrounding identity, power, and resistance in their narratives. We will explore the diverse ways in which memoir and autobiography represent the collision between self and the world. By reflecting on the relationships - even the contradictions - at the heart of self-writing, we will expand our understanding of the genre as well as our understanding of our own self in the world. Students will have the unique opportunity to write their own individual autobiographies as a final project.

Lifespan Human Development (S): Honors HDFS 2113 CRN 72154 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [S] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Paula Tripp, Time - TR 1200 - 1315

Study of human development within diverse family systems. Taught from a life span perspective.

Class, Inequality and Democracy: Honors (DS) HONR 1000 CRN 68132 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [DS] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Joshua Jansa, Time - TR 1330 - 1445

In the United States, the richest three Americans-Bill Gates, Jeff Bezos, and Warren Buffet-hold as much wealth as the poorest 160 million Americans. That's a higher level of economic inequality than colonial times. Can American democracy survive when there is such inequality between citizens? In answering this question, this course addresses why inequality matters, why it has risen in recent years, how income affects political participation, and why there is a persistent race and gender wealth gap. The ultimate goal is to understand the impact of inequality on the health of democracy, including whether the poor and working class have equal voice in the policy process and whether increased inequality has fostered resentment, authoritarianism, and populism in American elections. students will learn about the course topic through data and narrative. Students will explore quantitative data and statistical estimates related to inequality. The goal is for students to leave the course with a basic ability to comprehend applied data and statistics. Students will also read about people's experiences with poverty and inequality.

Drawing for Life: Honors HONR 1000 CRN 61781 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Vincent Giannotti, Time - TR 1915 - 2030

Drawing For Life - This course will build drawing skills that can travel wherever you go, from the classroom to the boardroom to the field. The drawing assignments in this class will employ a variety of media and techniques, and will be complemented by discussions and theories of seeing and observation. This interdisciplinary, foundational approach to drawing serves all skill levels. Special bonus: never again be bored!

Fashion, Sustainability, and Consumer Consciousness: Honors HONR 1000 CRN 72153 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Cosette Joyner Martinez, Time - MW 1600 - 1715

We all wear clothing, and therefore, participate in the fashion economy in varying degrees. The

choices of what clothing we buy, how we use it, and what we do with it after use are the substance of everyday life choices that have significant environmental and social consequences. Fashion production is associated with over 10% of the planet's global greenhouse emissions, and the industry is routinely implicated in human rights violations around the globe, including forced and child labor. Recently, consumers, especially young consumers, have begun to exhibit an expectation that fashion companies be champions of ethical conduct and transparency, as industry reports have even proclaimed "getting woke" has come to fashion. However, consumers continue to exhibit desires for more variety, newness, and affordability delivered at an ever-faster pace; natural byproducts of consumerism and an inescapable marketing culture. "Fast fashion," a model of cheap, disposable clothing, has become the norm, and research demonstrates that regardless of awareness, most consumers struggle to deploy even their best ethical intentions when it comes to fashion. - This seminar course examines the impact of everyday consumer clothing decisions on society and environment. Students will survey, at an introductory level, consumer behavior theories and research approaches used to understand the ethics-behavior gap among fashion consumers. Students will have the opportunity to contrast academic research with comparable themes found in popular media outlets and reflect on their own enactment of ethics in the fashion domain. The course prompts examination of current consumer consciousness and the potential to transition awareness to meaningful action. Course topics will intently focus on current dialogue and hot topics in fashion consumption, such as fashion violence, inclusivity, body image and identity, collaborative consumption, laundry practice, emotional attachment, and mindful consumption.

Future of Veterinary Medicine: Honors HONR 1000 CRN 61766 - Honors Area STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1] Instructor - Dianne Mcfarlane, Time - T 1500 - 1550

Future of Veterinary Medicine This seminar will focus on career opportunities for veterinarians in the 21st century. Veterinarians from several career areas will discuss with students the opportunities and training programs available to prospective veterinarians. Contemporary issues facing the profession will also be discussed.

Living in Space: Honors (N) HONR 1000 CRN 68135 - Honors Area STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [N] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Kathryn Gardner-Vandy, Time - TR 1500 - 1615

To explore the multi-faceted concept of human beings living in space, students will begin by asking STEM-oriented questions. Topics include propulsion, orbital mechanics, psychology, medical physics, textile design, agricultural engineering, mechanical and aerospace engineering, and Earth and planetary sciences. In the second part of the course, students will work as a team to design a long-term human space mission and present their proposed mission idea.

Nutrition Misinformation in the Digital Age: Honors HONR 1000 CRN 72103 - Honors Area STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Lauren Amaya, Time - TR 1200 - 1315

This course is designed to provide an introduction to evidence-based nutrition information with everyday examples that can be incorporated into students' lives, regardless of their field of study. Students will learn about a variety of popular nutrition topics and will learn how to differentiate nutrition fact from fiction. Information learned in the course has the potential to impact students so that they may practice their newfound skillset with friends and family to enhance the health and well-being of their communities.

Practical Law for the Modern Citizen HONR 1000 CRN 66808 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1] Instructor - William Holmes, Time - T 0900 - 0950

The goal of this course is to give students an overview of the law. This is relevant for all citizens. It applies to social, legal, and career aspects of their lives. Finally, students will emerge from this class confident in their abilities, knowing that they have a better basis for meeting any challenge life or the law presents them. This survey will review excerpts from important ancient and historical texts which provided a basis for the foundation of American Law. In particular, there will be a focus on the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Furthermore, students will read representative examples of some of the most important speeches and legal arguments in American history.

Science and Human Imagination HONR 1000 CRN 68139 - Honors Area STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Doren Recker, Time - MWF 1230 - 1320

The first half of the semester will cover scientific examples concerning astronomy and physics from the Scientific Revolution and the 20th century (Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, Newton, Special Relativity), and the 2nd half will cover Darwinian Evolution and Mendelian Genetics. Literary and artistic works influencing or influenced by these scientific works will be covered immediately following the relevant scientific cases, so comparisons and contrasts in approach and justification can be highlighted. Examples of relevant work in the Humanities include Romantic Poetry, Frankenstein, works exploring "hereditary" traits (Ibsen's Ghosts), scientific rationality and technology generally (Kafka), or specific scientific ideas (short stories by Borges, Impressionism, Cubism).

Science Fun for Everyone: Honors HONR 1000 CRN 72101 - Honors Area STEM Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Wesley Stroud, Time - M 1845 - 2130

No matter your major or experience, this course offers anyone and everyone a chance to enjoy science. Throughout this course, we approach science without the labs, exams, and stress of feeling like "science isn't for you." We will explore, observe, and reconnect with the natural world to better understand, value, and protect life on our planet. Your talents and creative side will be utilized to construct solutions to the challenges the natural world faces as we develop a perspective of equality and equity across the sciences.

Secret Life and Turbulent Future of Water: Honors (IS) HONR 1000 CRN 68478 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Gary Lavanchy, Time - MWF 0930 - 1020

Despite our intimacy with water, our dependence upon it, and water's apparent simplicity, there are a lot of surprises in the story of water. This Honors Seminar will take first year students through the journey of water - both as a physical substance and as a touch point with humanity. This class uses engaging readings, lectures, case studies, and lively class discussion to explore and understand the nature of water and the often-complex interactions society has with water. At its core, this class is about water literacy and the implications of global and local changes in climate to the hydrosocial cycle. This course will meet the needs of students across multiple disciplines without requiring extensive specialized skills. It is aligned with both and (S) content areas.

Storied Possessions: Developing Intergenerational Communication: Honors HONR 1000 CRN 72097 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Heather Carter, Time - TR 1200 - 1315

Although research suggests there are not real and consistent differences between people of different age groups, we create artificial generational divides when we stereotype. Sharing life stories among age-diverse groups, on the other hand, helps enlarge our perspectives of people who are not in our birth cohorts. This is important because neither work, nor life, is an age-segregated experience, and authentically communicating with people of different ages enriches our personal and professional lives. In this seminar, we use our own life stories and treasured personal possessions to work on these communication skills. We will reach out to older adults to discuss specific personal possessions and the symbolic meanings these objects carry for us. Together we will answer the questions: "What identity meanings, related in our life stories, are embedded in the possessions we treasure?" and "When is a running shoe not just a shoe?" This seminar is of interest to students from diverse majors and backgrounds. There are no prerequisites.

**The Poetics of Pop Culture HONR 1000 CRN 71864 - Honors Area Humanities
Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - John Andrews, Time - W
1845 - 2130**

Is Beyoncé a poet? Does Arnold Schwarzenegger deserve an Ode? What would The Lion King read like in verse? While the vast lineage of poetry consistently engages popular culture (and vice versa), this course will examine 21st century poets who employ pop culture in their work. Specifically, we will look at poets whose work explores issues of gender, race, ethnicity and class by engaging contemporary American pop culture. Assuming no previous experience with poetry or poetics, this course welcomes students from all majors. Instead of approaching poetry with predefined theories, the work of this course will be reverse engineering contemporary poetry, that engages popular culture, toward understanding the art of poetic craft. While students will not be required to write poetry, they might find themselves inspired to make "Lemonade" or compose some "Brit Lit" of their own.

**They Wouldn't Put It on the Internet if It's Not True: Information Literacy in
Post-Truth Era: Honor HONR 1000 CRN 64927 - Honors Area Social Sciences
Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Holly Luetkenhaus, Time -
MWF 0930 - 1020**

This course provides an overview of essential concepts and skills needed for success in navigating an increasingly uncertain and perilous information landscape. Awareness of, access to, and quality of information have demonstrable impacts on social, economic, academic, and political well-being. This course will address issues of access, use, creation, and dissemination of information and how it affects particular populations of people, with an emphasis on historically marginalized and underrepresented groups. Students will learn to locate, access, use, evaluate, organize, create, and present information effectively for personal and academic research needs. Students will examine biases within each of those paying particular attention to issues of race, gender, class, sexuality, ethnicity, and other personal, political, and socioeconomic factors. Students will also improve their understanding of authority and trust, value of information, the nature of scholarly conversation, and the nature of inquiry and exploration.

**Travel Writing/Writing Travel: Honors (H) HONR 1000 CRN 71329 - Honors
Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - William
Decker, Time - MW 1430 - 1545**

Travel Writing is a large and accommodating literary category. Narratives that fall under this heading can be wildly comic or austere somber. Characteristically, they delve into a destination's geography, history, ethnography, and climatology. But they can also be highly lyric and intimately personal. They are unavoidably political and reveal as much about the traveler as the regions through which the traveler passes. This course will introduce students to a diverse

selection of travel writing (some long, some very short) by one Canadian, two British, and ten American authors. Four of the six full-length books (Kincaid, Momaday, Hartman, Hughes) and one shorter selection (Baldwin) are written by American authors of color. With careful attention to what individual travelers bring to their respective excursions, we will attend to such issues as why people travel, what qualifies as a travel destination, the technologies by which people move from one place to another, whether they travel voluntarily or because they are forced to do so, and how people change as a result of their travels. Students will write two short analytical essays as well as a narrative based on their own travel experiences.

Virtual and Augmented Reality for Social Change: Honors HONR 1000 CRN 72104 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Tilanka Chandrasekera, Time - TR 1030 - 1145

Virtual and Augmented Reality for Social Change - This course focuses on using and applying Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) technology through a multidisciplinary approach to solving current societal problems by applying social science practices with innovative technology. In this course, you will learn how to develop 3D content, and apply these components effectively in VR/AR, form teams, and develop VR projects proposed by current events and conditions of the world and learn to turn your creative ideas into useful applications through the Mixed Reality Lab. This is a beginner-level course and is open to all students. No prior coding or design experience is required.

Windows on the World HONR 1000 CRN 68138 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1] Instructor - Robert Graalman, Time - T 1630 - 1720

Note: The course is designed for 1st and 2nd year students only: 1st semester sophomores in the Fall, and 2nd semester freshmen in Spring

"Windows to the World" is a one-hour seminar, 3:30 Tuesdays, designed for ambitious students who might become applicants/nominees for major national and international scholarships such as: Rhodes, Marshall, Goldwater, Gates-Cambridge, Udall, Mitchell, Fulbright, and more. Students will learn about such opportunities as well as participate in weekly discussions based on current events, carried out in a rigorous debate/interview context, serving as both presenters (once) and interview panels (weekly). All students will submit a personal/policy essay, characteristic of one written for national competition, at the end of the semester to be evaluated by faculty members Jessica Sullins (Henry Bellmon Office Scholar Development and Undergraduate Research), and Bob Graalman (retired, same office). Final credit for the course depends on students' participation and completing the major activities described above.

The Art of Mindful Living HONR 1123 CRN 71463 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Marty Heitz, Time - MWF 1030 - 1120

When so much emphasis is placed on living an outwardly successful life, is it possible to find contentment within? As our minds become increasingly active, can we find a way to be here and now? This course will explore ways in which meditation and contemplation can help us find peace of mind and contentment of heart, even while living in a world that places little emphasis on the present moment. Readings from various contemplative traditions will be paired with extensive meditative techniques that will be practiced both in and outside of class.

Place-As-Text Seminar (H) HONR 1133 CRN 71462 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Richard Frohock, Time - TR 1630 - 1745

When and how was Stillwater founded? How is our city divided into neighborhoods, and what are some characteristics of each? How is Stillwater's history visible in the downtown area? How did we end up with a university here? What innovations in the arts, humanities, sciences, and/or business had origins or connections to our city? What are the characteristics of our natural environment and climate? How do people live, work, and travel, and what popular recreations does our community afford? How, and by what means, does our city tell stories about itself? This is just a small sample of the kind of questions we will explore as we learn to make the familiar unfamiliar by means of interactive, thoughtful engagement and experiences. This seminar will use a popular honors curriculum (City As Text) to explore the town we live in, as we undertake a series of excursions to see our urban, academic, and natural environments with fresh eyes. Students will work in teams to visit different parts of our city and to "read" what they observe and experience when we get out of the classroom and into the fascinating environments in which we live, work, and play.

Honors Law and Legal Institutions (S) HONR 2013 CRN 71026 - Honors Area Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [S] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Robert Spurrier Jr, Time - TR 1030 - 1145

This will be a "live" and interactive on-line seminar utilizing Canvas that will be taught in part by the Socratic method of instruction similar to that employed in many law schools. Regular daily attendance will be necessary for you to be successful. We will examine a number of aspects of law and the American legal system including historic English origins, court structure and operations, and principles of several areas of substantive law (contracts, property, torts, etc.). Aspects of the politics of the judicial branch including selection and removal of judges will be included as well. You also will read and brief a limited number of United States Supreme Court decisions. Although the content may be particularly useful for students considering a career in

the legal profession, this seminar will be geared toward those with a general interest in learning about our legal system in the United States and how it affects our lives.

Ethical Issues Across Cultural Perspectives: Honors (H) HONR 2063 CRN 61963 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Apple Igrek, Time - TR 1500 - 1615

Ethical Issues Across Cultural Perspectives An introduction to reasoned methods of evaluating ideas and arguments as they pertain to ethical issues from a global perspective. Concepts including obligation, justice, and ethnicity from Lao Tzu, Maimonides, Kant, and Indian wisdom stories. Environmentalism, technology, and cultural knowledge.

The Story of Lizzie Borden: Axe Murder in American Culture (DH) HONR 2073 CRN 66726 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [DH] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Stephanie Miller, Time - TR 1030 - 1145

In 1892, Lizzie Borden was accused of killing her father and stepmother with an axe. She was eventually acquitted, but her story had captured the American cultural imagination. This course will take a chronological approach to the history of the Lizzie Borden story as it evolves from news reports contemporaneous to the case through broadsides and early true-crime takes to fictionalized versions in the form of short stories, poems, novels, plays, a ballet, an opera, and multiple film versions. Specifically, we will consider how changing concepts of gender shape the way in which the story gets told in different media and in different moments in American history. Ultimately, we will ask what it says about American culture that - for better or for worse - we simply cannot let Lizzie go!

Flash Fiction: A Tiny Genre with a Big Impact (DH) HONR 2083 CRN 68412 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [DH] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Stephanie Miller, Time - TR 1200 - 1315

Flash fiction is a subgenre of the short story characterized primarily by brevity: typically, the term refers to compositions of 1000 words or less. We'll read contemporary examples of the form by practitioners from diverse backgrounds and explore criticism on the genre, examining its intersections with related short forms and its ability to engage with complex social issues. Specifically, we'll look at flash fiction that negotiates issues pertaining to gender, race, ethnicity, and class in American society. A widely accessible genre with far-ranging content, flash fiction invites a large and varied readership; accordingly, this class welcomes students from all majors, assuming no prior experience of literature and assessing student learning via required posts to a course blog rather than through formal essays. The course will also be skills-based, cultivating analytical ability of use to students in all areas of study. Grades will be based on quizzes, homework, and classwork; the blog; class participation; and a final exam.

Don Juan: His Lives and Times (H) HONR 2313 CRN 66724 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Christopher Weimer, Time - TR 1330 - 1445

Don Juan: His Lives and Times - This course will follow the adventures of the archetypal Spanish seducer Don Juan from his first appearance on the Spanish stage in the 1630s to modern literature and film, studying how various cultures and eras have reinterpreted this figure over the last 400 years. The class will include works from Spain, France, England, Germany, Russia, and the United States, by (among others) Tirso de Molina, Molière, Mozart and da Ponte, José Zorrilla, Byron, E.T.A. Hoffmann, Pushkin, George Bernard Shaw, Kierkegaard, Freud, and Brecht.

The Early Modern World (H) HONR 2433 CRN 71021 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Priscilla Schwarz, Time - MWF 1130 - 1220

Interdisciplinary study of art, history, philosophy and literature from the late Renaissance to the mid-19th century. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. For the Honors student. May not be used for degree credit with HONR 2223. Previously offered as HONR 1033. Prerequisite(s): Honors Program participation.

The Early Modern World (H) HONR 2433 CRN 71022 - Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3] Instructor - Perry Gethner, Time - MWF 1130 - 1220

Interdisciplinary study of art, history, philosophy and literature from the late Renaissance to the mid-19th century. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. For the Honors student. May not be used for degree credit with HONR 2223. Previously offered as HONR 1033. Prerequisite(s): Honors Program participation.