

Highlighted Courses Fall 2022

ART 275 TEXTILES

This multimedia art class will explore the uses, meanings, significance of textiles in an art context. While looking at contemporary and historical artists from around the globe, we will investigate the cultural, social, spiritual aspects of textiles through research and the artistic process. How do materials convey meaning? How can gender, race, and personal identity be communicated through art objects? How can we transform materials and surfaces to create new works of art? Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to explore multiple different processes including but not limited to, weaving, sewing, embroidery, textile manipulation, sculpture, and installation. No prior art experience required.

ENG 353 MYTHOLOGY

Examines archetypes and develops themes from African, Asian, Greco Roman, Northern European, and Native American creation myths, fertility myths, or hero myths. Takes a cultural and historical perspective in examining these myths as they order and connect events, motives, and values in the human experience.

ENS 312 ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY: HUMAN ENVIRONMENT RELATIONS

Students learn and apply the concepts of sustainability and Catholic social teaching to some of the most critical issues in human-environment relations in order to understand and address them better. Topics vary, but generally include food, hunger and agriculture, water resources, human population, and urbanization.

ICS 231 GLOBALIZATION I

Provides an overview of the major milestones in the history of globalization— human migration out of Africa, development of trade routes, the formation of colonial empires, the origins and spread of global capitalism, decolonization and state formation movements after WWII, the rise of US imperialism, and the spread of neoliberalism. The course also examines how the Bretton Woods economic system and global trade impact the poorer nations, the global environment, and the growing inequality between the Global North and the Global South.

ICS 375 TOPICS: MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

This course studies medical systems in diverse cultures and societies around the world. Such systems include folk medicine, traditional healers, ethno-medical approaches, as well as culture-bound syndromes. In addition, this course explores diverse cultural understandings of illness and healing.

ICS 375 TOPICS: JUST RELATIONSHIPS

In today's world, social justice is often understood as taking stands against racism, ethnocentrism, misogyny, heteronormativity and climate change. However, when social justice is defined as being primarily against something it also becomes individuals against other individuals, leading to division and violence. Missionaries seek to find a different path: SVDs speak of Prophetic Dialogue, while SSpS missionaries have spoken of Fostering Life Giving Relationships. This course is designed to study ways for peace in the pursuit of justice through living out visions that lead us to Just Relationships incorporating the wisdom of the social sciences, theology, philosophy and environmental science by bringing them and the participants of this course into dialogue. There will be major reviews of the insights of Pope Francis in his writing of *Evangelii Gaudium*, *Laudato Si*, and other Papal Documents.

PHI 375 TOPICS: MEDIA COMMUNICATION ETHICS

This course consists of two parts. In the first part, relatively brief and introductory, we will examine the general principles and theories that are operative in the philosophical consideration of any moral issue. In the second part, we will apply these principles and theories to the key moral issues related to media communication (journalism, Internet, social media, television, radio) through study, discussion, and debate – primarily through a case-study approach. The objective of this course will be to offer the student opportunities to study and refine the techniques necessary to make good, rational decisions about moral issues in media communication.

PHI 475 ADVANCED TOPICS: COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENTS FOR GOD’S EXISTENCE

One of the most important arguments for God’s existence is the cosmological argument. Cosmological arguments for God’s existence propose that God is the ultimate explanation or cause of everything. This course will be a scholarly study of three of the more significant types of cosmological arguments: Kalam, Leibnizian and the Thomistic. The course aims to enable students to reflect independently—in the light of the defenders and critics of these three arguments—with clarity and academic rigor on whether reason is (or is not) a way of believing in God’s existence.

SCI 275 TOPICS: NUTRITION

Surveys the basic principles of human nutrition. Topics will include types of nutrients (proteins, carbohydrates, fats, vitamins, minerals, water), the process of digestion and metabolism of food, function of specific nutrients, and nutrient dietary sources. Students learn the recommended daily allowances (RDAs) for nutrients, and energy balance in consideration of proper weight management. The course will also consider food choices and examines the nutritional value of various cultural foods/cuisines of people from regional backgrounds around the world, food availability and impacts of nutritional deficiencies in those regions. Nutritional content and health of the cultural foods/cultural cuisines will be considered in this element of the course. (May include some sampling!)

THM 293 WORLD RELIGIONS

An introduction to the major non-Christian religious traditions of the world, and their particular historical evolution with regard to beliefs, practices, institutions, and cultural expressions. Explores diversity of religious beliefs, relevant issues from comparative religious studies, and the socio-cultural impact of religion in various contexts.

THM 335 CHURCH HISTORY

This course surveys the history of the Christian Church from its origins to the present time, presented according to the broad sweep of four main Church eras: Early Church (to 800); Medieval Church (800-1500); Reformation (1500-1650), and; Modern Church (1650-to present). Details the important historical events and controversies—including key persons, dates, movements, and theological concepts—that are essential for a critical appreciation of how the Church has fulfilled its missionary mandate over the centuries.