COLLEGE COURSES

One of the colleges' important activities is their sponsorship of courses and workshops open to all students. By expanding course offerings outside of the traditional academic departments, College (COLL) Courses promote the academic involvement of the residential colleges while introducing students to interdisciplinary topics of particular interest.

Most of the COLL course offerings are Student Taught Courses (STCs). These became part of the Rice curriculum in 2006 to provide undergraduates an opportunity to teach fellow students about subjects in which they consider themselves to be an expert. Students who wish to teach a STC must first take COLL 300, a course on pedagogy that is taught by the Center for Teaching Excellence. As a part of their participation in COLL 300, these potential student instructors will propose STCs during the semester before they are potentially offered. Once approved by the Center for Teaching Excellence, these 1-credit hour (STC) College (COLL) courses are offered for academic credit on the same basis as departmental courses. More information on STCs may be found here (https://cte.rice.edu/stc/).

Students may not audit STCs and no more than three hours of credit from STCs may be counted towards graduation. This includes all courses within COLL 100-199, as well as COLL 200.

For additional information on Student Taught Courses (STCs), please see the program's website: https://cte.rice.edu/stc/.

Undergraduate Requirements

The majority of College (COLL) courses are Student Taught Courses (STCs), which are taught and overseen by Residential Colleges. They are listed as COLL 100-199 level in Rice's Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu). STCs provide undergraduates a chance to teach fellow students about subjects in which they consider themselves to be an expert. Since STCs were adopted into the Rice curriculum in 2006, hundreds of undergraduates have instructed their peers on a diverse set of topics. These courses allow undergraduates to teach and explore material in non-traditional subjects, and to thereby supplement the core Rice curriculum.

Guidelines for Student Taught Courses

Students are invited to propose Student Taught Courses (STCs) to the Center for Teaching Excellence. Guidelines for STCs are listed below:

1. All STCs are offered for 1 credit hour each.
2. All STCs are graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory scale – this is functionally equivalent to pass/fail, but does not count against a student’s quota for pass/fail courses.
3. All STCs must have an enrollment cap of 19 or fewer.
4. A student may take as many STCs as they like. As College (COLL) courses, these are listed on the academic transcript.
5. Students may not audit STCs and no more than three hours of COLL credit may be applied towards the satisfaction of a student's graduation requirements.
6. A student instructor cannot be paid a salary, but is awarded 1 credit hour for teaching the course. Colleges should first have the student instructor register in a teaching practicum (COLL 200) that is overseen by the college magister. The faculty sponsor of the STC is additionally responsible for the course, and should be involved in its planning, operations, and grading. The sponsor is also expected to attend at least 1 class and meet regularly with the student instructor.
7. A student instructor must have a GPA of 2.50 or higher and be enrolled at Rice for at least 2 semesters before teaching a course. Students must be enrolled at Rice for at least 1 full semester before proposing a class.
8. A student instructor must first complete a required course on pedagogy (COLL 300) before they will be permitted to teach a STC.

For more information regarding Student Taught Courses (STCs), including the procedures for STC proposals, and evaluation criteria, please see the Center for Teaching Excellence (https://cte.rice.edu/stc/).

There are no College Courses (COLL) offered at the graduate-level (500-level or above).

Director, Center for Teaching Excellence

Carissa Zimmerman

For Rice University degree-granting programs:
To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice's Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cat)
To view the most recent semester's course schedule, please see Rice's Course Schedule (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat)

College Courses (COLL)

COLL 100 - CLEOPATRA: UNTANGLING THE MISCONCEPTIONS (BAKER)
Short Title: CLEOPATRA
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: How is history written, and by whom? This course will use the case study of Cleopatra to analysis how and why her narrative has been framed in a certain frame for the past 2,000 years.
COLL 101 - MIND AND MATTER: SPORT PSYCHOLOGY AND PHYSIOLOGY IN FENCING AND OTHER SPORTS (BAKER)
Short Title: SPORT PSYCHOLOGY IN FENCING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Fencing may be perceived rather as a rare, inaccessible sport yet its basic fundamentals of swordplay is prevalently seen among us. Its root has extended into the modern day in various forms such as StarWars Lightsaber fights, in which Darth Vader lunges, parries, and attacks the opponent with lightsaber. Also its athletic presence has been augmenting as an Olympic sport and large global championships as fencing has proved to be more than just sword fights with its complex technicality and mental strategies. While most sports do incorporate mental strategies into performance, fencing integrates these mental knowledge into performance simultaneously with body movements. How does this dual integration of psychological strategies and physical movements in fencing differentiate from other sports? In this course, students will go over fundamental principles of fencing, compare different types and rules of fencing, and discuss mental strategies along with the physical strategies observed in Olympic games that influence an individual’s performance. Students will also be able to try practical tactics and styles in fencing and have a chance to attend one of Rice Fencing Club practices if social distancing regulations ameliorate. Furthermore, students will research sports psychology and learn how psychological factors such as visualization, imagery, self-talk and others enhance athletic performance.

COLL 102 - INTRO TO CRYPTO- A FUTURE OF BLOCKCHAIN AND CRYPTOCURRENCY (BAKER)
Short Title: INTRO TO CRYPTO
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will cover the basics of blockchain, many of its applications (including cryptocurrency, non-fungible tokens, and more), and how students can adopt this revolutionary new technology into their daily lives.

COLL 103 - FROM STAGE TO SCREEN: THE GOOD AND THE BAD OF MOVIE MUSICALS (BROWN)
Short Title: FROM STAGE TO SCREEN
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Even before the dawn of the COVID-19 pandemic and the complete shut-down of Broadway, live, quality theatre was rarely accessible, especially at an affordable price. Film adaptations of musicals, however, allow people to witness that theatre for a fraction of a Broadway ticket price, with one essential trade-off: the shift in storytelling medium requires changes to the source material that can lessen its quality dramatically. While some film adaptations are able to preserve, even enhance, the artistry of the original production, others handle the challenge much less gracefully. In “From Stage to Screen,” students will watch and discuss an assortment of film adaptations of musicals, ranging in critical acclaim and film style, in order to answer the question: considering the many definitions of success, what factors influence the artistic success of a film adaptation of a musical? While there are no exams in the course, students demonstrate comprehension of course themes through periodic papers reacting to the films and a final synthetical presentation.

COLL 104 - INTRODUCTION TO CONVERSATIONAL HINDI/URDU (JONES)
Short Title: INTRO TO HINDI/URDU
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In an increasingly connected world, speaking Hindi/Urdu opens you to communicate with over 500 million people. Although both languages are written differently, how do Hindi and Urdu intersect to form a conversational language? How does learning conversational Hindi/Urdu impact your relationship with South Asia? In Introduction to Conversational Hindi and Urdu, students will develop basic interactional competence in Hindi/Urdu to express themselves and understand others. Students will become familiar with common words and phrases and learn to converse familiar situations. This learning will be accompanied by sociocultural knowledge of South Asia by exposure to famous movies and songs, cultural events, and conversations with a native speaker. This course will focus on conversational Hindi/Urdu and will not involve learning scripts. No prior knowledge of Hindi/Urdu required.

COLL 105 - "TELLING TALES TOGETHER" COOPERATIVE STORYTELLING (JONES)
Short Title: TELLING TALES TOGETHER
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: How does cooperative storytelling work in today’s modern world? Students will learn how cooperative storytelling exists in the digital age and how they can participate in telling stories together.
COLL 106 - DISSECTING PHYSICS POP SCIENCE, FROM BLACK HOLES TO QUANTUM PHYSICS (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: DISSECTING PHYSICS POP SCIENCE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Popular science is the communication of scientific knowledge intended for a general audience. This genre of media is accessible to almost everyone and consequently evokes widespread interest in physical phenomena, from the mysterious environments of black holes to the paradoxical observations in quantum physics. However, the information conveyed is almost always qualitative. The oversaturation of textually descriptive information in pop-physics can set expectations that differ from the type of work actually being done. What is the role of qualitative and quantitative information in the strengths and weaknesses of pop-physics? We will assess the positive and negative implications of the inclusion and exemption of math in physics popular science, such as how math's prevalence and accessibility shapes its public image. We will also evaluate how well are we representing physics and educating the public through the omission of numbers. Here we probe the quantitative side of popular physics topics and use this understanding to concurrently reason whether or not the current norms for science communication should be modified.

COLL 107 - THE STORIES, MYTHS, AND LEGENDS OF INDIA IN A MODERN PERSPECTIVE (BAKER)
Short Title: STORIES & LEGENDS OF INDIA
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: For at least 7,000 years, stories and legends of the Mahabharata, the Puranas, and the Ramayana have persisted in Indian and Hindu history. The spellbinding stories in these books excite, enthrall and frighten readers at the same time. In this course, we will delve into some of the most influential stories and folk tales that come from these historical and religious texts, debate on moral ideas from these stories, and explore the essential question: Why do these stories endure and influence people today within and beyond the borders of the Indian subcontinent? Students will debate and research stories, so by the end of the course, students should have a holistic view of the main stories of the ancient texts, their content, and their impact on those with Indian heritage and others across the globe.

COLL 108 - WOULD THE REAL COMEDIAN PLEASE STAND-UP? (HANSZEN)
Short Title: STAND-UP FOR YOURSELF
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this class, we will educate guaranteed, without a doubt, future Netflix special comedians. However, if that isn't your life goal, this class is still great for you. Perchance it isn't a happenstance you've read this far. Mayhaps you want to enhance your public speaking skills or tell better stories.

COLL 109 - TALES FROM THE LAND OF THE RISING SUN (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: JAPANESE STORYTELLING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From the never-ending stream of new manga and anime to the new Godzilla movie released earlier this year, Japanese literature and media has shown an appeal that stretches far beyond its borders. While it may be easy to get caught up in the action of a well-choreographed fight scene or the beauty of a finely written paragraph, it is important to ask how Japanese literature and media influence conceptions of Japanese history and culture in the United States? In Japanese Storytelling, students will discuss the different ways that stories are told, from anime and movies to folktales and novels, and how they influence the way their culture is viewed. They will improve their ability to critically understand different texts and media through group discussion, short essays, and projects.
Coll 110 - Artificial Intelligence for Chess (Baker)
Short Title: AI for Chess
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Chess was one of the defining problems in artificial intelligence research throughout the 20th century. All attempts to solve the game encountered a combinatorial explosion: despite having only thirty-two pieces and sixty-four squares to put them, there are more possible games of chess than there are atoms in the universe. In spite of all this, modern chess engines dramatically outperform human players. To this day, chess remains technically unsolved, but these modern engines take a practical approach to give approximate solutions in a reasonable time. How can we approach computationally intractable problems whose answers aren’t even objectively verifiable? To answer this, we will explore the history of chess engines, from early alpha-beta search all the way to modern deep learning approaches. Along the way, we’ll examine key algorithms developed in the 20th and 21st centuries for search, concurrency, and machine learning. Additionally, we will write parts of our own chess engine in Rust to demonstrate the effects of particular optimizations and heuristics on engine performance. For the final project, students will implement a feature of their choosing in a chess engine and present a summary of their changes and results to the class. It is recommended that students have some programming experience equivalent to COMP 140 or CAAM 210 before taking this class.

Coll 111 - An Introduction to the Studies of Happiness & Wellbeing (Jones)
Short Title: The Happiness Class
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course serves as an introduction to studies and practices of happiness and wellbeing from an interdisciplinary perspective. We will investigate anthropological, scientific, literary, and artistic approaches to various aspects of wellbeing, in addition to critically engaging with diverse practices associated with the maintenance and creation of happiness.

Coll 112 - Defining the Anime Cult Classic (Mcmurtry)
Short Title: The Anime Cult Classic
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: To what extent can any given anime be described as a cult classic? In this course, students will define the traits of the cult classic and then consume selected anime titles which exemplify such traits. They will hone their critical thinking and oral communication skills through participating in class discussions, writing prompts of various lengths and scope and ultimately analyzing an anime cult classic of choice in a term presentation.

Coll 113 - Not Just Grandma’s Hobby: STEM-Inspired Crochet 101 (Sid Rich)
Short Title: STEM-Inspired Crochet 101
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Crochet isn’t just your grandma’s favorite pastime—from the Crochet Coral Reef’s response to climate change to a published model of chaos, this yarn-based handicraft has been used to illustrate, educate, and reimagine concepts from various STEM fields. While this strange combination remains relatively unexplored, many of these works have gained recognition for their approachability, presenting elaborate scientific and mathematical topics in easy-to-understand ways. Here, we seek to examine the question: what can crochet teach us about STEM, and how can we use this niche to reimagine our understanding of STEM? In this course, we will explore these intersections, taking a closer look at the form, function, and context behind STEM-based crochet projects. Students will learn basic crochet techniques, read short texts about specific artworks and applications, apply this knowledge toward guided crochet projects, and design their own STEM-inspired crochet concept. All students of any skill level are welcome; prior knowledge in crochet, science, or math is not required nor assumed.
COLL 114 - "C'EST BANANA" - A LINGUISTIC TAKE ON CONLANGS (WILL RICE)
Short Title: A LINGUISTIC TAKE ON CONLANGS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From fan-favorite TV shows to blockbuster movies, many popular franchises have characters who speak a language of their own. Watching minions chatter to one another is fun, but sometimes we may wonder what linguistic merit fictional languages actually have. However, not all of these fictional languages are so "fictional" — oftentimes, they have real grammar, vocabulary, and phonology patterns that are more sophisticated than expected. In what ways can these fictional languages and their structures reflect the real world languages that we speak everyday? In this course, students will analyze a different fictional language each week, followed by a chance for them to apply their new skills in a semester-long project to construct their own fictional language with the rest of the class. Students will learn how to spot linguistic patterns that apply to a broader context, ultimately aiding them in their ability to learn any type of language. The course culminates in an oral exam, where students will have the opportunity to speak to each other in the constructed language that they built together.

COLL 115 - MODERN CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: MODERN CLASSICAL MYTHOLOGY
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From video games to ballets, classical mythology has vastly influenced 21st-century entertainment. In Modern Classical Mythology, students will gain a basic understanding of original Greco-Roman myths and will be introduced to a multitude of pieces from the 21st century based on classical mythology. We will look at everything from comic books to movies with weekly discussions on the reception of these pieces as well as their accuracies and inaccuracies. As such, this course seeks to answer the question: does the medium in which we encounter classical mythology affect our interpretation and understanding of these myths? No prior knowledge of classical mythology is required. This course will cover widely known myths and figures (e.g. the fall of Icarus, Hercules’ labors, the story of Arachne, etc) and pop-culture portrayals of them. The course will have a midterm project and a final project—the purpose of which is to inspire students to think creatively about mythology and present accurate receptions of classical myths.

COLL 116 - FIGHTING THE DEADLIEST CANCER (MARTEL)
Short Title: FIGHTING THE DEADLIEST CANCER
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Lung cancer is the deadliest cancer in the world, taking more lives than breast, prostate, and colon cancers combined. Lung cancer is so fatal because ~50% of lung cancer patients are diagnosed at an advanced stage, when only 6% of patients survive more than 5 years past their diagnosis. The most effective way to improve survival for patients with lung cancer is by diagnosing the cancer early through lung cancer screening. However, less than 6% of people at high-risk for lung cancer are currently getting screened in the U.S. In this course, students will learn about the current research around lung cancer and lung cancer screening in depth. We will discuss why lung cancer screening uptake is so low and devise strategies to improve lung cancer screening advocacy. We will hear from a lung cancer patient and thoracic surgeon. As part of the course, students will plan and organize a lung cancer awareness event and research a topic of interest within the lung cancer field. The main question we will try to answer throughout the course is: How can students engage in health activism around lung cancer? Background knowledge on lung cancer is welcome but not required by any means.

COLL 117 - BOBA TEA: CULTURE FOR THE SECOND-GENERATION (WILL RICE)
Short Title: BOBA TEA
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "Asia doesn't feel like our place. And to be honest, a lot of the time America doesn't feel like our place, either. But the boba shop does... We are the Boba Generation." – The Boba Guys Developed in Taiwan in the '80s and spread across the world, boba tea is a fixture in many East Asian countries and immigrant communities. In America in particular, boba tea – a drink typically comprised of chewy tapioca pearls in a shaken iced milk tea base – has become a symbol for Asian diaspora. For decades, boba tea and boba shops have served as a cultural touchpoint for Asian-Americans who felt out of place in both Asia and America. How can food or drink shape a second-generation community? In this course, we will be discussing boba tea primarily from the Asian-American and American experiences. We will learn about the traditional influences available at the inception of boba tea, explore how and why boba continues to evolve in the present day, and investigate the history of boba culture from the perspectives of both those in the Asian-American community and those outside of it. Regardless of the student's initial familiarity with boba, students will gain the cultural understanding to feel comfortable ordering and socializing in a boba shop. Students will demonstrate what they have learned in class and in readings/videos through online discussions. Learning will be augmented by hands-on boba-making activities and trips to local boba shops that are accompanied by individual reflections. At the end of the semester, students will be challenged to apply their understanding of boba composition and second-generation food culture in a final project.
COLL 119 - SPACE MEDICINE: THE WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHY, AND HOW (DUNCAN)
Short Title: SPACE MEDICINE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From the way your blood flows to the way your eye sees, the space environment has a significant impact on the human body. Understanding these effects is crucial for future human spaceflight endeavors and has many connections to the practice of medicine here on Earth. By the end of this course, students will be able to answer the question: how does space affect the body and why is it relevant to medicine today? The course will consist of weekly classes with lectures, discussions, activities, and guest lectures. Students will be required to complete worksheets, progress checks, and a final project. All majors are welcome and no STEM background is needed.

COLL 118 - ZERO TO FORTUNE 500: HOW STARTUPS START UP (BAKER)
Short Title: ZERO TO FORTUNE 500
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Strategies in the business world are wide-ranging, but no company starts with a perfect solution. In fact, some don’t even start with a real solution at all. Following any company’s “gameplan” does not guarantee success in this world, so this class examines both infamous and respected examples in the business world to consider the question what determines success in the art of entrepreneurship? This class discusses the different methods startups use to go to market and teaches the skills that you need to employ these strategies. Lectures will be focused on case studies and examples of startups that relate to certain stages in the journey of a startup, but students will be required to develop their own idea for a company and present. Students are not expected to have any prior business experience or even want to pursue a career in business. Through examining a wide array of successful and unsuccessful companies, this course aims to highlight the different ways that companies can get their start and provide diverse real-world examples for students to find which strategies they will use in their own careers and companies, regardless of industry or occupation.

COLL 121 - MIDDLE EARTH HISTORY: INSIDE AND OUT (BAKER)
Short Title: MIDDLE EARTH HISTORY
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The Lord of the Rings are some of the most beloved movies of all time. Whether judged on Academy Awards or prevalence in popular culture, these movies have captured the imagination of millions. Tolkien’s work both within The Lord of the Rings and in other Middle Earth novels reflects artfully crafted mythos and lore that elevate his world beyond even these film depictions and have shaped the modern genre of fantasy many readers enjoy today. How does Tolkien draw on other works for his worldbuilding and how does Middle Earth reflect this influence? In this course, we will discuss how storytelling frameworks from religion, mythology and literature mirror the stories we see in sport. Michael Jordan getting cut from his high school team and Leicester City winning the Premier League contain elements of the Hero’s Journey and the David v Goliath frameworks respectively. As we move through this course, each student will have the opportunity to explore how sports and stories intersect in the hopes that the social importance of sports is further analyzed.

COLL 120 - STORYTELLING OF SPORTS: HOW SPORTS MIRROR STORYTELLING FRAMEWORKS (JONES)
Short Title: STORYTELLING OF SPORTS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Sports are important because they connect people. As one explores why this idea is so prevalent, I encourage you to wonder, “How do sports mirror the common myths and stories that have been told through the generations?”. As a student in sport management and film, the intersection of stories has always fascinated me. In this class, we will discuss how storytelling frameworks from religion, mythology and literature mirror the stories we see in sport. Michael Jordan getting cut from his high school team and Leicester City winning the Premier League contain elements of the Hero’s Journey and the David v Goliath frameworks respectively. As we move through this course, each student will have the opportunity to explore how sports and stories intersect in the hopes that the social importance of sports is further analyzed.

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Hacking', students will learn about CTF challenges and the concepts of bypassing authentication mechanisms, and more. In 'Intro to Competitive Hacking', students will learn about CTF challenges and the concepts that underpin them. In class, they would be introduced to the theory behind networks, cryptography, the modern web, and more. Outside class, students will be assigned challenges from real CTFs to practice their hacking skills. Additionally, they will learn to watch for flaws in the software they write and to defend against vulnerabilities. Finally, they will be motivated to try to understand how digital black boxes work when they encounter them.

Description:

In his 1968 film, 2001: A Space Odyssey, director Stanley Kubrick imagines a future in which space travel and artificial intelligence have become key technologies for society. It is no coincidence that the film was released at the height of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union. While many Americans were celebrating the advancements made by NASA, Kubrick invited his audience to challenge the ethical dilemmas that this new technology posed for society. This course examines 2001: A Space Odyssey and other films to answer the question, how do filmmakers and scientists influence what constitutes responsible research and ethical advancements in technology? In this course, students will discuss a variety of scientific issues and analyze how filmmakers convey their ideas through their films. Examples of topics discussed in this course include artificial intelligence, climate change, genetic engineering, pandemics, and space travel. Students will also assess the balance between scientific accuracy and simplicity necessary for a successful film. As a final project, students will select a film not discussed in the course and explain in an essay how the film expresses the filmmaker’s ideas regarding a specific scientific issue. No technical scientific background is necessary. All scientific background will be provided to students through readings assigned in advance.

Description:

The Esports industry has quietly existed since the late 1990s. However, recently the wildly popular MOBA game known as League of Legends accounted for the success of esports and the creation of a toxic subculture, and how will its role evolve? Students will be introduced to the mechanics of the game in order to adopt a player perspective during analysis of esports. Through class discussion, readings, and responses, they will trace the impact the game has had on the rise of esports infrastructure, viewership and the creation of toxic player interactions between themselves and towards the teams they support. After completing this course, students should walk away with a greater understanding of esports, an appreciation for how far esports has come, and, possibly, a desire to participate in the esports community as a positive influence.

Description:

According to the FBI, over 2.2 million complaints of internet crimes were made to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center between 2015 and 2020. What is “secure enough”? How can we spot and avoid vulnerabilities? Adopting a “hacker mindset” is a useful tool to find potential vulnerabilities in the digital systems that surround us. We can then apply the same tools and attitudes to protect these systems—from physical security to healthcare technology—from malicious actors. Capture the Flag (CTF) competitions allow hacking enthusiasts to put their skills to a test in a fun, competitive environment. Competitors are presented with challenges of varying difficulty; capturing the titular flag may require reverse engineering a compiled binary, cracking passwords, bypassing authentication mechanisms, and more. In ‘Intro to Competitive Hacking’, students will learn about CTF challenges and the concepts that underpin them. In class, they would be introduced to the theory behind networks, cryptography, the modern web, and more. Outside class, students will be assigned challenges from real CTFs to practice their hacking skills. Additionally, they will learn to watch for flaws in the software they write and to defend against vulnerabilities. Finally, they will be motivated to try to understand how digital black boxes work when they encounter them.

Description:

This course will help students understand: What neurochemical responses do drugs elicit in the brain, and how do these pathways lead to their respective physiological effects? In addition, students will develop a basic understanding of the history, legality, classifications, and harmful effects of three drug classes - stimulants, depressants, and psychedelics - and the common substances within each.

Description:

In his 1968 film, 2001: A Space Odyssey, director Stanley Kubrick imagines a future in which space travel and artificial intelligence have become key technologies for society. It is no coincidence that the film was released at the height of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union. While many Americans were celebrating the advancements made by NASA, Kubrick invited his audience to challenge the ethical dilemmas that this new technology posed for society. This course examines 2001: A Space Odyssey and other films to answer the question, how do filmmakers and scientists influence what constitutes responsible research and ethical advancements in technology? In this course, students will discuss a variety of scientific issues and analyze how filmmakers convey their ideas through their films. Examples of topics discussed in this course include artificial intelligence, climate change, genetic engineering, pandemics, and space travel. Students will also assess the balance between scientific accuracy and simplicity necessary for a successful film. As a final project, students will select a film not discussed in the course and explain in an essay how the film expresses the filmmaker’s ideas regarding a specific scientific issue. No technical scientific background is necessary. All scientific background will be provided to students through readings assigned in advance.
COLL 126 - A TASTE OF THE WORLD: INTERNATIONAL CUISINE (WILL RICE)

Short Title: A TASTE OF THE WORLD
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: The 21st century is primarily defined by a greater interlacing of cultures; its diversity has led to many new collaborative initiatives, nevertheless the historically high immigration levels have raised social, cultural and economic anxieties internationally. Consequently as members of a diverse learning institution such as Rice we must work to embrace our cultures and learn of others’. In our modern and ever diversifying world, this course will seek to answer through a study of international cuisine, how our cultures have come to shape the culinary arts and what these influences reveal about our cultures? In A Taste of the World: International Cuisine students will work in collaborative baking and research projects to learn about the influence of culture on varying culinary styles. With no exams in this course, students will participate in in-class collaborative projects, discussions, and complete an individual final project on a culture of choice (one not covered in class).

COLL 127 - THE POLITICS OF POPULAR MUSIC: PURSUING LIBERATION FROM BTS TO BEYONCE (WIESS)

Short Title: THE POLITICS OF POPULAR MUSIC
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: By analyzing weekly song selections, this discussion-based course will examine popular music through various social, political, and economic lenses. Through critical dialogue, we will arrive at answers to our essential question, “how can popular music help us challenge oppression and create a more just world?”

COLL 128 - THE ART OF LAZY PROGRAMMING (MCMURTRY)

Short Title: THE ART OF LAZY PROGRAMMING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: In your time as a Computer Scientist at Rice, you will learn many theoretical aspects of Computer Science and the way to apply programming to complex topics. However, another crucial step towards becoming a great Computer Scientist is efficiency as a developer. The Art of Lazy Programming is a one-credit course where students will be taught precisely that: students will learn vital information every programmer should know, tips on learning complex but time-saving tools, and most importantly, the answer to “how does one master their programming environment and gain the knowledge needed to be an experienced programmer”? The intention of this class is to teach students various tools and topics such as grep, docker, and sshfs – that will make their life easier by introducing efficiency. While students may learn some of these tools in classes and spend dozen of hours using them, their core benefits are never explicitly taught. Yet, mastering these tools will allow students to solve large-scale problems that seem impossibly complex. Additionally, upon completion of the course, students will also develop problem-solving skills that can be applicable outside Computer Science.

COLL 129 - ACCEPTING LOSS IN OUR DAILY LIVES: AN EXPLORATION OF "THE LEFTOVERS" (DUNCAN)

Short Title: ACCEPTING LOSS IN OUR LIVES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: We live in a binary world in which we have been programmed to believe that there are right and wrong answers to everything. Imagine that 2% of the world disappears in the blink of an eye, and all you can do is try to make sense of the senseless. In this course, we will be looking at Damon Lindelof’s “The Leftovers” through an analytical lens to expand upon the question “How does the un-explained loss of others affect our actions, keep us longing for answers, and magnify the already present ambiguity in our everyday lives”. During this course, students will watch “The Leftovers” primarily focusing on character analysis while exploring broader themes of loss, family values, grief, and ambiguity. This course aims to broaden the minds of students, allowing them to think beyond the black and white of the world they already know. Students will engage in heavy classroom participation/discussion accompanied by short readings and videos that introduce a diversity of perspectives.
COLL 130 - "OTHER" MAN: MONSTERS IN NINETEENTH CENTURY LITERATURE (BROWN)
Short Title: "OTHER" MAN
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What makes an "other"? Where did characters like Frankenstein, Dracula, and the Count of Monte Cristo come from, and why do they transfuse us into the 21st Century? Much of the literature we describe as "classic" today, particularly that from the nineteenth century, involves some sort of supernatural "other" squaring off against a human opponent. Furthermore, many of the themes explored even over a century ago are strikingly relevant to the modern day. In "Other" man, students will engage with nineteenth Century literature across novel excerpts, films, and summaries through time. We will discuss changes made from the source material. Students will widen their knowledge of literature, critically analyze multiple mediums of storytelling, and practice confidence in discussion, presentation, and essay writing.

COLL 131 - LET'S TALK ABOUT SEXUALITY, BABY: QUEERNESS, SEX, AND THE MEDIA (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: QUEERNESS, SEX, AND THE MEDIA
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, we will ask ourselves how depictions of queerness in the media have evolved over time and how they compare to popular perceptions of queerness and primary accounts of queer existence at the time. We will analyze pieces of media, queer theory, as well as primary accounts from the LGBTQ+ community to create a more well-rounded picture of how depictions of queerness (especially in relation to depictions of queer sex) have evolved over time and how that impacts how we view queerness today and ask ourselves: why does the study of queerness matter — to ourselves and to society? You will develop your understanding of media analysis and employ a multifaceted approach to queer studies by gaining comfort working with queer theory, historical primary sources, and media including but not limited to theatre, film, and television. Throughout the semester, we will approach both queer and media studies with an eagerness to learn, embracing both queer joy and pain in our effort. While we will draw on a variety of materials and global perspectives, queer studies is a vast field, and the course will primarily focus on the LGBTQ+ community in the United States.

COLL 132 - ORIGAMI SEKKEI: A MATHEMATICAL APPROACH TO THE ANCIENT ART OF PAPER FOLDING (JONES)
Short Title: MATHEMATICAL ORIGAMI DESIGN
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The art of paper folding has existed for over fifteen centuries, yet an astonishing 98 percent of new origami designs have been developed within the past fifty years and with rapidly increasing complexity. This modern day origami renaissance has been closely connected to advances in science, technology, and computational mathematics combined with artistic intuition and creativity. How can mathematical methods be applied to develop awesome, creative origami with a purpose? The practice of origami sekkei, or technical origami design, overthrows the traditional freestyle folding process and instead turns to a carefully engineered theoretical model. Students will explore contributions from the pioneers of modern origami, ranging from the practically intricate work of NASA physicist Robert J. Lang to the elegant simplicity of origami grandmaster Kiyohozawa. The course will cover mathematical techniques such as base folding, grafting, circle packing, tree theory, and box pleating through hands-on, interactive exercises. Starting with the very basics, this course is designed to be approachable to beginners in all aspects but also offers topics that may be of additional interest for those in specialized fields of study. Overall, we hope to unfold the mysteries of origami and turn the page to reveal some of the most cutting-edge work in the field.

COLL 133 - SIPPING CULTURE: TEA FROM SEED TO SOMMELIER (LOVETT)
Short Title: SIPPING CULTURE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "As the second most-consumed drink in the world (after water), tea holds a remarkable amount of significance in nearly every past and present culture. Historically, the cultivation and spread of tea can be used to illustrate the roots of trade, cultural diffusion, and the development of globalization. With the global tea market being worth an estimated 200 billion U.S. dollars in 2020, contemporary tea production has an astonishing economic and environmental impact in countries such as China and India. Encapsulated in this context is a fine dining tea culture built upon the scientific and sensory evaluation of tea. This class aims to delve into these issues, all while acquainting students with formal tea tasting and grading techniques. Guided by weekly tea tastings, a field trip to a local tea house, and interactive history lessons, we will be asking the following key questions: How has tea impacted the economic and political development in history? What role do current tea production and labor practices have in climate change, political unrest, and social justice? How can one develop their senses to assess dry and brewed tea? Altogether, this class strives to turn the casual tea-drinking student into a master tea sommelier by asking the following overarching inquiry: What does it mean to be a conscious and knowledgeable tea consumer in practice?"
COLL 134 - RUBIK'S CUBE/TWISTY PUZZLE AND SPEEDSOLVING THEORY (LOVETT)
Short Title: RUBIK'S CUBE THEORY
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: There are many ways to solve the Rubik's Cube, often cited as the world's most popular toy and the archetype of twisty puzzles, which vary greatly in difficulty and complexity. Unfortunately, when learning these methods, many beginners prioritize brute-force algorithm memorization over an intuitive understanding of twisty puzzle behavior and why these algorithms accomplish what they claim to do. Although advanced solution methods indeed are heavily reliant on algorithm memorization, learning introductory solution methods in this way will lead to rapid decay of their mastery. Thus, how does an intuitive understanding of twisty puzzles affect the long-term learning and application of their solution methods? In this course, students will learn the mathematical basis of twisty puzzle behavior, predominant methods of solving the Rubik's Cube (3x3) and Rubik's Revenge (4x4), and ways of constructing solves and critiquing their efficiency. Students should expect to spend time each week practicing solves of the 3x3 and 4x4, commenting on the choices they make to solve increasingly large portions of these puzzles. Students will also regularly analyze solution methods for the 3x3 and 4x4, through both physical manipulation and computer simulation of twisty puzzles.

COLL 135 - FORM AND FUNCTION: THE BEAUTIFUL ART FORM OF CERAMICS (BROWN)
Short Title: FORM AND FUNCTION OF CERAMICS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Clay is one of the most versatile materials in the world allowing people to create anything between a bowl to an art form. As such, people have had great successes in finding hand-building techniques that have elevated the craft. Like any other medium, artists use clay to express ideas or concepts. In particular, by combining clay with new technologies such as video, fashion, and painting, artists have set a precedent for an endless amount of possibilities for the future of ceramic art. But, in an ever-changing art world, how does the form and functionality of clay impact the art viewed by the audience? In Form and Function, students will apply ancient to modern hand-building techniques to elevate their technical and artistic abilities. Through a deep exploration of tried and true techniques, students will discover and explore their working style with clay. By the end of the semester, students will have utilized research from books, videos, pictures, exhibits, collections, and guest scholars. From this knowledge, students will examine, appreciate and differentiate the beautiful artforms that ceramics can inhabit. Instead of exams, students complete four in-class projects using different techniques taught throughout the course.

COLL 136 - FUNDAMENTALS OF DIGITAL DESIGN (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: DIGITAL DESIGN
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In Fundamentals of Digital Design, students will learn the key principles of user experience and interface design (UX/UI), elements of mobile app interfaces, and the application of digital design for the technical world. Focusing heavily on interface design, this course will break down the elements of an interface and discuss color theory, typography, usability, and human factors, and leave students with a strong foundation in what makes good digital design.

COLL 137 - INVESTING, TRADING, AND PERSONAL FINANCE (WILL RICE)
Short Title: INVESTING AND TRADING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Have you ever thought of investing in the Financial Markets but aren't sure how to get started? Do you think investing is for the old and wealthy? With the increasing precarity surrounding us, it is more important than ever to set yourself up for financial success. There is a common misconception in investing that you need a lot of money to get started. That is certainly not true anymore. All it takes is a plan. Learning how to invest is a skill that everyone can make use of. In this class, you will learn the basics of investing and account management. We will cover what the stock market is, how to invest, what stocks to pick, how to hedge, and the importance of investing your money. Starting to prepare for YOUR financial future is a luxury that many people wished they started doing in their early 20s. Over time, you will be able to generate more money through passive income than through a traditional office job, and this will be illustrated by the power of compound interest. We will discuss your needs as an individual financially and come up with an effective plan to meet those needs. We will also discuss something many mathematicians and investors have long debated – does technical analysis work? What are its limits, and when can you use it? Why should and why should it not work? By the end of the class, you will have the tools required to manage your own portfolio effectively and plan for your future and retirement.
COLL 139 - HYBRID BEINGS, MULTIPLE SELVES: THE CONSTRUCTION OF IDENTITY IN A DIGITAL AND MATERIAL AGE (BROWN)
Short Title: HYBRID BEINGS, MULTIPLE SELVES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: How much time do you spend online and how does that compare to your time offline? How do these different experiences mesh to influence the type of person you are? What kind of person does existing in these two planes make you? Hybrid Beings: Multiple Selves investigates the impacts of technology on our conceptions of self and embodied experience; focusing on visual technologies like print and screens. This course will focus predominantly on 21st century technologies, particularly the impact of social media on the way we conduct our lives and the ramifications of the corporate control of social life. A critical portion of the course will investigate the forms that social justice takes in the "real world" versus online; echo chambers, politically charged "news" generated by extremist groups, and the facilitation of these negative outcomes via the anonymity and lack of accountability afforded by the internet. Through our meanderings we will discuss ideas pertaining to materiality turn, phenomenology, power, gender, sexuality, race, intersectionality, and the social construction of experience. The ultimate question we pose is: What does it mean to BE in the 21st century and how can we adjust our behaviors to adapt to the inevitability of technology’s growing guidance of our lives?

COLL 140 - THE HISTORY AND PSYCHOLOGY OF MURDER (LOVETT)
Short Title: HISTORY & PSYCHOLOGY OF MURDER
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From manslaughter to capital punishment, there are many types of homicide. The focus of this class will be on murder, commonly distinguished from other kinds of homicide by the words "unlawful" and "premeditated". How can we define murder, and what factors go into the motivation and execution of a murder?

COLL 141 - THE SPOKEN WORD: HOW PERFORMANCE POETRY BRINGS NARRATIVE POEMS TO LIFE (DUNCAN)
Short Title: THE SPOKEN WORD
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, we will take a critical look at the art of performance poetry and discuss its place in the realm of narrative poetry. Students will analyze poetry performances and will end the class by writing and performing original work.

COLL 142 - HOUSTON MICROBREWERIES: CULTURE AND APPRECIATION (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: HOUSTON MICROBREWERIES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What do the places of beer consumption reveal about our culture? In Houston Microbreweries, students will examine the history and culture of the microbrewery movement, developing a stronger appreciation for the breweries themselves and their social importance. Due to in-class tastings, this course is restricted to ages 21+.

COLL 143 - THE 2020 ELECTION: AN ANALYTICAL PERSPECTIVE (JONES)
Short Title: THE 2020 ELECTION
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In late October 2020, Biden had a double-digit polling lead over Trump, and many political observers virtually assured the public of a Democratic landslide. When the election happened, a closer-than-expected Biden victory left many Americans with the same takeaways they had from 2016: that polls were broken, pundits had no clue what they were talking about, and Trump was impossible to analyze. This course will examine each of these assumptions. Talking about elections—especially this one—is an emotionally charged, partisan exercise. What can we learn from 2020 by analyzing the campaign while controlling for our emotions and partisan leanings? Each week, the class will cover one aspect of the election (race, COVID, debates, etc.) informed by readings: a combination of primary sources from the campaign and retrospective analysis of the topics’ effects. Students will conclude the course by writing a short political memo to a hypothetical 2024 candidate advising them on a lesson they should learn from 2020.

COLL 144 - AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE: COMMUNICATING NON-VERBALLY IN AN AUDITORY WORLD (WILL RICE)
Short Title: AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course is meant as an introduction to American Sign Language. No prior experience is needed nor expected. There will be a focus on learning both basic signs and how to construct sentences from that.
COLL 145 - POKEMON: GAME STRATEGIES WITH IMPERFECT INFORMATION (LOVETT)
Short Title: POKEMON GAME STRATEGIES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Students will explore the game theory and strategy behind the competitive Pokémon scene, gaining insight on how to make decisions in scenarios with limited information. At the core of this class is the question “how do I decide what move to make?”, which involves analyzing what information is known and unknown, imagining possible obstacles and outcomes, and prioritizing appropriate goals. Students will develop skills and strategy tools to answer this question through the lens of Pokémon. The Pokémon games are turn-based strategy games where players create a team from a wide selection of characters and battle opponents with similarly constructed teams. Although typically this opponent is a simple AI, in a competitive context, human players battle each other. This increases the complexity of the game significantly. This course will focus on the “core series” of Pokémon video games for Nintendo handheld consoles, specifically the 8th and most recent installment of the series, Sword & Shield. The course will cover introductory mechanics and principles so that students with no prior experience won’t be lost, and at the end of the semester we will have an in-class tournament to apply skills gained.

COLL 146 - LAW IN FILM (MARTEL)
Short Title: LAW IN FILM
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Lightning trials, outbursts in the courtroom, and gavels slamming. Despite what movies might depict, these tropes are far from the reality. Through watching legal movies, learn how film distorts films become such big hits or massive failures. Whether it’s Mean Girls or Marvel movies, you will be equipped to defend any film’s perceived artistic value.

COLL 147 - SUPERHEROES: MYTHOS & MORALITY (MARTEL)
Short Title: SUPERHEROES: MYTHOS & MORALITY
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Fictional superheroes shape common ideals of justice, responsibility, and moral good. This class will compare flat and dynamic superhero character arcs, find intention behind each story, and glean if our fascination with superheroes can tell us about our personal values and obsession for a society in need of simple, straightforward mending. Students will pick out aspects of various superhero mythoi from media selections and be able to outline a story arc and craft powerful characters that’s definitively theirs.

COLL 148 - THE ART OF THE BLOCKBUSTER: MOVIES MADE FOR THE MASSES (LOVETT)
Short Title: THE ART OF THE BLOCKBUSTER
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Do you like big-time movies and blockbusters? Do your wannabe movie snob friends scoff at your mainstream taste? Well, here is your chance to prove them wrong! From Steven Spielberg to Michael Bay and everyone in between, we will examine the nuances and stylings that make blockbusters what they are. We will also be diving into common blockbuster genres to examine how and why certain types of films become such big hits or massive failures. Whether it’s Mean Girls or Marvel movies, you will be equipped to defend any film’s perceived artistic value.

COLL 149 - WILL THE REAL COMEDIAN PLEASE STAND UP? (HANSZEN)
Short Title: STAND-UP (COMEDY) FOR YOURSELF
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: So you think you’re funny? Or at least you want to be? I mean that’s why you’re even looking at this class in the first place. But how do you know what it means to be funny? How does anyone know what it means to be funny? How does comedy play a role in understanding ourselves and connecting with each other? In this class, we will try to apply what we learn from watching famous comedians: Bo Burnham, Aziz Ansari, Sarah Silverman, Neal Brenan, Wanda Sykes, and John Mulaney and analyzing their technique (style, timing, and stage presence) and their social commentary (race, identity, politics, sexuality, morals, and anything else you don’t want to talk about with your relatives) in creating our own standup sets and comedic styles. In creating their own sets and styles, students will learn more about their own style of comedy and learn how to best use that to form a relationship with any potential audiences. Through constant practice and several “Eye of the Tiger” training montages, we will develop and fine tune our sets to eventually host a comedy special, showcasing everything we have learned throughout the semester.
COLL 150 - WINES & VINES (HANSZEN)
Short Title: WINES & VINES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Wine has been a cultural and culinary cornerstone for over 5,000 years across many different cultures. Since 2013, the U.S. has been the number one global consumer of wine. However, wine lovers have existed for much longer. In fact, the first recorded wine was from 7,000 years ago in China. Not only is the history of wine extensive, but it also continues to be a predominant facet of the modern day, featuring on dinner tables around the world. How does understanding the long history of wine change the experience of appreciating wine? Through classroom wine tastings, students will learn how to properly serve a glass of wine, begin developing their taste palette, and expand their terminology for proper wine descriptions. Students will explore the geography of wine regions and their regional differences, as well as how wine arrived and developed across the world. Not only will we learn about the process of winemaking, but also its technical history and contemporary agricultural and environmental problems. Students must be 21+.

COLL 151 - THE STARS & YOU: YOUR LIFE & WORLD THROUGH ASTROLOGY (LOVETT)
Short Title: THE STARS & YOU
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this day and age, our society thrives off of our lack of knowing, understanding, and loving ourselves. When brands and businesses profit off our lack of fulfillment and distraction in the material world just to sell us the next best product to fix whatever is wrong with us or to fill whatever need we have, we end up lacking the energy, will, and resources to discover who we are. In a world that constantly tugs you to and fro between trends, unreasonable standards, and crippling pressure and expectations, do you know who you are and who you want to be? How can we use astrology as a method of continual introspection to better understand and engage with ourselves and the world around us? In what ways can astrology as a field evolve to better support our individual and societal needs? Astrology provides a cosmic look into the person you were divinely created to be and how you interact with the world around you. We go beyond horoscopes and sun-signs, and begin to dig into the depths and complexities of astrology using birth/natal charts - how the heavens aligned with the planets and constellations at the exact moment of your birth. In this course, students will learn how to use astrology as a guide on their life paths, through defining astrological terms and applying this to their own natal charts. This gained knowledge of the self will provide both freedom and grounding to allow students to better navigate their world. Students will also acknowledge and engage with astrology's history and how that fits, or does not, into our changing world's needs.

COLL 152 - TOURING THE WORLD THROUGH FOOD (MARTEL)
Short Title: TOURING THE WORLD THROUGH FOOD
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will take a deeper dive in the building blocks of dishes, including fundamental ingredients, and explore which cuisines use them and how they are prepared in different cultures. Select ingredients will be introduced with a historical approach, highlighting how trade and globalization have affected their prevalence. We will then build on this historical foundation and discuss different cultures’ preparation of these ingredients and how they are used in different dishes. Learning and assessment will center on participation in class discussions, reflective essays, and a final project synthesizing the knowledge of different cultures and cuisines. Students should have previous cooking experience. Note: this course entails working with meat, eggs, and dairy.

COLL 153 - HOW THE INTERNET SHAPES MODERN CINEMA (AND VICE VERSA) (HANSZEN)
Short Title: CINEMA AND THE INTERNET
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Cinema has changed since the inception of the internet, specifically social media. The ways that films are advertised and distributed as well as their content has shifted. In How the Internet Shapes Modern Cinema (and Vice Versa), students will investigate this while exploring the ways that movies have influenced trends and perception on the internet. Students will also leave with a clear image of the ways that members on social media have co-opted film terminology. Through taking this course, students will come to understand how the internet and the film industry interact to create modern cinema.
COLL 154 - CHESS FOR BEGINNERS: A BOARD GAME THAT MIRRORS THE WORLD (MCURRY)
Short Title: CHESS FOR BEGINNERS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: The game of chess is hundreds of years old, played around the world, and considered by many to be the most popular game of strategy in human history. Richard Réti, a man famous for his study of endgames in the early 20th century, once said that “In the idea of chess and the development of the chess mind we have a picture of the intellectual struggle of mankind.” In looking towards these historical games and players, we must ask: The game of chess is a tool to practice our logic and problem-solving skills. How can we use it to discover our best self through the eyes of players past? This course will teach you the fundamentals of chess and provide you with the tools you need to improve your chess play outside the classroom, offering room for self-evaluation. There will be guidance on beginning, developing, and ending a chess game, thorough analysis of historic and culturally relevant chess games and players, and structures for taking notes on games to better study the game. You will write papers analyzing your own play as well as the play of chess grandmasters, with multiple opportunities to play the game and learn through experience against your fellow students.

COLL 155 - FANTASTIC MICROBES AND WHERE TO FIND THEM (WILL RICE)
Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO EXTREMOPHILES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Sometimes, truth really is stranger than fiction. From bacteria that survive in scalding waters to viruses mistaken for bacteria, microbes challenge our views of biology. Exceptions abound for seemingly fundamental rules. Although “mitochondria are the powerhouse of the eukaryotic cell,” monocercomonoids do not have them. What can these strange microbes reveal about life and its limits? In this course, we will study a variety of curious creatures and understand the mechanisms behind their existence. We will also delve into the broader evolution of microbes by exploring topics such as antibiotic resistance and the possibility of life on other planets. By discussing current scientific literature and preparing a presentation for an in-class conference, students will discover associations between different organisms and topics. Everyone, regardless of scientific background, is welcome to come and explore the fantastic world of microbes.

COLL 156 - MUSIC THAT DEFINED A CULTURE: EXPLORATION OF GRATEFUL DEAD LYRICS (DUNCAN)
Short Title: MUSIC THAT DEFINED A CULTURE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "A lot of music has been designed to appeal to the masses with catchy beats and superficial lyrics. However, a psychedelic rock band from the late 1960s defied the status quo and created a community. Through thought-provoking lyrics and improvisational music, the Grateful Dead were a cultural phenomena. Inspired by their time on the road, the band wrote mystical songs filled with allusion and symbolism. More importantly, the Grateful Dead played music that deeply resonated with their fans' emotions. In this course, students will analyze Grateful Dead lyrics and learn about their lifestyle. A deep dive into the lyrics shows the range of the human experience and how a traveling band lived. Analysis of the Grateful Dead will help students answer the question: Why do certain lyrical and musical strategies cause people to react in different ways? Every class, students will participate in group discussions about different song interpretations and connect the songs to what was happening in the band at the time. There will be a final paper where students analyze a song, describe the allusions, and elaborate on their reaction to the song."

COLL 157 - ORIGINS, FAITH, SCIENCE: THE BEGINNINGS OF LIFE IN MONOTHEISM AND MODERN SCIENCE (WILL RICE)
Short Title: ORIGINS, FAITH, SCIENCE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Our very existence poses the so-called greatest question: Why is there anything at all? Moreover, that humans have long asked such a transcendental question poses yet another: How did beings with such capacity for self-reflection come to exist? Whatever our answers, they shape the whole trajectory of our lives and communities. In this course, we focus on some of the most influential answers to the question of origins. Specifically, we consider, What do the monotheistic faiths and modern science say about origins of life, and how harmonious or conflicting are their visions? We study both the original historical context and modern-day interpretations of the religious texts, as well as the history of evolution as an alternative origins framework. At the end of the course, students will prepare a project with their personal synthesis of origin accounts in an answer to the question, “How compatible are faith and science?” No background knowledge is required, and diverse viewpoints are encouraged. There will be no exams.
Empathy is innate—evolved from a parent’s need to care for their children—but people often cannot put into words why they empathize. There’s a lot of information out there on empathy: self-help books, blog posts, and even peer-reviewed research. However, most of this information is either subjective or presents empathy as something that can be maximized with ten steps (and ten dollars). Subjective experience is a good starting point, but if we truly want to understand empathy, we need to answer the following question: what makes people empathize and why does empathy motivate them to help other people? In Empathy, students will take an interdisciplinary approach to understanding why people empathize. By exploring its psychological mechanisms, its neural correlates, how it is conveyed through language (semantics), and even computational recreations of it, students will be challenged to see empathy from a variety of perspectives. By the end of the course, students will be able to define empathy in their own words and either measure it using an inventory/tool they have written/created OR increase it using an intervention they have designed.

COLL 158 - MEMES FROM A LINGUISTIC PERSPECTIVE (JONES)
Short Title: MEMES & LINGUISTICS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Within the last thirty years, the advent of the internet has allowed humanity to share information faster than ever before, including such information as those funny repeated text, image, and audio motifs commonly known as memes. Today, nearly all online communities employ memes to express ideas in humorous and relatable formats, packaging information in reproducible, variable templates reliant on a shared cultural knowledge much like language does. While cat photos with funny captions often make us laugh, how often do we stop and ask: What can internet memes tell us about the structures & functions of human communication, cognition, and society? This course analyzes the phenomenon of the internet meme as symbolic communication, applying methods and theories used in the field of linguistics to better understand the structure and function of memes. Through comparison of the “language” of internet memes to spoken human language, students will discover how memes convey meaning, evolve over time, interact with one another, and reflect upon the demographics of those who post them. This course emphasizes interaction with real data, requiring students to collect and analyze meme exemplars found on internet forums in weekly homework assignments. For their final project, students will create and present an analysis of a meme format (or formats) of their choice utilizing the theory and methods discussed in class.

COLL 159 - EMPATHY: WHY WE HELP OTHERS (WIESS)
Short Title: EMPATHY
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Empathy is innate—evolved from a parent’s need to care for their children—but people often cannot put into words why they empathize. There’s a lot of information out there on empathy: self-help books, blog posts, and even peer-reviewed research. However, most of this information is either subjective or presents empathy as something that can be maximized with ten steps (and ten dollars). Subjective experience is a good starting point, but if we truly want to understand empathy, we need to answer the following question: what makes people empathize and why does empathy motivate them to help other people? In Empathy, students will take an interdisciplinary approach to understanding why people empathize. By exploring its psychological mechanisms, its neural correlates, how it is conveyed through language (semantics), and even computational recreations of it, students will be challenged to see empathy from a variety of perspectives. By the end of the course, students will be able to define empathy in their own words and either measure it using an inventory/tool they have written/created OR increase it using an intervention they have designed.
COLL 163 - THE PHILOSOPHY OF BOJACK HORSEMAN (DUNCAN)
Short Title: PHILOSOPHY OF BOJACK HORSEMAN
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Framed around the popular Netflix show Bojack Horseman, students will gain an introduction to ontology and deep understanding of existential philosophy. The focus will consistently be on two fundamental questions: "What is the meaning of life?" and consequently "If life has no inherent meaning, what do we do?"

COLL 164 - A TRIP TO THE NETHERLANDS - AN INTRODUCTION TO DUTCH CULTURE (BROWN)
Short Title: DUTCH CULTURE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In a tourist society where most vacation plans are made using Tripadvisor or comparable services it is hard to get a feel for a country while also doing things you like. In this class the students will answer the question: What does your perfect trip to the Netherlands looks like?

COLL 165 - SKATEBOARDING ON FILM (WIESS)
Short Title: SKATEBOARDING ON FILM
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Digital video cameras have heavily influenced the development of skateboarding as a sport since their introduction. Giving pros and amateurs alike a way to record and share their newest tricks, lines, and ideas, video recording has pushed skateboarding to be nearly as much art as sport. In this class, students will learn the basics of riding a skateboard and creating and editing your own videos. We will also make at least two class trips to a Houston skatepark to introduce students to Houston skate culture and provide additional filming opportunities. Ultimately students should be able to answer the following essential question: How might I express my individual artistic style in my films?

COLL 166 - MIND GAMES: PSYCHOLOGICAL GAME THEORY CONCEPTS (JONES)
Short Title: MIND GAMES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Students will learn basic game theory concepts and the ways that those can be augmented in order to allow for human behavior. This class will look at how emotions can be added to models of games, and how these values will influence outcomes. Additionally, there will be discussions of these models, the augmentations, and the student's perceived efficacy of the changes.

COLL 167 - MISS AMERICANA: THE EVOLUTION AND LYRICS OF TAYLOR SWIFT (HANSZEN)
Short Title: TAYLOR SWIFT LYRICAL EVOLUTION
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "Hailed as the ""Songwriter of the Decade"", Taylor Swift has been at the forefront of pop culture for years, making her an enduring presence in a fast-paced industry. The name itself brings both appeal and aversions, yet what really shines about the star is her songwriting. Through close readings of her music, alongside considerations of her public discourse, this class will be a seminar discussing the nuances of her lyrics. Using a chronological approach, this course will spend time on each one of her ten albums. We'll consider a broad range of topics, including: femininity and gender; social media and public opinion; politics and social impact; fiction and nonfiction; American nationalism and whiteness; and finally, family and feuds. We therefore aim to answer the question: What does Taylor Swift's songwriting evolution say about her own personal growth surrounding public discourse? Instruction will be provided in lecture, discussion, and audiovisual formats. Knowledge will be evaluated with short written responses, participation in class discussions, and a final essay analyzing a song of your choosing."

COLL 168 - INTRODUCTION TO THE SKIN WE LIVE IN (BAKER)
Short Title: INTRO TO SKIN
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Skin problems aren't limited to acne; we sometimes get eczema, warts, and rashes. There's a sea of intriguing skin conditions just waiting to be understood and treated! This course will cover the integumentary system, ingredients in the skin care/dermatological industry, skin care habits, and skin diseases and treatments!
COLL 169 - LEGAL INTERPRETATION (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: LEGAL INTERPRETATION
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Designed for pre-law students, PLST Minors, Political Science Majors/Minors, and those interested in pursuing a J.D, Legal Interpretation delves deep into the influence and ramifications that the laws found within the codified body of both Federal & state statutes - the Penal Codes - and the various SCOTUS cases we have had over the past 80 years. Students will apply this knowledge and their own moral beliefs to ultimately answer the question: how should our personal ethical codes intersect with our interpretation of the law?

COLL 170 - MEMES AND INTERNET CULTURE (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: INTERNET CULTURE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: First coined as a term to identify the most basic units of culture, memes have brought about a new mode of communication that has revolutionized the way we relate to each other. But do memes heal or harm our society, our culture, and our perception of the world? This course aims to explore the powerful nature of memes and how the increasing reliance on internet culture informs our society at large. We will discuss memes as a communication tool through sociological, philosophical, and critical discussions. By the end of the course, students will be equipped to thoughtfully examine this technique of communication that the digital age has created. Students of all disciplines and meme expertise are welcome to join our exploration of the internet culture we exist in.

COLL 171 - THE HETEROGENEITY OF CHINESE CULTURE THROUGH FOOD (BAKER)
Short Title: CHINESE CULTURE THROUGH FOOD
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Chinese culture is one of the oldest and richest cultures with deep roots in agriculture, which is defined by regional differences in geography and climate. As such, Chinese cultural values are often expressed through food, often serving as symbols for good fortune or storytelling during Chinese holidays. These regional differences gave rise to many schools of Chinese cuisine that are each defined by unique regional characteristics. Traditionally, there are 8 Great Schools of Chinese Cuisine, but many more can be identified from China’s diverse geography and ethnic population. Similarly, Chinese culture represents a collection of many subcultures with regional definitions, including Chinese diasporic communities in America that have grown in recent years, presenting the opportunity to examine these subcultures from the lens of food. We therefore aim to answer the question: How do the schools of Chinese cuisine shape or represent their respective Chinese subcultures? Instruction will be provided in lecture, discussion, and demonstration formats. Knowledge will be evaluated with short written assignments, a map project, and a final project where you will design your own dish based on the 8 Great Schools of Chinese Cuisine.

COLL 172 - THE PERFECT HAIRCUT (WILL RICE)
Short Title: THE PERFECT HAIRCUT
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, we explore the essential question of: How do individual and social factors interact to compose the “perfect haircut” for every individual? Through case studies and interactive discussions, students will have the opportunity to explore a range of historical and cultural factors that shape the hairstyles of those around them. By studying individual factors such as genetics and lifestyles, students will be able to identify best hair-care practices and use modern-day techniques to create comprehensive recommendations for various scenarios.
COLL 173 - INTRO TO IMAGINEERING: HOW TO THINK LIKE A DISNEY IMAGINEER (BROWN)
Short Title: INTRO TO IMAGINEERING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this course, we will delve into the history and design process of Imagineering to fully understand what it means to be an Imagineer. Students will learn “Mickey's Ten Commandments” for theme park design used throughout the theme park entertainment industry, observe previous and present projects created by WDI, and establish an understanding of how to think like an Imagineer. Students will also be challenged to apply the Imagineering thinking and design process from Blue Sky to “construction” in a semester-long project.

COLL 174 - THE ART OF THE ALBUM: MUSIC ALBUM ANALYSIS (JONES)
Short Title: MUSIC ALBUM ANALYSIS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will be exploring various popular and groundbreaking musical albums that are considered to be “works of art” and answering the question: When/How does an album stop being just a collection of songs, and become art? We will be attempting to answer this question through weekly explorations of critically acclaimed albums and analyzing said albums' thematic elements, tracklisting, storytelling, lyrics, and more. In this course, students will learn the tools and writing techniques to write about music and albums to better understand the music they like and analyze it.

COLL 175 - THE ALCHEMY OF ART: THE SCIENTIFIC PHENOMENA IN A PAINTER'S PALETTE (WIESS)
Short Title: THE ALCHEMY OF ART
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "How do we create art? What are the scientific principles within an artwork's materials that allow us to appreciate it? How can we use the creative sparks at the art/science interface to innovate the future? This course examines "meaning" and "meaning-making" through learning about common scientific principles that are inherent in materials used for artistic creation. How do egg yolks turn into paint on a canvas? What are the optics of pigment and perception? What are the composite properties present in creating hand-made paper? Students will formulate such questions about art in the context of the natural world, and foster an appreciation for the discoveries at the interface of art and science. In this course, students will apply learned science principles in a variety of hands-on studio sessions, experiment with creating art through the mechanics of differing mediums, and discuss the ways in which science and art fields supplement and affect one another in a larger societal context. The class will be an approachable way for artists to engage in creative scientific discussions around materials used in the artistic process and for scientists to appreciate theories applied within the arts and aesthetics. Students will leave this course having developed a greater appreciation for art, materials science, and creative expression — preparing them to become multifaceted innovators of the future."

COLL 176 - ADDRESSING STIGMAS AGAINST DISCUSSING MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL ILLNESS (WILL RICE)
Short Title: LET'S TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Mental Health is defined as a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional well-being. Mental illness is defined as health conditions involving changes in emotion, thinking or behavior (or a combination of these). Stigma towards mental health largely takes the shape of societal disapproval of those with mental illness or who desire to discuss mental health in their communities. In this course, we will cover common stigmas related to discussing mental health and approaching mental illness. We will also examine how we may have implicit bias against people with mental illness or even against discussing mental health in general and how we can work to address those biases. This course will also look at various coping strategies used by individuals struggling with mental health and introduce positive practices to discuss mental health.
COLL 177 - INTRO TO DISABILITIES AND MENTAL DISORDERS (BAKER)
Short Title: DISABILITIES AND DISORDERS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Explore various disabilities and mental disorders, with an emphasis on integration and acceptance.

COLL 178 - A CUP OF CULTURE: COFFEE'S HISTORY AND COMMODIFICATION (SID RICH)
Short Title: A CUP OF CULTURE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "From the consumption of Coffea Arabica in the 15th century to the modern Starbucks Blonde Vanilla Latte, the consumer experience regarding coffee, including its brewing method, global distribution, and industrialization has changed dramatically since its first cultivation. Coffee is, and will likely continue to be, a unifying characteristic of cultures around the globe for centuries to come. How has the commercialization of coffee impacted the development of a global coffee culture and the consumer experience? The aim of this course is to introduce you to the history and development of coffee culture as a global product. More specifically, this course focuses on coffee preparation methods, the cultural significance of coffee across different parts of the world, and the effects of the booming coffee industry in the United States. All students of any coffee background are welcome; prior knowledge in coffee, science, or history is not required nor assumed."

COLL 179 - EAT, PRAY, LATKE: JEWISH UNIFICATION THROUGH HOLIDAY FOOD (HANSZEN)
Short Title: EAT, PRAY, LATKE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: From as early as the 6th century BCE, Jews have been expelled from their historic homelands to countries all over the world. This movement, known as the Jewish Diaspora, led to the development of numerous ethnic divisions within the Jewish culture, such as the Ashkenazi, the Sephardic, and more. The global migration of the Jewish people has led to separate religious practices and cultural diversity within the religion. However, holiday celebrations have served as a bridge to unite Jews from different backgrounds through shared rituals, prayer, and, most importantly, food. Therefore, throughout this class, students will examine: why does food play such a central role in Jewish holidays? To investigate this, students will learn about the historical background and symbolism behind classic Jewish holiday cuisine. At the end of each lecture, students will participate in a Kahoot quiz to test their knowledge of the historical significance and symbolism of each holiday and its food. The following week, everyone will participate in a hands-on cooking tutorial based on the previous in-class lecture, allowing students to foster their interest and appreciation for unfamiliar cultures. At the end of the course, students will be expected to prepare a traditional Jewish holiday food of their choice and examine how food impacts their own holiday celebrations.
COLL 180 - NARRATIVE AND STORYTELLING IN ROLE-PLAYING GAMES (BROWN)
Short Title: STORYTELLING IN GAMES
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "Role-playing video games, frequently shortened to role-playing games (RPGs), are a genre of video games, where the player interacts directly with the world, usually gaining character development in terms of recording statistics. The game world is often rooted in speculative fiction, drawing from fantasy and sci-fi to inhabit worlds that suspend standard understandings of reality. More than other genres, RPGs rely on a combination of gameplay mechanics, cutscenes, and user interface to develop well-defined stories and settings that drive the complex negotiation between the player and the game. Building on this, how do RPGs integrate interactive gameplay and narrative elements to create an effective story? In this course, we will explore elements of role-playing games (abilities, items, combat, cutscenes, setting) through the lenses of narrative (character development, worldbuilding, plot) with an intersectional framework that attends to culture, gender, sexuality, and disability simultaneously. We will be thinking about how RPGs serve as a site of speculative possibility for experimental and unconventional stories. During class, we will discuss popular RPGs such as Chrono Trigger and Legend of Zelda, as well as less known titles like Okami and Ib, walking through gameplay footage and cutscenes to eventually apply their understanding in a final project, where students get the opportunity to work in teams to either submit their own game design proposal or write a short analytical paper on a RPG of their choice."

COLL 181 - PRINCIPLES & APPLICATIONS OF VISUAL DESIGN (MARTEL)
Short Title: VISUAL DESIGN
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In Principles & Applications of Visual Design, students will learn about different design elements, including layout, iconography, color, and typography, considering how each creates a positive, purposeful visual experience. Combining theory and practice, this course aims to increase students' understanding of visual communication principles and awareness of the design that surrounds the world.

COLL 182 - INCREASING HAPPINESS AND SELF-ACCEPTANCE THROUGH MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION (WILL RICE)
Short Title: MIND MATTERS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: At a rigorous university like Rice, stress is rampant. We tend to work harder when stressed and develop a cycle of putting off "alone time" or "personal time". This class is here to show you that setting aside just 5-10 quiet minutes a day for some mindful time can reap benefits that surprise even the instructors of this class every time new research comes out. But which methods can individuals practice to increase their happiness and self-acceptance? In this course, students will disconnect themselves from the outside world of technology, social media, and distractions for 1 hour a week, looking inwards to find the root causes of the uneasiness in oneself. Students will work on meditation, journaling, self-care, and other research-backed methods. They will learn to be stiller, observe their emotions more, and more easily identify the best actions to aid their mental health when faced with stressors. By the end of the course, they will have practiced a set of skills they can sustain long-term. Meditation and such topics often scare people, but there is absolutely no prior experience necessary for this course- we are excited to join you on this personal journey of yours, at your own pace!

COLL 183 - INTRODUCTION TO DJING (BROWN)
Short Title: INTRO TO DJING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: DJing a party is one of the most fun and rewarding activities in the world. A good DJ can turn a boring event into a packed, energized dancefloor. This course is designed to turn aspiring DJs into confident performers, able to select music, read a crowd, and control energy throughout a party. We will discuss the equipment one needs to own, how to mix songs together seamlessly, and what promoters and planners look for when hiring a DJ, both inside and outside of Rice. This is a deeply practical course, offering students the chance to be a part of the next generation of student DJs at Rice and elsewhere, culminating in a final project where students perform live in front of their classmates and friends.
COLL 184 - FUNCTIONAL FIBER ARTS: THE MATHEMATICS OF CLOTHING DESIGN THROUGH CROCHET (WILL RICE)
Short Title: FUNCTIONAL FIBER ARTS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "Crochet isn’t just about art and self-expression — from counting stitches and rows to calculating the yardage to finish a garment, math is the foundation for all forms of this famous fiber art, especially clothing design. How can an understanding of mathematics help us create art with purpose and pattern? And how can these mathematical patterns be incorporated into clothing design, of all things? In this course, students will visualize and utilize mathematical patterns through crochet garment design — from understanding the relationship between hook size and garment gauge, to crocheting flat, simple shapes and panels that can be assembled into fully wearable clothes. This class will explore crochet fashion through a mathematical lens, using geometry to understand how to assemble 2D shapes such as perfect circles and squares. Students will be taught the basics of crochet, understand how combinations of the six most common crochet stitches can form complex and sophisticated motifs, and be able to produce their own unique crochet patterns by the end of this course (including a pattern for a 6x6" square). Students are not expected nor assumed to have any crochet or math background prior to this course."

COLL 185 - EAST ASIA TELEVISION: AN INTRODUCTION (MARTEL)
Short Title: EAST ASIA TELEVISION
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "Every day, millions of people across the globe turn on their televisions or open their computers to watch the latest episode of an East Asian television show. As entertaining as it may be, what you don’t see in that episode is just as important. From state regulation on depictions of history and gender in Chinese television dramas to the intense labor conditions of the anime industry, what you see on screen is just the tip of the iceberg. How does television reflect and affect how East Asians understand the world around them? In this course, students will gain a basic understanding of the history of East Asian television, as well as principles of textual analysis. They will apply these principles to East Asian television through in-class discussion and short writing assignments. The class will primarily focus on dramas, animated shows, and game and competition shows of China, Japan, and South Korea. No East Asian language skills are required. At the end of the course, students will present an analysis of a television program of their choice to the class in lieu of a final exam."

COLL 186 - DEAD IN AMERICA: A CRASH COURSE ON THE POST-MORTEM FOR THE MORBIDLY CURIOUS (WILL RICE)
Short Title: DEAD IN AMERICA - A CRASH COURSE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "What happens to your body after death? Perhaps it’ll involve a funeral followed by a burial or cremation. Perhaps you’ll donate life-saving organs and tissues if denoted by your driver’s license. Perhaps you’ll even nourish a tree. Whatever happens, the fate of a post-mortem body is little talked about and often ignored until we’re faced with the death of someone we know. In the United States, traditional burial and cremation are the two most common options for body disposition. Recently, newer and more environmentally friendly options, such as water cremation and human composting, have been introduced. Yet these are rarely available or legal in only a few states. How should American society determine what happens to its dead? This course will discuss everything that may happen to a body after death, from decomposition to body disposition to organ donations. Students will learn the history and reasons behind the legalization and practice of body disposition methods. They will analyze what makes treatment of the dead body respectful or vilified in the United States. With no exams in this course, students will complete projects which include researching a funeral option from another culture and writing a letter to a state representative."

COLL 187 - TEA AROUND THE WORLD: CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, AND PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES (MARTEL)
Short Title: TEA AROUND THE WORLD
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "What can tea practices reveal about a culture? Students will explore tea practices around the world through tastings, readings, and discussions to discover the influence of tea on a culture and vice versa. Classes will involve an overview of the historical origins of tea as well as modern-day tea practices."
COLL 188 - SOCIAL DOCUMENTARY: 20 PHOTO BOOKS SINCE 1960 (WIESS)
Short Title: PHOTO BOOKS SINCE 1960
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course introduces students to contemporary photography through a series of influential photo books published since 1960. The books are chosen to focus on works that can be fit broadly into the social documentary genre, stylistically they can be categorized as New Color Photography. Students will complete weekly reading and half of each class will consist of a lecture that introduces the students, while the other half will be discussions. Students are challenged to generate original readings into the works they engage in, supported by both visual and social-historical evidence. The students will produce textual responses as assignments. While the final project can be an analytical essay or a creative photography project based on a photo book of the student's choosing.

COLL 189 - BRIDGING ACADEMIA AND ACTIVISM: 11 PAPERS TO READ BEFORE YOU GRADUATE (WIESS)
Short Title: BRIDGING ACADEMIA AND ACTIVISM
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: "Society finds itself at the convergence of various crises: rampant social and economic inequality, ecological destruction, and state violence, to name a few. Thus, it should come as little surprise that institutional skepticism is on the rise, including increasingly negative public perception of higher education. Is academia doomed to wither away from its metaphorical ivory tower—or do academics occupy one of the last remaining spaces where alternative visions of the world are still possible? By analyzing one scholarly reading each week, this discussion-based course will examine the role academia can—or can’t—play in activist efforts to develop and implement political re-imaginings. Through critical dialogue exploring theoretical and material social/political/economic issues, we will arrive at answers to our essential question, "how can academia help us challenge oppression and create a more just world?"

COLL 190 - AN ATMOSPHERE OF OPENING: DEEP LISTENING, PAULINE OLIVEROS, AND YOU (HANSZEN)
Short Title: DEEP LISTENING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Beset by political and personal turmoil, the composer Pauline Oliveros retreated inward in the late 1960’s to develop listening techniques she called “Deep Listening” before returning to her public life as a composer. These techniques would become foundational to her musical life and the way she interacted with other people. What is it like to live with a listening practice that clears room for more than just our immediate goals? With no exams, this course will employ close readings of semi-improvisatory group exercises by Oliveros and solitary listening to explore the learned art of listening as both a social phenomenon and an individual journey, with an understanding of the many roles listening can play: a necessary pause before action, a blueprint for meaningful social interaction, a path toward healing. NO PRIOR MUSICAL EXPERIENCE NEEDED

COLL 191 - BEER: THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD IN A GLASS (BAKER)
Short Title: BEER: HIST OF WORLD IN A GLASS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Through an exploration of world history, students will work to understand how major historical themes have influenced the development of new beer types, and how beer has transformed from a food group and the basics of economies, to a beverage of leisure. Due to the necessity of sampling, this class will be limited to ages 21+.

COLL 192 - THE UNIVERSE AND US: A CONCEPTUAL APPROACH TO COSMOLOGY (BAKER)
Short Title: THE UNIVERSE AND US
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Cosmology. The study of the universe, from its beginning to its end. Our understanding of the universe is constantly changing, with new discoveries and breakthroughs being made. The field of cosmology is filled with such discoveries, and its content and history contain the groundwork for answers to some of humanity’s biggest questions. Where did we come from? … Why is the universe the way it is? … How have we, the human race, come to understand the universe in which we live? In this course, we will delve into the history of scientific discovery, using Stephen Hawking’s A Brief History of Time as a guide. Students will explore their own topics of interest and engage in discussions about their favorite concepts. A cross between cosmology, sociology, and science history, this course is a refreshing take on physical science, intended for students of any discipline who want to learn more about the universe in which we live, all without the use of mathematics.
COLL 194 - MUSIC AND SOCIETY (DUNCAN)
Short Title: MUSIC AND SOCIETY
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This course will explore the psychological basis of music as a growing art form and cultural force.

COLL 195 - THE BOOK OF ROMANS: A STUDY ON CHRISTIAN THEMES (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: THE BOOK OF ROMANS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Christianity is the world's largest religion with nearly one-third of our global population identifying as followers. As a result, Christian ideologies and values have shaped our history and continue to shape our future. Romans serves as an important book of the Bible that outlines these influential Christian themes. For non-religious and religious students alike, this course's study on Romans will frame a greater understanding on Christian faith as we discuss topics such as the Christian God's wrath and love, suffering and justification, mercy and grace, and righteousness. Ultimately, through seminar-based classes, we will have Biblical and academic discussions that will pave the way to answer. What do Christians believe and why? Using one contextual creative assignment, two reading recap paragraphs, and one final presentation, students of this course will walk away with a greater scholarly and personal understanding of Romans and the Christian faith.

COLL 196 - DESIGNING YOUR LIFE: FINDING HAPPINESS, MEANING, AND SOCIAL IMPACT (MCMURTRY)
Short Title: DESIGNING YOUR LIFE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: In this class we will explore the psychological basis of happiness and meaning. We will consider what makes the "good life" through a combination of discussions, readings, happiness interventions, and activities.

COLL 197 - FUNDAMENTALS OF VOICE ACTING (HANSZEN)
Short Title: FUNDAMENTALS OF VOICE ACTING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: An often overlooked but very significant component of today's media is the voice-over industry. From radio ads, to audiobooks, to animated cartoons and films, and dubs of foreign media, this industry permeates so much of our everyday lives. As such, becoming proficient in the art of voice acting can lead you to gain a deeper understanding of how these forms of media are created and see this huge aspect of our world from a new perspective. This course seeks to provide an answer to the question: what makes a quality voice actor? Students will learn about the different ways one can become a voice actor, as well as the fundamental skills required for proficiency in the field, including the basics of audio editing software, proper recording technique, self-marketing, and of course, acting technique. Students will put their skills and knowledge to use through acting exercises, class discussions, recording projects, and ultimately creating their own demo reel.

COLL 198 - THE HISTORY OF FASHION (BAKER)
Short Title: HISTORY OF FASHION
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Through this course, we will traverse the evolution of fashion from the 16th century to present, analyzing fashion through books, artwork, and photographs. Furthermore, we will discuss the connection between fashion and major historical events, feminism, and society. In this course, students will learn about the changes in fashion through a historical lens, the societal issues that have surrounded fashion, and how fashion is used today as a method of representation and activism. Students will be expected to complete weekly discussion posts and in-class assignments. Students will apply what they learned in this course through a creative in-class presentation, highlighting fashion from a specific time period, designer, or culture.
COLL 199 - ART CINEMA ISN'T BORING (JONES)
Short Title: ART CINEMA
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What constitutes “art cinema” and what advantages does it offer as a form of artistic expression? Arthouse films get their name from the “arthouse” cinemas they play in, as opposed to blockbuster theaters. But the key to an art film is that it is about the artistic vision of its director, as opposed to an entertaining formula. These types of films can sometimes be written off as pretentious or boring. However, they are an entirely unique visual and aural route to engage with ideas on human nature itself. A film like Parasite indicates the potential that they have to make mainstream splashes. Watching art cinema can and should be an entirely exciting experience. Throughout the semester, we will be looking at some of the most acclaimed arthouse films from various countries around the world, gaining an appreciation for their context in larger cinematic movements. Students will analyze the directorial choices in these films and explore if they are making any significant statements beyond the surface of the film. By the end of the course, we will all have heightened our appreciation of these movies as a tool for personal expression, and students will be motivated to further explore uncharted cinematic territory. Mutually Exclusive: Cannot register for COLL 199 if student has credit for UNIV 235.

COLL 200 - TEACHING PRACTICUM
Short Title: TEACHING PRACTICUM
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Internship/Practicum
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Student instructors gain mastery of their subject of interest by practical application in teaching a course. Students are supervised by the faculty sponsor as approved by the Dean of Undergraduates. Students must have taken COLL 300 in developing the course. Instructor Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

COLL 202 - COOKING WITH CHEF ROGER (DUNCAN)
Short Title: COOKING WITH CHEF ROGER
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Cooking with Chef Roger teaches the students the fundamentals of cooking and help them to cook healthy delicious meals. The class also gives the students a clear idea about shopping for fresh ingredients and how to host successful parties.

COLL 203 - CYBERCRIME (LOVETT)
Short Title: CYBERCRIME
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hours: 2
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This class will introduce students to the current issues in cybercrime. It will include topics such as auction fraud, hacking, and identity theft. Students will read and discuss the statutes and cases that govern each area. Each class will have a fact scenario that will be analyzed using Federal and State law.

COLL 205 - PRACTICAL APPROACH TO PERSONAL FINANCE (HANSZEN)
Short Title: PERSONAL FINANCE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Basic introduction to the framework for making informed personal financial decisions. Prior knowledge of accounting or finance is not required. The course will provide a practical approach to personal finance. Topics will include budgeting, tax issues, banking services, use of credit, housing selection and ownership, investments, insurance, retirement planning and legal documents.

COLL 212 - BLACK MEN WRITING ABOUT THEIR WORLD: DU BOIS, BALDWIN, AND THEIR HEIRS (WIESS)
Short Title: BLACK MEN WRITING
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: For Black men, what good are essays? This course explores the writerly activism, historical imagination, and the consequence of some of the best known work of W.E.B. Du Bois, James Baldwin, and several of their 21st century heirs. Taking cues from the subjects of the course, students will also get ample practice using the essay as a way to describe, analyze, and affect the contemporary black male condition. Permission of Instructor required. Instructor Permission Required.
COLL 214 - MASS INCARCERATION AND ITS DISCONTENTS: RACE, REFORM AND THE LAW (WIESS)
Short Title: MASS INCARCERATION
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: A course about the origins of mass incarceration in the United States; about the consequences of the present carceral state; and about efforts to address injustices that have proceeded from the nation’s relatively recent and nearly insatiable impetus to cage its poor, non-white population.

COLL 218 - TO SERVE: LIVING A LIFE OF PUBLIC AND CIVIC SERVICE (BAKER)
Short Title: PUBLIC AND CIVIC SERVICE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Young Americans today are drawn to service-just not to public service. When so many people shrink from (or are repelled by) “politics” and “politicians”, there has never been a better time to seek and exert leadership at every level. “Real Leaders, Real People” will draw practical lessons from the lives of leaders who overcame obstacles of various kinds.

COLL 219 - BORDER WALLS: SECURITY, MIGRATION, AND IDENTITY (BAKER)
Short Title: BORDER WALLS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Practitioner-led course regarding concepts of sovereignty, security, migration, and identity in the United States. The course surveys current events at the U.S. southwestern border and contextualizes those events in a legal, historical, and theoretical framework.

COLL 220 - WILLIAM MARSH RICE & SLAVERY (DUNCAN)
Short Title: WILLIAM MARSH RICE & SLAVERY
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: This seminar will meet every other week and will enable students to engage in original historical research about William Marsh Rice and his world, with a specific focus on slavery and its aftermath in Texas. The research will aid the work of the Task Force on Slavery, Segregation, and Racial Injustice.

COLL 221 - THE BLACK EXPERIENCE AT RICE UNIVERSITY (WIESS)
Short Title: BLACK EXPERIENCE AT RICE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: What does it mean, and what has it meant to be black at Rice? This seminar is focused on documenting and recovering the experience of black staff, students, and faculty at the university. The class is associated with the work of the Task Force on Slavery, Segregation, and Racial Injustice.

COLL 222 - RACE, PLACE, AND POWER IN HOUSTON, TEXAS
Short Title: HOUSTON: RACE, PLACE, POWER
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Seminar
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: An exploration of the ways that race, place, and power converge in and shape the city of Houston. Designed for students who completed UNIV 106. Instructor Permission Required. Recommended Prerequisite(s): UNIV 106: RISE

COLL 228 - SPECIAL TOPICS
Short Title: SPECIAL TOPICS
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Internship/Practicum, Laboratory, Lecture, Seminar, Independent Study
Credit Hours: 1-4
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester’s topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

COLL 299 - SCIENTIA: LECTURES IN SCIENCE AND CULTURE
Short Title: SCIENTIA SCIENCE & CULTURE
Department: College Courses
Grade Mode: Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
Course Type: Lecture
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level
Description: Annual lecture series, panel discussions and discussion talks on topics bridging science, culture and art. 4 lectures plus 2 discussion talks. Lectures are on specified dates, usually Tuesdays. Discussion talks scheduled at semester beginning. Topics vary year to year. Repeatable for Credit.
COLL 300 - PEDAGOGY FOR STUDENT INSTRUCTORS
Short Title: PEDAGOGY FOR STDNT INSTRUCTORS
Department: Center for Teaching Excellence
Grade Mode: Standard Letter
Course Type: Lecture/Laboratory
Credit Hour: 1
Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.
Course Level: Undergraduate Upper-Level
Description: In the first three weeks we will guide each student in the development of a proposal for a Student Taught Course. In the remaining four weeks we will learn and practice techniques of effective instruction.

Description and Code Legend
Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule
• Course offerings/subject code: COLL