Descriptions of New, Experimental, Revised and Slot Courses Offered -- SPRING 2009

Amst 201 The Midwest as America

The Midwest as America" will use novels, film, music, primary documents, and historical texts to critically explore what role the Midwest has played in the American imagination as well as in American history. Some of the major topics that we will discuss over the course of the semester include the frontier, the heartland, urban disorder, race relations, nationalism/regionalism, and populism. Credits: 3(3-0).

Anth 270 Iroquois Ethnographic Collections

It will involve ethnographic research with four sets of Iroquois cultural materials:

- 1. Jesse Cornplanter Collection (nine boxes of early & mid-twentieth century Seneca documents and files),
- 2. Cattaraugus Seneca tintype portrait collection (65 tintypes dating from the 1860's)
- 3. The Rev. William Beauchamp microfiche collection (nineteenth century complete copy of the NYS Library/Archives collection of his life work with the Iroquois); two fiche readers in my office
- 4. Iroquois/Genesee Valley/western NYS maps including utilization of the Holland Land Company Map collection at SUNY Fredonia

The course includes hands-on curatorial and archival work with these materials and will also include optional field trips to the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum, the RMSC Iroquois collections, and the SUNY Fredonia historical map collections.

Prerequisite: Anth 100. Credits: 3(3-0).

Biol 388 Experimental: Developmental Cell Biology Lec/Lab

An advanced cell biology course that explores the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying development. Topics to be covered include: cell fate specification, pattern formation, evo devo, morphogenesis, and stem cells. In the laboratory, students will perform experiments to investigate developmental events in several commonly used model organisms. This course fulfills the systems requirement for the Biology major. Prerequisites: Biol 300. Credits: 4(4-0)

Biol 388 Experimental: Molecular Ecology

This course explores how molecular methods are used to address research questions in ecology and evolutionary biology. The techniques for generating molecular marker data as well as the properties and applications of different types of molecular data will be examined. Topics will include phylogeography, population genetics, conservation genetics, behavioral ecology, adaptation, ecological genetics, speciation, hybridization, and microbial ecology. Prerequisites: Biol 203 and Biol 222. Credits: 3(3-0)

Biol 388 Experimental: Diversity of Galapagos Islands

This course will introduce students to a broad range of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems found in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador. We will survey the many unique plant and animal species found on these islands and study their ecological and evolutionary relationships. In addition, a historical approach to the foundations of natural selection will be emphasized in lecture and in lab. The course occurs in two parts with a one-hour lecture component in the spring semester and a four credit, two-week summer trip to Ecuador, including a tour of the Galapagos Islands. Prerequisites: Biol 117 and Biol 119. Credits: 4(0-4)

Chin 288 Chinese Calligraphy, Culture and Language

Chinese calligraphy, an integral part of the Chinese language, is a valuable bridge that links Chinese language and culture. This course has three components: (1) lecture on relevant aspects of Chinese culture; (2) conversation in Chinese language; and (3) calligraphy techniques and the mindset and discipline required for proper bursh writing of Chinese characters, followed by intensive, hands-on practice. Prerequisites: Chin 102 or permission of the instructor. Credits: 3(3-0)

Educ 288 Experimental: Service Learning Seminar

In a classroom setting, the student will interview, observe, and interact with students, discipline-specific teachers, administrators, and staff applying the concepts and principles learned in EDUC 204. Credits: 1(1-0)

Educ 488 Experimental: Mult Persp-Children & Youth

This course prepares preservice and inservice teachers to be sensitive to differences in children's learning and children's needs, by examining the impact of different backgrounds and life experiences on children from multicultural life circumstances through the reading of memoirs and novels of childhood and youth and the viewing of movies on the educational experiences of children and youth. Credits: 3(3-0)

Engl 142 Literary Forms: Modern Memoirs

A study of selected modern memoirs from the later eighteenth century, when modern autobiography emerged as a distinctive and prominent literary genre, to the present time, when the memoir has become a highly pervasive, popular, and sometimes also controversial genre. Credits: 3(3-0)

Engl 142 Literary Forms: Short Fiction

The Course is a critical investigation of short stories, spanning time and cultures. It provides us the opportunity to appreciate the place short fiction as a particular genre has in literature and in our lives. Credits: 3(3-0)

Engl 237 American Voices: Hurricane Stories

This particular section of ENGL 237 will examine the narrative (storytelling) purposes that hurricanes, cyclones, and other 'tempests' have served in literature, film, song, news, and popular culture. During the semester, you will explore how storms disrupt and affirm (these are not the only options, of course) narratives about desire, race, mobility, virtue, and space, to name just a few terms for discussion. You will also attend carefully to the process of how you think and read. Credits: 3(3-0)

********Students who enroll in this class should NOT be surprised that a substantial portion of the class deals with "race."

Engl 237 American Voices: Asian American Film & Video

This is an introductory course about films made by and about Asian

Americans. Using a thematic approach focusing on various genres –

including narrative, documentary, and experimental films, we will analyze films in context with Asian American history and identities. Some of the topics we will cover include: stereotypes of Asians in Hollywood; there/creation of history and memory; the intersection of race, class, gender, and sexuality in Asian American films; Asian/Black relations on film. Students will be expected to apply theoretical insights to their analysis of a number of key Asian American films including contemporary theories of race and ethnicity, current debates about identity and representation, and cultural studies approaches to film. Credits: 3(3-0).

Engl 288 Experimental: Reading as a Writer

This is a creative writing class in which students will write and read short fiction and creative nonfiction. We will undertake close reading of work by published authors, discussing how these pieces are constructed. Credits: 3(3-0)

Engl 288 Experimental: Film Noir (crosslisted with INTD 210)

This course focuses on a representative group of films that illustrate a genre of films know as Film Noir that began in the 1940's and, in modified form, continues up to the present. The course has as a goal not only the appreciation of a rich strand of American filmmaking but also the role that film plays in reflecting and shaping American society. Credits: 3(3-0)

Engl 324 British Novel: 19th Century British Novel

This course examines the work of major nineteenth century British novelists from Austen to Hardy. Of central concern will be the period's diverse and changing views about the literary representation of reality. We will look for continuity between centuries-old narrative traditions, their adaptation and alteration by 19th century novelists, and the coming innovations of 20th century modernism. Prerequisite: Engl 170. Credits: 3(3-0).

Engl 339 American Ways: Graphic Novel

There is no emoticon for what I am feeling." Suppose we take the words

of Comic Book Guy to heart and grapple with the slippages across mediums of expression--including, conversely, the ways in which graphic representation can evoke emotions just beyond our ability to explain them. This course on long-form comics (aka graphic novels) will draw upon literary, visual arts, and cultural studies theory to develop our

vocabulary for describing this complex amalgamation of words and images. Although we will at least briefly touch upon superhero comics and their fandoms, the majority of our readings will come from other regions of the genre. Prerequisite: Engl 170. Credits: 3(3-0).

Engl 390 Stu-Lit: Medieval Women

"Medieval feminism" is an oxymoron. In an age when men asked *do women have souls?* and *can women be educated?* the term *feminism* has little meaning. The most powerful woman in medieval Europe was the Virgin Mary, herself an oxymoron -- a female icon carefully constructed to have nothing in common with real women. Suppression under the guise of veneration was the standard paradigm, from the cults of the saints to the myth of courtly love. Starting and ending with the work of Christine de Pizan, we will explore the *querelle des femmes* – the argument about women – and what it tells us about our Western culture. Students will set up a wiki, give a brief presentation, write one critical paper, and take a final exam. The course meets the Major Author requirement.

Prerequisite: Engl 170. Credits: 3(3-0).

Engl 394 Senior Seminar: Thoreau

Participants in this discussion-based seminar will have an opportunity to examine the life and literary achievements of Henry David Thoreau, and also consider in close detail some of the philosophical and practical implications of his thought. Prerequisite: Engl 170 and three 300-level English courses. Credits: 3(3-0).

Fren 365 Laughter and Literature

Students will explore critically a variety of comedic texts and develop theories about what makes readers/audiences laugh and why. Credits: 3(3-0).

H&PE 188 Lifetime Phys Act Pursuits

This experimental class will support the promotion of lifelong health & fitness by offering students the opportunity to explore a variety of non-competitive and informal outdoor activities. Possible activities will include: hiking, biking, cross country skiing,

snowshoeing, geocaching/orienteering, tennis and kayaking. The class emphasis will be on the skills necessary to participate, as well as safety procedures and leadership techniques. Credits: 1(1-0).

HIST 220 Interpretations in History: Civil Rights Movement

This is a reading and writing intensive class that serves as an introduction to historiography, or the study of the discipline of history. Our main purpose is not only to learn about the Civil Rights Movement, but to understand historians' arguments and theories about the Civil Rights Movement, and how these interpretations have changed over time. We will also examine how things like perspectives and sources change or influence interpretations. Prerequisites: 9 hours of History credit or Junior standing. Credits: 4(4-0)

Hist 220 Interpretations in History: Visual Culture in post-1789 Europe

This course seeks to familiarize history majors and minors with the ways

in which historians have defined and studied the visual cultures of post-1789 Europe. Throughout the semester, we will examine how, in a number of historical contexts, visual cultures both reflected and communicated power among institutions, elites, subjects, and citizens. Influenced by the methodologies of cultural and media studies, communications, sociology, art history, as well as history, historians have made the study of the visual past a truly interdisciplinary enterprise. From these perspectives, the course seeks to identify the role of vision in European cultures of the past, and identify the variety of methods that historians have incorporated and developed in their attempts to examine the historical record. Among other issues, the course will address photography, film, urban space, and material objects. Prerequisites: 9 hours of History credit or Junior standing. Credits: 4(4-0).

Hist 220 Interpretations in History: Reconstruction

This course serves as an introduction to historiography, or the study of the discipline of history. Our goal is to learn about how historians have interpreted the Reconstruction period, not just the facts of Reconstruction. We will do this by understanding historians' arguments and theories, and how these interpretations changed over time. We will explore the way historians have transformed the study of Reconstruction and the post-Civil War era from the early 20^th century through to the present. We will also examine recurring themes, such as citizenship, nationalism, race, industrialization, migration, violence, culture, gender, and memory. Prerequisites: 9 hours of History credit or Junior standing. Credits: 4(4-0)

Hist 221 Research in History: Cold War America

Students will read and discuss sources relating to the general topic and to research methods; each student will also produce a short research paper. Prerequisites: 9 hours of History credit or Junior standing. Credits: 4(4-0).

Honr 203 Honors Seminar in the Social Sciences: Economic Inequality and American Democracy

A growing concern of scholars and journalists is the expanding economic inequality in the United States and its impact on democracy. By a number of measures, the difference in wealth possessed by those at the top of the income pyramid and those at the bottom has grown markedly during the past 30 years. In this course students will consider why the gap in wealth has been expanding and its implications for American Democracy. How do Americans understand economic inequality? How did the Founding Fathers of American view equality? To what extent do American public policies ameliorate or exacerbate economic inequality? What are the implications of economic inequality for democratic representation and accountability? How does the United States compare to other economically developed countries in terms of economic equality? To what extent do campaign finance laws contribute to economic inequality? Prerequisite: Honr 102. Credits: 3(3-0).

Honr 205 Honors Seminar in the Sciences: The Roots of Modern Cosmology

The course will cover Ancient Greek Cosmology, the Scientific Revolution (in particular Galileo), and an outline of Modern Cosmology. It will focus on the relation between Mathematics, observation, and experiment from Ancient Times to the present. Texts by Plato, Lucretius, and Galileo as well as readings from Aristotle, Ptolemy, Copernicus, Newton, and Einstein will form the basis of the first two thirds of the course. The last third will be a description of the various theories that form modern cosmology. Prerequisite: Honr 102. Credits 3(3-0).

Intd 210Experimental: Film Noir (crosslisted with Engl 288)

This course focuses on a representative group of films that illustrate a genre of films know as Film Noir that began in the 1940's and, in modified form, continues up to the present. The course has as a goal not only the appreciation of a rich strand of American filmmaking but also the role that film plays in reflecting and shaping American society. Credits: 3(3-0)

Intd 370Urban Issues Seminar

Leading scholars in urban studies are focusing heavily on immigration, ethnicity, and race within cities. Current research interrogates issues such as equity among people of different races and ethnicities, spaces created by immigrants, and racial and ethnic differences and identities. We will discuss the global and the local, identity and experience, and everyday geographies as related to: causes and effects of immigration to cities; the response of cities to the settlement of immigrants; racial/ethnic segregation and why it exists; and how segregation and difference undermine education, residential, and economic opportunities. We will begin the course by discussing U.S. cities, and end the course with discussions about a number of world cities, including Paris, Istanbul, and Dubai. This small seminar-style course will be heavily dependent on student participation, deep engagement of assigned readings, and student-chosen/student-led readings. We will use current scholarly work (journal articles and book chapters), autobiographical non-fiction/memoirs/ethnographies, and film and other current digital media. Prerequisites: GEOG 377 or SOCL 217 -- or permission of instructor. Credits: 3(3-0).

Phil 397 Plato's Later Metaphysics & Epistemology

Description: The great dialogues of Plato's "middle" period (*Republic*, *Symposium*, *Phaedo*) present metaphysical and epistemological theories that Plato himself seems to challenge (and reject) in several of his "later" dialogues (*Parmenides*, *Theaetetus*, *Sophist*). We will work our way through these (and perhaps other) later dialogues; we will also read several recent secondary discussions of these issues. Students will complete various written projects and make at least one oral presentation. Prerequisite: PHIL 205 or permission of instructor. Credits: 3(3-0).

Plsc 288 Experimental: Democracy and Inequality

This course explores the causes and effects of socio-economic inequality in the United States. The course focuses particularly on the effects of inequality on our democratic institutions and on the major political theorists who have contributed useful insights to the inequality debate, including John Rawls and Michael Walzer. Careful attention is paid to theories of democracy and to the social and economic conditions that can undermine popular sovereignty. Credits: 3(3-0).

Psyc 288 Experimental: Analysis of Behavior

The purposes of this class will be to review theory, research, and practical applications of environmental/learning/behavioral approaches in the study of both normal and abnormal behaviors. Students will develop skills in observing behavior, using empirical evidence in planning interventions, evaluating behavior change, and critically evaluating published research. Class sessions will include lecture, small group activities, and discussion formats. Credits: 3(3-0).

Psyc 321 Developmental Psychology: Media Violence and Youth

This course provides a comprehensive review and critique of the research on media violence as it relates to children and adolescents. Throughout the course, theories and research are evaluated from a developmental perspective. In doing so, the effects of media violence on youth as a function of age, becomes more apparent. More importantly, a developmental analysis of the research allows for identification of age-related "gaps" in the literature. Prerequisites: Psyc 215 or 216 or 217. Credits: 3(3-0).

Psyc 352 Advanced Research in Psychology: Psychology of Happiness

This course will examine known and potential correlates of happiness. Of interest in this area is the extent to which various demographic, personality, and life-situation factors can predict happiness independently of each other. Interestingly, some of the factors that are often thought to be highly predictive of happiness, such as income level, actually predict happiness only weakly, or not at all. In addition to reading primary source literature, students will design and conduct two empirical studies and write three APA style papers. Prerequisites: Psyc 250 and 251 and three 300-level Psychology courses. Credits: 3(3-0)

Psyc 352 – Advanced Research in Psychology: Threat & Prejudice

This course will examine research on the relationship between threat and prejudice. Recent research indicates that both personal threat and group-level threat predict derogation of traditionally stereotyped groups in unique ways. Students will read primary source literature on threat and prejudice as well as design and conduct several studies based on previously published research. In addition, students will have the opportunity to develop their professional writing skills by writing three APA-style papers. Prerequisites: Psyc 250 and 251 and three 300-level Psychology courses. Credits: 3(3-0)

Psyc 352 Advanced Research in Psychology: Intrinsic Motivation

This course will examine research on the development of intrinsic motivation. Students will read primary source theoretical articles and empirical studies on the topic and will have the opportunity to design and conduct their own research. Students will learn statistical techniques for analyzing data and will write three APA-style papers. Prerequisites: Psyc 250 and 251 and three 300-level Psychology courses. Credits: 3(3-0)

Psyc 352 Advanced Research in Psychology: First Impressions

The focus in this section will be on factors that influence the impressions we form of others when we first meet them. These factors may include apparent characteristics of the other person, but also our own personalities and characteristics of the setting. Students in the class will read classic articles from the fields of Social and Personality Psychology, and they will search the current literature for other relevant research. Students will plan variations on the methods of previously published research, write ethics proposals, collect data, choose appropriate statistical analyses, learn to use computer statistical packages, analyze data, interpret results, and write at least two full APA-style empirical reports. Students also will write a literature review or prospectus on a topic related to the theme of the class. Prerequisites: Psyc 250 and 251 and three 300 level Psychology courses. Credits: 3(3-0).

Psyc 352 Advanced Research in Psychology: Attention and Emotion

Research on visual attention has revealed that the salience and behavioral relevance of visual stimuli control the allocation and distribution of visual attention. Emotional or threatening visual stimuli (e.g., an angry face) may possess inherent behavioral relevance, and therefore be potent controllers of attention. This course will examine issues related to the attentional processing of threatening or emotional visual stimuli. Students will read primary source literature on both basic issues in both visual attention and emotion and attention, as well as design and conduct three experiments based on these readings. Students will also write three APA-style empirical reports describing these experiments. Students must have completed either Psyc 230, 307, or 325 to take this section. Prerequisites: Psyc 250 and 251 and three 300 level Psychology courses. Credits: 3(3-0)

Psyc 390 Gender and Aggression in Childhood and Adolescence

A seminar-style course exploring research on the role of gender in the development of physical and verbal aggression during childhood and adolescence. Topics to be discussed include differences and commonalities in how boys and girls use aggression, normative development and individual differences in the use of aggression, relational aggression, bullying, and intervention strategies at the individual and school level. Prerequisites: Psyc 215 or 216, 250, 251, and at least one 300-level Psychology class. Credits: 3(3-0).

Psyc 390 Psychology of Mortality Awareness

Awareness of the inevitability of our own death presents a unique set of psychological challenges for human beings. Recent research indicates that this awareness provokes an "existential terror" and provides a powerful motivation to find and defend a sense of meaning and purpose in our lives. This affects a variety of behaviors including consumerism, happiness, propensity for risk taking and sensation seeking, prejudice and stereotyping, and attitudes about political, social and environmental issues. In this course we will read some of the primary source literature in the area and attempt to draw conclusions about both specific human behaviors and broad human motivational patterns. Prerequisites: 18 hours in Psychology including PSYC 250 and PSYC 251 and at least one 300-level course, or permission of instructor. Credits: 3(3-0).

Socl 281 Selected Topic: Gender & Development

This course is intended to give students an understanding of the differential effects of planned and unplanned development in the developing world on women and men under differing gender systems, the strategies that have been pursued to address short-term and long-term gender needs, and ways to create gender-responsive institutions, policies, and programs. This course introduces students to theories and methods of gender analysis and planning, and applied them through case studies, homework assignments and class exercises. It covers such topics as the gender implication of changing definitions of development and the globalization of the economy; gender and structural adjustment; gender and population, housing and employment, and the environment. Prerequisites: a 100-level Sociology course. Credits: 3(3-0).

Socl 376Senior Seminar: Church and State

In this socio-historical examination of the interaction between religion and government in 20^{th} century USA, students will conduct interviews with peers and family to study the changing role of religion in society and politics. Credits: 3(3-0).

Wmst 201 Female-French Speaking World

Students will explore a selection of widely acclaimed literary works in translation by 19th- and 20th-century European, African and French-Canadian women writers. Credits: 3(3-0).