

HONORS FORUM COURSES

Fall 2020

HF 100-001

HON: Latin American History: Cities

1 Credit

J. Dym

R 5:05-6:00

Open to students enrolled in HI 111P.

In this course, students of Latin American history will break away from constraints of a traditional chronological approach to history courses by focusing on themes that cut across place and time. In Fall 2020, the topic will be cities and urban life. Students will receive an introduction to methods and approaches in urban studies. They will then select a more focused topic and, in small groups, identify continuities and changes in one aspect of city living (such as sports, built environment, capital cities, food supply, or government). By the end of the semester, each group will present its research to students enrolled in the parent class.

HF 203-001

Citizen Studentship

4 Credits

R. Rotheim

T/TH 12:40-2:00/Ladd 207

A course that places students at the center of the learning process. Students from Skidmore College designed the course's structure, readings, and pedagogy as an introduction to a self-motivated and self-governed approach to learning. Interdisciplinary by nature, the course challenges students with critical thinking and writing, student-driven discourse, governance, citizenship, and character development. Students and the instructor work in a collaborative manner to design course goals, select readings, develop assignments, and direct class discussions.

Prerequisites Expository Writing and at least sophomore standing or permission of instructor.

HF-215-.001

Peer Health Education

3 Credits

J. McDonald

T 10:00-11:50, R 5:40-6:30/Emerson Aud/Ladd 307

This course builds on concepts covered during Peer Health Education by guiding students through the process of promoting health and wellbeing among the Skidmore student body. The course is student-driven and allows the opportunity to further delve into specific areas of study that are of particular interest to each student. Students will design, implement, and evaluate programs and outreach education in a variety of topics relevant to the lives of college students including alcohol and substance use and abuse, sexual assault, eating disorders, stress, mental health, sexuality, and other topics commonly addressed by peer counselors and health promotion professionals. In addition, students will continue to build on leadership and communication skills by serving as peer counselors on the Skidmore campus.

HF 315-001-007

Adv. Peer Health Education

1 Credit

J. McDonald

TBD

An expansion of concepts covered in Peer Health Education by allowing students to fine tune their health promotion and peer counseling skills. Students will select specific areas of interest and will work closely with other Peer Health Educators and the instructor to plan, implement, and rigorously evaluate outreach programs on campus. The course will focus on building leadership and communication skills and on deepening the expertise of the students on college health related issues.

Prerequisites HF 215 and permission of the instructor.

Not for liberal arts credit. May be repeated for credit.

AN 102H-001

Honors: Anthropology of the Human Past

4 Credits

K. Baustian

T/R 9:10-11:00/Dana 348

Course provides an expansive overview of primate evolution, the origin of modern humans, and their physical and cultural adaptations throughout time. Topics explored will include the geographical distribution of humans across the globe, the growth of populations, cultural adaptation, subsistence practices, the domestication of plants and animals, ritual behavior, and technological innovation.

CS-275H.001-004

Computer Science Research

1 Credit

M. Eckmann, T. O'Connell, C. Reilly, D. Read

TBD

An introductory exploration of research in computer science. The students, in collaboration with a faculty mentor, will participate in a research project in a particular area of computer science. The research projects may, for example, include designing new algorithms for computational problems, surveying the research literature, implementing existing algorithms from the research literature, or performing computational experiments.

Prerequisites: permission of instructor. Students may only take four CS275H courses in their careers and may take no more than two in any given semester. If two are taken in a single semester, each must be a different section.

CS275H may not be counted toward the CS major. Must be taken S/U.

EN 105H-001

Writing Gender

4 Credits

R. McAdams

M/W/F 1:25-2:20/BO 102

Whether or not we always realize it, gender constantly, quietly shapes our experiences—from determining which bathroom we use at a gas station, to framing others' responses if we start to cry in public, to influencing the way we speak and write. But what is gender, actually? How is it constructed and maintained? In this writing seminar, we will analyze the way that biological and social definitions of gender compete with and inform each other, as well as the way that gender

identities and expressions have varied historically and culturally. We will read and write about practices like drag and cross-dressing that play with normative expectations, as well as about non-binary and transgender identities that reject the reduction of gender to the biological sex assigned on a birth certificate. Above all, we will write and talk about writing—in essays, short assignments, and peer review sessions—and we will explore how writing reflects gender and shapes our understanding of what gender is.

EN 105H-002

Meltdown: Literature, Culture, & Climate Crisis

4 Credits

T. Weintzen

M/W 2:30-3:50/PMH 303

Climate change is often thought of as a technical problem, something squarely in the domain of the sciences and policy makers. What practical value do the humanities really offer in mitigating the mass extinction of species or rising sea levels, after all? Yet the sheer scale of climate change demands new cultural narratives that might allow us to navigate a dramatically changed future. If our species is to survive, we will, in short, require new ways of thinking about the world and the cultures that define us.

In this course, we will engage a wide array of cultural texts that register our moment of ecological history—and texts that imagine possible futures for us. We will read and write about work by scientists, public policy experts, and historians, as well as creative texts by filmmakers and fiction writers. Among other things, we will ask how moving between scientific knowledge and cultural texts might help us understand and confront a future utterly unlike the past.

EN 229H.001

European Lyric in Middle Ages

4 Credits

K. Greenspan

T/R 12:40-2:00/PMH 301

This course introduces students to the rich body of medieval lyric poetry in its historical development from the late classical period through the Middle Ages (c. 400-c.1500). We will read songs of love and war, meditations, satires, charms and prayers composed by wandering students, noble troubadours, revolutionary stilnovisti, devout friars and riddling bards, and study the traditions within which they wrote and the innovations they wrought. Further, we will consider issues of translation, performance, and literacy in the context of the sometimes competing, sometimes complementary cultures of secular society and the medieval Church. Most of the poems will be read in translation, except for those in Middle English, which we will learn to read in the original. We will also read some modern essays that will teach us more about medieval culture and its poetry. Students who read French, Spanish, Italian, Latin, or German are welcome to lend us their expertise in reading the poems in the original. Assignments will include three papers, a journal, group presentations, and active participation in class, including reading aloud.

COUNTS AS A “LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE IN CONTEXT” COURSE

COUNTS TOWARD THE EARLY PERIOD REQUIREMENT

FULFILLS HONORS FORUM REQUIREMENT

EN-303H.001

Hon. Peer Tutoring Project

4 Credits

L. Jorgensen**M/W/F 9:05-10:00/PMH 401**

????In this course students will receive the theoretical and pedagogical training to become peer tutors of expository writing. The readings and classroom discussions cover topics in discourse and rhetorical theory, composition pedagogy, and collaborative learning. Students will apply their developing knowledge of discourse theory and tutoring to their weekly meetings with student writers enrolled in EN 103: Writing Seminar I. EN 303H students receive four credit units for three hours of class and for their scheduled meetings with the student writers with whom they work. Course requirements include prepping EN 103 assignments, keeping a record of tutoring experiences, giving in-class reports on classical rhetoric, and writing an extensive term project focused on an area of interest related to peer tutoring, rhetoric, and/or discourse.

After successfully completing EN 303H, students are eligible to apply through student employment for the paid position of Skidmore Writing Center (Lucy Scribner Library 440) tutor. Students wishing to enroll in this course should possess excellent writing ability, knowledge of rules of grammar and punctuation, and effective communication skills. Students seeking enrollment must submit a professor's recommendation and a writing sample to Professor Wiseman; registration is by permission of instructors. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors in all disciplines and majors.

ID 201H.001**Peer Mentor Seminar****1 Credit****A. Emeka****F 2:30-3:30/Davis Aud.****DO NOT INCLUDE TO STUDENT PRE-REGISTRATION****MA-113H.001****Honors Calculus II****4 Credits****L. Oremland****T/R 9:40-11:00/M 9:05-10:00****Annex 119/Annex 119**

A continuation of MA 111, Calculus I. Together these courses cover most of the traditional topics in single variable calculus. The Honors section of this course includes the addition of two two-week research projects and coverage of more sections of the text. The instructor will maintain high expectations for the students' contribution to their own learning.

MA 125H, 225H, & 325H**Problem Solving in Mathematics****1 Credit****R. Hurtwitz****W 4:00-5:20/Annex 220**

Students at all three levels will work collaboratively on problems posed in various undergraduate mathematics journals and other sources. Solutions to journal problems will be submitted to the journal editors for acknowledgment and possible publication. Problems are taken from all areas of specialty within mathematics.

Prerequisites: QR1. During fall semesters, students will have an opportunity to compete in the annual William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition.

May be repeated for credit. Must be taken S/U.

MA-275H.001-09

Mathematics Research

1 Credit

J. Douglas

D. Vella

M. Hofmann

M. Huibregtse

R. Hurwitz

L. Oremland

R. Roe-Dale

C. Szabo

R. Trousil

TBD

Exploration of a research topic in mathematics. The students, in collaboration with a faculty mentor, will participate in a research project in a particular area of mathematics, which may be related to the faculty member's research program.

Prerequisites: permission of the instructor. Students may only take four MA 275H courses in their careers and may take no more than two in any given semester. If two are taken in a single semester, each must be a different section.

MA275H may not be counted toward the MA major. Must be taken S/U.

MB-336H.001

Workplace Diversity

4 Credits

P. Prasad

M 6:00-9:00/BO 102

An interdisciplinary examination of the many challenges and issues raised by the growing diversity and multiculturalism of the North American workplace. The course provides a historical introduction to the patterns of immigration that affected different workplaces and offers an overview of the legal structures that deal with questions of difference in work organizations (e.g., the Equal Employment Opportunity Act). Students examine how organization structures and cultures influence the reception, inclusion, and experiences of different social identity groups along dimensions of gender, race, age, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation. Current debates on related controversial issues such as affirmative action and the role of white privilege are also addressed. This course covers the following dimensions for studying management and business in context: I, II, III, VI.

Prerequisites: MB 107 and MB 224

Designated a Cultural Diversity course.

PL 205H.001

Modern Political Thought

3 Credits

F. Taylor

T/R 12:40-2:00/TLC 202

This course will examine modern political thought through a consideration of the modern reconceptualization of human reason and our relationship to the natural world. The revolutionary thinking introduced into the world in the 17th century has enabled an extraordinary advancement in scientific progress and material wealth and comfort in the world. What is the foundation of

that progress? Has this extraordinary progress been an unmitigated good? What have been the grounds for critiquing this aspect of the modern project? In this course, we will analyze the foundations of modern natural science as elaborated in the writings of Francis Bacon and René Descartes. Next, we look to critics of the modern turn like Jean-Jacques Rousseau and Jonathan Swift. The final section of the course will include writers from the 20th century such as Martin Heidegger, Aldous Huxley, and C.S. Lewis. Themes like biotechnology and artificial intelligence will also be examined.