

Theme Based and Topics Course Descriptions

AR 2113-01 CREATIVE WRITING: PERSONAL NARRATIVE

Since its inception in the seventeenth-century, the essay has been driven by a writer's ability to channel his or her personal experience into a meaningful form. Motivating them is the belief that our own lived histories—our earliest memories, our joys and sorrows, our accomplishments, even those mundane moments in our lives—can say a lot about the way the world is. In this class, we'll use this belief as our starting point for the semester. We'll read classic and contemporary narratives and explore the different ways in which memoir and life writing can serve as vehicles to advance personal, political, and ecological ideas. Students in this course will also have the opportunity to experiment with a variety of writing styles and to take part in the publication of a writing anthology.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: EH 1113

AR 2881-01 PUBLIC ART ON CAMPUS

This one credit class will involve the production of ephemeral and permanent art installations on the Unity Campus. Collaborative thought and labor will be the primary focus of the class.

Credits: 1

Prerequisites: None

AR 2883-01 PRINTMAKING

This course will provide an introduction to various printmaking methods through monoprint, block printing and experimental processes. Historical and contemporary print imagery will be examined throughout the class as a means for the student to understand the range of expression possible through printmaking.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: None

Course Fee: \$40.00

BI 4243-01 THEMES IN MACROVERTEBRATE BIOLOGY: LARGE WHALE BIOLOGY, MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

In this course we will take an in-depth look at the biology of large whales common to the Northern Atlantic Ocean. We will examine their evolutionary history, population dynamics, behavior, physiology and biogeography. We will also consider current management practices and considerations for these endangered species. These include conservation strategies designed to mitigate the impacts of commercial fishing, shipping, and renewable energy industries. We will also explore the use of scientific and sustenance whaling in modern society.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: BI 2033

EH 1113-01 COLLEGE COMPOSITION: ENVIRONMENTAL ENCOUNTERS

When John McPhee published *Encounters with the Archdruid* in 1971, he changed the face of environmental thought forever. The book's premise was a simple one: pair David Brower, president of the Sierra Club and already known as the "environmental archdruid," with three different developers: the head of U.S. dam construction, the CEO of a mining company, and the president of a real estate company. Accompanied by McPhee, each of the three pairs set out for an environmental adventure in which they challenged one another to broaden their perspectives and, in the process, often learned they had more in common than they thought. In this section of College Composition, we'll embark upon our own environmental encounters by investigating some of the most divisive issues in our region—and the ways in which rhetorical strategies can help to advance these debates.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: Placement

EH 1113-02 COLLEGE COMPOSITION: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

This writing course develops reading, thinking and revision skills, with particular emphasis on research-based arguments that address contemporary social issues. Frequent writing assignments are designed to prepare students for the types of writing they will be expected to produce in upper-level courses. The drafting process will aid students to re-evaluate the content, structure, and point of view of previous drafts.

Prerequisites: Placement

Credits: 3

EH 2083-01 BRITISH LITERATURE: RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN THE MIDDLE AGES

This course provides a survey of medieval English literature in translation, including the genres of romance, drama, narrative poetry and hagiography. Supplemental readings and class discussions will cover the religious and social influences that conditioned writing produced in England in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The course is intended to help students hone their skills in reading, composition and textual analysis. Students will also have the opportunity to compare the ways in which concepts such as chivalry, courtly love and piety have been reworked in modern contexts, especially film.

Prerequisites: EH 1113

Credits: 3

EH 3213-01 TOPICS IN PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL WRITING: WRITING FOR NONPROFITS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

This section of Technical Writing introduces the practical knowledge and techniques needed to write proposals, reports, informational materials, and marketing and persuasive pieces for nonprofit organizations and government agencies.

Through practice with specially designed assignments, the course will hone writing, analytic, and organizational skills. Students will develop individualized writing projects to meet particular needs and areas of interest.

A major focus will be redrafting and editing materials. Most assignments will be carried through several drafts. We will make use of a writing workshop format. Students will bring in work to be critiqued in a constructive fashion by others in the class. We will also critique writing from outside the class.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: EH 1113

ES 3881-01 ADVANCED CELL AND WEB APPLICATIONS TO CITIZEN SCIENCE

Maine Audubon hosts Maine Owl Monitoring Project (MOMP) and Media Lab at MIT hosts Owl Project. This class will apply the technology supported by MIT to enhance the field sampling conducted by local teams for MOMP. This is a continuation of projects initiated 2002 by Unity students but never incorporated directly into the curriculum. The work is with charismatic mesofauna that many students find to be fascinating. The work is with ubiquitous technology taken to a level practiced by engineers and advanced researchers. The applications are intriguing, immediately available over the web, and relate to biodiversity of animals infrequently available by other sampling formats. The class will probably report findings to HEMBI (an international conference) as the S 2009 students only just completed in September 2009. The class will be supplied with cell phones to use only for owl monitoring during the semester. Night hours will be required occasionally.

Credits: 1

Prerequisites: WF 2433 or BI 2004

ES 3882-01 APPLIED GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

This will be a two-part course. **Part 1).** Students will design and build a suitability model using a relational database. The course will focus on the principles of database management as related to cartography and GIS. **Part 2).** Raster analysis will be introduced and applied to watershed and terrain analysis. Map algebra as well as scripting using python programming language will also be explored.

Credits: 1

Prerequisites: CS 3133

ES 4501-01 ES SEMINAR: FERMENTATION SCIENCE

I will approach this course from a multi-disciplinary perspective by having the class read and discuss the significance of geology, chemistry, microbiology, botany, meteorology, physics,

geography, hydraulics, and economy to the production of fermented beverages. The course will begin with an overview of the history of fermented beverages in society (i.e. early civilizations – present). For example, in early societies, fermented beverages were reserved for royalty, whereas today, fermented beverages are available to the masses. Another interesting societal question to ask is – What are the consequences of having major US beer production controlled by foreign companies (e.g. the recent purchase of Anheuser-Busch by InBev)? We will discuss a variety of fermented beverages including beer, wine, and mead, but the class will focus primarily on beverages produced from malted barley. We will progress into an analysis of the production phase including beer styles and guidelines, recipe formulation (e.g. use of ingredients), and the brewing process itself (from home-brewing to large-scale production). The craft (i.e. local, small quantity) brewing scene is undergoing unprecedented growth worldwide, especially in the United States, and we will examine the dichotomy that currently exists in the brewing world – craft beer (e.g. local, small quantity) vs. mass production beer. A growing number of brewers are implementing sustainable practices into their production processes (e.g. alternative energy, water conservation, recycled products, and use of local and organic ingredients). Several case studies will be used to highlight these emergent practices. Another interesting scenario is currently unfolding – a worldwide hops shortage. The crop shortfall was caused by meteorological events in Europe and the demand for biofuels in the US (e.g. additional planting of corn and soybeans at the expense of hops). As part of this course, I would like to organize one or two field trips to visit local microbreweries. A secondary component of this course will involve students working in teams to prepare a recipe adhering to specific style guidelines and ferment their own beverage. As a class, we will host a free tasting for Unity College faculty, students, and staff (of legal age) to attend.

Credits: 1

Prerequisites: Students must sign up for this class through the registrar's office to ensure students are 21 years of age or older and in good standing with regard to student conduct policies.

ES 4511-02 ES SEMINAR: RENEWABLE ENERGY

This course is a one-credit/two week junior/senior seminar and field study center visit at the Centre for Alternative Energy in Wales (CAT), UK. The course is focused around green building and renewable energy and associated museum/interpretive displays. Students will study the displays and perform hands on work projects or educational modules each day under the direction of CAT staff. Each day a 2-hour debrief/seminar discussion will be held in which students' participation is required.

Students will travel as a group to Wales during the March two week spring break (3/8 – 3/19). Some pre trip planning sessions will be required during the beginning of the spring 2010 semester. This course will go well with the content in PS 3003 Energy and Energy Efficiency and EC 2023 Economics of Resource Conservation also offered in the spring semester or can be taken as a stand-alone course.

Credits: 1

Prerequisites: Junior/Senior status or consent

Fee: \$950.00

Minimum # of students: 12

Maximum # of students: 16

GL 1883-01 GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

This course will explore the basic elements of global climate change and will serve as a pilot course for a NASA-sponsored grant on global climate change education of which Spigel and Unity College are involved. Topics covered will include a history of Earth's climate and its driving mechanisms, interdisciplinary impacts of climate change, mitigation efforts, and policy. NASA remote sensing data and satellite imagery are incorporated into hands-on learning activities that will be integrated into the classroom. The use of global climate models will also be utilized in this course to explore global patterns of change.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: None

HY 3313-01 SPECIAL THEMES IN HISTORY: CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IDEAS

We begin with the ideas that informed the initial European opening of North America, then shift to the two original responses: preservation and conservation. In the past half century, ecological science and environmentalism addressed increasingly complex human transformations of the natural world, while the traditional Euro-American patterns of belief continued to predominate. Expect steady reading, thoughtful discussions, and the opportunity to conduct and present your own research project.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: Sophomore status or consent

IC 2213-01 ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZEN: SPEAKING FOR WILDLIFE

Students will act as ambassadors for wildlife rehabilitation, developing and presenting an educational talk about how communities can coexist with their local critters. This section will bring students together to share knowledge and skills while reaching out to the community, and will require several off campus trips outside of class hours.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: IC 1111 or IC 1113 and Sophomore Status

IC 2213-02 ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZEN: THE ART OF EXHIBITS

Working with the Matinicus Island School you will have an opportunity to visit this controversial island ecology, work closely with the students on their collection of documentation of the lobster and seabird ecology and industry through art work/photography and curate an exhibit that interprets the findings for the public.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: IC 1111 or IC 1113 and Sophomore Status

IC 2213-03 ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZEN: AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Students will plan and implement an interactive, environmental educational unit with grades 3-5 classes in MSAD #3 based on the Agriculture in the Classroom model. Sample models may include: From Tree to Table, How Maple Syrup is Produced; Seeds: How they end up as dinner; and more. MSAD #3 was awarded a two year grant through Agriculture in the Classroom in order to connect their students to their local environment. This grant emphasized the connection between building awareness of the community's assets and having students connect this learning personally through an artistic medium. For example, students will write poetry, paint, draw, and photograph their learning journey. In the end, MSAD #3 wanted a documentary that demonstrated the learning goals of the Ag in the Classroom through a journey of their classroom studies, site visits, and artistic expressions. This would be shared with the parents, community-at-large, and future classes.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: IC 1111 or IC 1113 and Sophomore Status

PH 3313-01 SPECIAL TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY: EASTERN PHILOSOPHY

Through classic Taoist and Buddhist texts and through contemporary interpreters we will explore eastern philosophical themes like *the tao*, *nirvana*, *the ten-thousand things*, *karma* and *no-self*. Conceptual grounding will make room for meditative, yogic, or other daily practice. This course may require daily eastern practice and readings; it will include student-lead discussion and presentation.

Credits: 3

Prerequisites: EH 1113 and Sophomore status or consent

PL 3882-01 PRESIDENT'S SEMINAR: ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY AND GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY (1ST MEETING 1/28/2010)

Climate change, resource scarcity, and the possibilities of environmental catastrophe will dramatically impact American foreign policy and the global economy. These challenges will be the source of either international tension or cooperation. They will also define many life paths and choices in the coming decades. This seminar will introduce the concept of environmental security and consider the prospects for global sustainability. Sponsored by the Unity Foundation, participants will read and discuss three important authors on environmental security, while preparing to attend the prestigious Camden Conference, where they will work with outstanding foreign policy experts. Attendance at the conference, including room and board, will be covered by the Unity Foundation. A weekend conference is required in the month of February.

NOTE: This course will meet irregularly. The courses first class will be on January 28th, 2010. You will have required readings prior to that date. You will also be required to attend other evening session that will be arranged later.

Credits: 2

Prerequisites: Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.00. Student will be required to see the registrar's office to preregister.