The blind spot of "the act of seeing" is its social construction, its ideological nature. This seminar unveils the various historical, political, economic, and social "filters" that condition our decoding of visual information. This writing seminar aims at developing skills to de-naturalize the "act of seeing."

FWIS 101 - THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE
Short Title: THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: We will introduce various ways in which the Bible plays a significant role in contemporary popular culture. By analyzing biblical references found in music, film, art, and the medial, students will discover that even in today's seemingly secular culture, the Bible continues to influence our artistic, social, and political landscapes.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 102 - BLIND SPOTS: CRITICAL APPROACHES TO VISUAL CULTURE
Short Title: BLIND SPOTS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The blind spot of "the act of seeing" is its social construction, its ideological nature. This seminar unveils the various historical, political, economic, and social "filters" that condition our decoding of visual information. This writing seminar aims at developing skills to de-naturalize the "act of seeing."

FWIS 103 - WHODUNIT? INVESTIGATING TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION
Short Title: TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: It was Colonel Mustard, in the library, with a candlestick! Crime fiction and true crime presents forensic evidence as a clue to find out: whodunit? This course examines the construction and adaptation of stories of crime, and investigates how the presentation of evidence influences our understanding of the crime.

FWIS 104 - WHAT WE OWE TO EACH OTHER: THE ETHICS OF WRITING AND RESEARCH
Short Title: WHAT WE OWE TO EACH OTHER
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, students will watch episodes of The Good Place paired with readings on the theories featured to explore "what we owe to each other" across a range of contexts, from every day communication to equity and access in writing and research in the students' chosen field of study.

FWIS 105 - GREEK MYTH IN WORDS: HESIOD AND THE HOMERIC HYMNS
Short Title: GREEK MYTH IN WORDS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Presents texts fundamental to understanding Greek myth through the regular practice of reading, writing, and oral communication. Emphasizing textual interpretation and writing as process and practice, this course clarifies the purpose and conventions of the academic argumentative essay. Frequent brief writing assignments. Peer review plays an integral role. No exams.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)
FWIS 106 - WRITING THE SENSES
Short Title: WRITING THE SENSES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course investigates the ways different disciplines develop theories of and tools for touching, tasting, smelling, hearing, and seeing. We experiment with the distinctions we draw between our senses as well as other ways we process information including our sense of balance, sense of pain, sense of time, and synaesthesia.

FWIS 107 - IN THE MATRIX: ON HUMAN BONDAGE AND LIBERATION
Short Title: IN THE MATRIX
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Using the film "The Matrix" as the point of reference, this course explores the grail as object, moving from its roots in medieval romance through the literary-historical developments from religious mysticism to Marxism and artistic modernism. Texts by Lao Tzu, Farid ud-Din Attar, Plato, Freud, Marx, Baudelaire, J.S. Mill, Proust, de Beauvoir, Malcolm X, Marcuse, Baudrillard.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 108 - WANDERLUST: WHERE AND WHY WE TRAVEL
Short Title: WANDERLUST:WHERE/WHY WE TRAVEL
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This inquiry-based course will focus on travel from multiple perspectives: your own, including places you have visited or want to visit, that of other people; sustainability; accessibility; and the impact on communities, economies, and environments. Some topics include your bucket list, why travel, travel and its effects, and travel literature.

FWIS 109 - CONTEMPORARY ART AND ENVIRONMENT
Short Title: ART AND ENVIRONMENT
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course delves into questions of environment, ecology and sustainability through the lens of contemporary art. From earthworks, to performance, to land art, activist art, and community-based practices, participants engage critically and creatively with contemporary practices. This course is eligible for credit toward the Environmental Studies minor.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 110 - JEWS ON FILM: CINEMATIC REPRESENTATIONS OF JEWISH LIFE
Short Title: JEWS ON FILM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will explore the modern Jewish life around the world through the medium of film. Students will be exposed to diverse Jewish communities and their cinematic representations. The course will consider modern Jewish identity through the lens of various themes including race, gender, religion, nationalism, assimilation and secularization.

FWIS 112 - FICTION, HISTORY, TEJAS: TExIANS AND TExJANOS IN LITERATURE AND FILM
Short Title: FICTION, HISTORY, TEJAS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Examines the battle for authority over foundational stories about Texas independence, as it plays out in fiction on the page and on the screen. Introduces key concepts related to Chicano studies, the genre of historical fiction, and the relationship of marginalized groups to national and regional histories.

FWIS 113 - RACE, PUBLIC POLICY, AND RACIAL CHANGE IN AMERICA
Short Title: RACE, POLICY, & RACIAL CHANGE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines conceptual and historical features of race and representation in the U.S., how race has shaped public policy development in the 20th century, and how American political institutions have affected outcomes for different racial groups. It also examines the causes and consequences of political mobilization for racial minorities.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 114 - THE HOLY GRAIL: RELIGION, QUEST, AND TRANSFORMATION
Short Title: THE HOLY GRAIL
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course explores the grail as object, moving from its roots in medieval romance through the literary-historical developments by which it emerges as a reality. Starting with the Arthurian legends, we explore developing associations of the grail within Christianity, and move to grail motifs in modern occultism, fiction and film.
FWIS 115 - EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH CHALLENGES
Short Title: EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This writing-intensive course introduces students to biological research and scientific communication. Student teams work on investigative projects with opportunities to ask questions, perform experiments, collect and analyze data, and share their findings. Recommended for students interested in the Biosciences major who have limited laboratory experience. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 115 if student has credit for BIOS 150.

FWIS 116 - AMERICAN JOURNEYS
Short Title: AMERICAN JOURNEYS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The narratives of travelers in the US are a window into history. Drawing on authors like Crevecoeur, Tocqueville, Trollope, and Kerouac, the class will discuss and write about themes such as Indian life and territorial expansion, democracy, slavery, civil war, western settlement, and 20th-cent. social movements. This course is eligible for credit toward the major in History.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 117 - CULTURAL DIPLOMACY IN THE AMERICAN CENTURY: "THE AMERICANIZATION OF THE WORLD" IN THE TWENTIETH CENT
Short Title: CULTURAL DIPLOMACY IN THE AMER
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This FWIS course seeks to introduce Rice freshmen to the hidden layers of the story of the Americanization of the world in the twentieth century. The topics to be explored include the role played by private philanthropy in shaping and transmitting American cultural forms, the impact of the Cold War on the diffusion of American culture in such diverse arenas as literature, visual and performing arts, movies, TV programming and science and technology.

Short Title: THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines filmic and literary adaptations of “Beauty and the Beast” from the “original” 1740 French version to the present day. It asks how the tale reflects cultural anxieties and fears and reinforces problematic representations of gender roles, toxic masculinity, and the tenuous fairy-tale conflation of goodness and beauty.

FWIS 120 - FICTION AND EMPATHY
Short Title: FICTION AND EMPATHY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This writing-intensive course explores the possible link between reading literary fiction and empathizing with others. We’ll read short stories, novel excerpts, and literary criticism in an effort to scrutinize and more deeply understand the specific elements of fiction that might provoke empathy.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 121 - TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES: FICTION, FILM, SCIENCE
Short Title: TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From an aesthetic perspective, time travel has existed as long as there have been stories. Narrative introduces alien temporalities, transporting listeners and readers into different temporal landscapes. This writing-intensive course investigates the historical, aesthetic, and scientific connections between the authorial and scientific co-creation of time travel.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)
**FWIS 122 - CONVERSATIONS WITH SOCRATES**
**Short Title:** CONVERSATIONS WITH SOCRATES  
**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** We will read four Platonic dialogues about the last days of Socrates. We will explore the human concerns that Socrates and his friends discuss, and analyze their arguments. We will also consider literary features, and how the dialogues can inform our understanding of reading, writing, and speaking and their value.  
**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)  

**FWIS 125 - YOUR ARABIAN NIGHTS**
**Short Title:** YOUR ARABIAN NIGHTS  
**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** The Arabian Nights is one of the best known yet poorly understood literary masterpieces. It has been passed down orally in wiring, in performance and film; in multiple languages, and with different collections of stories. What is your Arabian Nights? We will consider stories of the Nights through both a literary and historical lens, and we will consider stories, films, and works of art that were inspired by the Nights in different cultures.  
**Course URL:** pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)  

**FWIS 127 - KING ARTHUR IN POPULAR CULTURE: TIME TRAVEL, SPACE ALIENS, AND HOLY HAND GRENADES**
**Short Title:** KING ARTHUR IN POPULAR CULTURE  
**Department:** First-Year Writing Intensive  
**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter  
**Course Type:** Seminar  
**Credit Hours:** 3  
**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level  
**Description:** This writing-intensive seminar examines how medieval Arthurian literature has been re-imagined within 19th, 20th, and 21st century contexts. Beginning with foundational readings from Malory's Le Morte Darthur, we will examine and discuss how the Arthurian tradition has been translated into various mediums, including the novel, comic books, art, and film.
FWIS 128 - SPACE, SPEED, CINEMA: THE AUTOMOBILE IN U.S. FILM
Short Title: THE AUTOMOBILE IN U.S. FILM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Covering movies ranging from the early 20th Century to the present day, this class asks students to think critically about what it means to depict the automobile through film and to consider how these depictions, and their meanings, might change in accordance with different historical, artistic, and political contexts.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/

FWIS 129 - CHINGIS KHAN AND THE EMPIRE OF THE MONGOLS
Short Title: THE EMPIRE OF THE MONGOLS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In the thirteenth century, the Mongols conquered China, Eastern Europe and Middle East. This class explores empire building, warfare, government and steppe culture, through reading the letters and memoirs of Mongols, merchants, travelers and adventurers. The students will work closely with primary sources to develop analytical writing skills.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/

FWIS 130 - WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE
Short Title: WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course is dedicated to the poetics of everyday life. It draws from the forms and colors of what surrounds us day-to-day, from landscapes, to bodies and objects. Students develop research and writing skills through creative fieldwork assignments and workshops. This course is eligible for credit toward the major in Anthropology.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/

FWIS 131 - THE WAR ON DRUGS
Short Title: THE WAR ON DRUGS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines the rhetoric and implications of the “War on Drugs” in the U.S. and Latin America. Students analyze from different perspectives key texts that are related to policies enacted in the last fifty years to suppress illicit drug use and that have affected civil liberties and national security.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/

FWIS 132 - SLAVERY ON FILM
Short Title: SLAVERY ON FILM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will examine the Third Reich and the Holocaust from the perspective of women as perpetrators and as victims. Hollywood has dealt with American slavery.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/

FWIS 133 - WOMEN AND THE HOLOCAUST: VICTIMS AND PERPETRATORS
Short Title: WOMEN AND THE HOLOCAUST
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will look at the ways major Hollywood (or equivalent) films have dealt with chattel slavery in the United States. We will explore the general question of how feature films deal with controversial historical issues by analyzing more specifically how Hollywood has dealt with American slavery.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/

FWIS 134 - DEEP CUTS: MEDICINE AT THE MOVIES
Short Title: MEDICINE AT THE MOVIES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: With a focus on mainstream and experimental cinematic treatments of medicine produced in the United States, France, and Spain, this writing-intensive seminar explores how films depict medicine’s culture and society’s intersections through representations of the body, clinical practices, and healthcare institutions.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/

FWIS 135 - WHAT IS A BOOK? THE MATERIAL FOUNDATIONS OF READING AND WRITING
Short Title: WHAT IS A BOOK?
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will explore the history of books and the material (both intellectual and physical) from which they are created. We will consider how the physical form of books has shaped their content and meaning and think critically about how contemporary media shape our reading, writing, and thought.
Course URL: http://pwc.rice.edu/
FWIS 136 - TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE IN AMERICAN HISTORY
Short Title: TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE IN US HISTORY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines the relationship between technology and society throughout the history of the United States. We will analyze the roles and impacts of major technological innovations within their cultural and historical contexts, while seeking to understand how these contexts shaped and were shaped by the technologies.

FWIS 137 - POP MUSIC AND AMERICAN CULTURE
Short Title: POP MUSIC & AMERICAN CULTURE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Recent cultural movements encourage a more serious exploration of popular music. This course will participate by taking a critical look at what songs mean, what songs/albums/genres express, what our interest in music expresses, and how writing about music can lead us to great insights.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 138 - WHAT IS WRITING? AN EXPLORATION OF WHEN, WHERE, WHAT, AND WHY WE WRITE
Short Title: WHAT IS WRITING?
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What is writing? Using both fictional and non-fictional texts, this course will examine the ways in which humans convey stories to elucidate questions such as What makes writing effective? How do we convey our stories? How do we interact with the stories of others? and more.

FWIS 139 - PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILM IN MEDICINE
Short Title: PHOTOGRAPHY & FILM IN MEDICINE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Medical photographs and films are not only visual pieces of scientific documentation but also pieces of historical, social, and aesthetic significance and interpretation. The crucial tension between science and aesthetics is the focus of this writing-intensive course that explores medical images used in clinical settings and popular culture.

FWIS 140 - IMAGINING THE PAST: FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY
Short Title: FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In the twentieth century and beyond, movies and television serve as an important source of mythologized national narratives (or somewhat “faked news”) from war movies, to westerns, to “biopics” of figures such as Kenneth Turing. Are their patterns of distortion at work, we can identify? How do we correct them?
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 141 - TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE
Short Title: TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Does pineapple belong on pizza? Does red Gatorade taste better than blue? Many of our favorite flavors are produced and marketed by food science and the food industry. This writing-intensive seminar investigates how technologies of taste shape our palates and the ways we think and write about what we eat.

FWIS 142 - WATER AND CITIES
Short Title: WATER AND CITIES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Investigates ancient, historical, and modern cities and how their residents received water. Questions include: how cities developed water resources, how water shaped city life, and how the environment was engineered to produce water. Students will be able to choose a city and a water topic for their final seminar project.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 143 - LEARNING TO OBSERVE THROUGH A TOUR OF THE NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS
Short Title: NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, students will hone their skills of observation through careful study of nature, from the geology to the birds and plants of Texas. Students will learn how to interpret and communicate these observations through writing and illustration. This course will involve several local field trips to explore the natural history of the upper Texas coast.
**FWIS 144 - WRITING ABOUT GREEK DRAMA**
Short Title: WRITING ABOUT GREEK DRAMA  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This course introduces texts that are integral to ancient Greek culture, and core texts in the Western literary tradition. Students receive frequent regular practice at close reading, writing, and oral communication. The assigned primary texts are Aristotle's Poetics and tragedies by Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides (all read in English translation).  
Course URL: [pwc.rice.edu](http://pwc.rice.edu/)  

**FWIS 145 - MUSEUMS IN WORLD HISTORY**
Short Title: MUSEUMS IN WORLD HISTORY  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: What is a museum? What role do they play in the modern world? This course fosters critical thinking about how and why museums were important institutions. They emerged as sites of identity within and between local, regional, national, imperial and global networks. Globally, a diverse number of museums are at once beloved and controversial, commanding and irrelevant. These contradictions aren't new. To address the future of museums we must understand the evolution of these institutions in their global pasts.

**FWIS 146 - YOUTH ACTIVISM AND SOCIAL CHANGE**
Short Title: YOUTH ACTIVISM & SOCIAL CHANGE  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Young people are leading their communities, influencing policy, and shaping discourse on some of the most pressing social issues of our time. This course explores how youth become mobilized to take political action and what kind of personal and public narratives inform their efforts to bring about social change.

**FWIS 147 - AMERICA THROUGH FOREIGN EYES**
Short Title: AMERICA THROUGH FOREIGN EYES  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: The United States has always been a source of fascination – both attraction and repulsion – for many people around the world. The course covers the perceptions and interactions of five regions – Africa, China, France, Mexico, and Russia – with America. It offers ways to approach cross-cultural study and concludes with a segment that "reverses the gaze" by analyzing American opinions of other cultures. "America through Foreign Eyes" addresses four overarching themes: 1) democracy and modernity; 2) globalization and capitalism; 3) racism and immigration; and 4) intellectual and cultural life.  
Course URL: [pwc.rice.edu](http://pwc.rice.edu/)  

**FWIS 148 - THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING**
Short Title: THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This class is designed to introduce students to sports writing as a vehicle for conveying complex ideas and stories, and investigating difficult issues. It is not a sports journalism course, but rather one focused on story-telling through and about sports. We will read a variety of fictional and non-fictional writing about sports as a means to learning about how to look deeply into the world and the people around us.

**FWIS 149 - GRAPHIC MEDICINE**
Short Title: GRAPHIC MEDICINE  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Do graphic novels reflect perceptions of medicine? Can comics orient our notion of care? Formally dependent on interruption, graphic novels demonstrate the complexity of reading—reading texts, reading bodies, reading trauma. Thus, our class will grapple with disruption and healing in comics and will consider these implications for medical practice. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 149 if student has credit for CLAS 303.
FWIS 150 - THE WORLD OF MEDIEVAL MEDICINE  
Short Title: THE WORLD OF MEDIEVAL MEDICINE  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: How did medieval Christians understand and treat mental and bodily illness? How did their experiences of pain, sex, childbirth, and death interact with larger concepts of God, nature, and the heavens? What role did angels and demons play? This seminar will explore these issues through close reading of medieval texts. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 150 if student has credit for FSEM 171/MDEM 171/RELI 171.  
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 151 - MAKING SENSE OF OURSELVES: THE ART OF THE PERSONAL ESSAY  
Short Title: MAKING SENSE OF OURSELVES  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This course explores and examines the personal essay as a vehicle for discovery, critical thinking, and self-scrutiny. Students will read great essays from the past and present, write a variety of essays themselves, and analyze the form to draw larger conclusions about thoughtful and engaging writing in any genre.  

FWIS 152 - NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS: REAL REMEDIES OR SHADY SCIENCE?  
Short Title: THE SCIENCE OF SUPPLEMENTS  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This writing-intensive seminar examines evidence for the use of nutritional supplements in promoting health. Topics include the role of vitamins, herbs and food-based supplements in medicine; the biology of illnesses such as cancer and depression; and the molecular mechanisms of supplements in disease prevention and management.  
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 153 - SURVEILLANCE, SECURITY, AND SOCIETY  
Short Title: SURVEILLANCE, SECURITY, AND SO  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Government surveillance is widely regarded as a system of control and classification. Yet, surveillance seems to indicate a weakness in the security state. Against this backdrop, we will analyze how examples of surveillance shape and reshape cultures across the world through oral and written assignments.  

FWIS 154 - THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE BORDER  
Short Title: THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE BORDER  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This course will explore portrayals of morality in film, literature and music produced in the US-Mexico borderlands. As we examine conflicting and converging moral codes in these cultural texts, students will use writing as a tool for exploring ideas and refining understanding.  
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 155 - WRITING ASIAN FOOD IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION  
Short Title: WRITING ASIAN FOOD  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This course exposes students to the exercise of writing about Asian food. Students engage in the activity of “converting” multisensory experience, i.e. eating food, into writing on the one hand and think about transnational Asian food in the context of globalizing world. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 155 if student has credit for ASIA 205.

FWIS 156 - SPEECH AND COMMUNICATION IN HOMER  
Short Title: SPEECH AND COMM IN HOMER  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Introduces students to oral tradition, oral performance, oral poetics, and the Homeric poems. We will read the Iliad and Odyssey closely, focusing on the speeches, songs, and stories performed by characters, and considering what those performances suggest about the constructive and destructive use of speech in human relationships and societies.
FWIS 157 - TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA: LIVED EXPERIENCES ACROSS TIME AND SPACE
Short Title: TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this class, we will read and write about people who traveled across and beyond Asia from the fourteenth century to the twentieth century, focusing on core topics such as intercultural interactions, globalization, and modernity. In doing so, we will also challenge the common misconception that Asian societies were isolated from one another and from the rest of the world before the arrival of the Westerners in Asia in the nineteenth century.

FWIS 158 - THE HOLOCAUST IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE
Short Title: THE HOLOCAUST IN HISTORY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will examine the history of the Holocaust from early accounts to recent reconstructions of the origins, implementation, and aftermath of the “Final Solution.” We will also analyze documents, testimonies, memoirs, trial records, and various forms of representations and commemoration of the Shoah.

FWIS 159 - ROBOPSYCHOLOGY AND THE SPIRITUALITY OF THE INTERNET
Short Title: SPIRITUALITY OF THE INTERNET
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From TikTok to Instagram, Google and ChatGPT, artificial intelligence is an inescapable aspect of everyone's daily life. This course explores how the internet platforms they engage with in their daily lives, and the dreams of the technologists who create them, are also embedded in the history of philosophy and religion.

FWIS 160 - GLOBAL ENGLISH: DIVERSITY, DEMAND, AND DOMINANCE
Short Title: GLOBAL ENGLISH
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, students will consider how sociocultural, political, and economic factors have historically influenced decisions about language use in the context of English. In doing so, they will practice different forms of academic communication and refine skills fundamental to their success as critical thinkers, readers, and writers.

FWIS 161 - DETECTIVES & DETECTIONS
Short Title: DETECTIVES & DETECTIONS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course reads representations of struggle between detectives and those evading detection. Throughout, we will continually ask: What can “detection” teach us about the boundaries of national belonging? And how can we appropriate the lens of detection to improve our skills as academic readers and writers?

FWIS 162 - CRITICAL THINKING IN DEMOCRACY
Short Title: CRITICAL THINKING IN DEMOCRACY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Critical thinking runs counter to inherent tendencies toward confirmation bias in decision making. In the political realm, this conflict is often exploited by governmental leaders and media to control specific outcomes. Students in this class will learn to develop their critical thinking and analytical skills in the context of a democratic society.

FWIS 163 - LOVE SICK
Short Title: LOVE SICK
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: We will explore depictions of love and sexuality as a pathology in literature, medical discourses, and popular culture. As we read about lovesick medieval knights, vampiric love affairs, pandemic love, and more, we will evaluate our contemporary assumptions about love and how concepts around love and sexuality shift over time.

FWIS 164 - WAYS OF WALKING IN LITERATURE AND CULTURE
Short Title: WAYS OF WALKING
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course explores the act of walking, in theory and in practice. Through readings, discussions, writing assignments, and group and individual walks, it examines questions about the body and its movements; the construction and navigation of space; the tradition of travel writing; and the relationship between walking and thinking.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)
FWIS 165 - MEDIATION, "FAKE NEWS," AND DEMOCRACY
Short Title: FAKE NEWS AND DEMOCRACY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This writing-intensive seminar examines how and why the spread of disinformation has become increasingly more prevalent in our 21st century society and what impact it has on our democratic processes. We will take an interdisciplinary approach to discussing fake news, drawing from history, philosophy, journalism, media studies, and political science.

FWIS 166 - WHAT'S RACE GOT TO DO WITH IT?: WRITING ON IMAGES OF DIFFERENCE FROM THE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN W
Short Title: WHAT'S RACE GOT TO DO WITH IT?
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: We will consider whether Black lives did matter in the medieval and early modern eras and how the imagery of difference was both similar to and different from that in the modern day. We will closely study medieval and early modern images of Black and African figures, among several other groups.

FWIS 167 - BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN: AN EXPLORATION OF THE READING EXPERIENCE
Short Title: BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What is it about certain books that draws us in and keeps us turning the page? To answer this question, this class examines selected works of fiction and creative nonfiction with a focus on literary form, the psycho-social functions of narrative, and the physical and emotional experience of reading.

FWIS 168 - CASE STUDIES OF BUILDING DESIGN PROBLEMS
Short Title: BUILDING DESIGN PROBLEMS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: We will analyze buildings that ended up in legal battles. Problems include structural failures, design blunders and near disasters. You will write about what went wrong and why, who saved that day and who should have acted differently. You will learn to write critically and present a convincing argument.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 169 - WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?
Short Title: WHAT ARE HUMAN RIGHTS?
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: We hear and talk about "human rights" frequently, but few of us have an easy time defining ideas so inherently contested and pitted against one another. This class will read, discuss, and write about the history and future of human rights in the United States and elsewhere in the world.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 170 - WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP?
Short Title: "WHAT IS CITIZENSHIP?"
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Paying special attention to the experiences of immigrant, indigenous, and (formerly) enslaved peoples of the United States, this seminar takes a broad approach to the examination of "citizenship," its global contexts, and its material domains, including education, identity, labor, language, sovereignty, and suffrage.

FWIS 171 - THE DEVIL AND THE WORLD: THE IMAGE OF THE DEVIL IN WESTERN CULTURE
Short Title: THE DEVIL AND THE WORLD
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What are the reasons for the Devil's sustained popularity in Western culture? And what are the consequences of this "popularity"? How and why did the Devil, the embodiment of pure evil, become a romantic and tragic hero? This class will tackle these and other questions regarding the image of the Devil.

FWIS 172 - SITES, SOUNDS, & STORIES: THE RHETORIC OF PUBLIC MEMORY
Short Title: RHETORIC OF PUBLIC MEMORY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course invites students to consider whose stories we remember, and how/when/where. How does the framing of historical events bolster or disrupt dominant narratives of public memory? Students will examine scholarship on public memory and conduct analyses of the sites, sounds, and stories of national and local histories.
FWIS 173 - CONTEMPORARY LGBTQ+ LITERARY CLASSICS  
Short Title: LGBTQ+ LITERARY CLASSICS  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This writing-intensive course explores the new and ever-growing category of LGBTQ+ classics by reading a diverse array of novels from the 1950s to the present day that represent gay, lesbian, queer, and trans experiences, while exemplifying and challenging the idea of the literary classic. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 173 if student has credit for FSEM 159/HIST 159.

FWIS 174 - SOUNDING THE CITY  
Short Title: SOUNDING THE CITY  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Sound surrounds us. And yet we often put little thought into what role it plays in our lives and the lives of our public spaces. This course aims to correct this oversight by offering an introduction to the field of sound studies focused on Houston's audio environment, past and present.

FWIS 175 - POLITICS AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH QUESTION  
Short Title: POLITICS AND RELIGION  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Though the separation of church and state is a tenet of modern democracies, the relationship between religion and politics is more complicated than it appears. In this course, we will focus our attention on the Jewish Question as a case study for thinking about the relationship between religion and politics.

FWIS 176 - DRAMATIC PAUSES: INTRODUCTION TO EAST ASIAN PERFORMANCE STUDIES  
Short Title: EAST ASIAN PERFORMANCE STUDIES  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: Introduces performing arts of China, Japan, and Korea, like Noh, P’ansori, and Beijing opera, focusing on psychological and multimedia aspects. Introduces performance studies—how to think, write, and present ideas about singing, dancing, storytelling, and drama from perspectives like ritual, gender, music, choreography, costume, stage design, and literary criticism.  
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 177 - STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM  
Short Title: STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This course explores the forms and contexts of storytelling in Buddhism, with a broad eye toward literature, visual arts, and performance. Students engage in both creative and academic writing to understand the importance of narrative in Buddhist cultures and different approaches to writing in the modern day. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 177 if student has credit for FSEM 109.

FWIS 178 - JESUS CHRIST MOVIE STAR  
Short Title: JESUS CHRIST MOVIE STAR  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This class presents a film-by-film look at several “Jesus” films as recreations and revisions of sacred texts, as reflections of religious and social history, and as responses to biblical scholarship on the subject of the historical Jesus. Writing workshops are interspersed with essential readings and film discussions. Films viewed outside class period. Student film festival outside class period. Evaluation: film journal, 4 papers, creative film short.

FWIS 179 - TRACKING DRAGONS THROUGH THE PAGES OF SHORT FICTION: THE ART OF READING CLOSELY  
Short Title: SHORT FICTION  
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive  
Grade Mode: Standard Letter  
Course Type: Seminar  
Credit Hours: 3  
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.  
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level  
Description: This will be a course on expressive writing and the art of reading; on great short fiction from Kafka to O’Connor; and on those obstacles—dragons that breathe fire across our paths—that stand in the way of our content in just those ways they derail the characters we read.  
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)
FWIS 180 - INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
Short Title: INNOVATIONS IN ED TECH
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The course will examine the role of innovative technology in students’ own education and prepare them to make informed decisions as consumers of these technologies. Topics include mobile learning, virtual and augmented reality, gamification, and artificial intelligence. By the end of this course, in addition to improved writing skills, students will have a better understanding of the latest trends in educational technology and how they are transforming education.

FWIS 181 - GRAPHIC BLACKNESS: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMIC BOOK TRADITION
Short Title: AFRICAN AMERICAN GRAPHIC NOVEL
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines the struggle for black representation in comics and graphic novels. We will discuss the unique opportunities that sequential narratives present to creators as they represent race on the page and we will examine the history of black artists working in the comic book industry.

FWIS 182 - BORDER POLITICS: MIGRATIONS AND THE MEANING OF THE NATION
Short Title: BORDER POLITICS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In the midst of a global climate and migration crisis, the safeguarding of borders has become an increasingly contentious issue worldwide. In this course we will explore the perilousness of the human condition, as experienced in the crossing of real and imaginary borders, and in the traumatic loss of homeland and self.

FWIS 183 - VIRTUAL VICTORIANS AND STEAMPUNK CULTURE
Short Title: VIRTUAL VICTORIANS & STEAMPUNK
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Replete with gears and gadgets, Steampunk comments as much on the past as on our contemporary technological moment and asks us to critically consider the human-machine relationship. This FWIS will grapple with the rise of the techno-human as we engage with 19th century and Steampunk texts and various digital projects.

FWIS 184 - THE CULTURAL IMAGINATION OF TEXAS
Short Title: CULTURAL IMAGINATION OF TEXAS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What do we mean by Texas? How has Texas been figured in the American imagination? How are ideas of place both meaningful and limiting? In this course will look at how Texas has been portrayed in the American imagination while uncovering lesser told histories of the state.

FWIS 185 - CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POETRY
Short Title: CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN POETRY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This class will delve into contemporary American poetry by exploring outstanding poetry books of the previous year. Students will study American poetry in literary and historical contexts, develop ability to analyze how poems “work,” develop ability to create clear, effective prose, and build framework for exploring other types of poetry.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 187 - INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN LITERATURE AND MEDIA IN ENGLISH
Short Title: INTRO TO AFRICAN LIT & MEDIA
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Intro to African Literature and Media in English explores a variety of cultural and artistic work emerging out of Africa after 1945. In this course, students will learn verbal and written communication skills, especially how to revise and edit their own academic writing. No prior knowledge of African literature is required.
FWIS 188 - INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION
Short Title: ENG DESIGN & COMMUNICATION
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in the School of Architecture or School of Engineering colleges.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Students learn the engineering design process to solve real-world problems by evaluating design requirements and constructing innovative solutions in the OEDK. Several communication assignments will be completed by individuals rather than teams. Fall limited to ENGI and NSCI students; spring open for engineering and architecture students. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 188 if student has credit for ENGI 120.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 189 - POST-APOCALYPTIC LITERATURE AND FILM
Short Title: POST-APOCALYPTIC LIT AND FILM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Our culture is fascinated with its own destruction. From zombies to nuclear war, ecological disasters, aliens, disease and killer machines, Armageddon takes many forms. Structured around ways in which we have imagined the world ending, this course charts the cultural consciousness of apocalypse.

FWIS 191 - THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY
Short Title: THE ART OF THE SHORT STORY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: How exactly does the length of a piece of writing connect to its expression as a work of art and our interpretation of it? In this course, we’ll consider “shortness” as a challenge authors undertake, investigating the ways they weave complex tales into brief, often pithy, masterpieces.

FWIS 192 - THE ROARING TWENTIES
Short Title: THE ROARING TWENTIES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The 1920s were about new possibilities, aesthetic experimentation, and frenzied expression. We'll examine iconic '20s literature by Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Woolf, and others, as well as the linchpins of '20s culture: jazz, Prohibition, the Harlem Renaissance, and modern art. Highlights include lessons on the Charleston and a Roaring Twenties soiree.

FWIS 193 - THE RULE OF LAW AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE
Short Title: LAW AND JUSTICE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Democratic societies claim to be based on the rule of law. This course examines what is required of a society that treats every individual equally regardless of a person's status or influence. We will analyze the relationship of politics and the law in the distinct historical and national contexts of the contemporary US and post-war Germany, as well as exploring the topics of crimes, guilt, punishment and vigilante justice in selected literary texts and films.

FWIS 194 - EMPIRES
Short Title: EMPIRES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Is the United States of America an empire? This course will examine civilizations from Ancient Rome and Han Dynasty China to the superpowers of the twentieth century in order to identify the nature and mechanisms of imperial power. It will investigate imperial literature, architecture art, dress, rituals and technology.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)
FWIS 195 - BEYOND THE EQUATIONS: EXPLORING PHYSICS THROUGH THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE & AFFECTED
Short Title: BEYOND THE EQUATIONS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will dive into basic physics concepts through the biographical and historical context that resulted in their discoveries, with further exploration through current examples. The goal is to gain an understanding of where these concepts emerged, their use, and the resulting effects beyond the numbers and equations.

FWIS 196 - BUSINESS IN THE AMERICAN IMAGINATION
Short Title: BUSINESS IN LITERATURE & FILM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The world of business has long been a culturally rich site for national and self-reflection. As we read representations of business in literature and film, we will consider an array of allegories, motifs, and plots about the profits and pitfalls of American commerce culture.

FWIS 197 - SCIENCE, PSEUDOSCIENCE AND SKEPTICISM: HOW TO TELL GOOD SCIENCE FROM JUNK SCIENCE
Short Title: SCIENCE OR PSEUDOSCIENCE?
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This class focuses on scientific skepticism and critical thinking, and how they can be utilized to distinguish science from pseudoscience. Core topics include the fallibility of perception; mechanisms of self-deception; as well as metacognition, cognitive biases and logical fallacies. These topics will be illustrated through examples of good and bad science.

FWIS 198 - FROM CLIMATE CHANGE TO CLIMATE JUSTICE
Short Title: CLIMATE CHANGE CLIMATE JUSTICE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Climate change is not only an environmental problem but also a social, economic, and political one. In this seminar, students will learn about these elements of climate change, ask how environmental issues intersect with ideas of justice, and investigate various appearances, contexts, and critical uses of the term “climate justice.”

FWIS 199 - THE SOCIAL LIFE OF DATA
Short Title: THE SOCIAL LIFE OF DATA
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The Social Life of Data is an introduction to the discipline of social-cultural anthropology and its engagements with data as both a topic of study and key figure animating contemporary human life. More specifically, the course interrogates how recent investments in data inform long-standing structures of social inequality.

FWIS 200 - TRANSFER CREDIT – FIRST-YEAR WRITING (FWIS)
Short Title: TRANSFER CREDIT-FWIS WRITING
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Transfer Courses
Course Type: Transfer
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: For transfer of an approved first-year writing intensive seminar. This course may not have been taken pass-fail at the transferring institution and must meet Rice University's transfer credit requirements. Credit for this placeholder course will count towards the total credit hours required for graduation, and will be eligible to satisfy the university's Writing and Communication Requirement. Transfer students must contact the FWIS transfer credit advisor to determine if their course will transfer. Instructor Permission Required.

FWIS 203 - WHODUNIT? INVESTIGATING TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION
Short Title: TRUE CRIME AND CRIME FICTION
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: It was Colonel Mustard, in the library, with a candlestick! Crime fiction and true crime presents forensic evidence as a clue to find out: whodunit? This course examines the construction and adaptation of stories of crime, and investigates how the presentation of evidence influences our understanding of the crime.
FWIS 209 - CONTEMPORARY ART AND ENVIRONMENT
Short Title: ART AND ENVIRONMENT
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course delves into questions of environment, ecology and sustainability through the lens of contemporary art. From earthworks, to performance, to land art, activist art, and community-based practices, participants engage critically and creatively with contemporary practices. This course is eligible for credit toward the Environmental Studies minor.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 210 - JEWS ON FILM: CINEMATIC REPRESENTATIONS OF JEWISH LIFE
Short Title: JEWS ON FILM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will explore the modern Jewish life around the world through the medium of film. Students will be exposed to diverse Jewish communities and their cinematic representations. The course will consider modern Jewish identity through the lens of various themes including race, gender, religion, nationalism, assimilation and secularization.

FWIS 211 - THE MEANING AND IMPACT OF QUANTUM MECHANICS
Short Title: MEANING AND IMPACT OF QUANTUM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will explore the modern Jewish life around the world through the medium of film. Students will be exposed to diverse Jewish communities and their cinematic representations. The course will consider modern Jewish identity through the lens of various themes including race, gender, religion, nationalism, assimilation and secularization.

FWIS 215 - EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH CHALLENGES
Short Title: EXPLORING BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This writing-intensive course introduces students to biological research and scientific communication. Student teams work on investigative projects with opportunities to ask questions, perform experiments, collect and analyze data, and share their findings. Recommended for students interested in the Biosciences major who have limited laboratory experience.

FWIS 218 - BAD MOMS: THE RHETORIC AND REALITY OF AMERICAN MOTHERHOOD
Short Title: BAD MOMS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines the experiences of mothering parents who do not fit cultural and social ideals of "good motherhood" – working mothers, immigrant mothers, mothers who are single, young, absent, sick. Students will analyze cultural texts and read essays from different scholarly fields, including sociology, history, philosophy, and others.

Short Title: THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines filmic and literary adaptations of "Beauty and the Beast" from the "original" 1740 French version to the present day. It asks how the tale reflects cultural anxieties and fears and reinforces problematic representations of gender roles, toxic masculinity, and the tenuous fairy-tale conflation of goodness and beauty.

FWIS 220 - FICTION AND EMPATHY
Short Title: FICTION AND EMPATHY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This writing-intensive course explores the possible link between reading literary fiction and empathizing with others. We'll read short stories, novel excerpts, and literary criticism in an effort to scrutinize and more deeply understand the specific elements of fiction that might provoke empathy.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 221 - TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES: FICTION, FILM, SCIENCE
Short Title: TIME TRAVEL NARRATIVES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From an aesthetic perspective, time travel has existed as long as there have been stories. Narrative introduces alien temporalities, transporting listeners and readers into different temporal landscapes. This writing-intensive course investigates the historical, aesthetic, and scientific connections between the authorial and scientific co-creation of time travel.
FWIS 226 - ANIMAL, PLANT, MINERAL: INVESTIGATING FORMS OF LIFE
Short Title: ANIMAL, PLANT, MINERAL
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This seminar investigates the distinctions humans make between forms of life: for example, animal vs. plant vs. mineral. Students will engage critical and scholarly readings and produce a range of writing as the class interrogates these categories, the relations between them, and the porous boundaries that don't always hold up.

FWIS 230 - WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE
Short Title: WRITING EVERYDAY LIFE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course is dedicated to the poetics of everyday life. It draws from the forms and colors of what surrounds us day-to-day, from landscapes, to bodies and objects. Students develop research and writing skills through creative fieldwork assignments and workshops. This course is eligible for credit toward the major in Anthropology.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 234 - DEEP CUTS: MEDICINE AT THE MOVIES
Short Title: MEDICINE AT THE MOVIES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: With a focus on mainstream and experimental cinematic treatments of medicine produced in the United States, France, and Spain, this writing-intensive seminar explores how films depict medicine's and culture's intersections through representations of the body, clinical practices, and healthcare institutions.

FWIS 237 - POP MUSIC AND AMERICAN CULTURE
Short Title: POP MUSIC & AMERICAN CULTURE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Recent cultural movements encourage a more serious exploration of popular music. This course will participate by taking a critical look at what songs mean, what songs/albums/genres express, what our interest in music expresses, and how writing about music can lead us to great insights.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 240 - IMAGINING THE PAST: FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY
Short Title: FILM, FICTION, AND HISTORY
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In the twentieth century and beyond, movies and television serve as an important source of mythologized national narratives (or somewhat “faked news”) from war movies, to westerns, to “biopics” of figures such as Kenneth Turing. Are their patterns of distortion at work, we can identify? How do we correct them?

FWIS 241 - TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE
Short Title: TECHNOLOGIES OF TASTE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Does pineapple belong on pizza? Does red Gatorade taste better than blue? Many of our favorite flavors are produced and marketed by food science and the food industry. This writing-intensive seminar investigates how technologies of taste shape our palates and the ways we think and write about what we eat.

FWIS 243 - LEARNING TO OBSERVE THROUGH A TOUR OF THE NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS
Short Title: NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, students will hone their skills of observation through careful study of nature, from the geology to the birds and plants of Texas. Students will learn how to interpret and communicate these observations through writing and illustration. This course will involve several local field trips to explore the natural history of the upper Texas coast.

FWIS 248 - THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING
Short Title: THE ART OF SPORTSWRITING
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This class is designed to introduce students to sports writing as a vehicle for conveying complex ideas and stories, and investigating difficult issues. It is not a sports journalism course, but rather one focused on story-telling through and about sports. We will read a variety of fictional and non-fictional writing about sports as a means to learning about how to look deeply into the world and the people around us.
FWIS 251 - MAKING SENSE OF OURSELVES: THE ART OF THE PERSONAL ESSAY
Short Title: MAKING SENSE OF OURSELVES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course explores and examines the personal essay as a vehicle for discovery, critical thinking, and self-scrutiny. Students will read great essays from the past and present, write a variety of essays themselves, and analyze the form to draw larger conclusions about thoughtful and engaging writing in any genre.

FWIS 252 - NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS: REAL REMEDIES OR SHADY SCIENCE?
Short Title: THE SCIENCE OF SUPPLEMENTS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This writing-intensive seminar examines evidence for the use of nutritional supplements in promoting health. Topics include the role of vitamins, herbs and food-based supplements in medicine; the biology of illnesses such as cancer and depression; and the molecular mechanisms of supplements in disease prevention and management.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 253 - SURVEILLANCE, SECURITY, AND SOCIETY
Short Title: SURVEILLANCE, SECURITY, AND SO
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Government surveillance is widely regarded as a system of control and classification. Yet, surveillance seems to indicate a weakness in the security state. Against this backdrop, we will analyze how examples of surveillance shape and reshape cultures across the world through oral and written assignments.

FWIS 254 - THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE BORDER
Short Title: THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE BORDER
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will explore portrayals of morality in film, literature and music produced in the US-Mexico borderlands. As we examine conflicting and converging moral codes in these cultural texts, students will use writing as a tool for exploring ideas and refining understanding.
Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 255 - WRITING ASIAN FOOD IN THE AGE OF GLOBALIZATION
Short Title: WRITING ASIAN FOOD
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course exposes students to the exercise of writing about Asian food. Students engage in the activity of “converting” multi-sensory experience, i.e. eating food, into writing on the one hand and think about transnational Asian food in the context of globalizing world. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for FWIS 255 if student has credit for ASIA 205.

FWIS 257 - TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA: LIVED EXPERIENCES ACROSS TIME AND SPACE
Short Title: TRAVEL AND MODERN ASIA
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Seminar
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this class, we will read and write about people who traveled across and beyond Asia from the fourteenth century to the twentieth century, focusing on core topics such as intercultural interactions, globalization, and modernity. In doing so, we will also challenge the common misconception that Asian societies were isolated from one another and from the rest of the world before the arrival of the Westerners in Asia in the nineteenth century.

FWIS 260 - GLOBAL ENGLISH: DIVERSITY, DEMAND, AND DOMINANCE
Short Title: GLOBAL ENGLISH
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Seminar
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, students will consider how sociocultural, political, and economic factors have historically influenced decisions about language use in the context of English. In doing so, they will practice different forms of academic communication and refine skills fundamental to their success as critical thinkers, readers, and writers.
FWIS 263 - SEX, DEATH, AND SPIRITUAL WRITING
Short Title: SEX, DEATH, & SPIRITUAL WRITING
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course we will look at the ways in which a variety of historical and contemporary "spiritual but not religious" texts grapple with sexuality, mortality, race, gender, class, and politics. This course will foreground discussion and reflection, and students will write weekly discussion posts on canvas, in addition to the three major papers and a group presentation.

FWIS 267 - BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN: AN EXPLORATION OF THE READING EXPERIENCE
Short Title: BOOKS YOU CAN'T PUT DOWN
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What is it about certain books that draws us in and keeps us turning the page? To answer this question, this class examines selected works of fiction and creative nonfiction with a focus on literary form, the psycho-social functions of narrative, and the physical and emotional experience of reading.

FWIS 273 - CONTEMPORARY LGBTQ+ LITERARY CLASSICS
Short Title: LGBTQ+ LITERARY CLASSICS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This writing-intensive course explores the new and ever-growing category of LGBTQ+ classics by reading a diverse array of novels from the 1950s to the present day that present gay, lesbian, queer, and trans experiences, while exemplifying and challenging the idea of the literary classic.

FWIS 277 - STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM
Short Title: STORYTELLING IN BUDDHISM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course explores the forms and contexts of storytelling in Buddhism, with a broad eye toward literature, visual arts, and performance. Students engage in both creative and academic writing to understand the importance of narrative in Buddhist cultures and different approaches to writing in the modern day.

FWIS 280 - INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
Short Title: INNOVATIONS IN ED TECH
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The course will examine the role of innovative technology in students' own education and prepare them to make informed decisions as consumers of these technologies. Topics include mobile learning, virtual and augmented reality, gamification, and artificial intelligence. By the end of this course, in addition to improved writing skills, students will have a better understanding of the latest trends in educational technology and how they are transforming education.

FWIS 281 - GRAPHIC BLACKNESS: THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMIC BOOK TRADITION
Short Title: AFRICAN AMERICAN GRAPHIC NOVEL
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course examines the role of innovative technology in students' own education and prepare them to make informed decisions as consumers of these technologies. Topics include mobile learning, virtual and augmented reality, gamification, and artificial intelligence. By the end of this course, in addition to improved writing skills, students will have a better understanding of the latest trends in educational technology and how they are transforming education.

FWIS 282 - BORDER POLITICS: MIGRATIONS AND THE MEANING OF THE NATION
Short Title: BORDER POLITICS
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In the midst of a global climate and migration crisis, the safeguarding of borders has become an increasingly contentious issue worldwide. In this course we will explore the perilousness of the human condition, as experienced in the crossing of real and imaginary borders, and in the traumatic loss of homeland and self.
the ways they weave complex tales into brief, often pithy, masterpieces. We'll consider "shortness" as a challenge authors undertake, investigating its expression as a work of art and our interpretation of it? In this course, do we begin to understand the political stakes of who is seen, who is made invisible? How exactly does the length of a piece of writing connect to how expressions of self-representation changed over the decades and how the way we think about race, gender, sexuality, and disability? How have contemporary art. How is a new generation of black art making shaping this course challenges the myth of homogeneity in the understanding of East Asian societies by examining the experience of a variety of minority groups in terms of ethnicity, gender, religion, class, occupation, as well as physical and mental conditions.

FWIS 286 - MINORITIES AND SUBCULTURES IN EAST ASIA
Short Title: MINORITIES AND SUBCULTURES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course challenges the myth of homogeneity in the understanding of East Asian societies by examining the experience of a variety of minority groups in terms of ethnicity, gender, religion, class, occupation, as well as physical and mental conditions.

FWIS 288 - INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN AND COMMUNICATION
Short Title: ENG DESIGN & COMMUNICATION
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students. Enrollment limited to students in the School of Architecture or School of Engineering colleges.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Students learn the engineering design process to solve real-world problems by evaluating design requirements and constructing innovative solutions in the OEDK. Several communication assignments will be completed by individuals rather than teams. Fall limited to ENGI and NSCI students; spring open for engineering and architecture students.

Course URL: pwc.rice.edu/ (http://pwc.rice.edu/)

FWIS 290 - BLACK CONTEMPORARY ART
Short Title: BLACK CONTEMPORARY ART
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course introduces students to the field black contemporary art. How is a new generation of black art making shaping the way we think about race, gender, sexuality, and disability? How have expressions of self-representation changed over the decades and how do we begin to understand the political stakes of who is seen, who is overseen, and who is made invisible?

FWIS 292 - THE ROARING TWENTIES
Short Title: THE ROARING TWENTIES
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The 1920s were about new possibilities, aesthetic experimentation, and frenzied expression. We'll examine iconic '20s literature by Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Woolf, and others, as well as the linchpins of '20s culture: jazz, prohibition, the Harlem Renaissance, and modern art. Highlights include lessons on the Charleston and a Roaring Twenties soiree.

FWIS 293 - THE RULE OF LAW AND THE PURSUIT OF JUSTICE
Short Title: LAW AND JUSTICE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Democratic societies claim to be based on the rule of law. This course examines what is required of a society that treats every individual equally regardless of a person's status or influence. We will analyze the relationship of politics and the law in the distinct historical and national contexts of the contemporary US and post-war Germany, as well as exploring the topics of crimes, guilt, punishment and vigilante justice in selected literary texts and films.

FWIS 296 - BUSINESS IN THE AMERICAN IMAGINATION
Short Title: BUSINESS IN LITERATURE & FILM
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The world of business has long been a culturally rich site for national and self-reflection. As we read representations of business in literature and film, we will consider an array of allegories, motifs, and plots about the profits and pitfalls of American commerce culture.

FWIS 297 - SCIENCE, PSEUDOSCIENCE AND SKEPTICISM: HOW TO TELL GOOD SCIENCE FROM JUNK SCIENCE
Short Title: SCIENCE OR PSEUDOSCIENCE?
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This class focuses on scientific skepticism and critical thinking, and how they can be utilized to distinguish science from pseudoscience. Core topics include the fallibility of perception; mechanisms of self-deception; as well as metacognition, cognitive biases and logical fallacies. These topics will be illustrated through examples of good and bad science.
FWIS 298 - FROM CLIMATE CHANGE TO CLIMATE JUSTICE
Short Title: CLIMATE CHANGE CLIMATE JUSTICE
Department: First-Year Writing Intensive
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hours: 3
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Climate change is not only an environmental problem but also a social, economic, and political one. In this seminar, students will learn about these elements of climate change, ask how environmental issues intersect with ideas of justice, and investigate various appearances, contexts, and critical uses of the term “climate justice.”