

Honors 1000 Seminar Descriptions

FALL 2020

One credit hour

Introduction to Dramatic Music (Renaissance thru 20th Century)

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Monday 9:30 – 10:20 CRN 87479

Francisco Javier Albo, Music

This course intends to offer non-music majors an introduction to the most sophisticated and elaborate musical genre there is, opera. Rather than discuss opera from a chronological point of view (from the early Baroque to the 21st century), the course intends to analyze different aspects that revolve around the world of opera: history, production, literary sources, politics, economics, gender, and culture in general. The course will also follow opera's impact on society and, especially, how opera has been affected by societal changes and, conversely, how opera has played a role in society. Students will be required to attend an opera performance (professional, like Atlanta Opera) and write a report combining musical analysis and (amateur) journalism.

Dr. Anderson Ruins Everything About Anxiety

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Monday 2:00 – 2:50 CRN 83209

Dr. Page Anderson, Psychology

Anxiety is not a bad thing. Anxiety disorders, however, prevent people from reaching their potential educationally, economically, and relationally . . . and they are most likely to emerge during the college years. Inspired by the show *Adam Ruins Everything*, Dr. Anderson Ruins Everything About Anxiety debunks popular myths about anxiety. The course objectives are to improve your ability to distinguish fact from fake, to examine your own beliefs about anxiety, and to introduce you to scientifically based strategies for preventing and managing debilitating anxiety. You will also learn about professor's ongoing research in the use of technology to improve anxiety, including virtual reality and apps, and in how to get more people to use it in a way that can benefit them.

Intergenerational Relationships at Home, School, and Work

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 2:00 – 2:50 CRN 82581

Jaye Atkinson, Communication

Society is heavily age-segregated whether in academic, sport, religious, or other environments, yet intergenerational relationships do exist among family and non-family members. This course would emphasize the intergenerational research from communication, gerontology, sociology, and psychology. Specifically, the course would introduce students to perceptions of age groups (e.g., stereotypes of young, middle-aged, and older adults), explore familial relationships (parent-child, grandparent-grandchild), explore non-familial relationships (i.e., voluntary relationships such as spouses, friends), and media portrayals of intergenerational relationships. The course would show students how academic research could apply directly to their personal experiences.

The Real Jedi Mind Tricks: The Psychology of Making Better Decisions

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 12:30 – 1:20 CRN 94062

Michael Beran, Psychology

This course is designed to provide students with insights into the nature of decision making, including how to conceptualize phenomena, how to investigate phenomena in the psychology of decision making, and how to avoid biases and fallacies in thinking. Put simply, it is a course designed to teach you Jedi mind tricks (including how to get others to do what you want) and to help you not fall prey to others who would use those tricks on you.

Why “Jedi Mind Tricks”? Jedi use their power (the “Force”) to get hapless victims to bend to their will. In the real world, advertisers, salespeople, politicians, and many others around you also do the same thing. Sometimes, this is because it truly is to your benefit to be “nudged” in one direction or another so that you make a choice that is good for everyone. In other cases, how problems are “framed” influences how you think about your choices, and how you make decisions that can be viewed as irrational. This causes you to spend time or money you need not spend, to stick too long with bad decisions, and to fail to consider alternate possibilities for how you could choose or how you could think about something. This course will make you better at making good decisions and provide you with Jedi-like abilities to control your own choice behavior more rationally.

Urban Sustainability

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Monday 12:30 – 1:20 CRN 89332

Michael Black, Neuroscience

Urban Sustainability will explore how our actions at a local and global level affect us as humans and the world around us. It will also focus on conveying a message to the public and effective strategies for social change. We will have local sustainability experts guest lecture, and we will travel to and use sustainability features of Atlanta as a teaching tool

What is a Good Political Leader?

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Thursday 12:45 – 1:35 CRN 84387

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? We will study 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. We will read selections from Sophocles’s *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. A visit to either the King Center or the Carter Center will substitute for one class meeting.

Monuments, Memorials, and the Politics of Commemoration

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Tuesday 2:15 – 3:05 CRN 83782

Maria Gindhart, Humanities

Who and what gets memorialized and by whom? Why have Confederate monuments become such a point of controversy in recent years? When should monuments be torn down or relocated? How do public monuments and memorials—and reactions to them—build national and group identities? How can artists and architects help people celebrate past events and people—and come to terms with negative events and people that one might rather not remember? Why have counter-monuments become so prevalent in contemporary art? This course will look at a variety of monuments and memorials in their aesthetic, historical, and political contexts. It is designed to teach students to describe, discuss, and critically evaluate monuments and memorials and analyze their past, present, and future roles.

Algorithms Rule Our Lives Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 12:30 – 1:20 CRN: Pending

Olga Glebova, Computer Science

This course will explore how algorithms and computing influence, if not outright rule, our modern lives. Some applications are obvious, like asking GPS for the shortest path to get home. There's an algorithm (and app!) for that. Other applications could be more surprising: is there the best strategy to choose a room-mate? Find a parking spot? Quit a job? Yep, we've got you covered. And how about creating music and art by... running an algorithm on your computer? Could the result even be considered "art?" Come explore these and other questions and ideate on areas where computing will hit big next! Throughout the semester, you will be supported to connect what you have read and heard with what you can see and experience around you and will be challenged to look deeper.

Exploring Atlanta's Entrepreneurial Ecosystem

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Monday 2:00 – 2:50 CRN: 83453

Geoffrey Graybeal, Entrepreneurship

An examination of how policy, finance, culture, support, human capital and markets influence the development of entrepreneurial ecosystems and startup communities, with an emphasis on the elements that converge to create Atlanta's own entrepreneurial ecosystem. The course will explore the entrepreneurs, startups, governments, investors, universities, movers, shakers and principal players that make up the Atlanta entrepreneurial ecosystem, the role Georgia State plays in that ecosystem and how you or other potentially aspiring entrepreneurs can benefit from the resources here in our community and region through readings, guest speakers, site visits and immersive experiences.

Creativity and Technology

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 11:00 – 11:50 CRN: 81900

Kevin Hsieh, Art History

This course is designed to assist students in exploring complex global issues, and their potential and creativity in different fields through technology. Through the lens of technology, students can easily express their creative ideas in multiple ways. This course includes student-led brief lectures, discussions of relevant readings, and interviews with professionals, field trips, seminars, workshops, and practices of digital technology in creative ways, such as inter-textual webs, Podcasts, hypertext & hypermedia, blogs, online games, apps, and virtual reality. Students will complete two assignments: a leading discussion and a multi-media digital video as a final project. Students will be introduced to a variety of technological skills that will positively impact their future learning experiences at GSU and their personal professional development.

Principles/Perspectives of Justice

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 12:45 – 1:35 CRN: 84389

Natasha Johnson, Criminal Justice

The concept of justice is vast, it is broad, and it differs greatly from one culture to the next. Throughout the course of our history, many theories have been established, many more have surfaced. A wide range of justice advocates' positions range from justice as a divine matter, to justice as a natural law process, to justice as a mutual, 'give-and-take' agreement between differing parties (rewards vs. consequences, for example). This course is designed to walk students through the basic principles of justice in a myriad of forms. There are quite a number of major justice perspectives, and it is the goal of this course to offer students a real-time opportunity to face, question, wrestle with, seek, and apply their knowledge of these perspectives in numerous capacities.

Drug Use and Abuse

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 2:15 – 3:05 CRN: 86471

Jan Ligon, Social Work

This course will explore drug use and abuse as a complex national and international issue. It will examine the comprehensive systemic set of conditions that have social, legal, economic, political, moral, and national security implications. It will analyze how drug use and abuse intersects every aspect of modern life and as such, must be understood and approached from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Appreciating the full national and international dimension of drug use and abuse will enhance the students' role as informed citizens. The use of mood-altering substances is an issue of major concern internationally and significantly affects the health, safety, and economic well-being of people on a global scale. Following an historical overview of substance use, the seminar will review international drug trends, supply, demand, treatment, economics, crime, and drug policy.

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Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Thursday 3:45 – 4:35 CRN: 84386

Lynn Jones, Accounting

This course introduces students to personal financial planning and literacy. Students learn how to stretch their collegiate budget and plan pathways to wealth. Objective is to educate students for BOTH their current and future financial needs. Students will use Excel to develop a personal budget; create their complete personal financial plan; and then visualize those graphically.

Graphic Auto/Biography

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Friday 9:30 – 10:20 CRN: 82622

Jennie Law, Humanities

This class will focus on autobiography and biography in comics and graphic novels. Students can expect to read the first volumes of both *March* & *Persepolis* and to discuss the relationship between image/text/history in each book. The seminar will also feature short drawing & writing exercises to prompt each student in telling their own stories. The final class project will be an autobiographical comics zine.

Strength in Numbers: The Power of the Printed Multiple

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 9:30 – 10:20 CRN: 82064

Maria Serena Perrone, Art

What makes a work of art truly an original? From the earliest prints to today, various techniques have been used to create original works of art in multiples. Printmaking's many uses ranging from propaganda, political protest, design, advertising, publications, journals, artists' books, zines, fine art, and new media including installation, animation, and video, has made the question of the importance and value of the hand-printed multiple an important one in the evolution of culture and the dissemination of information. This course will explore the exciting potential of this versatile, tactile artistic medium and its resurgence despite today's tendency toward the digital and virtual. Students will be reading texts from a variety of sources and conducting research on artists, presenting these readings as slide presentations throughout the semester. Information about the tradition and business of print publishing, collaborations between Printer and Artist, and print connoisseurship will be presented in discussion, through readings, and the showing of videos, physical examples of prints, and online resources throughout the semester.

The Presidential Election of 2020

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Thursday 2:15 – 3:05 CRN: 82582

Sean Richey, Political Science

This is a course on Presidential elections in the United States. It has a specific focus on the 2020 Presidential elections. It will feature a voluntary component, with real-life involvement in the exciting 2020 elections. Learning about this election will teach the specifics of America's electoral process and help prepare students for their role in our democracy. 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.

Productive Data Manipulation in Python and SQL

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Monday 9:30 – 10:20 CRN: 83484

Rajshekhar Sunderraman, Computer Science

An introduction to the basics of creating and maintaining data and generating reports from data using computer programming and relational databases. Students will learn how to write code in Python and SQL to perform data manipulation tasks to increase productivity. Basics of Data Science practices and approaches will be covered.

21st Century Leadership

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Thursday 9:30 – 10:20 CRN: 84395

Phil Ventimiglia, Instructional Innovation and Technology

Leadership is more important than ever before. The world and the problems we face are more complicated than ever before. Technology innovations have enabled instantaneous communications amongst team thus making the world much smaller. However, there is a void of leaders capable of navigating the complex multi-disciplinary, always-on and globally connected world of the 21st century. Companies and organizations continue to cite a lack of leaders as their key talent gap. This class will build upon a foundation of classic leadership principles such as self-awareness with practice-based leadership examples with the context of diverse, socially connected teams. While you will not leave this class immediately ready to be CEO of a Fortune 500 company, you will be able to identify and exercise good leadership characteristics in the context of your academic assignments and other campus activities. This capability, combined with beginning to become self-aware, will allow them to start a life-long journey to develop their own leadership style.

Behavioral Ethics: Understanding Why “Good” Employees (and Students) Make Unethical Decisions

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Wednesday 11:00 – 11:50 CRN: 82066

Susan Willey, Risk Management and Insurance

Universities, businesses and other organizations create codes of conduct to define acceptable and responsible behavior within the organization; to articulate shared ethical principles, values and commitments; and to guide decision-making when values conflict. And yet, students and employees sometimes act contrary to these codes, other societal norms and even their own moral standards when they confront an ethical dilemma. Behavioral ethics studies various psychological biases and situational factors, as well as organizational and social pressures to explain why otherwise good people sometimes behave unethically and make bad decisions. This course will first provide you with an opportunity to identify the ethical principles and core values that guide your conduct. Then through readings, short videos, in-class exercises, and team presentations on behavioral ethics, we will examine how pressure to meet goals, conflicts of interest, overconfidence, the role we play in a particular situation, obedience to authority, and even the way we frame an ethical issue can influence our decisions, sometimes leading to conduct contrary to those principles and core values.

Exploring Careers in Healthcare and Public Health

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Thursday 3:45 – 4:35 CRN: 83471

Leslie Leighton, History

In a survey of 2014 graduating seniors by the National Association of Colleges and Employers, 40% responded that they were either very interested or extremely interested in working in the medical/healthcare sector. The number of professional opportunities in healthcare, medicine and public health have exploded over the past 30 years. Most students are aware of the traditional careers in medicine, dentistry and nursing. However, beyond these there are a myriad of other professions and opportunities in Public Health and Medicine. This seminar plans to introduce students to all the career opportunities available in the sphere of health. It will begin with an overview and history of public health and medicine and then introduce the various professional careers using experts and individuals in those fields.

Cancer: can we overcome in this decade?

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Monday 11:00 – 11:50 CRN: 83195

Yuan Liu, Biology

Cancer is the one most threatening disease to mankind in today's life. In this seminar course, we will survey classical treatments to cancer while focusing on new therapeutic developments especially immunotherapies and their combinations, which shine new lights on the disease mechanisms and the interplay of host immune defense system, leading to the design of advanced treatment strategies with the goal of cure and overcome of cancer, possibly, in this decade. The structure and contents of the course include studies of the most common types of cancer in male and female, the data from NIH and ATLAS that assess cancer tissues and their associated immune microenvironments, the clinical trials of immuncheckpoint blockade therapies and patients' responses. As to date, immuncheckpoint blockade therapies have been positively responded by a number of cancers and have led their regression, while the same therapies have had only weak or in-effectiveness towards other types of cancer, leaving the latter remaining untreatable. Therefore, further research investigations are urgently needed in order to press forward to the goal of controlling cancer and prolonging human life.

Injury and Illness in the Great Outdoors

Honors Seminar (HON 1000)

Monday 11:00 – 11:50 CRN: 82065

Chip Zimmerman, Respiratory Therapy

Life in the great outdoors is full of uncertainty. The product of that uncertainty can often be injury, illness or death. This course is designed to provide an intensive investigation into the physiology behind physical illness and injury associated with outdoor activity.