FALL 2013
HONORS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Introduction to Ballroom Dancing

Instructor: Samantha Bellomo
Day/Time: Mondays 6:00pm-8:50pm
HNRS 201 002, CRN: 11168

Description: The course is for students interested in exploring the world of ballroom dance. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of four popular ballroom dances and explore the distinct physical styles and attitudes for each dance. This course is designed to give the students the tools they need to dance confidently at parties, weddings and other formal events.

Improvitude

Instructors: Kevin Egan & Elaine O'Loughlin
Day/Time: Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:50pm
HNRS 201 001, CRN: 11164

Description: The course will explore the emerging emphasis on right-brain thinking through the art of improvisational acting. The curriculum incorporates an understanding of the right-brain/left-brain dualism, and will demonstrate how the knowledge and skills acquired through improv can foster creative, intuitive and aesthetic thinking.

The Logic of Life: An Historical Survey of Evolutionary Thought (ONLINE COURSE)

Instructor: Dr. Lloyd Ackert, Email: lta24@drexel.edu
HNRS 201 Section 940 – CRN 14046

Description: This course will survey the history of evolutionary thought from the ancient period to its modern developments. Drawing on both recent historical literature and writings of the scientists covered, students will engage a broad range of evolutionary ideas in their social, cultural and political contexts. Recent discussions of the current controversy over teaching evolution in the public classroom makes it clear that there is a "Darwinian" prejudice, held by the critics, supporters, and journalists participating in the debate. Evolutionary thought has a history that is much broader in intellectual range, one that predates Darwin by 2000 years. Students will not only encounter a number of evolutionary perspectives as presented by their authors, but will also practice a number of historical methods including biography, sociology of science, philosophy of science, and cultural history.

Suburbia

Instructor: Daniel Dougherty
Day/Time: Wednesdays 6:00pm-8:50pm (Limit to 15 students)
HNRS 301 001, CRN: 11911

Description: In the past century of American history, suburban development has increased significantly and has produced new American lifestyles, modes of transportation, patterns of development, and challenges to the natural environment, among other phenomena. In this course on the topic of suburbia we will cover issues and trends related to American suburbanization through a multidisciplinary lens to try and understand this most recent stage of the American story.

Poetry and Mystic Traditions

Instructor: Michael Haeflinger
Day/Time: Mondays 1:00pm-3:50pm
HNRS 301 002, CRN: 11495

Description: Throughout history, poets have been deeply influenced by mystical tradition and experience. Romantic poets, Beat poets, and post-modernists have all attempted to access mystical consciousness in their work. We will look at their work, as well as religious men and women who wrote poetry as canonical texts from the world's great mystic traditions.

Tolkien, the Monsters, and the Film-Maker

Instructor: Don Riggs
Day/Time: Thursdays 2:00pm-4:50pm
HNRS 301 003, CRN: 11514

Description: The course will study the nature and evolution of certain Monsters and the Heroes who confront them in the Old English *Beowulf* (in modern English translation), Tolkien's, *The Hobbit* and *The Fellowship of the Ring*, and Peter Jackson's film versions of *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey* and *The Fellowship of the Ring*. Through this longitudinal perspective we will consider the role and function of the monster and the hero in this particular thread of early and modern Anglosaxon culture.

Jack the Ripper Case: The Logic of Criminal Investigation

Instructor: Fred Abbate
Day/Time: Tuesdays 3:00pm-5:50pm
HNRS 301 004, CRN: 14043

Description: The course will use the infamous Whitechapel murders in the East End of London in 1888 to examine some broader logical and philosophical questions raised by the continuing quest to solve the case, issues that are embedded in the methods of all criminal investigation. In addition to giving students an opportunity to join the ranks of the millions of armchair detectives who have weighed in on the Ripper's identity, the class will address questions involving the canons of deductive and inductive reasoning, the logic of hypothesis formation and confirmation, competing theories of explanation, evaluating claims of evidence, criminal profiling and the pragmatics of warranted probability.

Charles Dickens' Bleak House: Bleak House in Bleak Times

Instructor: Paula Marantz Cohen
Day/Time: Wednesdays 3:00pm-5:50pm
HNRS 302 001, CRN: 13385

Description: The course will center on *Bleak House*, Charles Dickens' 1852-53 novel, considered his late masterpiece. This is a sprawling, ambitious novel whose pieces fit together like a surreal jigsaw puzzle. Dickens was a humorist but also a social commentator and activist, deeply concerned with problems associated with the law, politics, class hierarchy, labor relations, and the dynamics of family life during the Victorian period. We will read secondary materials on these topics as a supplement to Dickens's perspective, and consider how many of the issues Dickens addressed in *Bleak House* continue to plague society today.

Great Works Symposium – UNIV 241
Topic: Imaging War

Instructors – Karen Curry, Elliot Panek, and Hana Iverson
UNIV 241, Section 001, 002 and 003, Tuesdays 6:30PM – 9:20PM, 3.0 credits
CRN – 11445, 11484, 13416

This course will provide a dynamic look at the ways in which war has been represented and communicated over the centuries. From the Battle of Marathon through the Iraq War, paintings, sculpture, music, poetry, plays and later newspapers, photos, films, radio, television and the Internet have shone a light on tragic conflicts and their aftermath. Are these images considered art, propaganda, reportage or all of the above? During the course you will meet award-winning photojournalists, combat artists, editorial cartoonists and Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Donald Margulies whose searing play, Time Stands Still, brings the intensity of covering war to life. You will explore the ways war is conveyed in film, how television portrays the war on terror and the war on drugs, how video games image war and combat and how painting and sculpture have immortalized man's centuries old propensity for going into battle. Each class will begin with a presentation by a guest speaker or speakers, followed by smaller groups meeting to discuss the presentation.

Find this course on the Term Master Schedule under "University-Wide Courses." For further information, contact Kevin Egan (kde25@drexel.edu)