SPECIAL TOPICS COURSES FOR Spring 2024

AA291 Being a Teaching Artist
Instructor: Susan Fenley  M  1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Skills:

This a never-before-at-Wagner class. It is a highly interactive course designed for performance, arts administration, and education majors who want to effectively teach arts--and especially theatre--skills to children or adults. The course teaches classroom management, learning strategies, how to use theatre warmups, lesson planning, and logistics of getting a job as a teaching artist. Participants also learn how to integrate the arts into school curricula, making learning come alive for their students. By the end of the course, participants should know how to deliver arts lessons and be confident presenters. Teaching artistry is a growing field and a viable way to work as steadily as you want in schools and organizations throughout the US, helping others develop artistic skills.

AR291: Art, Artifact, and Industry
Instructor: Andrew Francis  M  1:00 pm -4:00 pm
Skills: A

This course would explore the art object's place within the broader field of the artifacts, tools, and commodities with which we frenetically cover ourselves. We would approach this expansive topic from various vantage points, including field trips to local Staten Island Manufacturing plants as well as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and readings on myths about first technologies. Assignments would begin by focusing on methods where fine art and industrial processes overlap, such as mold-making and casting, concluding in an open project where students respond to the course material and address their place in our oversaturated industrialized world.

AH291/GOV 291 ILC/EYH: Encounters with Spain: Art, Politics, Travel and Film
Instructor: Sarah Scott and Patricia Moynagh  TR  11:20 am – 12:50 pm
Skills: C, RR, UU

This team-taught Intermediate Learning Community brings together the study of art and politics in the context of what has come to be known as Spain. Using a combination of readings, images, and travel to the region, this course offers a special opportunity to learn about the cultural production of Spain. Specifically, the course offers an analysis of two key historical periods: Andalucia (Muslim Spain, 711-1492) and the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). Using a host of images, including film, the course focuses on the material culture of Andalucia (Muslim Spain) and the rise of various political ideologies (beliefs) during the Spanish Civil War.

DS 291-IL The Art of Literacy Learning in a Digital Era: A multimodal Approach (Key Instructor: Jennifer Diaz
Skills: H, CC, O, RR

In this course, students will examine literacy learning as an art form. An in-depth exploration of literacy learning and children’s literature will take place while carefully considering ways in
SPECIAL TOPICS COURSES FOR Spring 2024

which digital media impacts learning. Students will explore multiple genres, literature circles and author studies while exploring children's literature in our digital world. This course is especially suited for those interested in literacy, education, and human development. This course is especially of interest to those with a love of stories and children's books.

GE291- City-Based Tour of German Culture ("High & Low"), History, Arts & Contemporary Life
Instructor: Andrea Buck
Skills: H, OO, UU, WC
MW 4:20 pm- 5:50 pm

“Treffen wir uns am Bahnhof und dann …” This course, offered in German, is a “tour” of German/Austrian/Swiss cities exploring topics of high, low & pop German(ic) culture past, present, and future. These city “visits” are flexibly combined with review of basic grammar (as appropriate) and the introdution/review of intermediate and advanced features. As a unifying context for both cultural and grammatical content, the visit to each city includes engaging topics for contrastive analysis and critical discussion, a broad range of authentic readings, and video material keyed to the cities and topics, to the city’s history as well as to contemporary life. Intermediate level. Adjustments for more advanced students possible.
Prerequisite: German 111/112 or permission of the instructor.

GOV 291/MDS 291 ILC: Origins, Holocaust History and Contemporary Crises: Israel and Palestine
Instructor: Steve Snow and Laura Morowitz
M 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

This class examines the historical roots of the ongoing Israeli/Palestinian conflict, both in terms of the political developments in the region from the First World War to the present, and in terms of the historical memory of the Holocaust that has helped shape Israeli identity. For most of the last century, there has been violent conflicts over what has historically been known as the land of Palestine. Covering roughly one hundred years of political events, and using the lens of US foreign policy in the region, this course addresses the following topics, among others: British and French imperialism in the region after WWI; the British Mandate; the war of 1948 and the creation of the state of Israel; the Six-Day and Yom Kippur Wars; and the Oslo Accords that provided some measure of self-government to the Palestinian peoples. The Holocaust—the Nazi extermination of two-thirds of European Jewry—is inseparable from the founding of Israel. We will begin by looking at how the Holocaust was portrayed in the early days of Israel’s existence, issues around the Eichmann trial, and the continuing discourse around the Holocaust today. This will include a look at Israeli institutions as “guardians of memory”, such as Yad Vashem and the Ghetto Fighters House. Lectures include: pre-war Zionism in Europe; Palestine and the Yishuv from 1933-1945 and after; The Holocaust and 1948; The Eichmann Trial; the Holocaust and National Identity today.
SPECIAL TOPICS COURSES FOR Spring 2024

HI 291-01: "Coffee and Oil of the Middle East."  
Instructor: Karim Malak  
MW 11:20 am-12:50 pm
Skills:

This course provides students with an understanding of the basic debates of Middle East History and its historiography. By surveying two-hundred years of Middle Eastern history from the nineteenth to the twentieth century, students will be able to understand the most recent developments and major debates in the field of Middle East History. Students will also be able to synthesize and develop their arguments vis-à-vis the existing literature on a number of sub-topics in the field of Middle East History such as development, the quest for oil, gender and sexuality, the Cold War and decolonization.

Instructor: Lori Weintrob and Thomas Juneau  
MW 9:40 am – 11:10 am
Skills: UU, L, O

This EYH–ILC offers a unique opportunity to visit Paris and the historic towns of Normandy, where Allied forces began the liberation of Western Europe. Participants will enjoy opportunities to explore both the historic and musical landscape of these glorious sites. This course honors the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

This course will explore significant sites, memorials, music and memoirs of World War II and the Holocaust in Normandy, Paris and Chartres. This course will also explore the musical elements of Paris which echoed through beautiful cathedrals, concert stages, and cabarets, music during the war and continued to empower the people of Paris as they struggled against Nazi occupation forces.

After raising the swastika flag above the Eiffel tower in June 1940, the Nazis occupied two-thirds of France. “The Dark Years” of difficult moral decisions began: to collaborate, to resist or to act as if nothing was happening. Tragically, 75,000 of the 350,000 Jews in France did not survive the Gestapo and their French collaborators. We will walk in the footsteps of Allied soldiers on Omaha Beach, including African-American soldiers, who defeated the Nazis. Additionally, we will study and enjoy performances of music by renowned French composers including Maurice Duruflé and Olivier Messiaen. We will also study famous cabaret performers including Maurice Chevalier and Édith Piaf. We will also cover the dynamic multiracial culture in the interwar years, as in the cabarets of Montmartre to better understand past and present-day antisemitism and racism in France and the U.S. Paris will also be preparing to host the 2024 Summer Olympics, a symbol of unity between nations who were once engaged in fateful combat. Lastly, we will all join in the “Chants des Partisans” as we walk the streets of Paris.
SPECIAL TOPICS COURSES FOR Spring 2024

MDS 291-IL The Art of Literacy Learning in a Digital Era: A multimodal Approach
Instructor: Jennifer Diaz  MW 11:20 am - 12:50 pm
Skills: CC, O, RR, Knowledge Area: H

In this course, students will examine literacy learning as an art form. An in-depth exploration of literacy learning and children’s literature will take place while carefully considering ways in which digital media impacts learning. Students will explore multiple genres, literature circles and author studies while exploring children's literature in our digital world. This course is especially suited for those interested in literacy, education, and human development. This course is especially of interest to those with a love of stories and children's books.

MU291-IL - ILC Music and Nationalism
Instructor: Thomas Juneau  MW 11:20 am - 12:50 pm

In this course, students will explore the varied uses of music for both good and ill, from being a source of comfort and consolation to becoming an evil tool of genocide. Students will engage in readings, the study of music, musicians, and films about Music, World War II, and the Holocaust. They will gain a deeper appreciation of how music and the Arts can be powerful tools in political and historical movements. We will study the incredible experiences of musicians deeply affected by the war, including Richard Strauss, Dmitri Shostakovich, and Dr. Herbert Zipper. Additionally, we will examine music used as propaganda by Joseph Goebbels through groups such as "Charlie and His Orchestra"; a German Jazz Band that performed anti-British and American versions of famous Jazz songs.

RE 291-01: “Christian Theology and Social Issues”
Instructor: Krag Kerr  MW 2:40 pm- 4:10 pm
Skills: O, RR, WC

This course examines contemporary and historical social issues addressed by Christ's call to aid--what the Gospel calls--"the least of these" (Matthew 25:40). Such encompasses various things like discernment of personhood and treatment of the Other--including non-Christians. We will examine different perspectives on applying Christianity to these issues from notable figures in the wide-reaching history of this/these tradition(s).

SA291 IL: BIPOC Leaders in Sport
Instructor: Margaret Wilkins  W 9:40-12:40
Skills, R, O

This course examines a broad range of leadership questions, the effectiveness of leadership strategies, and power undercurrents that have the capability to affect BIPOC representation in leadership within sport.

SW291-IL: Special Topics in Social Work: Disability and World Religion
Religion plays a critical role in determining how disability is understood and how persons with disabilities are treated. Examining the world’s religions through the lens of disability studies not only peers deeply into the character of a particular religion but also teaches us what it means to respond to people living with physical and mental differences. By portraying varied and complex perspectives on the intersection of religion and disability, this course demonstrates that religious teachings and practices across the globe help establish cultural constructions of normalcy. This course also interrogates the constructive role religion plays in determining expectations for human physical and mental behavior and in establishing standards for measuring conventional health and well-being. Disability and World Religions offers a respectful exploration of global faith traditions and cultivates creative ways to respond to the fields of both religious and disability studies.