

FALL 2018
SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

CJUS-388-01 Deviance and Social Control

See catalog description under SOCI-339

Instructor: Travis Zimmerman

GNST-288-01 Resisting the Colonial Gaze –Hon

This course problematizes the historical and contemporary colonisation of resources, lands, cultures, and identities of global South populations through an exploration of indigenous knowledge production that seek to decolonize knowledge about and representations of those who have been framed through the colonial gaze as “other”. The course will draw on a wide range of materials from scholarship to plays to film to think through the politics of decolonization in numerous contexts.

NOTE: Pending approval for Non-Western Cultural Studies

Instructor: Jessica Scott

HIST-288-01 History of Stuff

Two of the most urgent and pressing issues facing global society in the twenty-first century are globalization and climate change. As a whole, the course posits that commodities and consumerism are essential to understanding the historical origins of these issues. To develop a better understanding of how commodities and consumerism have led to where we, as a global community, are today, this course tells the history of the commodities – or – “stuff” that have long been at the center of human civilization, such as water, food, lumber, cotton, precious metals, coal, iron, rubber, petroleum, etc. Rather than move methodically and uninterruptedly, chronologically speaking through history, the course instead utilizes a series of case-study stories to examine how desires for individual commodities have shaped societies and altered (usually in a negative way) the environment, both locally and globally.

Instructor: Jordan Kuck

RELG-188-01 Women & Religion

This course explores the lives of women in the religious traditions of Hinduism Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. It also examines issues related to patriarchy, feminism, authority, the body, freedom, violence, justice, and social change.

Instructor: Debra Dean Murphy

SOCI-288-02 Sociology of Stuff

See description under HIST-288-01 above

Instructor: Jordan Kuck

SOCI-288-02 WV History

See catalog description under HIST-239

Instructor: Katharine Antolini