

HON 390 and Other HON Spring 2019

HON 392: Culture, Race, and Democracy

David Camacho

This is an interdisciplinary course that examines the experiences of people of color in the United States. Anthropological, historical, sociological, economic, and political evidence offers an understanding of issues relevant to the study of race and ethnicity in the United States. At the most basic level, an understanding of the experiences of people of color must account for social, political, and economic factors shaping their experiences.

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: First Ladies: Evolving Causes*Tammy Mielke*

The White House – the home of the President; but also home of the First Ladies. How have the First Ladies wielded their power? In this class we will explore how the role of First Ladies gained power, fought for their causes, and their lasting impact on society.

HON 243: Lower Colorado River*Ted Martinez*

This on-line and field course will introduce students to environmental and political issues of the 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 as 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: 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).