

Spring 2015 ISEM 101 Integrated Seminar Descriptions

Musical Rhythms of the World – Barry Bilderback

Section 1 – TR 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

This course explores the ways that musical rhythm, communication, and performance embody and reflect social and cultural beliefs.

Gender in the U.S. – Maggie Rehm

Section 9 – TR 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Students learn how gender shapes communities, identities, and interpersonal relationships, focusing on the shifting ways gender has been performed and policed in the United States at different points in the country's history.

Native American Survivance – Jan Johnson

Section 3 – TR 9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

This seminar gives you the opportunity to learn about and meet Native American people of this landscape and how they are connected to it. We'll explore how Indian tribes have survived policies meant to destroy them, and are now gaining strength politically and culturally.

World Music in Society – Javier Rodriguez

Section 26 – TR 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

This course introduces music and dance cultures outside the Western art and popular music traditions. Students will discover the richness and diversity of some of the world's musical cultures, and develop ways for further exploring and appreciating different cultures through music.

New Wild West – Steve Yoder

Section 29 – TR 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

The New Wild West examines current issues in the "New West" such as: water, public lands, wolf recovery, socio-cultural transitions, people and peopling of the West (contemporarily and historically), wilderness, endangered species, tourism, energy, forest health, grazing, etc. This is accomplished using the lenses of history, anthropology, sociology, psychology, political science, literature, film, and environmental science. The course is organized to support students in developing a basic understanding of many controversial environmental issues and indigenous rights conceptualization, integrating their own well-informed knowledge base on humans and the environment in the American West.

Sports and American Society

Section 30 – TR 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 pm – Steve Yoder

Section 31 – MWF 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. – Sharon Stoll)

Students explore the central role of sports in America through ethics, sociology, history, literature, film, political science, physical education, and cultural studies.

Got Privilege? – Shannon McGowan

Section 32 – TR 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Section 33 – TR 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

This course will explore the characteristics and privileges associated with the dominant culture in America. We will analyze how these privileges are maintained despite the growing diversity of our population and what it means to be a part of the dominant culture.

Impact of Conflict – Christina Cliff

Section 35 – MWF 11:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

This course will examine explanations for conflict relating to culture, norms, and identity at both the domestic and international levels.

Nightmares in Red-White-Blue, The American Dream and the Horror Film – Russell Meeuf and Benjamin James

Section 39 – TR 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. – Russ Meeuf (Honors Section)

Section 40 – TR 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. – Benjamin James

Section 41 – TR 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. – Benjamin James

Covering the history of the US horror film, this course explores the nightmarish vision of the “American Dream” offered by popular cinema. Connecting horror films to a variety of historical traumas, students will examine how cinema addresses these challenges to the dream of upward mobility, equality, and democracy.

Into the Wild – Adam Sowards

Section 45 – 9:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

Wild places are among the most meaningful and contentious places in modern America. This course explains how and why that came to be, as well as explores what that means for the future here and elsewhere.

The Creative Mind – Elizabeth Sloan

Section 56 – TR 12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Students will investigate the power of creativity in their personal and academic lives with enhanced critical thinking skills.

Jupiter, Venus & Mars – Elizabeth Sloan

Section 57 – TR 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

“Women are from Venus, Men are from Mars” has become a catch phrase that crosses multiple gendered and generational communications. Add the planet Jupiter to this swirl as a symbol of the complex mix of identities and cultures that 21st century college students encounter. The success of every relationship is based on a foundation of articulating information and embracing diversity. Students will explore resources that this “twenty-something” decade has to offer in a search to create meaningful lives, and discover some of the ways and means to accomplish these ideas. Success might be defined by ending the semester with more questions than answers.

Love and Happiness - Tom Drake

Section 62 – MWF 10:30 a.m. – 11:20 a.m.

Students will analyze the cultural forces that have shaped our current definitions of love and how loving well can help us lead happier lives.

Exploring Global Communities – Ken Faunce

Section 70 – WWW

Students will study economic, cultural, social, environmental and political exchanges on a global scale while examining the role of race, gender, sex orientation, and religion in the formation of global communities.

Origin of the Mind and How to Use It – Russell Jackson

Section 76 – TR 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

This course covers the evolutionary origins of information processing with a focus on human beings. The course material integrates the biological and environmental underpinnings of human behavior and how they affect its expression within and across human societies. The course emphasizes how cognitive and information science inform practical real life applications, especially for university students.