

FIRST YEAR SEMINARS FALL 2014

CRN: 87770

POVERTY ACROSS RACE, GENDER, AND SPACE

Professor Sherri Lawson Clark, Department of Anthropology

This seminar explores poverty by examining its historical, political, cultural, and geographical contexts. We address several questions such as: What is poverty? What are the causes and consequences of poverty? How do different groups experience poverty? What are the intersections of race, gender, and poverty? Where is poverty located? How do public policies shape the lives of children and families? Students will address these questions and others throughout the semester.

This course is reserved for first-year students who are interested in participating in a unique learning community inside and outside the classroom. Exploration of course topics and group participation in a limited number of co-curricular events will encourage a smooth transition to college life. Through these activities, we will cultivate relationships with one another and with the community around us, explore our individual strengths and common interests, and develop leadership skills.

This group will live in the same residence hall and will form a first-year advising group, with Professor Clark as their faculty adviser. Registration is limited. To enroll, please contact Associate Dean Anne Boyle (boyle@wfu.edu).

WF 9:30-10:45 am

South 127

Fall 2014

CRN: 91868

VALUE OF HOME

Professor S. Ayla Samli, Department of Anthropology

What is home and why does it matter? This course investigates the concepts of home and family across cultural and philosophical perspectives and in conversation with public life or the public sphere. From classic treatises on the family to contemporary ethnographies, home life offers students a salient site for academic analysis.

MWF 10:00 – 10:50 am

Carswell 019

Fall 2014

CRN: 86854

DISCOVERING THE AVANT-GARDE

Professor Leigh Ann Hallberg, Department of Art

This seminar will explore the art, politics, and history of the avant-garde from the mid-19th century through the 1930s. The course will use readings from the text, class discussion, and analysis of works of art to gain an understanding of the genesis, evolution, and influence of avant-garde movements including Expressionism, Cubism, Futurism, and Dada.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Scales 103

Fall 2014

CRN: 87800

CULTURAL CONVERGENCE & ARTISTIC EXCHANGE IN THE MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN

Professor Laura Veneskey, Department of Art

Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the medieval Mediterranean. The focus will not be on any one culture, per se, but rather on the new visual forms produced through the meeting of disparate cultures. We will assess arenas of intense artistic interaction across the region, including Spain, Sicily and Italy, Byzantium, the Crusader States, and the Levant. Course themes include theories of "Mediterraneanism" and Orientalism, the circulation of luxury objects and diplomatic gifts, "hybrid" objects, and the appropriation of objects and aesthetics due to warfare, trade, or mercantilism.

WF 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Scales 103

Fall 2014

CRN: 86852

CREATION OF DARWIN'S THEORY OF EVOLUTION

Professor Gerald Esch, Department of Biology

The objective of the course is to investigate: (1) Pre-Darwinian ideas regarding evolution; (2) creationism (and intelligent design); (3) the Darwinian theory of evolution; (4) Mendelian genetics and its role in the development of neo-Darwinian thinking; (5) the discovery of meiosis; (6) the condensation of Darwin/Mendel/meiosis ideas into the neo-Darwinian theory and genes/genetics by Walter Sutton in the early twentieth century; and (7) final development of the neo-Darwinian theory

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Winston 232

Fall 2014

CRN: 91852

THE BIOLOGY OF THE MIND

Professor Cliff Zeyl, Department of Biology

Professor Carole Gibson, Department of Biology

Molecular biologists and psychologists are assembling an increasingly detailed picture of thought, moods, mental states, and mental illness. Pharmaceutical solutions to psychiatric disorders are proliferating, while drug abuse remains a part of American culture. We will become familiar and comfortable with what is known about the molecular and cellular basis of all these phenomena. We will also consider more personal and artistic descriptions of mental states, and try to connect molecular biology with psychology and with the way we experience our minds. The underlying question driving this course will be whether or not biology can describe the mind, healthy or disordered, our emotions and ethics. Can molecules explain consciousness?

MWF 2:00 – 2:50 pm

Winston 221

Fall 2014

CRN: 86856

TRUE VALUE MEALS

Professor Angela King, Department of Chemistry

The goal of this course is to explore the complex interactions among advertising, food production, safety and availability, agricultural environmental impact and standards of living. How has our evolution as a fast food nation affected social interactions? Corporate farming produces more food than our nation needs, but hunger and malnutrition are still present. Could modern agricultural practices be putting human and environmental health at risk? How do economic factors affect farmers, food processing workers, and consumers buying the final product? If you are what you eat, learning more about the true value of the food goods you consume should be given a high priority in order to make the best choices of what and where to eat.

MWF 1:00 – 1:50 pm

Salem 210

Fall 2014

CRN: 89458

BEWARE THE IDES, BEWARE THE HEMLOCK: REENACTING CRISIS IN THE ANCIENT GREECE & ROME

Professor T.E.D. Gellar-Goad, Department of Classical Languages

The Thirty Tyrants have at long last been expelled from Athens, and now it is up to you and your closest friends and enemies to determine the future of the greatest city-state in the Mediterranean - and the future of the gadfly philosopher Socrates. The conspiracy of Catiline has been uncovered, and the fate of the conspirators and of Rome rests in your hands. Two decades later, the dictator Julius Caesar has been assassinated, and it falls upon you to maneuver through the wrangling in the Senate to decide what the People of Rome should do. You will play in three "Reacting to the Past" scenarios set in ancient Greece and Rome: you will become a stakeholder in these world-changing crises and you will fight, speak, study, sweet-talk, and coerce your way to power over your classmates, be they allies or adversaries. This course is suitable for all students of all kinds, interests, and backgrounds, and will offer fun, low-pressure opportunities to develop writing, public-speaking, critical thinking, and persuasion skills.

MWF 2:00 – 2:50 pm

South 127

Fall 2014

This course is reserved for first-year students who are interested in participating in a unique learning community inside and outside the classroom. Exploration of course topics and group participation in a limited number of co-curricular events will encourage a smooth transition to college life. Through these activities, we will cultivate relationships with one another and with the community around us, explore our individual strengths and common interests, and develop leadership skills.

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CRN: 86884

STEM - SOCIETIES AND TECHNOLOGY IN ANTIQUITY

Professor John Oksanish, Department of Classical Languages

This course examines science and technology in ancient Greece and Rome: what were its limits, and what was its social and cultural role? To answer these questions, we will read the words of the architects, doctors, generals, geographers, and scientists who lived and died over two millennia ago. For decades, scholars believed that the Greeks and Romans failed to apply their scientific knowledge largely for social reasons: in a slave-based society, there is little need to build work-saving machines. However, as modern imaging technology has helped to recover ancient scientific works that were once thought lost; we can begin to think differently about the sophistication of ancient science. Finally, the course poses a provocative question about the role of science and the so-called STEM fields in our own society: are we even modern?

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Tribble A302

Fall 2014

CRN: 89751

GREAT AMERICAN SPEECHES OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Professor John Llewellyn, Department of Communication

Public speeches are monuments to history and precursors of societal change. This class will read, closely examine and discuss a portion of the one hundred most significant American speeches of the 20th century. From the speech that American scholars of rhetoric voted the century's most significant – Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" address – to less well known addresses, the class will explore the intersection of history, rhetoric and eloquence. Several books on presidential speech writing will also be read and discussed.

WF 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Carswell 005

Fall 2014

CRN: 90868

COMMUNICATION, CULTURE AND SOUTH ASIA

Professor Ananda Mitra, Department of Communication

This course takes a critical look at the history, culture, politics and geography of South Asia with the goal of understanding how the people from that part of the world have an influence on global issues and how the cultures of South Asia are influenced by the process of globalization. The course requires occasional Sunday afternoon viewing of Bollywood movies.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Carswell 305

Fall 2014

CRN: 86851

THE LOOKING-GLASS SELF: EXPLORING COMMUNICATION & IDENTITY

Professor Dee Oseroff-Varnell, Department of Communication

What is identity? Is it stable, or does it develop and change over time? What is communication? How does communication relate to identity? In this class we will examine these basic questions by starting with a variety of readings to build a framework from which to discuss identity construction and communication. Through reading, discussing, reflecting, and writing, students will examine communication factors that contribute to and result from a variety of planned and unplanned turning points in individuals' lives.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Carswell 302

Fall 2014

CRN: 86853

CREATIVITY ACROSS THE LIFESPAN AND SOCIETY

Professor Samuel T. Gladding, Department of Counseling

Creativity is prevalent in all societies and at different ages and stages of life. It is found in the arts, business, politics, athletics, science, and in everyday life. It can bring new and useful ways of working in the world as well as a different and positive perspective on life. Creativity changes life and at its best improves life. This seminar will examine the research literature on ways creativity is used in different domains and what it can contribute to individuals and society over the lifespan. It will also touch on the dark side of creativity.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Carswell 208

Fall 2014

CRN: 90764

NATURAL AND UNNATURAL DISASTERS IN MODERN JAPANESE LITERATURE AND FILM

Professor Nicholas Albertson, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

The ongoing nuclear meltdown in Fukushima following the 2011 earthquake and tsunami is the latest episode in Japan's modern history of horrific natural and unnatural disasters. In this course, we will study how writers and filmmakers make art out of such disasters, from autobiographical fiction by atomic bomb survivors to a documentary account of industrial mercury poisoning, and from Godzilla to Studio Ghibli. Meanwhile, we will interrogate concepts of Japan's supposed balance of nature-loving tradition and modern technotopia. In doing so, we will challenge distinctions between Japan and the world, nature and culture, disaster and routine, and art and politics.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Carswell 14

Fall 2014

CRN: 90780

CRN: 90782

GLOBALIZATION, EDUCATION, AND TECHNOLOGY

Professor Ann Cunningham, Department of Education

Students in this seminar will explore how globalization impacts education in the US and around the world. Topics will address the role of technology, economic growth, and changes in perspectives on what "education" means in a globalized 21st century world. Examples from traditional and non-traditional education programs from around the world will be shared and discussed, in particular Finland, China, New Zealand, and the US. Students will be asked to deeply examine their own educational experiences against models in other countries, evaluate the substance of the models, and contemplate what type of educational opportunities and experiences they feel will be relevant to their children and grandchildren.

TR 8:00 – 9:15 am

Tribble B216

Fall 2014

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Tribble B216

Fall 2014

CRN: 91781

UNCERTAINTY

Professor Dean Franco, Department of English

This first year seminar will explore uncertainty as a physical, ontological, ethical, and political phenomenon. The assigned readings, films, and class discussions will have two primary aims: first, to discover the nature of uncertainty in its many forms, and second, to consider how we live with uncertainty. By "live with," the instructor means, of course, how we deny, ignore, explore, reimagine, or decide in the face of uncertainty.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble A201

Fall 2014

CRN: 90834

DECONSTRUCTING BEYONCÉ

Professor Casey Wasserman, Department of English

With the release of her self-titled visual album in December of 2013, Beyoncé changed the face of popular music overnight. This course will examine the connection between Beyoncé's construction of personal mythology in conjunction with the cultural critique present in the songs and videos on this most recent album. Students will engage in debates concerning explicit sexuality, the ethics of sampling, the history of child stars and entertainers, body image, power and privacy, feminism, domestic violence, and the appropriation of cultural memory among other issues.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Tribble A303

Fall 2014

CRN: 90758

IN COLD BLOOD: EXAMINING THE PSYCHOPATH IN LITERATURE, FILM, AND TELEVISION

Professor Molly Knight, Department of German and Russian

In this course, we will investigate representations of the psychopath – a person who feels no remorse and manipulates others, often to violent ends – in American and European literature, film, and television, from the origins of the term in nineteenth-century Germany to our contemporary American obsession with onscreen serial killers like Hannibal Lecter and Dexter Morgan. Why is Western culture so fascinated by psychopathy, and how is this mental disorder employed metaphorically in fiction and popular culture?

TR 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Greene 340

Fall 2014

CRN: 86879

CRN: 86883

THE ROAD TO CIVIL WAR

Professor Paul Escott, Department of History

The Civil War was the bloodiest and most destructive war in our nation's history. Why did a proud and growing democracy descend into fratricidal warfare? Was the problem "blundering politicians," extremist reformers, or aggressive slaveholders? This seminar will probe the dynamics of the sectional conflict with attention to numerous primary sources.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Tribble A104

Fall 2014

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Tribble B116

Fall 2014

CRN: 90735

THE GREAT WAR AND THE SHAPING OF THE MODERN WORLD

Professor Charles S. Thomas, Department of History

This course examines the First World War in its broader context. The seminar will of necessity devote attention to the military course of the war, but will concentrate more heavily on its diplomatic origins, its effect on the social and economic circumstances of belligerent nations, the reactions of cultural and literary figures to the experience of war, the effect of the war on the lives of ordinary Europeans and non-Europeans, and the long shadow that the war cast over the rest of the twentieth century. The course abounds in critical issues that require critical thinking and analysis of arguments. Students will prepare three individual position papers for classroom discussion and, in consultation with the professor, will prepare a ten to twelve page research paper on a topic of their choosing.

MWF 9:00 – 9:50 am

Tribble A104

Fall 2014

CRN: 89875

FILM & JUSTICE: CINEMATIC PORTRAYALS OF JUSTICE IN AMERICAN HISTORY

Professor Ken Zick, Department of History

This seminar will examine how the idea of justice has been portrayed by filmmakers in exploring seminal events, groups, and people in American history by comparing popular cinematic renditions with their actual history. After an initial examination of philosophical conceptions of justice and the American “justice narrative,” the seminar will examine eleven movies depicting significant moments in American history and their actual history. Films examined will include: *The Crucible*, *Amistad*, *Birth of a Nation*, *Inherit the Wind*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Judgment at Nuremberg*, *Heaven’s Fall*, *Snow Falling on Cedars*, *A Civil Action*, *Guilty by Suspicion*, and *All the President’s Men*. Through the study of the history surrounding these historical dramas, this seminar will prompt discussions of the paradoxes revealed in the American “justice narrative” as well as stimulate engagement with issues of religious freedom, gender and racial equality, academic freedom, the meaning of democracy, “due process,” economic and social justice, and environmental action.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

South Hall

Fall 2014

CRN: 91907

HUMANS AND THE ENVIRONMENT IN FILM, MEDIA & LITERATURE

Professor David Phillips, Department of Humanities

This course is designed to provide class members with a broad overview of the way in which the environment and our relationships to the environment are depicted in film and media. How can we classify these depictions? To what extent are they utopian or dystopian? What can we learn about ourselves and how we view ourselves in relation to our environments? What can we learn from local communities about the nature of these relationships and the role humans tend to play in mediating environment?

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Greene 340

Fall 2014

CRN: 86880

LITERATURE AND ETHICS

Professor Thomas O. Phillips, Humanities Program

Participants will read from a range of mostly fiction works to consider how we establish ethical values for living what constitutes a good life. The syllabus includes Aristotle (from Ethics), The Pilgrim's Progress (Bunyan), The Merchant of Venice (Shakespeare), The Plague (Camus), Wise Blood (O'Connor), and Never Let Me Go (Ishiguro); additional brief prose non-fiction selections; and two film adaptations of this material. Three medium length papers serve companion to a final creative project, the last an oral presentation on a contemporary ethical issue.

TR 12:00 – 1:15 pm

South Hall

Fall 2014

CRN: 90453

EXPERIENCING THE FINE ARTS

Professor Louis Goldstein, Department of Music

This interdisciplinary seminar will explore the questions: Why are there different arts? How do the various fine arts differ in their ability to communicate emotions and thoughts? Experiences at live events and art shows will provide the focus for class discussions. Written assignments will include personal reactions, traditional discourse, and experimental prose and poetry. We will explore artistic expressions in music, theater, literature, cinema, the plastic arts, asking how thoughts and feelings are translated into communicable forms of expression. Prerequisite: an open mind.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

SFAC M308

Fall 2014

CRN: 91719

WAGNER'S RING GODS, TOLKIEN AND STAR WARS

Professor David Levy, Department of Music

Did you ever wonder where Tolkien got his idea for an all-powerful ring? This seminar will explore one of the great epics of Western culture. Conceived as a "Prelude and Three Days," the four operas that comprise Richard Wagner's Ring cycle (Das Rheingold, Die Walküre, Siegfried, and Götterdämmerung) adapt strands from medieval German, Norse, and Icelandic mythology into a compelling story of power, greed, treachery, love, and redemption that speaks just as powerfully to modern sensibilities as it did to its first audience in 1876. Controversial from the start, the Ring has had a profound influence on the subsequent development of art, music, philosophy, politics, and popular culture. The seminar will explore this richly-textured work through study of its text (in translation), and audio and video recordings. Reading knowledge of music or German is not required. Additional readings will reflect cross-disciplinary approaches to the work, and will include, among others, *The Nibelungenlied*, *The Saga of the Volsungs*, as well as Tolkien's saga in both its written and film versions.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

SFAC M308

Fall 2014

CRN: 91720

MOVIES AND METAPHYSICS

Professor Stavroula Glezakos, Department of Philosophy

In this seminar, we will examine some central issues in metaphysics, including: the appearance-reality distinction, free will, personal identity, and the nature of love. We will read classic and contemporary writings by philosophers, as well as view movies, in which these and other philosophical themes are explored.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Tribble A307

Fall 2014

CRN: 90736

POWER AND THE US ELECTRICAL GRID

Professor Jack Dostal, Department of Physics

The U.S. electrical grid harnesses the energy output of many different sources, (coal, hydro, nuclear, wind, solar, etc.) and delivers electrical power to the nation in real time. A functional, robust system for delivery of electrical power is critical to our daily lives; without it our lives would be turned upside down. Grid failure could occur due to general system failure, natural events, terrorism, or even a simple inability to meet increasing demand.

Students in this seminar will learn about the history and nature of our power grid and some of its underlying physics, study different types of power generation that tie into the grid, investigate alternative systems in other countries, and engage in discussion and writing about issues relevant to the present day and to the future of such systems.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Olin 102

Fall 2014

CRN: 89874

BIOBOOK, CHEMBOOK, AND PHYSBOOK: TEACHING SCIENCE WITHOUT TEXTBOOKS

Professor Jed Macosko, Department of Physics

Though science classrooms have been transformed by digital resources, science textbooks have fallen behind. Publishers move words and images to digital media and add movies and electronic quizzes, but students have been slow to adopt e-texts for good reason: they are no better than conventional books. In response, Wake Forest University faculty in biology, physics, and education have developed new learning platforms—PhysBook and BioBook. These learner-oriented platforms enable students to customize their learning experience. In this First Year Seminar we will be exploring the current state of PhysBook and BioBook and finding ways to improve them. As a class, we will discuss how people learn and how new electronic tools can best be harnessed to increase our learning.

TR 9:1 – 10:30 am

Olin 102

Fall 2014

CRN: 90825

GEOPOLITICS OF JAMES BOND

Professor Thomas Brister, Department of Politics and International Affairs

This seminar examines the evolutions of post-war international politics through the lens of the 'spy film' genre as a way of educating students to the global context in which world politics evolves. The course will address such issues as Cold War rivalry, the era of détente, emerging non-traditional security threats like terrorism, the drug trade, proliferations of weapons of mass destruction, the role of intelligence agencies, and 'new enemies' in the post-Cold War era. More serious readings will provide the background for assessing and understanding reality versus fantasy in the popular cultural representations of global politics.

MWF 1:00 – 1:50 pm

Kirby B04

Fall 2014

CRN: 90761

THE COLD WAR AND VIETNAM

Professor Matthew Cullinan, Department of Politics and International Affairs

The Vietnam War profoundly influenced American politics, culture, foreign policy and military strategy from the 1960s on. For many, the war has been viewed as a "fools-errand." Yet, the lead up to American intervention can be understood best when situated clearly within the stream of United States policy during the period. Vietnam was not so much an anomaly as it was the logical end of a Cold War policy of containment. With an exploration of the Cold War context, we can set a framework for understanding Vietnam. We will delve into the military, diplomatic, policy, political and social environments that shaped the war in Vietnam. Our goal is to come to an understanding of how a small Southeast Asian country became the focal point for a conflict whose symbolism and legacy, along with the reality of the war on the ground, had such a longstanding impact on the United States.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Kirby B01B

Fall 2014

CRN: 90763

CHALLENGES TO THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY

Professor Yomi Durotoye, Department of Politics and International Affairs

This seminar will provide students with the ability to view and analyze global issues from a variety of methodological perspectives. We will explore the ways by which we identify, define, describe and explain all sorts of differences and the mechanisms by which people try to negotiate their differences in the world at large. We will use these insights to explore familiar global issues such as ethnicity and racism, gender, globalization and economic inequality, the environment, population growth and migration, human rights, and international security.

W 3:30 – 6:00 pm

Kirby B01B

Fall 2014

CRN: 8923

GANDHI

Professor Charles H. Kennedy, Department of Politics and International Affairs

This seminar explores in detail the life, teachings and method of nonviolent coercion (satyagraha) practiced and advocated by Mohandas K. Gandhi. The course starts with a detailed exploration of interpretations of Gandhi's life including Stanley Wolpert's biography *Gandhi's Passion*. It also explores Gandhi's religious thought, the psychological underpinnings of that thought, and throughout focuses on his role as political activist. Students will also be assigned materials from Gandhi's own voluminous writings found in his *Autobiography*, *Hind Swaraj*, and in Louis Fischer's edited volume. Armed with this background students will be directed into at least one of the following directions: 1) towards a more detailed treatment of one of the themes mentioned above; 2) towards an applied version of the Gandhian method as it applies to later proponents of nonviolent coercion (e.g., Martin Luther King); and/or 3) towards the organization of an original, albeit usually mock, satyagraha campaign (group project) directed at a student-defined local target. In any case, the findings of the student's research or activist experience will then be shared with the other seminar participants.

T 3:30 – 6:00 pm

Kirby B01B

Fall 2014

CRN: 90826

WE CAN, BUT SHOULD WE?

ETHICAL QUESTIONS AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Professor Wayne Pratt, Department of Psychology

Although bioethics is currently receiving well-deserved attention, much of the popular discourse often reduces to emotional diatribe, rather than objective ethical dialogue. This course will direct the student to critically examine ethical issues in science, from the treatment of humans and animals in research to what the ethical implications of cloning may be. Coursework will emphasize in-class discussions and the development of written argument on contemporary issues at the boundary between contemporary science and ethical thought.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Greene 312

Fall 2014

CRN: 90790

THE NATURE OF GENIUS

Professor Cecilia Solano, Department of Psychology

The popular image of genius usually paints them as either benign persons blessed with almost magical cognitive abilities (Einstein) or as people with major personality difficulties and an overwhelming ambition to dominate the world (Dr. Evil). In both cases, the person is seen as being "apart" from the rest of humanity. This course is designed to examine popular images and to consider as well the nature of "true" genius.

MWF 10:00 – 10:50 am

Greene 310

Fall 2014

CRN: 86861

CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES ON WAR & PEACE

Professor Earl Crow, Department of Religion

The study of Christian Perspectives on War and Peace will include a survey of attitudes beginning with the early post-New Testament church, through the era of Constantine, the Middle Ages crusades, to modern Christian thought. Attention will be given to divergent views: Holy Wars, The Concept of Just Wars, and Christian Pacifism. Selected works by a wide-range of theologians and philosophers will be studied.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Wingate 209

Fall 2014

CRN: 89750

CONTEMPLATIVE TRADITIONS

Professor Ulrike Wiethaus, Department of Religion

This First Year Seminar focuses on the ways that different cultures and religious traditions have developed contemplative practices throughout history. Special emphasis will be placed on the healing aspects of contemplation (personal, social, environmental), its potential for productive inter-religious dialogue, and its role in building sustainable community activism.

MW 2:00 - 3:15 pm

Wingate 210

Fall 2014

CRN: 90759

“ARE YOU WHAT YOU EAT? DEFINING OURSELVES THROUGH FOOD IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD”

Professor Alison Atkins, Department of Romance Languages

The study of food—what we do or do not eat as well as how, when, where and with whom we eat—is inexorably linked to anthropological, cultural, social, political, and economic concerns and therefore fundamentally interdisciplinary. Focusing on sources from a variety of disciplines, this course will consider current issues and debates within the field of food studies in order to examine how we use food to define who we are both individually and collectively, as well as to explore the inherent complexities in doing so in an increasingly global world.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Greene 237

Fall 2014

CRN: 86863

WHO AM I IN THE WORLD? PERSPECTIVES FROM AFRICA, THE CARIBBEAN, THE MIDDLE EAST IN PROSE AND FILM

Professor Sally Barbour, Department of Romance Languages

In the process of moving from the world of childhood through the challenges and surprises of adolescence to maturity, we begin to shape and understand who we are as cultural beings in a world that is also changing. In this seminar, we will discuss the ways selected writers and filmmakers present this process through the lives of young protagonists from, among other locations, Guinea, Chad, Guadeloupe, Martinique, North Africa, and Iran.

TR 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Greene 512

Fall 2014

CRN: 86864

WHO'S ON TOP? GENDER TO POWER IN HISPANIC DICTATOR NARRATIVE

Professor Patricia Swier, Department of Romance Languages

In this seminar, students will read literary works and critical essays dealing with dictatorships in the Hispanic world beginning from the nineteenth century to the present. Through selected literary readings and film, we will explore the use of gender and its relationship to power, focusing on the strategic ways in which the writers promote a politics of change in their respective nations. In this way students will gain deeper understandings of the psychological manifestations of the national body during dictatorships that are not so easily expressed through historical texts.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Greene 514

Fall 2014

CRN: 91780

THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD: REVISITING A RAISIN IN THE SUN

Professor J.K. Curry, Department of Theatre and Dance

With her play *A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry in 1959 became the first black woman to have a play produced on Broadway. The realistic family drama was informed by Hansberry's own family history, integrating a previously all-white neighborhood. In recent years, many playwrights interested in exploring issues of race and class in contemporary American society have written plays which can be viewed as responses to *A Raisin in the Sun*. In this FYS, we will examine *A Raisin in the Sun* and several dramatic responses to *Raisin*, including *Clybourne Park*, which will be part of the WFU theatre season.

MW 12:30 – 1:45 pm

SFAC 214

Fall 2014

CRN: 91721

MIND YOUR MANNERS

Professor Leah Roy, Department of Theatre and Dance

"Do not hunt for fleas on your arms or bosom in front of the patron or in front of the servants in the hall..." Advice on manners is certainly nothing new, but where do manners come from in the first place? What are the cultural assumptions that give rise to the etiquette of daily life? Drawing on theatre's rich tradition of comedy of manners, *Mind Your Manners* will have students doing exactly that: turning an inquisitive mind to the manners by which we express, or rebel against, our culture.

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WF 9:30 – 10:45 am

Luter C006

Fall 2014

CRN: 91771

FRAMED: THE MOVING BODY ON SCREEN

Professor Christina Soriano, Department of Theatre and Dance

FRAMED: Looking at the Moving Body on Screen will examine the various ways a moving (and often dancing) body is positioned in many different types of films and videos. Topics that will be raised both orally and in written work include: how does the moving body communicate differently on screen vs. in a live performance? How/why is the framed, moving body sometimes deconstructed in our view? What is voyeurism? How does the camera have a personality? Within the worlds of silent films featuring subjects like Charlie Chaplin, to the movie musical with stars like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, to contemporary Hollywood films, to music videos, to dances made specifically for the camera, this course will decode, decipher and evaluate the power of the moving body on screen.

MWF 1:00 – 1:50 pm

SFAC 09

Fall 2014