Applying for Nationally Competitive Fellowships

Timothy Parshall – Director, Office of Fellowships

This course is designed specifically for high-ability, high-achieving students who intend to apply for nationally competitive awards (e.g., Truman, Fulbright, Rhodes, Marshall, Mitchell, NSF GRF). The purpose is to engage serious students in sophisticated analyses of their own talents and potential; they will be required to interact with other members of the university community and to look beyond MU toward a future in public service, research, scholarship, and/or teaching. The course is open to sophomores and juniors, by permission only. Graduating seniors who intend to apply for postbaccalaureate awards may also be interested. Therefore, 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), and identification of and contact with appropriate recommenders. Upon successful completion of this course, the student should have a sound preliminary draft of his or her application for a select fellowship, a draft to be honed throughout the summer and early fall prior to formal submission. Each student, therefore, will tailor assignments to meet individual program requirements and personal needs and/or preferences.

Chapter One
Alexandra Socarides – English

In Chapter One students will spend ten weeks reading a diverse selection of opening chapters to great novels with an eye to asking what makes them so thrilling, engaging, and beautiful – to what, in short, makes the reader want to continue on. This study will be undertaken in the service of each student writing his or her own first chapter to their yet-to-be-written novel. In the final 5 weeks students will workshop and revise the chapters they have been writing. Students will also work with writing partners outside of class and with the instructors one-on-one as needed. Part-literature-course and part-creative-writing-workshop, Chapter One is a hybrid class in which students who have always wanted to write a novel and never knew where to start will get to try, knowing they will walk away with that novel’s opening chapter. Weekly topics will range from “voice” and “structure” to “creating a world.” All readings will be provided on Blackboard. This course is will meet for one hour a week and is limited to 12 students.

"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 Modern Era**
This semester in the Humanities Series we offer students the challenging opportunity to read and discuss literature, art, architecture, music, and philosophy from the dawn of the Modern Era. Special lectures and focuses include:

- Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Angels in America*
- Spiegelman’s graphic novel *Maus*
- Jazz singer Billie Holiday
- Beckett’s one-act play *Endgame*
- Fritz Lang’s 1931 thriller *M*

Need more reasons to enroll?

- Let’s talk communism with Karl Marx…
- …or morals with Nietzsche. Oh wait, do we have those?
- …or analyze the magic realism in *Chronicle of a Death Foretold*

**Gn Hon 2120H Humanities Colloquium**

**Modern Israeli Film**

*Etti Naveh-Benjamin – Professor Psychology*

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 Citizenship**  
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 2462H Energy: From Particles to Civilizations**
Energy integrates concepts from chemistry, physics, biology, geology, and astronomy to focus on the world of particles and forces and how they work together to structure the world around us. In a combination of lectures, small-group discussions, laboratory activities, and field trips, we’ll explore the big ideas of thermodynamics, laws of motion, atomic and molecular structure, electricity, and magnetism. The crux of the course, however, is derived from the intersections and connections between these concepts. We will therefore also begin to understand how energy is generated and used by living systems, from individual organisms to entire civilizations, and we will investigate some of the environmental impacts and ethical questions resulting from energy production and consumption. No prior science course is necessary, just a healthy curiosity about the natural world and our place in it.

**Gn_Hon 2450H  Honors Science Colloquium**

**Finding the Story in Science**  
*Heidi Appel and Sharon Wood Turley*

Finding the Story in Science is a 1 credit, 8-week honors course exploring the communication of science stories. We’ll examine the value of public understanding of science, the science news pipeline, convergent and conflicting goals of scientists and journalists, techniques to convey the uncertainty of science, the roles of cognitive load and cognitive bias, and the importance of narrative and storytelling to effective communication of science topics.

The course meets Thursdays 3:30p – 4:45p for the second half of the semester. It is discussion-based, with short lectures to supplement readings. Attendance at one field trip and a Saturday Morning Science (SMS) talk are required. Letter grade is based on participation in class discussions and projects (science news pipeline review of a current story, Reporting from the Field piece, review of an SMS talk, and final project). Instructors: Dr. Heidi Appel, Senior Associate Director of the Honors College and Senior Research Scientist in CAFNR (*appelh@missouri.edu*); Sharon Wood Turley, Assistant Teaching Professor in Science and Ag Journalism (*swt@missouri.edu*).

**Genes and Beyond**  
*Heidi Appel and Karthik Panchanathan*

This 1 credit, 8-week honors course is designed around the 2015 Life Sciences and Society Symposium (Mar 13-15). We’ll explore the science of epigenetics and its implications for other academic disciplines and society at large. The profound influence of the environment on heritable expression of our genes is providing new insights into fields as diverse as psychology, sociology, philosophy, and medicine, and into topics as diverse as development, nutrition, disease, behavior, education, ethics, and even public policy.

We’ll do in-depth reading and discussion of the published work of the speakers prior to the symposium, attend the symposium and interact with the speakers, and then have one meeting afterwards to discuss what we learned from the conference itself.

The course requires you to think across disciplines. In the discussion of each speaker’s work you’ll make connections between developments in other areas and think critically about the implications of those connections. Letter grades will be based on participation in class discussions (60pts), leading a class discussion with another student (20pts), and a 4-6 page paper (20 pts).
**Gn Hon 3120H  Honors Humanities Colloquium**

Creativity for the Non-Arts Major  
*Suzanne Burgoyne – Professor of Theatre*

You don’t need to be an artist to be creative. In his famous TED talk, creativity expert Sir Ken Robinson explains that we’re all born creative, but schools crush the creativity out of us:  

With active learning techniques and a supportive environment, this course helps you enhance your creative thinking process, whatever your major or career goals—in the 21st century, creativity is a necessity in all fields.

**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.