The 2016 Presidential Election
CRN 86685
Tuesday 10:00 – 10:50
Dr. Sean Richey, Political Science

This proposed course examines recent research into voting behavior and political participation by focusing on the exciting 2016 Presidential Election. The Fall semester of 2016 will be at the peak of the 2016 election, and it will be a fantastic time to engage Honors students in the electoral process. Learning about this election will teach students the specifics of America’s electoral process, and help prepare them for their role in our system. This course also examines recent research into voting behavior and political participation by focusing on social scientific methods and thereby provides an introduction to the field of Political Science.

Asthma: A Global Pandemic
CRN 82674
Wednesday 12:00 – 12:50
Dr. Douglas Gardenhire, Respiratory Therapy

Asthma is a chronic respiratory disease characterized by episodes of impaired breathing which are caused when muscles constrict in the airways. This disease affects more than 300 million people worldwide and is the most common long-term disease in children. The number of people affected by asthma is to reach 400 million in 2030. The course will cover literature related to ongoing research, treatment, and education of asthma in and outside the United States. Each week students will be responsible for reading assigned peer-reviewed literature, posted on D2L. Class meetings will be used to critically evaluate the literature in an attempt to promote learning cutting-edge science in the treatment of asthma. At the end of the semester the student will prepare a literature critique on one article of their interest as it relates to asthma. All students will tour a local healthcare institution to see patients being treated for asthma. Each students will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals treating patients with the disease. A one-page summary of their interactions with healthcare professionals will be required at the end of the course. Student assessments will include the literature critique, interaction summary, and class engagement.

Choosing the Right Career
CRN 82672
Tuesday 10:00 – 10:50
Dr. Peter Swanson, World Languages and Cultures

The selection of a college major and professional career can be stressful to undergraduates. In early adolescence individuals begin to ponder a variety of different vocations. For some, the selection of an occupation is a relatively easy process. For others, it can seem overwhelming. However, it does not have to be a source of anxiety. As Super advises adolescents, “[Y]ou don't need to know now what you should be when you grow up. What you need to know now is what you need to do so that as each new kind of decision has to be made you will be ready for it” (Freeman, 1993, p. 293). Research supports the notion that people make successive approximations toward occupational selection, and that personal and environmental characteristics lead to satisfying career decisions, involvement, and achievement (Holland, 1997; Super, 1990).
The context of the seminar focuses on the instructor’s research on language teachers; however, the content is applicable to students regardless of major and career path. The seminar is theoretically grounded in several seminal lines of research where students will examine the relationship between one’s occupational interests and the workplace, one’s sense of self-efficacy, and how different variables such as gender, age, and personality are related to career selection and occupational satisfaction. Students will be assessed by self-administering research instruments and interpreting results with respect to the seminar’s goals of self-examination of vocational aspirations, vocational interests, self-efficacy, and even sense of humor as well as other constructs in order to help them make successive approximations toward career happiness.

Creativity and Technology
CRN 83377
Tuesday 1:00 – 1:50
Dr. Kevin Hsieh, School of Art and Design

This is a course developed to assist students to explore their potential and creativity in the field of arts and Humanities through technology. This course includes discussions of technologies, videos, interviews, field trips, seminars, workshops, and practices of digital technology in creative ways, such as inter-textual webs, Podcasts, hypertext & hypermedia, blogs, on-line games, apps, and virtual reality. Students will complete two types of assignment: personal video and report on innovative technologies as final project. Students will be introduced to a variety of instructional technologies for their future learning experiences at the GSU and their personal professional development.

Drugs of the Future: Preservation of Biodiversity
CRN 82675
Wednesday 12:00 – 12:50
Dr. Dabney Dixon, Chemistry

Almost 50% of pharmaceutical agents are derived, either directly or indirectly, from products made by animals, plants and bacteria. Future generations will need this incredible, complex, multifaceted library of starting materials to develop new pharmaceutical agents. Such a necessity puts a premium on preserving the many species of this planet. In this course, we will work toward an understanding of the role of natural products in the development of the world’s drug supply. Each student will present a short seminar on a drug derived from a natural product or on a topic related to the general area of preserving biodiversity for future generations (e.g., the Svalbard Global Seed Vault or the ICUN Red List). In terms of professional growth, the aim of this course is to give students an opportunity to learn to speak on a topic of scientific or policy interest to both a general and a technically-proficient audience. Significant time will be spent practicing giving engaging, polished, and relevant presentations. Related professional skills will also be covered.

The Environment and Your Lungs: Every Breath Counts
CRN 82671
Tuesday 1:00 – 1:50
Dr. Lynda Goodfellow, School of Nursing and Health Professions

The objective is to introduce students to important and emerging topics related to the environment and lung health. Topics to be covered include asthma, lung cancer, the effects of vapors and gases, asbestos, dust, and other related lung health issues. An emphasis will be placed on highlighting and discussing lung health in the U.S with the primary focus of how our environment impacts our lung health. Finally, new and ongoing initiatives that seek to address the environment and lung health will also be discussed. Students will be evaluated on their participation and contribution to the discussion of the material each week, their completion of a weekly short writing assignment, group discussions, other assignments related to the weekly topic discussed in class. Reading assignments are from weekly news sources such as newspapers, on-line media, and journals.
Exploring Intercultural Communicative Competence
CRN 84644
Wednesday  9:00 – 9:50
Dr. Paula Garrett-Rucks, World Languages and Cultures

There is a demand in the workforce for college graduates prepared with 21st century skills to meet the challenges of an increasingly interconnected globalized world. Intercultural communicative competence describes the ability of an individual to communicate effectively and appropriately across cultures, serving as an important 21st century skill. This interdisciplinary Honors seminar uses intercultural films, selected readings, and classroom discussions to explore, develop and assess learners’ intercultural communicative competence over the course of the semester. This class is intended for individuals with interests in cultures and languages as a monolingual, bilingual, or multilingual speaker. As a result of this class, individuals will learn how to market their abilities to successfully communicate across cultures while gaining a greater understanding of their own worldviews in U.S. society.

Globalization Goes to School: An Introduction to Globalization and Education
CRN 83307
Wednesday  11:00 – 11:50
Dr. Catherine Amanti, Early Childhood and Elementary Education

We are bombarded daily by sights, sounds, tastes, and material goods from around the globe. Those are the obvious indicators that we live in an increasingly globalized world. Many argue that we are becoming more alike and talk about the McDonaldization of culture. Others argue, on the other hand, that as a result of the increasing movement of people around the globe, societies are becoming more diverse. In this seminar, students will have the opportunity to explore the phenomenon of globalization from diverse perspectives as they try to make sense of something that is often experienced as fragmentary and disjointed. Then we will narrow our focus to look at the impact globalization is having on schools and schooling around the globe. As receiving societies, countries and schools in Europe and North America are becoming more diverse due to immigration. In those countries, schools are on the frontline of globalization. In non-Western countries, many education systems are borrowing education policies and practices from education systems in Europe and North America. What does this mean for students and teachers in those countries? Students in this seminar will have the opportunity to explore this and other questions as well as explore in depth a topic of interest to them that is related to the field of globalization and education.

Going Steady? Documenting the History of Dating in American Culture, 1940-1990
CRN 84671
Thursday  2:00 – 2:50
Dr. Jill Anderson, University Library

This course is geared towards potential History and Women’s Studies majors, but is open to any student interested in learning more about searching for and interpreting primary sources, an important skill for many humanities-oriented majors. In this course, we will be exploring various issues in the history of dating in American culture during roughly the second half of the 20th century, while also learning to search for primary-source materials documenting that history. Students will choose a topic within that broader topic and learn to search for a broad range of primary-source types on their chosen topic. At the same time, students will also learn to use the citation-management tool Zotero to hold information about sources found. In-class exercises will provide instruction and discussion on various source types.

Graphic Novels and Global Issues
CRN 84255
Monday  11:00 – 11:50
Dr. Héctor Fernández L’Hoeste, World Languages and Cultures

The object of the proposed course is to introduce GSU honors students to issues of identity in the overall context of global culture and politics, hoping to spark in them greater curiosity for the exploration of personal identity and national/international issues. In the present
century, as the US faces great challenges to its role as world power, it is crucial that our students explore their political and economic context with an open mind, gaining better grasp of world issues. Through the analysis of seven (7) contemporary graphic novels, students will be exposed to and learn basic notions of theory of identity, and develop a critical view of US nationality and its relation to political issues at the other end of the world. Along the way, students will improve the skills necessary to engage information with a critical disposition and recognize the potential of these abilities in their daily context.

The course’s texts will include one main text on culture/history (Civilization: The West and The Rest, by Niall Ferguson, from Penguin Books, 2012) and seven (7) contemporary graphic novels, which cover a variety of issues discussed in the main text (i.e., the history of Western political hegemony, the role of religion in Middle East politics, the resilience of Chinese civilization, etc.). On a regular basis, students will alternate class discussion of Civilization with a corresponding graphic novel. In sum, the course will be focused on notions that will prove helpful in the examination and critique of a more expanded, informed construction of identity for our honors students, enhancing their international scope during their time at Georgia State University (and in the subsequent future).

**Mapping Atlanta: Community Mapping and Geospatial Storytelling (American Studies Cluster)**

CRN 91581  
Thursday  10:00 – 10:50  
Dr. Brennan Collins, English

This interdisciplinary Honors seminar uses Atlanta-based projects to introduce undergraduate students to emerging mapping technologies that have potential applications across many fields. Importantly, the course combines academic and professional knowledge with real-world learning outside of the formal classroom setting in collaboration with community partners. Students will explore urban research questions through projects involving digital mapping applications. We will also consider how mapping technologies allow for new ways of organizing and telling stories and will reflect on how maps are embedded with political power. The emphasis in the course will be on fieldwork opportunities where students will consider both the theoretical and practical implications of mapping approaches and technologies.

**Negotiating Self, Identity and Everyday Life**

CRN 82673  
Thursday  10:00 – 10:50  
Dr. Donald Reitzes, Sociology

This seminar introduces students to a sociological understanding of how people use shared social meanings to make of the sense of the world around them and to actively construction their identities and self-concept. Throughout the course we will explore the dynamic relationship between individual and social processes that form the foundation for sociological social psychology. Three questions emerge: (1) What are some of the ways that other people, social interaction, and social structures influence individual behavior; (2) How do individuals actively participate in their social worlds; and (3) How do self, identity, and role processes operate through the life course? In investigating these questions we will explore the topics of: the development of symbols and shared understanding of space, time, and emotions; definition of the situation, significant others, identity, self and self-processes, role and role processes, examples of childhood and adult socialization. Throughout the semester our task will be to understand basic concepts and processes, to apply these ideas to personal and research examples, and to assess topics which need further development.

**Risky Business: A Survey of Real-World Risk Assessment and Mitigation in Business**

CRN 91831  
Thursday  3:00 – 3:50  
Dr. Ryan Grelecki, Risk Management and Insurance

This course will facilitate a discussion of real-world risk assessment and mitigation. It will serve as both a unique pedagogical experience and a source of thought leadership created by and through the students, based on insight gained from business leaders, insurance industry professionals, and practicing attorneys. Students will have the opportunity to conduct targeted interviews with such
professionals and prepare written work based on those interviews. Recognizing the power and significance of online media in the dissemination of new and relevant content in an easily accessible (and digestible) manner, students will also build and maintain a blog site to publish their work. Students will interact with professionals, hone business communication skills, sharpen the ability to produce quality written work, and ultimately learn how to run a site dedicated to content sharing.

The Science Behind Living and Dying in the Great Outdoors
CRN 84695
Monday 3:00 – 3:50
Dr. Chip Zimmerman, Respiratory Therapy

This course centers around the science associated with the myriad of ways a human being can experience trauma and disease while engaging in outdoor activities. Topics such as hypothermia, hypothermia, poisonous bites/stings, and high-altitude pulmonary and cerebral edema would be addressed, with focus on the physiology associated with each process. Last Breath: Cautionary Tales from the Limits of Human Endurance by Peter Stark would be used as an accompanying text.

The Scientific Method and Epidemiology
CRN 82434
Wednesday 11:00 – 11:50
Dr. Richard Rothenberg, School of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology/Biostatistics

The course explores the history of how people used common sense ideas to develop ways of thinking about problems and coming up with answers. The ideas behind induction, deduction, scientific "proof," paradigms, causation and other key concepts will be explore. The course will use some original material, commentary, and explanations of why scientists think the way they do. It will explore the difference between knowledge and belief; the differences among theory, hypothesis, observation, and experiment; and the connection between thought and action. We will apply these ideas of science to epidemiology, and see how its concepts stand up to scrutiny.

Serving-Learning Serves You
CRN 84228
Monday 3:00 – 3:50
Dr. Tracy McKinney, Educational Psychology

Individuals with disabilities are often misunderstood by others. These misunderstandings could lead to isolation, mockery, and/or discrimination. Frequently, misinterpretations could be cleared up with education and extended educational experiences: service-learning. Service-learning is defined as “a form of experiential education in which students engage in activities that address human and community needs together with structured opportunities intentionally designed to promote student learning and development” (Jacoby, 2003, p. 3). Studies have indicated that service-learning is beneficial in many forms. Whether the professor sets up the actual experiences or if the students are given the freedom to create their own opportunities, both yield positive gains for the individuals involved (Mayhew, 2000). It is often difficult to attain real life perspectives through classroom lectures alone. After adding service-learning experiences, participants gain a positive regard for individuals with disabilities (Novak, Murray, Scheuermann, & Curran, 2009). They become more in tune with individuals with disabilities and their abilities. This course will give students an initial exposure to individuals with disabilities.

Students will learn through lecture, readings, movies, and a culminating hands-on service-learning project. In the beginning of the semester the students will spend most class days learning about various disabilities. They will also use the class time to learn about service-learning and how it varies from volunteerism. Towards the middle of the semester the students will begin to participate in their service-learning projects. As the semester ends the students will share what they learned during the service-learning experiences through various presentation methods.
**Shooting for the Moon: Cancer in the 21st Century**

CRN 86764  
Friday 10:00 – 10:50  
Dr. Amy Moore, Director of Research Programs, Georgia Research Alliance, Biology

Cancer remains one of the top killers worldwide. Yet, we have reached an inflection point, where new discoveries and advances are bringing renewed hope. Indeed, we have seen former President Carter be declared “cancer-free” after taking the newest immunotherapy drugs for metastatic melanoma that had spread to his brain. Because of these unprecedented advances, the Obama administration is backing a “Moonshot for Cancer.” While great progress has been made in the battle against cancer, much work remains. What are the challenges and barriers that must be addressed as we seek to make continued progress in this fight? As Georgia State University moves forward with its strategic plan to address the most challenging issues of the 21st century, I propose a course that traces the history of cancer research and treatment from ancient times to modern day and seeks to understand both the opportunities and limitations in eradicating this disease. The main text will be the Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*, by Siddhartha Mukherjee. Students will supplement their reading and comprehension of this book by discussing some of the seminal papers in cancer research or other key documents that have guided the dialog in this ongoing war. Students will be evaluated based on class participation in discussions, written response papers, and a final report. Through my appointment as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Biology and my position as Director of Research Programs for the Georgia Research Alliance, I can give students direct access to people involved in the front lines of this battle (researchers, physicians, policy makers, patients). This course will be of interest to students pursuing degrees in the biomedical sciences, public health, public policy, history, law, or business, as all of these elements are critical to informing this conversation.

**What (if anything) are Animals Thinking?**

CRN 86761  
Thursday 10:00 – 10:50  
Dr. David Washburn, Psychology

Look at animals on YouTube, television and movies. Think about our pets. Sometimes they seem as smart as humans—or even smarter. Other times, they act like empty-headed organisms governed by instincts. What’s going on in the minds of nonhuman animals? Do they even have minds? How could we know? These topics have been explored by researchers in psychology, behavioral neuroscience, philosophy, anthropology, biology, and related disciplines. In this course we will overview the methods required to answer such questions, and the experimental and ethical challenges inherent in even asking such questions with animal species. We will also examine the state of the scientific literature on questions about whether animals have the capacity for language, self-regulation, reminiscence, empathy, and other hallmarks of intelligent behavior. Films and other presentation media will be used to familiarize students with noninvasive research with a variety of species, but particularly with monkeys and apes like those that have been studied for more than four decades at our own university. Students will also read papers that describe and report this kind of research. Short essays and critical analysis of media portrayals will be used both to stimulate and also to assess learning. The successful student in this course will learn about animals, about critical thinking and scientific methods, about ethics, and about the ways that humans and other animals pay attention, learn, remember, communicate, make decisions, and think.

**What is a Good Political Leader?**

CRN 86762  
Tuesday 3:00 – 3:50  
Dr. Mario Feit, Political Science

Political thinkers have been arguing about how to construct an ideal political community since ancient Greece. While it is clear that good institutions contribute to good governance, the character of political leaders makes a key difference. What makes for good political leaders? What character traits do they possess? What should be their moral compass? This seminar will examine a wide range of Western political thinkers ranging from Plato to Martin Luther King, Jr. While not all of the readings favor democratic leadership, the hope is that they can nevertheless teach us something about the kinds of leaders we should turn to in democratic politics. Readings will include Sophocles’ Antigone, Plato’s Republic, Christine de Pizan’s Book of the City of Ladies, Machiavelli’s Prince, W.E.B. DuBois’s Souls of Black Folk, as well as DuBois’s essay on “The Talented Tenth,” and Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Letter from Birmingham City Jail.” All course readings will be available for free – either from online sources or from library reserves. Two essay exams considering competing views on political leadership discussed in the seminar will be required, and perhaps a visit to either the King Center or the Carter Center might substitute for one class meeting.
**Urban Sustainability**

**CRN 83308**  
**Tuesday  12:00 – 12:50**  
**Dr. Michael Black, Neuroscience**

How sustainable are you? We’re looking for students who like to be outdoors, who care about recycling, and want to make a difference. Urban Sustainability focuses on how our choices and the way our social system is designed impact our environment and our lives. Seminar speakers who are leaders in their field will present on different aspects of environmental sustainability in the city. Students will complete one major sustainability project and smaller video and personal journal assignments as part of the class. Come be a part of the change that’s coming!

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**Your Brain and Mental Health: When Things Go Wrong**

**CRN 85203**  
**Thursday  12:00 – 12:50**  
**Dr. Anne Murphy, Neuroscience**

Mental disorders are defined as health conditions characterized by impaired thinking, mood, and/or behavior. They can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, or income, and are among the most common causes of disability. Indeed, in any given year, an estimated 13 million American adults (approximately 1 in 17) are diagnosed with a seriously debilitating mental illness. Mental disorders contribute to a host of problems, including loss of family and employment, pain and suffering, or even death.

Most people do not understand mental illness, resulting in the development of myths, stigmas and stereotypes. This course will help dispel many of these myths and allow the students to develop an understanding regarding the biological, psychological and social factors that contribute to mental illness. Each week, a mental health-related topic (eg. autism, depression, schizophrenia, PTSD) will be presented, with a focus on the basic mechanisms underlying the disease, and how organismic variables (sex/gender/age) can impact the etiology, diagnosis, progression and treatment. Students will read scientific literature on the topic and, working in small groups, present their findings to the class.