

## **Summer 2008**

# **HONORS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Law, Literature and Politics: Some Classic texts**

**Instructor: Andrew Majeske**

**Honors 201, Section 001, Fridays, 11:00AM – 1:50 PM, 3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42053**

This course explores some of the seminal literary texts dealing with law and politics, paying particular attention to issues of gender and justice. This course will be of particular interest to students considering going to law school. In addition to practicing law for 11 years, Professor Majeske has helped to write the LSAT.

We will begin the quarter with Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*, a play which in addition to dealing with issues of law and politics addresses a novel way in which the women of ancient Athens achieved (in fiction) an end to an unpopular war—this text is of readily apparent contemporary significance. Next we will turn to Machiavelli's *Mandragola*, a very funny play with a profound and disturbing subtext (particularly noteworthy for women). Next we will read Susan Glaspell's *Trifles*, a play adaptation of her famous short story "A Jury of Her Peers"—a profound late nineteenth century treatment of problems of gender and justice. Finally, we will end with the incomparable *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee, a novel which needs no introduction.

### **Intermediate Ballroom Dancing**

**Instructor: Samantha Bellomo**

**Honors 201, Section 501, Mondays 6:00PM - 8:50PM, 3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42010**

**Prerequisite --You must have successfully completed Introduction to Ballroom Dancing to register for this course.**

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**

**Honors 201, Section 502, Wednesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits**

**CRN - 42011**

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.

### **Teaching for Change**

**Instructor: Shannon Gary**

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

**CRN – 42012**

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.*

### **People, Tyrannies, Artists**

**Instructor: Zhenya Kiperman**

**Honors 301, Section 001, Thursdays 3:30PM – 6:20PM**

**CRN – 42013**

The course studies individuals' struggles with tyrannies of various kinds – political, social, existential and psychological – as expressed in works of literature and film. Some of the discussed works were created under the oppressive regimes and conditions that inevitably affected the creators' artistic and ideological choices. All films will be screened in class and followed by discussions. Most excerpts from literary works will be provided in class.

### **The Cinema of Ideas**

**Instructor: David Jones**

**HNRS 301, Section 002, Wednesdays 3:00PM – 5:50PM, 3.0 credits**

**CRN - 42181**

The Cinema of Ideas is a loosely organized, somewhat open-ended exploration of the possibilities in cinema for the expression of ideas. We are particularly interested in the use of cinematic technique (as opposed to mere dialogue) to express ideas. We will look at a range of films, very different in style or purpose, in order to gain an idea of the possibilities and limitations of cinema in dealing with ideas. We will use the term

“ideas” broadly. The course will be held in University Crossings’ state-of-the-art screening room.

**World War II Comedy**

**Instructor: Ian Abrams**

**HNRS 301, Section 501, Tuesdays 6:30PM – 9:20PM, 3.0 credits**

**CRN - 42014**

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.

**The Self Under Law: Reality and Illusion in Political Theory**

**Instructor: Fred Abbate**

**HNRS 304, Section 501, Wednesdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits**

**CRN 42052**

An examination of major classical and contemporary political theories with particular emphasis on the justifications of democratic institutions. Included in the analytic exploration will be conflicting theories about the nature of political obligation and the concept of law, as well as the connection of these theories with the claims that have been made to defend human rights, justice, and liberty.

**UNIVERSITY COURSES – WILL COUNT TOWARDS REQUIRED HONORS CREDIT**

**Great Works Symposium – The Next Philadelphia**

**Instructors – Gwen Shaffer, Scott Knowles**

**UNIV 241, Section 501 and 502, Thursdays 6:00PM – 8:50PM, 3.0 credits**

**CRN – 42015 or 42106**

A lecture series and course at Drexel University that will examine the city—its politics and citizens, its infrastructure and design--as it is, and as it might be in years to come.

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