

### ***Technologies of Knowledge from Papyrus to iPad***

**CRN 85700**

Friday 10:00 – 12:30

**Dr. Lindsey Eckert, English**

From ancient scrolls to digital narratives, the material and digital forms that knowledge takes influence how and what people write and read. This course examines the development of processes used to disseminate knowledge, including the printing press, the typewriter, and the Internet. Exploring diverse examples from the Gutenberg Bible to *Fifty Shades of Grey*, we will consider how material and digital forms of knowledge crucially inform the history and future of ideas.

This course is divided into four themed units: Making, Reading, Writing, and Publishing. In each unit, we will consider historical and contemporary aspects of producing and reading knowledge, and, in particular, we will consider how our understanding of literature and bookishness is culturally and historically fluid.

In this course, students will work to develop skills for working with and analyzing rare books, innovate new ways to present research digitally, employ relevant vocabulary for analyzing print and digital literature and question how technological innovations influence the creation and reception of knowledge

### ***Authoritarianisms in the Global Age***

**CRN 82223**

Wednesday 1:00 – 3:30

**Dr. Maria Repnikova, Communication**

The recent wave of right-wing populism in Europe and the United States, combined with a growing geopolitical influence of China and Russia, and a reversal of nascent democratization trends in much of the Middle East, has sparked a renewed interest in authoritarianism. The wide and ambivalent application of this label, however, has watered down its theoretical significance, as authoritarianism is now being loosely applied to anything from describing a leadership characteristic, to regimes, to cultural norms.

This course aims at recapturing and critically engaging with authoritarianism, understood as a non-democratic form of governance that relies as much on soft power and co-optation as it does on coercion and control. We will examine authoritarianism as a socio-political phenomenon, as well as a cultural construct that has penetrated and redefined the global political order, as evident in glaring vulnerabilities of Western democratic systems. The purpose of this interdisciplinary seminar is to interrogate the origins of authoritarian systems, their key governance and cultural characteristics, the modes of global diffusion of authoritarian norms and values, as well as the contesting forces that push against and redefine authoritarian trends. Special emphasis will be placed on grasping authoritarianism as a dynamic phenomenon that is shaped by multiple actors, including the media, civil society, entrepreneurs and the state, amongst others. Specifically, we will look at people's identities, mechanisms of political (de)mobilization, and public opinion formation under authoritarian rule. That is, how people live with, push against, and adapt to authoritarian governments; and how irony, cynicism, and apathy work as a means of political expression.

## *Serving and Learning with Homeless People*

**CRN 89316**

Tues - Thurs 11:00 – 12:15

**Dr. Joseph Feinberg, Middle and Secondary Education**

We will learn with homeless people and establish a dialogue with them rather than acting on preconceived notions and stereotypes. With a focus on service-learning, Honors College students will engage in a broad examination of the nature of homelessness through an analysis of relevant literature, research, and theory. Students will evaluate the local homeless needs of Atlanta, learn from homeless people and guest speaker presentations, and positively impact the local community through service and advocacy. A hands-on service project will engage students to serve with homeless people with Central Outreach & Advocacy Center or Stand Up for Kids. Each service experience can be tailored to fit with each student's major. In addition, advocacy projects are encouraged through this colloquium. Honors College students in the course will:

Analyze and critique scholarship on service-learning

Evaluate community needs and participate in a service-learning project at a local homeless shelter

Engage in dialogue and discuss sociocultural factors that contribute to societal problems and inequities

Reflect and share learning through discussions, guest speakers, conversations with homeless people, student presentations, and writing

## *Cities in Time and Space*

**CRN 84581**

Monday 9:00 – 11:30

**Dr. Johannes Nijman, Geosciences**

The purpose of this course is to give students a global perspective on cities in different historical and geographical contexts and a sense of the evolution of cities. It has a historical and geographical breadth that you are not likely to find in most other courses, focusing on themes such as the historical origins of urbanization; the political and ideological functions of cities; the city as creative milieu; the economic significance of cities, relations between cities and states, urban evolution trajectories, and the globalization of cities. It does so through a series of specific modules and case-studies, from the earliest cities in the Bronze Age to present-day global-city regions. The course will introduce you to the field of urban studies at large, from a broad, global perspective. You will learn a series of basic general concepts and you will learn to appreciate the historical and geographical context in which they apply in particular ways. You will develop a sense of the variable nature of cities and of their different roles in society. You will also learn about the different disciplines involved in urban studies and about the importance of interdisciplinary perspectives.

## *Bob Dylan: American Poet, Songwriter and Mythmaker*

**CRN 84582**

Tues - Thurs 11:00 – 12:15

**Dr. Dan Marshall, English**

This course will explore the various writings of Bob Dylan from his early days as a folk singer in Greenwich Village in the early sixties, to his most recent explorations of the Great American Songbook. Beyond his musical performances and recordings, students will explore his lyrics as poetry - which earned him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 2016 - as well as his appearances in film, documentaries, and his novel *Tarantula*.

In essence, this course will be an exploration of poetry from the inside out. The final project in the course will invite students to 'rewrite' the lyrics to a Dylan song, and then record their composition as either spoken word, a chant, or a song. With the cooperation of Dr. Robert Thompson and his students in music production, the class will record a CD of their compositions, accompanied with backing guitar by a professional musician, Paul Spurrier.

## ***Terrorism and Political Violence from the IRA to ISIS***

**CRN 83544**

Wednesday 1:00 – 3:30

**Dr. Mia Bloom, Communication**

While most people associate terrorism with Islamic groups operating in the Middle East (especially since 9/11) there is actually a long history of political violence around the world. This course will examine how terrorism began, what motivates individuals to CHOOSE to become terrorists, how the tactics have transformed and adapted to the modern world and the apocalyptic goals to bring about the end of days - evident in groups like Al Qaeda and ISIS. The course will follow the groups from Europe, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Africa to compare and contrast their origins and understand their motivations.

This course draws heavily from many disciplines including political science, history, psychology, communications, and Islamic studies and will explore themes from these and the subfields of international relations, global studies and comparative politics

## ***Employment Law & The Future of Work***

**CRN 92434**

Thursday 1:00 – 3:30

**Dr. Charlotte Alexander, Risk Management and Insurance**

Work is changing. What used to be steady, 9-5 jobs with a single employer and an expectation of longevity and promotion have been replaced for many workers with “gig” jobs, employment as independent contractors, part-time employment or temp work, and employment mediated by various online work distribution platforms. However, employment law has not kept pace. The major federal laws that govern the work relationship were passed multiple decades ago. While some legal requirements have changed around the edges, the rights and protections that cover wages and hours, discrimination, union organizing, and workplace safety have remained basically unchanged. In the words of the outgoing U.S. Secretary of Labor, Tom Perez, “The largest question for the next administration and beyond is how we embrace innovation in this dynamic economy while ensuring that the changing nature of work continues to honor the bedrock principle that workers are not in it alone in securing basic protections.” With readings drawn from law, sociology, economics, and anthropology, this course explores the assumptions about the structure of work that are built into employment law, the ways that work has changed over time, and the areas of mismatch where the law fails to reflect and respond to the current realities of work.

