

## Spring 2024

### HON 39X and other HON course descriptions

#### **HON 240: PERFORMANCE IN PRACTICE**

*Rob Wallace*

Performance in Practice: Improv, Music, Performance Art and Beyond. This is an undergraduate ensemble dedicated to improvisation, experimental musics, and intermedia/multimedia performances. It is open to all majors and all skill levels (even “non-musicians” or “non-artists”). No audition is required. The ensemble puts on at least one public performance during the semester. Students will learn and perform a wide variety of musics and other performance traditions including improvisation, performance art, theater, movement, and other elements typically overlooked in Western artistic practice. The ensemble interacts with visiting and local artists, and also features original student work.

#### **HON 240: The Grand Canyon: A Multilayered Overview**

*Robyn Martin*

Grand Canyon National Park's inspirational and lasting influence regarding science, art, literature, and history is deep and wide, much like the Grand Canyon itself. Throughout the semester we'll explore these various interdisciplinary layers through reading and discussion, sampling each and acquiring knowledge about the Grand Canyon by semester's end. We will use our place-based knowledge during an overnight field trip camping at the Grand Canyon's South Rim in April 2024 (exact date TBD), including shorter (1-2 miles) rim hikes and other activities.

#### **HON 391: WRITING TO CHANGE THE WORLD**

*Kerri Quinn*

This course will employ an interdisciplinary approach to understanding and reflecting upon the writer's responsibilities as moral agent and how crafting a piece of writing that not only communicates an idea, but also actually convinces readers of a new truth can be a precarious process, fraught with pitfalls, yet have potentially vast rewards. Over the course of the term, we will analyze texts, examining and questioning how these works touch readers, shake beliefs, expands perspectives and possibly change some piece of the world.

#### **HON 391: HOLOCAUST MEMORY: ALTERNATE SOURCES**

*Karl Krotke-Crandall*

This course, Holocaust Memory Through Alternative Sources, goes beyond the traditional history of the Holocaust to explore how the memory of the Shoah developed over time. Students will engage with different types of sources, from survivors to those materials created in the modern world, to better understand how and what we know about the Nazi's genocide of Europe's Jewish population. In this class, students will read memoirs and explore oral histories, photographs, and other sources from survivors to glean original narratives about the Holocaust from a global perspective. We will then examine modern interpretations such as film, memorials, graphic novels, and holographic survivor representations to understand better modern interpretations of the Holocaust and responses by those who engage in denialism.

#### **HON 392: AUTOETHNOGRAPHY: WRITING CULTURE, WRITING SELF**

*Rima Brusi*

Autoethnography is a form of inquiry that examines culture through the lens of personal lived experience. Autoethnographic writing combines the tools of literary non-fiction, especially autobiography and memoir, with those of ethnography, the practice at the heart of cultural anthropology. At its best, autoethnographic writing is engaging, honest, and rigorous. After a short introduction to ethnography's history and basic components, we will engage with examples of autoethnographic texts that illustrate how authors with diverse backgrounds and topics combine the study of culture with the study of self. Classes will include short lectures, discussions, and a writing workshop, where students will use their own life stories to describe and examine cultural phenomena.

### **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: THE 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: REVOLUTION!**

*Jessica Strom*

What is a revolution? What are its goals and characteristics? What motivates individuals to support revolutionary movements and take action to realize a new and better world? In this course we will examine the social, political, and economic dimensions of revolution and consider the wide range of people who participated in revolutionary activity. For example, we will explore the relationships between the French and Haitian Revolutions and discuss the long lasting consequences of each. We will look at the vast social changes brought by the Industrial Revolution and consider how this fueled subsequent Communist revolutions. We will also analyze how revolutions sought to give people rights, the uneven application of these rights, and continued struggles for increased equality. Throughout the course we will look at examples from 1789 to the present from across the globe and use a wide range of sources to enhance our discussions.

### **HON 394: GLOBAL STUDIES**

*Rob Wallace*

Global Studies is a opportunity for students to survey the theories and controversies surrounding globalization, including, but from a broader perspective than, the frequently-discussed economic model. Students will develop a final project related to some aspect of globalization, broadly conceived. As globalization implies an interconnected set of places, ideas, people, and histories, students from a wide variety of majors will be able to productively approach a final project topic that fits their individual interests. Along the way, we'll encounter major issues such as war, peace, culture, race & ethnicity, gender & sexuality, the environment, and religion, among others. We will investigate why and how global and international studies have become crucial for an informed understanding of the contemporary world and how the local and global are interconnected.

### **HON 491C: CALDERWOOD SEMINAR: DIS-EASE**

*Melissa Schonauer*

The understanding of life occurs through observation and questioning while the passing along of this understanding occurs through communication. One aspect of life that affects and concerns all living organisms is their biology. For humans, the most discussed, debated, and funded aspect of biology is disease (or dis-ease). This writing-focused course aims to teach students how to think and write about biology, and to recognize how often biology is all around us via things that are visible to the naked eye and things that are not visible. It also aims to develop a sense of awareness of the general public's perception of biology and of the degree of control they have over their own health, regardless of their level of education. Through regular writing assignments and group discussions, students will learn to communicate complex, specialized ideas to a non-specialized audience. In essence, students will work to take something that is invisible (incomprehensible) and make it visible (comprehensible) to the general public. BIOLOGY STUDENTS ONLY. Contact [honors@nau.edu](mailto:honors@nau.edu) for permission number.