

Fall 2023 Honors Seminars

Draft 2 - 3/7/2023

**Please Note: This is a draft. More courses will be added in the weeks to come.
Please check for updated documents as Enrollment approaches.**

Biology, Race, and Gender: Honors (DH)

HONR 3053 CRN 61545

Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [DH] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Recker, Time - MWF 1330 - 1420 Type of Class - In Person

Critical interdisciplinary investigation of relationships between biological theory (especially Darwinism) and social and ethical issues. Attention to views of alleged biological aspects of perceived racial and gender differences and attempts to implement these views socially, legally, and medically in the United States and elsewhere. This class is designed for upper class students and restricted to those with Junior standing or above - you should be in your third or fourth year in Honors to take it.

Decoding the World: Honors

HONR 1000 CRN 71134

Honors Area: STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Richtsmeier, Time - MW 1430 – 15:45 Type of Class - In Person

One of the unique pleasures of the academic world is discovering connections between apparently disparate concepts. In this course, we will attempt to make new connections among the codes and concepts of spoken language, the alphabet, and mathematics. Content from these three areas will be taught by an expert faculty member from speech, literacy, and mathematics, respectively. Additionally, coursework will also emphasize connections across content areas. For example, students will learn to detect regularities in the seeming irregularities of spelling, and they will examine how to predict when teachers may suffer a voice disorder. The course ends with demonstrations and a discussion of how course concepts fit within the mathematical conception of a “function”. The intended audience for this course includes curious undergraduate students interested in connecting ideas and concepts that may not seem to go together, solving problems and puzzles, and discovering patterns that that are often obscure

Majors this course may appeal to are:

- Education, Linguistics, Mathematics, Engineering, Communication Sciences and Disorders, Sociology, Psychology

Don Juan: His Lives and Times Honors (H)

HONR 2313 CRN 64975

Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Weimer, Time - TH 1330 - 1445 Type of Class - In Person

Don Juan: His Lives and Times - This course will follow the adventures of the archetypal Spanish seducer Don Juan from his first appearance on the Spanish stage in the 1630s to modern literature and film, studying how various cultures and eras have reinterpreted this figure over the last 400 years. The class will include works from Spain, France, England, Germany, Russia, and the United States, by (among others) Tirso de Molina, Molière, Mozart and da Ponte, José Zorrilla, Byron, E.T.A. Hoffmann, Pushkin, George Bernard Shaw, Kierkegaard, Freud, and Brecht.

Eloquent Persuasion for the 21st Century: Honors

HONR 1000 CRN 69090

Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [2]

Instructor - Holmes, Time - TR 1030 - 1120 Type of Class - In Person

This course is designed to teach students of the Post-Internet Age how to communicate through oral presentation and speeches, to counter what is becoming the lost art of verbal communication. From the most informal and commonplace situations, to the most formal platforms on the national and international scale, this will give them a familiarity with the world's most significant speeches which shaped modern civilization. Reading those words will also bring historical figures to life. Building on that foundation, they will then prepare, write, and practice speaking in class. This will give them the confidence that only experience and detailed critiques will provide. It will show the power of precise writing, as Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, for example, demonstrated in only 272 words. All students will eventually give a prepared speech at some time in their lives, making this an invaluable tool.

Ethical Issues Across Cultural Perspectives: Honors (H)

HONR 2063 CRN 61517

Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Igrek, Time - TR 1500 - 1615 Type of Class - In Person

Ethical Issues Across Cultural Perspectives An introduction to reasoned methods of evaluating ideas and arguments as they pertain to ethical issues from a global perspective. Concepts including obligation, justice, and ethnicity from Lao Tzu, Maimonides, Kant, and Indian wisdom stories. Environmentalism, technology, and cultural knowledge.

Future of Veterinary Medicine: Honors**HONR 1000 CRN 61368****Honors Area: STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1]****Instructor - Taylor, Time - T 1500 - 1550 Type of Class - In Person**

Future of Veterinary Medicine This seminar will focus on career opportunities for veterinarians in the 21st century. Veterinarians from several career areas will discuss with students the opportunities and training programs available to prospective veterinarians. Contemporary issues facing the profession will also be discussed. Students must be intending to pursue veterinary school in order to receive a permit to enroll. Email Ebonie Hill (ebonie.hill@okstate.edu) to request a permit.

Getting Started on Your Honors Thesis!**HONR 1000 CRN 71135****Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1]****Instructor - Stroud, Time - T 1330 - 1420 Type of Class - In Person**

This course is designed to explore the process of generating an Honors Thesis. Topics will include: developing a literature review specific to unique research purposes and scope, source evaluation, database selection and search strategies, citation management tools, and positioning research within current scholarly literature.

Honors Drawing I**ART 1103 CRN 68667****Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]****Instructor - Kinder, Time - MW 1530 - 1820 Type of Class - In Person**

This course combines studio and seminar components to teach drawing skills as a vehicle for heightened understanding of the physical world. Students will learn foundational techniques of observational drawing and will explore drawing's historical role in both scientific and humanities disciplines. Learning how to draw observationally is about paying close attention to one's surroundings, and the process of drawing can be both meditative and analytical. Through hands-on art projects, lectures, readings, field trips and group discussions, students will develop their own artistic voice and learn to use drawing as a vehicle for contemplation and innovation. Students will be encouraged to make interdisciplinary connections, and explore complex conceptual questions throughout the drawing process. No previous drawing experience required.

Honors Executive Book Club**HONR 1000 CRN 69012****Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1]****Instructor - TBA, Time – TBA Type of Class - In Person**

The Executive Book Club is a one-hour Honors seminar. In the spirit of a book club, the idea is to select a title and read it together for the first time to learn about and respond to the ideas it presents.

Enrollment is limited to 10; to obtain a permit for this class please e-mail Ebonie Hill (ebonie.hill@okstate.edu).

Inventing Your Future: Honors**HONR 1000 CRN 65560****Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1]****Instructor - Sullins, Time - T 1630 - 1720 Type of Class - In Person**

This one-hour seminar introduces students to scholarships, fellowships, research programs, international study, and other unique opportunities at OSU and beyond. Students receive guidance and develop skills needed to prepare competitive applications including writing personal statements, giving presentations/interviewing, and building relationships with academic and professional mentors. In addition to participating in lively class discussion, students will interact with former nominees and recipients of national awards as well as campus advisors for each program. This course presents students with exciting opportunities that prepare them for the future, whether they are applying for prestigious scholarships, seeking admission to top graduate schools, or pursuing highly competitive professional positions.

Islands: Life Very Near and Far Away Honors (H)**HONR 1000 CRN 68857****Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3]****Instructor - Decker, Time - MW 1430 - 1545 Type of Class - In Person**

What are your first thoughts when you hear the word “island”? Perhaps a remote destination, tropical or arctic. Perhaps a densely populated global nerve center, such as Manhattan Island in the heart of New York City, or the mix of urban and rural landscapes characteristic of the British Isles. More darkly, you may think of a penal colony such as Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay. The word may evoke exploration and shipwreck on a desert island. Or you may think of the unique culture, indigenous and hybrid, specific to certain island groups. Finally, you may be reminded of John Donne’s famous words, “No man is an island,” which speak to the isolation nearly every person feels at some point in life. Through a series of readings, some from way back, others from this decade, we will explore the many suggestions conveyed by the course

title “Islands: Life Very Near and Far Away.” Students will submit three installments of an ongoing reading journal. For one installment, they may substitute a narrative based on their own island experiences. The open-book, take-home final exam will consist of two short essays. Featured texts: William Shakespeare, *The Tempest* (1611), Daniel Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe* (1719), F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* (1925), William Golding, *Lord of the Flies* (1954), Jamaica Kincaid, *A Small Place* (1988), Célestine Hitiura Vaite, *Frangipani* (2004), Edwidge Danticat, *Everything Inside: Stories* (2019).

Mapping Mental Illness: Honors (DS)

HONR 1000 CRN 65558

Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [DS] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Thomas, Time - MWF 10300 - 1120 Type of Class - In Person

In order to address the growing concern for mental health, future leaders must recognize the social influences of mental illness. From a sociological perspective, this course critically examines the social production of mental illness and the social causes of mental illness across time and place. By investigating the distribution of mental illness according to race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and ability, students will explore the ways in which modern understandings of mental illness have been shaped by historical social forces and broader systems of power that produce and reproduce inequality.

Mythology and Religion: Honors

HIST 3980 CRN 68340

Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Nash, Time - TR 1200 - 1315 Type of Class - In Person

This course, specifically designed for honors students, uses myths from Mesopotamia, Egypt and Canaan from the third to the first millennia B.C. as a starting point for considering the fundamentals of ancient polytheistic religions in these regions. This course places religion and myth within a historical context. We will also read some prayers, letters to gods and treaties to see how religion permeated ancient life. The course is writing intensive: students must have passed Comp I to enroll.

Nutrition Misinformation in the Digital Age: Honors

HONR 1000 CRN 67529

Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Amaya, Time - TR 1200 - 1315 Type of Class - In Person

This course is designed to provide an introduction to evidence-based nutrition information with everyday examples that can be incorporated into students' lives, regardless of their field of study. Students will learn about a variety of popular nutrition topics and will learn how to differentiate nutrition fact from fiction. Information learned in the course has the potential to impact students so that they may practice their newfound skillset with friends and family to enhance the health and well-being of their communities.

Parenting: Honors (S)

HDFS 3123 CRN 71052

Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [S] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Harrist, Time - MWF 1230 - 1320 Type of Class - In Person

Physics of Science Fiction: Honors

HONR 1000 CRN 65556

Honors Area: STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Jacob, Time - 1030 - 1145 Type of Class - In Person

Policy-making In Times of Crisis: Honors

HONR 1000 CRN 68647

Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1]

Instructor - Loughridge, Time - W 0830 – 9:20 Type of Class - In Person

In order to build a theoretical framework for policy analysis, we will use readings on three periods of extraordinary challenge: The Great Depression, the Cuban Missile Crisis and 9/11. The Great Depression since it provides an opportunity to familiarize students with the Dust Bowl and link it to our Oklahoma history; the Cuban Missile Crisis because of a) the availability of an extraordinary book covering policy in that period by Graham Allison, and b) the accessibility of the events as presented in the movie, "Thirteen Days"; and 9/11. The instructor will be able to bring some inside perspective, having worked in the White House and for the Secretary of Defense in the near aftermath of the crisis. Having built a framework for understanding policy-making during the first half-dozen sessions, we will review of the ongoing COVID-19 policy response, using the Oklahoma experience as a case study. Given the instructors access to individuals central to Oklahoma's response - his own experience in leading a portion of the policy enterprise - we anticipate having multiple guest speakers with first-hand knowledge of the State's pandemic response.

Practical Law for the Modern Citizen: Honors**HONR 1000 CRN 65014****Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [1]****Instructor - Holmes, Time - T 0900 - 0950 Type of Class - In Person**

The goal of this course is to give students an overview of the law. This is relevant for all citizens. It applies to social, legal, and career aspects of their lives. Finally, students will emerge from this class confident in their abilities, knowing that they have a better basis for meeting any challenge life or the law presents them. This survey will review excerpts from important ancient and historical texts which provided a basis for the foundation of American Law. In particular, there will be a focus on the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Furthermore, students will read representative examples of some of the most important speeches and legal arguments in American history.

Science and Human Imagination: Honors (H)**HONR 1000 CRN 65561****Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3]****Instructor - Recker, Time - MWF 1230 - 1320 Type of Class - In Person**

The first half of the semester will cover scientific examples concerning astronomy and physics from the Scientific Revolution and the 20th century (Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, Newton, Special Relativity), and the 2nd half will cover Darwinian Evolution and Mendelian Genetics. Literary and artistic works influencing or influenced by these scientific works will be covered immediately following the relevant scientific cases, so comparisons and contrasts in approach and justification can be highlighted. Examples of relevant work in the Humanities include Romantic Poetry, Frankenstein, works exploring "hereditary" traits (Ibsen's Ghosts), scientific rationality and technology generally (Kafka), or specific scientific ideas (short stories by Borges, Impressionism, Cubism).

The Art of Mindful Living (H)**HONR 1123 CRN 70776****Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3]****Instructor - Heitz, Time - MWF 1030 - 1120 Type of Class - In Person**

Meditation and mindfulness are becoming ever-more relevant and important in our busy modern world and life. This course presents the basics for both understanding and practicing mindfulness so to live a more peaceful and fulfilled life.

**The Case Study: Crime, Medicine, and Modern Society Honors
HONR 1000 CRN 68652**

Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Resvick, Time - TR 1030 - 1145 Type of Class - In Person

What does Sherlock Holmes have in common with Sigmund Freud? What unites binge-worthy Netflix fare with Charles Dickens? This course investigates the case study, which plays a crucial role in criminal, legal, and medical contexts alike. While case studies are familiar from tv series or podcasts, the form has a rich literary history. We will survey works from a range of national traditions, examining the features of the case that enable it to operate in and across multiple genres and fields. Our discussions will center on questions of epistemology and form, as we ask what kind of knowledge cases transmit and how they transmit it. Do they depict exceptional phenomena, or do they seek to delineate the qualities that are representative of a given phenomenon? Who has the authority to tell stories about whom? Why are cases so often relayed in serial form? Works by Dickens, Poe, Kafka, Lang, Herzog, hooks, Tolstoy, Reed, Sacks, and others. - By the end of the semester, you will be familiar with the defining features of the case study as well as some of the most famous examples of the genre. Essays and discussion prompts will help you become more adept at formulating and supporting claims in both written and oral form.

The Early Modern World: Honors (H)

HONR 2433 CRN 70320

Honors Area: Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [H] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Jones, Time - MWF 1130 - 1220 Type of Class - In Person

Interdisciplinary study of art, history, philosophy and literature. Team-taught by faculty from appropriate disciplines in a lecture and discussion format. May not be used for degree credit with HONR 2113.

The Nature of Science: Honors

HONR 1000 CRN 69103

Honors Area: STEM Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Stroud, Time - M 1845 - 2130 Type of Class - In Person

No matter your major or background, this course offers everyone a chance to reconnect with the sciences. We will explore and observe the natural world to better understand, value, and protect life on our planet. You will utilize forms of scientific inquiry and their applications across multiple disciplines including: Earth and Space Science, Agriculture, Botany, Ecology, Natural Resource Management, Engineering and Citizen Science. You will visit local conservation areas, conduct field work to collect observational data, and join in an outdoor cookout where we will look at the moon, planets, and stars through telescopes. This course will highlight the importance of your skills and interests to help you find your voice and role within the sciences.

The Poetics of Pop Culture: Honors (D)

HONR 1000 CRN 67364

Honors Area Humanities Gen Ed Code - if any [D] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Andrews, Time 1430 - 1545 Type of Class - In Person

Is Beyoncé a poet? Does Arnold Schwarzenegger deserve an Ode? What would The Lion King read like in verse? While the vast lineage of poetry consistently engages popular culture (and vice versa), this course will examine 21st century poets who employ pop culture in their work. Specifically, we will look at poets whose work explores issues of gender, race, ethnicity and class by engaging contemporary American pop culture. Assuming no previous experience with poetry or poetics, this course welcomes students from all majors. Instead of approaching poetry with predefined theories, the work of this course will be reverse engineering contemporary poetry, that engages popular culture, toward understanding the art of poetic craft. While students will not be required to write poetry, they might find themselves inspired to make "Lemonade" or compose some "Brit Lit" of their own.

They Wouldn't Put It on the Internet if It's Not True: Information Literacy in Post-Truth Era

HONR 1000 CRN 63828

Honors Area: Social Sciences Gen Ed Code - if any [] Credit Hours [3]

Instructor - Reiter, Time - MWF 0930 - 1020 Type of Class - In Person

This course provides an overview of essential concepts and skills needed for success in navigating an increasingly uncertain and perilous information landscape. Awareness of, access to, and quality of information have demonstrable impacts on social, economic, academic, and political well-being. This course will address issues of access, use, creation, and dissemination of information and how it affects particular populations of people, with an emphasis on historically marginalized and underrepresented groups. Students will learn to locate, access, use, evaluate, organize, create, and present information effectively for personal and academic research needs. Students will examine biases within each of those paying particular attention to issues of race, gender, class, sexuality, ethnicity, and other personal, political, and socioeconomic factors. Students will also improve their understanding of authority and trust, value of information, the nature of scholarly conversation, and the nature of inquiry and exploration.