



Honors Program Course Offerings

Winter 2022

Contents

HNRS Course Offerings	2
ONE-CREDIT COURSES	2
HNRS T480 001 - Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor E. Frankl	2
HNRS T480 002 - Cass Elliot.....	2
HNRS T480 003 - Plays of Tom Stoppard.....	2
HNRS T480 004 - Illustrating Jane Austen	3
HNRS T480 130 - Climate Action and COP27.....	3
HNRS T480 131 - Greatest Works of Studio Ghibli: Finding meaning behind the movies	3
THREE-CREDIT COURSES.....	4
HNRS 301 001 - Design Activism: Every Space for Every Body.....	4
HNRS 302 001 - Urban Microbiome	4
HNRS 303 001 - Introduction to Creative Writing	4
HNRS 303 002 – Hearing the Movies.....	5
HNRS 304 001 - Math & Politics	5
HNRS 304 002 - Contemplation Techno Change.....	5
HNRS 304 130 - The Biology of Time	6
HNRS 306 001 – Exploring Drexel’s Archives.....	6
Additional Honors Courses.....	7
CHE 381 02H - Solutions to Climate Change	7
PHIL T380 01H - Knowledge & Injustice	7
PHIL T480 01H - Nietzsche: Freedom and Power	7
SCTS 202 01H - Innovation and Social Justice	8
WEST T380 01H - Metaverse in the Real-World.....	8
WEST T480 04H - Data Visualization for Design Pr.....	8
WEST T480 05H - Translational Design Research	9
WEST T480 90H - Technologies of Making.....	9

HNRS Course Offerings

ONE-CREDIT COURSES

HNRS T480 001 - Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor E. Frankl

Instructor: Levin, Lynn

Times: In-Person, Tues 1-1:50 PM

CRN: 25829

Course Description: Man's Search for Meaning by the Viennese-Jewish psychiatrist Viktor E. Frankl (1905-1997) has been named one of the ten most influential books in America by the Library of Congress. Part memoir of its author's struggle for survival in Nazi concentration camps and part philosophical and psychological guide to finding meaning in life, and thereby happiness, this short book maintains that we cannot avoid suffering, but we can choose our attitude toward it and even find meaning in suffering. Regardless of how much one's life has been subjected to trauma, Frankl's book may serve as an inspiration and life resource of lasting value. Coursework will include reading and discussing the book, posting informal reflections in discussion forums, and presenting brief podcast interviews with or talks about people who have found meaning in life through love, work, courage, and other forms of devotion.

HNRS T480 002 - Cass Elliot

Instructor: Lewis, Melinda

Times: In-Person, Mon 6-6:50 PM

CRN: 25830

Course Description: The rumor was Cass Elliot died at an early age from choking on a ham sandwich. In actuality, it was from complications due to crash diets. As a singer, Cass Elliot contributed to the dreaminess of the 1960s, of optimism and hope that underscored youth culture and civil rights movements that aimed to change American culture. This course will analyze the work of Cass Elliot in the background of fatphobia, a burgeoning fat acceptance movement, and shifting politics.

HNRS T480 003 - Plays of Tom Stoppard

Instructor: Sandapen, Sheila

Times: In-Person, Weds 10-10:50 AM

CRN: 25831

Course Description: Known for his wit, Czech born Tom Stoppard's plays advances theater to a new level of the absurd. Often in an absurd play language is dislocated, full of puns, repetitions and non sequitur. In this class we will focus on The Real Inspector Hound and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead. Students will examine how these works play with [audience] expectations and create new realities.

HNRS T480 004 - Illustrating Jane Austen

Instructor: Instructor

Times: In-Person, Fri 10-10:50 AM

CRN: 25921

Course Description: As we read through Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and selected passages from the novel, we will develop a body of visual work inspired by characters and themes established through the novel. Working within the time period, the class will explore portraiture, figurative, and fashion style of this period in history, and focus on the translation between the written word and visual translation. Of 2 characters from the novel. The class will include visits to the Philadelphia Art Museum to view artworks and the Fashion collection in the annex, of the era, as well as a visit to Fox collection at Drexel, to view fashion illustrations, clothed live model drawing, and readings from *Pride and Prejudice*.

HNRS T480 130 - Climate Action and COP27

Instructor: Zahn, Adam

Times: Hybrid, Weds 11-11:50 AM (*in-person weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10*)

CRN: 25832

Course Description: Drexel University is a permanent observer to the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change, Conference of Parties (the major UN Climate Change Conference). Each year, Drexel sends a small delegation of faculty and students to attend the COP proceedings to learn more about global climate action and participation in panels and discussions about research and policy. This Great Works Symposium will highlight the status of the UNFCCC since the Paris Accords, with a lens of the upcoming COP27 in Egypt, featuring bi-weekly guest speakers who are experts in climate change and policy and have attended COP events, culminating in the submission of a proposal and presentation on a topic of the student's choice.

HNRS T480 131 - Greatest Works of Studio Ghibli: Finding meaning behind the movies

Instructor: Fantini, Cara

Times: Hybrid, T 5-5:50 PM (*remote weeks 2, 6, 8, and 9*)

CRN: 25971

Course Description: In this course we will examine a collection of movies animated and produced by Studio Ghibli, under the leadership of Hayao Miyazaki and Isao Takahata. These critically acclaimed films are known for thought provoking themes masterfully executed through hand-drawn animations. Together, we will review some of their most popular feature films, learn about the culture that inspired them, and examine the underlying themes; including environmentalism, feminism, and the value of interpersonal relationships.

[\[Back to Table of Contents\]](#)

THREE-CREDIT COURSES

HNRS 301 001 - Design Activism: Every Space for Every Body

Instructor: Furjan, Helene

Times: In-Person, TBD

CRN:

Course Description: The first of a sequence of three courses as part of the NSF Convergence Accelerator proposal, Co-creating Equitable Urban Access: An Inclusive Approach to Spatial Justice in the Urban Built Environment, this course introduces students and community co-learners to key concepts, case studies, techniques and practices of contemporary urban spatial design (across fields), and to the field of Design Activism, with a focus on spatial justice, the spatial, cultural, and social determinants of health, and design innovations, including Creative Placemaking, Human-Centered and Culture-Centered Design, Trauma-Informed design, and the history and current context of social, racial, environmental, and cultural injustice in urban environments and their design. Transdisciplinary, focus on Intersectionality and disability justice, with input from Project Team members.

HNRS 302 001 - Urban Microbiome

Instructor: Ackert, Lloyd T & Bhatia, Sujata

Times: In-Person, M 6:00-8:50 PM

CRN: 25851

Course Description: The Metropolitan's Smallest Beings: Urban Microbiomes in Public Health, Sustainability, and City Infrastructure. In this course we will explore how a variety of scholars study the urban microbiome. Over the past two decades, scientists from many disciplines are investigating the microbiological populations in relation to public health, environmental sustainability, water distribution systems, architecture, transportation, and other urban infrastructures. Engineers are exploring these in new interdisciplinary applications, such as 'microbiology of the built environment,' and 'microbiome-Inspired green infrastructure.' Historians and philosophers also are conducting new research on this topic. THIS research is part of long tradition of late-19th century ecosystem ecology and related fields. Students will engage the current scientific literature and debates about the urban microbiome in its broader social, cultural, and historical perspectives.

HNRS 303 001 - Introduction to Creative Writing

Instructor: Probst, Greg

Times: In-Person, T 6:30-9:20 PM

CRN: 25864

Course Description: This creative writing-intensive course asks students to compose imaginative forms of personal expression including poems, short stories, and personal essays with the purpose of effectively communicating these ideas to a workshop audience. Writers will be asked to engage in the play of the mind, immersing themselves so deeply in imagination that the reader jumps in with them.

Students will write routinely and frequently both for themselves and for an audience. The community-led workshop will read mentor texts through the lens of a writer, analyzing the tools that talented authors use to create powerful work. The workshop will read peer writing through the same lens used for mentor texts: what is the writer doing well and how do they do it? How can the writer do it more often and even better? Brave writing is an individual art, but workshopping is a communal gift. We will engage in both.

HNRS 303 002 – Hearing the Movies

Instructor: Avarese, John

Times: In-Person, TBD

CRN: 25980

Course Description: This seminar-type, discussion-based course, with a maximum of 18 students, taught in the Department of Cinema and Television's audio classroom allows exploration of a topic familiar to most every student, yet rarely dissected with someone who has made a career out of the craft of film scoring and sound design. Most everyone appreciates watching movies and are moved by a film's capacity of storytelling, and the soundtrack is the most important part of engaging the audience. Data is on the screen; emotion is in the speakers. This course develops critical listening and viewing skills and makes us aware of how we are being manipulated by the elements of the soundtrack: dialog, music, and effects.

HNRS 304 001 - Math & Politics

Instructor: Papadopoulos, Dimitri

Times: In-Person, MW 1530-1700

CRN: 25917

Course Description: How can math help make us better-informed citizens? In this course, we will respond to that question by looking at the mathematics underlying many political and social issues. These include topics like social choice, voting, gerrymandering, polarization, and motivated numeracy. We will deepen our understanding of each topic by examining a variety of possible mathematical analyses, as well as the topic's history and relevance in modern politics. Each week, we will work together to experiment with these analyses, compare results, and discuss implications. In doing so, we will challenge our existing assumptions and biases, learn new ways of thinking about politics, and (I hope) have a great time doing it!

HNRS 304 002 - Contemplation Techno Change

Instructor: Bhatia, Sujata

Times: Online-Synchronous, Fri 11 AM – 1:50 PM

CRN: 25919

Course Description: Innovators, entrepreneurs, engineers and designers have the skills to bring their

visions to fruition. The innovator is both arrow smith and archer, shaping the future direction of society and humanity. The key question for the innovator is: What kind of society am I creating? How do innovations change the nature of humanity and life on earth? How can individuals prepare themselves ethically to confront technological issues as diverse as gene editing, automation, artificial intelligence, and climate change? How can contemplative practices lead to better technological policy decisions? Contemplation and Technological Change will integrate psychology, philosophy, entrepreneurship, and engineering. In addition, the course will examine technological change through the lens of a global pandemic that has rapidly disrupted the ways that we work, live, and socialize.

HNRS 304 130 - The Biology of Time

Instructor: McEachron, Donald

Times: Hybrid, TR 9:30-10:50 AM

CRN: 25835

Course Description: This course represents a unique opportunity to learn about an essential aspect of all living systems that is overlooked in most biology and medical courses biological rhythms. Oscillations and rhythms are ubiquitous throughout all living systems, providing timing, control and internal temporal order. The additional adaptation of circa-rhythms associated with various geophysical cycles generates external as well as internal synchronization and plays a critical role in human health, well-being and productivity. This course will provide knowledge and skills that can be immediately applied to the participants personal lives as well as being applicable to any career in research, creative activity and/or industry.

HNRS 306 001 – Exploring Drexel’s Archives

Instructor: Ackert, Lloyd

Times: In-Person, M 2:00-4:50 PM

CRN: 25918

Course Description: Students will discover the treasures in Drexel's Special Collections by exploring the holdings of the Legacy Center, University, Academy, and Atwater-Kent archives. Guided by the instructor and the archivists for each of the special collections and archives, students will develop a unique and individualized project. These will be historical and depending on the student's interests focus on medicine, science, technology, and/or the history of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Drexel, and much more. Students will spend part of their time in the classroom collaborating with their peers on research skill building, historical themes. They will also spend part of the course working in the Drexel collection(s) of their choice. The final essays/projects will be collected in a single book or exhibit.

[\[Back to Table of Contents\]](#)

Additional Honors Courses

The courses below are open to Honors students of every major and will count towards the 'Additional Honors Credits' section of your Honors degree requirements. You can enroll in these classes through Banner the same way you enroll in HNRS sections! If you need assistance with registration, email HonorsProgram@drexel.edu.

CHE 381 02H - Solutions to Climate Change

Instructor: Baxter, Jason

Times: In-Person, TR 3:30 pm - 04:50 pm

CRN: 25701

Course Description: Climate change will likely be the most important challenge of our time. Drawdown is the theoretical point in the future when greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere peak and then begin to decline, reversing the trend of global warming. Can we get there? How? We will examine the potential impacts of dozens of top solutions to understand where our actions have the most leverage. Solutions range from technical (green energy, buildings, and transportation) to non-technical (food choices and education). The best solutions not only mitigate global warming but also lead to economic benefits and a more just and equitable society.

PHIL T380 01H - Knowledge & Injustice

Instructor: Padovani, Falvia

Times: In-Person, TR 12:30pm-1:50pm

CRN: 25854

Course Description: Feminist philosophers and other social theorists have argued that gender, race, as well as other social factors influence knowledge. This course will explore in what sense these factors affect the formation of knowledge and of our understanding of the world, and also in what sense these factors can lead to epistemic injustice. We will discuss various positions in contemporary (especially feminist) theory of knowledge that emphasize, more generally, how systems of power are incorporated into and actually shape knowledge production, and that try to build alternative theories to promote wider epistemic social justice. We will variously address these issues following a thematic-oriented (rather than historical) approach.

PHIL T480 01H - Nietzsche: Freedom and Power

Instructor: Bush, Amy

Times: In-Person, MW 3:30pm-4:50pm

CRN: 25843

Course Description: Does law hinder or promote freedom?", "How does genealogy affect how we understand morality, law, and history?" We will study Friedrich Nietzsche's response to Enlightenment

philosophy and Immanuel Kant's emphasis on reason and universalism by focusing on Nietzsche's introduction of perspectivism and power into what counts as morality, politics, law, freedom, and the formation of selves.

SCTS 202 01H - Innovation and Social Justice

Instructor: Ottinger, Gwen

Times: In-Person, TR 2:00pm-3:50pm

CRN: 25825

Course Description: In this course, we will draw on literature from the field of science and technology studies (STS) to examine how technologies and social justice intersect, and the role of technological innovation in fostering a more just society. We will examine structures of injustice and how technology can reinforce, worsen, or mitigate them. We will look at the impacts of concrete design choices and design processes on various indicators of social justice. And we will learn from examples of self-conscious attempts by innovators to create technology with social justice aims in mind.

WEST T380 01H - Metaverse in the Real-World

Instructor: Jushchyshyn, Nicholas

Times: In-Person, TR 10:30-11:50 am

CRN: 25928

Course Description: Students will learn about the metaverse and experience a variety of immersive interaction technologies and techniques. The students will leverage the unique capabilities and affordances of these techniques and understanding of the metaverse to address real world challenges in consumer engagement, visitor experiences and learning. This course will feature current understanding of the metaverse and its tools and will feature a real-world project that requires creating strategies for implementing Metaverse approaches to build engagement and learning for the Longwood Gardens' Pierce-du Pont House.

WEST T480 04H - Data Visualization for Design Pr

Instructor: Staff

Times: In-Person, M 6:00 - 8:50 pm

CRN: 25986

Course Description: A seminar course that examines and builds visual fluency in the understanding and re-communication of data including both quantitative and qualitative constructs. Skill building in the communication of research as a way of facilitating design research and the communication of intensive data including technology, environment and human based modes.

WEST T480 05H - Translational Design Research

Instructor: Staff

Times: In-Person, T 5:30 - 8:20 pm

CRN: 25987

Course Description: A seminar course that examines and builds on the students' core skills in design research. Students will understand the ways that research can drive innovation and iteration in the design process. Students will understand the ethics of research and how to engage with different types of research including engagement with different cultures and communities and a variety of stakeholders.

WEST T480 90H - Technologies of Making

Instructor: Nicole R Koltick

Times: Online-Synchronous, W 1:00 - 3:50 pm

CRN: 25988

Course Description: A Seminar and Lab course that examines and builds on the students' core skills in design and making. The Technologies of Making Course aims to continue the development of skills in various computational modeling and fabrication techniques and at varying scales. This course also includes an interdisciplinary exploration in digital fabrication.