

**Fall 2020****HON 29X and 39X course descriptions****HON 292: Politics of Culture***David Camacho*

This course takes the view that culture and politics are related. Evidence to his effect will be drawn from the United States. The close relationship between culture and politics makes it difficult to determine a causal relationship. That is, there are periods in history when culture shaped politics; and other periods where politics influenced culture. While we may generally identify a “common culture,” or a “common politics,” the tensions in this relationship make for a much more complex view of the U.S. experience. The course is multidisciplinary in approach. We examine the subject matter through academic textbooks, novels, articles, film, art, and poetry.

**HON 291: Comics and Other Intermedia***Mary Adachi*

Over the past few decades, comic books, *manga*, and anime have finally started to get noticed in the United States as a legitimate, scholarly form of artistic expression. Outside of the US, this type of artistic medium has been both popular and respected for many years. Long before the modern comic book and manga were created, forms of writing mixed with images were being produced, which greatly influenced subsequent generations of global popular culture. This course will survey the evolution of comic books with an emphasis on manga and anime. Japanese poetry, scrolls, *kamishibai*, and ukiyo-e prints will be addressed so that students better comprehend the background of this artistic, meaningful medium. Students will conduct research and create their own, unique text/image/digital works throughout the semester.

**HON 293: The Mystery of the Brain***Melissa Schonauer*

Who, really, is in control of our decisions, behavior and emotions? Is it our logic or our instinct (the more developed part or the more primitive part of ourselves)? Which is more important for our success in life, intellectual or emotional intelligence? And how does the brain function and sort through constant information in order to guide us through life? In this class, we will explore these questions by looking into neuroscience, anatomy, psychology, and, of course, ourselves.

**HON 294: Playing the Game of Thrones***Tammy Mielke*

This course will look at the reality of Cersei Lannister’s words by analyzing this history of Martin’s world and his use of genre to present “the relationships between the psychological, social, cultural and political components of human communities, and the dynamics of human behavior in varied contexts.” This course will unearth the many ways in which the text/show operate as a discourse on power: political power via government and personal sphere; power through bodies in terms of gender and age; power through religion and ethnicity; and power through society in terms of wealth and poverty.

**HON 303: Honors Advanced Scholarship***Various*

HON 303 is designed to define and plan, in detail, the student's Honors Capstone experience. HON 303 is the second in a sequence of required courses that builds on the foundation of HON 202. Honors students develop their Honors Capstone Pathway culminating in a research, creative, or experiential project that they complete during their senior year. HON 303 sections are aligned with the different Honors Capstone Pathways (Health/Medical, Interdisciplinary Team-Based Applied, Knowledge/Discovery, Creative, Professional, and Entrepreneurial). Students in HON 303 write their proposal for their capstone experience, define their capstone course options, and select their capstone mentors. Note: HON 303 is not intended to be taken prior to students’ sophomore years.

**HON 340: Writing the Grand Canyon***Robyn Martin*

In this 1-credit workshop style class, students will learn and apply the basic techniques of non-fiction creative nature writing, including the skills of observing, journaling, drafting/peer-reviewing creative writing, and revising. The course includes an overnight field experience camping and hiking at the South Rim of the Grand Canyon (dates to be determined) where we will have a chance to put theory into practice, and gather material for our final non-fiction nature ¿memoir¿ essays. The Canyon will be our collective muse: inspiring us, challenging us, and providing vistas and experiences that we will transform into word paintings. No previous creative writing, camping or hiking experience necessary (students must be able to walk at least 3 or more miles at a decent pace).

**HON 391: ART AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

*Kara Attrep*

This course examines the creative responses to current social justice issues (Black Lives Matter, the Women's March, DAPL, etc.). Through a socio-cultural and historical lens, we will explore the music, art, literature, and film that has developed from these movements. Ultimately, the course will lead students into our community to talk and learn from artists, filmmakers, authors, and musicians who, here in Flagstaff, Arizona, and beyond, have been involved in creative endeavors to bring attention to social justice issues. Students will also have an opportunity to engage in creative activities that address social justice movements.

**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: THE MARVELS OF MARVEL: THE CINEMATIC UNIVERSE AND BEYOND**

*Tammy Mielke*

In this course, *The Marvels of Marvel: The Cinematic Universe and Beyond*, we will study this history of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), including the psychology behind the success of the comics. We will then move into the 2008-present year, evaluating the films, television shows, and comics for their actions, behaviors, and issues inside this singular reality. Beyond the MCU study itself (concepts of gender, disability, ageism, geographical locations, the real-fake and the fake-real), we will unearth about how the MCU is managed. Ultimately, we will learn about the need for seeing heroes in ourselves through the ways Marvel redefines and problematizes the concept of the heroic.

**HON 394: CRITICAL GEOGRAPHY**

*Will Cordeiro*

This class will specifically focus on viewpoints that emphasize social justice, critiquing the histories and systems which have constructed oppressive regimes of space, whether at the level of the genome, the house, the nation-state, the globe, or the universe. We will look at issues such as immigration, refugees, climate change, cultural conflicts, sovereignty, economic inequality, racism, colonialism, water rights, war, gender, and kinship through the lens of how such issues are structured and reified through spatial discourses, relationships, and mappings. We will also discuss imaginary cartographies both utopic and sinister through movies, novels, poems, and other texts.

**HON 394: CULT: IN TOO DEEP**

*Robyn Martin*

This course explores the history, sociology, and psychology behind cults around the world by studying selected cults, from national to global, and their group members and motivations in order to better understand why cults exist and thrive. We will examine how and why society responds, sometimes negatively and sometimes not, to these groups, when and how cults become dangers to others (local to global), and finally finding different ways to relieve threats from particular cults around the world.