

FALL 2024 SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ART-288-01 3D Design (3 credits) 8:30 TTH

Designed to introduce students to the fundamentals and technical principles of working three-dimensionally. Students will experiment with a number of construction methods and materials used to create, represent, respond to, and reflect on form in space. **Lens: AEXP Course fee \$150**

Instructor: Crystal Brown

BIOL-388-01 Ornithology (4 credits) 9:30 TTH

This course will acquaint students with the identification, systematics, life history, and adaptations for the class Aves. In lecture, students will learn about the evolutionary history of birds; characteristics that separate birds from other organisms; distributions; physiological, morphological, and behavioral adaptations of birds; and characteristics of the living orders and families of extant birds. In lab, students will learn about birds specific to North America, particularly those in West Virginia. Students will learn how to identify birds using morphological, behavioral, and acoustic characteristics. Students will also carry out their own research projects. **Requisites: BIOL215, BIOL254 Co-requisite: BIOL388L 1:00 – 5:00 T**

Instructor: Joseph Niederhauser

BUSI-688-01 Leading Change (3 credits)

Change occurs constantly in organizations today. Leaders must understand how to oversee change successfully. This class will review theories, models, and practice to change. The students will learn evidence-based principles of change management. The course explores the complexities of change, its challenges, and the leadership approaches required for successful change initiatives. Students will learn to identify and overcome resistance to change, engage stakeholders and foster a culture of adaptability.

Instructor: Justin Bowers

BUSI-688-02 Leading Teams & Individuals (3 credits)

This course analyzes the complexities of team dynamics and collaboration within organizational settings. Students will explore team formation, roles, norms, and decision-making processes, and develop skills to assess team effectiveness and implement strategies for improvement. The course will also cover effective communication, active listening, feedback, and conflict management techniques. The class will cultivate leadership skills for team environments, navigate virtual and remote team challenges, leverage diversity, engage in cross-functional collaboration, and foster a continuous learning mindset through self-reflection. Students will gain the knowledge and skills to thrive and contribute to organizational success as an individual, a team member, and a leader.

Instructor: Justin Bowers

COLL-288-01 Learning to Invest – Honors (3 credits) 2:30 TTH

To help students learn to make informed investment decisions, not only when buying stocks but also when investing in bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, or any other type of investment. **Prerequisite: Honors**

Instructor: Michael Ervin

CSCI-288-01 Intro. To Cybersecurity (3 credits) 9:30 TTH

This course serves as an introduction to the field of cybersecurity. Topics will include network security, access control, hacking, malicious code, firewalls, intrusion detection, and computer forensics, as time and interest allow. It will also address current issues in this rapidly evolving field.

Instructor: Donald Tobin

CSCI-288-02 Game Design (3 credits) 1:00 TTH

This course is an introduction to video game design. Students will design and prototype their own games using Unity. Students will also learn about the process, theory, history of game design as well as current trends in gaming.

Instructor: Jon Benjamin

ENGL-288-01 Literature of American Minorities (3 credits) 2:30 TTH

A consideration through fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and film of the way ethical ideas are linked to patterns of oppression in American culture, with special emphasis on how the rhetoric of “right” and “wrong” or “healthy” and “unhealthy” affect both individuals and American society more generally. **Lens: PSWB**

Instructor: Vince Trimboli

HIST-188-01 Occult America (3 credits) 1:00 TTH

This course explores the history of witchcraft, Victorian death culture, spiritualism and views of the supernatural in American society to reveal the underlying societal tensions driving the fascination and fear of such beliefs.

Instructor: Katharine Antolini

HIST/POLS-388-01 History and Politics of Israel & Palestine (3 credits) 11:00 MWF

This class will uncover the history of the areas known as Israel and Palestine from the 19th century to the modern era. We will delve into the role a number of foreign countries, the United Nations, and other international organizations played in the development, growth, and resistance of the Israeli state. We will follow the subsequent conflict that has engulfed the regions for decades, and look deeply at Palestinian attempts to regain lost territory through a variety of mechanisms. This exploration will lead us through settlement-building, war, intifadas, terrorism, refugee crises, attempts at peace, the blockade, and ultimately to the Hamas attack in 2023. The class will use a textbook, films, diaries, and newspaper accounts to develop a historical, political, and cultural, understanding of this region. **Lens: CEXP**

Instructor: Tamara Bailey

HIST/POLS-388-02 Hist. & Politics of Israel & Palestine - HON (3 credits) 11:00 MWF

See description above **Lens: CEXP**

Instructor: Tamara Bailey

HIST-288-02 WW II in Film (3 credits) 7:00 TTH

This course examines the Second World War through the lenses of feature films and television. Emphasis will be placed on the European Theatre as students explore the war through public memory and critique how films can both enhance and sometimes distort the history of World War II in the American popular consciousness. *Students must have access to the HBO/MAX streaming platform for this course.*

Instructor: Charles Kenney

INDS-188-01 Introduction to Italian (3 credits) 2:30 TTH

Instructor: Veronica Evans

The purpose of the course is to provide the students with elementary and effective tools to conduct meaningful Italian conversations in real-life scenarios. Students will learn how to introduce and talk about themselves; how to ask for help and information while travelling; how to buy things, access places, and understand primary cultural aspects of Italy.

INDS-388-01 Questioning the Role of Science (3 credits) 1:00 TTH

Instructors: Huggins, Bailey & Medlin

Scientific discoveries play an important role in our lives. We use scientific research to inform social and political decision about our health, the environment, and the economy to name just a few. While the practice of science is important, there is also the potential for scientific results to be abused, misinterpreted, and for the public to be misled. In this course, we will examine how science is practiced, the roles science plays in our lives, how it can inform our decisions, and how misinformation or poor science can mislead. *Lens: EXIN*

RELG-288-01 Greek/Roman Mythology (3 credits) 9:30 TTH

Instructor: Veronica Evans

This course is an introduction to the primary characters and most important stories of classical Greek and Roman mythology explained within their religious, historical, and cultural context, and compared to other neighboring earlier and later civilizations. *Lens: ETSP*

RELG-288-02 Antiquity: Nature, Culture & Religion (3 credits) 1:00 TTH

Instructor: Veronica Evans

This course is an introduction to the history and lifestyle of Ancient Greeks and Romans, with targeted interest in the role that religion and rituals played into their societies. Throughout the course we will study the importance of religious practices during festivals and big events (such as the Olympics and the Panathenaea), as well as celebrations and cults dedicated to specific gods (Eleusinian Mysteries, Bacchanalia) and performed in precise parts of the year to link together divinity and natural cycles and occurrences. *Lens: ETSP*

RELG-388-01 Religion in Contemporary Film & Literature (3 credits) 3:00 MW

Instructor: Debra Murphy

We will explore religious themes (Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, and Shinto) in several contemporary films and novels – themes such as identity and difference; belief and doubt; sin and evil; forgiveness and redemption. *Lens: AEXP*

THRE-288-01 Movement for Performance (3 credits) 9:30 TTH

Instructor: Thomas Schoffler

This course will explore basic principles of wellness through experiential anatomical mapping and movement, applied to specialized activities like sports or artistic performance, as well as their benefits to daily life. We will also consider how personal wellness impacts our engagement with community and society. Replaces THRE 263/264/363 *Lens: PSWB*