

FIRST YEAR SEMINARS SPRING 2017

CRN: 22161

LOST CONTINENTS, ANCIENT ASTRONAUTS, AND MYSTERIOUS MOUNDBUILDERS: PSEUDOSCIENCE, EPISTEMOLOGY AND THE HUMAN PAST

Professor Paul Thacker, Department of Anthropology

The human past often is portrayed as full of mystery, with Moundbuilders, mummy curses, lost arks and refugees from Atlantis eluding discovery. This course explores these archaeological problems while critically examining how scientific archaeologists build knowledge about the past. Case studies including the peopling of the Americas, prehistoric cannibals, and the African civilization of Great Zimbabwe provide students with an opportunity to evaluate archaeological evidence and arguments of interpretations. Discussions about archaeological ethics demonstrate the social context of scientific archaeology and the politics of the past in the present.

MW 12:30 – 11:45 pm

Carswell 018

Spring 2017

CRN: 14930

SAVE THE WORLD IN ONE CLICK: HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIANISM IN THE FACEBOOK ERA

Professor Karin Friederic, Department of Anthropology

Humanitarianism and human rights activism are growing forms of action to alleviate social problems in our contemporary world. Young people, in particular, are inundated by appeals to participate in charitable efforts through social media networks. Through ethnographic case studies, this seminar will investigate the uses, significance, and limitations of such campaigns that harness human rights discourse in a variety of humanitarian initiatives. This course gives students the critical tools to study these campaigns and interventions as a political process with an array of diverse cultural actors and often unexpected outcomes.

TR 9:30-10:45 am

Manchester 017

Spring 2017

CRN: 18968

CRN: 21060

POVERTY ACROSS RACE, GENDER, AND SPACE

Professor Sherri Lawson Clark, Department of Anthropology

This seminar explores poverty by examining its historical, political, cultural, and geographical contexts. We address several questions such as: What is poverty? What are the causes and consequences of poverty? How do different groups experience poverty? What are the intersections of race, gender, and poverty? Where is poverty located? How do public policies shape the lives of children and families? Students will address these questions and others throughout the semester.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Carswell 019

Spring 2017

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Carswell 019

Spring 2017

CRN: 14928

THE TAJ MAHAL

Professor Chanchal Dadlani, Department of Art

This seminar focuses on one of the most iconic buildings in the world, the Taj Mahal. Students will consider the history of the Taj Mahal from its foundation in 1632 to the present day. Topics we will address include patronage, urban context, landscape architecture, the intersection of sacred and political space, the relationship between architecture and poetry, early European encounters with the Taj Mahal, and the present-day tourist industry in India.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Scales/SFAC 103

Spring 2017

CRN: 16856

SACRED SPACES

Professor Elizabeth Fischer, Department of Art

The seminar will examine the architectural character and associated decoration of a series of religious sanctuaries: a classical temple, a Christian church, a Shinto shrine, Buddhist caves and an Islamic mosque. Participants will discuss and write about issues related to the design, patronage, construction, staffing, and maintenance of the structures. The goal of the class is an increased appreciation of the aims of religious groups in physically defining a sacred space.

MW 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Scales/SFAC 103

Spring 2017

CRN: 21226

CRN: 21558

SCIENCE, NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Professor Robert Browne, Department of Biology

“Science, Nature and the Environment” focuses on current environmental challenges. Background readings, writing assignments and debates are organized around five themes: Preservation versus conservation, Sustainable development, Human population and food, Biological resources, and Energy.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Winston 019

Spring 2017

TR 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Winston 019

Spring 2017

CRN: 18944

ANALYTICAL METHODS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES (IQ – WFU Downtown)

Professor Brad Jones, Department of Chemistry

The novels and short stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle will be used as a guide for the development of the scientific skills of observation, deduction and reporting. Holmes' analytical method and Dr. Watson's flair for the report will be used as models for the experimentalist's laboratory notebook. Several of Holmes' techniques will be reproduced as group experiments: deductions from a common object, the identification of pipe tobaccos, and the preparation of a seven percent solution, to name a few. Students will submit anonymously their own short story written in Doyle's style, and these will be critically analyzed in a group setting.

TR 5:00 – 6:15 pm

IQOS 1505 – WFU Downtown

Spring 2017

CRN: 20229

TRAGIC LOVE STORIES, ANCIENT & MODERN

Professor Brian Warren, Department of Classical Languages

Two civilizations in particular have shaped our understanding of political life and civic responsibility in deep and profound ways: Greece and Rome. We are heavily indebted to the ancient world for our ideas about not only the structure and operation of government but also what it means for the individual to be citizen and to act like one. This course will aid students in returning to the intellectual roots of our beliefs about citizenship. We will also investigate how classical history and literature influenced modern Western political thought, especially in the late medieval and early modern periods.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Tribble A301

Spring 2017

CRN: 23088

ADVENTURES IN THE LIBRARY, WEST AND EAST

Professor Philip Baiocchi, Department of Classical Languages

This seminar introduces students to the great (academic) adventure: reading and researching exciting texts. The earliest novels surveyed in this course, the Greek and Chinese novels, are all concerned with epic journeys across their respective worlds – heroes, separated lovers and lost travelers must overcome great trials and tribulations – pirates, bandits, mountains, magic, rivers, jealousy, treachery, political upheaval and the wrath of the gods! – in order to complete their quests. We will also talk about the history of the institution of the library (the Library of Alexandria looming large in our study). The Greek novels influenced many later western novels, and students will be able to pick one of their favorite novels to research. Research will be guided by practical skills and instruction on how to best use our very own ZSR Library, right here at Wake (including a trip to Special Collections). What do you want to read? Come, choose your own adventure!

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble A309

Spring 2017

CRN: 20002

COMMUNICATION, CULTURE AND SOUTH ASIA

Professor Ananda Mitra, Department of Communication

This course takes a critical look at the history, culture, politics and geography of South Asia with the goal of understanding how the people from that part of the world have an influence on global issues and how the cultures of South Asia are influenced by the process of globalization. The course requires occasional Sunday afternoon viewing of Bollywood movies.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Carswell 005

Spring 2017

CRN: 19886

CITIZENSHIP AT WAKE FOREST AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

Professor Alessandra Von Burg, Department of Communication

The purpose of this course is to explore the history and theory of citizenship as a deliberative practice linked to the tradition of communication. In particular, we will focus on the development and practice of citizenship at Wake Forest University and in the surrounding community (mostly Winston-Salem). We will pay attention to the role of discourse, invention, and imagination in the making of citizens, as citizenship has evolved from limited roles in ancient Greece to accepted norms and rules at Wake and in the local community. The course will emphasize participatory and deliberative skills as part of the process in which communities such as Wake and the surrounding community are formed and citizens emerge as members.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Carswell 305

Spring 2017

CRN: 15996

LOCATING CHINA: STORIES OF SITE AND CITY

Professor Andrew Rodekohr, Department of East Asian Languages and Culture

This is an interdisciplinary course drawing on history, literature, film, and art in order to examine the cultural contact, conflict, and confluence between China and the West. We will focus on key moments in the often troubled relations between the Celestial Kingdom and the West and explore the imaginings and misapprehensions of the Other in philosophical treatises, travel diaries and pseudo-scientific articles and recent cross-cultural theoretical works by Chinese and Western writers. We will investigate the possibility of cultural confluence in the age of globalization through a reassessment of the career of Giuseppe Castiglione, who served under Qianlong Emperor in the 18th century.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Carswell 107

Spring 2017

CRN: 19985

SPORTS, CULTURE, AND GEOGRAPHY

Professor Adam Friedman, Department of Education

Students in this seminar will explore how globalization impacts education in the US and around the world. Topics will address the role of technology, economic growth, and changes in perspectives on what “education” means in a globalized 21st century world. Examples from traditional and non-traditional education programs from around the world will be shared and discussed, in particular Finland, China, New Zealand, and the US. Students will be asked to deeply examine their own educational experiences against models in other countries, evaluate the substance of the models, and contemplate what type of educational opportunities and experiences they feel will be relevant to their children and grandchildren.

WF 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble A205

Spring 2017

CRN: 20003

LAW AND CULTURE

Professor Chris Brown, Department of English

From “The Wire” and The Hunger Games to the musical Hamilton and Beyonce’s “Formation” video, American culture in our new century takes up the law at nearly every turn. Writers and artists and cultural critics often turn to narrative to think about how we are shaped as legal actors. How do we, as readers of literary and popular culture, participate in and occasionally resist the law's influence? In this course we will look at examples of the relationship between law and art across many genres – legal argument, statutes, literature, film, music, sculpture, poetry, drama – to think about the law both as it is and how we imagine it might be.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble A302

Spring 2017

CRN: 17707

AMERICAN DEMOCRACY IN FIVE NOVELS

Professor Jennifer Greiman, Department of English

To mark the aftermath of a strange and contentious presidential election season, this class will take a long view of American democracy through an immersive study of five essential novels written between 1799 and 2004. Each of these novels takes up the possibility – or impossibility – of democracy in America at a particularly complex and charged moment in U.S. history: the Revolution, the decade prior to the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Civil Rights era, and the so-called “post-racial” era of the early 21st century. Why is democracy so persistent as a problem in the American literary imagination? How do we define a democracy that is ever-present as an idea in America, and always absent as a political reality?

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble A108

Spring 2017

CRN: 18925

READING MATTERS... OR DOES IT?: HOW READING JUST MIGHT CHANGE YOUR LIFE

Professor Erica Still, Department of English

Movies. Television. Music. Blogs. Podcasts. Facebook. All of these ways, and so many more, of entertaining ourselves compete for our attention constantly. With so many easy-access, quick options, what kind of appeal could sitting down to read a novel, biography, memoir, or poetry collection possibly hold? Why are literature classes still required in most high schools and colleges? What happens in our brains when we read? Can reading really be fun? Can it actually make you a better (or worse) person? In this discussion-based course, through a wide variety of texts, we'll explore these questions (and related others) in an effort to understand the pleasures, perils, and possibilities of engaging with the words on the page.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble A201

Spring 2017

CRN: 16935

THE MANY LIVES OF FRANKENSTEIN: 200 YEARS OF MONSTROSITY

Professor Elizabeth Ann Way, Department of English / WGSS

Think you know this story? Think again. In this course we will consider the many lives of Mary Shelley's Frankenstein by reading texts from classical mythology, literature, philosophy, and science ("natural philosophy" in the 19th c.) that influenced the novel's composition, reading the novel Frankenstein and a twenty-first century re-telling, by considering how the idea of "Frankenstein" comes to life in film and television spin-offs, as well as debating the modern subject of human cloning.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Tribble A201

Spring 2017

CRN: 20004

UNRAVELLING THE RIDDLE OF RUSSIA: CONTEMPORARY RUSSIAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Professor Elena Clark, Department of German and Russian

This will be a seminar-style course, incorporating multiple written and oral assignments, that focuses on contemporary Russian culture and society, the significant events that made Russia what it is, and the results we see in the geopolitical situation today. We will use film, fiction, memoirs, scholarly essays, and news reports to examine different aspects of Russian society while also keeping abreast of the current situation there. By the end of the semester we should have a more thorough understanding of Russia and perhaps even some answers to questions that often vex Westerners such as "Why is Putin so popular?" and "What is the mysterious Russian soul?"

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Greene 340

Spring 2017

CRN: 23058

IN COLD BLOOD: EXAMINING THE PSYCHOPATH IN LITERATURE, FILM, AND TELEVISION

Professor Mary Knight, Department of German and Russian

In this course, we will investigate representations of the psychopath – a person who feels no remorse and manipulates others, often to violent ends – in American and European literature, film, and television, from the origins of the term in nineteenth-century Germany to our contemporary American obsession with onscreen serial killers like Hannibal Lecter and Dexter Morgan. Why is Western culture so fascinated by psychopathy, and how is this mental disorder employed metaphorically in fiction and popular culture?

MWF 2:00 – 2:50 pm

Greene 341

Spring 2017

CRN: 18927

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN BEHAVIORAL MEDICINE

Professor Jack Rejeski, Department of Health and Exercise Science

The primary aim of this first year seminar is to explore contemporary research on mind-body interactions and selected health behaviors in the realm of chronic disease and physical disability. Special emphasis is placed on neuroscience and clinical research related to the relaxation response, mindfulness, and the therapeutic benefits of meditation. The course covers four main themes: (1) stress and disease, (2) how training the mind can change the brain, (3) the origin and treatment of obesity, and (4) the nature and public health threat of functional decline in aging.

TR 9:30 - 10:45 am

HES Worrell 0174

Spring 2017

CRN: 19988

THE FLOATING CITY: PUBLIC LIFE IN VENICE THROUGH THE AGES

Professor Monique O'Connell, Department of History

Venice stands out in the popular imagination because of its extraordinary physical form-- it seems to float on the water supported by magic. This class looks at the ways Venetians and visitors have created and lived in the public spaces of the floating city from the medieval era to the present. We will read historical, literary, and travelers' views of the city and debate the city's fragile future in an age of mass tourism and climate change. This course has a digital component, and students will contribute to a publicly accessible digital exhibit space, map rituals and travelers' itineraries as well as use Google Sketch-Up to create a 3D visualization of a Venetian building. There is one half-day weekend technology workshop as part of the course.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble A104

Spring 2017

CRN: 16933

"THE PEOPLE OF THE (COMIC) BOOK: A HISTORY OF JEWS & COMICS

Professor Barry Trachtenberg, Department of History

In the 1930s, when anti-Semitic caricatures were commonplace in the European and American popular press, Jewish artists and illustrators created the genre of comic books. With the invention of such well known superheroes as Superman, Batman, Captain America, and the X-Men, Jewish comic-book writers, creators, and publishers turned to comics as a way to express their desires and anxieties about racial, religious, and cultural assimilation, American gender norms and sexual mores, and Jews' overall place within American society. In the Cold War era of the 1950s, Jews and comics were attacked by moral crusaders for allegedly spreading immorality, obscenity, and subversive messages to American youth. In more recent decades, comics and graphic novels have become vehicles for Jewish artists to contend with questions of (post)modern existence in America, Europe, and Israel. Comics have become places to question conventional Jewish notions of gender and sexuality, adherence to religious observance, membership within the Jewish community, allegiance to Zionism and Israel, and the centrality of the Holocaust to modern Jewish identity.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble B117

Spring 2017

CRN: 19989

CHILDREN OF DIVORCE

Professor Linda Nielsen, Department of Humanities

This course will examine the ways in which their parents' divorce affects children in our society. Students will debate and write about the various issues affecting children of divorce, such as: What are the best living arrangements for children after divorce? How and why does divorce benefit some children while it damages others? What can parents do to minimize the impact of their divorce?

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Tribble A205

Spring 2017

CRN: 16938

EXPLORING COMMUNICATION IN THE FINE ARTS

Professor Louis Goldstein, Department of Music

In this interdisciplinary seminar you get to go to plays, attend musical performances, read literature, and view art shows. These will provide the focus for class discussions exploring the communicative power of the fine arts. We will investigate artistic expressions in music, theater, literature, cinema, and the plastic arts, asking how thoughts and feelings are translated into communicable forms of expression. What do the fine arts tell us that normal, expository language does not? How do sound and sight communicate emotions and meanings that go beyond verbal description, reasoning, and argument? Why are there different arts? We will examine opposing viewpoints and center on how they react when they are rubbed together. Discussions and written assignments will concentrate on the formulation and expression of a personal point of view, and will include reflective reactions, traditional discourse, and perhaps some experimental prose and poetry. Prerequisite: an open mind.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Scales/SFAC M308

Spring 2017

CRN: 19993

WAGNER'S RING: GODS, TOLKIEN AND "STAR WARS"

Professor David Levy, Department of Music

Did you ever wonder where Tolkien got his idea for an all-powerful ring? This seminar will explore one of the great epics of Western culture. Conceived as a "Prelude and Three Days," the four operas that comprise Richard Wagner's Ring cycle (Das Rheingold, Die Walküre, Siegfried, and Götterdämmerung) adapt strands from medieval German, Norse, and Icelandic mythology into a compelling story of power, greed, treachery, love, and redemption that speaks just as powerfully to modern sensibilities as it did to its first audience in 1876. Controversial from the start, the Ring has had a profound influence on the subsequent development of art, music, philosophy, politics, and popular culture. The seminar will explore this richly-textured work through study of its text (in translation), and audio and video recordings. Reading knowledge of music or German is not required. Additional readings will reflect cross-disciplinary approaches to the work, and will include, among others, The Nibelungenlied, The Saga of the Volsungs, as well as Tolkien's saga in both its written and film versions.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Scales/SFAC M308

Spring 2017

CRN: 19994

SPORTS AND SOCIETY

Professor Adam Kadlac, Department of Philosophy

Sports occupy an inordinate amount of our time and attention, but we often approach sports uncritically, whether as a participant on the field of play or a fan watching games on television. We play sports and we watch sports because we enjoy them. But we do not often think about why we do these things, whether they are really worth doing, or how these activities relate to other pursuits we take to be important. This course takes a critical approach to sports and examines the role that sports play in our lives, both as participants and as spectators.

WF 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Tribble A205

Spring 2017

CRN: 19871

PHILOSOPHY GOES TO THE MOVIES!

Professor Adrian Bardon, Department of Philosophy

Many excellent films have been built around interesting philosophical issues and tough philosophical questions. This course uses film, in conjunction with targeted readings, to inspire discussion and debate of a variety of classic philosophical issues such as moral responsibility, personal identity, metaphysics of time travel, artificial intelligence, drugs, abortion, religious belief, race, economic justice, and immigration. Students will do individual short essays and work in groups to lead discussion. ****Some classes may go beyond the scheduled time due to the length of movie being viewed****

TR 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Tribble A307

Spring 2017

CRN: 16930

PHILOSOPHY OF WAR

Professor Clark Thompson, Department of Philosophy

Philosophy of War is a study of the implications of moral theory for the determination of when war is morally permissible and of how war is to be conducted if it is to be waged in a morally acceptable way. We shall examine whether just war theory can offer acceptable guidance in making these determinations. We shall ask whether the provisions of international law governing warfare, as well as the rules of warfare adopted by the military forces of the United States, are morally acceptable, and whether various military actions (e.g., the bombing of cities to weaken civilian morale) violate such provisions and rules.

MW 5:00 – 6:15 pm

Tribble A201

Spring 2017

CRN: 19995

UNDERSTANDING STUFF: MATERIALS OF OUR UNIVERSE, PLANET, TECHNOLOGY, AND SELVES

Professor Richard Williams, Department of Physics

Epochs of human progress have been labeled by the mastery of a new material enabling a major change of culture: stone age, bronze age, iron age, and industrial (steel and carbon) age, for example. We are on the cusp of mastering new materials for information technology, transportation, energy, frightful weapons, genomics – or is it the other way around? As a species, we are suddenly in a position of being able to change the planet and change ourselves. Is that good or bad? What is the materials science that puts you in this position? How can you use it well?

TR 12:00 – 1:15 pm

Olin 102

Spring 2017

CRN: 19996

TRUTH, REALITY, AND OBJECTIVITY; PHILOSOPHICAL THEMES IN PHYSICS

Professor Daniel Kim-Shapiro, Department of Physics

Is all truth relative, contingent on social and historical factors? Does it make sense to speak of what is "real", independently of what anybody says or thinks? Is objectivity ever a reasonable goal? We will consider these philosophical questions with reference to natural science generally and quantum mechanics in particular, a field which poses acute challenges for traditional understandings of reality and objectivity.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Olin 102

Spring 2017

CRN: 19997

CHALLENGES TO THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Professor Jaira Harrington, Department of Politics and International Affairs

This seminar will provide students with the ability to view and analyze global issues from a variety of methodological perspectives. We will explore the ways by which we identify, define, describe and explain all sorts of differences and the mechanisms by which people try to negotiate their differences in the world at large. We will use these insights to explore familiar global issues such as ethnicity and racism, gender, globalization and economic inequality, the environment, population growth and migration, human rights, and international security.

W 3:30 – 6:00 pm

Kirby B01B

Spring 2017

CRN: 19998

THE BOUNDARIES OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP

Professor Michael Callahan Pisapia, Department of Politics and International Affairs

This seminar examines the inclusion and exclusion of different social groups into full citizenship and political membership in the United States, and the changing contours of American national identity as a result of territorial expansion, domestic and international conflicts, immigration policy and social movements, from the Founding period to the present.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Kirby B010B

Spring 2017

CRN: 14919

WHAT DOESN'T KILL ME MAKES ME STRONGER: EXAMINING THE REDEMPTIVE SELF

Professor Eranda Jayawickreme, Department of Psychology

Adversity may provide opportunities for the development of character. In this class, we will discuss whether adversity is in fact needed for the full development of character, and engage with Project Re-Entry, a program that offers services to former offenders before and after their release from prison.

WF 9:30 – 10:45 am

Greene 312

Spring 2017

CRN: 19999

WHO AM I? A SOCIOCULTURAL APPROACH TO SELF AND IDENTITY DEVELOPMENT

Professor Lisa Kiang, Department of Psychology

Understanding who we are is a fundamental aspect of human nature. How do we become who we are? What obstacles do we face in asserting our self and identities? How do our personal, social, and cultural identities fit with the rest of society? This course will tackle these issues by examining theoretical and cultural perspectives on self and identity, as well as scientific research regarding self and identity development. Memoirs, popular fiction, and films will be used to enhance comprehension

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Greene 310

Spring 2017

CRN: 21936

LIFE PERSPECTIVES

Professor Eric Stone, Department of Psychology

The purpose of this course is to investigate various thoughts, research, and philosophies on how we can best live our lives. To this end, we will consider both traditional Western ideas as well as a range of less traditional perspectives (such as Eastern religions). To the extent possible, the focus will not be on abstract concepts, such as the "meaning of life," but instead on more tangible recommendations on how to live. In so doing, the hope is that we can apply these ideas to how we approach our own lives, and get a better sense of how we fit into the world in which we live.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Greene 312

Spring 2017

CRN: 21941

TALES OF MYSTERY AND IMAGINATION

Professor Elizabeth Anthony, Department of Romance Languages (French)

Through analyses and discussion of selected tales of mystery and imagination this seminar seeks to challenge our assumptions and our modes of perception. The texts under consideration invite us to probe beyond perceived events. They require us to become careful and attentive readers as we assume the role of detective, judge, or psychoanalyst. We will consider the choices authors make when constructing tales of mad scientists, scorned lovers, and supernatural events. Reading will include works by Robert Louis Stevenson, HG Wells, Edgar Allan Poe, Prosper Mérimée and Steven Millhauser. Films include works by Hitchcock, Wilder, and Salvatores.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Greene 320

Spring 2017

CRN: 20000

ALGERIA AT WAR ON FILM

Professor Judy Kem, Department of Department of Romance Languages (French)

A discussion and debate of eight films (in English or subtitled in English) that portray the still-controversial Algerian War of Independence and the more recent Algerian Civil War and how Islamic ideals, the 132-year French colonial domination of Algeria, censorship, torture, and terrorism played major roles in both conflicts. We will also discuss short reading selections on both conflicts. Students of French [intermediate-level or higher] may also enroll in a 1.5-hour Languages across the Curriculum component, FRH 196. Contact Professor Judy Kem for more information. This seminar was formerly known as: Real to Reel: Cinematic Representations of the Algerian War of Independence (1954-1962) and the Algerian Civil War (1991-2000)

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Greene 321

Spring 2017

CRN: 14921

LIVE AND IN 'COLOR': THE INTEGRATION OF ASIAN AND HISPANIC CULTURES IN AMERICAN SOCIETY THROUGH THEATRE

Professors Teresa Sanhueza, Department of Romance Languages (Spanish) and John Friedenber, Department of Theatre and Dance

In the immediate future, while still the dominant culture, white Americans will be a minority in the US. How are different minority cultures, specifically 'hyphenated' cultures, viewed within this 'dominant minority' culture? This class seeks to explore the specific circumstances of Asian and Hispanic students, international or domestic, within this context. Drawing on their experiences, and from essays, plays, discussions with guests from various academic perspectives, and interviews conducted on campus, students will work collaboratively to create and perform a dramatic work for the campus community.

This course is reserved for first-year students who are interested in participating in a unique learning community inside and outside the classroom. Exploration of course topics and group participation in a limited number of co-curricular events will encourage a smooth transition to college life. Through these activities, we will cultivate relationships with one another and with the community around us, explore our individual strengths and common interests, and develop leadership skills.

This group will live in the same residence hall and will form a first-year advising group. Faculty advisers designated prior to class. Registration is limited. To enroll, please contact Associate Dean Christy Buchanan (buchanan@wfu.edu).

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Greene 320

Spring 2017

CRN: 23078

CRIMINAL HOMICIDE: THE CULTURE AND STRUCTURE OF MURDER IN AMERICA

Professor Ken Bechtel, Department of Sociology

The killing of one human being by another, especially the premeditated criminal killing called murder, has long been a source of public concern, fascination, and often forms the basic plot lines of numerous television programs and motion pictures. Throughout most of the 20th century criminologists have focused considerable attention on criminal homicide. Through reading, class discussion, and an individual research project, students in this first year seminar will examine the various social forces that criminologists have identified as major factors in understanding criminal homicide and the various ways society has sought to reduce and prevent murder.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Kirby B01A

Spring 2017

CRN: 20001

THEATRE ALIVE!

Professor Sharon Andrews, Department of Theatre and Dance

Theatre Alive! will follow the process, production and the artistic choices involved in mounting the University Theatre's productions; *Doubt* by John Patrick Shanley and *Sonnets For An Old Century* by Jose Rivera. The course will explore how a production team comes to understand and agree on the ideas and values inherent in a play script and then how these ideas and values are communicated from the stage. This will be an active engagement course with lively discussions and creative presentations.

MW 9:30 – 10:45 am

Scales/SFAC 214

Spring 2017