

Spring 2014 Honors Course Descriptions

LITERATURE:

ENGL-H295-034

H. Eklund (hceklund@loyno.edu)

TR 4:55pm-6:10pm

This honors seminar takes its name from the Greek word *oikos* (home), from which we derive the word *economy*. In Renaissance ideas of economy, the art of household management served as a model for other forms of political and material organization, including commonwealths and empires. This course traces these models of economy through the literature of the period. Reading across genres—from houswifery manuals to history plays, and from pastoral to epic poetry—we will focus on how the management of resources is connected to moral and political discourses, born out in hierarchies of gender, class, and race. Further, we'll investigate how people, lands and resources are incorporated into systems of economic management. When and where do these efforts fail? How do changing material conditions shape new forms power? In addition to gaining a thorough understanding of its specific topic, in this course you will be oriented to Renaissance literature and culture in general, familiarize yourself with the research methods used by scholars in the field, practice those methods in your own writing, and participate in a vibrant intellectual exchange through presentations and out of class activities.

ENGL-H295-035

W. Cotton (cotton@loyno.edu)

MWF 2:30pm-3:20pm

How many writers can actually be said to have changed the course of events? George Orwell's *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-four* alerted the Western World to the nature and dangers of Communism during a time of complacency directly after World War II. These works were so widely read and became so influential that their concepts became commonplace and they actually added words to the language, such as "Orwellian" and "doublespeak." Eric Blair died at mid-century, but he has had a lively post-life as people tried to come to terms with who he was and what he did. --An anti-colonialist who had worked in the British Imperial Police in Burma. A Socialist who exposed the abuses of socialism before most other people were aware of them. A novelist of not-very-great talent who wrote two masterpieces. A skilled propagandist who wrote stinging exposés of propaganda. To many intellectuals, a secular saint, who yet for many had feet of clay. Aside from the obligatory *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-four*, the class will read his memoir of the Spanish Civil War, *Homage to Catalonia*, four of his journeyman novels of the 1930s that show how he learned to write, and a goodly selection of his essays. Ancillary readings will include Evgenyi Zamiatin's 1920s dystopia, *We*, and Arthur Koestler's revelation of how the 1930 Moscow show trials worked, *Darkness at Noon*.

ENGL-H295-036 "Magical Realities, Global Fictions"

L. Murphy (lmurphy@loyno.edu)

TR 2:00pm-3:15pm

Magical Realism is a late 20th century literary form that incorporates elements of fantasy, magic, and the supernatural into "realist" modes of representation. Authors simultaneously developed this strategy in several different regions around the globe as a means by which people who were subjected to colonial regimes could express not only their culturally-specific ways of defining what is "real" but also as an oppositional strategy for representing and remembering their cultures and histories. We will seek to understand the formal means by which authors assert their own counter-memory to oppose

official and purportedly realist depictions of the past. How do authors subvert the dominance of “Western reason” in their works? How is uncertainty mobilized as a political and discursive tool? How can these devices be understood under the rubrics of postmodernism and postcolonialism? Why do these tactics seem to emerge most readily in postcolonial literature, and what shape do they take in literature outside the postcolonial world?

HONS-H295-033 “Arthurian Legend”

S. Tan (stan@loyno.edu)

MWF 2:30pm-3:20pm

This course introduces students to the Arthurian tradition through a study of the origins of the Arthurian narrative and its development through the historical and social context of Medieval Europe. The course will provide a glimpse into the early Latin and Welsh traditions, the work of Chrétien de Troyes and the subsequent development of the Perceval narrative in Robert de Boron and Wolfram, and the work of Thomas Malory, as mediated in the 20th century through John Steinbeck and other authors. This course satisfies the literature requirement in the Honors Curriculum, the “Catholic Traditions” and “Pre-Modern” requirements in the Common Curriculum, and may be taken for credit towards the Medieval Studies minor.

HONS-H295-034 “Dante”

S. Tan (stan@loyno.edu)

MWF 9:30am-10:20am

Throughout his work, but especially in his *Commedia*, Dante’s art is an expression of a faith that is inextricably bound up with life and can suffer no separation from it. For Dante, the afterlife does not in any way represent a flight from the challenges of the present day but serves to illuminate their true importance. In this course, we will study Dante’s work as a privileged expression of a tradition that uses art to theologize rather than the scholasticism of the more clerical academic environments. We will examine how Dante’s work engages the historical, religious, and social context of his age and consider the central place that it holds as part of a broader tradition of art as theology that was already accessible to Christian laypersons in Dante’s time. Within the Honors Curriculum, this course may be used to satisfy *either* the “Creative Arts and Cultures” requirement (as a course on an artistic movement in a historical culture), the literature requirement, or the religious studies requirement. This course also satisfies the “Catholic Traditions” and “Pre-Modern” Requirements Across the Curriculum and may be taken for credit towards the Medieval Studies minor.

ETHICS

PHIL-H295-034/PHIL-H215-033 “Why Ethics Matters”

L. Kahn (lakahn@loyno.edu)

MWF 11:30am-12:20pm

Life is short, and so is your time here at Loyola. Why, then, should you take a course on ethics? Here's the simple answer: You want to live a good life, and ethics is, to a very large extent, an attempt to determine what a good life is. While it might be possible to achieve your aim as the result of nothing but luck, you are much more likely to do so if you have a clear and correct idea of what a good life is. In this class, *Why Ethics Matters*, we will take aim at this question. Students who successfully complete this course will have a better understanding of these questions and the range of possible answers to them. They will also have greater insight into the evaluation of these answers.

FINE ARTS/CREATIVE ARTS AND CULTURES:

SPAN-H295-033 "Intermediality in Contemporary Theatre"

E. Doll (edoll@loyno.edu)

TR 11:00am-12:15pm

In this class we will discuss why theatre is considered the sum of all the arts, and how that shows up in certain plays of the 20th and 21st centuries from England, the U.S., Canada, Spain, and Poland. How do other media inform and participate in these plays? By "other media" I mean the other arts (painting, music, installations, film) as well as technology, the internet, and social media. By reading play texts, watching film versions of some of them, going behind the scenes of a Loyola Theatre production or two, and attending a performance, students should finish with a better idea of how the various arts forms and media work together in a unique way to create contemporary theatre.

HONS-H295-034 "Dante"

S. Tan (stan@loyno.edu)

MWF 9:30am-10:20am

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HISTORY:

HIST-H295-033 "Islam in China, China in Islam"

R. Thum (thum@loyno.edu)

MW 6:20pm-7:35pm

China and Islam are both important but extremely difficult-to-define entities. In an effort to better understand the natures of both China and Islam, this course examines the expressions of Islam among Chinese Muslims of various ethnicities, and then looks at the notion of China as it appears in the wider Islamic world. Students will gain a basic familiarity with these two extremely influential cultures, but they will do so from a marginal perspective that undermines common misconceptions.

HIST-H295-034 "The Idea of America"

M. Fernandez (mffernan@loyno.edu)

TR 2:00pm-3:15pm

This seminar will investigate a wide range of intellectual conceptions, historical perspectives, and artistic renderings of the American past. Students and the professor will explore historical documents, literature, films, videos, and works of art that depict a diverse set of ideas about America from its earliest pre-Columbian origins to the early twenty first century.

MATHEMATICS:

MATH-H295-033 "Introduction to Linear Algebra"

A. Randall (randall@loyno.edu)

MWF 9:30am-10:20am

NATURAL SCIENCE:

BIOL-H295-033 "Human Ecological Science"

D. White (dawhite@loyno.edu)

TR 3:30pm-4:45pm

Global Climate Change; Natural Selection; State of the World; Population Thinking; Ecological Footprint; Coastal Wetlands; Canoeing! Want to learn about each of these topics from the advanced perspective? This exciting course stimulates thought about the human impact on the biosphere through lecture, critical writing, carefully directed experiences in the field, and outside class assignment. We will focus on two sub-disciplines of the Biological Sciences – Evolution & Ecology. There are scheduled 3 class field experiences (trips) in the course that are very important learning opportunities.

CHEM-A106/ CHEM-H108-023 "General Chemistry II w/ Honors Lab"

Any professor for lecture, Lab w/ C. Heinecke (heinecke@loyno.edu)

Any section for lecture, Lab W 1:30pm-4:30pm

CHEM-H295-033 "Energy"

L. Koplitz (koplitz@loyno.edu)

MWF 12:30pm-1:20pm

What is energy, really? Who discovered it?...defined it?...decided we should generate it from fossil fuels? In this course we will explore current and developing science and technology related to energy generation, transmission, storage, and usage. We will review a few basics from fundamental physics and chemistry through their historical context, consider current energy trends in the US and other countries, and explore sustainable energy sources for the future.

PHILOSOPHY:

PHIL-H295-033 "Greening the Real"

F. Coolidge (fpcoolid@loyno.edu)

MWF 10:30am-11:20am

PHIL-H295-034/PHIL-H215-033 "Why Ethics Matters"

L. Kahn (lakahn@loyno.edu)

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course will have a better understanding of these questions and the range of possible answers to them. They will also have greater insight into the evaluation of these answers.

PHIL-H295-035 “Race and Racism as Idea and Reality”

J. Berendzen (jberendz@loyno.edu)

TR 9:30am-10:45am

This course will examine various conceptual issues connected with race and racism. The principle aim of the course will be to examine whether our standard intuitions regarding race and racism stand up to philosophical and scientific scrutiny. For example, we will consider the following questions: What is a race, really? Are races biologically determined, or socially constructed? What makes a person have a race? What are the roots of racism? Is our conception of racism dependent on our conception of race?

RELIGIOUS STUDIES:

LAS -H295-033 “Liberation Theology”

A. Alcazar (aalcazar@loyno.edu)

MW 4:55pm-6:10pm

Satisfies Religious Studies Honors requirement.

RELS-H295-033 “Synoptic Gospels”

T. Bednarz (tbednarz@loyno.edu)

TR 3:30pm-4:45pm

HONS-H295-034 “Dante”

S. Tan (stan@loyno.edu)

MWF 9:30am-10:20am

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SOCIAL SCIENCE:

ECON-H295-033 “Economics of Crime and Punishment”

D. D’Amico (dandamico@cba.loyno.edu)

TR 3:30pm-4:45pm

This class will survey historical and contemporary issues related to the social phenomena of crime and punishment. In particular, students will learn to apply basic concepts from economic science to understand key historical and contemporary features of criminal justice.

POLS-H295-033 "Social Justice Leadership"

G. Lopez (lopezg@loyno.edu)

TR 2:00pm-3:15pm

A life of engagement in social transformation is often built on a foundation of political, social, spiritual, religious, and other deeply-held commitments. Using case studies of nationally and internationally renowned leaders, this course will examine the underpinnings of social justice leadership and the values that drive leaders to a life committed to social change. The class will address these topics through films, texts, and personal reflection. The class will consider many aspects of leadership, including the social contexts that shaped these individuals, the historical and political realities of their time, and the significant individuals, traditions, and ideas that influenced them. Satisfies Social Science or Religious Studies.

SOCI-H396-033 "Social Justice Seminar"

L. Mirón

TR 8:00am-9:15am