

Spring 2009

HONORS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Honors Seminar (FRESHMEN ONLY –You will only be registered if you did not take HNRS 200 during the Fall 2008 or Winter 2009 Terms)

Instructor: Various Faculty/Staff
Honors 200, Multiple Times, 1.0 credits
CRN –Multiple

Offers intensive discussion of a subject of significant intellectual interest. Subjects vary from section to section and are meant to engage entering Honors students with one another under the guidance of Drexel's best faculty.

Fashion and Culture

Instructor: Renee Chase
Email: renee.weiss.chase@drexel.edu
Honors 201, Section 001, Thursdays 3:30PM - 6:20PM, 3.0 credits
CRN -34388

Introduction to Ballroom Dancing

Instructor: Samantha Bellomo
Email: sammibell@yahoo.com
Honors 201, Section 501, Mondays 6:00PM - 8:50PM, 3.0 credits
CRN -34385

Learn by DUing! This is an interactive dance class not a lecture. **To register for this course come to the Honors lounge to sign-up. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. The class will fill on a first-come, first served basis.**

The Culture of Respect

Instructor: Shannon Gary
Email: sgary@drexel.edu
Honors 201, Section 502, Wednesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits
CRN - 34386

This course is an examination of systems of oppression. In particular we will be exploring: racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, ableism, ageism, and religious oppression. The approach we will take to study these topics is one of experiential learning. As the students in the class, you will essentially be the textbooks for our study. Much of our time will be spent exploring the misinformation and stereotypes that enable systems of oppression to exist and perpetuate.

Baseball and American Culture

Instructor: Richard Rosen

Email: richard.l.rosen@drexel.edu

Honors 202, Section 501, Tuesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34381

This course will trace the development of baseball during the progressive era to 1950 and beyond. The emphasis will be on baseball as a mechanism for the integration of the various segments of society. In addition to the texts we use, there is a list of reference books and web sites from which students can gather information for their individual work. Films with baseball themes will also be included, as well as excerpts in the literature of baseball.

Teaching for Change

Instructor: Shannon Gary

Email: sgary@drexel.edu

Honors 202, Section 503, Wednesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34387

This course is a Teaching Colleagues Practicum. It allows a group of students to serve as mentees under a professor outside of the classroom, while then teaching information alongside a professor inside of the classroom. You will do this by serving as a Teaching Colleague for "The Culture of Respect."

Students must have taken [The Culture of Respect](#) to register for this class.

Entrepreneurial Studies

Instructor: Robert Loring

Email: rloring911@comcast.net

Honors 301, Section 001, Tuesdays, 1:00PM – 3:50PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34644

This exciting and very practical course will explain and teach to you, step-by-step, how the modern entrepreneurial and business planning process functions from idea identification to eventual successful commercialization. You will learn how to fully develop a potential new business concept or idea into a viable, professional quality business plan. Preparing a professional quality business plan is the necessary first step in the process of launching a new business venture.

Pulp Fiction and Pop Culture

Instructor: Matthew Kaufhold

Email: kaufhold@drexel.edu

Honors 301, Section 002, Thursdays 9:30AM – 12:20PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34379

A 10-week exploration of classic Pulp Fiction in America in the 30s & 40s, from its origins in Penny Dreadfuls, Dime Novels, and cheap wood pulp paper, to the modern descendents of the pulps: comic books, television, and even the internet. We will read

and analyze primary source material in major pulp genres of mystery, science fiction, fantasy, adventure, horror, and romance, tracing literary antecedents, contemporaneous entertainment sources (such as film serials), and how these pulps inform the entertainment industry today.

Advanced Fiction Writing Workshop

Instructor: Cheryl Pearl Sucher

Honors 301, Section 501, Thursdays, 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34377

If you've written any stories on your own or have studied Fiction Writing in the past, then this class is for you. In a workshop environment we will hone in on your developing talent. Be prepared to work hard, but to have fun using your imagination.

Instructor Cheryl Sucher is the author of *THE RESCUE OF MEMORY*, (Schribner and Sons). She lives in New York City where she is working on her second novel.

The Graphic Novel

Instructor: Christopher Redmann

Email: redmann@drexel.edu

Honors 301, Section 503, Thursdays, 6:00PM – 8:50 PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34380

Philosophy, Science and Religion: Historical and Contemporary Controversies

Instructor: Fred Abbate

Email: fred.j.abbate@drexel.edu

Honors 301, Section 504, Wednesdays, 6:00PM – 8:50 PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34384

This course will explore current and long-standing disputes between those who claim that religious belief is compatible with scientific views of the world—or actually reinforced by such views--and those who argue that such claims are absurd. In pursuing this analytical exploration, the class will discuss the characteristics of scientific explanation, the nature of religious experience, classical and contemporary arguments for God's existence, theories about moral and physical evil in the world, debates about the possibility of life after death, and assertions that religious belief leads to the destruction of human purpose and social value.

World War II Comedy

Instructor: Ian Abrams

Email: ian.n.abrams@drexel.edu

HNRS 301, Section 505, Mondays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits

CRN - 34389

Hollywood has always reflected what America was thinking, and between the late 30's and the mid-40's, America was thinking about global war.

Much of the American attitude towards the war was shaped by key American films, a surprising number of which were comedies. This course will examine the elements of the war that were used to make audiences laugh-- not just feature films, but shorts and cartoons, plus novels and even popular songs. Included will be Abbott & Costello, Bob Hope, Ernst Lubitsch, Charlie Chaplin, Max Shulman, Spike Jones, Preston Sturges, Cary Grant, Tex Avery, Chuck Jones, Edward G. Robinson and Humphrey Bogart: all this and World War II.

Divining Divinity: Conceptions and Traditions

Instructor: Thomas Olszewsky

Email: olszewskytm@earthlink.net

**HNRS 301, Section 001, Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30PM- 4:50PM, 3.0 credits
CRN - 34378**

This **inquiry begins** with our tacit conceptions of the sacred: An awareness of the “Wholly Other” – Awe in the presence of . . . what? The immediacy of experience inevitably leads to reflections about such conceptions.

And so our **problems begin**:

How, if wholly other, can this be related to me? How, if beyond time and space, can this be and act in the spacio-temporal world? What sense can I make of it beyond the moment of experience? Everlasting? How is its perfection beyond the contingency of the projections of my own imaginations? These reflections will carry us into other **conundrums** and **perplexities** regarding conceptions of the divine.

At the same time, we cannot help carrying with us our own **assumptions** based on the **traditions** either that we are participating in or that we are in reaction to. We are not used to thinking about “god” as a title of office rather than as the name of a specific being (we each suppose that *our* god is *the* god). Even among those religious traditions claiming a common and unique god, **problems remain**: Are Jews deifying the Law? Are Christians deifying a human? Are Muslims deifying a book?

We will read about the development of the notion of monotheism within these traditions before considering other traditions in which the sacred is ascribed to more than one deity – or in which the sacred is conceived in ways involving no deity at all.

Workshop – Reading and Writing Poetry

Instructor: Henry Isreali

Email: hpi22@drexel.edu

**Honors 302, Section 002, Wednesdays 2:00PM- 4:50PM, 3.0 credits
CRN – 34383**

Study poetry writing in a workshop designed for beginning and advanced writers with the publisher of an award winning independent press, Saturnalia Books. Learn why, according to a survey administered by the Poetry Foundation, “the vast majority of American readers (90%) highly value poetry.” Delve into your imagination with

exercises and routines designed to help you write poems that take advantage of the less commercial demands of small presses. Honors credit and Writing Intensive.

UNIVERSITY COURSES – WILL COUNT TOWARDS REQUIRED HONORS CREDIT

Great Works Symposium – Media and Democracy

Instructors – Kevin Egan

Email: kde25@drexel.edu

UNIV 241, Section 501, Thursdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 33075

The goal of this course will be to explore how new media technologies are reconstructing the public sphere, and how such a reconstruction can encourage an informed and engaged democratic citizenry. Whether we view the public sphere as an idealized myth or historical reality, it serves as a useful concept by which to evaluate levels of democratic participation and transparency in American politics. We will explore how trends in the media have threatened this conception of the public sphere, and how new communication and information technologies might reinvigorate it. In doing so, we will examine the birth of new media outlets and look to the future to evaluate their potential as democratic resources.

This course features a different guest speaker every week, and a weekly discussion section.

Find this course on-line under “University-wide Courses.” For further information, contact Scott Knowles, sgk23@drexel.edu.

Peer Tutoring in Writing Workshop

Instructor: Harriet Levin Millan

Email: millanhl@drexel.edu

UNIV 320, Section 001, Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:30PM- 1:50PM, 3.0 credits

CRN – 34390

UNIV 320 is a writing course that gives you the opportunity to reflect on writing and to grow as a writer. We will approach the subject of writing and creativity through the question of how and what it means to help others with their writing. We will read and discuss many aspects of writing as it pertains to a university environment, society at large, and to our personal lives. Furthermore, as a member of UNIV 320, you will take part in a unique program to bring a culture of writing to Drexel University. As such, the course will train you to work as a peer tutor in the University Writing Program. After successful completion of the course, you will be assigned to a particular writing intensive course and paid \$715.00 per term. UNIV 320, along with continuing in-

service training during each term will give you an introduction to the pedagogy and experience you will need to be an effective peer tutor.

Find this course on-line under “University-wide Courses.” For further information and enrollment approval, contact Harriet Millan, millanhl@drexel.edu.