

HON 390 and Other HON

HON 391: Anarchy

William Cordeiro

How can societies function in the absence of top-down hierarchies, bureaucratic structures of authority, or state, corporate, multinational, and other forces of coercion? What is the nature of power, and what can individuals or voluntary groups do to counteract the systems in which they are policed? How can individuals cooperatively organize to self-actualize their potential for work, play, and freedom? In this project-based class that employs anarchic theories of learning, we will investigate how to enact and build communities—including our class community—that operate in more equitable, less bureaucratic or hierarchical, ways. Students who take this course should be prepared to engage in an intensive, semester-long project in which they must plan and collaborate to accomplish a series of goals culminating in a public presentation of their group's work. The class will both study anarchy and put its principles in practice.

HON 393: Hot Mess: Ecological Fiction

Ted Martinez

This advanced seminar will analyze science fiction and climate fiction writing as a means to understand public perceptions of science, the science of global climate change, and the limits and opportunities available in science communication. Students will produce fiction writing in the genre of climate fiction using information provided by climate science research. Other means of communication such as poetry or art may also be submitted. Class assignments will center on understanding the science in science fiction, fiction writing, character development and plot development, climate science, global climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies.

HON 393: Biology of Cancer

Melissa Schonauer

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the U.S., so everyone is affected by this disease in some way. In this class, we will dive into the molecular mechanisms of the disease in order to better understand the causes of cancer as well as to investigate past, present, and possible future treatments for the disease. We will also look into how the field of cancer research began and how it influences the decisions we make as individuals and as a society.

HON 394: Beyond the Burqa

Robyn Martin

Using a variety of material (fiction and non-fiction texts, poetry, art, articles and many films), we'll examine Afghanistan's women and their issues from a historical, cultural, and socio-political perspective. The course will explore the importance of understanding Afghanistan's women (but not limited to only Afghanistan in the second half of the semester), their position in their nation, why their need for self-determination matters, and what's at stake for their country and middle-eastern women in general if they are allowed the ability to shape their own destiny.

HON 394: Deserts

William Cordeiro

This class is taught from the perspective of science, culture, and literature--especially looking at the problems and challenges that deserts, and the cultures that live in them, face, whether those cultures are indigenous cultures, city dwellers in places like Phoenix or Vegas, rural farm towns, immigrants, etc. Food deserts, water resources, climate change, a frontier mentality, settler colonialism, and the growth economy of the Sunbelt are just a few of these interlocking challenges.

HON 394: Politics and Civic Engagement

David Camacho

Civic engagement can be defined as citizens working together to make a difference in the community, and the goal of civic engagement is to address public concerns and promote the quality of the community. This course will examine the political nature of civic engagement; accordingly, "politics" is an important concept to understand. This course is an attempt to encourage Honors students to practice civic inquiry across all fields of study. The course will enhance the student's capacity to evaluate the political landscape and make informed decisions about participation in our democratic republic.

HON 394: Childhood in War

Tammy Mielke

This interdisciplinary seminar will consider of the child in the context of war. Children make up more than 50% of displaced populations. The average time a person is displaced is 17 years; that's an entire childhood. In this class, we will consider what can be done to change this situation. We will look at the complexities of childhood shaped by war, and how war has been shaped by children from child soldiers to the uses of children as the propaganda for war itself. Additionally, we will examine the work of groups such as War Child, who focus on protection, education, providing livelihoods, and campaigning for children affected by conflict. Have we learned from past and present conflicts in order to protect children from wars in the future?

HON 243: Colorado River and the West

Ted Martinez

This on-line and field course will introduce students to environmental and political issue of Colorado River. The Colorado River provides water for 30 million people in the US as well as millions of people in Mexico and feeds the estuaries and wetlands in the delta in Mexico. Students will learn about the numerous value laden issues surrounding the Colorado River such dam construction, invasive plant and animal species, humpback chub restoration, uranium mining, and ecological restoration in the Colorado River Delta in Mexico. Students will read the Colorado River Compact which governs the law of the river as well as Minute 319 which is a cooperative agreement between the US and MX that allocates environmental base and pulse flows to the delta below Morelos Dam in MX. Students will also gain a historic perspective through the writings of Aldo Leopold who explored the Colorado River delta in 1922 with his brother and wrote about his findings in A Sand County Almanac. Videos, readings, lectures, BlackBoard discussion and one field trip will be used to learn about the Colorado River.

HON 244: Water World

Ted Martinez

This 8-week class will begin on March 12, 2017 and explore local, regional and global water issues using film, reading and discussion. We will begin by asking questions about how we use water in our daily lives and society and examine the primary water source of the southwest, the Colorado River. We will use this as an opportunity to talk about water resource management and water quality before exploring global water issues. Global water issues will include the privatization of water and pollution. This is a cultural awareness course, with additional emphasis on scientific concepts related to water. Course includes online film viewing and BbLearn discussions, short reflections on films, weekly related readings, and a final research paper..

HON 340: Arizona Strip Art and Literature

Robyn Martin

Students will explore this uniquely beautiful remote area of Northern Arizona by studying, reading and discussing regionally specific art and literature, and then camp three days in the field, painting, drawing and writing. Led by Renowned artist/ Honors program Artist-in-Residence Bruce Aiken and Senior Honors lecturer/Northern Arizona historian Robyn Martin, survey course will allow students to experience a part of the state many don't get to visit through artistic creation and student-directed learning. No painting, drawing, writing, or camping experience necessary.