



Bascom Honors Program



Course Descriptions (Spring 2023)

ADAH/HUM206H: Interpreting World Art (Brenningmeyer, M/W 11:00-12:15p)

This course surveys the visual representations of myths and the use of symbols in art from the Paleolithic period to the present. The course examines the topic from a global perspective and investigates the use of symbols across a variety of cultures and time periods. Students gain an understanding of how images manipulate and define or re-define mythologies and how meanings are embedded within visual culture. The course is designed to provide students with no previous background in art or art history with the knowledge and ability to read and comprehend meaning within works of art from western and non-western cultures. **Qualifying Categories: Humanities, Fine Arts, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

ADSA 203H: Painting with Powders & Potions (Lebo, M/W, 9:25-12:05p)

A hands-on introduction to painting that focuses on methods and materials. Students explore different types of mediums, including cold wax, galkyd, liquin, linseed oil, stand oil, neo megilp, and make their own paints from scratch with pigments. **Qualifying Categories: Fine Arts, and Elective.**

ADSA 231H: 20,000 Years of Adornment (Parrett, T/TH, 12:15-2:55p)

Despite the evolution of civilization and humankind's advancement in every field of study, one thing has remained constant – the need to express our individuality while maintaining a sense of belonging. From the dawn of civilization to contemporary society, humans have been using methods and objects of adornment to define themselves. From warding off evil spirits to signifying status or wealth to modern-day activism, objects and displays of adornment show us who we are, where we came from and what our beliefs systems are. This studio course's interdisciplinary approach will include class lectures, research, guest speakers, field study and hand making a body of work culminating in a public exhibition. Working in the ADSA metalsmithing and jewelry making studio, students will explore and experiment using traditional crafts. Materials and techniques including found objects, wood, metal and fiber/textiles to create objects of adornment. **Qualifying Categories: Fine Arts, and Elective.**

CRIM 203H/WS203H: Sexual Violence and Aggression (Brandt, M/W 11:00-12:15p)

Even though there have been considerable monetary and time resources spent on violent crimes by local, state and federal agencies, law enforcement have had a difficult time prosecuting the sexually violent criminal because of societal views on personal freedoms. This course is a systematic introduction to the causation of violent offending and extreme aggressive behavior and the treatment and incarceration of this type of criminal. The readings and course framework will stress a criminological approach to sexual violence and aggression. **Qualifying Categories: Social Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

CRIM/ENGL224H: Detective Fiction (Brandt & Murray, M/W, 12:30-1:45p)

The seminar will study the origin of detective fiction and the cultural and scientific circumstances which made the genre possible. Secondly, the course will explore the reasons behind the popularity of this kind of fiction for the last two centuries. The course will also examine the development of forensic science and detecting by studying the evolution of police investigation procedures from the 19th century to then present day. Students will read a variety of detective stories beginning with Edgar Allan Poe and Arthur Conan Doyle ending this study in the 21st century. **Qualifying Categories: Humanities, Social Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

ENGL 200H: Superheroes in Literature & Culture (Kavadlo, M/W, 2:00-3:15p)

This course will look at the rise and evolution of one of 20th Century America's most prevalent figures, the superhero. Students will examine the philosophical and cultural problems that costumed heroes provoke by looking at the recent wave of superhero novels, films, and academic analyses, as well as by looking at comics and graphic novels. **Qualifying Categories: Fine Arts, Humanities, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

ENGL 204H: Composition and Community (Marino, T/TH 3:30-4:45)

This seminar develops students' skills in argumentative writing, while giving students the opportunity to serve others through their writing. The course is built on the premise that writing is a social act, and that serving others will allow students to invest in themselves as writers. For example, students may be asked to tutor others during the course of the semester. This is a hands-on, discussion-oriented, service learning course that requires engagement with a diverse community. Students will examine texts that will serve as models for writing arguments. The course will build towards a research project allowing students to put sources in dialogue. When students finish the class, they should be able to write effective argumentative projects based on research. Along with working in a service-learning environment, students will participate in small group work, peer editing, conferences with the instructor, and presentations. **Qualifying Categories: Humanities, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

ENGL 215H: Tolkien: Medieval and Modern (Marino, T/TH 2:00-3:15p)

In this course students will explore Tolkien as a medievalist and a modern writer. They will study and discuss *The Lord of the Rings*, *Silmarillion*, *Adventures of Tom Bombadil*, *Leaf by Niggle*, and *On Fairy Stories*, as well as the medieval texts *Beowulf*, the *Elder Edda*, and the *Saga of the Volsungs*. Students will learn how Tolkien's work, in sentiment and detail, continues the early-medieval heroic tradition of the Old English *Beowulf* and the Old Norse *Elder Edda* poems in regard to the heroic code, the vitality of legend and the past (even a romantic view of history), the pantheon and otherworldly beings (elves and dwarves), cosmology, fate and free will, and the subtlety of cultural speech acts. Nevertheless, twentieth-century concerns are also central to Tolkien's fantasy texts, such as worldwide warfare, fear of tyranny by way of overwhelming power, industrialization and the environment, fading tradition, and the nature of good and evil. **Qualifying Categories: Humanities, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

ENGL230H: Writing Poetry I (Levin, M/W 9:30-10:45a)

Writing Poetry is designed to introduce and develop skills in writing, reading, and critiquing poetry. Emphasis will be given to generating, workshopping and revising creative writing by students.

Qualifying Categories: Humanities and Elective.

ENGL/SOC 297H: The Wire: Social Issues and Storytelling (Bausman & Murray, T/TH 9:30-10:45a)

This course will explore social issues and storytelling methods and narrative techniques presented in the first season of David Simon's landmark television series *The Wire*. Many critics believe that this series is one of the most well-written and compelling television series ever written because of the diversity of characters and the thematic breadth of each episode. **Qualifying Categories: Humanities, Social Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

HIST 297H-H1: Alexander Hamilton: Worlds at War (Lillie, W/F, 8:00-9:15p)

Who lives, who dies, who tells your story? This course explores the beginnings of American history through the life and times of Alexander Hamilton and the award-winning musical written by Lin-Manuel Miranda. We will watch and analyze the musical along with newspapers, journal entries, and Hamilton's own letters from the period. Together we will explore issues like women's lives in the early republic; the lives of enslaved peoples and the fight to end slavery; the spy networks of George Washington, and the ideological and cultural ramifications of the American Revolution. **Qualifying Categories: History/Political Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

HONR 261H: Colloquium II (Craddock, Arr Hrs)

The Honors Colloquium is an opportunity for honors students to engage in exciting learning opportunities outside of the classroom. To complete HONR 261H, you must attend four mandatory meetings and submit a 1-2 page thoughtful and well-written reflection on one of the events. **Qualifying Categories: Honors Colloquium II.** [Colloquium Video](#)

INTD 306H: The High Cost of Poverty (Akanbi, Bausman, Bowers, Craddock, T/TH 11:00-12:15p)

Inequality of wealth and income have always existed in the United States and have risen and fallen due to many factors throughout our history. In this course, students will experience an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the complex nature of poverty in the United States. The course will examine the historical trends of poverty, measures to address it, factors that exacerbate it and the impacts it has at the societal and individual levels. Students will engage in an in-class simulation and community-based research project to provide application and relevance of the course content. The course format involves a common lecture and discussion lab weekly. **Qualifies for: Humanities, History/Government, Social Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

MATH 202H: Honors Everyday Data (Herath, W/F 11:00-12:15p)

Data is important and is effectively changing the world we live in. We can use data to help us make good decisions and take advantage of new opportunities. This seminar course gives students a foundation to the world of data and statistical skills. By the end of the course students will be familiar with data collection, processing, analysis, visualization, and interpretation. **Qualifying Categories: Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

PSCI 297H: Globalization toward Sustainability (Akanbi, T/TH 9:30-10:45a)

This class offers an interdisciplinary overview of global issues surrounding resources, the environment, standards of living, technology, quality of life, and cultural integrity. This course explores the various views on sustainability and its relationship with economic growth, policy development, and quality of life. Special attention is given to international relations, economic environmentalism and trade laws, cultural significance, employment, politics, and conflict resolution. **Qualifying Categories: History/Government, Social Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

PSCI 313H: Conspiracy Theories and Politics (Akanbi, T/TH 8:00-9:15a)

This is a seminar-based course that examines the role of Conspiracy Theories in American society and political attitudes. We will explore how Conspiracy Theories are developed, and their relationship with the media and human behavior. The course will investigate political trust and its importance in a democratic system. Students will engage in social media content analysis and a community-based research project to provide application of skills and knowledge developed in the seminar. Students will have the opportunity to expand their media literacy and explore the various perspectives dominating many popular Conspiracy Theories. This course is designed to improve critical thinking, expand scholarly research skills, and encourage political and social discourse. The seminar format involves a common lecture and student-led discussions. **Qualifying Categories: History/Government, Social Science, and Elective.**

PSYC 202H-H1: Thinking Like a Social Scientist (Austin, M/W 3:30-4:45p)

This seminar course introduces students to the research methods and principles of psychological science. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and understanding the scientific methods used in the social sciences. **Qualifying Categories: Social Science, Elective.**

PSYC 202H-H2: Thinking Like a Social Scientist (T/TH 3:30-4:45p)

This seminar course introduces students to the research methods and principles of psychological science. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and understanding the scientific methods used in the social sciences. **Qualifying Categories: Social Science, and Elective.**

SCI 131H: Honors Nutrition (Bruzzi, M/W 11:00-12:15p)

The course introduces students to the biology, chemistry and biochemistry disciplines by learning about the applications to nutrition in all three subject areas. In addition to an introduction to the human body the course covers carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins, minerals, and fluids. Understanding alcohol consumption, physical activity levels and healthy body weights will also be discussed. **Qualifying Categories: Science, and Elective.** [Seminar Video](#)

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Humanities	ADAH/HUM206H: Interpreting World Art (Brenningmeyer, M/W 11:00-12:15p) CRIM/ENGL224H: Detective Fiction (Brandt & Murray, M/W, 12:30-1:45p) ENGL 200H: Superheroes in Literature & Culture (Kavadlo, M/W, 2:00-3:15p) ENGL 204H: Composition and Community (Marino, T/TH 3:30-4:45) ENGL 215H: Tolkien: Medieval and Modern (Marino, T/TH 2:00-3:15p) ENGL230H: Writing Poetry I (Levin, M/W 9:30-10:45a) ENGL/SOC 297H: The Wire: Social Issues and Storytelling (Bausman & Murray, T/TH 9:30-10:45a) INTD 306H: The High Cost of Poverty (Akanbi, Bausman, Bowers, Craddock, T/TH 11:00-12:15p)
Science	MATH 202H: Honors Everyday Data (Herath, W/F 11:00-12:15p) SCI 131H: Honors Nutrition (Bruzzi, M/W 11:00-12:15p)
History /Political Science	HIST 297H-H1: Alexander Hamilton: Worlds at War (Lillie, W/F, 8:00-9:15p) INTD 306H: The High Cost of Poverty (Akanbi, Bausman, Bowers, Craddock, T/TH 11:00-12:15p) PSCI 297H: Globalization toward Sustainability (Akanbi, T/TH 9:30-10:45a) PSCI 313H: Conspiracy Theories and Politics (Akanbi, T/TH 8:00-9:15a)
Social Science	CRIM 203H/WS203H: Sexual Violence and Aggression (Brandt, M/W 11:00-12:15p) CRIM/ENGL224H: Detective Fiction (Brandt & Murray, M/W, 12:30-1:45p) ENGL/SOC 297H: The Wire: Social Issues and Storytelling (Bausman & Murray, T/TH 9:30-10:45a) INTD 306H: The High Cost of Poverty (Akanbi, Bausman, Bowers, Craddock, T/TH 11:00-12:15p) PSCI 297H: Globalization toward Sustainability (Akanbi, T/TH 9:30-10:45a) PSCI 313H: Conspiracy Theories and Politics (Akanbi, T/TH 8:00-9:15a) PSYC 202H-H1: Thinking Like a Social Scientist (Austin, M/W 3:30-4:45p) PSYC 202H-H2: Thinking Like a Social Scientist (T/TH 3:30-4:45p)
Fine Arts	ADAH/HUM206H: Interpreting World Art (Brenningmeyer, M/W 11:00-12:15p) ADSA 203H: Painting with Powders & Potions (Lebo, M/W, 9:25-12:05p) ADSA 231H: 20,000 Years of Adornment (Parrett, T/TH, 12:15-2:55p) ENGL 200H: Superheroes in Literature & Culture (Kavadlo, M/W, 2:00-3:15p)
Elective	All Honors Courses Except: Composition and Community, Honors Colloquium II
Colloquium II	HONR 261H: Colloquium II (Craddock, Arr Hrs)