Based on the Oxford style of teaching, "Honors Tutorials" pair a small group of honors students (typically two to five) with a distinguished MU faculty member to discuss a topic, author, book/s, or issue very intensely over the course of a semester. Meetings take place in the faculty member's office (or other, non-classroom setting).

Please find a description of each tutorial below.

If you would like to participate in one of these tutorials, please email a one-page statement to the tutorial professor about why you'd like to enroll in the tutorial, addressing the following questions:

- Why does a tutorial method of learning appeal to you?
- What do you think you'll gain from the experience?
- And why are you interested in the particular topic?
- Make sure to indicate your major/s as well as your overall GPA.

Tutorial Applications are due Friday, March 20th, 2015

**Tutorial #1: Internship with “Speaking of Culture”**
**Professor Gabriel Fried, English**
FriedG@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

Students in this tutorial will help administer Speaking of Culture, a new monthly lecture series on the humanities sponsored by the Honors College. The series features dynamic MU professors and staff speaking on a variety of fascinating topics, from the "Making of Christmas" to "The Poetry of Baseball," for a general audience. Responsibilities will vary, but will certainly include supporting the promotion (e.g. writing press releases, maintaining social media), interviewing and introducing the speakers, and on-site production of the series. Please note that this tutorial will require occasional Sunday afternoon commitments.

**Tutorial #2: The I-70 Sign Show: The Curatorial Process**
**Professor Anne Thompson, Dept. of Art**
Thompsonanne@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

What happens to our landscape when we put contemporary art on the interstate? Students engage in hands-on curatorial research and documentation connected to the "I-70 Sign Show," a new, yearlong, public-art project that exhibits works by celebrated conceptual artists on mid-Missouri billboards. Tapping the rich art-historical tradition of land and environmental art, the "Sign Show" embraces the state’s interstate condition as a potent display opportunity, capitalizing on the signage surplus and engaging the provocative mix of messages along I-70. A dedicated Web site will document the project with photographs, texts, and other information about participating artists and the Missouri billboard context. Tutorial members will generate Web content for the project, as well as collaborate in creating a Web-based photographic archive of the I-70 billboards stretching across the state. This index establishes the “Sign Show” context online and functions as an independent artwork—a digital update of conceptual-art photographic traditions dating from the 1960s. Students become “authors” and “artists” as well as “assistant curators” within the project, gaining hands-on experience as they enter the workplace or pursue further scholarship. As a group, we will watch a curatorial experiment unfold from the inside, seeing how it works and gauging community response. Like other land-art projects, the “Sign Show” aims to insert a fresh perspective and shake up perceptions about mid-Missouri—how others see us and how we see ourselves.
Tutorial #3: Veterinary Medicine: Beyond the Animal
Dr. Chuck Wiedmeyer, Associate Professor of Veterinary Pathology
WiedmeyerC@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

Discussions in this one-credit tutorial will focus on the clinical and professional skills necessary for success in veterinary medicine. In addition, there will be an introduction to routine techniques used to diagnose and treat diseases in domestic species.

Tutorial #4: Henry James’s The Portrait of a Lady
Dr. Alexandra Socarides, English
socaridesa@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

In this tutorial we will read Henry James’s stunning masterpiece, The Portrait of a Lady (1881), slowly, deeply, and with great pleasure. Long considered James’s most brilliant book, The Portrait introduces us to unforgettable characters that experience the kinds of romantic and intellectual conflicts that still consume us today. Written at the very height of James’s creative powers – with the fierceness and compassion that have drawn so many readers to him – this book benefits from close attention to every scene change, every sentence, every turn of phrase. Each week we will close read 3 chapters, together journeying with James into this story about love, art, ambition, and independence. Students will periodically write reflections on and analyses of the particular elements of the novel to which they are most drawn.

Tutorial #5: Charles Dickens’ Bleak House
Dr. Elizabeth Chang, English
change@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

During this tutorial we will experience the pleasure of reading a single novel at a (relatively) slow and careful pace. This will give us time to notice all the things that make Bleak House one of the greatest novels ever written in English, including its unusual narrative structure, foreshadowing of the detective novel, remarkable major and minor character development, and general introduction into the world of the Victorian novel. Following student interest we will also pay attention to the life and works of Charles Dickens, the system of law and punishment in nineteenth-century Britain, film adaptations of the novel, and anything else that is interesting about the endlessly interesting world of the Victorian novel. Tutorial members will read the novel, a few short related pieces, and write short response papers over the course of the semester.

Tutorial #6: Representation of Biology News in the Media
Dr. Bethany Stone, Biology
stoneb@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

Recent stories of interest in the media include ebola, the Disney outbreak of measles and the vaccination debate, and the newest story relating to herbal supplements. In this tutorial, we will have several conversations on the various aspects of reliable (and unreliable) science reporting, the ethics and potential outcomes of these stories, and recent news stories of a biological nature. Journalism and Biology students may be especially interested in the course.

Students will write up two of their own reviews of articles they find on the web to see how they apply to our discussions. Both reviews will come with two submissions (rough and final draft). Each should be roughly 2-3pp.
Tutorial #7: Liberal Democratic Theory and Practice
Dr. Marvin Overby, Political Science
overbyl@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

This tutorial will provide a broad overview of the liberal democratic tradition, especially as it has been implemented in the United States. We will begin by reviewing the pre-modern, Hellenic experience with self government, then turn to the developments that led to the rise of liberal, social contract theory as the legitimate basis for government in the 1600s, focusing on the work of Thomas Hobbes and John Locke. After a brief “detour through Scotland,” during which we will consider the influence of such Scottish Enlightenment thinkers as Adam Smith and David Hume, we will concentrate on the American experience. Our topics will include the debates during the founding period (and the compromises required to launch the nation) as well as what was required to flesh out the constitutional framework in the actual practice of self government.

Tutorial #8: Slow-reading W.B. Yeats
Dr. William Kerwin, English
Kerwinw@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

2015 marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Ireland’s most famous writer. William Butler Yeats is best known for his poetry, but he was also a memoirist, folklorist, dramatist and story-teller. His poetry evolved from early work that captured the dreamy romanticism of the “Celtic Twilight,” toward poetry that was politically engaged, modernist, and experimental. Yeats always stood outside of mainstream Irish culture, and that adversarial approach, combined with his profound sense of the musical potential of language, makes him unique among twentieth-century writers, opening up both the rich culture of Ireland and the wild energy of modern poetry.

In this tutorial we will read Yeats! Mostly we will read his poetry, but we will dip into his other writings, especially in the beginning weeks. Then every week we will read a handful of poems and try to make sense of them, doing some slow reading—listening, questioning, connecting, and reading again. Writing for the course will be informal but regular, with students keeping a reading notebook responding to parts of each week’s reading. Our only text will be Yeats’s Poetry, Drama, and Prose, ed. James Pethica (Norton Critical Edition).

Tutorial #9: Eugenics and Modern Reproductive Techniques: What can we learn from the history of the eugenics movement?
Dr. Shari Freyermuth, Biochemistry
FreyermuthS@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

The term “eugenics” comes from the Greek meaning wellborn. It was coined in the late 1800s and the idea gained prominence as Mendel’s laws of heredity were being rediscovered. Charles Davenport, Director of the Genetics Laboratory at Cold Spring Harbor, NY, established a Eugenics Record Office (ERO) in 1910. His goal was to stop the transmission of negative or undesirable traits from generation to generation. The ERO tracked family histories in the US of many traits from eye color and musical ability to pauperism and feeblemindedness. As a result of this movement, 33 states put sterilization programs in place to sterilize “unfit” individuals. Although eugenics had been scientifically discredited in the US by the 1930’s, Hitler’s use of eugenic principles to justify his atrocities caused the eugenics movement in the US to lose all credibility.

Despite the misuse of eugenics in the past, there are arguments for it in modern medicine. Preimplantation genetic diagnosis can allow parents who both carry recessive disease-causing genes to ensure that their offspring do not have the disease. It is possible to stop the transmission of certain genetic diseases such as Down Syndrome, Tay-Sachs and cystic fibrosis.
We will read Davenport’s book “History in Relation to Eugenics” to understand the American Eugenics movement in the early 1900s. This is part of a larger book “Davenport’s Dream: 21st Century Reflections on Heredity and Eugenics” that discusses some of the issues that modern genetic science faces. We will look at case studies involving modern reproductive technologies and discuss both the science and ethics surrounding these choices.

**Tutorial #10: Title: Energy, Efficiency, and the Environment**  
Dr. Jacob McFarland, Mechanical Engineering  
Mcfarlandja@missouri.edu  
1 credit  
Meeting time: TBD

This class will focus on the ways we use energy and how they affect our environment and our finances. We will begin by learning about the basic laws of nature which govern how energy changes form. We will discuss how energy is used in our daily lives and how the efficiency of energy conversion devices can affect our spending and our impact on the environment. Global climate change will be discussed as it pertains to our energy usage and production methods, and potential methods for mitigating its negative effects will be explored. The course will conclude by exploring new energy conversion methods that are on the technological horizon. The course will be discussion based and will meet once a week for approximately one hour. Students will be encouraged to determine the discussion topics each week and to generate their own research and course materials on the topics. The course will have several short projects throughout the semester, and a final presentation. Field trips will also be arranged to see energy conversion devices and energy efficient practices in action. There are no prerequisites for this course. The material will draw upon engineering principles, but since students from all majors use energy conversion devices and deal with the consequences, this course is designed for ALL majors.

**Tutorial #11: Title: Crisis and Constitutional Government**  
Justin Dyer, Political Science  
dyerjb@missouri.edu  
1 credit  
Meeting time: TBD

Constitutional government is marked by a commitment to the rule of law, yet times of crisis often challenge that commitment. In this tutorial we will explore whether constitutional government is able to survive during times of crisis. Drawing on classic texts in the history of political thought as well as historical case studies involving Lincoln, Hitler, Roosevelt, G.W. Bush, and Obama, we will consider the arguments for and against the existence of emergency executive powers in a constitutional regime.

**Tutorial #12: The Unalienable Right to the Pursuit of Happiness**  
Carli N. Conklin, School of Law  
conklinc@missouri.edu  
1 credit  
Meeting time: TBD

“We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness . . . .”  
The Declaration of Independence, 1776

Historians attempting to define the unalienable right to the pursuit of happiness largely have come to agree with historian Carl Becker’s description of the phrase as a “glittering generality”; it sounds pretty and appealing, but it is either too general or too individualized to have any practical, substantive meaning. Yet, eighteenth-century English law professor William Blackstone gave the pursuit of happiness a clear definition in the Introduction to his Commentaries on the Laws of England (1765-1769). It was this understanding of the phrase that Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin evoked when they listed the pursuit of happiness as one of the
Declaration's three, enumerated, unalienable rights. It was this same understanding that abolitionists drew upon as they argued for an end to slavery in early America.

In this tutorial we will explore the meaning of the pursuit of happiness within its historical and legal context. Readings will be drawn from Classical Antiquity, the English Enlightenment, the American Founding, legal debates surrounding the existence of slavery in early America, and the culmination of those debates in nineteenth and twentieth-century legal documents, speeches, and court cases. This tutorial is open to students of all disciplines. Familiarity with law or legal concepts is not necessary or required. Grades will be based on participation in discussion and weekly reflection papers.

**Tutorial #13: Constitutional Interpretation**  
**Dr. Paul Litton, Law School**  
littonp@missouri.edu  
1 credit  
Meeting time: TBD

This course will explore ongoing debates about rival approaches to interpreting the meaning of our constitution's text and applying its commands to constitutional controversies. The course will begin with a brief introduction to the Constitution itself and some milestones of constitutional history. Focusing mostly on cases involving individual rights, we will then discuss the evolution of debates between originalists (theorists who argue that the goal of constitutional interpretation is to discover and apply the original intent or original public understanding of the document) and non-originalists. We will ask what view is most faithful to the meaning of the text and whether there is reason to think one approach produces better consequences than the others. Authors will include William Rehnquist, Paul Brest, Antonin Scalia, Ronald Dworkin, John Hart Ely, Keith Whittington, Jeremy Waldron, and others.

**Tutorial #14: Consumers/Employees: Give me Liberty or Give Me Arbitration**  
**Robert Bailey, School of Law**  
baileyr@missouri.edu  
1 credit  
Meeting time: TBD

The concept for this course on consumer arbitration and liberty of contract will be explored through reading and discussing United States Supreme Court decisions. Starting in the 1960s with the Steelworkers trilogy, The United States Supreme Court has issued numerous decisions relating to arbitration that have significant impact on consumers and employees. I envision this one-hour course focusing on 10 to 12 United States Supreme Court decisions. The students and I will explore and discuss the decisions with a goal of ferreting out the undergirding public policy implications of these decisions. I am presently considering 2-3 papers as the course unfolds on different topics discussed in class.

**Tutorial #15: “Turkey Between Two Worlds”- Secularism vs. Islamism**  
**Dr. Monika Fischer, German & Russian Studies and The Honors College**  
fischerm@missouri.edu  
1 credit  
Meeting time: TBD

This tutorial focuses on Turkey as a country of contradictions due to its geographic location and history. As a Muslim but non-Arab country that blended Islam with democracy, Turkey has looked towards the West in the past but recently has started to see itself as the bridge and potential problem solver between East and West. Participants will acquire knowledge on the historical formation and geopolitical dynamics of Turkey, its borders and national/ethnic identities. develop a complex and nuanced understanding of contemporary ‘Turkish’ issues which requires a look into the past, the Ottoman Empire.
observe media responses to the present socioeconomic and political actions of the current administration.

obtain a nuanced understanding of the meaning of secularism and Islamism.

**Tutorial #16: Perspectives on Zionism**
Dr. George P. Smith, Biological Sciences
Smithgp@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

This tutorial will consider the history of Zionism from the turn of the 20th century to the present day. Sources will include two books, a number of key documents, a sampling of commentary from diverse points of view, and a few documentary and feature films. Weekly class meetings will consist of discussions, five formal debates, and occasionally an in-class film screening. Students will be graded on class participation; either a scholarly term paper or a glossary of key terms, names, events, etc.; and a “don rag” (one-on-one oral examination).

**Tutorial #17: The Writing Athlete: An Academic/Athletic Partnership**
Dr. Pat Okker, English
okkerp@missouri.edu
1 credit
Meeting time: TBD

This Honors Tutorial focuses on students writing about a sport in which they are currently engaged. This course is open to athletes of any ability and any sport (running, CrossFit, football, equestrian, etc., etc.). During the semester, students will complete a series of shorter essays about their training and experiences as athletes, and as a class, we'll discuss the connections between academics and athletics. The course will culminate in a book of essays, created by the class. When submitting applications for this tutorial, students should indicate their current and past involvement in the particular sport(s) and provide a brief description about why they are interested in writing about these experiences.