

COURSES TAUGHT FOR SUMMER 2011

Art History Courses:

AHCS 121 Modern Art History

This comprehensive survey of twentieth-century European and American art reviews and discusses all major movements from a contemporary perspective. This course covers Cubism and Dada, the Russian Avant-Garde and German Expressionism, Surrealism and the Bauhaus, American Modernism and Abstract Expressionism examined within the political and social context of each period.

AHCS 220 / 310 Video and Body Art in/and Contemporary Art, ca. 1960-2000

This is a 10-week online course that will explore “artworks” and artists who use video and/or their body/self as artwork. This course will trace the histories, theories, and developments of both video and body art, given each are often interrelated. Also, in this course we will discuss how this work relates to contemporary art as a whole. Every two weeks we will reckon with a decade, and we will often focus on artist’s videos and/or body art practices and/or a related art movement as a “case study” to see how video and body art relates to the “bigger picture” of contemporary art from 1960 to 2000.

English Courses:

ENGL 104 Critical Analysis and Semiotics

Critical Analysis and Semiotics (CAS) explores the world of cultural signs (semiotics) while developing a number of skills: critical and analytical reading, effective academic writing, evaluating information, and participating in college-level discussions. The reading materials and topics examined this semester will concern popular culture with a special emphasis on gender studies, media literacy, technology and human interaction, the American national character, and issues of power and ideology. In addition, we will explore issues related to larger themes of creativity, diversity and sustainability. The course will build upon already acquired popular cultural literacy to enable students to explore familiar phenomena within the context of the academic world. A minimum grade of "C" (2.0) is required to pass this course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of ENGL090 Developmental English II or placement through the English Placement Exam.

ENGL 106 Composition and Critical Thought

This class focuses on the development and refinement of students' rhetorical skills through the lens of the relationship between images and text. Students are expected to express their ideas with clarity of purpose in a logical, organized manner in four to five longer essays which, in addition to all the skills emphasized in the previous classes, also demonstrate critical thinking, style, logic, voice, development, and syntactic sophistication. Students also study models of argumentation. A minimum grade of "C" (2.0) is required to pass this course. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of ENGL 104 Critical Analysis and Semiotics or placement through the English Placement Assessment.*

ENGL 202 / ENGL 400 Time Travel Narratives

This online course offers an adventurous journey into the multiple timeline theories found in literature, film, anime and television. Students will explore a variety of temporal narratives and discuss the significance and implications of time travel theories in an ever advancing society where Science Fiction regularly becomes Science Fact. We will also examine related issues concerning Social Responsibility, Ethics and Human Sustainability that arise in the Time Travel discourse.

Liberal Studies Courses:

LIBS 410 Virtual Worlds

This online course explores the currently burgeoning online and gaming spaces termed virtual worlds. We will discuss these created communities, their history and their realities, avatars and character invention, narrative threads in these spaces, emerging real/virtual economies and the cultural implications of these behaviors and places. Virtual worlds addressed include The World of Warcraft, Webkinz, the SIMS and Second Life.

Cultural Studies Courses:

SSCI 130 Cultural Studies

This class explores what happens when diverse cultures interact across groups of gender, language, ethnicities, sexual orientation, etc., and how culture is perceived and transmitted. Students write field observations, evaluate media, and participate in individual and group presentations. Lectures, simulations, and assignments are designed to increase the students' observational skills and decrease intercultural and racial misunderstandings.

SSCI 210 Virtual Worlds

This online course explores the currently burgeoning online and gaming spaces termed virtual worlds. We will discuss these created communities, their history and their realities, avatars and character invention, narrative threads in these spaces, emerging real/virtual economies and the cultural implications of these behaviors and places. Virtual worlds addressed include The World of Warcraft, Webkinz, the SIMS and Second Life.