Intd 105 01/54951/Sturges 14/Krumrine, Kristi

MF 11:30-12:45

Sex, Skulls & Aliens

This course is designed to help students learn to think critically and to express themselves clearly in writing. The course is centered around controversial topics in anthropology, both from the history of the discipline as well as those currently debated. These topics include but are not limited to Margaret Mead's work in Samoa, early human finds, and alien explanations for the appearance of complex societies. The nature of the course content encourages students to think critically about the scientific method and human bias and the structure of the course provides students with the opportunity to learn about the writing process.

Intd 105 02/53556/Fraser 104/Derne, Stephan

Durkheim on Religion & Ritual

TR 10:00-11:15

The course considers French Sociologist Emile Durkheim's "The Elementary Forms of Religious Life" (1912). Foundational to the disciplines of sociology and anthropology, "The Elementary Forms" explores religion and ritual of Australian aborigines as a way of understanding religion as an "essential and permanent feature of humanity." Students will use their own experiences with religion and knowledge of religion today to evaluate Durkheim's conclusions about the nature of religion.

Intd 105 03/54981/Welles 132/Earle, Robert Intd 105 04/53558/Fraser 114/Earle, Robert

TR 1:00-2:15 TR 4:00-5:15

Time for Outrage

"We are condemned to be free". So spoke Jean-Paul Sartre, manifesting a truism: we must all, ultimately, make our own decisions. However, in an era of political globalization and intensified wealth inequality, it is easy to forget our freedom. Perhaps more than any other issue, the reality of global climate change can appear an insurmountable crisis. There is a tendency to approach this issue with the attitude of quietism and despair. In this class, students will be challenged to consider a different attitude, that of outrage. Outrage, as opposed to despair (and even when grounded in the same factual assumptions), refuses defeatism. It proclaims that the current situation is unacceptable and insists on forging a new path. We will read works from an eclectic mix of scholars and activists and each student will fine-tune the skills necessary to develop her own strong voice of resistance. Reading list: *Eaarth* (2010) by Bill McKibben. *Earth Democracy: Justice, Fairness and Peace* (2005) by Vandana Shiva. *Indegnez Vouz* or *Time for Outrage* (2011) by Stephane Hessell. *Organizing Cools the Planet: Tools and Reflections to Navigate the Climate Crisis* (2011) by Hilary Moore and Joshua Kahn Russell. Other sources via handout.

Intd 105 06/53566/Fraser 104/Tsang, Ronny

Themes in Contemporary American Literature

TR 6-7:15

This interdisciplinary course will utilize the 2007 and 2009 editions of The Best American Nonrequired Reading Series to explore the themes and ideas addressed in contemporary American Literature. We'll set out on our journey through modern American Literature in the hopes of discovering some truth about the state of our nation and the people living in it. Our search will take us through mainstream and unconventional works of short fiction, graphic novels, speeches, excerpts from novels, photos and artwork, essays, music, film, non-fiction, interviews, internet documents, letters, and other assorted works. Students should be fully prepared to read and write about, analyze, respond to, and discuss a wide variety of themes and topics that include, but are not limited to: Love and companionship, god and religion, war and conflict, violence and crime, morality and belief systems, family structures and dynamics, science and scientific advancement, social inequality and poverty, the economy, and social norms. In short, we will attempt to better understand modern America through examining a wide range of literature written by the myriad of people who reside here.

Intd 105 07/5466/Milne 105/Kirk, Joanna

Writing About the World in the Age of Terror

TR 1:00-2:15

Fly Naked? So suggests Pulitzer Award-winning journalist Thomas Friedman. From enhanced airport screenings to wiretapping and waterboarding, the threat of Jihad and efforts to counter it have changed American and global society in the years since September 11, 2001. With a focus on Friedman's Attitudes and Longitudes, this class considers terrorism

and counter-terrorism in the 21st century. By critically analyzing news, editorial and cartoon coverage, students will explore the distinction between fact, evidence and opinion, evaluate how journalists select and present information, and develop skills in effective presentation of controversial issues.

Intd 105 08/53592/Sturges 112Morgan, Sean

Freedom and Equality

TR 1:00-2:15

This course looks at how the concepts of freedom and equality interact with each other in our beliefs about justice. What does it mean to be free and does freedom require a certain standard of living? What should be the role of the state in our lives? What does it mean to say all persons are equal, particularly given each individual's unique characteristics? Students will read and analyze a selection of classical and contemporary texts, in order to compare and contrast the merits of opposing arguments. Examples of authors discussed include: John Locke, David Hume, Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mill, and John Rawls.

Intd 105 09/53593/Welles 134/Symington, Sidney

Looking on Darkness

MWF 8:30-9:20

In this course, we will explore the views of darkness in Western literature. Major texts are Othello, Heart of Darkness, and Toni Morrison's Playing in the Dark. Other readings include biblical texts, travel writing by V.S. Naipul, and stories by Hawthorne, Stephen Crane and Barbara Kingsolver. Students will be asked to reflect on the authors' application of darkness as a cultural symbol and literary device, and to express in writing of their own the roots and ramifications of our hate-love relationship to The Dark.

Intd 105 10/55372/Welles 123/Baldwin, Douglas

Secrets & Secret Code

MWF 9:30-10:20

This seminar examines the creation and breaking of secret codes, as reflected in literature, history, and modern use. The course reads works from the 19th and 20th centuries dealing with both fictitious and real code users and code breakers. Discussions and written exercises consider such issues as who hides secrets and why, who exposes secrets and why, when it is ethical to try to discover someone else's secrets, and, having discovered a secret, when it is ethically necessary to protect it and when to expose it.

Intd 105 11/53595/Fraser 104/Scipione, Paul

Affluence in America

TR 11:30-12:45

What's more quintessential than the American Dream? It's even guaranteed in our Declaration of Independence as the "pursuit of happiness." Study hard and work even harder. Save and invest. Is the American Dream in need of redefinition? Have companies become too adept at "data mining" and exciting our passions to spend? Have "wants" somehow morphed into "needs?" And how do we explain pockets of poverty that have resisted four decades of social engineering? Class readings ranging from Steinbeck's the *Grapes of Wrath* to Stanley's *The Millionaire Next Door*, as well as shared nuggets discovered in the library, interviews with competing experts, and personal and family anecdotes will be used by students to develop both effective verbal and written positions on affluence in America. Our collective research will then be preserved in a written class *Proceedings* that we can share with others.

Intd 105 12/53596/Newton 206/Ware, Linda

Disability in America

MW 11:30-12:45

This section will address ableism in the example of disability and informed by disability studies. This interdisciplinary exploration of disability will draw from the humanities, the social sciences, and education in an effort to promote understanding disability as a richly complex human experience that exceeds the typical tropes of tragedy, cure, and care. Each week we will consider specific themes of representation in the texts and media sources assigned for the course.

Intd 105 14/55429/ISC 115/Fletcher, Kurtis

Science Fiction - Themes and Variation

TR 8:30-9:45

In this course we will investigate some common themes in science fiction. The reading assignments will initiate thoughtful discussion and writing on relevant questions, including the following. How do our tools (computers, cell phones, cars or ray guns) shape us? How should we interact with others who seem alien to us? How should we settle conflicts with those across the street or in a distant part of the galaxy? Will we be able to accept artificial lifeforms? What is the purpose of education? What makes us human? Of course, students will be encouraged to raise questions of their own and present cogent responses to these and other issues as they arise.

Intd 105 15/53599/Newton 212/Paku, Gillian

Representing Autism

MWF 11:30-12:20

This section will ask you to focus on how autism is represented in literary texts. We start from the assumption that autism is not just a medical category of *dis*-ability that should be "fixed," but rather a category that is also created by social assumptions and that can encompass strongly positive attributes. Because autism affects communication skills, we will read literary texts that are remarkable for what they can communicate through what they do *not* say.

Intd 105 16/53600/Milne 105/Okada, Jun

Ways of Seeing

MWF 9:30-10:20

The goal of this section of INTD 105 is to produce sustained, coherent, and persuasive arguments on a significant issue, in this case, how to read and analyze visual culture. The first part of the course will focus on what it means to "read a visual text" by reading and discussing John Berger's *Ways of Seeing* and applying these ideas to deciphering advertisements in print media. The second part of the class will include analyzing a film: Douglas Sirk's fiction feature film, *Imitation of Life* (1950). You will analyze the formal and ideological functions of visual media that have had a profound effect on how we think about racial and gender difference. In addition, you will be assigned weekly readings in reference to the films as well as engage in library research training. Each week's classes will consist of a mixture of film viewing, group discussion, and peer editing, emphasizing collaboration as the key to the improvement of writing, revising, and communication skills.

Intd 105 17/53601/Milne 105/Cooper, Ken

Virtual Thoreau

TR 8:30-9:45

What could the 1854 classic *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* possibly have to say about life in the Information Age? A lot, as it turns out, for among other things Henry David Thoreau was one of his era's more astute thinkers about emergent information technologies — the telegraph, in this case — that already were transforming America. Thoreau's efforts to think *across* virtual and embodied existence will be our touchstone for developing an ecology of everyday life, *circa* 2011. Even the most degenerate gamers have to eat, right? Assignments will include, in addition to *Walden*, several contemporary essays, collaborative projects, and class field trips — real and virtual. Because this is a writing-intensive course, informal (online) journals and a variety of essays will be integral to our endeavors

Intd 105 18/53602/Milne 105/Perri, Christopher

Metafiction

TR 2:30-3:45

Metafiction is a realm of literature that is chiefly concerned with its own nature as a verbal construct. Novels and stories of this genre possess a self-awareness of their essence as little more than words on a page. Thus, the business of metafiction is **not** to render the world as we know it, but to **make** a world from the medium of language. This course will examine the medium of storytelling as it applies to metafiction and its "linguistic oversoul," as well as the questions raised regarding the messages (or lack thereof) inherent within the form.

Intd 105 19/53607/Newton 206/Lutkus, Anne

We'll Always Have Paris

TR 8:30-9:45

We'll always have Paris" will have as its subject Paris, the city and the legend. Students will read, discuss and react to, critically and personally, texts about Paris written by Parisians and by foreign visitors to the city of light. We will consider Paris at different periods of its history as represented by in painting and cinema, poetry and prose with a side glance at some of the inevitable songs about Paris.

Intd 105 20/53608/Welles 216/McCoy, Beth

Octavia Butler's Parables

WF 1:00-2:15

This class will explore Octavia Butler's novels The Parable of the Sower and The Parable of the Talents. Taking place in a future America that has slowly lapsed into political, environmental, and religious chaos, these novels follow the rise to power of Lauren Oya Olamina, a young black woman from California. In response to the destruction around her, Olamina develops a new religion, Earthseed, a religion based on the principle that "God is Change." As Olamina's followers grow in number, the novels raise important questions about power, celebrity, religion, race, class, gender, and mobility.

Intd 105 21/53614/Sturges 108/Bein, Stephen

Philosophical Themes in Science Fiction

TR 10:00-11:15

This class will use science fiction stories as gateways into some classical philosophical debates: Do we have free will or are we determined? What does it mean to be a person? Can we know if what we perceive is real? Can we be sure we're not all living in the Matrix?

Intd 105 22/53615/Sturges 114/Barden, Thomas

Partisanship in Amer Politics

MW 5:00-6:16

The course compares the political partisanship of the 1790s in the United States with the political partisanship of today. The first portion of the course is spent examining the founding decade of our country and analyzing whether or not our Founding Fathers were heavily partisan. The second portion of the course examines our current politics and compares and contrasts it with the Founding Period.

Intd 105 24/CRN 53625/Fraser 104/Swarts, James

Religion vs Science in US

TR 2:30-3:45

Writing Seminar is a course focusing on a specific topic while emphasizing writing practice and instruction, potentially taught by any member of the College faculty. Because this is primarily a course in writing, reading assignments will be briefer than in traditional topic courses, and students will prove their understanding of the subject matter through writing compositions rather than taking examinations. (Official course description). My objective in this course will be to introduce you to long-standing, and contemporary, controversial topics in United States history relative to the relation between religion and science, and the effects the subjects have had on the political and educational systems in the past century. Mainly we will concentrate on the study of creationism and evolution, with other relevant topics such as women's health issues, slavery, etc., as time and interest allow.

Intd 105 25/CRN 53626/Brodie 154/Herman, Michael

Global Digital Culture & Perf

TR 11:30-12:45

Considers the portrayal of individuals with mental illness and their treatment in film and literature. Students will be required to critically and reflectively evaluate the content of various short and extended pieces of literature and at least two feature films with respect to the quality and accuracy of the information provided.

INTD 105 Topics and Course Descriptions for Spring 2012

Office of the Dean, Erwin 106

Intd 105 26/CRN 55475/Sturges 104/Tomczak, Timothy Media & Madness

MW 4:00-5:15

Considers the portrayal of individuals with mental illness and their treatment in film and literature. Students will be required to critically and reflectively evaluate the content of various short and extended pieces of literature and at least two feature films with respect to the quality and accuracy of the information provided.