

Short Descriptions of FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS

AMCULT 102.001	Sports Culture	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Vicente Diaz
This seminar examines the role of sports culture in the social and political construction of individual and collective American identities. Special attention will be given to issues of power, and race, gender, sexuality, class, and nationalism. Readings and films will cover contemporary and historical issues in baseball, basketball, football, boxing, and cheerleading.				
AMCULT 103.001	Black Culture in America	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Stephen Berrey
The Afro. The zoot suit. Hip Hop. Ma Rainey. Boondocks. Aretha Franklin. James Brown. Each of these cultural items is tied not only to personal taste or entertainment value but also to larger political and social issues around race. In this course, we will analyze Black expressive culture (such as in music, art, literature, and television) and Black everyday culture (such as through hair, fashion, and language), and seek answers to two broad questions: What is the relationship between Black culture and the Black freedom struggle? What is the relationship between "Black" culture and "American" culture?				
ANTHCUL 158.002	Tales from the City: Narratives & Urban Life	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Janet Carol Hart
The complex concentrations of people and capital in cities foster tales of movement, conflict and social transformation. City stories testify to personal experience, collective history, community organization, and institutional constraint. This course examines how city life is narrated by a variety of protagonists. Who speaks about city life and what do they say? We also examine the city as a critical backdrop in films, works of fiction, and historical monographs. Taking advantage of a variety of sources, we will focus on accounts of lives and experiences in Johannesburg, Paris, Rome, Mumbai, Chicago, São Paulo, and Detroit, among others.				
ASIAN 251.001	<i>The Story of the Stone</i>	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	David Rolston
The Story of the Stone has been praised as a veritable encyclopedia of Chinese life that has mattered deeply to countless Chinese readers, some of whom read it year after year. Reading and discussing this classic work will give us a better understanding of traditional Chinese culture. The novel focuses on life within the household and the majority of its characters are female, so it especially speaks to the life of Chinese women at that time. Class meetings will feature a number of different activities, including class debates on specific topics that will yield a wider and richer view of the novel and the culture that produced it.				
ASIAN 252.001	Food, Identity, & Community in Japan	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Ken Ito
Using modern Japanese fiction and film as our main texts, we examine how the discourse of food defines regional and national identities, and how communities are represented through patterns of consumption or deprivation. We probe the tension between the role of certain foods as markers of cultural authenticity and the reality of cuisine as a historically dynamic, hybrid enterprise. We will investigate the connections of gender and class to food and its preparation and study how the sharing of food affects human alliances. In short, we will be asking what it means to eat sushi.				
BIOLOGY 120.001	Living by Evidence	<i>NS</i>	3 cr	Bruce Oakley
A neuroscientist leads a broad survey which critically explores scientific and religious views of life on Earth. Take this course if you want to learn the basics either about DNA and evolution or about religion and Christianity. Avoid this course if you wish to protect a more traditional outlook from criticism and scrutiny.				
BIOLOGY 120.002	Living by Evidence	<i>NS</i>	3 cr	Bruce Oakley
See BIOLOGY 120.001				
CAAS 103.001	The Crisis of the African American Male	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Alford Young Jr.
What is the crisis of the African American male? We will conduct a critical examination of research and research-informed commentaries that aim to document and interpret that crisis. More specifically, we will explore a range of arguments that aim to define the state of Black masculinity and the social condition of African American men. These works will stimulate our effort to pose and answer questions about what constitutes a condition of crisis of African American men and how their prospects in American society be improved.				
CAAS 103.002	I Too Sing America: Talking About Racism & Other Difficult Topics	<i>SS/R&E</i>	3 cr	Charles Behling
See UC 151.001.				
CAAS 104.001	Black Culture in America	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Stephen Berrey
See AMCULT 103.001.				
CLCIV 120.001	Rome: The Meaning & Making of Myth	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Netta Berlin
Ancient Rome is said to have been a "mythless" society, but the dynamic stories of Aeneas, Romulus and Remus, Hercules, and Lucretia suggest otherwise. This course explores the meaning and making of myth in Rome relative to two facets of Roman culture: religion and history. What significance did Roman rituals attach to myth? How were myths used in accounts of the invention and reinvention of Rome as a state, a republic, and an imperial power ruled by one man?				
CLCIV 120.003	Rome & the Contemporary Imagination	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Mira Seo
Contemporary books and articles often evoke Rome as a comparison for Western society. This seminar investigates our society's desire to hold up Rome as a standard. What does Rome mean for us today, and how do popular references and representations in commentary, film, and television construct the Rome we need? How has this Rome changed from the Founding Fathers to today, and what is the role of historical fact in the process of civic imagination?				

CLCIV 121.001	Africa, Race & Ethnicity in the Ancient Mediterranean	<i>FYWR</i>	4 cr	Paolo Asso
In this course we suggest that the idea of Africa was fabricated in classical antiquity by non-African peoples. We shall study this idea of Africa as it relates to queWelcome to the Twentieth Century!stions of identity, race, and ethnicity, both ancient and present. Readings are selected from ancient and modern texts, and include Herodotus, Aristotle, Tacitus, Appiah, Said, Isaac, and Obama.				
COMPLIT 140.001	Welcome to the Twentieth Century!	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Tatjana Aleksic
Welcome to the ride through the most diverse and wonderful literary and artistic era! This truly comparative course exposes students to a variety of genres, forms of expression, periods and cultures. Our survey introduces the literary and artistic movements of the past century and places it in context with the historical developments of the time. At the beginning of this century we depart from the avant-garde's wildest experimentations with language and form. Our journey takes us through the post-WWII disillusionment of Theatre of the Absurd, all the way to postmodern fragmentation of text and image. Besides some of the most important names of the European and American literature and art, look for the many unexpected texts from the world's "cultural peripheries."				
DUTCH 160.001	Colonialism & Its Aftermath: Issues in Race & Ethnicity	<i>HU/R&E</i>	3 cr	Antonio Broos
The Netherlands has been an active participant in shaping the world as we know it through mercantile and political involvement around the globe. The Dutch were colonizers of Indonesia and its many islands, founders of New Amsterdam/New York 400 years ago, traders in West Africa, first settlers in Cape town in South Africa, and the first trading partners with the Japanese. This course introduces first-year students to cultural studies in general and Dutch Studies in particular, integrating social, political, and economic history with literary renderings, and artistic representations of colonialism.				
ENGLISH 140.001	The Sincerest Form	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Nicholas Delbanco
A course in the nature and technique of verbal communication (the literature of prose, fiction, poetry and drama) from the reader-writer's point of view. While studying the sonnet form, for example, the assignment will be to write a sonnet; when reading the work of Jamaica Kincaid or Edward Albee, the assignment will be to compose a scene in their distinctive styles. The article of faith on which this course is based is that imitation is not merely the sincerest form of flattery, but also a good way to grow. (Restricted to Honors)				
ENVIRON 139.003	Environmental Literature	<i>ID</i>	3 cr	Virginia Murphy
The use of language enables us to understand our connection to the world, as well as examine our relationship with nature in various works of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and film. This seminar explores the human connection to the environment and the evolution of American attitudes toward the natural world as reflected in environmental literature. In addition to exploring environmental literature and film, students complete a social service requirement that benefits the health of the environment or furthers understanding of environmental issues. By fostering a greater appreciation for our connection to the environment and attempting to reconcile our ambivalent attitudes toward nature, this seminar helps us define our place in the natural world.				
ENVIRON 139.020	Environment, Religions, Spirituality, & Sustainability	<i>ID</i>	3 cr	James Crowfoot
This interdisciplinary seminar inquires into the fundamental changes occurring in the natural environment (including humans) and in human social systems and culture to explore the question: To what extent, in what ways, and why are current trends in human impacts on the environment and social relations sustainable or unsustainable? The major contrasting responses offer differing scenarios of the future in terms of their visions, strategies, and examples of practices to be pursued. Religions to be considered include those of Native Americans and other indigenous peoples as well as world religions, e.g. Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity. Agnostics and atheists are welcome.				
GEOSCI 146.001	Plate Tectonics	<i>NS</i>	3 cr	Jeroen Ritsema
Two hundred million years ago the Earth's continents were joined together to form one gigantic super-continent, called Pangaea. Plate tectonic forces broke Pangaea apart and caused the continents to drift. We study the evidence for plate tectonics and the large-scale dynamics of the Earth's interior responsible for mountains, earthquakes, volcanoes, changes in Earth's magnetic field, and much more.				
GEOSCI 148.001	Environmental Geology	<i>NS</i>	3 cr	Larry Ruff
This seminar examines the interactions between people and their physical environment through case histories and discussions of selected environmental problems. Specific topics include natural hazards, water resources, nuclear waste disposal, and geologic aspects of environmental health.				
GEOSCI 150.001	Dinosaur Extinction & Other Controversies	<i>NS</i>	3 cr	Jeffrey Wilson
The concept that some species may become extinct was extremely controversial as late as the early 19th century. Two hundred years later, paleontologists still debate the causes and consequences of extinction in the fossil record. This course deals broadly with the nature of science, the meaning of fossils, and the role that geological controversies have played in shaping our understanding of the origin and evolution of life on Earth.				
GEOSCI 154.001	Ocean Resources	<i>NS</i>	3 cr	Jeffrey Alt
The oceans provide many resources, including food, recreation, energy, and minerals. We will examine the scientific principles behind these resources as well as the conflicts that arise because of their utilization. Examples include the ocean as food resources vs. overfishing and the development of beaches and marinas vs. preservation of wetlands. Students will lead discussions on weekly topics, with one written paper and one written exam.				
HISTART 194.001	American Moderns	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Rebecca Zurier
The first decades of the 20th century spawned a variety of artistic and cultural experimentation. American Moderns—artists, writers, political radicals, composers, dancers—grappled with many challenging questions. Should art deal with the facts of modern life or the realm of the spirit? Should it democratize its audience or challenge the few adventurous souls willing to take risks? Does progress come through evolution or revolution? How would the "New Woman" and the "New Negro" reshape modern life in America? Would technology liberate or exploit? Class includes a weekend field trip in October to New York City to view an exhibition of Georgia O'Keeffe's abstractions plus other Modern sites. See online Course Guide for details.				

HISTORY 196.001	Debating the French Colonial Past in Film	SS	3 cr	Joshua Cole
This course explores the way that 20th-century French cinema treated the question of the French empire, both as a contemporary phenomenon in the case of films made during the colonial period, and as a historical legacy in the case of more recent films. We will view and discuss films made by French filmmakers as well as several made by directors from former French colonies. Selected films will include works of fiction as well as documentaries, supplemented by readings about the history of French colonialism, colonial cinema, and 20th-century French popular culture.				
HISTORY 197.001	Mary & Modernity: A Comparative History of Visionary Experience	HU	3 cr	Deirdre de la Cruz
The 1830 appearance of the Virgin Mary to Catherine Labouré in Paris marks the beginning of what is widely referred to in Catholic circles as the “Age of Mary.” Marian apparitions began to proliferate at a rate unprecedented in the history of Christianity, transforming what was once a phenomenon witnessed by a privileged and pious few into public spectacles, often on a global scale. This course charts this transformation, using worldwide apparitions and miracles as a historical lens through which we may understand several hallmarks of modernity: industrialization, secularism, nationalism, war, the ascendancy of technology and the mass media, and the feminization of the supernatural. (Meets with WOMENSTD 150.002)				
HISTORY 197.002	Evangelicalisms of Americas	HU	3 cr	Daniel Ramirez
Who stole our secularity? The resurgence of Islam and evangelical Christianities in the public square has prompted interrogation of the received notion of the compartmentalization and eclipse of religion in the modern era. This historical survey will complicate categorical rubrics such as Fundamentalist and Evangelical, in order to see how and if these hold together among different racial and ethnic groups in the U.S. and in different regions of the Americas and the Caribbean. It will thus ask: whose modernity?				
HISTORY 197.003	Invisible Cities: Travellers' Tales, 1200-1650 AD	HU	3 cr	Ellen Poteet
This course uses Italo Calvino’s <i>Invisible Cities</i> as a launching ground for discussing how travel accounts between 1200 and 1650 envisaged and described cities never to be seen by their readers. Examples include: the travels of Marco Polo; crusader accounts; Franciscan, Dominican, and Jesuit narratives and letters; and Leo-Africanus’ <i>Description of Africa</i> . We also discuss Utopian cities such as those conceived by Leonardo Da Vinci, John Calvin, and Thomas More. The excellent map collections in Hatcher and the Clements Library introduce different traditions in map-making during this period.				
HISTORY 197.004	Black Culture in America	HU	3 cr	Stephen Berrey
See AMCULT 103.001.				
HJCS 192.001	From Bible, Midrash & Mysticism to Modern Jewish Literature	HU	3 cr	Shachar Pinsker
This seminar explores the relations between biblical, midrashic and mystical texts, and modern Jewish literature starting in the late 19th century. What is the nature of Midrash and the mystical experience in Judaism, and how are they expressed in texts? Can we speak of modern Midrash or modern mysticism written within a secular context? How do modern Jewish writers employ biblical, rabbinic and mystical language in forging modern subjectivity? How are religious Jewish figures, motifs and narrative structures being reread and rewritten? What is the role of gender in the process of retelling? The readings include biblical, rabbinic and kabalistic texts and a variety of modern Hebrew and Jewish narratives and poems. All texts are in English translation. (Meets with JUDAIC 150.001)				
ITALIAN 250.001	Medieval Mediterranean Literature: The 1001 Nights and the Decameron	HU	3 cr	Karla Mallette
The two books we’ll read in this class – one written originally in Arabic (the <i>1001 Nights</i>), the other in Italian (the <i>Decameron</i>) – are “framed tales” in which characters in one story start to tell stories of their own. They’re both about disasters that befall a city – a murderous sultan in one, a plague in the other. And in both, average citizens tell tales in order to make things right again. We’ll learn how these books both reflect and distort historical actualities, analyze their narrative architecture to figure out how they work, and ask how stories can save lives. We’ll also examine why the gambit sometimes backfires: why invented tales sometimes lead their narrators toward destruction. Taught in English; no knowledge of Italian or Arabic language required.				
JUDAIC 150.001	From Bible, Midrash & Mysticism to Modern Jewish Literature	HU	3 cr	Shachar Pinsker
See HJCS 192.001				
LING 102.001	Human Language in <i>Science & Nature</i>	HU	3 cr	William Baxter
Recent research about human language often finds its way into the pages of <i>Science</i> and <i>Nature</i> , the world's two leading weekly journals of general science. This research reflects a significant change in how human language is being investigated. Topics include: brain imaging; the study of language disorders; connections between paleobotany and the history of language families; and the application to historical linguistics of algorithms developed for inferring genetic phylogeny. (Restricted to Honors)				
LING 103.001	The Mathematics of Language	SS	3 cr	Steven Abney
Can language be described mathematically? Is there any fundamental difference between human languages (English, Swahili, Anishinaabemowin) and computer languages? Can we build a machine that genuinely speaks English? How does one invent a computer language (like Sindarin or Klingon) that has the ring of a real language? What is language? Can there be a science of language? In answering those questions, we explore the mathematical concepts and techniques that have been developed by linguists, logicians, and computer scientists to model language. The mathematical toolbox includes finite-state and context-free grammars, logic, and probability theory. We will focus on syntax (how sentences are put together) and semantics (what they mean). No mathematical background is assumed beyond high school algebra. (Restricted to Honors)				

MATH 175.001	An Introduction to Cryptology	<i>MSA/QRI</i>	4 cr	Francois Dorais
This course provides a helpful introduction for anyone who wants to know more about the science of constructing and attacking secret codes. The primary goal is to understand the mathematical tools from combinatorics, number theory, and probability that underlie cryptologic methods. This course is an alternative to MATH 185 as an entry to the Honors sequence. Students are expected to have previous experience with the basic concepts and techniques of first-semester calculus. (Restricted to LSA Honors; requires departmental permission.)				
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PHIL 196.001	Science Fiction & Philosophy	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	David Baker
Science fiction and philosophy are deeply linked through their common use of "thought experiments." Our main goal will be to initiate and explore philosophical questions by appealing to thought experiments from important works of science fiction. Novels include Hyperion by Dan Simmons, The Ophiuchi Hotline by John Varley, and Manifold Time by Stephen Baxter, as well as a number of shorter works. Specific topics include skepticism about knowledge, anthropic reasoning, and personal identity, as well as ethical topics surrounding religious belief, cloning, and human genetic engineering.				
PHIL 196.002	The Scope of Rights	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Sarah Buss
We begin by considering some philosophical discussions of moral rights and then turn our attention to the conditions that ground these rights. We first focus on the right to life. If anyone has this right, then we do. But are we the only ones? What about plants? Nonhuman animals? Humans with seriously compromised mental abilities? Human fetuses? Humans in a persistent vegetative state? In exploring these questions, we will also consider the more general right not to be harmed. We will finish up by asking whether there are things we can do to forfeit our moral rights -- even our right to life.				
PHIL 196.003	A Moral Institution	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Gary Krenz
This course examines moral dimensions of the University and the academic community of faculty, students, and staff. We will consider participation in this community and seek to develop deliberative competencies by questioning academic life, higher education, and the University from moral and social standpoints. We will discuss the moral theories of philosophers such as Kant, Mill and Aristotle and the application of moral reasoning to the academic setting. Our inquiries will touch on academic integrity and academic freedom; responsibilities and moral tensions within the academic community; the moral value of higher education and the University's moral obligations as an institution.				
PHYSICS 112.001	Cosmology: The Science of the Universe	<i>NS</i>	3 cr	Dragan Huterer
It has been less than a hundred years since we have known much about our Sun, the Milky Way Galaxy, and the Universe. How big are they? What do they contain? How did they and the Earth originate and when? Are we alone in the Universe? What impact did past (and perhaps future) cosmological events have on life on Earth? This course provides answers to many of these questions, stressing conceptual understanding and simple calculations.				
PSYCH 120.001	Succeeding in College & Beyond: Pursuing Valued Goals Despite the Distractions	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Oscar Ybarra
This course is intended to fill a gap in knowledge and skill development that goes beyond any course you take, any major you declare, or any vocation or career you decide to pursue. In short, the goal is to develop the knowledge and skills you may find useful for managing your studies and intelligence, your social connections, and more generally your pursuit of valued goals despite the inherent distractions associated with college and life in general.				
PSYCH 120.002	Twins & What They Teach Us about Identity, Relationships, Genes, & Environment	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Marion Perlmutter
Throughout historical time and across many cultures, twins have been the source of much fascination. In literature, they have served as a metaphor to explore identity, good vs. evil, multiple life options, and soul mates. In science, they have been used to disentangle genetic and environmental influences on health and behavior. To gain an understanding of the experience, influences, and impact of twinning, we will examine literature and films, interview twins, relatives, and spouses of twins, and consider theory and research on the biology and psychology of twins, and changes related to the recent increased incidence of twinning.				
PSYCH 120.003	Law & Psychology	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Robert Pachella
This seminar will study the relationship between law and psychology within a general framework. We will examine a number of real cases that have been covered by the popular press (e.g., the trial of Lorena Bobbitt) as well as some fictional accounts (e.g., Grisham's A Time to Kill) with regard to how the law defines the limits of personal responsibility. We will also discuss the psychological import of legal issues such as the insanity defense, and battered wife syndrome. Each student will write a weekly commentary as well as a "closing argument" that will be presented to the class for one of the cases under consideration. (Restricted to Honors)				
PSYCH 120.004	Psychological Perspectives on College Experience	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Priti Shah
When students graduate from the University of Michigan, in what ways are they different from when they began? How will their thinking change as they progress through the university? What factors influence how well and for how long they will continue to seek information? The primary goal of this course is to understand the psychology of learning and thinking in the context of the university. A secondary goal is to consider how the university as a whole works and the impact of its policies and life.				

PSYCH 120.005	Society, Family, & the Self	SS	3 cr	Pamela Davis-Kean
In what ways have your family and social context influenced who you are and where you are today? We will discuss how socialization experiences throughout childhood, adolescence, and adulthood are important to how you think of yourself today and into the future. How important are you (the self) to this process? We will investigate and discuss influences that might have changed your life trajectory.				
PSYCH 120.006	Education as Social Justice	SS	3 cr	Stephanie Rowley
This course will explore the connection between education/learning and issues of social justice. We will consider the ways in which the structure of American education systematically discriminates against racial, gender, religious, and social class groups. The class will also examine the impact of this discrimination on social, academic, and psychological development.				
PSYCH 120.007	Gender, Emotion, & the Self	SS	3 cr	Carla Grayson
How does gender influence construction of the self and how we understand our own and others' emotions? Taught from a social justice perspective, we examine psychologically, socially, and morally complex issues surrounding gender identity, transsexualism, sexual orientation, and relationships. Students will examine their own beliefs and experiences as well as become familiar with basic controversies in this area.				
PSYCH 120.008	What Makes Life Worth Living?	SS	3 cr	Nansook Park
This first-year seminar addresses the topic of what makes life worth living. The course will draw on psychology as well as allied work in philosophy, political science, organizational studies, public health, and education. The course will entail a discussion format; readings from original sources; out-of-class exercises; a service learning project; and class presentations by students at the end of the semester on topics of their own choosing. (Restricted to Honors)				
PSYCH 121.001	Evolution of Consciousness & Cognition	NS	3 cr	David Meyer
This interdisciplinary seminar will explore the nature of conscious and unconscious mental processes in various types of human cognition and action, including perception, memory, thinking, and behavior broadly construed. We will take an eclectic approach in our exploration, encompassing points of view found in disciplines such as psychology, neurophysiology, artificial intelligence, philosophy, and medical practice. Both normal and altered states of consciousness (e.g., sleep, dreaming, meditation, hypnosis, and hallucination) will be considered from these perspectives.				
PSYCH 121.002	Mind, Brain, & Computer	NS	3 cr	Richard Lewis
Is the human mind just a kind of computer that happens to be constructed from neurons? We will explore what science has learned about how the mind and brain works by considering relevant topics in neuroscience, psychology, and artificial intelligence. Our goal is to build an integrated understanding of how the parts of the mind work together to let us perceive, think, and act in a complex world.				
PSYCH 121.003	Mind, Brain, and Evil	NS	3 cr	William Gehring
What is evil? Why do people hurt each other? Why do people often choose killing and cruelty over caring and compassion? In this course, we will examine how the cognitive and emotional processes of the brain contribute to violence, cruelty, and other forms of evil behavior. We will consider how biological and psychological factors interact with an individual's social context and environment to generate evil behavior. Our discussions will include psychological, psychiatric, neurological, and evolutionary perspectives.				
SLAVIC 151.001	Prague: The Magic City	FYWR	4 cr	Jindrich Toman
Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, belongs to those European cities that fascinate as unique historical amalgams whose composition defies disciplinary boundaries. The course traces Prague's history, culture, architecture, the symbiosis of ethnic groups within its walls, and its current spirit. We read literature inspired by Prague, including works by Neruda, Kafka, and Apollinaire; study visual documents; and watch films including Paul Wegener's Golem.				
SLAVIC 151.002	Yiddish Love Stories	FYWR	4 cr	Mikhail Krutikov
Did young Jewish men and women fall in love in the old days? What was the place of love in traditional Jewish society? How did ideas about love, romance, and marriage change with time? We will address these and other important questions about Jewish life by looking closely at a series of Yiddish stories written in the 19th and 20th centuries in Russia, Poland, and America. We will explore the ways Yiddish writers portrayed romantic feelings, study their literary techniques and devices, and create our own interpretations of their works. We will also look at visual representations of love in art and cinema.				
SLAVIC 151.003	Yugoslav/Post-Yugoslav Short Fiction	FYWR	4 cr	Tatjana Aleksic
This course introduces students to the best in modern and contemporary short fiction by writers from the former Yugoslavia. We use films, short stories, and short novels dealing with a wide variety of themes including how the latest generation of post-Yugoslav writers present the legacy of the civil wars and country's dissolution in the 1990s. Readings include: a tragic love story by Borisav Stankovi; meditative master-pieces written by the only Yugoslav Nobel Prize winner, Ivo Andri; the exilic dissident voice of Danilo Kiš; and one of the world's most translated science-fiction authors, Zoran Živkovi.				
SLAVIC 151.004	The Russian Rogue's Progress	FYWR	4 cr	Omry Ronen
This course examines Russian picaresque humor, satire, fantasy, and science fiction in the 19th and 20th centuries surveyed against the background of world literature and folklore. Readings include Gogol's <i>Dead Souls</i> , Ehrenburg's <i>Julio Jurenitj</i> , A.N. Tolstoy's <i>Garin's Death Ray</i> , Il'f and Petrov's <i>Twelve Chairs</i> , Bulgakov's <i>The Master and Margarita</i> , Babel's <i>My First Fee</i> , and more. Lectures, students' presentations, and discussion. Grade based on papers, midterm reports, and final essay. No knowledge of Russian or background in Russian literature required.				

SOC 105.001	Class, Race, Gender, & Modernity	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Jeffery Paige
This course introduces the sociological study of inequality through an analysis of three of its fundamental dimensions—class, race and gender. How does each dimension relate to the development of modern capitalist society as described by Marx and Weber? What are the similarities and differences among the three dimensions, their relationship to one another, and the underlying dynamics of capitalist modernity? Topics include class analysis, contemporary issues in feminist theories of gender, and recent work on the social construction of race.				
SOC 105.002	Transforming America: Immigrants Then & Now	<i>SS/R&E</i>	3 cr	Silvia Pedraza
In this course we survey a vast range of the American immigrant experience: Irish, Germans, Jews, Italians, Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Mexicans, Cubans, Koreans, and Japanese. We examine four major waves of immigration to America: first, Northwest Europeans in the mid-19th century; second, Southern and Eastern Europeans at the end of the 19th century and beginning of the 20th; third, movement from the South to the North of Black Americans and Mexicans precipitated by two World Wars; and fourth, from 1965 to the present, of immigrants from Latin America and Asia. Meets with HONORS 250.003. (SS/R&E)				
SOC 105.003	Identity & Diversity: Community, Commitment, & Justice in a Democratic Society	<i>SS/R&E</i>	3 cr	David Schoem
This seminar explores a wide range of issues on social identity (race, gender, class, nationality, sexual orientation, etc.), community and intergroup relations, and everyday politics and democracy. Students will participate in dialogue discussions about difference, read about lives of commitment, and explore issues of social justice and civic engagement in a diverse democratic society. (SS/R&E)				
SOC 105.004	Introduction to Sociology through American & Iraqi Societies	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Fatma Müge Göçek
This class is designed specifically to introduce you to the field of sociology through the study of two societies that are of deep concern to us at the moment, one because we live in it and the other because we fight in it: namely, the American and Iraqi societies. The purpose of the course is to gain insight into how to approach and analyze sociologically the American and Iraqi societies that are alternately portrayed on the one hand, as being structurally and culturally very different from one another, yet on the other other hand, very similar to one another.				
STATS 125.001	Games, Gambling, & Coincidences	<i>MSA/QRI</i>	3 cr	Robert Keener
Emphasizes problem solving and modeling related to games, gambling and coincidences, touching on many fundamental ideas in discrete probability, finite Markov chains, dynamic programming and game theory.				
STATS 150.001	Making Sense of Data	<i>MSA/QRI</i>	3 cr	Ben Hansen
Can you really make statistics say anything you want? Yes and no. Some common statistical comparisons are susceptible to coercion, but there are others that can be trusted to tell the truth. We explore their differences, using the examples from the social and medical sciences as well as cutting-edge computing and graphical techniques.				
WOMENSTD 150.001	The Female Figure in Visual Arts	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Susan Siegfried
Our subject is representations of the female figure in the visual arts from the 16th through the 20th centuries. We will consider feminist theories about the production and reception of works of art as they relate to issues of authorship, subject matter, social environment, and techniques of representation. The seminar emphasizes first-hand study of original works of art in the University of Michigan Museum of Art and other university and regional collections in conjunction with LSA's Fall 2009 theme semester, "Meaningful Objects: Museums in the Academy."				
WOMENSTD 150.002	Mary & Modernity: A Comparative History of Visionary Experience	<i>HU</i>	3 cr	Deirdre de la Cruz
See HISTORY 197.001.				
UC 151.001	I Too Sing America: Talking About Racism & Other Difficult Topics	<i>SS/R&E</i>	3 cr	Charles Behling
Taking its title from the Langston Hughes poem, this seminar explores psychological aspects of race, ethnicity, and other cultural differences in the United States. What are some of the opportunities for and obstacles to our joining with Hughes in affirming, "They'll see how beautiful I am . . . I, too, sing America"? Topics include stereotyping, communication, cooperation, conflict, justice, and discrimination. What psychological theories address how individuals and groups might benefit most from life in pluralistic societies? What are some psychological dynamics of stereotyping? What are possible connections between various forms of discrimination, e.g. racism, sexism, homophobia, and anti-Semitism? (Meets with CAAS 103.002)				
UC 151.002	Human Sexuality & Gender Issues	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Fran Mayes
Sex education is more than the anatomy of reproduction. This class explores many current issues of sexuality and gender from various perspectives—e.g., age, biology, culture, gender identity, research, and cybersex—as well as personal, social, and political implications. Guest speakers share their experience as sexual minorities, gender explorers, sex educators, sex therapists, HIV positive, etc. No topic is taboo.				
UC 151.003	Medicine & the Media from Hippocrates through "Grey's Anatomy"	<i>SS</i>	3 cr	Raymond Hobbs
We study the development of medicine as a science and how the perception of it has been changed through the media. Students explore their own beliefs about medicine through literature such as <i>The House of God</i> , <i>The Intern Blues</i> , <i>The Double Helix</i> and movies and television series such as <i>The Story of Louis Pasteur</i> , <i>The Hospital</i> , <i>Medic</i> , <i>Ben Casey</i> , <i>Marcus Welby, M.D.</i> , and <i>Saint Elsewhere</i> , as well as more recent offerings such as <i>John Q</i> , <i>ER</i> , <i>House</i> , and <i>Grey's Anatomy</i> . Much of the course focuses on the discussion of ethical issues and the crystallization of students' own beliefs about medicine in the 21st century.				

UC 151.004	Lives of Urban Children & Youth: Schools, Community, Power	SS	3 cr	Joseph Galura
<p>This course explores the dynamics of formal and informal education in urban settings through traditional coursework integrated with personal reflection and community involvement. For example, how have community members helped to create and support positive roles for young children? Students work closely with members of the community and program staff to document cultural beliefs and practices that shape social identity and expectations. Assisting educators in implementing these programs provide students with an opportunity to put into practice the theory of service-learning. As an integral part of this course, students must complete 4 hours of service each week in a Detroit school (includes transportation).</p>				
UC 151.005	Science & the Practice of Dentistry in the 21st Century	SS	3 cr	Russell Taichman
<p>What has been the evolution of dentistry from its origins to its present status as a scientifically driven health care discipline? Students critically evaluate how science has influenced the development of dentistry for the past century and explore how emerging scientific disciplines are likely to change the practice of dentistry in the next millennium.</p>				
UC 154.001	Life & Living: Thinking Inside & Outside the "Box"	ID	3 cr	Alphonse Burdi
<p>This is the age of scientific discovery! Information in the life sciences and health care is increasing exponentially in many areas—ranging from stem cell biology, cancer drugs cell targeting, DNA profiling, personal data collection and privacy, to issues of balancing the quantity of life versus the quality of life. This new information is generating provocative and often conflicting issues between personal values, societal ethics, cultural beliefs, and the law. Guided by a daily course “blueprint,” we use task-specific learning modules, case studies, critical readings, and independent research explorations designed to challenge and expand our current thinking on the intersect between scientific discovery and its impact on human lives and society.</p>				