

## **FIRST YEAR SEMINARS SPRING 2016**

CRN: 18944

### **NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM**

Professor Andrew Gurstelle, Department of Anthropology

What happens when the museum closes its doors for the night—what really happens behind the scenes? This course introduces students to the inner workings of museums through an exploration of their histories, collections, exhibitions, and roles in society. Students learn by doing—getting to know the joys and challenges of museum work by creating a real exhibit to be installed at the Wake Forest University Museum of Anthropology.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Carswell 018

Spring 2016

CRN: 14928

### **THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE HOME**

Professor Verity Whalen, Department of Anthropology

The home is a near universal foundation of human societies, yet it varies immensely in space and time. Homes can be the dwellings of contemporary American nuclear families, the compounds of extended families, the sprawling estates of royals, or the residences of entire religious communities. Most importantly, homes are the result of an immense number of factors - they shape and reflect our identities, culture, social relationships, political aspirations, and religious affiliations. In this course, we examine what the home is and how homes come to be, ultimately turning our critical gaze to our own homes.

TR 9:30-10:45 am

Carswell 019

Spring 2016

CRN: 16856

### **ARTISTS AND MARKETS**

Professor Bernadine Barnes, Department of Art

While we naturally think of visual artists as the epitome of creativity, we do not often think of them as successful entrepreneurs—people who not only had innovative ideas, but who created new ways to put their ideas before the public in a meaningful way. We seem to prefer to think of artists as misunderstood geniuses who never sold a thing (e.g. Van Gogh). In fact, even within the artistic community, appealing to a buyer is seen as a compromise of artistic integrity—literally and figuratively “selling out.” In this First Year Seminar, we will first explore some of these stereotypes, along with some of the notions of creativity developed from the Renaissance to the nineteenth century. We will then concentrate on particular artists who found ways to let their ideas and inventions be known to a broader public, without compromising their creative visions.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Scales 103

Spring 2016

CRN: 14930

**SCIENCE, NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

Professor Robert Browne, Department of Biology

“Science, Nature and the Environment” focuses on current environmental challenges.

Background readings, writing assignments and debates are organized around five themes: Preservation versus conservation, Sustainable development, Human population and food, Biological resources, and Energy.

TR 3:30 – 4:45 pm

Winston 234

Spring 2016

CRN: 20000

**NATURE & WILDERNESS – EDEN OR JUNGLE?**

Professor Kathy Kron, Department of Biology

This seminar explores our ideas and values of nature. Is “Nature red in tooth and claw”? Is it “a jungle out there”? Or is “Mother Nature” or “Gaia” the beneficent master of the biosphere? We will use information from a variety of resources to investigate historical and modern viewpoints about the natural world from personal, cultural and economic perspectives. Selected readings from fiction, non-fiction, and the scientific literature will be used in addition to information from art, music, and film to better understand how we think about nature and its value in today’s world.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Winston 233

Spring 2016

CRN: 16933

**ANALYTICAL METHODS OF SHERLOCK HOLMES**

Professor Brad Jones, Department of Chemistry

The novels and short stories written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle will be used as a guide for the development of the scientific skills of observation, deduction and reporting. Holmes' analytical method and Dr. Watson's flair for the report will be used as models for the experimentalist's laboratory notebook. Several of Holmes' techniques will be reproduced as group experiments: deductions from a common object, the identification of pipe tobaccos, and the preparation of a seven percent solution, to name a few. Students will submit anonymously their own short story written in Doyle's style, and these will be critically analyzed in a group setting.

TR 5:00 – 6:15 pm

Salem 210

Spring 2016

CRN: 14921

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

Professor T. H. M. 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 a number

of "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 has no requirements of prior knowledge, 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 DeTamble Auditorium/Tribble A110 Spring 2016

DeTamble Auditorium/Tribble A110

Spring 2016

CRN: 20229

# TRAGIC LOVE STORIES, ANCIENT & MODERN

Professor Brian Warren, Department of Classical Languages

Two civilizations in particular have shaped our understanding of political life and civic responsibility in deep and profound ways: Greece and Rome. We are heavily indebted to the ancient world for our ideas about not only the structure and operation of government but also what it means for the individual to be citizen and to act like one. This course will aid students in returning to the intellectual roots of our beliefs about citizenship. We will also investigate how classical history and literature influenced modern Western political thought, especially in the late medieval and early modern periods.

Tribble A309

Spring 2016

CRN: 21226

## GREAT AMERICAN SPEECHES

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 Spring 2016

Carswell 005

Spring 2016

CRN: 19989

## **THE LOOKING-GLASS SELF: EXPLORING COMMUNICATION AND IDENTITY**

Lecturer 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.

Carswell 107

Spring 2016

CRN: 21936

**THRIVE: CREATING A LIFE OF POSITIVE WELL-BEING**

Professor Allison Forti, Department of Counseling

What makes people happy? Why do some people seem to thrive in life despite their challenging circumstances? This seminar course will seek to answer those questions and more, as students are introduced to the exciting world of strength-based wellness and positive psychology. Students will learn about relevant strength-based concepts including positive emotions, mindfulness, resilience, post-traumatic growth, optimism, positive health, among others. This course will offer the opportunity to engage in lively debate (e.g., Can money buy happiness?) and transformative experiences that, hopefully, will increase students' ability to thrive at Wake Forest University and beyond.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Tribble A110

Spring 2016

CRN: 21941

**CREATIVITY ACROSS THE LIFESPAN AND SOCIETY**

Professor Sam 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.

MW 9:30 – 10:45 am

Carswell 208

Spring 2016

CRN: 16935

**QUANTUM CHANGE: UNDERSTANDING THE PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION PHENOMENON**

Professor Mark Scholl, Department of Counseling

Does the “self” have a true center? What conditions and principles underlie quantum change, as opposed to change that is linear? Breaking bad, as opposed to breaking good? This seminar focuses on the principles and theories of counseling and psychology underlying processes of quantum change. We will examine cases of quantum change from real life and in fiction, in writings and in movies. Students will design and implement a personal change plan.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Carswell 301

Spring 2016

CRN: 15996

**JOURNALS AS LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND PERSONAL REFLECTION**

Professor Jennifer Burg, Department of Computer Science

In this seminar, students will read excerpts from literary, scientific, artistic, and meditative journals – e.g., the journals of Alan Turing, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, George Eliot, Eugène Delacroix, Albert Einstein, Marie Curie, Kurt Cobain, C. S. Lewis, Donald Peattie, Pope Francis, Charles Darwin, Frederick Douglass, Louis Armstrong, Thomas Merton, and Samuel Pepys. Students will do a close reading and analytic discussion of the journal entries they read, and they will write essays that reflect upon the ideas they encounter. They will also discuss the different forms and purposes of journals, consider the value of hand-written journals in various genres, and write journal entries of their own in the manner of the journalists they are reading.

MWF 2:00 – 2:50 pm

Manchester 017

Spring 2016

CRN: 17707

**ENCOUNTERING THE OTHER: CULTURAL CONTACT, CONFLICT, AND CONFLUENCE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE WEST**

Professor Yaohua Shi, Department of East Asian Languages and Culture

This is an interdisciplinary course drawing on history, literature, film, and art in order to examine the cultural contact, conflict, and confluence between China and the West. We will focus on key moments in the often troubled relations between the Celestial Kingdom and the West and explore the imaginings and misapprehensions of the Other in philosophical treatises, travel diaries, and pseudo-scientific articles and recent cross-cultural theoretical works by Chinese and Western writers. We will investigate the possibility of cultural confluence in the age of globalization through a reassessment of the career of Giuseppe Castiglione, who served under Qianlong Emperor in the 18th century.

WF 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Carswell 305

Spring 2016

CRN: 19995

CRN: 20001

**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 9:30 – 10:45 am  
TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Tribble B216  
Tribble A206

Spring 2015  
Spring 2015

CRN: 19996

CRN: 21558

**FAITH AND DOUBT**

Professor Melissa Jenkins, Department of English

One of the most famous poems of the Victorian age, Alfred Tennyson's *In Memoriam*, was a constant presence on the bedside table of Queen Victoria, as she mourned the death of her husband. In spite of her confidence that the poem offered a consoling vision of life after death – "Next to the Bible, *In Memoriam* is my comfort," she once said – other readers saw a poet who saw more darkness than light. When asked to describe the appeal of Alfred Tennyson's long elegiac poem *In Memoriam* to an increasingly secular age, poet T.S. Eliot wrote, "It is not religious because of the quality of its faith, but because of the quality of its doubt."

This seminar will engage with the relationship between faith and doubt in film, prose (fiction and creative non-fiction), poetry, drama, and in our own lives and communities. Our goal is to engage in meaningful conversations and respectful debates about the role faith - and doubt - can play in shaping a shared global future.

MWF 11:00 – 11:50 am

MWF 12:00 – 12:50 pm

Tribble A202

Tribble A202

Spring 2016

Spring 2016

CRN: 19985

**THEORIES OF PLAY, GAMES, AND DESIGNED SYSTEMS**

Professor Jimmy Butts, Department of English

Do you like to play? Game studies has become a major way of thinking critically about the world around us, and games themselves are a multi-billion dollar industry. In this seminar, we will read some game theory and look at games as cultural artifacts that speak to very real social issues including race, economic status, gender, and identity. We will write and think critically about how different games—from chess to soccer to World of Warcraft—work and what our investment is in certain forms of play as humans. And finally, we will design critical games that speak to important issues that we see at work in the world around us.

WF 2:00 – 3:15 pm

ZSR Library 427

Spring 2016

CRN: 22161

**MODERN WAKE FOREST: A LIVING HISTORY**

Professors Jenny Puckett and Marybeth Wallace, Department of English

An examination of Wake Forest history from 1827 to the present: The course will include lectures, guest speakers, archival research, site visits, and required field trips to Reynolda House Museum of American Art and the Wake Forest Birthplace Museum in Wake Forest, NC.

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Greene 514

Spring 2016

CRN: 18925

**BLUE GRASS MUSIC**

Professor Billy Hamilton, Department of German & Russian

Bluegrass music sprang from an obscure corner of Country Music right after World War II, and by now has acquired a structural and highly codified recipe for its content, now on a parallel with Rap and Dixieland, to name two other genres. How did it accomplish this? The answer will be found in (a) its Anglo-Irish- Scottish history, (b) the leadership of Bill Monroe, its inventor, and (c) the concept of self-teaching, since none of the pioneers of Bluegrass ever took music lessons!

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Greene 340

Spring 2016

CRN: 20003

**THE GREAT WAR AND THE SHAPING OF THE MODERN WORLD**

Professor Charles 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 11:00 – 11:50 am

Tribble A104

Spring 2016

CRN: 20002

**MYSTERY OF QI: TRADITIONAL CHINESE PERSPECTIVES ON MIND, BODY AND PERSONAL WELL-BEING**

Professor Qiong Zhang, Department of History

In this seminar we will investigate the mystery of Qi, the putative vital energy which constituted the core of traditional Chinese understanding of the body and stood at the source of Chinese medicine and food culture, certain literary, artistic, and religious practices, and the martial arts.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Tribble A104

Spring 2016

CRN: 21060

**MATHEMATICAL PUZZLES AND GAMES**

Professor Sarah Mason, Department of Mathematics

This is a hands-on seminar in which students will use mathematical structures to solve puzzles and play games with the underlying goal of improving critical thinking and logical reasoning skills. Students will work together to develop problem-solving strategies that are applicable to many areas of life such as financial planning, collaborations, leadership, and negotiations. This course will also include an outreach component designed to help foster an excitement and enthusiasm among local high school students for the playful, creative, and strategic aspects of mathematics

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Manchester 124

Spring 2016

CRN: 19993

**THE MATHEMATICS OF SPORTS RANKINGS**

Professor Jason Parsley, Department of Mathematics

What's the best way to rank college basketball teams? Or soccer forwards? Or movies? This seminar focuses on the mathematical methods used in ranking. (Finally, your 2016 NCAA basketball bracket will be theoretically based!) In the term project for this seminar, you will apply the most appropriate ranking to a new, current dataset and present your findings at a sports analytics conference.

MWF 9:00 – 9:50 am

Manchester 124

Spring 2016

CRN: 18927

**THE MUSICAL THEATER OF STEPHEN SONDHEIM**

Professor David Hagy, Department of Music

Read and explore Stephen Sondheim's contributions to the Broadway stage. Twelve of his shows will be watched, read, listened to and examined with regard to tradition, creativity, and the ever-changing theatrical expectations of the critics and the public. The course will compare his goals, methods of working and achievements up to this point to those of other major figures of the Broadway musical theater stage. Musical and theatrical background not required but encouraged.

MWF 2:00 – 2:50 pm

SFAC M308

Spring 2016

CRN: 16930

**PHILOSOPHY OF WAR**

Professor Clark Thompson, Department of Philosophy

Philosophy of War is a study of the implications of moral theory for the determination of when war is morally permissible and of how war is to be conducted if it is to be waged in a morally acceptable way. We shall examine whether just war theory can offer acceptable guidance in making these determinations. We shall ask whether the provisions of international law governing warfare, as well as the rules of warfare adopted by the military forces of the United States, are morally acceptable, and whether various military actions (e.g., the bombing of cities to weaken civilian morale) violate such provisions and rules.

MW 5:00 – 6:15 pm

Tribble A201

Spring 2015

CRN: 19871

**DEBATING CAPITALISM**

Professor David Coates, Department of Politics and International Affairs

An introduction to some of the core debates on the nature, desirability and potential of capitalism. Students will be introduced to competing definitions of capitalism, to competing claims about the desirability and strengths of various models of capitalism, and to competing claims about the effects of those models on different societies, social groups and the global environment.

MW 12:00 – 1:15 pm

Kirby B104

Spring 2016

CRN: 19886

**THE BOUNDARIES OF AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP**

Professor Michael Pisapia, Department of Politics and International Affairs

This seminar examines the inclusion and exclusion of different social groups into full citizenship and political membership in the United States, and the changing contours of American national identity as a result of territorial expansion, domestic and international conflicts, immigration policy and social movements, from the Founding period to the present.

MW 2:00 – 3:15 pm

Kirby B010B

Spring 2016

CRN: 19988

**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 310

Spring 2016

CRN: 14919

**LIFE PERSPECTIVES**

Professor Eric Stone, Department of Psychology

The purpose of this course is to investigate various thoughts, research, and philosophies on how we can best live our lives. To this end, we will consider both traditional Western ideas as well as a range of less traditional perspectives (such as Eastern religions). To the extent possible, the focus will not be on abstract concepts, such as the “meaning of life,” but instead on more tangible recommendations on how to live. In so doing, the hope is that we can apply these ideas to how we approach our own lives, and get a better sense of how we fit into the world in which we live.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Greene 312

Spring 2016

CRN: 18968

CRN: 16938

**“I AM NOT A FEMINIST, BUT...”**

Professor Tanisha Ramachandran, Department of Religion

By exploring the convergences, gaps, and tensions in different feminist theories and movements, students will learn to think critically about, and to historically and culturally contextualize, ideas about sex, gender, race, religion, and class. While this class is not exclusively about social media, it will examine how feminism and feminists employ and are denigrated through social media such as Twitter, Yik Yak, and Facebook.

TR 9:30 – 10:45 am

Wingate 314

Spring 2016

TR 11:00 – 12:15 pm

Wingate 314

Spring 2016

CRN: 19998

**TALES OF MYSTERY AND IMAGINATION**

Professor Elizabeth Anthony, Department of Romance Languages

Through analyses and discussion of selected tales of mystery and imagination this seminar seeks to challenge our assumptions and our modes of perception. The texts under consideration invite us to probe beyond perceived events. They require us to become careful and attentive readers as we assume the role of detective, judge, or psychoanalyst. We will consider the choices authors make when constructing tales of mad scientists, scorned lovers, and supernatural events. Reading will include works by Robert Louis Stevenson, HG Wells, Edgar Allan Poe, Prosper Mérimée and Steven Millhauser. Films include works by Hitchcock, Wilder, and Salvatores.

TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm

Greene 320

Spring 2016

CRN: 19994

**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.

MWF 11:00 – 11:50 am

Manchester 229

Spring 2016

CRN: 19997

**JAZZ DANCE –YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW**

Professor Nina Lucas, Department of Theatre and Dance

This course takes a look at the historical development of Social and Vernacular dance in American and the development of Jazz techniques and styles during the 20th Century. Focus will be placed on founders and innovators of jazz techniques, choreographer and directors and how Jazz reflects American culture, traditions, themes and experiences.

WF 11:00 – 12:15 pm

SFAC 102

Spring 2016

CRN: 199999

**BORDER CROSSING: CREATIVITY IN THE MIX AND IN THE MARGINS**

Professor Lynn Book, Department of Theatre and Dance

This course is for adventurers, interlopers, thieves and the just plain curious. Venture into unknown and sometimes unruly territories on the frontiers of creativity and entrepreneurship. Here we will chart the incredible cross-fertilizations that have occurred over the last several years between and betwixt fields, ideas and cultures. We will stake out our research from the perspective of the 'Big Four' of the Arts: Theatre, Dance, Visual Arts and Music learning how they continue to dramatically metamorphose, yielding new forms such as performance art and net art. Lastly, we will examine what creative and entrepreneurial behaviors have in common and how other disciplines such as science and politics have infiltrated or influenced the arts and vice versa.

Thursday 1:00 – 3:30 pm

SFAC 134

Spring 2016

CRN: 20004

**MEET ME AT THE FAIR**

Professors Lisa Blee (Department of History), Christa Colyer (Department of Chemistry), Louis Goldstein (Department of Music), Katie Lack (Department of Biology), Ali Sakkal (Department of Education), Ryan Shirey (Department of English)

Meet Me at the Fair: What do baby incubators, Ferris wheels and smoking robots have in common? They were all introduced at World's Fairs! From Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show to the Eiffel Tower, World's Fairs have been opportunities for nations to represent their pasts and imagine potential futures. In this interdisciplinary course (team-taught by seven faculty members), students will investigate the cultural relevance of World's Fairs and design their own future fairs.

MWF 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Tribble C316

Spring 2016