Spring 2020 Special Topic Courses

ART 301: Gender and Sexuality in Modern Art (3 units). Explore European and American art and visual culture of the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries through the lens of gender and sexuality. Major themes include women as artists and subjects, queer art, and the body in representation.

ART 301: Macabre Modernism (3 units). Look at the darker side of modernity by focusing on images of monsters, death, the decadent, and the otherwise sordid in European and U.S. art and visual culture from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

ART 304: 20th Century African-American Art (3 units). Explore the early 20th century movement known as the Harlem Renaissance, a period of African-American cultural efflorescence centered in Harlem neighborhood of New York City.

ART 337: Experimental Film Photography (3 units). Making use of both darkroom and digital techniques, learn to use 4x5 large format cameras. Explore sheet film development, scanning, silver gelatin darkroom techniques, inkjet printing, and visual storytelling.

ART 367: The Manipulated Photograph (3 units). Explore the use of Photoshop as a creative tool for artistic expression. Topics will include image manipulation, printing methods and alternative presentation techniques.

ART 372: Radical Graphics: Climate & Activism (3 units). Advocate for social and environmental activism through art and design. Use digital media and hands on creative processes to research, communicate and visualize pathways towards an issue-based art practice.

ANTH 306: Environmental Crises in the Amazon (3 units). Investigate pressing socioecological issues in the Amazonian lowland region of South America. Topics include hydroelectric dam development, forest fires, gold and resource booms, and indigenous resistance movements to environmental degradation.

ANTH 339: Animals in Human Evolution and Society (4 units). Examine relationships between humans and non-human animals, including the role of animals in human evolution, domestication, animals as food, conservation and human-wildlife conflict, animal ethics in scientific research, and biotechnology.

ANTH 339: Current Perspectives in Bioarchaeology (2 units). Explore themes in bioarchaeology including stable isotopes analysis, paleopathology and trauma, and identity and personhood. Focus will also be placed on applied aspects of fieldwork in bioarchaeology.

BIOL 685: Biology of the Chiroptera (1 unit). Selected readings and student presentations, covering bat natural history, study methods, ecology, community and social behavior, and specialized adaptations such as physiological torpor and echolocation.
BIOL 685: Current Topics in Biology (1 unit). Discuss recent research in biology, focusing on methodological advances and big datasets (emphasis on genomics). Weekly seminar attendance is required.

BIOL 685: Plant Molecular Development (1 unit). Explore a survey of recent studies and reports on the molecular basis of plant development in the form of both guided and independent journal article analyses.

BIOL 685: Systematics (1 unit). Principles and theory of phylogenetics, compare historical and modern methods using research from living and fossil taxa. Read and analyze seminal papers in systematics, and discuss specific methods.

CS 480L: Machine Learning (4 units). Introduction to machine learning and data mining. Topics include decision trees, neural networks, and classifier systems. Perform predictive analytics on real world datasets. [Prerequisite: CS 211; sophomore standing or greater.]

ECON 480: SBDC Economic Development Internships (3 units). Learn about Economic Development and the role of SBDC and prepare for summer Internship with SBDC. Internship Approval required. [Permission number required.]

ENGL 306: Contemporary Texts: Literary Collaborations (3 units). Study ideas about authorship and collective storytelling practices. Read co-written poetry and stories, translations, graphic novel adaptations, crowdsourced literatures, and trans-media collaborations between musicians, artists, and poets. [UD GE C]

ENGL 308C: Women in Literature (3 units). Study historical and contemporary representations of witches and witchcraft and their associations with the feminine using cultural studies and intersectional frameworks. [UD GE C; DCG non-domestic]. Also offered as WS 308C.

ENGL 342: Shakespeare’s Metamorphosis: Politics, Identity and Social Change (4 units). Study Ovid’s myths in Shakespeare; his poetic efforts to manage extreme impermanence. Compare our contemporary instabilities in climate, politics and the social order.

ENGL 360: Poetry and Protest (4 units). Read diverse writers, activists, prisoners who protest injustice with poetry. *Ink Knows No Borders: Immigrant and Refugee Experience; Of Poetry and Protest: Emmett Till to Trayvon Martin; Island: Chinese Immigrants on Angel Island*. Also offered as ENGL 560.

ENGL 560: Poetry and Protest (4 units). Read diverse writers, activists, prisoners who protest injustice with poetry. *Ink Knows No Borders: Immigrant and Refugee Experience; Of Poetry and Protest: Emmett Till to Trayvon Martin; Island: Chinese Immigrants on Angel Island*. Also offered as ENGL 360.
ENGR 481: Wastewater Treatment Engineering (3 units). Wastewater treatment systems; bench-scale treatment operations. Engineering design applications. [Prerequisite: ENGR 322. Recommended Course Preparation: ENGR 416 (C).]

ENGR 481: Electricity Grids & Distributed Renewable Energy (3 units). Foundations and topics in the design and operation of electric power systems (“the Grid”), including integrating renewable electricity generation with the grid, and distributed energy systems. [Prerequisite: ENGR 322. Recommended Course Preparation: ENGR 331, PHYX 315, and ENGR 326 (C).]

ENGR 480: MidPac Competition (1 unit). Develop a water treatment system based on competition rules for the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Mid-Pacific design contest, and participate in the annual MidPac team competition.

ENGR 480: Clean Energy Competition (1 unit). Participate in student-led design team in a clean energy competition.

ENST 480: Energy Justice (4 units). Energy Justice is an advanced seminar class. Draw on the critical social sciences and humanities to understand how energy issues are central to understanding the environmental and social inequalities of our times.

ENST 480: Student Leadership Institute for Climate Resilience (2 units). Explore the major challenges and opportunities we face in building community climate resilience and gain tools for action in a three-day residential intensive "alternative spring break". Course includes a service learning component in the community. [Instructor Approval Required. Dates: March 16-18, 2020.]

ES 280: CouRaGeouS Cuentos Production (2 units). Edit and produce the department’s CouRaGeouS Cuentos student journal. Move through the full publishing process and gain valuable experience on the evaluation of writing submissions, curating a body of work, copyediting, typesetting and designing the annual issue.

ES 280: Hip Hop Conference (1 unit). Earn credit for attending a conference aimed at deepening an understanding of Hip Hop. Includes keynote presentation, Hip Hop party, workshops, film screenings, and discussions. Topics may include art and activism, transformative reforms, social justice movements: past present and future, and more.

ES 280: Hip Hop Conference Organizing (1 unit). This course serves as the organizing hub for HSU’s annual Hip Hop Conference. Earn credit for planning a fun and educational event using skills in party planning, graphic design, marketing, event coordination, and other organizing skills.

ES 306: Narrating Genocide (3 units). Explore various genocides of the modern era, with particular emphasis on the Armenian Genocide (1915-1923). Examine the processes of genocide, collective responsibility and responses from the international community.

ES 480: Social Justice Summit (1 unit). Attend HSU’s annual Social Justice Summit. Organized by the Multicultural Center, there will be a keynote presentation, workshops, film screenings, and discussions. Topics may include art and activism, transformative reforms, social justice movements: past present and future, and more.

FILM 378: Producing Commercials/Branded Content in the Digital Age (4 units). Explore video-based advertising in New Media landscape. Learn production techniques for expanding definition of commercials, including more than traditional :30/1:00 television spot. Create work for your professional reel/website

FILM 478: Experimental Filmmaking (4 units). Explore experimental filmmaking creative and technical processes. Examine cinematic boundaries that encourage students to develop a personal voice and style through the conceptualization and production and varied presentation methods. [Prerequisite: FILM 315.]

FREN 341: Current Event Topics in the Francophone World (2 units). Variable topics present the most relevant current events and issues in the Francophone world. Examples include France’s gilet jaunes protest and police brutality in France, including the Adama Traoré case. Taught in English, unless all students speak French.

FREN 480: Social Justice in Film and Literature (2 units). Explore issues of struggle as it relates to gender, sexuality, love, race and pop-culture in a social, economic and political global system that continues to stigmatize difference(s). Focus on film and literature from the French-speaking world. Taught in English.

GEOG 471: Community Geography (3 units). Examine a variety of place-based challenges and opportunities that are found within and between communities through a geographic lens. Partner with local community organizations to learn about issues important to the region. Students will be introduced to real-world problems and best practices, and encouraged to explore creative solutions by documenting, evaluating and mapping the community in which we live.

GEOL 531L: Advanced Skills in Professional Geology (1 unit).

JMC 480: Special Topics: Investigative Reporting (3 units). Apply advanced journalistic methods of reporting, public records research and data analysis to expose a societal problem with the goal of publishing the results in a professional news publication.

NAS 301: Native American Stories of Justice and Revenge (3 units). Contemporary literature. Topics vary from a broad introduction to focus on one of the following genres: poetry, prose, fiction, non-fiction and Native/Indigenous autobiography.
PHIL 480: HSU Philosophy Forum (1 unit). Through guest speakers and discussion, explore topics of contemporary significance in order to increase understanding of the diversity of ideas, values, and practices embodied by our culture.

PHIL 485: Plato (4 units). Critically examine Plato’s account of the good, his epistemology, and his Theory of Forms, by way of a close reading of original texts along with secondary sources.

PSCI 330: Global Migrations (4 units). Comparative study of major global migration movements. Examine current and historical refugee movements in the Global North and South, emphasizing theories of migration, culture, globalization, activism and policy. [Rep.]


PSYC 480: Community Psychology in Applied Settings (3 units). Overview of community psychology including the application of ecological, intersectional, and systems theories to the study of community issues. Includes a 25-hour service learning placement at a local community organization.

REC 480: HSUfit Practica (1 unit). Train to be a peer partner for the 7-week HSUfit program. Peer partners provide a hands-on fitness and fun experience for children who have disabilities, build upon theories learned in the classroom, and gain professional service experience. [Open to all students. Course begins after spring break.]

REC 495: Directed Field Study - Leave No Trace Trainer (1 unit). Participate in a weekend training (May 2-3, 2020) to become a Leave No Trace (LNT) Trainer (component of the nationwide LNT Program). Learn the seven principles and ethics of LNT and techniques for disseminating these skills. [Cost: $30-$50 camping/certificate.]

SOC 280: PSA Field Trip (1 unit). Attend the Pacific Sociological Association Field trip Eugene, OR March 26-29, 2020. Learn skills to attend professional conference, including travel management and budgeting, navigating conference sessions, refining networking, and presentation skills (if presenting). Those presenting are encouraged to enroll. [Not all travel expenses will be covered.]

SOC 480: Community Action Research (3 units). Foundation in theories and methods used in community-based research, activism, organizational assessment, and grant research and writing. Client-based work.

SOC 480: Aging: Inequality & Public Policy (1 unit). Discuss past & present successful models for providing seniors with quality care, dignity, and self-determination; cover an overview of economic, social, legal, political, and historical aspects of an aging society; and examine relationships between inequality and aging through the creation of dependency and
disenfranchisement of America’s older adults. (CJS and SOC Majors check in with your advisor to see how this unit will fit into your academic plan.)

SOC 480: Global Right-Wing Extremism (4 units). A cross-cultural survey of violent and nonviolent right-wing extremist groups with (Neo)nationalist, (Neo)fascist and (Neo)nazi ideologies from a policy perspective. A global sociological approach to the issues including neoliberal transformations, limits of democracy and freedom of expression, violence, hate speech, radicalization, online media, racism and criminalization. This course meets CJS Knowledge Area: Law or Justice and Policy.

TA 480: Art Techniques for Entertainment Design (2 units). Discover artistic rendering techniques that will help sell your concept to directors and producers. Topics such as storyboards, digital rendering, model building, and scenic painting will be explored.

WS 308C: Women in Literature (3 units). Study historical and contemporary representations of witches and witchcraft and their associations with the feminine using cultural studies and intersectional frameworks. [UD GE C; DCG non-domestic.] Also offered as ENGL 308C.

WS 370: Queer Women’s Lives (4 units). Examine immigrant and/or working-class women’s personal narratives, graphic memoir, and collected essays and interviews by Black feminist activist Barbara Smith. Read Daisy Hernández, Jeanette Winterson, Dorothy Allison, Cristy C. Road, and Smith.

WS 480: Social Justice Summit (1 unit). Attend HSU’s annual Social Justice Summit. Organized by the Multicultural Center, there will be a keynote presentation, workshops, film screenings, and discussions. Topics may include art and activism, transformative reforms, social justice movements: past present and future, and more.