

Honors College Seminars  
Spring 2016

Course and Instructor	Instructor-supplied Abstract	Time/Place	Attributes
<p>HON 480 – 201</p> <p><i>The Book Beautiful</i></p> <p>Prof. Christine Ingersoll, School of Journalism and Mass Communication</p>	<p>Will printed and bound books be replaced by pixels and iPads? What will future books look like? Are there values in the printed book that a digital execution can never match? This course will examine the physical beauty of printing text on paper, not only as a vessel for words, but as a work of art. “The Book Beautiful” will deconstruct the printed book and prepare ideas for the next generation of digital books with a feast for the eyes, the sensitivity of touch, the passionate voices of book designers, and participation in an international culinary celebration of the book. No prior art or publishing experience is required for this course – just a love for the book.</p>	<p>M-W 3:00 – 4:15</p> <p>Morrow Library 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hoffman Room</p>	<p>Humanities</p> <p>Writing Intensive (will apply)</p>
<p>HON 480 – 202</p> <p><i>Nietzsche and Greek Tragedy</i></p> <p>Dr. Charles Lloyd, Classics (Emeritus)</p> <p>Dr. Jeffrey Powell, Philosophy</p>	<p>The 19<sup>th</sup> century Greek philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche frequently asserted that Greek tragedy was the full expression of the acme of Western civilization. Whether one believes that assertion to be true or not, the fact remains that the greatest minds of the West have returned time and again to Greek tragedy in attempting to understand their own time. This is also true of the time in which we live. For Nietzsche, there was something about the meaning of life in the Greek experience of tragedy that has been lost in the intervening years. In this course, we will explore these assertions and more through close readings of the actual tragedies of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides. What is more, we will also read Nietzsche’s one book specifically concerned with Greek tragedy, <i>The Birth of Tragedy</i>, as well as a collection of essays that treat Greek tragedy from contemporary classical scholars. By the end of the course, we might well wonder to what degree our own culture is a living and just one when compared to that of 5<sup>th</sup> century Greece.</p>	<p>T-R 12:30 – 1:45</p> <p>WS 210</p>	<p>Humanities</p> <p>Writing Intensive (will apply)</p>

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<p>HON 480 – 203</p> <p><i>Aliens, Robots, and Black Speculative Fiction</i></p> <p>Dr. Kristen Lillvis, English</p>	<p>Interested in books, films, and music that focus on science and technology as well as the fantastic and supernatural? Black authors are composing some of the most complex, controversial, and compelling texts on these subjects. While almost every nation and culture boasts writers of speculative texts (the books, films, and music described above), authors with cultural origins in Africa and the Caribbean have created unique strategies for communicating their experiences through this genre. In this course, we will examine how speculative fiction expresses the artistic, social, political, and personal goals of Black authors, past and present. Specifically, we'll consider how and why these authors rely on the discourses of science, social science, history, and cybernetics to express their goals.</p> <p>We will begin the course by looking at the different definitions and types of Black Atlantic speculative literature that exist, and we will use these definitions to begin the process of analyzing the major themes and issues in the genre, especially 1) the idea of the alien as expressive of Black experience and 2) the effects of science and technology on the Black body.</p>	<p>T-R 2:00 – 3:15</p> <p>WS 210</p>	<p>Literature</p> <p>Writing Intensive (will apply)</p> <p>Multicultural (will apply)</p> <p>Women's Studies (will apply)</p>
<p>HON 480 – 204</p> <p><i>The Heroes and Villains of Healthcare</i></p> <p>Prof. Britani Black and Dr. April Fugett, Psychology</p>	<p>Does Walter White represent what it is like to be a cancer patient in our country? Does Tony Stark illustrate what an alcoholic looks like? Is The Joker an accurate representation of mental illness? Do all doctors act like Dr. House? Pop culture has the potential to influence the ways in which one can perceive health care, especially mental health, in positive and negative ways via not only the stories, but also the language used to describe these characters. The purpose of this class is to examine how specific health issues (e.g., cancer, PTSD, mental health, disabilities, etc.) are portrayed in comics/graphic novels, television, movies and popular fiction. Some of these comics and programs are intended for mature readers and audiences. Students will research and compare the pop culture examples to real life and experience a taste of what it is like to be immersed in larger aspects of popular culture via the class's own mini Comic Con.</p>	<p>M 4:00 – 6:20</p> <p>WS 210</p>	<p>Social Science</p> <p>Writing Intensive (will apply)</p>

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<p>HON 480 – 205</p> <p><i>Boxing in Film and Narrative</i></p> <p>Prof. Andrew Gooding, IST</p>	<p>Heavyweight champion turned TV pitchman Big George Foreman, said “Boxing is the sport to which all other sports aspire.” Whether you agree or not, boxing is the subject of stories by Ernest Hemingway, Norman Mailer and Joyce Carol Oates and films from <u>Rocky</u> and <u>Raging Bull</u> to <u>The Fighter</u> and <u>Million Dollar Baby</u>. Boxing ushered in the era of big time professional sports with Jack Dempsey in the 1920’s and continues as one of the most popular sports world wide. However, boxing also has been controversial due to corruption, ring deaths, the long term effects of boxing on fighters, and comparisons to MMA. In this course we will use documentary and feature films to investigate boxing-related issues including race, class and gender in American society; corruption and exploitation; heroes and villains; tragedy, comedy and pathos; and judgments about boxing’s continued relevance and ultimate worth in society. Students will complete papers and presentations on assigned films and will engage in debates over the present and future role that boxing should play in our society.</p>	<p>M 6:30 – 9:00</p> <p>WS 210</p>	<p>Literature</p> <p>Writing Intensive (will apply)</p> <p>Film Studies Minor (will apply)</p>
<p>HON 480 – 206</p> <p><i>Eating Identity: Food Culture and Politics</i></p> <p>Dr. Zelideth Rivas, Modern Languages</p>	<p>How do you interpret the old saying, "You are what you eat"? Is food simply how we nourish our bodies? Does food have to taste good? Can food also be a symbolic marker of identity? What are the ethics of eating? How do the production and consumption of food in media such as cookbooks and television shows color how and what we consume? How can the creation of fusion dishes become markers of new glocal pathways that allow us to expand from the local to the global? This course will explore these questions as we venture to understand the interdisciplinary narratives of Food Studies through films, short stories, novels, songs, television series, and cookbooks.</p>	<p>T 4:00 – 6:20</p> <p>WS 210</p>	<p>Social Science</p> <p>Writing Intensive (will apply)</p> <p>Multicultural (will apply)</p>
<p>HON 480 – 207</p> <p><i>Psychology of Social Media</i></p> <p>Dr. Brian Kinghorn, Curriculum, Instruction, and Foundations</p>	<p>Love it or hate it, social media is likely an integral part of your life. This seminar examines the impacts of social media on your past, present, and future lives. First we’ll examine the historical contexts of social media and the information/digital age. We’ll then explore ways that social media has changed and continues to change the ways we think about, process, store, and retrieve information, as well as how we communicate and interact with other people individually and globally. Finally, we’ll examine how social media has become an amplifier of both prosocial and antisocial human behaviors and the ways social media is influencing education, marketing, and branding. Much of the course and course materials will be situated within the real-life contexts of social media. This will include online sharing and discussions (Facebook), blogging, microblogging (Twitter), and critically analyzing information about social media found via social media.</p>	<p>R 4:00 - 6:20</p> <p>WS 210</p>	<p>Social Science</p>