GENERAL HONORS COURSES
SPRING 2013

Gn Hon 1010H   Career Explorations

- Career Explorations for the Multipotentialized Student
  
  Kristina Wright – Honors Academic Advisor

  Are you blessed with lots of interests and skills, but unsure of how to use them? This seminar will help those of you with "multipotentiality" but unclear career goals. Students will be asked to examine career options and complete various interest, aptitude, and personality measures. The goal of this course is to help you refine your skillset and to make informed and satisfying career decisions that are in sync with your personality and goals. Emphasis in this course will be on in-class discussion as we explore ways to implement your life/career goals. Class meets first 8 weeks - Spring Semester.

Gn Hon 1030H   Honors Discussions

- A Brief History of Science
  
  Prof. Steven Keller (Chemistry) and Prof. David Setzer (Biology)

  This 1-credit hour course—designed for non-science majors—will focus on the “Big Ideas of Science” from astronomy, biology, chemistry, physics, and geology. Throughout the course, an emphasis will be placed on understanding the scientific evidence leading to the development of the ideas and theories we now hold. Therefore, we plan a brief discussion of the nature of science and scientific theories before delving into the details of each of the topics listed below. We will also stress the interconnectedness of the various disciplines so that students will leave with a more unified understanding of the scientific enterprise as a whole, rather than as several independent disciplines.

- Mizzou 101
  
  Jim Spain - Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies, Professor of Animal Sciences

  The goal of Mizzou 101 is to introduce students to people, places and resources at Mizzou that most students never get a chance to encounter. These new experiences lead to a broader understanding of the university and what it does on a local, state and global scale. Through guest speakers and field trips to unique campus locations, such as the Chancellor’s Residence, athletic complex and power plant, students will see first-hand how different sections of the university operate. Field trips will be supported by discussions with some of Mizzou’s most distinct individuals, including Peace Corps alumna and chancellor’s wife Anne Deaton, Athletic Director Mike Alden and career development specialist Stephanie Chipman. When in the classroom, Mizzou 101 will utilize discussion-based learning to further explore issues examined during field trips and discussions with speakers. A Socratic Seminar style model – where students direct group discussions – will create close-knit relationships among students in the class. Mizzou 101 is taught by six teaching assistants whose lives have been transformed by positive
experiences in classes and organizations on campus. They will be overseen by Dr. Jim Spain, the university’s Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies and Animal Sciences professor. In short, Mizzou 101 is unique. The class will open up new opportunities for students and introduce them to unique places and people. Students will also become part of a classroom community and learn how to use their individual skills and talents within a group.

- **Applying for Nationally Competitive Fellowships**
  *Timothy Parshall – Director, Office of Fellowships*
  This course is designed specifically for students who intend to apply for nationally competitive awards (e.g., Fulbright, Rhodes, Marshall, and Mitchell), to which students typically apply at the beginning of the senior year. The course will emphasize selection of an appropriate program(s), application processes, development of application components (including the personal essay and, if appropriate, the proposed program of research or study), identification of and contact with appropriate recommenders. Guest speakers—both faculty and students well versed in the processes—will address specific awards.

**Gn Hon 1070H **
**Honors Elective Colloquium**

- **Claiming Kin: Evolving Notions of Kinship**
  *Heidi Appel - Associate Director of the MU Honors College and Senior Research Scientist in Plant Sciences & Mary Shenk, Assistant Professor of Anthropology.*
  2-credit honors course designed around the 2013 Life Sciences and Society Symposium (Mar 15-17). Taking an interdisciplinary approach, the course will explore biological kinship and its evolutionary meaning and implications, changes in kinship classifications across cultures, and the implications of such changes on modern social issues such as reproductive technologies, blended families, same-sex marriage rights, and shifting gender roles. Attendance at the symposium is a mandatory requirement of the class. Grading is S/U and based on student participation in discussions and writing. The course will be taught by Dr. Heidi Appel, Associate Director of the MU Honors College and Senior Research Scientist in Plant Sciences, and Dr. Mary Shenk, Assistant Professor of Anthropology. Both are members of the Life Sciences and Society Program Advisory Board and Dr. Shenk is co-organizer of the 2013 LSSP symposium. Other MU Faculty will participate in individual class meetings.

- **Nonproliferation Issues for Weapons of Mass Destruction**
  *Mark Prelas - Director of Research and in the Nuclear Science and Engineering Institute*
  Weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) are a direct consequence of 20th-century technology. The challenges that we face in coming to grips with the awesome destructive power that WMDs hold will be a dominant theme of the 21st century. As citizens living within a pluralist society, we must gain a realistic understanding of the relative risks that WMDs present to our way of life. This knowledge will equip us to make informed decisions that can lead to the mitigation of these destructive forces. This course is designed to provide a foundation for those interested in nonproliferation issues of weapons of mass destruction and to provide an understanding of the proliferation risks of
WMDs. Knowledge is important to help us dispel the myths and to recognize the facts. It is especially critical in choosing the issues that are most important in stemming the proliferation and possible use of WMDs. We will also recommend a strategy to limit continued WMD proliferation by addressing the underlying reasons for their continued development and deployment.

Gn Hon 2015H Theory and Practice of Tutoring Writing
“Theory and Practice of Tutoring Writing,” is an English/Honors College Writing Intensive (WI) class which addresses both the theory and practice of tutoring and the foundations of good writing. Therefore, in addition to theoretical frames for what writing tutors do, it focuses on hands-on craft and practical experience working with other writers. At its heart is a shared set of assumptions about tutoring writing. In order to help someone else competently, a tutor needs to have an expert command of the craft of writing herself. A tutor needs to know something not only about the practical application of rhetoric and composition theory, but also about the subtleties of verbal and nonverbal communication. Hands-on experience from both sides of the desk is a crucial part of the process of learning to work with other writers. Online tutoring is a valuable part of the skill set with both advantages and disadvantages over traditional face-to-face scenarios, and it makes considerable demands on the tutor's craft as a writer and as a reader of both prose and people. This course also prepares students to work as writing tutors, and, in fact, doing well in it qualifies them for a part-time job in the Writing Center in future semesters. Prerequisite: Engl 1000. A/F. This class meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00-2:50pm. Students interested in the course should contact Dr. Rachel Harper: harperrp@missouri.edu This course fulfills a lower division Writing Intensive requirement and General Education credit (Humanities).

Gn Hon 2114H The Modern Era
The final semester of the Humanities Sequence deals with the intellectual and cultural developments from the mid-nineteenth to the late twentieth century. Lectures and discussions will be held on the philosophy of Marx, Nietzsche, Sartre, and Hannah Arendt; on the literary works of Dickens, Dostoevsky, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, T.S. Elliot, and Toni Morrison. Special lectures are presented on the music of the period.

Gn Hon 2120H Humanities Colloquium

- Religious thought in the Writings of J.R.R. Tolkien
  Mel George - Professor Emeritus
  The focus is on the theological content of The Lord of the Rings and the Ainulindale, in the context of the Christian tradition in which Tolkien and later his close friend CS Lewis were embedded. We consider why Tolkien considered his work to be a mythology embodying Christian ideas of evil, redemption, and the moral life in a narrative with roots in the ancient Norse and Germanic tales that were part of Tolkien's scholarly life. Texts include Ralph Wood, "The Gospel According to Tolkien"; Humphrey Carpenter, "Tolkien: A Biography"; CS Lewis, "Mere Christianity"; excerpts from Tolkien's letters.
Modern Israeli Film

*Etty Naveh-Benjamin – Professor Pschology*

In this course, we will examine the modern literature and contemporary film of a developing nation built on an ancient heritage. We will study the literary pieces in English translation, but will talk about Hebrew, the revived language of Israel. Previously unprobed topics will be introduced in this course, including the milieu of the Arab village, the world of ultra-Orthodox Jews, and attempts to deal with the existence of the unbeliever in a period when secular ideologies are collapsing. We will also look into universal themes, such as democracy and righteousness, as seen in the context of a society which is subject to constant challenges in most areas of its national life. We will conclude with the younger generation of writers and directors, who reject much of the centrality of the Israeli experience and reflect a more universalistic trend, often of an alienated, surreal and idiosyncratic nature.

**Gn Hon 2230H Social Science Colloquium**

- **Discussions of Science and Public Policy**
  *William Folk - Professor of Biochemistry*

  This course explores the intersection of important, topical issues in science and public policy relating to health, food production, energy and the environment. Some of the issues likely to be covered include: public policies affecting sources of energy and energy conservation and water quality in Missouri; policies affecting food production, distribution and availability; policies attempting to promote better health by taxation of tobacco products or limiting the size and availability of sodas. Classroom discussions and assigned readings will be augmented by Dialogues led by invited experts/stakeholders from the science and the public policy arenas. Students are expected to synthesize information from readings, discussions and Dialogues and to incorporate these materials into written proposals for informed public policies.

- **Challenges of EU Enlargement to Central and Eastern Europe**
  *William H. Meyers - Professor of Agricultural Economics*

  With faculty and visitors of various disciplines, explore and analyze the economic and social issues and challenges experienced in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) during the transition to membership in the European Union (EU) and the challenges they will face in the future. Eight countries of CEE joined the EU on May 1, 2004 Course participants can study and evaluate a profound historic moment for these countries and their citizens. Students will gain an understanding of the historical, political and economic backgrounds of CEEs and the challenges they face in building democratic and market economy institutions. The course will focus on economic and social issues and analysis, but students will explore in greater depth a country and/or disciplinary issue in which they have special interest or expertise, by writing a research paper on a topic relevant to the seminar content and leading the class in a discussion of the paper.
Gn Hon 2244H  Identity in Groups
Part of the Honors College Sequence on Human Nature, this course focuses on behavioral scientific studies of identity in relation to groups. Will draw on classic and modern works that examine how people identify and are identified with groups and the effects of those processes.

Gn Hon 2246H  Globalization and Social Identity
This course focuses on studies of the impact of technological change and the forces of globalization and their influences on the individual. Lectures and discussion sessions will address and evaluate the role of social, entrepreneurial, non-profit and for-profit organizations and their use of transformational technologies in a global setting. Will draw on contemporary works that investigate the interdependencies of modern global society and the forces of social media. Honors students will analyze an international NGO and address its strengths and weaknesses.

Gn Hon 2461H  Science Sequence: Warm Little Planet
The Warm Little Planet is an inquiry-based exploration of the physical and biological sciences as they relate to the structure and function of a community of living organisms in its natural environment. Taking a “big idea” perspective, we investigate the interplay between: 1) evolution by natural selection, 2) population growth, 3) community ecology, 4) oxidation-reduction chemistry, 5) pH chemistry and 6) energy and entropy. In addition to lectures, students meet once a week to read popular presentations of science topics (ex: Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring), discuss their impacts on culture and conduct scientific investigations. A major aspect of this course which distinguishes it from other science courses is that students design, implement, analyze data from and present the results of their own experiments throughout the semester. In addition to several short lab experiences corresponding with the main topics of the course, students work as a group throughout the semester on an independent research project investigating the effects of pollutants on pond organisms. This research is presented during a public poster presentation at the end of the semester. By the end of the semester, students will have developed their ability to assess the validity of scientific data and argumentation and appreciate the interconnectedness of scientific disciplines in their attempt to describe the natural world. To join the community of undergraduate scholars discussing recent science discoveries and presentations at MU, please visit the course Facebook page: MU Honors College Science Sequence.

Gn Hon 3120H  Honors Humanities Colloquium

- Creativity for the Non-Arts Major
  Suzanne Burgoyne – Professor of Theatre
  The purpose of this course is to guide you in discovering and enhancing your own creative abilities, no matter what discipline you’re studying or what career goals you’re pursuing. Underlying assumptions: The instructor agrees with numerous creativity theorists and researchers that all humans are born with creative potential but that factors in our society and our systems of schooling discourage creative exploration, thus leading
many of us to believe a) that creativity is undesirable and/or b) that we have no creative abilities.

- **Ethics of Cognitive Enhancement**  
  *Yasha Rohwer - Postdoctoral Fellow, Philosophy*  
  Humans have extraordinary cognitive capacities—capacities that scientists are currently using to try to improve upon these capacities. Cognitive enhancement is an actuality; and very soon it will be possible to enhance in more permanent ways via genetic modification. In this course we will survey the state of the science of cognitive enhancement including pharmaceutical approaches, epigenetic manipulation, genetic engineering, neural implants and computer/brain links. We will begin by examining the current status of these emerging technologies and what is on the horizon. We will then focus on the ethics of the various technologies for cognitive enhancement, using key ethical theories from the philosophical tradition. There will be a strong focus on recognizing, reformulating and evaluating arguments.

- **Gn Hon 3210H Honors Behavioral Colloquium**

  - **Cross Cultural Psychology**  
    *Etti Naveh-Benjamin – Professor of Psychology*  
    This course will adopt a psychological approach to the study of the cross-cultural experience. We will spend our time investigating how culture affects and determines human behavior, thoughts, emotions, and interactions with others, on both individual and societal levels. In particular, we will focus on how various cultures shape correspondingly different behaviors and thought patterns in their respective members. The course will assume the form of a seminar with class discussions and group exercises. Its main goal is to combine current psychological theory, with semester-long cultural immersion projects in order to yield an in-depth academic and personal understanding of culture and its effects on human thought, emotion, and behavior. Written and audiovisual materials will further supplement and hopefully enhance your appreciation and understanding of the cross-cultural experience.

  - **Psychology at the Movies**  
    *Etti Naveh-Benjamin – Professor of Psychology*  
    In this course, we will watch, discuss, and interpret films from a psychological perspective. Connections will be made between cinematic content and contemporary theory and research in psychology. The films chosen will be relevant to a wide range of issues in psychology, including: The continuity of personality from childhood to adulthood, the role of nature (genetics) and nurture (family environment) in shaping social development, Utopian societies based on behaviorist principles, the nature of evil and authoritarian societies and personalities, coping and emotion regulation processes, cultural differences and similarities in behavior, and Cross-Cultural issues in films. The course will host a number of guests. Students will acquire a general introduction to psychological theories and methods, learn to think critically about films, and gain a deeper understanding of how psychological principles and research findings are disseminated to the public through films (and other forms of media). an interdisciplinary
approach will be used; we will draw relevant work from psychology, film studies, sociology, literary criticism and mass communications. Some attempt will also be made to compare and contrast film with other representational and artistic media such as literature, television, painting, theater, etc. We will meet twice a week. Every week we will watch a film (or portion of a film) and then analyze and discuss the psychological content of the film. Reading material will include film reviews and general articles on the psychology of film and on relevant psychological perspectives. Student will give a presentation on the psychological themes in a film of their choosing. Students will also be responsible for writing a film review for each film watched during the course. The reviews will integrate the psychological understanding of the various themes and perspectives discussed in the course.

Gn Hon 3230H Honors Social Science Colloquium

- Terrorism and Conflict Resolution
  
  *Paul Wallace – Professor of Political Science*
  
  An exploration of terrorism as political violence, which extends beyond the acts themselves. The focus is on religious, ethnic, and ideological based movements, and the state and international reactions. Emphasis is on identifying & dramatizing the problems, and most importantly, conflict resolution or identifying a process leading to conflict resolution. Students will be organized into role playing groups so as to examine and present modern movements, the state & international response; e.g. No. Ireland, Spain (Basques), Chechnya (Russia), S. Africa, Rwanda, Blood Diamonds, Arab-Israeli, Kurds, India (Kashmir, Sikhs), Sri Lanka Tamil Tigers), Japan (Aum & sarin gas), Peru (Shining Path), Argentina, Columbia (FARC) & U.S. radicalism. One midterm, role-playing presentation, a term paper and final exam. Flexibility, choices & discussion emphasized. “Terrorism” is a rapidly growing subfield in the social sciences that focuses on the ability of relatively small groups to disrupt societies and challenge the established state by using violent methods that can be defined as terrorism. The response of the state also may involve terrorism. Societal and state terrorism essentially are modern phenomenon employing weapons, organizational methods, communications, and psychological elements that stem from increasing modernity. Religion, ethnicity and ideology are three major constructs that most commonly motivate terrorist movements, as well as the state. Leadership struggles and material incentives also become involved.