**Spring 2018 Honors 1000 Seminars**

**Is Art the New Religion?**

CRN 15669  
Tuesday 2:00 – 2:50  
Louis Ruprecht, Religious Studies

This course offers a popular introduction to research in which I have been involved for the past decade in the Vatican Library and the Vatican Secret Archives. Students will be introduced to several interrelated topics:

* the emergence of Neoclassicism and Romanticism  
* the creation (1767), looting (1792) and restoration (1821) of the Vatican’s first "Profane Museum"  
* the later influence of Roman museums in France, England, Germany and the US  
* spirituality and modern art.

**A Global View of Infectious Disease**

CRN 14671  
Monday 10:00 – 10:50  
Dr. Ming Luo, Chemistry

Infectious diseases are among the top three causes of death around the world. With fast economic globalization, emerging and re-emerging diseases occur at an accelerated rate and they rapidly spread to multiple geographic regions across continents. Unstable social or political situations make the matter even worse. The negative impact of infectious diseases is on both human health and economics. The factors that contribute to the problem are biological, social and economic. In order to mount effective counter measures, vaccines and anti-infectious drugs are to be developed and provided cost-effectively.

In this seminar series, the instructor will introduce the students to the topic and teach updated knowledge in the field. Advances in biomedical technologies offer new opportunities to resolve critical issues in controlling infectious diseases. The students will be exposed to a wide variety of new development in molecular biology and modern chemistry. The students will also participate in researching for data and propose their ideas for solutions.

**Becoming a Global Citizen**

CRN 21993  
Friday 10:00 – 10:50  
Dr. Cyntoria Johnson, Criminal Justice and Criminology

The world is increasingly becoming more interconnected than ever before, but not every student has the ability to study abroad. This course examines the importance of global education and global citizenship. In this interdisciplinary seminar, we will explore how (and why) students can (and should) pursue an active role in learning and engaging as global citizens, even without leaving the halls of GSU's campus. This global seminar explores ways to enhance students' foundational knowledge and awareness of international issues and how to become more interconnected and actively engaged with the world community. Students will be challenged to conceptualize their own ideas and author their own globalization journey towards personal growth, intercultural competence, and global citizenship.

In addition to this foundational knowledge in the course, students will learn unique strategies and develop a valuable skillset to make themselves more marketable in today’s increasingly globally competitive workforce. This global seminar is designed to cultivate a broader worldview and cultivate an appreciation for diversity and inclusion. Assessments will include self-reflection essays, student engagement, active learning activities outside the classroom, and a personalized globalization plan.
What are Numbers?

CRN 15670
Thursday 2:00 – 2:50
Dr. John Rosen, Mathematics

Numbers surround us. They undergird modern civilization, technology, and our daily lives. Numbers play a central role in mathematics. Most of mathematics either works directly with numbers or else studies abstractions derived from numbers. In spite of the importance of numbers, most everybody takes them for granted. The Honors Seminar helps students to discover insights into numbers that ordinarily appear only in advanced classes in abstract mathematics. The course answers the following question:

Pick a number at random: What kind of number is it?
Asking and answering the question took two-and-a-half millennia. The question forced mathematicians to study several related questions:

- What are numbers?
- What are the different kinds of numbers?
- What are the properties of each kind of numbers?
- How many numbers are there?

The course will examine all of these questions. The course will push students to understand how mathematicians think and to think mathematically themselves. Students will be doing abstract mathematics throughout the course. Mathematical background: The GSU entrance requirements are sufficient (Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, & 1 Higher Level Math). Calculus is not required (a little trigonometry would be useful though not necessary). The course is designed for non-math majors.