Interim Descriptions, On-Campus

For Semester 201901
Sunday, September 23, 2018   4:33 am

**JAN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Enrollment:</th>
<th>Billed Fee:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Time:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1030</td>
<td>JAN 301 A Time Travel &amp; Stein’s Gate</td>
<td>Steven Zides</td>
<td>0/20</td>
<td>$160.00</td>
<td>RMSC 225</td>
<td>1300-1600 MTWRF</td>
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Time is one of the most elusive aspects of our experience. For almost three thousand years, philosophers, writers and scientists have attempted to grasp the elemental nature of time only to be rebuffed for their efforts. Although we as a species have mastered the ability to measure time, very little is known about its nature or how to alter its condition. With that said, the human imagination, which knows no bounds, can conceive of realities where the manipulation of time is possible. In this Interim, we will consider the physics and metaphysics of time travel. Students will read science fiction short stories, view feature films and do a careful episode by episode analysis of the sublime anime series Stein’s Gate. Through reading, writing, viewing and discussing the best this fictional genre has to offer, students will gain a better appreciation of the time travel narrative and a greater understanding of the physical phenomenon we call time.

Additional expenses: $10.00

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<tr>
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<td>1031</td>
<td>JAN 302 A East Asian Cultures</td>
<td>Yongfang Zhang</td>
<td>0/20</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>OLIN 118</td>
<td>0900-1200 MTWRF</td>
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This Interim course aims to cultivate cultural knowledge of East Asian countries, including China, Japan, and South Korea. The course will be organized by four themes: Cultural beliefs and values in East Asia, Entertainments in East Asia, Martial Arts Films in East Asia, and Etiquette in East Asia. The classes will feature films and media, article reading, discussions, mock performance, hands-on experiencing, guest lecturer, and students' project and presentations.

Additional expenses: $10.00

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<th>Enrollment:</th>
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<th>Location:</th>
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<tr>
<td>1032</td>
<td>JAN 303 A Stuff I Should Know About Business</td>
<td>Eddie Richardson</td>
<td>0/20</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>OLIN 212</td>
<td>0900-1200 MTWRF</td>
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This "hands-on" project for non-business majors/minors will answer personal and business finance questions every student will encounter after graduation such as: How do I reconcile my checking account? How do I get a car loan? Home: rent or own? What is a mortgage and how much does it cost? What kind of insurance do I need? What do I need to know about signing a contract? What do I need to know about investing for retirement? What's the difference between stocks and bonds, mutual funds, etc..? How do I organize and start a business? How do I read financial statements?

Additional Expenses: $90.00
Robo Sapiens

Dan Welch  Enrollment: 0/20  Billed Fee: $0.00  0900 1200 MTWF  RMSC 121

Robots, artificial intelligence, androids. At some point "Are you a robot?" becomes a serious question. In this Project we will examine the state of robotics and tinker a bit with robots and "intelligence" of our own design. Along the way we will give thought to questions raised in print and film about human motivation to build robots, possible results of their presence among us, and examine the basis of claims of "spiritual" machines. We will also explore how artificial intelligence couples with virtual reality to produce a new robot form that raises the ante in this game of "Find the non-human among us".

Additional Expenses: $390.00

Furniture Design-Build

Michael Webster  Enrollment: 0/15  Billed Fee: $400.00  0900 1200 MTWF  RSRCA 006A

Adorning your home with a piece of furniture transformed from raw lumber into a contemporary heirloom is a rewarding experience. In this course, students will learn the process of creating a custom piece of furniture from their own design. Woodworking requires attentive use of hand and power tools, therefore, students will begin with learning the proper use of power saws, drills, sanders, and shapers. Students will then adopt a proven design thinking methodology for generating innovative ideas. Due to the style of the course, students will be expected to incorporate creativity and problem-solving throughout. By the end of the course, each student will complete a unique functional furniture project to take home.

Prior experience with woodworking is not necessary, but a willingness to learn proper use of power tools and follow safety guidelines is required.

The Writer's Workout

Tracy Revels  Enrollment: 0/20  Billed Fee: $0.00  0900 1200 MTWF  MAIN 322

Do you like to write, but find it difficult to make time for it? Do you have great ideas, but find the blank page (or computer screen) too intimidating? Just like physical exercise, writing requires time and discipline. This interim will provide the time; working together, students and the instructor will provide the motivation, the inspiration, and occasionally the perspiration that it takes to make writing a lifetime love. Students can expect daily writing challenges and prompts, as well as class critiques and tips. Each student is free to pursue any type of writing: poetry, short stories, non-fiction, creative non-fiction, personal essays, journal keeping, or blogging are all possibilities. The goal is to write for at least three hours every day, in a classroom setting. At the end of the interim, students will collaborate on a self-published book featuring their best selections and prompts that they have generated for each other, as well as hosting an evening reading of their selections for the Wofford community.

Additional Expenses: $25

Health, Nutrition, Fitness & Wellness

Timothy Bersak  Enrollment: 0/20  Billed Fee: $292.00  0900 1200 MWF  BSA 2  1030 1200 TR  AFH 104

This course will explore the intersections of health, wellness, and fitness, and examine the role that community and social factors play in lifestyle choices. We will primarily use one group exercise program—CrossFit—to improve our own fitness, and will also spend 1-2 days a week doing restorative yoga. Throughout the course of interim, students should expect to engage in physical activity 4+ days per week, though no prior exercise experience or current level of fitness is required. This is not meant to be a "boot camp" style immersion, and the course is targeted towards those with relatively limited experience. Students will be required to have their own transportation to reach CrossFit Spartanburg, where they will be taught the foundational movements of CrossFit during the course of the interim and have a semester long membership after the foundational movements have been covered. Students will also be required to choose one topic on health and prepare a classroom lesson as well as keep accurate food and exercise journals. The month will conclude with a day trip to the ropes courses at the USNWC in Charlotte, NC that will allow us to test and enjoy our newly improved fitness.

Additional Expenses: $15.00
Even though we can't see them with our naked eye, microorganisms are everywhere. In fact, the human body is home to at least one bacterial cell for every human cell! During this interim project, we will study the various roles that microbes play in our world. We will explore the ways in which scientists study these organisms and examine how scientific discoveries have influenced the interactions between man and microbe. We will address questions such as: How have microbes shaped the human diet? How have epidemics impacted the course of human history? Is there any validity to the "hygiene hypothesis," which claims that our increasingly sanitized lifestyle is detrimental to human health? Are vaccines safe and effective? Does scientific evidence support the claims of the probiotic food industry? This interim project will also include opportunities for hands-on microbiology in the lab, such as making fermented foods and using molecular biology techniques to identify microorganisms.

This course is a thoughtful consideration of the consequences of our sexuality for the meaning of human existence. It touches not only on courtship and marriage, but on the twinship of love and death, on the love of the beautiful and the desire for God, among many other things. Another title for the course might be: Love and Wisdom. The readings for the course are taken for the most part from literature and philosophy, with much contemporary material as well. This is a liberal arts course concerning perhaps the most important practical question posed by our lives.

For over five decades Star Trek has been part of American culture. For many Star Trek is more than just riveting entertainment. It has presented an inspiring message for the future addressing everything from social, political, philosophical, and ethical issues to progressive and humanistic representations of race, gender, and class. We will examine and discuss the many ways that the franchise has affected the culture it represents and the people who watch the series. We will also examine whether Star Trek presents a world of utopia, community, self improvement, that are central to American culture and history. So, boldly go where no one has gone before, and live long and prosper!

Many of the behaviors we adopt in life are products of our environment. Currently, we live in a "toxic" health and fitness environment. We are so habituated to our modern-day environment that we miss the subtle ways it influences our behaviors, personal lifestyle, and health each day. The epidemic of physical inactivity and obesity that is sweeping across America is so harmful to health that it actually increases the deterioration rate of the human body and leads to premature aging, illness, and death.

To improve public health, New York cities and counties were among the first to start banning trans fats from all restaurants and other food service establishments. These artificial fats have been linked to heart disease. The current trend of serving supersize meals and portions to inactive children is contributing to an epidemic of childhood obesity. Among children, overweight or obesity can lead to lifelong weight problems and other associated medical problems. Eating breakfast regularly has been linked with less obesity and better overall health. Researchers, however, are unclear over why breakfast eaters are healthier and thinner. Though genes do play a role, the main reason for obesity is due to eating more calories than are expended.
This project will offer an introduction to the world of craft brewing. Students will develop a historical perspective of the craft beer industry. By examining the details of beer brewing, students will learn the chemistry and microbiology of the brewing and fermentation process. The elements of beer flavors will be dissected and understood through sensory evaluation and how malts, hops and other ingredients produce the wide variety of flavors and styles in the world’s most popular drink. Students must be twenty-one years of age by January 3, 2019, to participate and gain instructor permission prior to registration. To request instructor permission complete this form prior to Friday, Oct. 12: https://goo.gl/forms/x8R7TMskxqy55PO53

Additional Expenses: $70

This course discusses concepts from mathematics, statistics, philosophy, and psychology that are fundamental to the practice of quantitative critical thinking. The focus will be on the development of skills that contribute to the correct interpretation of quantitative arguments and facts that are frequently observed in our daily lives, as well as on quantitative results that tend to be counter-intuitive to most people. Some of the topics discussed in this course are: probabilistic reasoning, Simpson's Paradox, Will Rogers Phenomenon, correlation and causation, selection bias, regression to the mean, statistical significance and its limitations, empirical methods in science, and psychological biases associated with quantitative reasoning. NOTE: STUDENTS WHO PREVIOUSLY TOOK ECO 380 ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL IN THIS CLASS.

Additional Expenses: $75

The idea is that you’ll write a first draft of a novel in a month. At this point, you don’t even need an idea for a novel. We’ll read tips on how to write thousands of words for a story you’ll create that you don’t even know about yet. So, you will write a lot, and you will have novels to read and movies to watch. This will require you to spend a good amount of time on your laptop, but that’s a good way to get your novel out. And that’s what we’re going to try.

Additional Expenses: $75

Through hands on experience we will explore the craft of hand building and wheel throwing pottery with emphasis on the creative process that transforms functional pieces into works of art. We will investigate the cultural significance of pottery making in local and global communities through videos, visits with artists, and individual demonstrations.

Additional Expenses: $5.00

Students will study the relationships between humans and pets. This will include exploring the behavior, evolution and cognition of dogs and other animals. Afternoons will be spent at the Spartanburg Humane Society learning and practicing the techniques they use to assess and condition dogs for successful adoptions. The ultimate goal is to learn how individuals and society can foster responsible and effective pet relationships.
What makes us happier in life? What can you do now to cultivate gratitude for yourself, your friends, family and the world you live in? Are diet, exercise, and daily practices related to happiness? Some experts say that you are what you eat. Others believe that nutrition, spending time outside and humor positively impact our mood and our bodies. To explore this, we will have conversations with a nutritionist, a life coach, a health coach, an herbalist, and other experts on these topics. Students will practice Zumba, yoga, meditation, various dance styles, and other forms of exercise such as martial arts to connect our exploration with our practice. We will adopt some daily routines that have been proven to increase levels of happiness. We will also have day trips to participate in walking-meditation, drumming, and community engagement activities. In addition, we will reflect on how these activities and many others can increase your positive attitude and overall well-being. [Note: Participants are expected to participate in physical activities five times per week].

Additional Expenses: $10.00

Each decision we make—personally or as a society—involves a choice among diverse alternatives, each with its own values, reasons, and advocates. Healthy debate over such issues is a vital part of our personal and civic lives. In this Interim we will explore some of the important issues of biomedicine, social values, and public policy with special attention to the methods of good argumentation. We will examine some famous historical debates and pay special attention to several basic techniques of formal debating, including Public Forum, Lincoln-Douglas, and Parliamentary styles — with the possible goal of forming a Wofford debate club in the near future.

Additional Expenses: $160.00

In conjunction with Bert Knight, MD (Hospice and Palliative Care Specialist, Spartanburg Regional), we will undertake a close study of the attitudes toward death and mortality that play a role in our society and in our own lives. Through a serious consideration of the art and literature as well as the science and medicine surrounding our attempts to cope with the inevitable, we hope to gain insight into the ways we deal with life and our visions of the future. Topics for consideration run from homicide to hospice care, “bucket lists” to obituaries, physician aided death to cryopreservation. Local travel will include visits to cemeteries, funeral home, morgue, and medical autopsy. There will be regular writing assignments and readings. Instructor's permission required.

Additional Expenses: $70.00
The goal of this course is to improve one's ability to read deeply and meaningfully discuss important fiction. In groups of 3 or 4, students will choose a classic text, or texts, from the list provided, or suggest one to be approved, and read it together. After 2 weeks, student will join another group of 3-4 students, and read another book. Each day, one student will be in charge of leading discussion with their group on the day's pages, posting questions to be addressed prior to the day's meeting, and one student will post a summary of important observations. Additionally, students will keep a reading blog. At the end of each 2 week period, students will make presentations to the larger group on their text.

Additional Expenses: $40.00

An introduction to the study of accounting and its conceptual framework, the mechanics of accounting practice, and the significance of accounting in organizations. Examines and interprets the historical, political, and social aspects of accounting phenomena. As a "silent witness," accounting is a barometer, canary in the mine, and forensic tool for understanding where our nation has been, is, and may one day be. NOTE: STUDENTS WHO PREVIOUSLY TOOK ACCT 211 ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO ENROLL IN THIS COURSE.

Kurtz's last words in Joseph Conrad’s Heart of Darkness (1899/1902) could have referred to his fear of death, his anguish over his physical decay, his reflections on his moral decay, or the ease with which the rational succumbs to the irrational and violent. All of these are generative ideas for horror films, which share an interest in the disturbing. Despite its focus on fear and anxiety, this form of cinema has found a welcome audience for well over a century. Horror films range widely in the central subject of their representations: the supernatural, the monstrous, the psychotic, and the apocalyptic are variants. The manner in which such films have represented their subjects has also varied. Sub-genres such as body horror, splatter film, and slasher film involve extremely graphic depictions of violence, and their preoccupation with punishment and pain has led some to see many such films as misogynistic and others to complicate this reading. In this interim we will study horror films from the 1920s to 2016 to appreciate film technique, understand the development of the genre, relate horror films to their material and historical circumstances, and argue the broader implications of their representations.

Students will have the chance to try hands-on field archaeology, uncovering hidden evidence from hundreds of years of our local history. Fieldwork will be carried out just 20 minutes from campus, where we will investigate the historic archaeological features of Upper Glendale Shoals, SC, near the Goodall Environmental Studies Center. Features to be studied include late 18th iron works and associated mills; the sites of skirmishes from the Revolutionary War; an old colonial road and associated house sites; an early 20th century trolley line and associated Glendale Park; and an early 20th century baseball field where the textile mill baseball leagues once played. Students should be prepared to spend long hours in the field, engaged in moderately strenuous physical activity on days with good weather. Days with inclement weather will be spent in the lab, analyzing historical records, maps and artifacts. Students will gain experience in archaeological field methods, including pedestrian survey, surface collection, shovel testing, small unit excavations, and geophysical prospection methods such as magnetometry, ground penetrating radar (GPR), and mapping using global positioning system (GPS) receivers and digital surveying instruments.
As human beings, we have become very good at creating environments. But at the same time, these environments also affect the way we feel, live, and respond to each other. As a member of our society, you may feel that architecture does not affect you. You may not notice that your voice changes in some places. You may notice that one building is different from another, but not why. And, you may not be aware of why you like one building more than another. However, at some point we are called upon to make judgments and choices about our environment. We make choices about the types of houses we want to live in, the town we want this house to be a part of, and each of these is influenced by the culture and architectural history of the country we live in. Consider living in another dorm and how that would affect you.

Amateur means “for the love”. Thus, the emphasis of this course is to better understand the architecture that surrounds us without getting bogged down in the details, or in complicated technical materials. No one in the class should feel the need to be an engineer to present their ideas. The emphasis of the course will be the study of the elements of architecture and how they relate to each other and to our perceptions of the building. For that reason, anything that gets the point across is acceptable.

We will use, adapt, and modify several current and emerging technologies in new and novel ways. Participants will develop their own projects using 3D computer aided design software, 3D printers, and electronics prototyping tools such as Arduino. Participants will develop their own projects in one of four areas: (1) fashion and wearable computing, (2) robotics, (3) the internet of things, and (4) human/computer interaction.

Charles Darwin published The Origin of Species in 1859, and it quickly became one of the most influential books of all time. In this interim project, students will read Darwin’s work and research how Darwin’s ideas have been received by both scientists and the general public. We will also engage in hands-on research that illustrates natural selection, the hypothesis Darwin elegantly outlined in Origin of Species.

This interim project is about reading. Students choose from a list of classic novels and then read for a sustained period of time, unplugged and without distraction. Students will read at their own pace and primarily for pleasure, improving the ability to focus. Discussion groups will be formed according to reading choice, and each student will keep a reading journal.

Additional Expenses: $50.00
Neil deGrasse Tyson says that science is part of the pop culture lexicon and here to stay. Our culture reflects this trend in popular literature, tv shows and films, and media events like Comic-Con. In this class you will read, watch and reflect on science as portrayed in popular literature, television and films with an emphasis on science fiction. This course will introduce you to various ways that science and storytelling rely on each other. We will explore how science and fiction intersect and how to identify what is real and what is purely fiction. The final project will be researching a science theme portrayed in popular culture and how it differs from scientific reality.

Additional Expenses: $10.00

In this project, students will develop a number of retro video games using Construct, an entirely in-browser game development system. In the process they will explore the history of video games, the genres and qualities of each, and how to design and implement a video game. The project will result in each student developing a video game and presenting it to the college community.

Students will work in teams to either bring a business idea to life or to develop a social innovation. Based on a shared interest, teams will gain a deep, empathetic understanding of the needs of a population they wish to serve. From the needs they uncover, teams will go through a creative process, which utilizes non-linear thinking in order to generate innovative solutions. Teams will develop prototypes of these potential solutions, and then solicit feedback from their target population. Based on this feedback, teams will make updates to their solutions. This process will continue until they reach a point where they have designed something that is truly innovative and beneficial for the population they wish to serve. Once they have reached this point, students will develop a number of real-world market experiments that will help them validate their findings.

Fire Ecology of the Southern Appalachians explores the relationships between people, fire, and the land in the very special mountainous region nearby Wofford. We combine anthropological and political science approaches to understanding landscapes affected by fires. We learn about fire ecology in the current era and construct ecological restoration plans to shape future fire ecologies. The course is divided into four sections: fire history, fire ecology, fire management, and fire futures. We will work both on campus and off campus to explore interactions between people and fire in the past, present, and future. Most of our time in the field will be on day trips from campus, but we may also have one overnight trip. We may take part in a prescribed burn, under the supervision of land management personnel. All field plans, of course, are weather permitting.

Students will learn the fundamentals of fire ecology, fire behavior, fire weather, and fire effects. These topics will be explored in relation to both wildland and prescribed fire. We will visit the sites of wildland fires and prescribed burns. Students from across disciplines are welcome to enroll, especially those interested in environmental studies, ecology, botany, anthropology, sociology, outdoor activities, and those interested in exploring natural areas in Upstate South Carolina and Western North Carolina. If you enroll in this course, you can expect to explore state land, national forests, and other protected areas. You will have the opportunity to meet land managers, park rangers, and firefighters. You will acquire an appreciation for fire and an awareness of its role in Appalachian ecosystems.
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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Enrollment:</th>
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<th>Days and Time</th>
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<td>1063</td>
<td>A Tale of Two Cemeteries: Celebrating Spartanburg's Ancestors</td>
<td>Helen Dixon</td>
<td>0/20</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>1300 1600 MTWF</td>
<td>RSRCA 125</td>
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<td>This interim project takes as its focus two very different historic Spartanburg area cemeteries: one for a Revolutionary War era plantation and another for a Civil War and Reconstruction era cemetery for a community of formerly enslaved persons. Together with the Spartanburg County Historical Society and descendants from those buried at each site, we'll develop a plan for presenting these spaces to the public. This process may include: weeding and tending at the cemetery sites, cemetery photography, archival and genealogical research, scanning historical documents, visits to historic funeral homes and stone-cutters, tours of other area historic cemeteries, designing on-site signage, or development of a website or other virtual approach to presenting the cemeteries. Classroom discussion and readings will explore how mortuary practices have changed over time and may vary across our diverse community, as well as how to balance competing interests in preservation, family history, and tourism at historic cemetery sites.</td>
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<td>1064</td>
<td>Knit One, Purl Two</td>
<td>Diane Farley &amp; Cecile Nowatka</td>
<td>0/16</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
<td>0900 1200 MTWF</td>
<td>OLIN 201</td>
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<td>Did you know that the craft of knitting is over 1,000 years old? Did you know that men used to dominate the world of knitting? Would you like to learn a fun craft? In this course, students will spend a month learning about knitting. For many people, knitting is a meditative and therapeutic activity. In addition to casting on and binding off, students will learn to knit a variety of stitches. We will also learn about knitting terminology and reading patterns. By the end of the course, students will have completed four knitted projects. Other coursework will include assigned readings, blog entries, and a final presentation. Each student will complete one knitted project to be donated to a local charitable organization. As a class, we will visit the organization and see firsthand how our hard work is appreciated by our neighbors-in-need. We will also visit a local farm and yarn shop to learn more about different fibers and fiber farming.</td>
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<td>1065</td>
<td>Final Frontier: Space Exploration/Exploitation</td>
<td>William DeMars</td>
<td>0/20</td>
<td>$550.00</td>
<td>0900 1200 MTWF</td>
<td>DB 102</td>
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<td>This interim will probe space exploration and exploitation across imagination and culture, weapons and space races, and business uses. Our texts will include fiction and documentary films; histories of the space race between the U.S. and the Soviet Union that culminated in the Apollo moon landings; sources on current weaponization of space; sources on governments, businesses and NGOs using space today; and a trip to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museums and other sites in Washington, DC. Additional Expenses: $210.00</td>
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<td>1066</td>
<td>Roots of Meditation, Mindfulness, and Self-Discipline</td>
<td>David Efurd</td>
<td>0/20</td>
<td>$280.00</td>
<td>1300 1600 MTWF</td>
<td>RSRCA 112</td>
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<td>This interim will examine historical traditions of meditation and mindfulness in an experiential manner and through the reading and discussion of ancient texts. We will meditate together, practice mindfulness exercises, learn some yoga postures, and discuss books from diverse traditions, including the The Bhagavad Gita, the Dao De Jing, and others that stress heightened awareness through introspection. In addition, we will discuss the recent craze in mindfulness and scientific discoveries related to motivation and self-discipline. Additional Expenses: $10.00</td>
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### Traits, Superheroes, and Villains

Deidra Coleman  
Enrollment: 0/20  
Billed Fee: $100.00  
0900 1200 MTWRF  OLIN 103

Over the last two decades, superheroes and their accompanying supervillains have increasingly moved into the center of our cinematic universe. Blockbuster movies continue to emerge centered on this genre such as the recently acclaimed Black Panther movie. New television series continue to be developed centered on this genre while old series sustain quite lengthy lives. Streaming venues such as Hulu and Netflix contain series developed only for distribution through these mediums.

While it is certain that the audience of this genre includes a loyal fan base, it is also probable by the continued growth of the genre that the audience continues to grow. We endeavor to explore in this interim the traits that we as humans see as equivalent to the powers or other advantages our superheroes and supervillains possess using collections of essays written by a group of psychologists and cooperating scholars.

Additional Expenses: $20.00

### The 1970s by Film

Clayton Whisnant  
Enrollment: 0/20  
Billed Fee: $5.00  
0900 1200 MTWRF  MAIN 102

The 1970s is still remembered as one of the best decades for film. The Civil Rights movement, the counterculture, and feminism left their mark on the screen, as did a “New Wave” of European directors who experimented with new themes and presentation. With restrictions on content having loosened in the previous decade, filmmakers also pushed the envelope in terms of violence, language, and sexuality. Suspicion of government became a common theme in the post-Watergate era. Many writers also took up socially relevant themes such as working-class life, ethnic subcultures, and of course the struggles of women. The decade also witnessed breakout films by such important directors as George Lucas and Steven Spielberg. This course will explore a decade of film, using it as a lens to understand the history, politics, and culture of the era.

Additional Expenses: $65.00

### Beyond Superheroes: Reading Comics & Graphic Novels Across Genres

Christine Dinkins  
Enrollment: 0/20  
Billed Fee: $155.00  
0900 1200 MTWRF  RMSC 128

Too many people miss out on wonderful literature and art because they don’t know how to read comic books or don’t realize the rich variety of high-quality stories and art produced in this medium. Students in this course will first study sequential art and how to read comic books (with Scott McCloud’s Understanding Comics). Students will then read comic books and graphic novels across genres, including crime/suspense, superhero, autobiography, fantasy, post-apocalyptic, and historical. Students will choose their own books to read throughout the course, but each student will read a selection from multiple eras and genres. Each student will participate in small discussion groups, keep a reading journal, and complete a final project reflecting on the month of reading. The goal of this course is to help students develop reading skills and lifelong love of literature, especially comic books.
Looking for a fun and creative interim? Do you like Minecraft? Want to help recruit students to Wofford?

In this fun yet work-intensive interim, you will work as a team to recreate Wofford's campus in Minecraft. The ultimate goal is to host the final creation on a server, which could then be used as a recruitment tool. Potential Wofford students (or anyone) from anywhere in the world could log on and virtually tour the campus. We will start by creating the exterior (buildings, fountains, football field, lampposts, etc.) and, time permitting, even work our way to the interior of buildings. Our model of Wofford should be as accurate as possible, so you will also spend time walking around campus to photograph and note anything and everything that would be of interest. You will collaborate as a team (all logged in to the same world) to come up with a plan to divide the work and tackle the project piece by piece.

Not only will you learn and practice collaboration skills, but you will also learn about the architectural design and style of Wofford’s unique campus. You will present your final creation to the college on the last day.

Additional Expenses: $30.00

This project will be an exploration of how some of the principles of probability, expectation, and statistics can be applied to games of chance. We will focus on roulette, Texas Hold-Em, craps, and baccarat. We will also explore how the ideas presented in the project can be extended to make better decisions in the face of risk in a students' life.

Additional Expenses: $75.00

Love acting, singing, or lights, PR, costumes, or set construction but can't fit it into your busy schedule? If so, you should sign up for Pulp Theater's next interim production. Here is your chance to shine on stage during the month of January! If you like musicals, The Rocky Horror Show, Reefer Madness, Hair, and The Evil Dead, you're sure to love whatever the heck Pulp Theater is doing! There is a plethora of positions to be filled. We are looking for both cast and crew, so don't let stage fright stop you from signing up. Participation is contingent upon an audition and/or interview with the student director and the faculty sponsor. We look forward to seeing you there!

Additional Expenses: $20

This interim will explore the world vertically, encouraging students to discover themselves (and some new muscles!) between rocks and hard places. Students will begin by learning about rock climbing gear, safety, climbing knots and belaying procedures in the Climb Upstate indoor climbing gym in Spartanburg (7 1/2 miles off campus). The class will also take two separate day trips to climbing sites in the Upstate; these two trips will be all-day trips, so students should be prepared to attend during the morning and the afternoon. On alternate days when the class isn't climbing walls, bouldering, or rappelling, we will explore: broader history of human attraction to climbing, the evolution of rock climbing from early mountaineering to the contemporary sport as we know it, climbing ethics, the influence of Yosemite first ascents, the contemporary art of climbing in urban spaces, and the different philosophies of people who climb.

Additional Expenses: $20
Your current generation has been dubbed "The generation that doesn't read." This is nothing to be proud of, and this interim sets out to change that. It will be a lesson in deep and slow reading, sitting still, Buddhist concepts of mindfulness, and a powering down of technology. We'll start with reading a number of essays, websites, and blogs on the practice of mindfulness and the slow reading movement. During this time, each of us will also decide what we want to focus on reading. (Any kind of reading, any genre, will be accepted, the only restrictions being anything on phones or computers, magazines, or comic books / graphic novels). The majority of the interim will involve us sitting in Great Oaks Hall each day reading what we've chosen; we'll attempt to retain mindfulness while reading and tuning out technology and distractions. Twice a week, we'll have group discussions about what we're reading and, more importantly, how we're doing with our concentration and focus. There will be daily journal entries and a final essay bringing together the concepts of mindfulness, tuning out, and reading. This interim is only for serious students willing to read daily and deeply.

"Reacting to the Past (RTTP) consists of elaborate games, set in the past, in which students are assigned roles informed by classic texts in the history of ideas. Class sessions are run entirely by students; instructors advise and guide students and grade their oral and written work. It seeks to draw students into the past, promote engagement with big ideas, and improve intellectual and academic skills. Reacting roles, unlike those in a play, do not have a fixed script and outcome, so while students will be obliged to adhere to the philosophical and intellectual beliefs of the historical figures they have been assigned to play, they must devise their own means of expressing those ideas persuasively, in papers, speeches, or other public presentations; and students must also pursue a course of action they think will help them win the game."--from the RTTP website: https://reacting.barnard.edu/reacting-home

Additional Expenses: $75.00

Want to learn breakdancing, explore your own cultural identity, engage with cultures from the US and abroad, and find out what psychology tells us about interacting with other individuals and groups? Then look no further! In this class, we will study the history of hip-hop and breakdancing as a case study in what it means to have cultural practices and group identity. We will explore and share our own cultural background as we study the sociology of subcultures and the spread of cultural practices around the world. And we will improve our capacity to engage with people from a variety of backgrounds as we study the psychology of group dynamics and methods of intercultural communication. Best of all, a qualified instructor (i.e. not Drs. Newman or Steinmetz) will teach us hip-hop and breakdance moves. Learn the wave, pop, pop & lock, and basic breakdance techniques. Coursework will involve readings and class discussions, presentations, and a choreographed dance performance (as a class). No dance experience required!

In this project we will learn to play Scrabble, and learn to play it well. On top of learning the basic rules of the game, we will explore the strategies used by top players as well as some aspects of the game's controversial history. No prior knowledge of Scrabble is required for this project.
Employers often identify problem-solving skills as an important quality when hiring college graduates. Problem-solving is a universal skill that applies to any position in every industry; actually, in all aspects of life. But, being a problem solver isn't just an ability, it's a mindset. In this course, we will develop our problem-solving and critical thinking skills through the use of breakout games and escape rooms. Placing students as active participants in the creation of a solution, breakout games also foster engagement in learning, collaboration, creativity, and inquiry.

Additional Expenses: $25.00

This class will focus on literary representations of LGBT sexualities to address a number of questions, including: To what extent is love between heterosexuals the same as LGBT forms of love? Is the experience of love between women distinct from love between men? How do racial and ethnic differences impact gay and lesbian experience? And, do different geographical contexts and historical periods produce varieties of LGBT love, or simply one universal form of such love? To address these topics, we will consider texts by writers such as James Baldwin, Sappho, Audre Lorde, Yukio Mishima, Saleem Haddad, and Virginia Woolf.

Additional Expenses: $100.00

In this project you will learn the basics of quilting. This will include learning to cut, stitch, and quilt a variety of block patterns. As a group we will construct one quilt together that will be donated to class identified charity. You will also make your own quilt project based on a pattern of your choosing. We will learn how trading patterns and the industrialization of cotton production influenced the types of material available for quiltmaking and the types of quilts made. We will also explore the ways that different historical contexts shaped quilting traditions such as race, class, gender, and ethnicity. We will explore quiltmaking as a form of art and learn about its role in the arts and craft movement in America.

Finally, the last week we'll learn about quiltmaking as a form of awareness and social consciousness. This will include an exploration of the role of quilts as expressions of patriotism, quilts commemorating war and peace, and quilts as powerful tools of activism. Along the way we will view quilts and learn patterns that represent each of these traditions.

This course explores the ways in which animals of many species perceive the world, communicate, solve problems, remember events and locations, forage for food, and interact socially with each other and with humans. We ask, How are their mental lives similar or different from ours? We will study a broad range of animal cognition by: (a) watching video documentaries of animal behavior, (b) reading an introductory textbook that surveys areas of comparative cognition, and (c) complete and present individual projects focusing on particular topics in cognition.
Jane Austen is one of England's most beloved authors. But many of us haven't read much beyond Pride and Prejudice. This deep reading interim will allow us to explore two of Austen's less well-known novels, Mansfield Park and Persuasion, and then renew our knowledge of Pride and Prejudice. Students will gain familiarity with the challenges and rewards of intensive reading through class discussion and daily writing. Students will keep a reading journal reflecting on both the novels and their experiences of reading, and will design and execute a final project that reflects some aspect of Victorian culture drawn from the readings. The goals of this course are to develop a greater appreciation for one of the most important cultural figures of the 19th century and to enhance our abilities to read deeply and at length, skills that often prove elusive in today's world.

Together we will explore how the rich and diverse cultures and history of South Carolina have informed today's Southern cuisine. Through the exploration of regional agricultural and culinary histories, from the Lumbee and Cherokee Native American to the West African and Gullah cultures, we will examine the continuity and discontinuity of cultures, and impact on Southern cuisine, with a focus on the current farm-to-table movement. The course will include field trips to local farms and tastings at restaurants specializing in the farm-to-table movement in Greenville and Spartanburg. We will spend one full day traveling to the Museum of the Cherokee Indian in NC to learn about the culinary and cultural traditions of Native South and North Carolina. In Spartanburg, we will take 3 afternoon cooking classes with Chef Tim Page to prepare regional Southern dishes influenced by Native American, West African, and Gullah culinary traditions. We will also incorporate weekly volunteer work at the Northside’s Butterfly Foundation in their kitchen and catering program in order take an active role in addressing hunger and nutrition education in the Spartanburg community.

This new edition of The New World will expose new generations of economics students to how McKenzie and Tullock have applied in a lucid manner a relatively small number of economic concepts and principles to a cluster of topics that have been in the book from its first release and to a larger number of topics that are new to this edition, with the focus of the new topics on showing students how economic thinking can be applied to business decision making. This edition continues the book's tradition of taking contrarian stances on important economic issues. Economics professors have long reported that The New World is a rare book in that students will read it without being required to do so.

Our planet is poised at the brink of a severe environmental crisis and there is overwhelming evidence that human activity is to blame. Our current way of life is unsustainable and will have irreversible consequences if continued unchecked. Environmental awareness is an integral part and the first step to making the necessary changes toward progress. Throughout this course, students will learn about the major environmental issues we face as a society today and what we can do to promote public awareness. We will examine both historical and current patterns to determine the seriousness of these issues. Students will learn about the relationship between visual imagery and pro-environmental viewpoints and how to use visual imagery to promote awareness of environmental issues to influence public perception in a way that stimulates changes in behavior that are necessary to work towards solutions. The final project will focus on creating an avant-garde 'experimental film' using open source software, images, video, and music.
Learn how to organize and implement different social and business affairs. Initial discussions will focus on resumes, networking, communication skills (both written and verbal) and interviewing. Additionally the course will include many facets of social planning, including etiquette (both domestic and international), attire, decorating, music, and dining.

Using the fascinating book “In Europe: Travels Through the Twentieth Century” by Dutch journalist, Geert Mak, we will travel in space and time to learn more about the cities and people of Europe. From Sarajevo, to Amsterdam, Austria, Barcelona, Rome, Athens, Paris, London, Bone, Berlin, Moscow and others, we will take a look at the people and events that shaped Europe in the 20th century. Through the lives of the people portrayed in the book, and in related documentaries and films, we will see hope amidst war, migration, cruelty, & regret.